

Human Rights Advocacy And Its Impact On The Protection Monitoring Process At UBC, Uganda

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Abstract

The study established the role of the Impact of Human Rights Advocacy on the Protection Monitoring Process at UBC, Kampala Uganda. The research was guided by three objectives that is to say; examining the role of Human Rights advocacy in raising awareness, establishing the influence of human right advocacy on policy and legal framework related to protections monitoring importance and establishing the importance of protection monitoring and promoting accountability for human right violations in Uganda. The study employed case study design where data was collected using questionnaire as the major data collection technique used on a sample of 73 respondents that included staff of UBC, Uganda. The study found out that medial plays a significant role towards human rights advocacy protection. The study found out that human rights advocacy has increased the voice and struggle to Protection Monitoring Process of people in the country. The findings showed that UBC in this case has provided a voice to the voiceless in the country for example the case of Kasese in November 2016 that led to the killing of many people living many children as orphans, women as widows and others homeless. It was also found out human rights advocacy particularly UBC has come out to educate the public about their rights including rights such as right to education, health services, security, and food among others. It was however found out that Media is facing a lot of challenges that hinder their effective deliverance of their human rights protection. It is recommended that legislative review is taken in to consideration. Especially, the human rights advocacy and Access to Freedom of Information Proclamation and Antiterrorism Proclamation imposes an excessive fines and rigorous punishment on journalists and media institution owners for minor violations of the provisions. National human rights institutions have to strive in assisting the media in its effort to promote and educate human rights advocacy.

Keywords: Human Rights Advocacy, Media And Protection Monitoring Process

Background of the Study

The city of Mbarara in southwestern Uganda, which has experienced an extraordinarily rapid pace of urbanization over the past two decades, with its population expanding from 100,000 in 2002 to more than 233,233 people in 2014, according to the National Census of Population, Houses and Dwellings, faces enormous development challenges resulting from the pressure to accommodate this massive influx of population within its fixed urban boundaries (Jackline

et al., 2023). As evidenced by the city's latest five-year development plan and infrastructure status reports, spiraling urban growth due to high natural increase, large-scale rural-urban migration and government decentralization policies promoting urban dominance has far outstripped Mbarara's capacity. authorities to ensure adequate housing, transport, water, electricity, health, education and sanitation facilities to meet the basic needs of the population (Christopher et al.,

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2022). Official records indicate that more than 65% of the urban population now live in overcrowded informal settlements, often with insufficient access to clean water (less than 30% service coverage), regulated electricity connections (25% coverage) and approved sewage systems (10% coverage), which triggered an epidemic of water-borne diseases and

created an unsanitary urban environment (Emmanuel et al., 2023). In addition, the city faces chronic dilapidated road infrastructure, an acute lack of public services, rising youth unemployment estimated at more than 30%, and rampant cases of urban poverty, crime, and social disruption attributed to uneven and uncontrolled urban growth (Jackline et al., 2023).

Statement of the Problem

The protection monitoring process is an essential component of ensuring respect, promotion and fulfillment of human rights (Flavia et al., 2023). However, there is a need to understand the impact of human rights advocacy on this monitoring process. Despite the recognized importance of advocacy in promoting accountability, raising awareness and influencing policy and legal frameworks, there is a gap to address this gap is crucial because without a clear understanding of the impact of human rights advocacy on the protection monitoring process, it becomes challenging to design and implement effective strategies that strengthen human rights frameworks rights and will improve the protection of individuals and communities (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022a). In addition, integrating advocacy efforts into the conservation monitoring process requires evidence-based approaches and best practices to maximize their impact. This research therefore aims to explore the relationship between human rights advocacy and the protection monitoring process, exploring how advocacy efforts contribute to raising awareness, influencing policy and legal frameworks, strengthening capacity-building initiatives and strengthening international pressure for action (Kalikula, 2023). By identifying the key mechanisms through which advocacy improves protection monitoring, this study seeks to provide valuable insights and recommendations for policy makers, governments and human rights organizations to strengthen the integration of advocacy strategies within protection mechanisms and promote the effective realization of human rights (Frank et al., 2023). This research therefore aims to explore the relationship between human rights advocacy and the protection monitoring process, exploring how advocacy efforts contribute to raising awareness, influencing policy and legal frameworks, strengthening capacity-building initiatives and strengthening international pressure for action (Faith, Kalikola Ariyo et al., 2023). By identifying the key mechanisms through which advocacy improves protection monitoring, this study seeks to provide valuable insights and recommendations for policy makers, governments and human rights organizations to strengthen the integration of advocacy strategies within protection mechanisms and promote the effective realization of human rights (Wegulo et al., 2023).

Objectives of the Study

1. To examine the role of human rights advocacy in raising awareness.

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2. To analyze the influence of human rights advocacy on policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring.

3. To explore the importance of protection monitoring and promoting accountability for human rights violations.

Methodology

The study which was carried out at UBC, Kampala City. The research design involved a case study approach as the major research design. The people involved in the process were mainly the affected members of the community and the entire community (Jallow et al., 2022). They were confidentially interviewed and examined to provide the research with detailed information required. This satisfied the main intention of the research carried out. The study was done at UBC, and Center region of Uganda (Rasheed et al., 2022). The part of this city had been identified to be a key UBC Kampala. The targeted population of the study consisted of NGOs local authority and community members at UBC. The sampling technique used is simple random sampling. People who were found in the area of specialization within the city of Kampala especially Center constituency, particularly to those who are victims or have a view on it or those who have been affected directly or indirectly stood an equal chance of being selected to contribute any information to the research problem (Nafiu, 2012). The research relied on them because they are the ones who know the problem very well and how it impacts/affects them either directly or indirectly. The sample size of the research consisted of small groups within the community and families affected directly or indirectly. Particular units of the population to be selected were used to represent the whole community. At least ninety people in each group were interviewed or by use of questionnaires so that the required information could be gathered which were representative, reliable and flexible to address the problem of divorce (Nafiu & Ph, 2012). The sample size was the actual number of respondents who will take part in the study.

Table 1: Distribution of the Categories of Respondents Targeted

Category	NGO	Local authority	Other members of Community	Total
Population Size	33	25	32	90
Sample size	20	13	20	73

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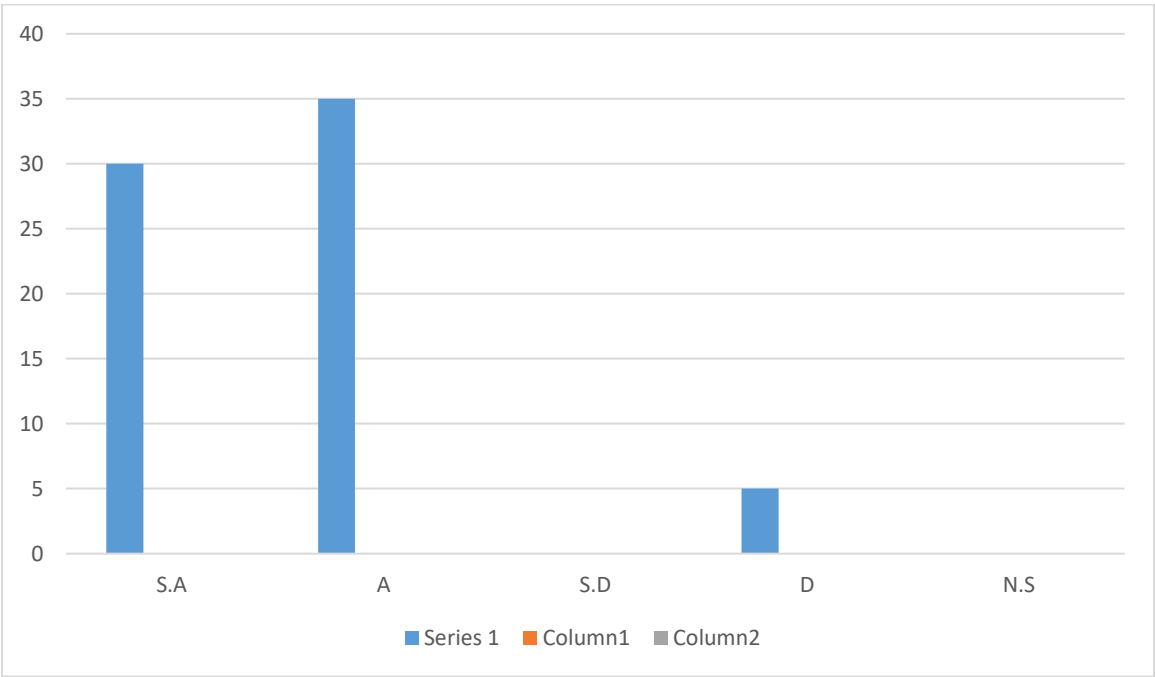
Technique (methods that was used to pick respondents)	the simple random sampling technique	the simple random sampling technique	the simple random sampling technique	
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This method which involved a set of questions concerning the topic of study that were formulated by the researcher, the questionnaires was distributed among the respondents with an aim of getting enough data that may not be got while in the field (Olanrewaju et al., 2021). Data collected was carefully edited, sorted and coded to do away with the inconsistency and errors that is made during the data collection. After data processing, it was be subjected to descriptive analysis to create meaning of what is collected from the field. The 73 questionnaires were distributed and as a result it showed the response rate obtained from the respondents. Data was analyzed inform of tables, frequencies and percentages using SPSS & STATA (Nelson et al., 2022).

RESULTS

To examine the role of human rights advocacy in raising awareness.

Figure 1. Below present the findings:



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Source: Primary data

30 of 73 respondents strongly agreed and 35 Of the 73 respondents agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness about human rights issues.” 5 of 73 disagreed and 3 of the respondents were not sure on the statement. Therefore, according to the data presented, Human rights advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness about human rights issues (Flavia et al., 2023).

Human rights advocacy has the potential to mobilize public support and generate public discourse on human rights issues.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 1. Below present the findings:

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	40	55
A	26	36
N. S	07	09
S. D	00	
D	00	
TOTAL	73	100

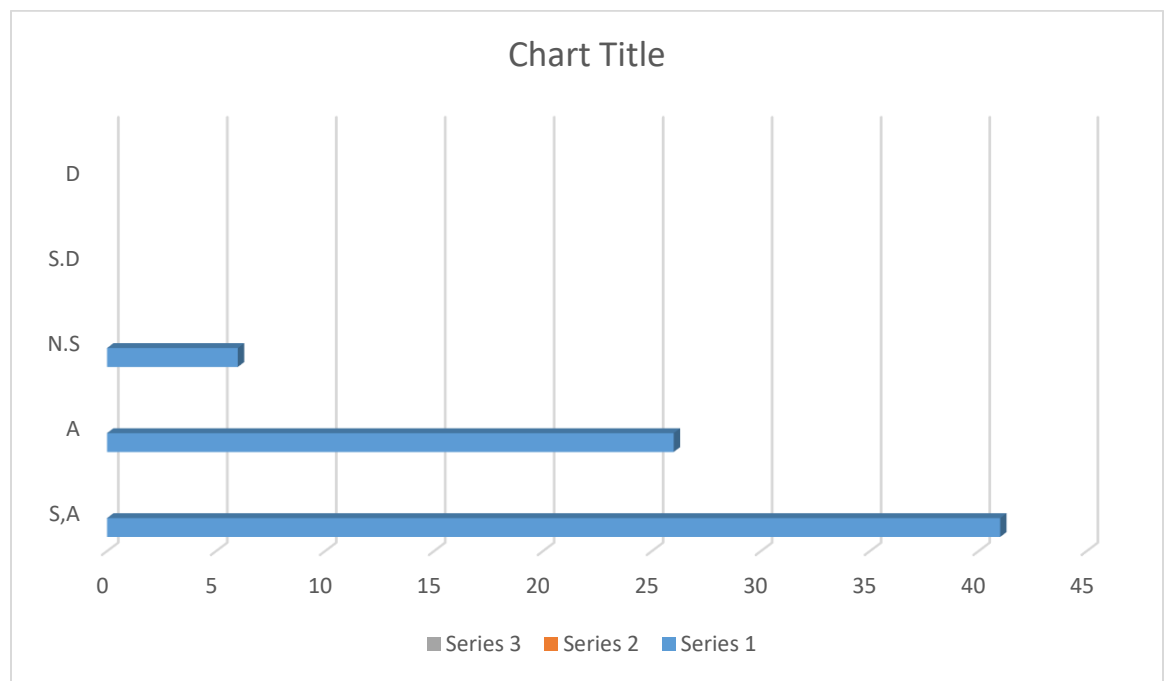
Source: Primary data

55% of the respondents strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy has the potential to mobilize public support and generate public discourse on human rights issues” 36% of the respondents agreed and 09% of them were not sure of the statement. Hence concluding that Human rights advocacy has the potential to mobilize public support and generate public discourse on human rights issues (Kazaara et al., 2023).

Human rights advocacy efforts effectively educate the public and policymakers about the importance of protecting and promoting human rights.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Figure 2. Below present the findings



Source: Primary data

41 the respondents strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy efforts effectively educate the public and policymakers about the importance of protecting and promoting human rights” 26 of them agreed and 06 of the respondents were not sure. Therefore, concluding that Human rights advocacy efforts effectively educates the public and policymakers about the importance of protecting and promoting human rights (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022b).

Human rights advocacy initiatives utilize effective strategies to reach a wide audience and raise awareness about human rights issues.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 2. Below present the findings:

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	23	32
A	26	36
N. S	07	09.5
S. D	10	13
D	07	09,5
TOTAL	73	100

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Source: Primary data

36% of the respondents agreed and 32% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy initiatives utilize effective strategies to reach a wide audience and raise awareness about human rights issues” 13% strongly disagreed and 9.5% disagreed to the statement. 09.5% of the respondents were not sure.

In conclusion, as per majority Human rights advocacy initiatives utilize effective strategies to reach a wide audience and raise awareness about human rights issues.

Human rights advocacy plays a significant role in influencing public opinion and shaping attitudes towards human rights issues.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 3. Below present the findings:

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	21	29
A	22	30
N. S	05	07
S. D	20	27
D	05	07
TOTAL	73	100

Source: Primary data

30% of the respondents agreed and 29% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy plays a significant role in influencing public opinion and shaping attitudes towards human rights issues.” 20% strongly disagreed and 07% disagreed to the statement. 07% of the respondents where not sure. In a nut shell, there has been a great role played by human rights advocacy in raising awareness. Human rights advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness about human rights issues, human rights advocacy has the potential to mobilize public support and generate public discourse on human rights issues, human rights advocacy efforts effectively educate the public and policymakers about the importance of protecting and promoting human rights human rights advocacy initiatives utilize effective strategies to reach a wide audience and raise awareness about human rights issues and human rights advocacy plays a significant role in influencing public opinion and shaping attitudes towards human rights issues (Flavia et al., 2023).

Human rights advocacy has a significant impact on shaping policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 4: Below present the findings

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LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	29	40
A	13	18
N. S	17	23
S. D	11	15
D	03	04
TOTAL	73	100

Source: Primary data

18% of the respondents agreed and 40% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy has a significant impact on shaping policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring” 15% strongly disagreed and 04% disagreed to the statement. 23% of the respondents where not sure.

Human rights advocacy efforts effectively influence policy and legal changes in the field of protection monitoring.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 5: Below present the findings

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	37	51
A	11	15
N. S	17	23
S. D	08	11
D		
TOTAL	73	100

**Source:
Primary data**

15% of the respondents agreed and 51% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy efforts effectively influence policy and legal changes in the field of protection monitoring.” 11% strongly disagreed and 23% of the respondents were not sure.

Human rights advocacy contributes to the development of more robust and comprehensive legal frameworks for protection monitoring.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 6: Below present the findings

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
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S. A	27	37
A	21	29
N. S	17	23
S. D		
D	08	11
TOTAL	73	100

Source: Primary data

29% of the respondents agreed and 37% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy contributes to the development of more robust and comprehensive legal frameworks for protection monitoring.” 11% strongly disagreed and 23% of the respondents were not sure.

Human rights advocacy plays a significant role in holding governments accountable for their commitments to protection monitoring.

Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents.

Table 7: Below present the findings

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	29	40
A	13	18
N. S	17	23
S. D	11	15
D	03	04
TOTAL	73	100

Source:

Primary data

18% of the respondents agreed and 40% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy plays a significant role in holding governments accountable for their commitments to protection monitoring.” 15% strongly disagreed and 04% disagreed to the statement. 23% of the respondents were not sure.

Human rights advocacy faces challenges in influencing policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring due to resistance from government’s o other stakeholders.

Table 10: Frequency tabulation was used by the researcher to present of the respondents

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
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S. A	39	53
A	13	18
N. S	11	15
S. D		
D	10	14
TOTAL	73	100

Source: Primary data

18% of the respondents agreed and 53% strongly agreed to the statement “Human rights advocacy faces challenges in influencing policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring due to resistance from governments or other stakeholders.” 14% disagreed and 15% of the respondents were not sure.

Table 11: Protection monitoring is crucial for identifying and documenting human rights violations.

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S. A	29	40
A	13	18
N. S	17	23
S. D	11	15
D	03	04
TOTAL	73	100

Source:**Primary data**

18% of the respondents agreed and 40% strongly agreed to the statement “Protection monitoring is crucial for identifying and documenting human rights violations.” 15% strongly disagreed and 04% disagreed to the statement. 23% of the respondents were not sure.

Table 12: Protection monitoring helps prevent future human rights abuses by promoting a culture of accountability.

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S.A	27	37
A	21	29
N.S	17	23
S.D		

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D	08	11
TOTAL	73	100

Source: Primary data

29% of the respondents agreed and 37% strongly agreed to the statement “Protection monitoring helps prevent future human rights abuses by promoting a culture of accountability.” 11% strongly disagreed and 23% of the respondents were not sure.

Table 13: Promoting accountability for human rights violations contributes to justice and redress for victims.

LIKERT	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
S.A	21	29
A	22	30
N.S	05	07
S.D	20	27
D	05	07
TOTAL	73	100

Source:
Primary data
30% of the
respondents

agreed and 29% strongly agreed to the statement “Promoting accountability for human rights violations contributes to justice and redress for victims.” 20% strongly disagreed and 07% disagreed to the statement. 07% of the respondents were not sure.

Conclusion

The study found out that human rights play a great role in raising awareness in the following ways; human rights advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness about human rights issues, human rights advocacy has the potential to mobilize public support and generate public discourse on human rights issues, human rights advocacy efforts effectively educate the public and policymakers about the importance of protecting and promoting human rights, human rights advocacy initiatives utilize effective strategies to reach a wide audience and raise awareness about human rights issues. Human rights advocacy plays a significant role in influencing public opinion and shaping attitudes towards human rights issues.

The study indicates that to a greater extent, human rights advocacy greatly influences the policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring. Human rights advocacy has a significant impact on shaping policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring, human rights advocacy efforts effectively influence policy and legal changes in the field of protection monitoring. Human rights advocacy contributes to the development of more robust and comprehensive legal frameworks for protection monitoring. Human rights advocacy plays a significant role in holding governments accountable for their commitments to protection monitoring. Human rights advocacy faces challenges in influencing policy and legal frameworks related to protection monitoring due to resistance from governments or other stakeholders.

This study clearly indicates that there is great importance of protection monitoring and promoting accountability for human rights violations which are;

Protection monitoring is crucial for identifying and documenting human rights violations. Protection monitoring helps prevent future human rights abuses by promoting a culture of accountability. Promoting accountability for human rights violations contributes to justice and redress for victims. Protection monitoring plays a vital role in building trust in institutions and strengthening the rule of law. Lack of accountability for human rights violations undermines the respect and protection of human rights.

Recommendation

UBC should conduct intensive and ongoing trainings for all monitoring staff on human rights principles, ethics and standards to foster appropriate attitudes, values and skills for rights-based practice.

Refresher workshops should be held regularly to address emerging issues and ensure inspectors' competence is constantly upgraded.

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