

**Poverty And It's Impact On The Increasing Rate Of Domestic Violence: Case Study Of Wattuba Sub-County
Kyankwanzi District**

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ABSTRACT

This study was aiming at examining impact of poverty on the increasing rate on domestic violence: Case Study of Wattuba Sub-County, Kyankwanzi District. This study was directed by objectives and these include: To examine the main cause of poverty in wattuba sub-county, Kyankwanzi District, to identify the cause of domestic violence in the area of the study Suggest ways of eliminating or reducing the occurrence of domestic violence in the wattuba sub-county Kyankwanzi district. The study employed the descriptive design, since poverty and domestic violence can be described easily, in the collection of data, the research design is preferred because it enabled the researcher systematically collect and present data to give a clear picture regarding poverty over domestic violence. Both quantitative data was used because they involved carrying out interviews and conducting group discussions. Under quantitative method, questionnaires were used to establish the parties affected and how they are affected. It was found that 46.3% of the respondents were married and those of 31.3% were of single, 12.3% were divorced as well as 10.0% those who never got married. According to the researcher it indicates that most of people who participated and affected by the poverty and domestic violence are those who have been married in terms of violation of human rights, beating of women and as well as children. The design of the study enabled the researcher to examine the impact of poverty on the domestic violence in wattuba sub-county Kyankwanzi district. It included the finding from the respondent, presentation and conclusion as well as recommendation.

Key words: poverty, domestic violence and human rights

Background of The Study

Domestic violence policy is incorporated into the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993) and the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Filstar, 2023). As part of its commitment to eliminate violence against women, the United Nations General Assembly recognizes that violence against women undermines women's ability to realize full human rights and freedoms. The report also explicitly states "on the contrary, women's poverty, lack of empowerment and marginalization put them at increased risk of violence"

Community poverty is of great concern to social workers in Uganda and various other countries, especially developing countries in Africa (Shamim et al., 2023). Despite significant investment in poverty alleviation programs, social security and other means of poverty reduction, it is estimated that more than a fifth of the Ugandan population earns less than \$3 a day, and another 40% live on less than \$5 a day. day (Zulaikah & Rebecca, 2023). Low-income families are significantly more likely to suffer from domestic turbulence and accompanying stress. Some women keep

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potentially dangerous men in their lives just so their basic needs can be met. It is therefore obvious that poverty creates an additional burden for abused women (Christopher & Micheal, 2022). Some men feel threatened by their partners having a job because it could mean they are no longer needed.

They like women to depend on them. According to a Vietnamese survivor of domestic violence, he said the following: “The wife stays at home, prepares food and takes care of the children. Wives don't know any different. He is like a bird in a cage” (Godfrey et al., 2023). Abusers may even intervene in women's workplaces and harassment at work often occurs (Bell, 2003). Abused women with children often need to stay with their abusive partners because they were otherwise unable to make ends meet. The economic situation is often unstable. Long working hours and low wages regularly form a part of the abused woman's existence (Vincent & Peter, 2023).

Uganda is one of the few countries in Africa that has reversed economic decline and begun implementing measures to reduce poverty. For example, the government announced universal primary education in 1997, which saw the number of primary school pupils increase by 160 percent to over 6 million (Mark et al., 2023). The government also undertook far-reaching political decentralization, seeing it as the best means of meeting the demands for rural development and services.

According to Pain (2014), he further elaborates that poverty and difficult material conditions both produce and intensify domestic violence. (Ntirandekura, 2022) adds that, unfortunately, the voices of abused women are often not heard, their calls for help are either ignored or insufficiently addressed. Survival and recovery is a collective responsibility where social workers should work with other team players to reduce domestic violence and try to close the gap between women's constitutional rights and practice.

Problem statement

Based on an analysis of the 2001 BCS, Walby & Allen (2004) found that women living in households with an income of less than £10,000 were three and a half times more likely to have experienced DVA in the previous 12 months than women living in households with an income above £20,000, while men were one and a half times more likely (Oromo et al., 2023). Based on the 2008/09 BCS analysis, Towers (2015) examines the links between economic inequality and interpersonal violence against women and concludes that access to economic resources is an important risk factor (Viola et al., 2023). This research demonstrates a significant bivariate association between low income and increased vulnerability to intimate partner violence, with women living in low-income households (less than £10,000 per year) 3.5 times more likely to report violence in the past 12 months by an intimate partner, to women living in high-income households (over £30,000 p.a.) (Oromo et al., 2023). Additional neighborhood effects are evident among women living in neighborhoods with low income and employment (based on IMD LSOA data), who are at greater risk of recent intimate partner violence.

Purpose of the study

The aim of this study is to examine the impact of poverty on the increasing rate of domestic violence (DVA) in wattuba sub-county Kyakwanzi District as the area of the study.

Objectives of the study:

1. To examine the main cause of poverty in wattuba sub-county, Kyakwanzi District
2. To identify the cause of domestic violence in the area of the study
3. Suggest ways of eliminating or reducing the occurrence of domestic violence in the wattuba sub-county

Kyakwanzi district

Methodology

The study employed the descriptive design, since poverty and domestic violence can be described easily, in the collection of data, the research design is preferred because it enabled the researcher systematically collect and present data to give a clear picture regarding poverty over domestic violence. Both quantitative data was used because they involved carrying out interviews and conducting group discussions. Under quantitative method, questionnaires were used to establish the parties affected and how they are affected. The design of the study enabled the researcher to examine the impact of poverty on the domestic violence in wattuba sub-county Kyankwanzi district. The population refers to the group of individuals with some common defining characteristic that the research can identify and study, within the target population a sample is selected [Creswell, 2013]. A study was conducted in the wattuba sub-county Kyankwanzi district it is located in the northernmost district in the western Uganda and Bunyoro kingdom bordering Buganda the district headquarters is at Butemba town. It targeted 7000 as estimated in 2012. From the proposed study, the actual total number of the 80 respondents were interviewed. They were at as 55 local people, 10 government officials, 10 NGO representatives, and 5 local council leaders. Simple random sampling technique were used to select the population under study. Different strategy was formed. Key information was purposively sampled because they have information and knowledge in the area of the study. The researcher first defined the population, listed the elements of the population, determined an appropriate sampling methodology, decided an adequate sample size and selected a representative sample of 80 respondents. After the data collection, qualitative data obtained from the interview was coded. Quantitative data was coded and tabulated on a scale and was entered in the computer using Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS) (Nelson et al., 2022). Data was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. SPSS was used in analyzing data collected. Bar graphs was used to give a clearer outlook on poverty on the domestic violence in the area of the study, western Uganda. Bar graphs and other graphs were done in Microsoft Excel. Recommendations was made using the outcome of the result of the analysis.

RESULTS**Forms of Domestic Violence**

Table 1: Heard of domestic violence

Heard	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	51	63.75
No	29	36.25
Total	80	100.00

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Source: Respondents

From the study it was found out that most of the respondents have ever heard of domestic with 63.75% and 36.25% have never heard of it. This implies that most of the respondents in Wattuba Sub- County, Kyakwanzi District has ever been affected by domestic violence as well as it could be poverty the root cause of this high rate of domestic violence according to the evidence revealed in the table 8 above (Zowena et al., 2023).

Impact of poverty on domestic violence

Table 2: Impact of poverty on domestic violence

Impacts	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	39	48.7
Agree	25	31.3
Disagree	10	12.5
Not sure	4	5.0
Strongly disagree	2	2.5
Total	80	100.00

Source: primary data 2021

From the study it was found out that most of the respondents strongly agree that poverty impact on domestic violence with 48.7%, 31.3% agreed, 12.5% disagreed, 5.0 were not sure and 2.5% strongly disagreed. This implied that most respondents strongly agreed that the increasing rate of poverty has influenced the domestic violence in Wattuba Sub- County, Kyakwanzi District (Anthony et al., 2023).

Discussion of Findings

According to study above in table 1 it was found that the majority of respondents were Female counting 66.3% compared to the Male who counted 33.7%, According the findings it showed that the most affected participant was Female. According to the researcher it could be because females in families there the most affected victim of domestic violence compared to Males mainly in Study area Wattuba Sub- County, Kyakwanzi District (Racheal et al., 2023).

According to the study in table 2 it was found out of the respondents participated in this study the age of group of 18-30 involved in the study compared to other age group. According to the researcher this was because such people are the most vulnerable to poverty in families are youth because in some cases according to the findings because some of them could have involved into early marriages and school dropouts hence poverty (Faridah et al., 2023).

It was found that 46.3% of the respondents were married and those of 31.3% were of single, 12.3% were divorced as well as 10.0% those who never got married. According to the researcher it indicates that most of people who participated and affected by the poverty and domestic violence are those who have been married in terms of violation of human rights, beating of women and as well as children (Flavia et al., 2023).

According to the findings in table 6 it showed that most respondents who participated in the study were those who completed in secondary school which counted 50%, this indicated that many people who did not go to school thus primary level (Victoria et al., 2023), tertiary institutions there most affected by poverty, mostly according to the researcher this could be because un educated participants other don't have jobs, failure to create their own jobs in a process lacking money to cater their families hence poverty and domestic violence. According to the findings above 7 it was found that the majority of participants it was found that these participants were the farmers with 37.50%. this implies that Farmers were many as they constituted all those who did not make it to tertiary level because their rights to education were limited hence an increase of poverty causing domestic violence (Isaac et al., 2023). According to the finding in table 9 above, it was found that most of the participants strongly agreed that poverty impact of the domestic violence. Therefore, the researcher also concluded that it's true that poverty increase in family has influenced the increase of domestic violence mostly in Wattuba Sub-County, Kyankwanzi District.

Conclusion

From the research findings, it's evident that there is influence of poverty on the domestic violence on family affairs. There is a multiplicity of factors that lead to domestic violence. 1-lower, the factors differ in proportions.

Among the factor's discovered alcohol was one of the causes of poverty in families, too much responsibility, Unemployment and unbalanced gender power. As a result, many get bruises and marriage break ups partners hence leads to domestic violence.

There is need for further research about the impact of poverty on the domestic violence on family affairs and on a large scale. This information was likely to help the government to formulate policies aiming at reducing the poverty which has been continuously affecting domestic violence.

Recommendation

Civil society organizations and the media should collaborate and coordinate appropriate programmes leading to creating public awareness on domestic violence issues in Uganda as well as Wattuba Sub- County, Kyankwanzi District.

That Government must prioritize education as an empowerment for women and girls in Wattuba Sub- County, Kyankwanzi District, thus giving them the knowledge, skills, and power to stand up to perpetrators of domestic violence.

Government and non-government organizations should target men and the youth in their programs to divert them from alcoholism, sports betting and drug abuse and the only way out is by provision of capital and sensitization on how to make a living.

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