ANALYSIS OF FACTORS CONNECTED TO THE OCCURRENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG COUPLES IN KAWEMPE DIVISION

BY

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DECLARATION

I, **KANSIIME ANNAH. KAKIKAIRE,** hereby declare that this research dissertation on **"ANALYSIS OF FACTORS CONNECTED TO THE OCCURRENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG COUPLES IN KAWEMPE DIVISON"** is my original work and has never been submitted before any school, or institution of learning for any academic award of any qualification. Theories, ideas and materials obtained from existing literature and other sources have been fully acknowledged and referenced.

Signed……..…..……. Date: ……..……

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APPROVAL

I hereby accept this dissertation by **KANSIIME ANNAH. KAKIKAIRE,** on **"ANALYSIS OF FACTORS CONNECTED TO THE OCCURRENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG COUPLES IN KAWEMPE DIVISON"** and approve it for submission to the Department of Nursing of King Ceasor University

Signature: …… Date: ……

Supervisor Name: ……..

DEDICATION

This research is dedicated with love and gratitude to my family

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the King Ceasor University research directorate for their support and assistance throughout the course of this study. Their guidance and provision of an introductory letter greatly facilitated the process of engaging with respondents.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my supervisor whose patience, guidance and encouragement made me succeed in producing this work.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

DAP: Domestic Abuse Project

NVAWS: National Violence Against Women Survey

UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund

UPF: Uganda Police Force

WH: World Health Organization

WHO: World Health Organization

DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

Domestic Violence is the violent or aggressive behavior within the home, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner**.**

Couples are two people or things of the same sort considered together. In other words, they are two people who are married or otherwise closely associated romantically or sexually.

Factors: Factors are elements or variables that contribute to a particular outcome or situation. In this research study, these are the variables or aspects that influence the occurrence of domestic violence.

Occurrence: Occurrence simply means the happening or incidence of an event or phenomenon. Here, it pertains to instances of domestic violence among couples.

ABSTRACT

The study investigated factors connected to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division. The Specific Research objectives were to establish the forms of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division; to identify the causes of domestic violence among among couples in Kawempe division and to establish the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division. The research employed a cross-sectional research design using quantitative methods. Data collection methods include questionnaires were used. The sample size comprises 50 couples. The study revealed the alarming prevalence of various forms of domestic violence within intimate relationships. The findings underscore the urgent need for immediate and targeted interventions, awareness campaigns, and support services to address the multifaceted challenges posed by intimate partner violence. The high percentages of respondents acknowledging experiences with sexual, physical, psychological, and technological-facilitated abuse, as well as neglect and verbal abuse, emphasize the pervasive nature of these issues within the community. The findings underscore the complex interplay of various factors contributing to domestic violence within Kawempe Division. The findings provide valuable insights for the development of targeted interventions and support services aimed at addressing gender dynamics, substance abuse, communication patterns, cultural attitudes, and economic challenges to foster healthier relationship dynamics and mitigate the prevalence of intimate partner violence within the community. The examination of the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division reveals a sobering reality marked by pervasive physical, emotional, and societal repercussions. The overwhelming consensus among respondents underscores a deep-seated awareness within the community regarding the severe impact of intimate partner violence. Finally, it was concluded that it is imperative for stakeholders, including policymakers, community leaders, and support organizations, to collaborate in implementing effective strategies that promote awareness, prevention, and support for survivors. The results call for a collective commitment to fostering healthier relationship dynamics, eradicating intimate partner violence, and creating a safer environment for couples in Kawempe Division.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This study explores the factors associated with the occurrence of domestic violence within couples residing in Kawempe Division.

1.1 Background to the Study

Globally, the world we live in is characterized with violence against women (Childress, 2018). This is universally present in many forms like wife battering, sexual assault and abuse, female genital mutilation and rape, in war and peacetime, etc (Thompson et al. 2015). Domestic violence is the fate of millions of women all over the world and these are affecting their productivity both in the homes, communities and places of work. Domestic violence alludes to the use of physical force against family members, such as hitting, beating, cutting, or other means intended to inflict pain or suffering, such as depriving someone of food or medical care or verbally abusing them with the intent to make them feel inferior. Domestic and family violence is a significant social problem (Subramaniam *et. al.*, 2014).

In Africa most Physical abuse was seen as the man's responsibility over his wife and children. This often resulted into injuries on victims, sometimes miscarriages as well or death at delivery. As the world developed physical assault or battering became a crime, whether it occurred inside or outside of the family. According to the Domestic Abuse Project -DAP (2020), domestic violence is the systematic pattern of abusive behaviors in a relationship that are used to gain and/or maintain control and power over another person. This can include physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, psychological abuse, and/or technological or financial abuse (Classen and Freysteinsdóttir, 2021).

There are different types of domestic violence, which occur at different levels like within the family, community and state. Domestic violence, which typically occurs when a man beats his female partner, is the most prevalent form of domestic violence and this occurs within the families and inside the homes (Childress, 2018). Violence against women within the general community includes battery, rape, and sexual assault, forced treatments and the exploitation and commercialization of women's bodies (Thompson et al. 2019). The social exclusion of women in some parts of the world in general and the purdah system in the northern part of Nigeria in particular are among the violence against women that are perpetrated by the state

Domestic violence is a universal reality existing in all societies regardless of income, class and culture. It would be difficult to find one woman, whom at one time or the other in her lifetime had not been afraid merely because she was a woman (Rahebi, et. al., 2019). Those women who are particularly vulnerable to violence are those who live in extremely precarious conditions or who are discriminated against on the basis of race, language, ethnic group, culture, age, opinion, religion or membership in a minority group. List of those that are affected by domestic violence, women who are displaced, migrants, refugees or those living under foreign occupation.

Accordingly, the Uganda Domestic Violence Act, No. 17 of 2010 puts in place stringent protections against domestic violence. It is a significant problem for those whose life is affected, the social, health and criminal justice agencies that respond to it, and wider society that must bear the costs. Whilst domestic violence is not a new phenomenon, the past thirty years has seen increasing public awareness and a growing political consensus that something needs to be done, even if what should be done is less clear

Domestic violence has direct and indirect effects in the family regardless of class, gender and race. Although domestic violence affects everyone in the family, the greatest victims are usually women. Narmada (2020) observed that domestic violence is a common occurrence throughout the globe endure regardless the social, cultural, or economic background of the couples. As a result, the security usually found at home is threatened. Overall, there were 13,916 cases of domestic violence according to the Uganda Police Force (UPF) Annual Crime Report, 2018, indicating a reduction of 9.2% compared to 2017. Of this cases 1,099 where allocated the male and female juveniles. Whilst this number appears a 'drop' in the ocean, it is important to note that a number of cases of domestic violence against children are unrecorded /reported.

Nevertheless, understanding the dynamics of its impacts on couples remains an area yet to be examined extensively. This study will be conducted to analyses of factors connected to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division.

1.2 Problem Statement

Rahebi, et. al., (2019) noted that the impacts of domestic violence have been described in terms of human rights violations. While domestic violence has been recognized as one of the most entrenched and pervasive forms of violence in Uganda today, its influence on couples have yet to receive the same degree of attention. Hospitals receive many wounded spouses who do not wish to return to the domestic arena and church pastorates find many cases of mental disputes that require their intervention. 60% of Uganda's women are victims of domestic violence (Polavarapu, 2019). This is despite the fact that every year in Uganda, thousands of women suffer physically, psychologically, and sexually as a result of acts of violence against them in the home.

Despite the overwhelming prevalence of domestic violence, the specific, long- and short-term effects on couple's due domestic are not clearly understood. In addition, there exist many other similar cases that are never reported and they are higher in rural areas compared to urban ones (Holt, and Devaney, 2019). Few studies have documented the factors of domestic violence among couples in Uganda which have created a research gap. With this research gap in mind, the researcher will attempt to find out the factors for the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to analyze factors connected to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division.

1.4. Specific Research Objectives

i) To establish the forms of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division

ii) To identify the causes of domestic violence among among couples in Kawempe division

iii) To establish the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division

1.5 Research Questions

i) What are the forms of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division?

ii) What are causes of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division?

iii) What are effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division?

1.6 Scope of the Study

1.6.1 Content Scope

The study was confined to the analysis of factors connected to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division. The study then refocused on the factors associated with domestic violence, forms of domestic violence, and effects of domestic violence.

1.6.2 Geographical Scope

The study was conducted in Kawempe division. Kawempe division is located in central regions of Uganda. The study area is chosen due to high prevalence of domestic violence in communities.

1.6.3 Time Scope

The study was carried out in a period of 8 months that is from July to February, 2023. This was considered adequate for collection of adequate data required for the report.

1.7 Significance of the Study

The study findings will reveal the different forms of domestic violence on children in Kawempe division. This information can be used by different stakeholders like civil societies, organizations and community development officers to educate the local communities.

To researchers and academicians, the study will provide key areas for future research, point out the current gaps between theory and practice and give a well referenced comprehensive summary of domestic violence and its effect on families particularly couples

The study is expected to help the researcher in the fulfillment of the requirements for a degree of science in nursing of King Ceasor University.

1.8 Conceptual Framework

Independent Variables **Dependent Variables**

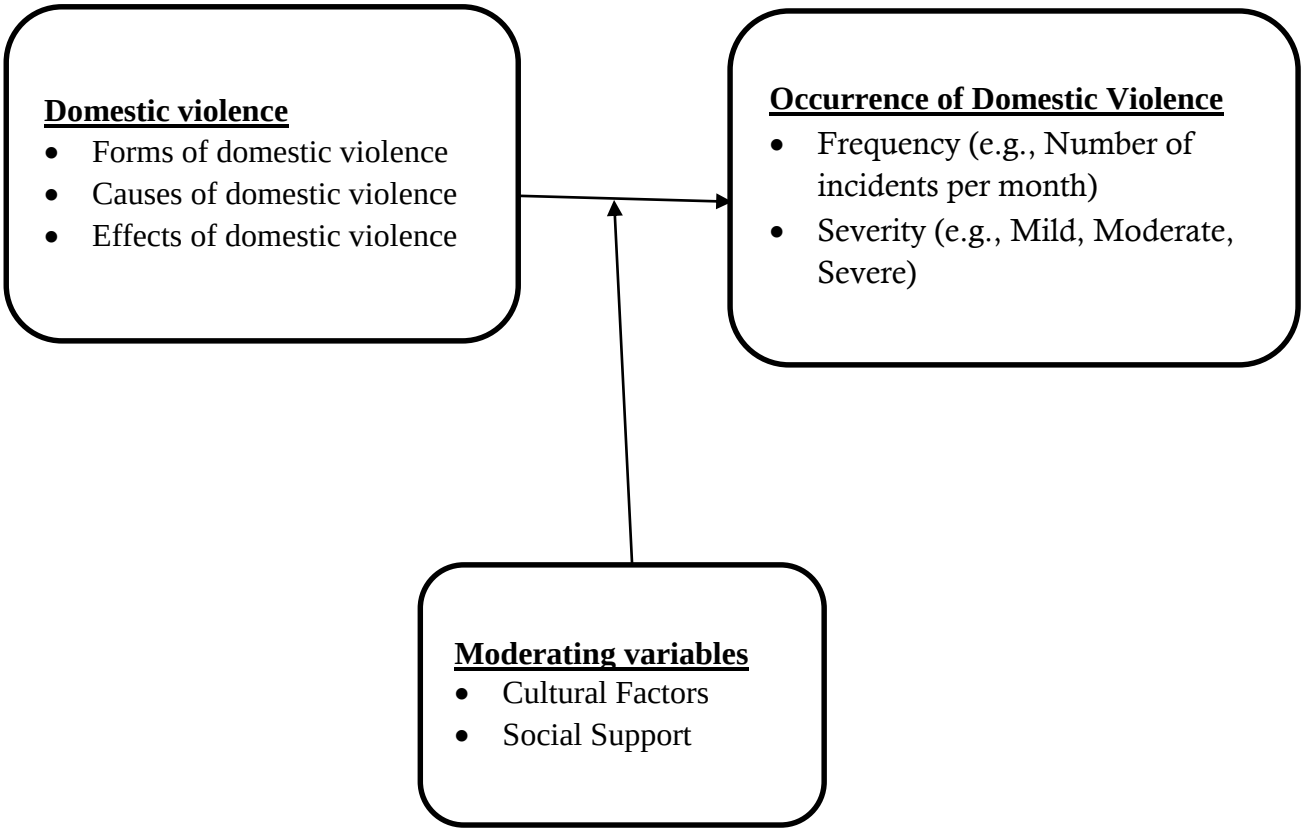


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework of factors connected to the occurrence of Domestic Violence among couples in Kawempe Division.

Source: Adopted from Schlichting et al. (2019) and modified by the researcher

The conceptual framework for the study on domestic violence is structured around three fundamental components: the Independent Variable (IV), which is 'Domestic Violence,' the Dependent Variable (DV), which is the 'Occurrence of Domestic Violence,' and two Moderating Variables, 'Cultural Factors' and 'Social Support.' The Independent Variable, 'Domestic Violence,' is at the heart of our research. It encompasses various dimensions, including 'Forms of Domestic Violence,' 'Causes of Domestic Violence,' and 'Effects of Domestic Violence.' Through the

examination of these dimensions, we aim to gain a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of domestic violence. Within the Dependent Variable, the 'Occurrence of Domestic Violence,' we explore two crucial dimensions: 'Frequency' and 'Severity.' These dimensions allow us to quantify and assess the temporal occurrence of domestic violence incidents, providing insight into how often they transpire and the degree of harm inflicted.

Additionally, our framework acknowledges the significance of two Moderating Variables. First, 'Cultural Factors' are recognized as pivotal influences that can either amplify or mitigate the occurrence of domestic violence. Cultural norms and values play a crucial role in shaping the dynamics within intimate relationships and the acceptance or rejection of abusive behaviors. Secondly, 'Social Support' is considered as a factor that can either act as a buffer or exacerbating element in the occurrence of domestic violence. The availability and quality of social support systems influence individuals' experiences and responses to domestic violence.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a review of literature and empirical findings on the subject of study. The chapter reviews literature on forms of domestic violence, direct effects of domestic violence, and indirect effects on children.

2.1 Forms of Domestic Violence

Acts of domestic violence of domestic violence encompass a distressing topic, one often overlooked or denied by many medical professionals. Domestic violence encompasses physical aggression, emotional mistreatment, spousal sexual assault, sexual exploitation, neglect, and verbal harm. It is essential to acknowledge that domestic violence exhibits a gendered pattern, with statistics demonstrating a significant disproportion in its occurrence, primarily affecting women**.**. The various forms of domestic violence are explained below.

2.1.1Sexual Domestic Violence

Sexual violence occur without the victim's consent, including cases in which the victim is unable to consent due to being too intoxicated (eg, incapacitation, lack of consciousness, or lack of awareness) through their voluntary or involuntary use of alcohol or drugs (Narmada 2020). The incidence of sexual violence in domestic settings is well known. Recent studies indicate high levels of sexual violence in childhood – up to 21 per cent according to a multi-country study conducted by the World Health Organization with girls far more likely to be abused than boys (UNICEF, 2020). Sexual abuse can be contact or non-contact acts. According to Narmada (2020) it may involve physical force and threats, but more often involves manipulation. Sexual and physical abuse is often accompanied by controlling behaviors. In a World Health Organization (WHO)

survey of more than 24,000 women in ten countries, the percentage of those who had experienced one or more of the following controlling behaviors ranged from 20% in Japan to 90% in urban United Republic of Tanzania such as keeping her from seeing friends, restricting contact with her family of birth, insisting on knowing where she is at all times, ignoring or treating her indifferently, getting angry if she speaks with other men;, often accusing her of being unfaithful in addition to controlling her access to healthcare (Childress, 2018)..

2.1.2 Physical Domestic Violence

Physical violence is the intentional use of physical force with the potential for causing death, disability, injury, or harm. Physical violence includes, but is not limited to scratching, pushing, or shoving, throwing, grabbing, or biting, choking, shaking, aggressive hair pulling, slapping, punching, hitting or burning, using of a weapon, use of restraints or one's body, size, or strength against another person. Physical violence also includes coercing other people to commit any of the above acts. (CDC, 2016) Research has shown that physical violence is often accompanied by psychological abuse and, in one-third to one-half of cases, by sexual. The violence is usually not limited to one instance. The National Violence against Women Survey (NVAWS) found that women who were physically assaulted by an intimate partner averaged 6.9 physical assaults by the same partner, while men who were assaulted averaged 4.4 assaults. Women experience more chronic and injurious physical assaults at the hands of intimate partners than do men. The NVAWS found that more than 40% of women who were physically assaulted by an intimate partner were injured during their most recent assault, compared with about 20% of the men. Most injuries, such as scratches, bruises, and welts, were minor. More severe physical injuries may occur depending on severity and frequency of abuse. Physical violence can lead to (Miller-Perrin, Kocur, 2019)

2.1.3 Psychological Aggression

Psychological aggression is the use of verbal and nonverbal communication with the intent to harm another person mentally or emotionally, and/or to exert control over another person (Childress, 2018). Psychological aggression can include: Expressive aggression (eg, name-calling, humiliating), Coercive control (eg, limiting access to transportation, money, friends, and family; excessive monitoring of whereabouts); Threats of physical or sexual violence; control of reproductive or sexual health (eg, refusal to use birth control; coerced pregnancy termination); Exploitation of victim's vulnerability (eg, immigration status, disability) and Exploitation of perpetrator's vulnerability and Presenting false information to the victim with the intent of making them doubt their own memory or perception (eg, mind games) (CDC, 2016). Coercive control and intimidation by the abusive partner is considered an underlying component of all of these types of violence. The abusive partner's ability to control relies on the abused person's belief that if she or he does not comply with the abusive partner's demands, the victim, the victim's children, or other persons or things the victim cares about will be harmed (Subramaniam et al, 2014).. Often, threats are alternated with acts of kindness from the perpetrator, making it difficult for the victim to break free of the cycle of violence

2.1.4 Stalking and Cyberstalking

According to Polavarapu (2019) stalking is a pattern of repeated, unwanted, attention and contact that causes fear or concern for one's own safety or the safety of someone else (eg, family member or friend). Some examples include repeated, unwanted phone calls, emails, or texts; leaving cards, letters, flowers, or other items when the victim does not want them; watching or following from a distance; spying; approaching or showing up in places when the victim does not want to see them; sneaking into the victim's home or car; damaging the victim's personal property; harming or

threatening the victim's pet; and making threats to physically harm the victim (CDC, 2016). In the United States 7.5 million people are stalked in one year, with 85% of the victims being stalked by someone they know. Sixty-one percent of female victims and 44% of male victims are stalked by an intimate partner. Among women who have been murdered, 76% were stalked by their intimate partner and 67% had been abused by them. Stalking victims may become fearful and anxious, and their physical and mental health can suffer as a result (National Center for Victims of Crimes, 2012).

2.1.5 Neglect

Neglect, within the realm of domestic violence, represents a grave form of mistreatment. It is characterized by the omission or failure to provide the essential care and support that a partner or family member rightfully expects and requires. This form of abuse extends beyond physical harm and delves into the neglect of basic human needs. Neglect can manifest in various ways within a domestic context, such as the deprivation of adequate food, shelter, or clothing, leaving individuals in distressing and potentially dangerous conditions. Furthermore, it can encompass the withholding of necessary medical care, which can have severe consequences for the victim's health and well-being. Emotional support is another critical aspect; neglect in this regard involves a profound emotional detachment or apathy, leaving the victim feeling isolated and abandoned. In essence, neglect in domestic violence situations is a stark violation of the fundamental expectation of care and protection within familial or partnership relationships

2.1.6Verbal Abuse

erbal abuse, on the other hand, represents a deeply hurtful and psychologically damaging aspect of domestic violence. It involves the deployment of harmful or menacing language as a means of controlling and manipulating the victim. This form of abuse can take on various manifestations,

all designed to assert dominance and instill fear. It often includes insults, where the victim is subjected to derogatory comments and name-calling, eroding their self-esteem and sense of self-worth. Shouting and yelling are frequently employed as tactics to intimidate and coerce, creating a hostile and oppressive atmosphere (Makara and Kabahinda, 2022). Belittling serves to diminish the victim's confidence and independence, making them more vulnerable to the abuser's control. Constant criticism represents a relentless onslaught of negative feedback, making the victim feel perpetually inadequate and powerless. Verbal abuse is not confined to physical acts but leaves deep emotional scars, undermining the victim's mental and emotional well-being. Recognizing and addressing both neglect and verbal abuse is crucial for providing support to victims and combating domestic violence effectively.

2.2 Factors that are causing Domestic Violence

In abusive relationships, violence was posited to arise out of a need for power and control of one partner over the other (Childress, 2018). An abuser was to use various tactics of abuse (for example, physical, verbal, emotional, sexual or financial) in order to establish and maintain control over the partner. Abusers' efforts to dominate their partners have been attributed to low self-esteem or feelings of inadequacy, unresolved childhood conflicts, the stress of poverty, hostility and resentment toward women (misogyny), hostility and resentment toward men (misandry), personality disorders, genetic tendencies and social cultural influences, among other possible causative factors (Hornor, 2019). Most authorities seem to agree that abusive personalities result from a combination of several factors, to varying degrees.

Some men especially those in cohabitational unions do not attach value to their women well knowing that they can always replace them (Polavarapu, 2019). They treat their spouses in a rough manner, their concern being the mere fulfillment of society’s expectation of a man to have a

woman in his house. And some men always say that “the home of the man never disintegrates if one woman goes, he can gear another one”. To this the women pressurize their men into wedding which the men are not ready for and therefore does not stop incidents of domestic violence (International Save the Children Alliance, 2018).

Alcohol has been high lightened as the cause of domestic violence in marital relationships. When men are so irritable and their tempers flare at the smallest opportunity wanting all things to be done by their command (Childress, 2018). There is one incident or case where a female brought a complaint against her husband to the law society for assaulting her physically whenever his husband is drunk, she further complained that he assaulted even the children as he locked them in the house and threatening to kill them.

Lack of communication by way of dialogue and discussion between spouses. Some partners express their dissatisfaction through physical violence without waiting to get explanations from their wives. In such instances the male physical strength is what legitimates violence over the weaker female There is also proven correlation between people that have been exposed to domestic violence and those that go on to abuse their own families or when in other relationships (Tempet al., 2018). Mounting evidence has linked an exposure to family violence and perpetration of teen dating violence. This is a major safety concern and reports show that generally 10-20% of adolescents have experienced dating violence

It is clear that the unbalanced gender power relations sustain and legitimize domestic violence by maintaining that the man is always right (Makara and Kabahinda, 2022). Some religious beliefs such as Muslim wives submit yourselves to your husband, the head of every woman is a man thus manifesting why men feel the way they do over their wives which attitude has less to quite a

number of women living miserably. (Howell et al., 2020). The impact of witnessing domestic violence can affect the entire emotional, social, physiological, and physical development of the victim. Women are expected to be submissive to sexual demands even when unreasonably made. They are expected to tolerate physical abuse within marriage because it is believed to be part of the marriage life (Childress, 2018). There is a tendency by in-laws to play down the gravity of incidence of domestic violence when reported. Often cases of domestic violence do not reach the formal dispute resolution because of under reporting and tacitly condemnation which fuels domestic violence to a large extent

2.3 Effects of Domestic Violence

Women who live with domestic violence face increased risks i.e. poor academic performances, the risk of exposure to traumatic events, the risk of neglect, the risk of being directly abused, and the risk of losing one or both of their parents (Polavarapu, 2019). All of these may lead to negative outcomes for women and may affect their well-being, safety, and stability. Behavioral, social, and emotional problems. Higher levels of aggression, anger, hostility, oppositional behavior, and disobedience; fear, anxiety, withdrawal, and depression; poor peer, sibling, and social relationships; and low self-esteem.

Lacerations, bruises, and other more serious physical injuries, such as miscarriages in the case of pregnant women, can be effects of domestic violence. Long-term psychological harm is also caused by it; victims frequently have low self-esteem and blame themselves for their treatment. Both psychological barriers and the challenge of finding alternate housing make it common for victims to feel unable to leave their attacker. In a number of highly publicized, extreme cases, the victim has killed the abuser as a result of this circumstance (Love, et. al. 2020).

Although domestic violence is a form of assault and is therefore technically illegal everywhere, victims frequently find the criminal law to be ineffective because many legal systems maintain that the law shouldn't interfere in domestic disputes between family members (Makara and Kabahinda, 2022). In some nations, such as Brazil, a wife cannot file a rape complaint against her husband. The primary legal recourse for victims is typically to file a civil lawsuit and request a court order either prohibiting a partner from abusing the applicant or their children or expelling the offender from the family home (Childress, 2018). However, this is a complex process and court orders are difficult to enforce: a party may be punished for contempt of court if the abuse persists. but the courts have no way of actively preventing further violence. Help for victims may be sought from housing authorities and social and medical services, as well as from refugees run by charities (Pingley, 2017). Such refugees may provide the victim with alternative accommodation in the short term, but victims do not have a statutory right to permanent rehousing from governments.

Cognitive and attitudinal problems. Lower cognitive functioning, poor school performance, lack of conflict resolution skills, limited problem-solving skills, pro-violence attitudes, and belief in rigid gender stereotypes and male privilege. Women who witness frequent and severe forms of violence or fail to observe their caretakers resolving conflict may undergo more distress than women who witness fewer incidences of physical violence and experience positive interactions between their caregivers (Thompson et al. 2015).

Elapsed time since exposure. Wome1 often have heightened levels of anxiety and fear immediately after a violent event. Fewer observable effects are seen in women as more time passes after the violent event (Polavarapu, 2019). Presence of women physical or sexual abuse. Women who witness domestic violence and are physically abused are at risk for increased levels of emotional and psychological maladjustment than women who only witness violence and are not abused.

Social effects; The effects of domestic violence damage the family and the society (Childress, 2018). Damages of domestic abuse are high and heavy as 'society may pay costly medical care, mental health services, criminal justice intervention, witnesses huge business losses and its security is endangered'. Domestic abusers also threaten the security of the whole society and particularly that of their neighborhood (Thompson et al. 2015). The noise of the victim at night and repeated fight in the home disturb everyone and social environment.

2.4 Summary of the Literature

The literature reveals that domestic violence encompasses a spectrum of forms that extend beyond physical violence. It includes emotional abuse, sexual abuse, financial control, neglect, and verbal abuse. Studies in various contexts have shown that these forms of abuse often coexist within intimate relationships, creating complex and distressing situations for victims. Understanding the causes of domestic violence is a complex endeavor, and the literature suggests that it is influenced by a multitude of factors. These can range from individual factors, such as mental health issues and substance abuse, to relational factors like communication breakdown and power imbalances. The literature highlights the extensive and far-reaching effects of domestic violence on both victims and society as a whole. Victims often experience physical injuries, emotional trauma, and long-term psychological distress. Children who witness domestic violence can suffer from emotional and behavioral problems.

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the methodology that was used in conducting the study. It presents the research design, the study population, sample size and selection, methods of data collection, validity and reliability of the instruments, measurement of study variables, data analysis and ethical considerations.

3.1 Study setting and Rationale

The study was conducted in Kawempe division. Kawempe division is located in central regions of Uganda. Kawempe Division is located in the Northern part of Kampala, it's one of the five divisions that make up Kampala city bordering Wakiso District to the west, north and east, Nakawa Division to the southeast, Kampala Central Division to the south, and Lubaga Division to the southwest. The coordinates of the division are 00 23N, 32 33E (Latitude:0.3792; Longitude:32.5574).

3.2 Research Design

The researcher undertook a cross-sectional research design using quantitative methods. The study also adopted a quantitative approach because it was easier to obtain large sample sizes and helped to remove biases from the research, making the findings more accurate..

3.3 Target Population

The study population targeted 50 couples in Kawempe Division because of their ability to respond to the questionnaire.

3.4 Sampling Procedure

The researcher employed simple random sampling for selecting the respondents who participated in the study. Given that the study sought only people who were victims of domestic violence, random sampling was used to recruit other research participants who might have been difficult to find. The sample was expanded as the study continued, using initial participants to help identify additional study participants..

3.5 Sample Size

A sample size of 44 respondents was then selected using Kreijcie and Morgan sample size determination.

3.6 Eligibility Criteria

3.6.1 Inclusion Criteria

Individuals or couples residing within the geographical boundaries of Kawempe division were considered eligible for participation in the study.

Cohabiting or Married Couples: The study included couples who are either legally married or cohabiting.

3.6.2 Exclusion Criteria

Non-Residency in Kawempe Division: Individuals or couples residing outside the geographical boundaries of Kawempe division were excluded from the study.

Unwillingness to Participate: Individuals or couples who decline to provide informed consent or participate in the study were excluded.

3.7 Data Collection Procedure

Data was collected by distributing questionnaires to respondents selected for the study by the researcher and this improved the efficiency and confidentiality during data collection

3.8 Data Collection

The study used **a** questionnaire to collect data for the study

3.8.1 Questionnaire

Data was obtained using a questionnaire. A questionnaire was chosen because it is considered as easy to fill, handle and provides respondents with ample time to think about replies so that hasty answers are eliminated, and thus the validity. The researcher gave a questionnaire to the couples in Kawempe Division.

3.9 Validity and Reliability

3.9.1 Validity

Validity refers to the extent to which questions in an instrument accurately measure the variables therein. Expert judgment was used. In this regard, two experts in instrumentation were asked to determine the content of the research instrument and after which content validity index (CVI) was computed. The finding from the experts were used to establish CVI

Table 1: Validity findings

	Relevant items	Not relevant items	Total
Rater 1	22	2	24
Rater 2	21	3	24
Total	43	5	48

$$CVI = \frac{\text{Relevant Items}}{\text{Total Number of Items}}$$

$$= \frac{43}{48}$$

$$= 0.896$$

The content validity index (CVI) calculated previously exceeded the standard Cronbach's alpha of 0.70. Consequently, the instruments were deemed valid, aligning with Amin's (2005) suggestion of a minimum CVI of 0.70.

3.9.2 Reliability

Reliability pertains to how consistently a set of variables measures what it is intended to. Essentially, it reflects the capacity of research tools to gather replicable data, meaning that if others conduct the same research, they should obtain similar results. To ensure this, a pre-testing method was employed, involving a pilot study of the questionnaire to assess its effectiveness. The reliability of the instruments was subsequently assessed using the Cronbach Alpha Index through SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Scientists), with a minimum recommended value of 0.7 according to Amin (2009). The following were the findings

Table 2: Reliability findings

Concept	**Alpha Value**
Forms of domestic violence among couples	0.731
Causes of domestic violence among couples	0.771
Effects of domestic violence among couples	0.742

The findings indicated that the research instrument demonstrated reliability, assessed through the Cronbach Alpha Value. Across all measures, the lowest recorded values were 0.731, surpassing the minimum acceptable threshold of 0.700 as suggested by Amin (2009). This affirms the reliability of the research instrument.

3.11 Ethical Safe Guards

An introductory letter was obtained from the King Ceasor University research directorate, introducing the researcher to the respondents. The researcher then explained the purpose of the study, the objectives, and procedures fully to participants, and written informed consent was obtained prior to enrolling them into the study. Sensitivity to human dignity was observed to ensure that all information from respondents was treated with the highest level of confidentiality. The information collected was kept confidential and within the limits of research objectives. It was clearly explained to the nurses that the study primarily intended to provide valuable information. The researcher assured the respondents that the study was strictly academic, and utmost confidentiality was observed. The data in this study was anonymously coded and could not therefore be traced back to individual respondents.

3.12 Limitations/Delimitation of the Study

During the field study, the researcher encountered challenges, including the possibility that some respondents may be hesitant or unwilling to promptly complete the questionnaires. In response to this, the researcher maintained patience and actively engage with respondents to facilitate questionnaire completion

The study encountered limitations in terms of sample size due to practical constraints. These limitations restricted the study's capacity to include a wide-ranging and diverse group of participants, potentially impacting the generalizability of the study's findings.

3.13 Dissemination Plan

The results were forwarded to King Ceasor University, and another copy was given to Kawempe Division and the researcher also retained a copy

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.0. Introduction

This chapter highlights the teaching characteristics of the respondents and presents the findings that were generated from interactions on the factors connected to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division. The study was based on the study objectives which included; To establish the forms of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division, to identify the causes of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division and to establish the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division

4.1 Response Rate

Table 3: **Showing Response rate**

Instrument	Issued out (F)	Filled	Percent (%)
Questionnaires	50	50	100.0%

Table 3 shows the distribution of the respondents according to the instruments used by the researcher that all the targeted respondents participated by answering the questionnaires (100.0%). The outcome from the table shows an effective and influential participation that depicted a successful data collection leading to compilation of a report with enough information.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

4.2.1 Gender of the Respondents

Table 4: Gender of the Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Female	37	74.0
Male	13	26.0
Total	50	100.0

The findings on gender distribution among the surveyed individuals in the study on factors connected to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division, reveals a notable gender disparity. Out of the total respondents, 74% were female, while 26% were male. The gender distribution is indicative of a higher representation of females within the sample population. This finding has significant implications for understanding the prevalence and dynamics of domestic violence in Kawempe Division. The higher percentage of female respondents may point towards the possibility that women are more affected by or attentive to the issue, reflecting a potential societal pattern.

4.2.2 Age Group of the Respondents

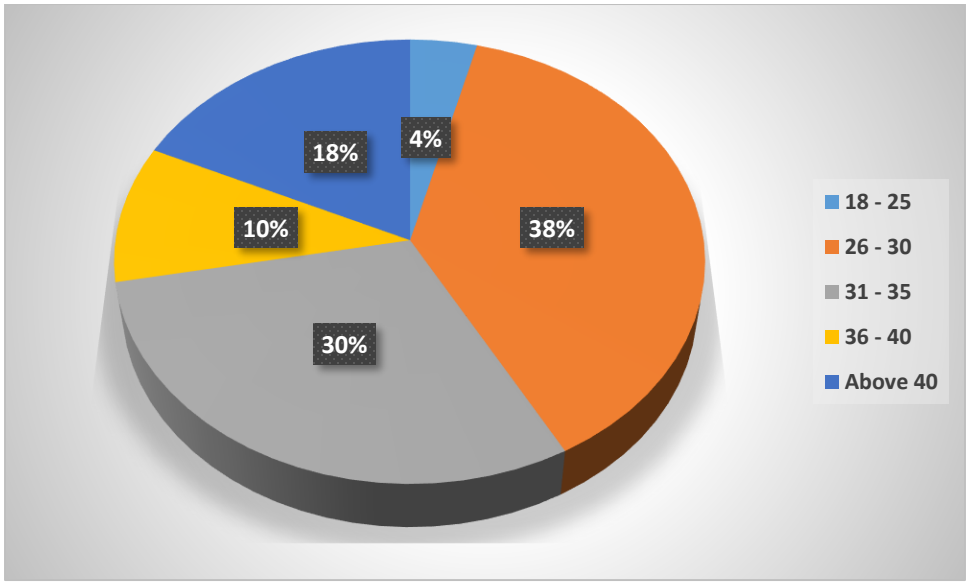


Figure 2: Age group of the Respondents

In examining the age distribution within the study on factors linked to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division, the data reveals distinct patterns across different age groups. The most prevalent age group is between 26 and 35 years, constituting 38% of the total respondents. Following this, the age groups of 31 - 35 years and above 40 years contribute significantly, with 30% and 18%, respectively. The age group of 18 - 25 years represents a smaller portion, comprising 4%, while the age group of 36 - 40 years constitutes 10% of the total sample. The distribution implies that individuals in their late twenties to mid-thirties are more prominently represented in the study. This age range coincides with a life stage where individuals often establish committed relationships or families, potentially influencing their susceptibility to or awareness of domestic violence issues. These findings emphasise the importance of nuanced, age-specific approaches to effectively address and prevent domestic violence within the Kawempe Division community.

4.2.3 Level of Education of the Respondents

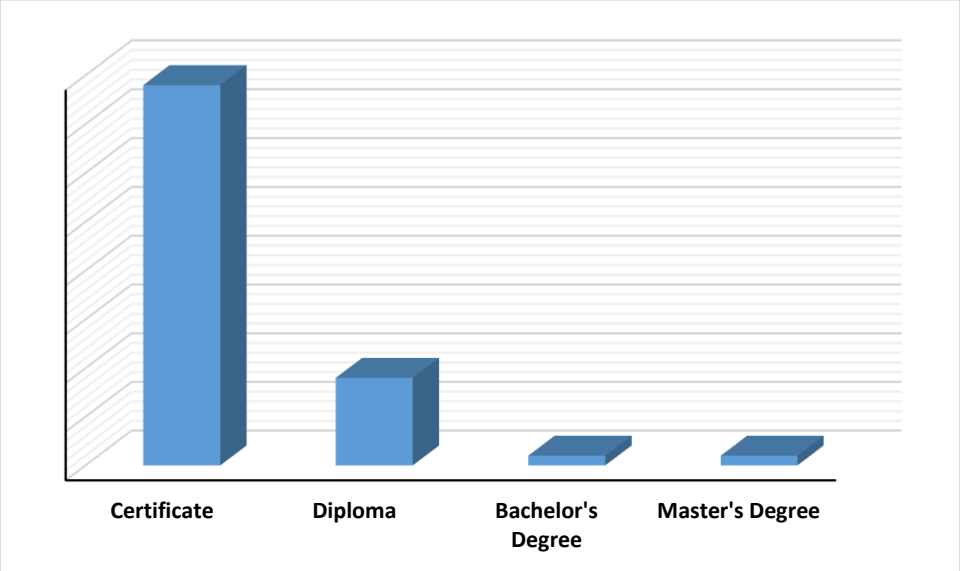


Figure 3: Levels of Education of Respondents

In examining the level of education among respondents in the study on factors connected to domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division, the data presents a varied distribution across different educational backgrounds. The majority of respondents possess a Certificate, comprising 78% of the total sample. Diplomas represent 18% of respondents, while Bachelor's and Master's degrees each account for 2%. The prevalence of individuals with Certificate qualifications suggests that this group forms the largest segment of the population participating in the study. Such a distribution may reflect the educational landscape within the Kawempe Division community, where Certificate-level education is more common compared to higher academic qualifications. Understanding the educational distribution among respondents provides valuable insights for designing targeted interventions to combat domestic violence effectively within the Kawempe Division community. It highlights the need for inclusive approaches that address the diverse educational backgrounds of individuals affected by or at risk of experiencing domestic violence.

4.3 Forms of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The first objective was to examine the forms of Domestic Violence Among Couples In Kawempe Division and the following were the findings

Table 5: Forms of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

Forms of domestic violence	SD		D		NS		A		SA	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
I have been faced with sexual domestic violence	8	16.0	9	18.0	2	4.0	13	26.0	18	36.0
I have been faced Physical domestic violence	6	12.0	7	14.0	0	0.0	11	22.0	26	52.0
I have been faced Psychological Aggression	3	6.0	2	4.0	1	2.0	30	60.0	14	28.0
I have been faced Stalking and Cyberstalking	5	10.0	5	10.0	3	6.0	23	46.0	14	28.0
I have also encountered trolling	1	2.0	11	22.0	3	6.0	19	38.0	16	32.0
I have been a victim of neglect	4	8.0	6	12.0	1	2.0	9	18.0	30	60.0
I have encountered verbal abuse	2	4.0	2	4.0	1	2.0	10	20.0	35	70.0

The presented data in Table 5 illustrates the responses from individuals regarding their experiences with sexual domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division. These findings indicate a range of responses, with a significant proportion (36.0%) reporting a strong agreement with experiencing sexual domestic violence. Additionally, 26.0% agreed with the statement, while 18.0% disagreed, and 16.0% strongly disagreed. The higher percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with experiencing sexual domestic violence suggests that a considerable number within the surveyed population acknowledge the prevalence of this form of abuse within intimate relationships in Kawempe Division. This underscores the significance of addressing and raising awareness about sexual domestic violence in the community. Further qualitative exploration may

be essential to gain a deeper understanding of the specific experiences, contributing factors, and potential interventions related to sexual domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division.

A noteworthy 52.0% of respondents strongly agreed that they have been faced with physical domestic violence, indicating a substantial proportion of individuals who have experienced this type of abuse. An additional 22.0% agreed with the statement. In contrast, 14.0% disagreed, and 12.0% strongly disagreed with experiencing physical domestic violence. These findings underscore the alarming prevalence of physical domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division, with a majority of respondents acknowledging their encounters with this form of abuse. The high percentage of respondents strongly agreeing with the statement signifies a heightened severity and impact of physical violence within the community.

These results also indicated a concerning prevalence of psychological aggression among couples in Kawempe Division, with a substantial 88.0% of respondents acknowledging some degree of psychological aggression. The majority of respondents (60.0%) agreed, while an additional 28.0% strongly agreed with experiencing psychological aggression. Notably, a small proportion (6.0%) strongly disagreed with this form of abuse, and 4.0% disagreed. The high percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement underscores the importance of addressing psychological aggression within intimate relationships in the community. This data signals the urgency of implementing interventions and support services focused on raising awareness, providing resources, and fostering healthier relationship dynamics to counteract the prevalence of psychological aggression in Kawempe Division.

The findings also indicate a notable prevalence of stalking and cyberstalking among couples in Kawempe Division, with a combined 74.0% of respondents acknowledging some degree of these

behaviors. The majority of respondents (46.0%) agreed, while an additional 28.0% strongly agreed with experiencing stalking and cyberstalking. A smaller proportion (20.0% from Strongly Disagree and Disagree) expressed a disagreement, and 6.0% were unsure. These results underscore the significance of addressing stalking and cyberstalking within intimate relationships in the community. The relatively high percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement highlights the urgent need for interventions and support services, including awareness campaigns, educational resources, and legal assistance, to mitigate the impact of these harmful behaviors in Kawempe Division

It was further revealed that a substantial proportion of respondents, totaling 70.0% (38.0% from Agree and 32.0% from Strongly Agree), acknowledge encountering trolling within their intimate relationships. The majority of respondents (32.0%) strongly agree with the statement, indicating a significant impact of trolling on couples in Kawempe Division. A smaller portion (24.0% from Strongly Disagree and Disagree) expressed disagreement, and 6.0% were unsure. These results underscore the significance of addressing trolling within intimate relationships in the community

The results indicate a substantial prevalence of neglect among couples in Kawempe Division, with a notable 78.0% (18.0% from Agree and 60.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents acknowledging some degree of neglect. The majority of respondents (60.0%) strongly agree that they have been victims of neglect. A smaller proportion (20.0% from Strongly Disagree and Disagree) expressed disagreement, and 2.0% were unsure. The findings underscore the significant impact of neglect within intimate relationships in the community. The high percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement highlights the urgent need for interventions, support services, and awareness campaigns to address neglect and foster healthier relationship dynamics in Kawempe Division.

The findings also revealed a significant prevalence of verbal abuse among couples in Kawempe Division, with a substantial 90.0% (20.0% from Agree and 70.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents acknowledging some degree of verbal abuse. The majority of respondents (70.0%) strongly agree that they have encountered verbal abuse. A smaller proportion (8.0% from Strongly Disagree and Disagree) expressed disagreement, and 2.0% were unsure. These findings highlight the concerning impact of verbal abuse within intimate relationships in the community. The high percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement suggests the urgent need for interventions, support services, and awareness campaigns to address verbal abuse and promote healthier communication dynamics in Kawempe Division

4.4 Causes of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The second objective was to examine the causes of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division

Table 6: Causes of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

Causes of domestic violence	SD		D		NS		A		SA	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Men do not attach value to their women well knowing that they can always replace them	3	6.0	6	12.0	3	6.0	20	40.0	18	36.0
Alcohol abuse is one of the factors that are causing domestic violence	2	4.0	1	2.0	0	0.0	13	26.0	34	68.0
Lack of communication by way of dialogue and discussion between spouses	1	2.0	1	2.0	0	0.0	28	56.0	20	40.0
Unbalanced gender power relations sustain and legitimize domestic violence by maintaining that the man is always right	3	6.0	9	18.0	2	4.0	18	36.0	18	36.0
Poverty is one of the factors that are causing domestic violence	4	8.0	2	4.0	2	4.0	10	20.0	32	64.0
Cultural norms and beliefs contribute to domestic violence within intimate relationships	1	2.0	12	24.0	6	12.0	24	48.0	7	14.0
Economic inequality or financial stress leads to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division	2	4.0	4	8.0	1	2.0	33	66.0	10	20.0

The examination of the causes of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division reveals insightful findings that shed light on the underlying factors contributing to this pervasive issue. The second objective of the study aimed to delve into these causes, encompassing various

dimensions such as gender dynamics, substance abuse, and communication breakdowns within intimate relationships.

The data concerning the perception that "men do not attach value to their women well, knowing that they can always replace them" indicates a significant acknowledgment of this sentiment among respondents. A substantial 76.0% (40.0% from Agree and 36.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with this notion. This finding suggests a prevalent attitude within the community that devalues women and perpetuates a cycle of disrespect and disregard within intimate relationships.

The findings pertaining to alcohol abuse as a factor contributing to domestic violence portrays a striking correlation. A staggering 94.0% (26.0% from Agree and 68.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents acknowledged the role of alcohol abuse in exacerbating instances of domestic violence. This underscores the significant impact of substance abuse on interpersonal dynamics and highlights the need for targeted interventions addressing addiction and its implications for domestic violence prevention.

It was also revealed that a majority 96.0% (56.0% from Agree and 40.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents recognized the absence of effective dialogue and discussion as a contributing factor to domestic violence. This finding underscores the importance of open and respectful communication within relationships as a protective factor against conflict and violence. These findings underscore the multifaceted nature of domestic violence and its underlying causes within the Kawempe Division community. The prevalence of attitudes that devalue women, coupled with the influence of substance abuse and communication breakdowns, contributes to a complex web of factors perpetuating domestic violence.

The data regarding the statement that "cultural norms and beliefs contribute to domestic violence within intimate relationships" reveals diverse perspectives within the community. A substantial 62.0% (48.0% from Agree and 14.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents acknowledged the influence of cultural norms and beliefs in contributing to domestic violence. This finding indicates a prevalent understanding that deeply ingrained cultural attitudes may perpetuate or tolerate behaviours that lead to domestic violence. Conversely, a noteworthy 26.0% (2.0% from Strongly Disagree and 24.0% from Disagree) of respondents expressed disagreement with the statement. This dissenting perspective suggests that a portion of the community does not attribute domestic violence primarily to cultural norms and beliefs. The diversity of opinions on this issue underscores the complexity of addressing cultural factors in the context of domestic violence. Furthermore, 12.0% of respondents were unsure or neutral about the impact of cultural norms and beliefs on domestic violence. This uncertainty could indicate a need for further education and awareness campaigns to help individuals understand the potential role of cultural factors in influencing intimate partner violence.

The findings on the statement that "economic inequality or financial stress leads to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division" reveals a significant perspective within the community. A substantial 82.0% (33.0% from Agree and 49.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that economic inequality or financial stress contributes to domestic violence. This finding underscores the understanding within the community that economic challenges can act as stressors, potentially escalating conflicts within intimate relationships. However , a noteworthy 12.0% (2.0% from Strongly Disagree and 10.0% from Disagree) of respondents held a dissenting perspective. This dissent suggests that a portion of the community does not perceive a direct link between economic factors and the occurrence of

domestic violence. Additionally, 6.0% of respondents were unsure or neutral about the impact of economic inequality or financial stress on domestic violence. This uncertainty may indicate a need for further education and awareness campaigns to help individuals understand the potential relationship between economic factors and intimate partner violence.

4.5 Effects of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The third objective was to investigate the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division and the following were the findings

Table 7: Effects of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

Effects of domestic violence	SD		D		NS		A		SA	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Lacerations, bruises, and other more serious physical injuries	1	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	20.0	39	78.0
Risk for increased levels of emotional and psychological torture	0	0.0	2	4.0	1	2.0	13	26.0	34	68.0
the risk of exposure to traumatic events	0	0.0	1	2.0	1	2.0	21	42.0	27	54.0
Cognitive and attitudinal problems	0	0.0	5	10.0	3	6.0	15	30.0	27	54.0
Domestic violence damage the family and the society socially	1	2.0	0	0.0	3	6.0	12	24.0	34	68.0
Domestic violence contributes to an increased risk of long-term emotional and psychological trauma for survivors	1	2.0	0	0.0	2	4.0	22	44.0	25	50.0
Domestic violence has an effect on the social fabric of both the family and the wider society	1	2.0	0	0.0	3	6.0	18	36.0	28	56.0

The investigation into the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division highlights compelling findings, particularly concerning the physical consequences of such violence. The data on the statement that "domestic violence leads to lacerations, bruises, and other more serious physical injuries" reveals a stark reality within the community. A substantial 98.0% (20.0% from Agree and 78.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the notion that domestic violence results in severe physical harm. This overwhelming consensus indicates a deep awareness within the community regarding the physical consequences of intimate partner violence. On the other hand, a minimal 2.0% of respondents strongly disagreed with the statement. This dissenting perspective, while limited in representation, suggests the need for further exploration into the perceptions and experiences of individuals who do not associate domestic violence with severe physical injuries.

A substantial 94.0% (26.0% from Agree and 68.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that domestic violence contributes to heightened emotional and psychological torture. This finding indicates a widespread recognition within the community of the detrimental impact of intimate partner violence on mental well-being. Conversely, 6.0% of respondents either disagreed or were unsure about the statement, suggesting a minority perspective within the community. This dissenting view underscores the need for targeted interventions to address varying perceptions and experiences related to the emotional and psychological aspects of domestic violence.

The data on the statement that "domestic violence increases the risk of exposure to traumatic events" sheds light on the community's perception of the potential consequences of intimate partner violence. A notable 96.0% (42.0% from Agree and 54.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the notion that domestic violence heightens the risk of

exposure to traumatic events. This overwhelming consensus indicates a widespread acknowledgment within the community of the traumatic impact of intimate partner violence on those involved. Equally, 4.0% of respondents either disagreed or were unsure about the statement, reflecting a minority perspective within the community. This emphasizes the importance of tailored interventions to address varying perceptions and experiences related to the traumatic consequences of domestic violence

The study findings revealed a substantial 84.0% (30.0% from Agree and 54.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that domestic violence can lead to cognitive and attitudinal problems. This finding suggests a prevalent recognition within the community of the adverse impact of intimate partner violence on cognitive functioning and attitudes. However, 16.0% of respondents either disagreed or were unsure about the statement, indicating a minority perspective within the community. This highlights the importance of tailored interventions to address varying perceptions and experiences related to the cognitive and attitudinal consequences of domestic violence.

The exploration of the societal impact of domestic violence within families in Kawempe Division extends to the statement that "domestic violence damages the family and the society socially." The data provides valuable insights into the community's understanding of the broader social consequences of intimate partner violence. An overwhelming 92.0% (24.0% from Agree and 68.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that domestic violence has a damaging effect on families and society socially. This consensus indicates a pervasive recognition within the community of the far-reaching social implications of intimate partner violence. Conversely, 8.0% of respondents either disagreed or were unsure about the statement, representing a minority perspective within the community. This underscores the

importance of addressing varying perceptions and experiences related to the social consequences of domestic violence.

The study findings revealed that a significant 94.0% (44.0% from Agree and 50.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that domestic violence contributes to an increased risk of long-term emotional and psychological trauma for survivors. This overwhelming consensus indicates a widespread recognition within the community of the potential enduring effects of intimate partner violence on survivors' mental well-being. On the other hand, 6.0% of respondents either disagreed or were unsure about the statement, representing a minority perspective within the community. This underscores the importance of addressing varying perceptions and experiences related to the long-term emotional and psychological consequences of domestic violence.

It was also revealed from the study that 92.0% (36.0% from Agree and 56.0% from Strongly Agree) of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that domestic violence has an effect on the social fabric of both the family and wider society. This consensus indicates a pervasive recognition within the community of the far-reaching social implications of intimate partner violence, not only within individual families but also on a broader societal level. 8.0% of respondents either disagreed or were unsure about the statement, representing a minority perspective within the community. This high percentage of agreement with the statement highlights the urgent need for comprehensive interventions aimed at preventing and addressing domestic violence in Kawempe Division.

4.6 Discussion of the Findings

4.6.1 Forms of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The presented findings shed light on the prevalence of different forms of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division, highlighting the need for targeted interventions and awareness campaigns. The data regarding experiences with sexual domestic violence indicates that a considerable proportion of the surveyed population (36.0%) reported a strong agreement with experiencing sexual domestic violence. This aligns with existing literature that recognizes sexual violence as a pervasive issue within intimate relationships (e.g., Classen and Freysteinsdóttir, 2021). The high percentage of respondents acknowledging this form of abuse emphasizes the urgency of addressing and raising awareness about sexual domestic violence in the community.

Similarly, the findings related to physical domestic violence reveal a substantial prevalence, with 52.0% of respondents strongly agreeing that they have been faced with physical domestic violence. This aligns with global studies highlighting the widespread nature of physical violence in intimate relationships (Thompson et al. 2019). The high percentage of respondents strongly agreeing with the statement signifies the severity and impact of physical violence within the community, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to address this issue.

Psychological aggression is another significant concern, with 88.0% of respondents acknowledging some degree of this form of abuse. Existing research supports the understanding that psychological aggression can have lasting effects on individuals' mental well-being (e.g., Narmada, 2020). The high percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with experiencing psychological aggression underscores the importance of implementing interventions and support services focused on raising awareness and fostering healthier relationship dynamics.

The prevalence of stalking and cyberstalking (74.0% of respondents acknowledging some degree) aligns with literature highlighting the increasing concern of technology-facilitated abuse in intimate relationships (Miller-Perrin, and Kocur, 2019). The relatively high percentage of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement emphasizes the urgent need for interventions and support services, including legal assistance, to mitigate the impact of these harmful behaviors.

Trolling is acknowledged by 70.0% of respondents, indicating a significant impact on couples in Kawempe Division. Neglect and verbal abuse are also prevalent, with 78.0% and 90.0% of respondents, respectively, acknowledging some degree of these forms of domestic violence. These findings align with research recognizing the harmful impact of neglect and verbal abuse (Classen and Freysteinsdóttir, 2021) within intimate relationships. The high percentages of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with these statements highlight the urgent need for interventions, support services, and awareness campaigns to address neglect and verbal abuse in Kawempe Division.

4.6.2 Causes of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The examination of the causes of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division presents a nuanced understanding of the factors contributing to this pervasive issue. The second objective of the study aimed to delve into these causes, encompassing various dimensions such as gender dynamics, substance abuse, communication breakdowns, cultural norms, and economic factors within intimate relationships. The data regarding the perception that "men do not attach value to their women well, knowing that they can always replace them" reveals a significant acknowledgment of this sentiment among respondents. A substantial 76.0% of respondents

expressed agreement with this notion, highlighting a prevalent attitude within the community that devalues women and perpetuates a cycle of disrespect and disregard within intimate relationships. This finding resonates with existing research on gender dynamics and power imbalances contributing to domestic violence (Polavarapu, 2019)

The findings pertaining to alcohol abuse as a contributing factor to domestic violence indicate a striking correlation, with 94.0% of respondents acknowledging its role in exacerbating instances of domestic violence. This aligns with scholarly literature highlighting the association between substance abuse and intimate partner violence (Hornor, 2019). The data underscores the significant impact of substance abuse on interpersonal dynamics, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions addressing addiction within the community.

Moreover, the recognition of the absence of effective dialogue and discussion as a contributing factor to domestic violence is a critical finding. A majority of respondents (96.0%) acknowledged this, emphasizing the importance of open and respectful communication within relationships as a protective factor against conflict and violence. This aligns with research highlighting the role of communication in preventing domestic violence (Tempet al., 2018). The data concerning the statement that "cultural norms and beliefs contribute to domestic violence within intimate relationships" reveals diverse perspectives within the community. A substantial 62.0% of respondents acknowledged the influence of cultural norms and beliefs in contributing to domestic violence. This finding indicates a prevalent understanding that deeply ingrained cultural attitudes may perpetuate or tolerate behaviors leading to domestic violence. This aligns with studies emphasizing the impact of cultural factors on intimate partner violence ((Polavarapu, 2019). The dissenting perspective from 26.0% of respondents suggests the complexity of addressing cultural

factors in the context of domestic violence, highlighting the need for culturally sensitive interventions.

The findings on the statement that "economic inequality or financial stress leads to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division" reveal a significant perspective within the community. A substantial 82.0% of respondents expressed agreement with the idea that economic inequality or financial stress contributes to domestic violence. This finding aligns with research highlighting the relationship between economic factors and intimate partner violence ((Polavarapu, 2019; Makara & Kabahinda, 2022). The dissenting perspective from 12.0% of respondents suggests a portion of the community does not perceive a direct link, emphasizing the need for targeted educational campaigns to elucidate the potential relationship between economic factors and intimate partner violence.

4.6.3 Effects of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The findings regarding the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division resonate with existing scholarly perspectives, highlighting the pervasive physical, emotional, and societal consequences of intimate partner violence. The overwhelming agreement (98.0%) among respondents that domestic violence leads to severe physical harm aligns with numerous studies emphasizing the link between domestic violence and physical injuries (Polavarapu, 2019). The minority perspective suggesting dissociation between domestic violence and physical injuries warrants further exploration to understand the nuanced views within the community (Makara and Kabahinda, 2022) Similarly, the recognition (94.0%) of domestic violence contributing to heightened emotional and psychological torture aligns with extensive research documenting the detrimental impact of intimate partner violence on mental well-being (Childress, 2018). The

dissenting perspectives underline the need for tailored interventions to address varying perceptions within the community.

The consensus (96.0%) on domestic violence increasing the risk of exposure to traumatic events corresponds with research highlighting the traumatic consequences of intimate partner violence (Goldstein et al., 2007; Roberts et al., 2011). The minority perspective suggests potential variations in understanding trauma within the community, emphasizing the importance of targeted interventions. The agreement (84.0%) on domestic violence leading to cognitive and attitudinal problems aligns with studies emphasizing the cognitive impact of trauma (Rahebi, et. al., 2019). The minority perspective underscores the need for interventions tailored to diverse perceptions and experiences related to cognitive and attitudinal consequences.

The consensus (92.0%) on domestic violence damaging the family and society socially aligns with research emphasizing the broader societal implications of intimate partner violence. The minority perspective highlights the need to address varying perceptions and experiences related to the social consequences of domestic violence. The agreement (94.0%) that domestic violence contributes to long-term emotional and psychological trauma aligns with research highlighting the enduring effects on survivors' mental well-being (Rahebi, et. al., 2019). The dissenting perspectives underscore the importance of addressing nuanced views within the community.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter brings forth the summary of the findings and conclusions drawn from the study based on the findings presented in data analysis and the study objectives. The chapter also advances the recommendations, as well as identifying the areas for further studies.

5.1 Summary of findings

5.1.1 Forms of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The findings from the survey conducted in Kawempe Division reveal significant insights into the prevalence and impact of domestic violence within intimate relationships. Regarding sexual domestic violence, a substantial proportion (36.0%) of respondents reported experiencing this form of abuse, highlighting the pervasive nature of sexual violence within intimate relationships. This underscores the necessity for heightened awareness and interventions to address sexual domestic violence effectively.

Physical domestic violence emerged as a prevalent issue, with a noteworthy 52.0% of respondents strongly agreeing that they have experienced physical abuse. This finding emphasizes the severity and widespread occurrence of physical violence within the community, necessitating immediate attention and intervention. Psychological aggression also emerged as a significant concern, with 88.0% of respondents acknowledging some degree of psychological abuse. This underscores the importance of addressing the psychological well-being of survivors and implementing interventions to foster healthier relationship dynamics.

Furthermore, the prevalence of stalking, cyberstalking, and trolling within intimate relationships indicates the need for interventions to address technology-facilitated abuse. A combined 74.0% of respondents acknowledged experiencing stalking and cyberstalking, while 70.0% reported encountering trolling, highlighting the urgent need for legal assistance and support services Neglect and verbal abuse were also prevalent, with 78.0% and 90.0% of respondents acknowledging some degree of these forms of abuse, respectively. These findings underscore the importance of addressing neglect and verbal abuse within intimate relationships to promote healthier communication dynamics and relationship patterns.

5.1.2 Causes of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The findings from the examination of the causes of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division reveal insightful perspectives on the underlying factors contributing to this pervasive issue. Across various dimensions such as gender dynamics, substance abuse, communication breakdowns, cultural norms, and economic factors, the study sheds light on the multifaceted nature of intimate partner violence within the community.

The data highlights a prevalent perception among respondents that men often undervalue their female partners, perpetuating a cycle of disrespect and disregard within intimate relationships. This underscores the importance of addressing gender dynamics and power imbalances to mitigate the risk of domestic violence. The findings strongly correlate alcohol abuse with instances of domestic violence, indicating the need for targeted interventions addressing substance abuse within the community. Furthermore, the recognition of the absence of effective dialogue and discussion as a contributing factor to domestic violence underscores the significance of fostering healthy communication patterns within relationships.

Regarding cultural norms and beliefs, the data reveals diverse perspectives within the community. While a substantial proportion of respondents acknowledge the influence of cultural attitudes on domestic violence, dissenting opinions highlight the complexity of addressing cultural factors in the context of intimate partner violence. Economic inequality or financial stress emerged as another significant factor contributing to domestic violence, with a majority of respondents recognizing its impact on interpersonal dynamics. However, dissenting perspectives underscore the need for further education and awareness campaigns to elucidate the potential relationship between economic factors and intimate partner violence.

5.1.3 Effects of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The investigation into the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division revealed compelling findings, providing insights into the physical, emotional, and societal repercussions of intimate partner violence. Overwhelmingly, 98.0% of respondents acknowledged that domestic violence leads to severe physical harm, emphasizing a profound awareness within the community regarding the physical consequences of such abuse. Additionally, a substantial 94.0% expressed agreement that domestic violence contributes to heightened emotional and psychological torture, underscoring the widespread recognition of its detrimental impact on mental well-being.

Moreover, the study unveiled a consensus of 96.0% among respondents who believed that domestic violence increases the risk of exposure to traumatic events. This indicates a prevalent acknowledgment within the community of the traumatic consequences associated with intimate partner violence. Furthermore, a substantial 84.0% agreed that domestic violence can lead to cognitive and attitudinal problems, highlighting the community's recognition of the adverse impact on cognitive functioning and attitudes. In the realm of societal consequences, an overwhelming

92.0% of respondents expressed agreement that domestic violence damages the family and society socially. This consensus reflects a pervasive understanding of the broader social implications of intimate partner violence, not only within individual families but also on a societal level.

The findings also emphasized the enduring effects of domestic violence, with 94.0% of respondents agreeing that it contributes to an increased risk of long-term emotional and psychological trauma for survivors. This widespread recognition underscores the community's understanding of the potential lasting impact on survivors' mental well-being. Additionally, a substantial 92.0% of respondents agreed that domestic violence has an effect on the social fabric of both the family and wider society, emphasizing the far-reaching societal implications of intimate partner violence.

5.2 Conclusion

5.2.1 Forms of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

In conclusion, the comprehensive survey conducted in Kawempe Division highlights the alarming prevalence of various forms of domestic violence within intimate relationships. The findings underscore the urgent need for immediate and targeted interventions, awareness campaigns, and support services to address the multifaceted challenges posed by intimate partner violence. The high percentages of respondents acknowledging experiences with sexual, physical, psychological, and technological-facilitated abuse, as well as neglect and verbal abuse, emphasise the pervasive nature of these issues within the community.

5.2.2 Causes of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

The findings underscore the complex interplay of various factors contributing to domestic violence within Kawempe Division. The findings provide valuable insights for the development of targeted

interventions and support services aimed at addressing gender dynamics, substance abuse, communication patterns, cultural attitudes, and economic challenges to foster healthier relationship dynamics and mitigate the prevalence of intimate partner violence within the community.

5.2.3 Effects of Domestic Violence Among Couples in Kawempe Division

In conclusion, the examination of the effects of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe Division reveals a sobering reality marked by pervasive physical, emotional, and societal repercussions. The overwhelming consensus among respondents underscores a deep-seated awareness within the community regarding the severe impact of intimate partner violence.

5.3 Recommendations

a)It is imperative for stakeholders, including policymakers, community leaders, and support organizations, to collaborate in implementing effective strategies that promote awareness, prevention, and support for survivors. The results call for a collective commitment to fostering healthier relationship dynamics, eradicating intimate partner violence, and creating a safer environment for couples in Kawempe Division

b) There is need for collaboration with local community leaders, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and educational institutions to implement comprehensive awareness campaigns. These campaigns should aim to challenge and change ingrained cultural norms and beliefs that contribute to domestic violence. Community leaders can play a pivotal role in initiating conversations, workshops, and educational programs that promote gender equality, respectful communication, and the rejection of harmful stereotypes

c) The findings highlight the urgent need for comprehensive interventions aimed at preventing and addressing domestic violence, considering its detrimental effects on physical well-being, mental health, and the broader social fabric. These results call for concerted efforts in raising awareness, implementing support services, and fostering a community-wide commitment to eradicating domestic violence, ensuring a safer and healthier environment for couples in Kawempe Division

5.4 Areas for further Study

1. Further investigation into the cultural factors contributing to domestic violence in Kawempe Division could provide deeper insights into how cultural norms, beliefs, and practices influence

intimate partner violence. Understanding these dynamics can inform culturally sensitive interventions.

2. A comprehensive study on the long-term effects of domestic violence on children within households in Kawempe Division would be valuable. This could involve examining the psychological, emotional, and social consequences, providing a holistic understanding for targeted support.

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Appendix 1: Consent form

Dear respondent,

I am **ANNAH KANSIIME**, a student of King Ceasor University and I am carrying out a study to '**ANALYSIS OF FACTORS CONNECTED TO THE OCCURRENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG COUPLES IN KAWEMPE DIVISION"**. You have voluntarily consented to participate in the study and all the information you give will be kept confidential You are under no obligation to participate in the study, and refusal to participate will not affect you in any way. The information collected from you will be coded so that it is not linked to your name and your identity will not be revealed at any time during the study. All data will be kept in a safe place and will not be shared with anybody and will not be used for any other purposes apart from the study.

You are free to ask any question about the study at any time if you need more clarification.

The topic and its objectives have been fully explained to me, and I have understood and voluntarily agreed and consented to participate in the study.

Respondents Signature……Date……

Appendix II: Questionnaire

SECTION A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. **Respondent's Gender** *(please tick or circle)*

   1= Female ☐ 2= Male ☐

2. **What is your age (years)?**

   a) =Below 18 ☐ b) = 18 – 25 years ☐ c) = 26 – 30 years ☐

   d) 31 – 35 years ☐ e) 36 – 40 years ☐ d) Above 40 years ☐

3. **What is your level of education?**

   a) Certificate ☐

   b) Diploma ☐

   c) Bachelor's Degree ☐

   d) Master's Degree ☐

   e) PhD ☐

SECTION B: Forms of domestic violence

Which of the following forms of domestic violence have you faced *(1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree)*

	Forms of domestic violence					
1.	I have been faced with sexual domestic violence	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
2.	I have been faced Physical domestic violence	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
3.	I have been faced Psychological Aggression	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
4.	I have been faced Stalking and Cyberstalking	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
5.	I have also encountered trolling	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**

6.	I have been a victim of neglect	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
7.	I have encountered verbal abuse	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**

SECTION C: Factors that are causing domestic violence

Please respond by ticking one answer in each line across with regards to the Factors that are causing domestic violence *(1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree)*

	Factors that are causing domestic violence					
8.	Men do not attach value to their women well knowing that they can always replace them	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
9.	Alcohol abuse is one of the factors that are causing domestic violence	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
10.	Lack of communication by way of dialogue and discussion between spouses	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
11.	Unbalanced gender power relations sustain and legitimize domestic violence by maintaining that the man is always right	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
12.	Poverty is one of the factors that are causing domestic violence	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
13.	Cultural norms and beliefs contribute to domestic violence within intimate relationships	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
14.	Economic inequality or financial stress leads to the occurrence of domestic violence among couples in Kawempe division	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**

SECTION D: Effects of domestic violence

Please respond by ticking one answer in each line across as to how you feel about the following

with regards to the Effects of domestic violence *(1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree)*

	Effects of domestic violence					
15.	Lacerations, bruises, and other more serious physical injuries	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
16.	Risk for increased levels of emotional and psychological torture	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
17.	the risk of exposure to traumatic events	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
18.	Cognitive and attitudinal problems	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
19.	Domestic violence damage the family and the society socially	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
20.	Domestic violence contributes to an increased risk of long-term emotional and psychological trauma for survivors	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
21.	domestic violence has an effect on the social fabric of both the family and the wider society	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**

Thank you for your Time

Appendix III: University Recommendation Letter for Research Data Collection

KING CEASOR UNIVERSITY

"Moral Rearmament, Wealth Multiplication"

P.O Box 88, Kampala, Plot 30/33 King Ceasor Road, Bunga Hill Main Campus,
Email: amoskalukusu@kcu.ac.ug

DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH

1st August 2023

The Director of Health Services,
Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA),

RE: RECOMMENDATION FOR RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION OF :-
Ms. KANSIIME Annah Kakikaire* (Index No. 2021AP/BNS/1143) *Tel: 0779-288460
Email: kansiimeannah8@gmail.com

I write to recommend the above named student who is pursuing a Bachelor of Nursing from King Ceasor University, in Uganda.

Ms. KANSIIME Annah Kakikaire is now in her third year of study (3.2) and now expected to write her research dissertation as part of the requirements for the award of her degree. She is working on the topic given as follows:

"***Analysis of factors associated with the occurrence of domestic violence among couples of Bwaise slums in Kawempe Division, Kampala Business District ".***

The purpose of this letter is to request that you allow her undertake data collection from area **(Bwaise Slums)** which will assist her to fulfill the requirements of the university. The results of her research can be shared with you upon the successful completion of her study.

In any correspondence, use the address given herein. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

15 SEP 2023

Amos Ronald Kalukusu (PhD Fellow, Public Health).
Assoc. Director for Research.
Email: amoskalukusu@kcu.ac.ug Tel: 0781457183

CC: DVC Academic Affairs; Cc: Academic Registrar; Cc: Ms. KANSIIME Annah Kakikaire
CC: OC Police Komamboga Police station CC: Deputy Mayor Kawempe Division

Appendix IV: KCCA Permission Letter to Conduct Research

KCCA
KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY
For a better City

DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

REF: DPHE/KCCA/1301

27th October 2023
Ms. Kansiime Annah Kakikaire
+256 779288460
Kampala, Uganda

RE: PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH.

Reference is made to your letter dated 1st August, 2023 on the above subject Matter.

This is to inform you that permission has been granted to you to carry out a study titled ***"ANALYSIS OF FACTORSS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OCCURRENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG COUPLES OF BWAISE SLUMS IN KAWEMPE DIVISION, KAMPALA BUSINESS DISTRICT"*** for a period of (02) two months from 1st November, 2023 to 31st January, 2023.

The permission is granted to you on the following conditions:

1. Participation in your study is voluntary and the informed consent process should be observed at all times.
2. You will provide a report to the office of the Director Public Health and Environment of your findings.
3. You will access information from the town clerk Kawempe Division.

By copy of this letter, the town clerk of the above Division and local Council chairperson is requested to render you all the necessary support.

DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY
KCCA 03 JAN 2024
P.O. BOX 7010 KAMPALA

Dr. Sarah Zalwango
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Local Council 1 Chairperson.

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