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Master's Thesis of International Studies

Examining women's empowerment and the
increase in Domestic Violence.

A Case study of Rwanda.

여성의 역량강화와 가정 폭력의 증가: 르완다의
사례.

August 2023

Development Cooperation Policy Program

Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul National University

International Cooperation

HABARUGIRA Justin

**Examining women's empowerment and the
increase in Domestic Violence.
A Case study of Rwanda.**

A thesis presented

By

HABARUGIRA Justin

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of International Studies
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**Examining women's empowerment and the increase
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Examiner: Professor Chong Sup Kim.

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ABSTRACT

Examining women's empowerment and the increase in Domestic Violence.

A Case study of Rwanda.

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In 2003 The government of Rwanda implemented a gender balance policy that was aimed to empower women in all fields of life, during this time 48.8% of women were accorded seats in the parliament which ranked the country with the highest percentage of women in the national legislature in the world comparing 17.1percent only earlier decade. This alteration was an outcome of good leadership headed by H.E Paul Kagame, the current President of the Republic of Rwanda. The aim of empowering women was not to achieve SDGs goals only but also to ensure women's rights and inclusive development since women have been marginalized for a long time ago in Political, social, and economic aspects of traditional Rwandan Society.

In September 2008 legislative election reiterated Rwanda's top performance place for women's judicial representation. In that election, females earned 56 percent of seats in parliament within the same year (2008) Rwanda voted the law aims to fight the violence against women simply because women were excluded and harassed in all institutions, and their principal role within the family was oriented primarily in household activities (caring for children and elderly people bearing, educating children, leaning, cooking....Rwandan society has been a long-time patriarchal society where men take all decisions, and

the consideration of boys in the family was not the same as that of girls, they could not attend school as boys because they pretended to help their mothers with household works

However, the increase of women's representation in parliament and all levels of institutions, voting the law against GBV of 2008, and implementation of the gender balance policy in 2003 raised a new unexpected challenge of the dramatic increase in domestic violence, especially for women's side, the prevalence increased from 36% to 56% in 2005. The cases of divorce within the courts increased by an astonishing percentage of 1900%.

These issues could be linked with the changes in the status of women within society compared to social norms. Beyond that, it is possible that men didn't accept to cope with change and for women, it has been a kind of misunderstanding of the gender balance concept, and it was the time for many women to revenge for their husbands.

This study aims to examine how the increase in domestic violence can be related to women empowerment (gender balance) policy implementation; it investigates why domestic violence in Rwandan society increased even though the law against GBV was established. It will suggest some approaches to address the perseverance of domestic violence issues in Rwandan society. In this context, Intimate partner violence is described as a style of conduct employed in any relationship to acquire or keep control over an intimate partner. Abuse is any negative action or threat of an action, whether it be physical, sexual, mental, financial, or psychiatric that impacts another person. Any actions that frighten, intimidate, manipulate, harm, embarrass, humiliate, hurt, or harm someone falls under this category.

To test the hypothesis that women's empowerment leads to increased domestic violence, an online survey and face-to-face group interviews were inducted on possible actors based across Rwanda. Respondents will be randomized into two conditions (Gender Policy implementers and Local populations) and asked to respond to questionnaires .and the findings will be analyzed to find out the reason behind the high domestic violence rate after the women's empowerment policy.

concept

Finally, an 88percent of the respondents' population proved that the convincing argument behind the increase in domestic violence within this study is cultural lag because while the social system (Patriarchy) changed, social norms and mindset were not yet changed, as the gender balance policy aims to balance and share the same opportunity between male and female.

The approach to decelerate this increase in domestic violence suggested by almost all respondents is severe punishment of both females and males who engage in immoral actions of violence and the single theory to explain a little about cases of domestic violence in Rwanda after empowering women is the power balance theory.

Keywords: Empowerment, Domestic violence; Patriarchy, social norms, gender balance policy, Theories of domestic abuse.

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Abbreviations

GBV: Gender-Based Violence

IPV: Intimate Partner Violence

UN: United Nations

A: Agree

SA: Strongly Agree

D: Disagree

SD: Strongly Disagree

H.E: His Excellency

EDPRS: Rwanda's Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies.

GNP: Gross National Product.

EU: European Union

NGOs: Non-Governmental Organizations

RDHS: Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey

ILO: International Labor Organization

IZU: Inshuti z'Umuryango (Friends of Family)

UK: United Kingdom

ILO: International Labor Organization

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CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

The Rwandan government launched a gender equivalence campaign, concluded in the 2003 constitution, which established 30 percent quotas for women in all decision-making bodies.

The first of its type in Africa, a Ministry of gender was established. The inheritance law, which was debated starting in 1998, aimed to provide women access to their property and the ability to conduct business and enter into contacts in their own right, meaning a major restructuring of women's rights (Burnet 2008). Several African governments have adopted quotas as a gender equality approach but Rwanda has gone the furthest, earning Rwandan President Paul KAGAME the African gender award in December 2007. One crucial instrument the Rwandan government set out on the development path to "convert into a middle-income country, economic commerce, and communications powerhouse". By 2050 vision of Rwanda is to achieve upper - middle-income status by 2035 and high-income status by 2050. Gender family promotion is a cross-cutting theme in both vision 2020 and the imminent visualization 20250. Within these frameworks, a strong and stable foundation for gender equality and women's empowerment was established, allowing Rwandan women and men to achieve their rights, potential, and aspirations while also participating fully in the country's development. From the transition to transformation, it is clear that gender equality and women's empowerment are not a myth, but a reality in Rwanda. Women's empowerment is becoming increasingly important to a variety of organizations, that have realized that empowering women is a win-win situation that helps both sexes and society in general.

Golla (2011) asserts that women's economic empowerment is swiftly emerging as a critical tool for enhancing their capacity to pursue their rights and well-being, which reduces household

poverty and fosters economic growth, productivity, and efficiency. According to a growing body of scholarship, women's involvement in the development process is crucial.

About half of the entire parliament and one-third of the Senate were women appointed to the lower chamber in the first round of full elections in 2003. Women chose 24 of the 80 seats on the women's council, and in March 2008, women made up 36% of the cabinet, with women serving in key ministries including foreign affairs and education. Both the acting commissioner-general of the Police and the head of the Rwandan Taxation Authority are female. 40% of regional governors, 44.4 percent of the supreme court of justice, and 40.2 percent of those in municipal decision-making posts are women.

Rwanda has the world's highest proportion of women in parliament, Rwanda has a high gender equity political goal, and women are widely represented at all levels of government, a smaller number of women were able to join elite places as a result of this (**Wallace et al., 2008**)

1-1-2. Strategies for women's empowerment in Rwanda

- The Rwandan constitution, amended in 2015, protects the concepts of gender equality and women's rights and establishes a minimum 30 percent quota for women in all decision-making bodies.

- 2010 Strategy: The policy's primary objective is to eliminate all kinds of gender harassment in Rwandan society and create an environment whereby men and women may equitably contribute to and benefit from national development targets.

- Occupational gender mainstreaming strategies: By the goals of the National gender policy, functional departments, including but not restricted to corporate companies, infrastructure,

agriculture, and employment, have developed gender mainstreaming strategies to direct their strategic interventions in the promotion of women and women's empowerment.

-Matrimonial Regimes, Donations, and successions: Law No. 27/2016, enacted on July 8, 2016, the law on Matrimonial regimes, donations, and successions, which was later updated in 2016, ushered in a gender revolution, particularly in terms of equitable access to and administration of the family wealth. The law specifies that both boys and girls have equivalent rights to receive their parents' property.

- Article 4: Polygamy, concubinage, and adultery are prohibited from disrupting the tranquility of one's spouse. It is illegal to disturb one's spouse's calm due to dowry, reproduction, or his or her natural physiognomy. It is illegal to harass a spouse to deprive them of their property and work rights.

Gender is emphasized as a cross-cutting problem by EDPRS to achieve its goals of promoting equity of voice, participation, and access to services in all sectors. EDPRS' major programs: "growth for export and employment," and "vision 2020 management and governance" can help with welfare support and equal access to justice, including creating and applying gender-responsive laws. Gender-based violence (GBV) is inextricably linked to these key programs as it has the potential to modify current gender inequalities in Rwandan society.

The NGP was created to translate the holistic and integrated nature of gender towards action throughout all sectors of development as stated in vision 2020 and EDPRS. Capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and women empowerment are highlighted as essential measures for

promoting gender equity in the country's Policy. GBV is one of the major gender concerns being addressed by the NGP and other programs across the country.

The Rwandan Government's dedication to empowering its people to determine their destiny is reflected in the national decentralization Policy. The execution of a decentralized system compared to the lowest level of the village is a key strategy for guaranteeing that the NGP, which illustrates GBV as a severe threat to human rights and sustainable development, is addressed effectively through the planning stage and that a sense of community ownership is amplified among the various social groups. The public has an excellent chance for gender-related issues, especially GBV through the NGP 's grassroots performance. (Sleghe & Richters, 2012)

However, since 2005 it has been a dramatic increase in Domestic Violence and divorce referring to different research, which could be related to the empowerment of women Policy implemented in 2003, note that traditional Rwandan society favors men more than women in all fields of life (patriarchal society).

In his work (Politics and Gender), Jennie Burnet, a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Louisville discovered that women's increased access to leadership roles has inflamed tensions between men and women and raised instances of gender-based violence within households.

Women's engagement in local governments civil society groups, and reconciliation conventions according to male interviews, disturbed conventional home norms and prohibited women from committing enough time to sustain their livelihoods.

In Rwanda, the percentage of women who said they had ever experienced domestic abuse (IPV) climbed from 34 percent in 2005 to 56 percent in 2010. This corresponded with the adoption of a new constitution in 2003, the election of a female majority parliament in 2008, and legislation prohibiting gender-based violence. Self-reported IPV may have increased as a result of women's

increasing social authority and disruption of established gender norms that boosted actual IPV. *(Thomson et al., 2015)*.

The situation of Intimate partners especially for women after the gender balance policy and mechanism did not happen in Rwandan the context only, the same situation was repeated in Nordic Sweden which is a good example of Gender equality in the world countries and Latin American countries the example of Costa Rica domestic violence was increased too much as possible.

In the case of Nordic republics despite their leading in gender equivalence, it has been reported that the highest lifetime occurrence level of physical or sexual intimate partner violence. Sweden only has 20% compared to the EU's mean of 22%. This contradiction of the coexistence of a big level of gender equality and intimate partner violence against women is called the "Nordic Paradox" according to the research conducted by European Union in Nordic countries with 1000 Respondents affirming domestic violence from their partners. This research reaffirmed that the freedom of women, the increase of women's movements and feminists, the increase in income on women's side as well as the level of education compared to their husband, and the change in the families 'responsibility triggers domestic abuse.

The respondents also argued that feminism and women's prerogatives, such as participation in the public sphere, can be the root cause of domestic abuse among partners the claiming of their rights to gender equality can render also the fights between them, and open resistance, struggles stages and every day negotiating to bring troubles between sexes.

During this research, it has been an additional factor linked with domestic abuse against women, which is the high consumption of alcohol. This issue is also commonly shared by Nordic countries. The Policy taken by Sweden to provide shelters to the victim influenced other NGOs

to take responsibility to prevent domestic abuse against women and they helped them to raise awareness of the domestic abuse issue (*Wemrell et al., 2021*).

In 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS) reaffirmed the intimate partners' conflicts where the research indicated that 22% of 5008 women aged between 15-49 have experienced sexual violence and 41percent have experienced physical violence at some point in their lives, according to the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda in collaboration with Ministry of Health. 66% of the 3042 Census participants who had been married said that they have been physically violated by their husband or former husband, and 18% were violated sexually.

In 2010, more than half another research was conducted by the Men's center whereby 57,2% of women reported having GBV from their partners slapping 30,3 percent, and forced sex is the most common type of relationship violence (32,4percent). Punching, pushing and throwing items, and items, and hitting with objectives are all forms of violence reported by between 21% and 16% of women, with 3,7 percent of women indicating that they have been threatened with a weapon. Men's responses do not match these outcomes, only 38 percent of men claim they've ever used violence against a partner. Only 3.7 percent of men have ever forced partners to have sex, while 32,4% of women say they've been forced by their partners. The case of divorce also increased as follows: divorce is on the rise in Rwanda at an unprecedented rate. According to the report released the case of divorces filed in the court National wide increased by 1900% in 2018 from 69in 2017 to 1311 in 2018. The chief of Justice Prof Sam Rugege, revealed the detail while he was being exposed. He stated that the number of cases in primary courts

increased. Kicukiro primary courts rank first among courts that issued the most divorce certificate in comparison to other districts, with at least 210 families. Gasabo primary court issued 190 divorce papers while Nyarugenge Primary court issued 157 divorce papers.

Chief Justice Rugege went on to say that when people decide to divorce, there is nothing they can do, but there should be a way to track the family in case of problems so that they do not have to kill each other. He went on to say that while the divorce process can be quick at times, it is often a matter of sharing the wealth that causes the trial to be delayed until the case is heard by the supreme court.

He claims that this should not be the case, but that people should talk to their families or be assisted by their friends or family heads so that their problems can be resolved without having to go to court. “When the case is transported to court, many people are left discontented, which is not what we want, “he said” (Person, 2018).

The most common reason for the separation was discovered to be desertion for 12 consecutive months excessive abuse or serious results directed at one another, and adultery among others. Ingabire Assumpta, permanent secretary in Rwanda’s Ministry of Gender and Family promotion, told local media that the rise in cases could be attributed to” loopholes in brides and bridegrooms’ preparation before marriage,” Ingabire Said (Person, 2018).

Women made up 20 percent of survey respondents in Rwanda and 35% to nearly 50% said they had experienced domestic abuse the previous year. According to the survey, more than half of the women who took part stated they have experienced partner abuse, while 38% of men indicated they have domestic abuse. During the same period, women of reproductive age reported experiencing sexual violence at some point in their lives. Based on the National Police Statement for 2009 and 2010, 818 women were abused by their husbands, while 188 men were

abused by their spouses. Around 121 women were killed by their husbands, while 91 men were murdered by their spouses. And in terms of suicide, 29 women committed suicide as a result of their husband's violence, whereas 49 men committed suicide as a result of their wife's violence. One of the reasons for domestic violence is thought to be domestic conflicts among partners. Domestic violence is a catastrophic societal problem that affects some families within the country, and it should be reported and handled professionally. (*Immaculee,2014*).

1-2PURPOSE OF RESEARCH

This research aims to find out and examine the root causes behind the dramatic increase in domestic violence after the women empowerment policy in Rwanda since 2003, and it suggests different approaches to address the issues of domestic violence which continue to surge in Rwandan society.

1-3Hypothesis

- The increase in Domestic violence is related to women's empowerment simply because it was disputed with social norms as traditional Rwandan society was patriarchal.

-Dramatic increase in divorce is among the serious effects of domestic abuse and IPV has various causes.

-Has been a misconception about the women's empowerment Policy (Gender balance) in Rwanda leads to the increase in domestic violence because the contribution of women in society changed from caring households to other responsibilities.

-This research is original and very important to Rwandan society as the country needs to achieve sustainable development goals. It will suggest some approaches and recommendations solve the problem related to domestic violence.

1-4 Methods of Research

- The primary search will use both primary and secondary resources of information in steps: 1) identification of a research topic, 2) review of the background of the topic, 3) review of the literature (books, journals,), 4) use of questionnaire for collecting data, and analyzing) 5 conclusion, recommendation, and References.

-This research uses qualitative data to reach its objectives.

-This research also uses some theories related to domestic violence issues (like Feminist theory, power theory, social learning theory, and personal theories (These theories will help the researchers to analyze deeply the origin and the relationship of domestic abuse with other internal and external factors which could cause IPV in the society.

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW

2-1 Definition Domestic violence

To define what Domestic violence is, a study will help us to have some skills and analyze what domestic abuse is in the study because the act of domestic violence depends on the society imply, we consider domestic violence it may be possible that in other societies is normal or it it's surely allowed, it is comprehensible that we are applying this concept conferring to the earlier living condition of women in our case study society of Rwanda.

Domestic violence is defined as acts of abuse committed by one affiliate of a family against another. Psychologists, families, communities, and societal decision-makers are all concerned about family violence. It's a dramatic event that results in pain, trauma, and physical and psychological scarring (*Ortiz, 2017*)

“Domestic abuse, often known as "domestic violence" or "intimate partner violence," is a pattern of behavior intended to establish or retain power and control over an intimate partner in any relationship. Abuse is defined as physical, sexual, emotional, financial, or psychological acts or threats against another individual. Any behavior that frightens intimidates, terrorizes, manipulates, hurts, humiliates, blames, injures, or wounds someone falls under this category”. (*Keeling & Mason, 2008*)

Physical violence, sexual assault, stalking, and psychological aggression (including coercive methods) by a current or past intimate partner (i.e., husband, boyfriend/girlfriend, dating partner, or ongoing sexual partner) are all examples of IPV.).

The International Labor Organization (ILO) defines workplace violence and harassment as "a variety of inappropriate behaviors and practices, focused on the harm these behaviors and practices inflict, either physical, emotional, sexual, or financial."

In terms of GBV, it is defined as any harm perpetrated against a person based on gender. In general, across the world, women and girls are disproportionately affected by GBV, which is a result of harmful social and cultural practices and is founded on gender discrimination and inequality. Physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, financial, and societal manifestations of violence or injury are all possible. Intimate partner violence, rape, coercion, female genital cutting, and forced marriage are among the forms of violence.

2-1-1. Definitions of women's empowerment

Define what women's empowerment is in this study will help us to understand deeply the concept that we are going to focus on in this study, it is understandable that we are applying this concept according to the previous living condition of women in our case study of Rwanda

Emancipation is an ongoing, periodic, and interpersonal process that happens at various scales and along multiple channels (*Goldman and Little, 2014*).

Thus, according to Allsopp and Tallentire (2014), empowerment is a dynamic process that consists of a series of sequential steps in which the ownership of one type of power increases the probability and ability to exercise other types of power, resulting in a positive "power spiral." According to Kabeer, empowerment is the ability to make a decision, whereas underrepresentation is the rejection of the ability to choose by people who deserve it. To put it another way, empowerment can be viewed as a dynamic process in which people who were previously unable to make decisions gain that ability. For this to occur and the choice to be successful, there must be the ability or potential of making a different option.

Empowerment refers to a person's ability to make design and configuration or turn such decisions into desired results and activities. (*Alsop and Heinsohn, 2005*).

Empowerment is a process that allows powerless people to gain control over their lives and circumstances; the idea behind this is not power over others, but the power to achieve goals and ends, and this process appears to be influenced by various social, cultural, and economic factors. The process of empowerment is activated by two signs: agency and opportunity structure. The opportunity structure is described as the environment/context in which individuals exercise agency or pursue their interests, including institutional, political, and social circumstances, as well as societal informal rules and norms, in which persons exercise activity or follow their welfare *(Samman and Santos, 2009)*

2-2 INDICATORS OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT ACCORDING TO Mosedale, S.2005.

Within this study the researcher focused on the current indicators of women's empowerment in Rwanda, these indicators are also a definition of women's empowerment as the result of the applicability of the gender balance mechanism, of course, these indicators are different from ancient social norms which may have a relationship with the increase in domestic violence increase.

Within the country especially patriarchal society, if the perception of women is changed some indicators are the following:

Self-sureness (confidence), where women can talk and participate freely in public meetings, but before it was impossible.

Perception of having decided: the feeling of working many hours without stopping.

The admittance to material properties (income): the feeling of improving her income allows her to make the best plan (for a stance to purchase food for the whole month of the family).

The increase in relationships with the husband and the entire family (conducting some activities with her partner who was in charge of women before empowerment. E.g., the husband helps his wife to cook and caring a small baby.

The sensation of admirable a better life: the ability to learn reading and typing

Stating feelings: she can ask her husband to carry some responsibility in the household.

Decision making: she can say that with her husband, they decide together on any topic after a discussion.

Connection with other Organizations: the confidence of having contracts with the metropolis(municipality).

Connection with the women's reprocessing businesses. (women's groups decide what to do

(Bell, July 2007)

2-3. WOMEN'S ROLE IN THE TRADITIONAL SOCIETY OF RWANDA

The role of women in society can be a real definition of gender balance and sharing of responsibility within the household, as well as women, fill responsibilities according to the culture and social norms domestic violence and conflict can be avoided but when it is different after women's empowerment domestic violence can be increased, as women's empowerment changed expectation and responsibilities of women within the household. So, looking at the traditional and current role of women in Rwandan society can help this study to define the increase in domestic violence as this issue is multi-dimensional.

In Rwanda, as in other starting emerging, rural areas, women's roles have historically been passive to men. For fear of being perceived as "loud" or "loose," women, for example, were not permitted to speak in public in the presence of males (unless on behalf of their families). Women were not permitted to own or inherit property in the same way that men were, and their husbands or fathers were allowed to assume over their business operations. It is unclear whether this was a result of

the colonial encounter or reflected an older history in Rwanda, but under H.E. Paul Kagame's regime, women's social standing and freedom have changed massively.

The contribution of women in Rwanda's traditional society may provide useful information in determining the extent to which cultural practices underpin women's actual political achievements. Although females' roles were oriented in the household, some researchers discovered contradictory behaviors regarding women's place in ancient politics. Female governance and active participation in the public arena were not permitted in some ways.

Women were not permitted to participate in public thought and consideration, but they were likely to be involved indirectly in the traditional court system known as Gacaca. Their systems would lobby their partners and influence the court's judgment by proxy.

According to the UN report 2005 Survey results, men are culturally taught to be breadwinners, with women playing a more subordinate role. As a result, men find it difficult to accept women's earning potential since it threatens their control; hence, the likelihood of violence is significant. If this analysis is accepted, the core reasons for physical violence are not related to poverty, drugs, ignorance, or other factors, but rather to the patriarchal system that creates and maintains power imbalances, making women vulnerable to violence. The other causes listed in the table above are linked to or influencing elements that contribute to violence against women, but they are not the underlying causes. (Agencies, 2008).

Women in rural families still handled intrinsic family issues differently than men, who primarily managed the family's property, giving women less oversight over household decision-making. Men in rural areas were directly involved in the production of the family's property. While this meant that men had much more control over resources, it also meant that there was a more equitable division of labor in the household, with men going to gardens with their wives,

sustaining the most difficult farming contribution, and managing livestock. Usually, Rwandan women were not permitted to own land, if the male head of the domestic died, directly property was passed to male heirs or the man's brother. And the case of divorce a woman has no claim over the family's property if she hasn't a child; she could quietly return to her family of origin or marry another family. But when women had children, it was an obligation to marry a brother of the deceased to maintain the status as an affiliate of their family (*Peace Uwineza and Elizabeth Pearson, 2017*).

2-3-1. CHANGE OF WOMEN'S ROLE IN RWANDAN MODERN SOCIETY

The change in women's role in Rwandan society is very significant to find out the reason behind the increase in domestic abuse because as well as stressors in the household increased on women's side poor communication between couples tends to be unfair.

The male policymakers and non-governmental organizations in the Republic of Rwanda challenged some cultural aspects to promote a positive change regarding gender equality and shaped a new perception of women in Rwandan society. for example, it was about culture and the right of a husband to beat his wife and it was considered as correcting the wife; it was no reason to intervene. Because there was no representation for women in decision-making, a man in parliament made laws in their favor. They didn't need to vote for laws against domestic abuse because they were aware of the reality in their families and the attitude of women toward males.

According to new findings, especially democracies argued that the increase in women's representation in decision-making (parliament) frequently follows periods of fights related to gender norms and pushes women into new responsibilities Sub Sahara Africa only where countries implemented gender balance policy (Uganda, Rwanda, Mozambique) it has followed by conflicts.

The representation of women in parliament addressed issues regarded as cultural in traditional society and women's rights were guaranteed. Based on the great contribution of women in rebuilding post-genocide Rwandan society, women confirmed their ability. The cultural mindset on women's perception changed positively among patriarchal families, nowadays the contribution of women in development is significant **(Pearson, 2009)**

Parliamentarian women leaders have empowered women socially and economically because they challenged some cultural traditions and beliefs that were barriers to women's development. Women politicians have called compassion to a variety's traditions supporting male privilege from polygamy to legacy rules. They continued to make me aware of the policy of gender balance in the Rwandan community in their political advocacy. Women leaders increased their awareness in parliament to indicate the role of gender equity in the development process, and this policy of gender was presented as a benefit to the whole society not only for women for example they indicated that if women participate in income activities out of the household, all family will benefit from it, and the living condition of the entire family will develop. **(Pearson, 2009)**

2-4 THEORIES OF DOMESTIC ABUSE (Holtz worth-Munroe et al., 2000)

a) **Feminist theory**; aims to comprehend violent relationships by examining the social-cultural context in which they emerge. The significant cause of IPV, rendering to supporters of this hypothesis, is gender disparity and sexism in patriarchal countries (Bell & Naugle 2008). In a brief, they argue that IPV is primarily an issue of men's violence against women, which is exacerbated by patriarchal values and cultural laws that promote male supremacy and female submission.

b) **Power theory**; prove the origin of IPV as attached to culture and family structure. Gender inequality, social acceptance of violence, and family conflict are thought to interact and contribute to the development and perpetuation of IPV. Individuals are assumed to use violence to resolve disagreements between their families and intimate partners since this method of resolving conflict was taught as a child, either by watching or suffering physical abuse **(Straus,1977)**.

c). **Personality /typology theories**

The academics aimed to pinpoint the psychopathology and character factors that may influence a person's tendency for intimate partner violence.

d) **social learning theory**: Similarly, to the power theory, social learning researchers believe that by observing parental and peer partnerships, children learn aggressive ways of resolving family issues. They believe that as children, both victims and perpetrators of IPV were exposed to or experienced physical violence. The current increase in IPV within the household can be related to the experience of a young couple by observing their parents before the women's empowerment policy implementation.

2-5 Theories of Family Violence (Fife & Schrager, 2012)

The aim of focusing on these theories is to accumulate different causalities explanations which can be the sources of intimate partners violence in our case study by focusing on the view's seniors' scholars among these theories it is possible to find out the tangible theory which can explain better the reason behind the increase in domestic violence after empowering women the case of Rwanda.

1) Psychodynamic of Family violence.

a) **Object relation theories:** This theory suggests that human beings are motivated by the background of their earlier childhood “object refers to “other” or other individuals they have relations with. the early individual relationship with others plays an important role in psychic development and endure or shapes the psychological thinking of individuals in future relationships.

According to object relation theorists, individuals develop mental representations of themselves and other people during infancy and childhood, and these mental representations transmit and affect interpersonal association during life.

b) **Attachment theory:** This theory is defined as a mutually enduring intimate connection between an infant and a caretaker, with both parties actively contributing to the relationship's excellence. According to attachment theory, an infant develops a working model of what to expect from her/his caretakers. This model focuses on the abilities of the parents and adult people have the power to defend and provide intelligence of security for their offspring.

c) **Violence as trauma:** the theory of violence as trauma proposes that victims of abuse procedure as experienced as a traumatic event, the response of individuals suffering from post-traumatic illnesses. Knowing how the chocs affect the individual’s current and future actions. The capacity of the individual to manage information or how events are coded, stored, and sequenced shapes the future behaviors of humanity. Briefly psycho biologists of post-traumatic stress explain why a certain unwelcome behavior happens repeatedly.

2-5-1 SOCIAL MODELS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE TO EXPLAIN THE RWANDAN CONTEXT

Social learning theories primarily focus on the interaction between one person and another group to shape aggressive behavior. Women’s empowerment decision-making level changed the women’s perception as well as their tasks within society. some couples were able to cope with

change others were not able to do so. As we said before traditional Rwandan women's role was primarily oriented to the household and resources of the household, control decision-making was controlled by the husband, but after the gender balance policy and women's empowerment, women's responsibilities were dramatically changed, as she can decide for the household today.

a) **Power Control Model:** The power management theory examines family conflicts as the result of one person's desire to dominate other relatives. The more powerful member of the family (husband, parents ...) use force or violent behaviors to influence the less powerful members within the same society, the abuser's behavior intends to manage the feelings of others as well as their thoughts, to achieve its objectives can use for stance intimidations. coercion, isolation, economic, and physical violence....).

Traditionally Rwandan society valued men as a decision maker within the family, it was somehow impossible to women to change the decision made by the husband, he was the superpower in the household everyone was supposed to comply with the decision made: For example, traditionally Women could not get heritage from her parents except male children. The husband in the household could decide to sell any family's property without the intervention of life. Currently, the law pretends equal access to resources and today male cannot control everything in has to decide after discussing with their partners before making a decision. The spirit of continuing control is the constraint that brought some domestic abuse into the family. Some males need to continue to lead their households as it was traditionally. The power control theory can explain this domestic violence in Rwandan society as the conflicts" between gender balance and social norms “.

This theory is the tangible theory to explain what domestic behind of domestic violence in the Rwandan case because women have been empowered compared to the previous time which has created the resistance of men to this policy.

b) Resources control Model: According to resource theory, there are links between violence and wealth. According to the resource model, force and abuse are resources that can be used to resolve conflicts. Even in modern civilizations, these resources are frequently used only as a last resort. In Rwandan society, traditionally, all resources were in hands of the family's chief (Father), who could manage and control resources and decide whether to sell them. the contribution of women to resource control was not significant, but after the women's empowerment policy, it has been a relevant change to equal access to resources between partners.

Example: Matrimonial Regimes, Donations, and Successions: Law No. 27/2016, enacted on July 8, 2016, the law on matrimonial regimes, donations, and successions, which was later updated in 2016, ushered in a gender revolution, particularly in terms of equitable access to and administration of family wealth. The law stipulates that both boys and girls have equal rights to inherit their parents' property.

c)Ecosystem influence Model: This model has similarities with the resources model. It focuses mainly on the stressors of daily life which could be identified as life experiences and events bunch surpass his revenues. Conforming to this principle, family conflicts can be predicted by stressors and life situations. Life stressors can be for stance (loss of Job, extra matrimonial business, daily or monthly like payment of bills....

The increase in tasks leads to an increase in stressors between partners, because after women's empowerment, men are no longer a breadwinner alone, and women currently have the task to provide income in the household as a man. Women can struggle with the daily or monthly stress of obtaining basic needs in the family as a man. The additional responsibility of earning income and the daily work stress of women can raise domestic violence compared to the traditional role of women. Women can employ much time outside of the household, contrary to long ago. This theory explains partially domestic violence in the case of Rwanda as the tasks change and the stressors tend to increase and misunderstandings start through that.

d. **Structural Functionalism Theory:** social learning theorists argue that domestic abuse occurs when there is a change of role in the family. By this theory, men hold a contributory position in the family while women are expected to expressive roles. When gender roles are well maintained the family benefit from it, if it is the opposite domestic violence occurs (Noonan,2007) according to this theory domestic abuse happens when women struggle to occupy the instrumental role that is meant for men. Even though women participate in the labor force but the mindset of some partners is to control and make sure that their wives are kept in line we remember that domestic abuse is considered to exercise control and maintain a power usually used by males. (Blessing, 2022).

This theory can explain what happened in Rwanda after empowering women because the responsibility of women changed from caring for the household to other business that was carried out traditionally by men this should be behind the rise in domestic violence in the society of Rwanda.

2-5-2COGNITIVE /BEHAVIORAL THEORY OF FAMILY ABUSE

This model pays attention to the individual-level factor of domestic abuse. The personality of a human being can be the real cause of aggressing other people regardless of gender or women's empowerment policy, during this study of the reason behind the increase in domestic violence it is possible to say that an individual can develop some behaviors depending on the experience, so it is possible that domestic violence increase also can be resulted on individual behaviors rather than collective behaviors.

Social learning model: social learning model upholds that an individual acquires social behavior by perceiving and reproducing(imitating) other persons. The imitation model is the most significant component in how children learn, and this observation is remarkable in the development of language, hostility, and moral decision-making. Social learning theorists argue that individuals become aggressive to their family relatives because aggressive conduct is learned through operant conditioning and observing behaviors in a role model. the development of worse behaviors can be strengthened through positive and negative firming as well as the defeat of behaviors through punishment. This punishment can be corporal to discipline children's misconduct to comply with parental desires. This theory can explain a little about the increase in domestic violence in our case study of Rwanda because traditionally basic human rights of women were in danger which can shape the current families' behaviors regarding abuse. Social learning theory tries to enlighten the occurrence of intergenerational transmission of abuse. Children who grow up in violent/abusive families can learn about abuse very simply and reproduce this behavior in the future affiliation. As several research evidence shows, individuals abused during their childhood are at risk of abusing their offspring in adulthood.

Behavioral Genetic model: This theory predicts that genetic factors, associated with the social learning model, may describe the likenesses found in family members and their use of abuse. Genetic behaviorist scholars show that characteristics of aggression as well as anti-social conduct seem to be genetically influenced. In this case study, this theory can help to understand the increase of domestic violence for current and future couples depending on the transmission of biological character from the parents to their children.

Reactive aggression model: This model emphasizes emotional and cognitive development leading to a behavioral response. Most researchers indicated that reactive aggression theory results from the correlation between parental self-reports of annoyance and the use of physical punishment with their offspring as the source of abuse within their future families. For our case study, this theory is very significant maybe to explain a little about domestic violence increases depending on the background of education of an individual, and how the parent's provided punishments in case of mistakes this can be the same way to manage his /her family in the future.

2-5-3. FAMILY AND STRUCTURE MODEL OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

The family and structure model focuses on family unity and try to describe individual behaviors within the context of interactive relationship, family system, and greater societal arrangement and how these narrate the creation and beekeeping of domestic abuse. For our case study, domestic violence that happened immediately after women's empowerment is retorted on how society was organized compared to the new policy of gender balance because Gender balance aimed to ensure women's rights as men but the culture fag was and patriarchy not ready to cope with this positive change.

a) **Family system model:**

The family system model suggests that each individual should not be viewed in isolation but in terms of interaction with others as well as family, to mean that the intercession and assessment change from one individual to the patterns of relationships among all individuals in a family cluster. Family system theorists deliver an agenda for detecting and understanding general appearances of human relations, individual operational with the nuclear family, ways in which emotional difficulties are spread to the next generation, and the spread of behavioral shapes over multiple generations, which is mainly important when endeavoring to analyses domestic abuse. For our case study, this theory is important because the traditional Rwanda system was patriarchal but after the gender balance policy, this traditional structure was changed to a new structure. But culture and social norms were not able to change immediately which may lead to domestic violence increase.

b) **Domestic life cycle model:** This model contends that to understand the family, we must first learn about the family's past experiences and the events of the past, such as death, newborns, and the inclusion of cultural perspectives, all of which can shape the family cycle.

This model's research discovered six stages of a family: single young adulthood, a new couple, a family with young babies, a family with adolescents, a family launching children and moving on, and a family in later life. These differences in lifestyle and family formation shape new behaviors that can lead to domestic violence.

c) **Microstructure factor model:** domestic abuse has been theorized concerning an environmental model that comprises causes within the family unity and causes that affect cultural issues and any systemic issues in between. The microstructure model emphasizes stresses that intrinsically exist within the household as a social construction.

d) **Intra-familial stress model**: Intrafamilial stress focuses such as having more children than the parents can provide for basic needs, overfull living circumstances, and having children with disability.

e) **Dependency Relation Model**: dependency theory explains domestic violence as the result of victims of violence being dependent on the abusers. For stance, the exaggeration of the dependence of women on their husbands may result in violence in some families.

2-6. Types of Intimate Partner Violence

Within the case study of Rwanda, it is important to know these categories of intimate partner violence to identify and provide assistance to the victim. The basic knowledge and skills about the typology of domestic abuse can help gender balance policy implementors to analyze what kind of assistance victims need in our case study.

Generally, different researchers categorized domestic violence into three important types which are; Physical, sexual, and psychological and they are frequently used in various studies It has been other researchers who identified other types of IPV based on Finance, and social but these classifications are included in the previous identified.

-Physical Violence: This type of violence focuses on to use of physical force to inflict pain, injury, or physical suffering on a victim. For stance, we can say beating. Pushing stabbing, burning, and using weapons like knife guns to intimidate or violate another (***Garcia -Moreno, Heise Jansen, Ellsberg, and watts,2005***)

-Sexual Violence; According to (the World Health Organization,2013) viewed intimate Partner violence is forcing a partner, to have sexual intercourse unwillingly .or do any sexual act that they found degrading or humiliating: hurting them during sex or imposing them to have a sexual

relationship without protection .for other authors like Garcia-Moreno 2015, viewed this type of violence as any act attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted comment, act to traffic or other coercive actions directed against a person's sexuality by any other regardless relationship to the victim in any location however not restricted to home and workplace.

PSYCHOLOGICAL Abuse: According to World Health Organization,2013 this violence refers to acting inoffensive, dilapidation, or humiliating manner toward another, sometimes verbally, and may include treatment, mockery, suppression of affection, and restrictions (e.g.; financial control and financial control. In some cases, IPV is perpetrated by men against women and includes verbal abuse, name-calling, extracting, saying something to make a person feel uncomfortable, intimidation to beat a woman or children, prohibiting interaction with friends and family, and restricting freedom and access to any information, schooling or another health facility (*Garcia -Moreno, 2005*).

2.7 Causes of martial misunderstanding after marriage

They are multiple reasons for domestic violence after marriage among married couples within society, related to cultural, psychological, material, environmental, or other reasons but generally, it affects negatively not only married couples or their offspring but also their surroundings. For our case study of Rwanda, the researcher tried to look at what other authors mentioned as the source of the increase of domestic violence in general after marriage, which should be the same case in our case study.

A. Expectations of marriage: Many people decide to marry simply because they expect good outcomes like to full fill their needs, having kids, being needy for psychological support, or

obtaining economic benefits, they don't care about the negative side which could follow marriage.

For stance, there are many girls who engage in marriage with the objective of a family but without any information about the new responsibilities and life waiting for them, for the side of orphans they get married hoping that their partners will comfort them and provide care in place of their died parents,

B Marriage with fake love: within this love-force boy decides to marry a girl who is very older than him because he sees that that girl has a lot of money, and if he doesn't benefit more after marriage, he decides to marry another young girl don't benefit more (he was attracted by her income, not true love).

On the other side, the issue of domestic violence raises sharing responsibilities within the household where women and man everyone has the task to fill according to the social norms and culture. if someone is not able to fill the responsibility the problem of domestic violence tends to occur.

The excessive use of alcohol by one partner generally men may tend to break down the relationship between partners within the same household.

2. Inadequate Knowledge of each other; The majority of boys and girls don't take the time to know each other before they engage in marriage as many professionals say, this factor leads to not preparing for marriage adequately and finally when they get married everybody discovers unwelcome behaviors from the partner. For stance, if they meet on a bus or train, they love each other, have no time to think about other related and after a short period, the mind of love changes into conflict. (Immaculee Mukeshimana, 2012)

They are some mistakes during engagement in marriage between boys and girls, everyone tries to show the positive side to each other and hide the negative one. After marriage later one discovers a new character which is negative, but because they are already married it is hard to engage again in divorce, so domestic violence can start at that time (this can be summarized by saying that it has been a lie before marriage).

3. Poor communication: The researchers mentioned the lack of good communication among married couples as the root cause of domestic conflict.

This researcher indicated that domestic abuse is linked with poor communication between partners because they need to understand each other about important household topics. For example, if someone notices a fault finish/her partner, he /she decides to keep silent.

One man and women never decide to sit down and discuss, the lack of intercommunication can be the origin of the difference in the household. Time of dialogue within the family is very important to ensure the safety of family members which is why communication is a key element between partners. The lack of forgiveness between partners also has been listed as the origin of conflicts between couples in most societies.

4. keeping secrets and defiance promises; For this side, if one partner doesn't keep secrets of the household it can cause conflicts among married'

5. Familiarity with changes; New couples expect to live a happy life forever and they don't expect the opposite: they think of working together, and care about the responsibility ... but when the partners find that one is not assuming his /her task because of inadequate experience the love start to reduce (Immaculee Mukeshimana, 2012)

2-8 THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES IN COUPLES THERAPY (Coulshed & Orme, 2012)

It has been important to focus on these therapies to know the technical assistance to help or provide counseling to families who have been affected by domestic violence in the case of Rwanda.

Several therapies, ranging from psychoanalytic to behavioral techniques, are available to the workers based on skills in family dynamics. Four central views of four different convictions include psychoanalytic, Physical, tactical, and behavioral approaches.

a) ***Psychoanalysis theory***: This model focuses strongly on historical issues, indicating unsolved conflicts from the past that continue to affect individuals and families and their current status. The therapist's task is to determine individual and family dynamics and focus on how family members feel about one another. There is also an attempt to decrease interlocking disorders such as when children are brought in to act as marital distance manager

The therapist's job is to determine individual and family dynamics and focus on how family members feel about one another. There is also an attempt to lessen interlocking disorders, such as when children are brought in to act as marital distance regulators or when indicators like child soiling are a sign of approaching marital struggle through the family tree and modeling (making a tableau vivant to express emotional links are two of the techniques applied).

b) **Structural Model**: This theory is associated with People like Salavadole Minuchin (UK, Andry Treacher, and John Carpenter, it's directly on the current situation of the family ("where family is" actual transactions through the inspiration of what conducts and contribution assignments have been learned earlier probably part of the evaluation. The focus of the change

attempt is on how members of a family interact with one other 'here and -now 'of the session, in the time session sitting arrangement can explain more about the relationship of partners.

c) **Strategic Theory** (Tactical) The attention of this theory is the current situation. The idea of this model is that the persistent, repeating sequences of interaction amongst family members are sustaining recent problems or symptoms. Rather than historical events or unconscious conflicts influencing behavior, certain family 'facts' problem-solving techniques, communication systems, and mental constructs are offered as justifications for the persistence of problems. The theorists associated with these views are Jay Haley, Mara and Milton Erickson. Frequently, the way of helping is lively, time-limited, focused on kindness endeavored solutions, planned ahead of the session, and fixed at problem-solving, this approach can be conducted in group aspect using a method such as circular questioning, objectivity, and distribution of treatment at the end of the session and how a family should behave. The family was assumed to be resistant to change because the presenting issue was required by their society, as a result, a family with an individual struggling with PSA psychopathology disorder may mistakenly block adjustment initiatives, believing that removing the problem from one individual will disrupt the family's harmony.in other words, the shift could begin a more catastrophic connection cycle.

Behavioral theory; This model suggests what is happening, concentrating on satisfying interpersonal or ecological factors, including continuing behavioral personalities. In general, spousal counselors who focus on a couple's relationship instead of individual 'in competencies' embrace the techniques; thus, spouses are trained to improve their communication skills, sexual gratification, confidence, and negotiation skills, within a household. The therapist associated with this view usually is John Gottman,1977, R. Liberman, and Michael Crowe (1982). Some

critics of this theory were raised by feminist activists arguing that this approach treats the family as an autonomous entity ignoring the social and political aspects of a given family (Beecher 1986).

CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY

3-1 Introduction

Through this chapter, we are going to explain the procedures to conduct this study. It comprises the study's design, target population sampling techniques, and sample size. It also described the research instruments used in data collection, the instrument's rationality and consistency, data analysis techniques, and ethical considerations used in data collection. It explains sampling and criteria. A qualitative approach was applied to obtain the possible information needed for this study. the identification of methodology is the way to identify procedures and methodologies to obtain adequate information about why domestic violence has increased after women's empowerment for the case study of Rwanda.

3-2 Research Design

Generally, I conducted and designed this method to find out information on this study in the Rwandan case. It helped me to improve the appropriate research method for the topic and set up my studies for success. Research design is considered the structure of a study it is the “Glue” that contains all elements in a research project together briefly it is a strategy for the planned research activity. Other scholars like Johada, D& Cook defined a research design as the arrangement of conditions for gathering and analysis of data in a way that intended to combine significance to the research purpose with economy and process. (Akhtar, 2016). I used it for collecting and analyzing

data from a sample of the population considered to be representative of the entire group. The study also administered an Online questionnaire: the questionnaire method is concerned to make a list of questions or items to collect data from the respondent about their attitudes, understandings, or opinions in both qualitative and quantitative research (*Bhandari, 2022*). This method is very important to know the perception of people on why domestic violence continues to surge in Rwandan society regardless of the measures taken to prevent it. The online questionnaire also is less costly and the necessary information is obtained in a short period rather than hard copies which require a long time and high costs.

The qualitative method is adequate for this research because it can offer predictive qualities and is flexible for any respondent to express their thoughts, it also incorporates human's experience in a given society. (*Gaille, 2018*)

3-3 Target Population

The target population is the people who deal with family problems, especially domestic abuse cases in Rwanda. here we can say for stance the people who work in local governments in charge of family promotion, citizens complaining lawyers (in justice), elected people (friends of families, village leader's representative of women council and other important people who play an important role to ensures safe families in Rwanda (Church leaders). The target population & subgroups are groups of individuals whom the intervention tends to conduct a study and draw an assumption. The choice of characteristics depends on the therapeutic literature and practices, the study's purpose, and contextual evidence. (*Campbell, 2015*).

3-4 Sampling Techniques and sample size

3-4-1 Sampling Techniques

The focus of this study is random sampling but mainly focuses on the people who can provide relevant information about domestic abuse, especially local leaders, lawyers, and friends of the family, leaders in charge of family promotion. Sampling techniques were used in this study to reach important respondents who are provided with the information needed. sampling methods were conducted also by focusing on the experience of gender policy implementors or skills about social issues. Sampling is a technique that allows the investigator to conclude information about a population based on the subset of the population, without having to examine every individual.

3-4-2 Simple size

Within this study sample size was considered an important tool to find out the basic information needed to conduct this study. the sample was chosen based on their daily role in problem solving and skills on social problems in Rwandan society.

The target population is described as pastors, local government public servants in charge of local leaders (citizens' complaints officers, social affairs officers, family promotion officers) representatives of the women's council, and friends of families and village leaders. The sample size is a research term used for defining the number of persons comprised in a research study to represent a population, it refers to the total number of respondents included in a study, and the number is often broken down into sub-groups and demographic such as gender, age, and location so that the total sample achieves represents the entire population. (Kibuacha, 2022).

3-4 Research Instruments.

I used different instruments to find background information necessary to make perfect this study: books, journals, reports, and websites were used to find out some theories and ideas from other authors about this topic. Online questionnaires, also were used to understand the basic idea of the respondents' population this questionnaire is comprised of both open-ended and closed-ended questions, where a respondent can choose one answer from a list of variables and add another, he /she think is important which may be the cause of domestic abuse in case of Rwanda.

3-4-1. Questionnaire for Friends of Families (IZU)& Village leaders.

The questionnaire of the whole study is divided into 4 sections based on the level of assessment of IPV in Rwandan society.

Friends of families was designated in 2016 under the ministry of Gender and family promotion in Partnership with the National Child commission to ensure the safety of families with domestic abuse, and within their village friends of families provide assistance or families but in case of IPV beyond their capacity, they communicate with local leaders. They know what happens in Rwandan families, and they can play an important role in this study which is why they are chosen in line with the objective of this research.

3-4-2 Questionnaire for Local leaders

In line with the objective of the study, Local leaders in Rwanda provide a great contribution to assessing social issues including domestic abuse, these leaders deal with domestic violence as well as the reunification of families within violence. their role comes before any contribution of courts in Rwanda, they play an important role to help victims of domestic abuse and they have a lot of information on what happens exactly in families.

3-4-3 Questionnaire for (Pastor and women Representation)

Domestic violence in most case affect women, the representative of women at the sectors level in this study is one who has more information about domestic abuse because they are elected to advocate for women in general and they are chosen by women themselves /she can provide the reality of what is going on within families.

Pastors; over 93,8% of Rwandan believe in God they accord more confidence to their church leader than other persons in Rwandan society, for those reasons some pastors keep a secret about what is going on in families rather than others in society. They are in line with this study to provide their opinions on IPV.

3-4-4 Personal in interviews or Lawyers

Finally, lawyers are in line with this study as they made some decisions about domestic abuse among partners, and the application of the law within the courts based on tangible facts of a crime. The unfairness of negotiation between two partners leads to the application of law which can decide the final decision may be divorce or division of properties if needed. This group of people provides real information about domestic abuse and they can suggest some measures to revise the law if any gap is found.

3-5. Validity of the instrument

The instruments used in data collection (questionnaires &interview guidance) were under the supervision of the thesis advisor. The advisor provided all necessary comments and guidance before and during data collection. Validity is the level to which a tool measures what it is supposed to measure and performs as it is designed to perform. it is occasionally and nearly impossible that

an instrument to be one hundred percent valid there for rationality is measured in grades. Validation involves collecting and analyzing data to assess the precision of an instrument (<https://researchrundowns.com/>).

3-6 Data Collection Procedure

Data collection was approved by Seoul National University (SNU), to introduce the researcher to the data providers.

3-7 Data Analysis techniques and presentation

Finally, after collecting data from the targeted population, I used to analyze it to verify my hypothesis and respond to my research question. The data were represented in terms of pie charts, charts, and tables. This research, helped me to make a conclusion based on the outcome information from the targeted population, on why they think domestic violence has increased after the women's empowerment policy in Rwanda. By definition Data analysis is the process of gathering, modeling, and examining data to extract insights that support decision-making. (<https://www.datapine.com/>).

CHAPTER IV: DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS.

4-1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the data analysis and findings of the study. The questionnaire used within this survey was carefully analyzed to ensure that the data gathered was presented clearly by using Tables, percentages, Pie charts, and graphs were needed. These methods of data analysis were used to capture the essential data to accomplish the research objectives.

The objective of this research Topic was to analyze why Domestic Violence increased from 34 percent to 56 percent from 2005 to 2010 after the women's empowerment Policy in Rwanda and proposes a solution to that violence which especially affects women.

The questionnaire comprises six sections with a total of 25 structured closed and open questions to ensure the achievement of the study during data collection. The targeted population is those who have basic information about domestic abuse meanwhile can be policy implementor at any level or private sector who deals with the social problem in terms of solving process or counseling.

4-1-1 SECTIONS OF QUESTIONNAIRES

SECTION A

Section A (Bio-demographic and socio-Status profiles of the Respondents)

contained 10 Questions and embodies the following subsections:

Gender

Marital status

Age bracket)

The commonalities in the respondent's residence area comprise 5 sub-questions as below;

The area of my residence is a community that is sparsely populated by both men and women in our region.

We virtually have a homogenous language, culture, and customs in my area of residence.

Currently, I know a family with domestic abuse.

We usually have a slower means of communicating domestic abuse in my area of residence

In case of domestic violence, we have a health center to help the victim, and Lower costs of living, wages, and poverty are common in my areas of residence which may lead to domestic violence after the empowerment of women.

residential region of the Respondents

Highest level of Education/Qualification

Category of work of the respondents

Type of organization of the respondents

Working Experience of the respondents

Selected sectors of current and past work experience of workers.

SECTION B

Section B contains 3 important questions on the awareness of IPV in Rwandan Context as follow:

To know whether any victim of any form of domestic abuse ever reported to the respondents within the last 12 months.

2)If any, the range of monthly estimates of such reported cases

The most often reported perpetrator of Domestic Violence

SECTION C

The section contained 9 questions on Possible causes of Domestic abuse in Rwanda and comprised sections as follows:

Regardless of the law against violence against women domestic violence, it is too obvious that Domestic violence still happens. The law was not very effective in reducing domestic violence in Rwandan society.

Domestic violence happens because most men disagree with Rwanda's women's empowerment Policy.

The enforcement of the law is difficult because of the large gap between the law and tradition.

Women consider empowerment as their opportunity to guide the decisions of their husbands which leads to domestic abuse in Rwandan society.

There was significant progress in the empowerment of women because of the law.

The concept of gender confuses women because women want to behave as a man which may lead to domestic violence.

After empowering women, men's consideration in society was reduced and women became superior to their husbands which differs from past social values and customs in traditional Rwanda society. this leads to domestic abuse.

Both men and women misunderstood the concept of gender balance after women's empowerment, leading to domestic abuse in the current society of Rwanda

As women have been empowered, men cannot decide anymore in the household compared to many years ago, which is the source of Domestic abuse in Rwanda.

SECTION D

This section contained 4 thematic questions on Institutional Framework to control domestic abuse in Rwanda and comprises sections as follows:

Whether the increase in the number of women in decision-making institutions reduced domestic abuse, especially for women in Rwandan Society. and why?

The law against violence, in general, was established in Rwanda. if there is violence that happens in the family, do you think the law can punish both females and males at the same level? If not, why?

Whether the increase of women in decision-making institutions leads to voting laws that favor women only, which can bring conflicts between Partners. If yes why?

Whether cultural beliefs can be a barrier to gender balance between males and females which may cause the persistence of Domestic violence.

SECTION E

This section contained 3 important questions on the implementation of the Law against violence after women's empowerment in case domestic violence happens in the X family, and how the intervention is done to help the victim, as follows:

- a) If domestic abuse is committed by males in the household Police can intervene immediately to care for women victims.
- b) if domestic abuse is committed by female Police can not intervene or can intervene too late
- c) Police and other leaders can intervene immediately in case of domestic violence regardless of gender, female or male.

SECTION F

This last section of the questionnaire comprises 4 questions and additional ideas from the respondents on what can be done to overcome domestic violence after the women's empowerment Policy in the Rwandan context. The respondent chooses one important idea and provides 1 idea as follows:

Continuing to sensitize the importance of gender equality

-) Strong enforcement of the law and severe punishment for both males and females who commit domestic violence can be the solution to domestic abuse in Rwanda.

) Continuous women empowerment

Let men continue to dominate as it was in traditional society can reduce domestic abuse in Rwanda.

Constructing special shelters for victims of domestic violence in every sector can be the best way to overcome IPV in Rwandan society.

The idea of the respondents

4-2 DATA COLLECTION

Originally 257 respondents from different sectors were identified to provide the necessary information for the study. The adequate method to gather data in a short time was to use an online questionnaire, but some respondents were not able to access the internet to provide needed information, the researcher decided to use other methods including group interviews with the respondents using the same questionnaire during data collection.

Data from respondents were kept on a computer only the researcher had access to the collected data in varieties of excel or word formats.

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4-3 DATA ANALYSIS

The data captured from 257 sample target populations were analyzed using the computer with the assistance of the supervisor and converted into percentages, organized also in tables, graphs, and figures to make the data presentation significant, these data were analyzed based on the

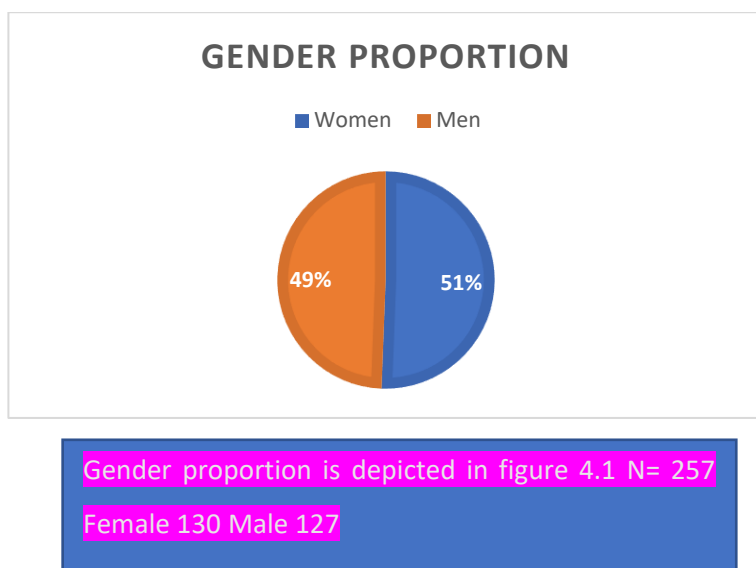
research questions indicated within the study. During data collection, 127 Respondents were men which represent 49.4 Percent and 130 were women which represent 50.6% of the total population.

4-3-1SECTION A: BIO-DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-STATUS DATA

Within this section, the gender distribution, age, Marital status, commonalities of the region, region of residence, level of education, category of work, work experience, current, and past working area of the population were deliberated.

Gender distribution

Figure 4.1 The gender distribution of the respondent

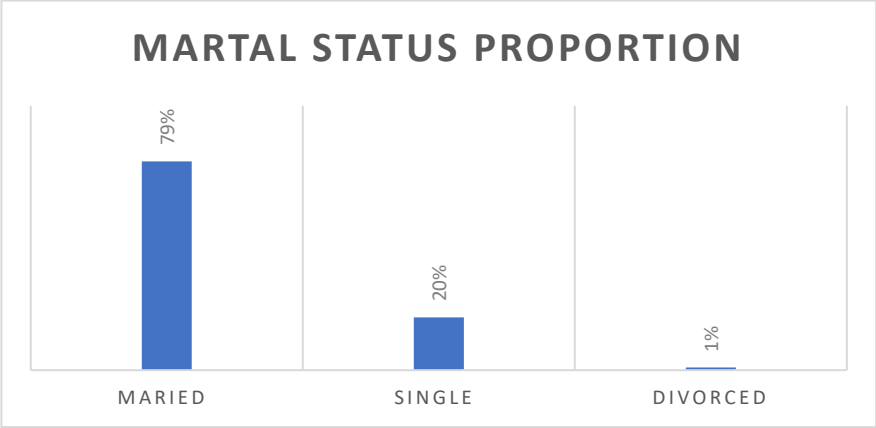


Referring to the findings, 49% of Respondents were male, while 51 percent were women of the total population. By observation there could be a disparity of internet access between men and women referring to the number of online questionnaire respondents because 71.8 percent were male while only 28.2 percent are female. (After observing this gap researcher decided to use group interviews in different meetings to increase the population the same as the number of

women participants. It is also difficult for females to report domestic abuse as it is not easy for them to access the internet as males do. Research conducted in 2022 shows that Only 36.6% can use Facebook and 64.4 % of males in Rwanda can access and Use Facebook. (Kemp, 2022).

Marital status

4.1 The bar graph shows the distribution of marital status and has some basic information about domestic abuse and women’s empowerment strategy.



Bar graph 4.1
Marital proportion N= 257

The number of married represents 79% And divorced represents 1 % Single people who are the age of marriage represent 20 percent, meanwhile, this target population has more evidence about the issue of domestic abuse as well as the impact of women’s empowerment in Rwandan society, to provide necessary information on this study. some of the respondents have been married before empowering women’s policy, and they can compare easily how domestic violence was in past compared to recent situations.

4-3-1-3. Age bracket

Table 4.1

No	Age of respondents	Number of respondents	Percentage of respondents
1	Below 20	0	0%
2	20-29	39	15.1%
3	30-39	130	50.5%
4	40-49	39	15%
5	50-59	29	11%
6	60-69	19	7%
7	Over 70	1	1.4%
Total		N= 257	

The age of respondents was very significant in this research, the main focus was mainly on married or ever-married people to provide necessary information on the relationship between the empowerment of women and domestic abuse. On the other hand, single people who predict marriage in the future can provide their idea and how they think it will be after the marriage, the matrimonial law in Rwanda agree on marriage at 21 years old.

4-3-1-4. Descriptions and common indicators in the area of respondents’ residence.

All 100% percent of the respondents confirmed that their region of residence is populated by both males and females, this question was aimed to know about the situation of the community of the respondents, as the region is mostly populated with violence observable not only in household but also in the community in general. 88.7% of respondents affirmed the same language speaking in their region and only 11, 3 percent affirmed Multilanguage in their residence area; meanwhile, communication among most community members of respondents is easier, and in case of any incidence communication is adequate.

Figure 4.2. The percentage of respondents who knows currently, the families with domestic abuse is described in figure 4.3.

A big percentage of the sample population 97% knows current families with domestic abuse only 3% don't know any family with domestic abuse, meanwhile, this study got insignificant information on domestic abuse after the women's empowerment policy.

Figure 4.2 Current family with domestic abuse was discussed

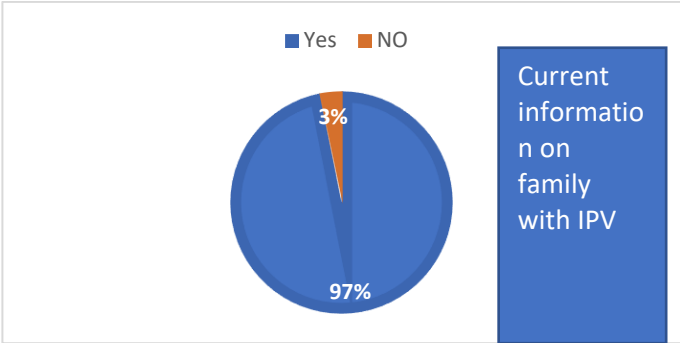


Figure 4.2
Information on current family with domestic abuse N=257

The researcher also focused on the way of communicating domestic abuse if it happens in society, according to the findings 97percent of the sample population affirmed that they have access to communication in case of domestic abuse especially those who are in an urban area. by analyses of respondents some were not able to use google questionnaire especially elected local leaders (Friends of families) to facilitate this study because they don't have smartphones and internet access. Meanwhile, respondents who succeeded to use the online questionnaires are those who work in governmental services or the private sector with the capacity of buying and using smartphones and the internet. By observations, the elected local leaders don't have adequate means to communicate smoothly in case of domestic violence within the community. This inadequate internet access is among the cause of not reporting on time domestic violence within some families.

The respondents of 85.7 percent confirmed easy access to health facilities in case of domestic abuse but 14.3% of the respondents prove the long distance to the health center in case of emergency of the domestic victim. This question was aimed to find out whether it is easy to access health services for the victim in case of domestic abuse.

Figure 4.3 The area of Residence is described

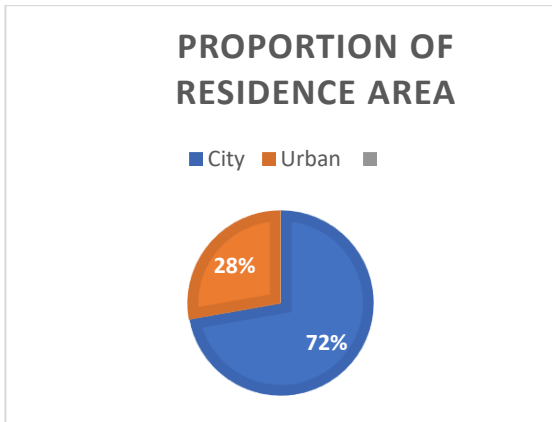


Figure 4.3

The proportion of the population of the study based on the area of Residence (N=256)

The area of residence of the sample population is also important to find out the relevant information for the study. The case of domestic abuse and the level of understanding on gender balance or empowering women in rural areas and urban is diverse, domestic violence in a rural area can be different from an urban area. by analyses domestic violence can be very high in a rural since most women are not educated, and they don't have any information about the basic rights they consider domestic abuse as a normal act. Understandably, Principe the of the patriarchal system is mostly applicable in rural areas rather than in urban areas

4-3-1-5. The highest level of Education/Qualification is discussed in this study in figure 4.4

In this study, 68% of the respondents hold bachelor’s degrees, which means that the information provided is suitable for this study. 17% hold a master in this study and 18 percent of the respondents also finished secondary school in this research which makes this study very fruitful.

Figure 4.4 Education/Qualification is discussed in this study in figure 4.4

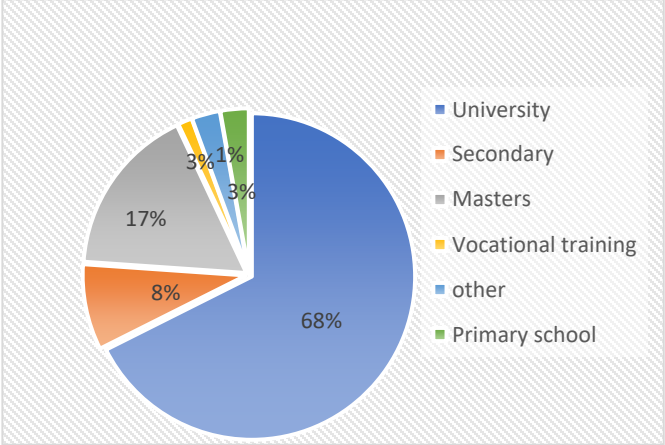


Figure 4.4
The education level is discussed (N=257)

4-3-1-6. The category of workers and types of organization is also discussed.

The category of workers is a very important element in this study to ensure the suitability of the study, as well as the provision of a distinguished idea to make this study more concrete. 56.3 percent of the information providers work as elected leaders and private services, 22,5 percent work in local government as public servants, 8.5 percent of the sample population work in the service of social welfare, 4.2 percent of respondents are lawyers, 4,2percent respondents work as family promotions officers, 1.4percents of respondents are in charge of National Women council.

Figure 4.5 Work Experience

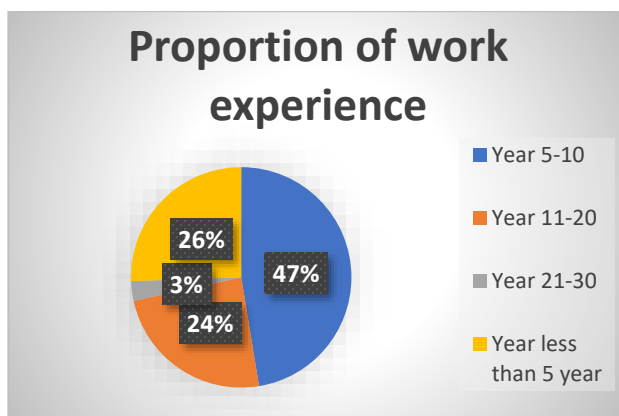


Figure 4.5
Working experience of Target population (N=257)

The figure above shows the working experience of the sample population in this study, 47% percent worked in the field related to problem-solving institutions between 5-10 years and 26 percent of the sample population has the working less than 5 years, and 24 percent had working experience between 11-20 years, which explain the adequate information needed to conduct this study from skilled respondents.

4-3-1-8 Recent and Past duties within the work domain were discussed.

12.7 percent work in Coordination services, 33.8 work for monitoring and evaluation services 18.3 percent work for social protection services 7 percent work in the private sector 17.3 percent work in education services 4.2 percent work for health and community service 9.9 percent work for other unspecified services 1.4 work as human resources officers.

This working position of the target population has a great meaning to the study, to get needed and relevant evidence.

4-3-2. SECTION B: Thematic questions on Awareness of IPV in Rwandan society

Within this section 3 important questions were discussed to know about the experience of the sample population concerning domestic abuse in 12 past months as follows: the first was to know whether any victim of any form of domestic abuse ever reported to the sample population of this study within the last 12 months and if yes, we asked the range of monthly estimates of such reported cases. Another question was about knowing the most often reported perpetrators of intimate partner violence between males and females because many researchers mostly indicate women as most affected by domestic violence rather than men regardless of the law against violence in Rwandan society.

4-3-2-1 [Domestic abuse ever reported to you within the last 12 months to the sample population was discussed](#), and the answers from the population were as follows:

Male & Female answers: *Only 10 percent of men were not able to receive any question related to domestic violence in the 12 past months while all women in this study were able to know or receive a problem related to domestic violence in the past 12 months.* Referring to this as it shows that my research is reasonable because most respondents have received or understood families within domestic abuse in the period of one year.

74.6 percent of the sample population agree to receive/reported victims of any form of domestic abuse within the last 12 months. Only 19.7 percent said were not able to receive or report any domestic abuse in the last 12 months. Referring to this percentage many respondents have

relevant information on domestic abuse after women's empowerment to make this study more objective.

As they agreed to get a report about domestic abuse twelve months ago, this percentage supports the idea of the existence of domestic abuse even in current society. It is related to the previous research of domestic violence increased from 34 to 56% after women's empowerment

(Thomson et al., 2015).

This increase should be related to the power bargaining and women's right, after their empowerment. This percentage of respondents who knows current family with domestic abuse confirms the hypothesis that domestic abuse still happens regardless of the law against violence because for different reasons.

Both female and male respondents have been confirmed to know some families with domestic abuse

4-3-2-2 The range of monthly estimated cases related to Domestic abuse was discussed

Figure 4.6 The range of monthly estimated cases related to Domestic

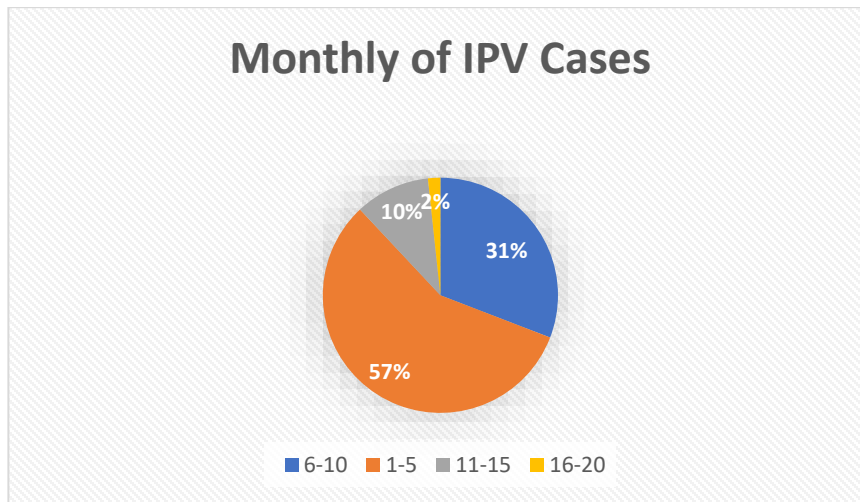


Figure 4.6
Cases of IPV per month were shown (N=257)

57 percent of the Sample population received cases of domestic abuse between 1-5 in 12 months ago and 31 Percent received cases between 6-10 within the same period, 10 percent of the population received cases related to the research topic between 11-15 in 12 past months. These data show that domestic violence cases still exist within the recent Rwandan society as the data showed.

The monthly average of intimate partner violence also is too high, which could be related to the increase in divorce we said before, the case of divorce increased at the big percentage of 1900 percent” (Person, 2018).

Female Views & Males; According to the analysis the average of cases case received by both women and men seems to be on the same average between 10-15 within the period of 12 months which means that most women report their cases to the other women friends, only 2 respondents

women argues that they don't remember the difference is about the small number of male respondents who were not able to receive any problem related to IPV as we said above

4-3-2-3 The most often reported perpetrators of IPV were discussed

-Female views: Except for one respondent's female who said that violence affects men other women respondents said that women are affected by Domestic violence and most couples who live together are candidates on these matters rather than divorced.

Male answers: 91.2% of men confirmed that domestic abuse is affecting women rather than them additionally it is persistent among couples who live together. Based on these answers seems that domestic violence was increased but it affects women rather than men as we said in the instruction part of this research.

According to the findings, 50.7 percent of the population reconfirmed women as the most affected by domestic abuse regardless of the law against violence, and 39. % confirmed domestic violence among current partners within the household 9.9 percent confirmed the violence against men. domestic violence is not affecting women only as the respondents said, it affects also males but for a small percentage, culturally men keep silent when they have been violated by their partners, they think of the shame to be beaten by a woman which could be related to this small percentage.

The idea above is related to the previous findings of Thomson where women are mostly self-reported as victims of domestic violence in the household, other hand, it can be called GBV (*Thomson et al., 2015*).

This violence is also related to the awareness of the principle of human rights and campaigns made by the government of Rwanda, this awareness makes women wake up and claim their

rights from their husbands who disagree with the source of domestic abuse. this statement can be explained by a feminist theory that refers to claiming rights (on the side of women).

4-3-3. SECTION C: Thematic questions on possible Causes of Intimate Partners Violence in Rwanda were discussed.

This section contains 9 important questions for a research study to know whether domestic violence which has increased was related to women's empowerment policy in the Rwandan context. The researcher asked the respondents to agree, strongly agree, disagree, or strongly disagree and be neutral about hypothesis questions related to the study. briefly saw that domestic violence increased regardless of the law and other strategies to overcome and as we have seen before it affects women compared to men.

4-3-3-1. Regardless of the law against violence against women domestic violence, it is too obvious that Domestic violence still happens. The law was not very effective in reducing domestic violence in Rwandan society.

Figure 4.6 The law was not effective to reduce domestic abuse as discussed

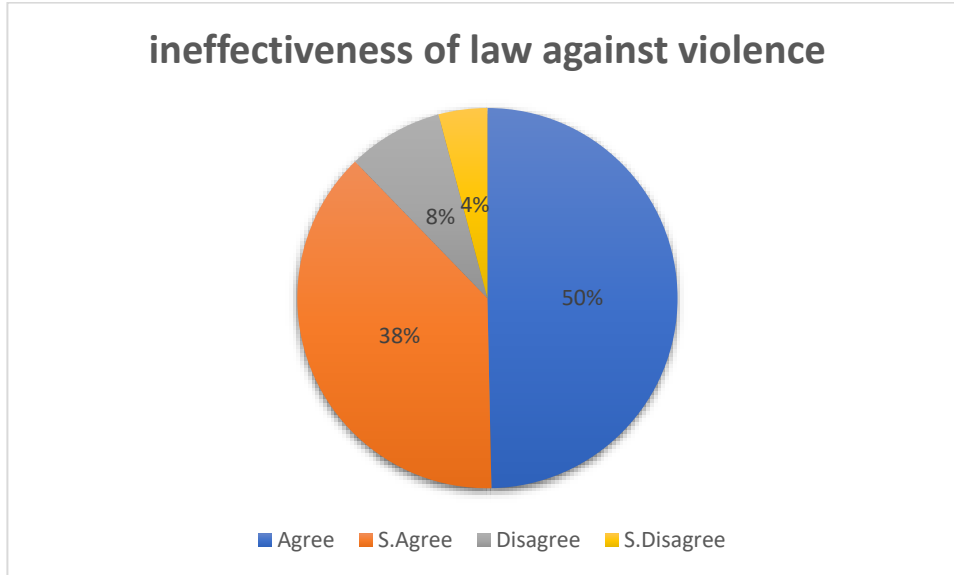


Figure 4.6
The ineffectiveness of the law against IPV after women's empowerment

-Female views: For this question, only 0.77 percent of women said that the law was able to protect women's basic rights but other several percentages confirmed that the law was not able to ensure women's rights simply because domestic abuse continues to surge it affects women compared to men.

Male Views: 6 percent of male respondents said that domestic violence was not increased and the law was successful to protect women's rights however referring to the majority it is sure to say that domestic violence continues to happen regardless of the law against GBV. These answers from both males and females responded to the research question asking why domestic violence continues to increase. Meanwhile, if the law is not adequate to regulate any conflicts between people the only possible solution is the increase of crime and violence because everyone is struggling for his or her rights by violating the rights of others.

Generally Referring to the findings from the targeted population within this study 50 percent agreed that the law against violence was not able to protect women perfectly against abuse from their husbands. 38% percent of the population within this study strongly agreed(approved) that the law was not able to protect women's rights against violence after their empowerment policy within the area of study. 8 percent only of the target population disagreed with this argument and 4 percent also strongly disagreed with this argument. Finally, it seems that 88% confirm that the law against abuse after empowering women was not able to be successful, to ensure the protection of women against violence from their partners.

These findings above are different from the establishment of the law in 2008 which aimed to fight against gender-based violence so, the law was not able to succeed in this topic. (***Sleg*** & ***Richters, 2012***).

The power control theory mentioned before can explain this situation where both men and women, struggle for domination by claiming rights, this claim brings domestic abuse because no one wants to lose his /her rights. especially men need respect from their women according to their nature as well as the background of society (patriarchal society). (***Crushed & Orme, 2012***)

Referring to these findings domestic violence also is possibly related to the matrimonial law (Matrimonial Commands, Gifts, and Successions: Law No. 27/2016, enacted on July 8, 2016), which owes girls to get heritage from their parents as male, this scenario also can be explained by resource control theory mentioned before

This law against GBV also did not succeed to attain objectives immediately because it seems against the social norms which valued mainly men rather than men.

4-3-3-2. The researcher discussed with the sample population whether domestic violence happens because most men disagree with Rwanda's women's empowerment Policy. Through their answers to this question, many of the respondents agreed with this idea in the next figure:

-Figure 4.7 Domestic violence happens because most men disagree with Rwanda's women's empowerment Policy.

Figure 4.7 Disagreement on women's empowerment Policy

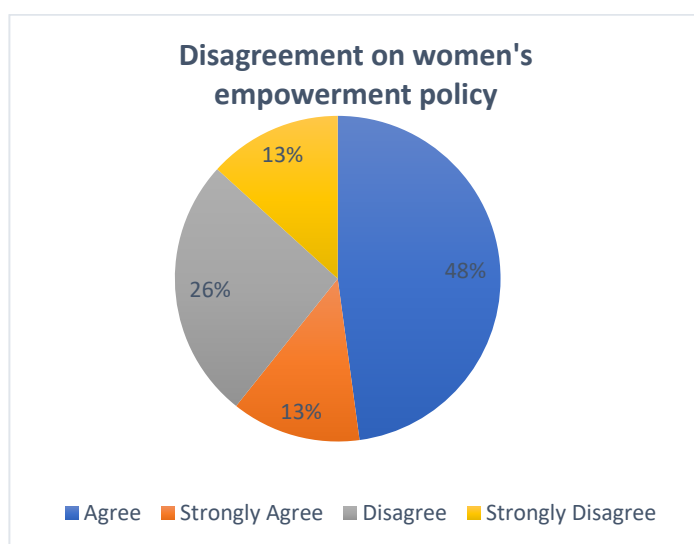


Figure 4.7

The disagreement of men on women's empowerment policy (N=257)

Female's Views; 3.7 percent only of women think that domestic violence happens for other reasons not from the policy of gender balance on the side of men while 96.3% said that violence happens because of men's resistance to this policy.

Male's views: Only 51 percent of men agreed that domestic violence happens from the gender balance policy implementation, so it seems that there is a conflict of idea among men because also 49 percent think that violence happens for other reasons, not women's empowerment strategy implemented by Rwandan Government. Based on these findings it's sure to say that the empowerment policy is behind the increase in domestic abuse according to the research question, because the policy was good but it was in conflict with the patriarchal system, note that culture may change after a long time.

48 percent of the respondents agreed that domestic violence happens because most men were not able to cope with the change (disagreement with Rwanda's women's empowerment policy). 13% also strongly agree with this idea as the source of conflicts among partners. On the other side of views, 26 Percent disagree with the idea and think of other reasons behind this problem as well as 13% also strongly disagree about these thoughts. Finally, 61 % of the total respondents confirm that domestic conflicts increased after the women's empowerment policy comes from disagreement with the policy foresaid.

The disagreement on the gender balance policy was reaffirmed on the side of men, this is depending on the patriarchal society and past consideration of men in society, men don't want to lose their dignity which leads to resistance to the law that empowers women. Related to the structural and power control theory which explains the situation depending on the change within the given society.

This disagreement also can be explained by the *Psychoanalysis theory which focuses and analyses on past and current experiences and changes in society. (Crushed & Orme, 2012)*

4-3-3-3. The study discussed the complications and gaps between the enforcement of law and tradition (*The enforcement of the law is difficult because of the large gap between the law and*

the tradition) the majority of the 257 respondents agreed with this idea in their answers as follows:

Figure 4.8 The gap between the enforcement of law and tradition was discussed

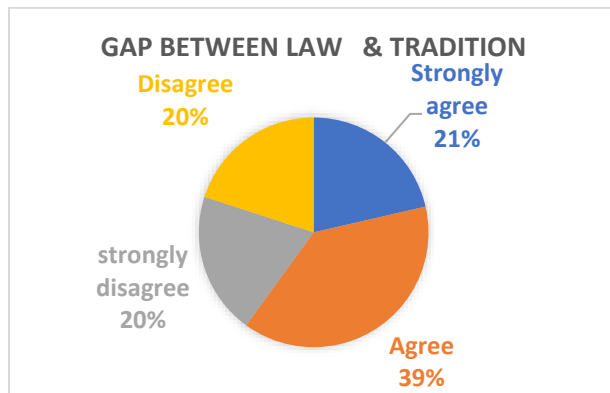


Figure 4.8

The gap between enforcement of law and tradition (N=257)

Female's views 96.2 of respondents confirm that it has been a barrier of culture and social norms to implement a gender balance policy which leads to the increase in domestic violence.

Men's views: For this question, 55 percent of male respondents also think that culture is the barrier to gender balance policy implementation within the society of Rwanda which could be behind of domestic violence increase against this policy the other 45 percent think other reasons beyond culture.

38.6 percent agree that enforcement of the law regarding gender balance is difficult because of the gap between tradition and the law. 21.4 percent also strongly agree with this idea. On another side of the respondent, 20 percent disagree and 20 percent strongly disagree with the idea. Meanwhile, the majority 60 percent confirmed the large gap between tradition and implementation of law in this topic of study which leads to domestic abuse.

The value of men in traditional society and women was not the same, after women's empowerment and gender balance strategy, both sexes benefit from the same opportunity. the implantation of this policy was not easy because of the traditional consideration of women in the past family life cycle. Domestic life cycle theory can explain this situation. (**Holtz worth-Munroe et al., 2000**).

4-3-3-4. This study of 257 respondents discussed the perception of women on the empowerment policy vis-à-vis their husbands, especially within the household decision-making. **Female opinions;** 10 percent of women said that the perception of women of their husbands after their empowerment was not changed at all while 90 percent confirmed that the perception of men after women's emancipation changed in the family completely which could be behind the domestic violence increase.

Men's Opinions: 67 percent of men answered that they are no longer to decide for their household after the women's empowerment policy which could be the reason behind the increase in domestic violence. so meanwhile the idea of women and men about this argument is almost different they argued that empowerment was their opportunity to guide the decisions of their husbands which leads to domestic abuse in Rwandan society). Different insight of men and women on deciding on a ha household is also the reason behind the increase in conflicts between men and women living together it is also the answer to my research question.

The answer from respondents indicated that 39.4% agreed with the research and 16.9 strongly agree that women consider empowerment as the opportunity to guide the decision-making within the household which was obviously for men. on the other side 23.9 percent of respondents

disagreed with the idea 16,9 strongly disagreed on the idea. 2.8 percent of the respondent's population decide to be neutral on this idea.

In general, 56.3 percent of the target population confirmed that women used this opportunity of empowerment to provide some guidance in household decision making which can influence directly or indirectly domestic abuse, and mostly this abuse reflects on their side.

The challenge of the decision-making within the household still comes in the special topic after women empowerment, traditionally women could advise the husband in some families but not directly, it has been a change after the policy of gender balance because women and men need to communicate and understanding each other before any decision making. For example (traditionally could sell a piece of land regardless of the agreement from the partners but currently, men cannot as well as women can't. if the family wants to sell any family property women and men decide to together it is mandatory by referring to the matrimonial law amended in 2016, which mandates equal access to the family property). Finally, women and women can decide together about any decision which was not the same traditionally. Power control theory explain said previously can elucidate this statement from the respondents.

4-3-3-5. The study also discussed whether there was significant progress in the empowerment of women because of the law within the family in general and women themselves especially.

The answer from 257 of the respondent population is described as follows:

Female Views: 93,2 percent confirmed the positive change in the society of Rwanda after the women's empowerment Policy, women have been able to show their potential and their capacity to earn income at a family level specifically as well as the national Level Generally.

Males' views: 56 Percent of male confirms positive change after women's empowerment within Rwandan society. The confirmation of a positive change to both men and women is the answer to

the research question as one of the approaches to decrease domestic violence because if women's empowerment contributed to the positive change in society, it is the opposite of domestic violence which affects women.

Generally, 39.4 percent of the respondent population agreed with this idea of the study, and 16.9% strongly agreed that it has been significant progress on the side of women and families after the women's empowerment policy. Other views from the respondent's population indicate that 23.9 percent disagreed and 16.9 percent strongly disagreed with the same idea while 2.8 percent decide to be neutral on this question.

Finally, 87.3 percent of the respondent's population confirms a positive change not only on women's side but also in families in general, meanwhile, families enjoy the good fruits of the women's empowerment policy regardless of some challenges behind it. The women's tasks in the household have been increased because now they can perform other tasks beyond household duties, which can earn income for the family, this task was obviously for men who were considered the "breadwinner of a family".

This affirmation of positive change through women's empowerment policy is explained by previous findings that women became competent and self-confident in the current society of Rwanda. Women have contributed greatly in post-genocide Rwanda through Gacaca courts, heading the household, as well as political participation until today. **(Pearson, 2009)**

As the responsibility of women in society change, some negative effect happens where stressors can increase on women's side. If women balance their daily responsibilities within the house (caring for babies, looking to, help elderly people, managing the income of the household payment of bills) adding same-time job tasks in the workplace all these responsibilities can bring

stress which leads to domestic violence as it has been explained in previously in Structural Functionalism Theory. (Blessing, 2022).

The inclusion of women in admirative institutions (governors, ministers, Ambassadors, Mayors,) proved the capacity of women in governance and the number of girls who attend schools augmented, the values of women in society changed positively, women become income earners as men do.

4-3-3-6 The concept of gender understanding was discussed on the women's side.

(The concept of gender confuses women because women want to behave like a man which may lead to domestic violence as discussed in figure 4.

Figure 4.9 confusion on gender concept for women's side.

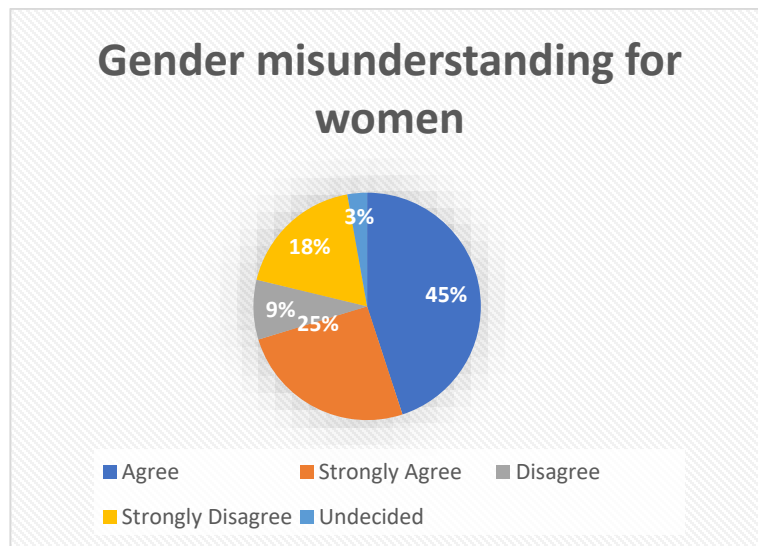


Figure 4.9

Gender concept misunderstanding on women's side (N=257)

Female views: Referring to the analysis of ideas from women's side 42 % of respondents said that gender policy sounds good to them and there has not been any confusion while another big

percentage confirmed the misunderstanding of this policy. which means that women have different views about this policy implementation among themselves.

Male views: 91.8 percent of men said that it has been a misunderstanding of a gender policy on the side of a female because of acting against social norms and social values. The confusion about the applicability of ty of gender policy and why is important the society was the origin of conflicts among partners as it has to change some attitudes in the social system this is also among the multiple reasons behind domestic abuse.

Referring to the findings 45 percent agree and 25 percent strongly agree that it has been confusion about the gender balance concept that leads women to behave naturally like their partners which motivated domestic abuse. 18 percent disagreed and 9 percent strongly disagreed with this idea while 3 percent were neutral.

By examination,70 percent of the population respondents confirm that it has been a gender misconception on women's side, which imply they behave and work like their husband within the society. for stance before women's empowerment, it was considered taboo to see women in bars in the absence of their husbands, most men were likely to stay in bars a long time but after the women's empowerment policy some women appreciate their rights by taking some beers in the bars as men do. This sympathy for gender concepts warmed women's thinking which exposed them to dilemmas with their cohorts.

These findings correlated to the idea of this study that domestic abuse increased after women's empowerment. This situation of domestic abuse increased because of misunderstanding of this gender balance policy not only in the Rwanda case but also this situation happened in Costa Rica where domestic violence increased after the application of women's empowerment through the

quotas system, once, more the same issues happened in Nordic countries after empowering women as previous findings mentioned. (Wemrell et al., 2021).

4-3-3-7 Consideration of men in current society was discussed.

(After empowering women, men's consideration in society was reduced and women became superior to their husbands which differs from past social values and customs in traditional Rwanda society. this leads to domestic abuse).

Figure 4.10 Consideration of men within the society after the women's empowerment Policy was discussed.

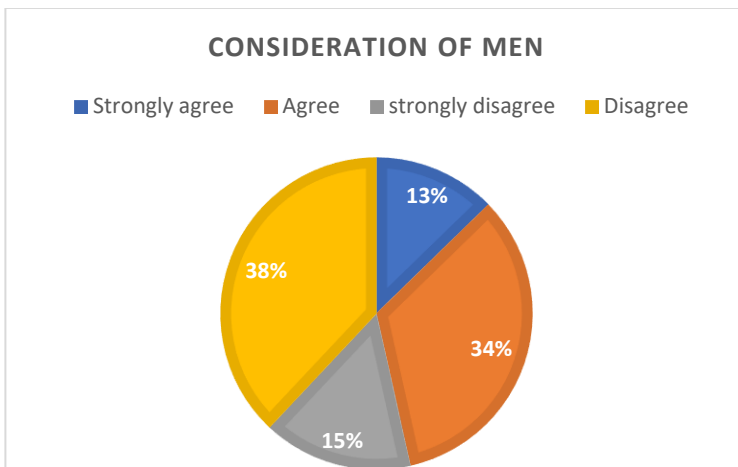


Figure 4.10

Consideration of men within the society after the women's empowerment

Female's Views; only 0.7 percent of respondents' women confirm the change in how men are considered within the current society in Rwanda while another remaining percentage said that men still have the same consideration as it was before the women's empowerment policy.

Men's Opinions: 52,9% of men said that their consideration within the society was changed which is different from the idea of females who said the opposite idea aforesaid. This opposite

idea after women's empowerment is also behind the increase in domestic violence as couples have different views can raise miscommunication among them.

Meanwhile, 38 percent of respondents disagree and 15.5 percent strongly disagree with the idea which says that the consideration of men within the society has changed after the women's empowerment policy. While 33.8 agreed and 12.7 strongly agreed with the same idea of this study.

Finally, 53.5% of the respondent confirmed that men's consideration within the society was not changed after the women's empowerment policy because the establishment of laws against violence is for all regardless of women and men. A big number of the respondent's population confirmed that men still have dignity within the family in Rwanda after the women's empowerment policy, which means that violence against women happens for other reasons behind this.

4-3-3-8 The concept of gender balance perception for both women and men is discussed.

(Both men and women misunderstood the concept of gender balance after women's empowerment, leading to domestic abuse in the current society of Rwanda).

Figure 4.11 *The gender balance misconception between males and females was discussed*

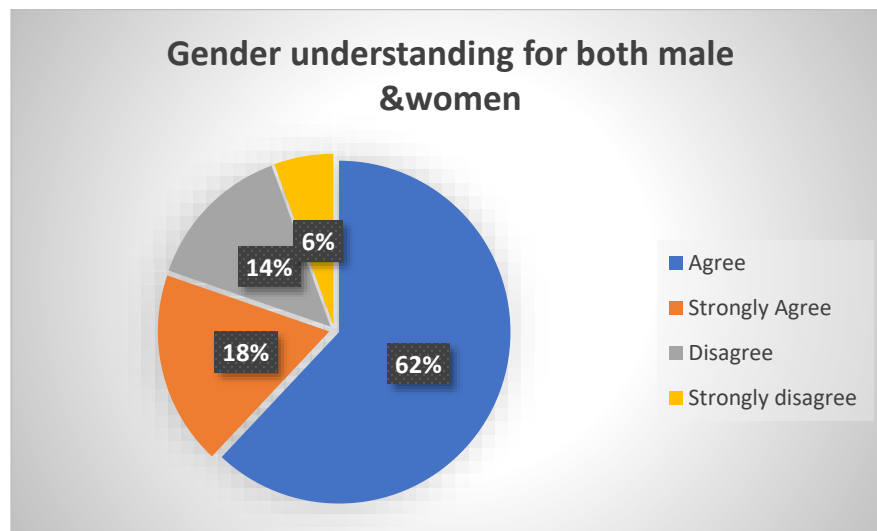


Figure 4.11

The gender balance misconception between males and females (N=257)

Female answers: all respondents women answered 96.2 percent to this question arguing that gender balance in terms of women's empowerment was not well understood among females, simply because their behaviors and social expectation changed based on that policy, from this policy women were confused about empowerment as the time against patriarchy system which may create challenges between couples. E.g., It was sporadic to see a woman who can decide to go to bars drinking alcohol without the presence of her husband however as this perception changed women can do that until she becomes a drunkard.

Male opinions: Referring to the answer of men also concluded at 67 percent said that gender balance policy implementation was not well understood on their side which is behind the increase in domestic abuse as it created a predicament between partners.

62 percent of the target population agreed and 18 percent strongly agreed with the idea of a researcher that both women and men misunderstood the gender balance concept which leads to domestic violence increase. while 14% disagree and 6 percent strongly disagree with this idea. Generally, 80 percent of the respondent population proved that the gender balance concept was misunderstood by both sides women and men which is the real cause behind intimate partner abuse after the women's empowerment policy in Rwanda.

This gender misconception for women and men related to the background of society (patriarchy) where women were marginalized in many institutions depending on the culture, for the side of men it was not easy to be familiar with positive change to empower women, and for women, it was a time to use this power to compensate the rights loosen a long time. These conflicts of traditions and gender balance and misunderstanding of this policy were the root cause of domestic abuse in many countries regardless of continent, skin, less developed or developed nation. These findings are related to the previous literature *The Indian Journal of Political Science, Vol. 74, No. 4 (October - December 2013)* in their confirmation of the Rwandan patriarchal society.

The observation is that the current world society is not ready to let women enjoy their rights through their empowerment, and it will take a long time to change this mindset of men.

4-3-3-9. [Decision-making in households on the side of males was discussed.](#)

(As women have been empowered, men cannot decide anymore in the household compared to many years ago, which is the source of Domestic abuse in Rwanda).

Figure 4.12 Men's Decision-making in households after women's empowerment

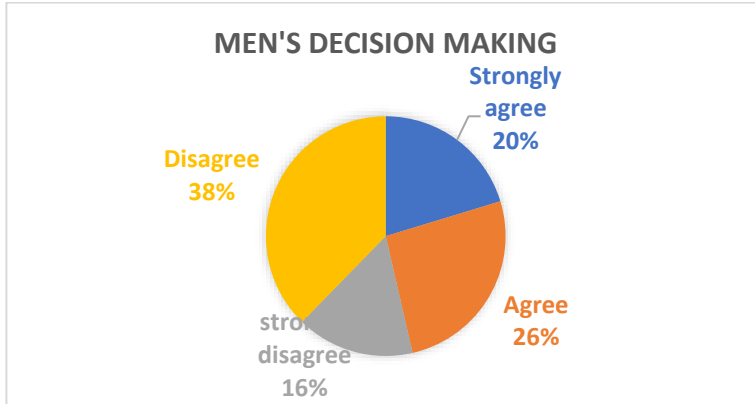


Figure 4.12

Men's Decision-making in households after women's empowerment (N=257)

Female answers: 95.6 of respondent's women said that the decision of men within the household is still very significant regardless of women's empowerment.

Male Answers: It seems that men have a different understanding of this question because around 49 percent said that they are no longer decision-makers at home meanwhile the difference in the percentage of ideas is not significant meanwhile this issue of taking decisions is not among the serious cause of domestic abuse but it has a small influence at a given percentage.

26 percent of respondents agreed and 20.3 percent strongly agreed with the researcher that, after the women's empowerment policy decision-making within the household is no longer for men only, which may lead to domestic conflicts. But the big percentage 37.7 percent disagree and 15.9 percent strongly disagree saying that men can still make any decision in the household.

By observation, 53.8 percent confirm that men can make any decisions alone in the household after the women's empowerment policy, but this percentage is somehow closer to 46.2 percent who confirm that men can't decide within the household. so, for this idea, it seems that domestic violence happens of course for these issues but not much as possible, there could be other reasons

behind decision-making within households that leads to domestic misunderstanding between partners.

4-3-4. SECTION D. Thematic questions on Institutional Framework to control domestic abuse in Rwanda.

This section contains 4 open questions for the 257 respondents to know about the institutional framework to control intimate partner violence Rwandan context.

4-3-4-1 Do you think the increase in the number of women in decision-making institutions reduced domestic abuse, especially for women in Rwandan society? why?

Female Views: Only 4.2 percent of women said that domestic violence was not reduced however other remaining percentage confirmed that the increase of women in decision-making reduced domestic abuse because they raised the issues of women generally and advocacy was made to establish laws that ensure women's rights in Rwandan society. they said again "it was the opportunity of women to work together with men in parliament to sensitize people about women's rights targeting to change the mindset of patriarchal mentality"

Males Views: For this question, many male respondents said that" the increase of women in decision making created a good opportunity to open a huge platform to express their opinions, as well as ensuring their rights, additionally it was their good time to provide their great contribution to building Rwandan society"

Generally, 72.8 percent said "Yes" and they think that increase in women in decision-making institutions is the remedy for reducing domestic abuse. According to their views, they said that "yes, it is possible because they established a law which protects them against violence from their partners". Others said yes because now women have the right as men and women within the institution of decision-making to advocate for their colleagues who are under pressure from social issues related to the o violation of their rights. This idea also said Yes but they add that still

violence happens because of some constraints related to culture and level of understanding of gender balance policy, especially women's empowerment.

A small percentage of respondents 27.2 said "No" by saying that this increase of women in decision-making created new conflict between males and females because currently, everyone can decide within the household, which could be the source of misunderstanding and domestic abuse.

Radical feminism theory can explain this situation as it refers to the new empowerment and participation of women in politics as well as economic perspectives.

The increase of women in decision-making is better for the side of women because in parliament they vote for the majority. Of course, the law, itself is not discriminative but it can be better to equalize the number of men and women at the decision-making level to make both sexes legally represented, and absolutely implementation of the decisions made will be very easy as all are represented equally.

4-3-4-2 The law against violence, in general, was established in Rwanda. if there is violence that happens in the family, do you think the law can punish both females and males at the same level? If not, why?

Female's views: 51 percent of women answered by saying that both women and men get the same punishment in case domestic violence happens, as laws don't care about sex matters in case a crime happens, however, others said: "the punishment for men is serious compared to women and they said that most men don't report domestic abuse against them for cultural reasons".

Men's arguments: 52 percent said that punishment is the same however the gap remains on implementation of the law because of the personal level of domestic violence consideration, however, it seems here men have different opinions guessing that law cannot provide the same punishment to both sexes in case domestic violence happens. This argument also is the answer to

the research question which focuses on the relationship between women's empowerment and the increase of domestic abuse because the law against GBV was derailed with cultural lag. The mindset was not changed yet from traditional attitudes to acquire a new gender balance policy, law and tradition were under competition.

According to the target population reactions, 66 percent answered "NO" to explaining their opinions they said that the law proposes the same punishment but the gap is still in implementation. They said that naturally women are considered as not physically strong as men, and it is the shame for men in society to report violence against them, especially when it is made by their wives. 36 percent of the target population said "YES" they confirmed the same punishment regardless of male or female meaning that the law is not discriminative when it is broken.

Based on the idea of respondents it is possible that when women violate the rights of their husbands seems as unbelievable in society, which can make soft punishment for women in case domestic violence happens.

If men violate the rights of women referring to the respondent's ideas the punishment is strict and hard. This situation can be explained by *attachment theory*. (**Blessing, 2022**). According to the respondents, there is unbalance of punishment depending on the perpetrator. It is very important to care about this gap in the implementation of the law because it can increase very much the problem of domestic abuse.

4.3-4-3 Do you think the increase of women in decision-making institutions leads to voting laws that favor women only, which can bring conflicts between Partners? If yes why?

Female's views: All women's answers to this question confirmed that *“the increase of women in the decision was not the time to vote laws that favors them only by comments they said laws' role is to equalizing the same opportunity to everyone without referring to any sex”* meanwhile this question is not among the reason of domestic violence increase

Male Views: *Only 8.7 confirm that the increase of women in decision-making can influence all parliament to vote laws that intend to favor women only by comments they said “Law is voted by the majority, so if the majority of parliamentarian are female all decision made can favor women finally it can make conflicts in society “*

Generally, 91.3percent of the answers the respondents Said “NO” to explain their views they argue that “the purpose of the law is to ensure the rights of everyone regardless of men or women”, which means that domestic violence happens for other reasons not only the increase in the number of women in decision-making as well as the law in favors of women. A small number of respondents 8.7 percent think differently by confirming that the number of women in decision-making increases their majority vote laws which favor them not men.

4-3-4-4 Do you think cultural beliefs can be a barrier to gender balance between males and females which may cause the persistence of Domestic violence

Female& Male views: *All women's and male answers to this question confirmed that cultural thoughts are the barriers to gender balance policy as it has what to change in the social system of traditional society. apart from this argument, it seems that domestic abuse is behind these cultural beliefs compared to the new policy of gender balance. Culture lag also can be a simple word to explain these behaviors.*

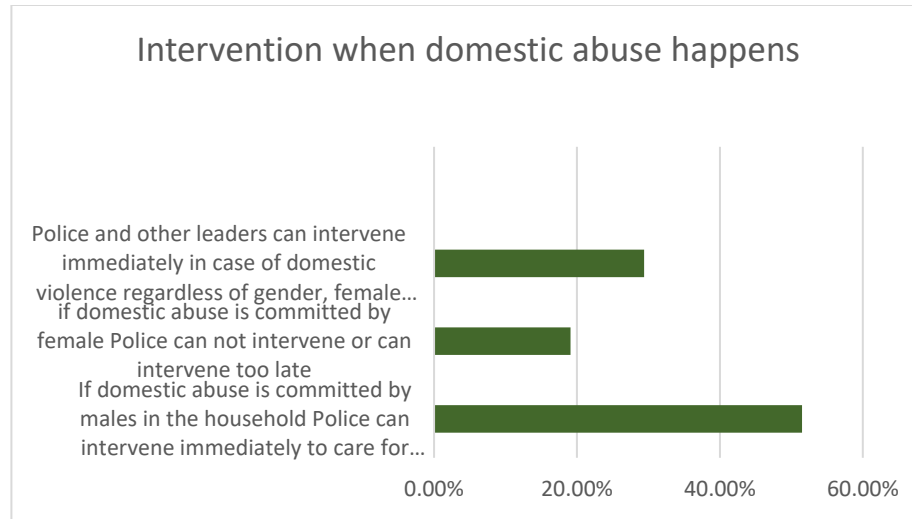
100 percent of All respondents agreed with this idea of cultural barriers believing as traditionally men were decision-makers in everything also they add comments saying that it will take a long time to change this cultural understanding.

For this argument, cultural attitudes (social norms lead to the stance to changes) take a long period as we discussed before in literature Both sexes need power balance concerning gender pol Attachment theory can also explain this statement as it refers to the violence which happens to depend on how an individual attaches to another. if women can now take decisions as men the attachment is broken and weak, which may increase the conflicts among couples, communication can be not adequate if anybody can decide without contacting another as it has been empowered for the weak side. (Blessing, 2022). As society is patriarchal it can take a long time to change this culture and mentality of men in terms of gender balance, especially women empowerment.

4-3-5. SECTION E. IMPLEMENTATION OF LAW AGAINST VIOLENCE AFTER WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

4-3-5-1 This section contained 3 affirmations; 257 respondents were asked to imagine when domestic violence happens in X family after the women's empowerment Policy. choose one answer on how you think intervention can be done to help the victim. this question was intended to know whether men and women obtain the same intervention& assistance in case of domestic abuse.

Intervention in case of domestic abuse was discussed in Bar graph 2



Bar graph:2

Intervention in case of domestic (N=257)

Female's Views: 50 percent of women said that the intervention is not the same when women's rights are violated compared to men, and 49 percent think that intervention is the same in case domestic violence happens 1 percent of women were undecided about this question

Men's views: 51,8 percent said that "generally intervention is not the same when women are against men's rights the intervention is too slow however the mistake is on side of policy implementors because law suggests equal treatment". This unequal intervention is also behind domestic abuse analyses. This unequal intervention in case domestic violence happens is also the problem that may be the stimulus of domestic violence within this study and it is explaining the gap between law and implementors

51.1 percent of the target population chose the idea which said that if domestic abuse is committed by the husband within the household intervention is very speedily to help women. while other 48.1 percent think differently. It is remarkable many people have different opinions, but it is possible to conclude on this question that there is a gap in intervention in case of domestic violence women can get help immediately rather than men. as we said before most

people think they confirm the gap in the intervention which raise the dejection of men which may lead to intimate partners. The implementors of the law against violence need to be more careful. they need to serve women as they serve men in case domestic violence happens. Men have been considered physically strong than women, which may lead also to push men to not report domestic violence from spouses use.

4-3-6. SECTION F: Thematic questions what can be done to overcome domestic violence after the women's empowerment Policy in the Rwandan context

4-3-6- 1. Choose only (1) answer you think can be the best answer and provide one (1) additional opinion.

This question has 5 arguments where 257 respondents were asked to choose one policy to reduce the severity of domestic abuse in Rwandan society.

Females' views: *89 percent of women agreed with the argument that providing severe punishment for household violence regardless of sex is the solution to overcome this matter however another small percentage said that if some houses to host victims of domestic abuse are built could be the solution.*

Male's Views: *all Men agree with severe punishment for those who engage in immoral activities against human rights within the household but they add comments that task government to continue the campaign to explain the gender balance policy clearly as the solution to eradicate domestic violence in Rwandan society. it seems that this answer is a match to the research question regarding the approaches to address the increase in domestic violence which increased after domestic violence in a case study of Rwanda.*

The final answer to this question is that 69.6 percent of the target population confirmed adequate policy to overcome domestic abuse is strong enforcement of the law at the same degree

/equalizing punishment, intervention, and severe punishment for both males and females in case of domestic abuse.

As the observation by the researcher, there should be a gap in how the intervention is done in case of domestic abuse depending on the perpetrators (male or female). This gap also could be the cause of the continuation of domestic abuse. Another piece of advice is to judge domestic violence in public and explain more about the law against domestic violence.

The small number of respondents confirm the idea of building some special apartments to lodge people who are affected by domestic abuse this idea is related to previous readings of Nordic countries and Costa Rica where they built shelters for domestic violence victims. (*Wemrell et al., 2021*).

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5-1 INTRODUCTION

Since the government of Rwanda executed the women empowerment policy using the quota system in 2003, the number of women has increased in decision-making institutions and it has been a positive change, and women become competent in the political, economic, and social life of Rwandan society. Rwanda is in the top position in the world ranking to have a big percentage of women in parliament of 61.3 percent in 2022.

However, the implementation of the women empowerment policy has elevated the unpredicted challenge of the increase of domestic violence from 34 percent in 2005 to 56 percent in 2010, on the side of justice it has been an increase in divorce at the astonishing percentage of 1900 percent.

Within the first chapter of this book, we discussed some proof related to the increase in domestic abuse in the case of Rwanda according to different researchers and reports. In chapter 2 we discussed some key concepts related to domestic abuse and women's empowerment as well as important approaches to addressing domestic abuse in the household in general referring to other researchers. In chapter 3 we discussed the important methodology of data collection where group interviews and google questionnaires have been very significant to obtain necessary information. In chapter 4 we discussed findings from the respondent's views on why domestic violence increased after the women's empowerment policy, and the criteria of a target population to participate in this study, especially the target population chosen are those who know about domestic abuse, work with problem-solving in private & public sectors as well as elected leaders. The main objective of this research study was to know why domestic violence increased after the women's empowerment policy, and which strategy should be taken to overcome the matters.

5-2 CRITICAL REASONS BEHIND DOMESTIC ABUSE AFTER WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN THE CASE OF RWANDA

Finally, the critical reason behind the increase in domestic violence after women's empowerment was cultural lag, while the government was implementing a gender balance policy, the law was not able to change the mindset of men concerning the culture and values of Rwanda's traditional social system which values men rather than women. This reason was also the reason behind the misunderstanding of the gender balance policy for that reason domestic violence increased after women's emancipation as 80 percent of respondents confirmed. This was the real answer to the research question of understanding the relationship between women's empowerment and the increase in domestic abuse.

The other research question intended to know which approaches to address this question of domestic violence increase, and finally the real approaches The final answer to this question is that strong enforcement of the law at the same degree /equalizing punishment, intervention, and severe punishment for both males and females in case of domestic abuse as 69.6 percent of respondents suggested, however, the addition comment was to continue the campaign to explain well the aim of women empowerment policy and what gender balance is because it has been among the source of continuation of conflicts among men and women.

On the other hand, another multiple reason behind the increase in domestic abuse answer my second research question in the case of Rwanda, it has been a great awareness of women's rights that leads women to bargain their rights from their husbands, currently, women have the right to express their thoughts in the family and public sphere which makes it easy to report any domestic

abuse occurrences compared to the traditional society, where abuse against women was normal, we indicated this argument in previous literature.

We saw that in the case of domestic abuse there is a gap in intervention because if the woman is a victim of IPV the intervention is immediate /Very fast but if it happens on the male side the intervention is too slow and sometimes no intervention which leads to a male increase their resistance and felonious as the law can't protect them as their partners. The government needs to address this gap based on the principle of human rights regardless of sex, policymakers need to correct these behaviors, they have to consider women as they consider males.

Women's empowerment was a good policy in nature to ensure women's rights and achieve political inclusion however the policy was not able to sound good on the side of the males as well as women, and as a result of confrontation against the policy, the incidence of domestic abuse amplified.

Women have to balance workplace tasks as well as household responsibilities (care of children, cooking, washing,) these stressors of every day increase the additional duties to the women, and understandably, it can reduce the time she used to care for the husband, which should be the source of miscommunications as the results of domestic abuse.

5-3 RECOMMENDATION

Women's empowerment policy has been the best way to ensure women's rights and social inclusion, women contributed to the progress of Rwandan society and their role is very significant not only in the household but also in the public sphere. However, the perception of the gender balance policy was not well understood because of cultural lag, which was the root cause of the dramatic increase in domestic violence. As we said both women and men were not

certain what the gender balance policy means and how it works which leads to domestic violence to sustain patriarchal moralities.

5-3-1 To the government of Rwanda

The government of Rwanda needs to make concerned about the following matters to overcome this domestic abuse.

Policymakers need to address domestic violence by focusing on and analyzing the gap between law and law traditions, these arguments come from the findings where the targeted population, confirmed the gap between law and social norms, it is better to conduct a campaign on human rights rather than women's rights to decrease the tension and resistance on the men's side. In this argument, it is possible to say that **“women's rights are men's rights”**, and the best way to achieve this policy will come from mindset changes and severe implementation of law regardless of male or female.

The government is recommended to make clear what gender is and explain to both sexes when their rights started and end. As gender policy created several conjugal difficulties the policymakers should look at another perspective to reduce the severity of this question by judging domestic violence in public and severe punishment to whom it may concern because there is inequality in punishment as we have seen in findings from the target populations.

Elected leaders including Friends of the family (Inshuti z'Umuryango) don't have adequate access to the internet and better communications tools (smartphones) to provide a fresh report on domestic violence which can be a barrier to local leaders and security organs to get immediate information when domestic abuse happens. The Republic of Rwanda needs to provide adequate means of communication for Friends of families.

5-3-2 To the Policy Implementers

Policy implementors need to intervene to the same degree in case domestic violence happens regardless of male and female simply because respondents indicated that if men become perpetrators the intervention is very fast compared to women. Judging domestic violence in public to ensure the penal code against this crime against humanity, especially women as well as severe punishment according to the law can decelerate this issue. Speed intervention in case of domestic violence can be a provisional solution to domestic abuse.

5-4 Areas of Further Research

As domestic violence continues to be monotonous within Rwandan society, it seems that further research needs to be conducted until the final solution to this issue. Sometimes violence affects women in several numbers and a small number of men, future researchers need to find out clear policies to help victims of domestic violence as well as psychological counseling to help families in trouble.

The area of future research is to know how to overcome this increase based on the reasons aforesaid, based on theories indicated before, and how to apply these theories in the fields to solve domestic abuse. Future researchers also need to address the gap between law and traditions as the law was not able to overcome domestic violence the in Rwandan context.

Further research can also look at strategies that can be helpful to fill the gap between law and tradition to decrease domestic violence against women.

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APPENDIX 1

Composition of Questionnaire

The questionnaire comprises Six sections with a total of 25 structured closed and open questions to ensure the achievement of the study during data collection. The targeted population are those who have basic information about domestic abuse, meanwhile they can be in charge of gender

balance policy implementation at any level or private sector who deals with the social problem in terms of solving process or counseling. Targeted respondents were (Friends of families, local leaders, village leaders, layers, Health workers, women representatives, and private sectors in charge of family promotion ...). The questionnaire was structured as below:

-Section A: Bio-demographic and socio-Status profiles of the Respondents.

- Section B: Thematic questions on Awareness of IPV in Rwandan society

-Section C: Thematic questions on possible CAUSES of IPV in Rwanda

-SECTION D. Thematic questions on Institutional Framework to control domestic abuse in Rwanda.

-SECTION E. Implementation of law against violence after women's empowerment.

SECTION F: Thematic questions what can be done to overcome domestic violence after the women's empowerment Policy in the Rwandan context?

The respondents were able to choose whether to answer question or not beyond of that the information from the respondents was kept with confidentiality.

APPENDIX 2

Questionnaires

Graduate School of International Studies,

Seoul National University,

South Korea.

Questionnaire on “Examining the empowerment of Women and the Increase in Domestic Violence in Rwanda”.

Dear Respondents,

I am a graduate student at Seoul National University majoring in International Cooperation. I am researching the relationship between women's empowerment and the increase in domestic violence in RWANDA.

I would like to need 3-5 minutes of your time to answer this survey.

by Proceeding

- a) You agree to participate in this survey.
- b) You understand that your answers will only be available to the researcher and will be treated with confidentiality and anonymity.
- C) You understand the idea from you will be used only for this research.
- d) You were informed that the information you provide will be kept by the researchers for 1 Month and will be deteriorated thereafter.
- e) You can withdraw anytime from answering this survey.

Feel free to contact the researcher through the correspondence below:

Correspondence: Justin HABARUGIRA

Contact: +82-010-2799-6616

Manager: Seoul National University

Email:

justin@snu.ac.kr

Your Valuable time is highly appreciated.

Kind regard,

Justin HABARUGIRA

Section A: Bio-demographic and socio-Status profiles of the Respondents

Gender

Male ()

Female ()

Marital status

Single ()

Married ()

Divorce ()

Widow ()

How old are you (Age bracket)

Below 20 ()

20-29 ()

30-39 ()

40-49 ()

50-59 ()

60-69 ()

Above 70 ()

Indicate if any of the following descriptions are common in the area of your residence.

Residence Description	Y es	N o
The area of my residence is a community that is sparsely populated by both men and women in our region.		
We virtually have a homogenous language, culture, and customs in my area of residence.		
Currently, I know a family with domestic abuse		
We usually have a slower means of communicating domestic abuse in my area of residence		

<p>In case of domestic violence, we have a health center to help the victim, and Lower costs of living, wages, and poverty are common in my areas of residence which may lead to domestic violence after the empowerment of women.</p>		
--	--	--

What is your residential region?

Rural ()

City ()

What is your highest level of Education/Qualification(s)

Informal education

Vocational education

Diploma ()

Bachelor's degree ()

Postgraduate ()

OR

What is your highest level of Education (please indicate)_____

Which category of workers do you belong to?

lawyer ()

Local leaders ()

Elected leader ()

Religion leaders ()

Social Welfare Officers

Family promotion officer

Counselor

Women leaders

Others (please specify) _____

What type of organization are you working for?

The United Nations (UN)

International Non-governmental organization

National Non-governmental organization

Public Servant

Faith-based organization

Community-based organization

Private sector

Others (Please specify) _____

How long have you been working (Work Experience)

Less than 5 years

5-10years

11-20years

21-30years

Over 30 Years

Which of the following sector(s) did/are you working/working for?

Coordination

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Social Protection unit ()
- Human Resources ()
- Private sector ()
- Health and Community Services ()
- Education ()
- Information and communication technology ()
- Others (please specify) _____

Section B: Thematic questions on Awareness of IPV in Rwandan society

Has any victim of any form of domestic abuse ever reported to you within the last 12 months?

Yes ()

No ()

I can't remember ()

If yes, what is the range of monthly estimates of such reported cases?

Below 5 ()

6-10 ()

11-15 ()

16-20 ()

Above 20 ()

Who are the most often reported perpetrators of IPV?

Current partner (s) or spouse (s) of the victim(s) ()

Former partner (s) or spouse (s) of the victim(s) ()

Mostly women are reporting violence ()

Mostly men are reporting violence ()

I don't know/want to say

Section C: Thematic questions on possible CAUSES of IPV in Rwanda

Note: SA = Strongly agree; A: Agree; D: Disagree; SD: Strongly disagree; U: Undecided

S/ N	Women's empowerment and domestic violence in Rwanda	S	A	D	SD	U
14	Regardless of the law against violence against women domestic violence, it is too obvious that Domestic violence still happens. The law was not very effective in reducing domestic violence in Rwandan society.					
15	Domestic violence happens because most men disagree with Rwanda's women's empowerment Policy.					
16	The enforcement of the law is difficult because of the large gap between the law and tradition.					
17	Women consider empowerment as their opportunity to guide the decisions of their					

	husbands which leads to domestic abuse in Rwandan society.					
18	There was significant progress in the empowerment of women because of the law.					
19	The concept of gender confuses women because women want to behave as a man which may lead to domestic violence.					
20	After empowering women, men's consideration in society was reduced and women became superior to their husbands which differs from past social values and customs in traditional Rwanda society. this leads to domestic abuse.					
21	Both men and women misunderstood the concept of gender balance after women's empowerment, leading to domestic abuse in the current society of Rwanda.					
22	As women have been empowered, men cannot decide anymore in the household compared to many years ago, which is the source of Domestic abuse in Rwanda.					

23. SECTION D. Thematic questions on Institutional Framework to control domestic abuse in Rwanda.

Do you think the increase in the number of women in decision-making institutions reduced domestic abuse, especially for women in Rwandan society? why?

.....
.....

The law against violence, in general, was established in Rwanda. if there is violence that happens in the family, do you think the law can punish both females and males at the same level? If not, why?

.....
.....

C) Do you think the increase of women in decision-making institutions leads to voting laws that favor women only, which can bring conflicts between Partners? If yes why?

.....

D) Do you think cultural beliefs can be a barrier to gender balance between males and females which may cause the persistence of Domestic violence?

24. SECTION E. IMPLEMENTATION OF LAW AGAINST VIOLENCE AFTER WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

c) Considers Domestic violence happens in X family after the women's empowerment Policy. choose one answer on how you think intervention can be done to help the victim.

- a) If domestic abuse is committed by males in the household Police can intervene immediately to care for women victims.
- b) If domestic abuse is committed by female Police can not intervene or can intervene too late
- c) Police and other leaders can intervene immediately in case of domestic violence regardless of gender, female or male.

Section F: Thematic questions what can be done to overcome domestic violence after the women's empowerment Policy in the Rwandan context?

25. Choose only (1) answer you think can be the best answer and provide one (1) additional opinion.

- a) Continuing to sensibelize the importance of gender equality
- b) Strong enforcement of the law and severe punishment for both males and females who commit domestic violence can be the solution to domestic abuse in Rwanda.
- c) Continuous women empowerment
- d) Let men continue to dominate as it was in traditional society can reduce domestic abuse in Rwanda

e) Constructing special shelters for victims of domestic violence in every sector can be the best way to overcome IPV in Rwandan society.

f) Another opinion.....

ABSTRACT IN KOREAN

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2003년 르완다 정부는 삶의 모든 분야에서 여성의 역량강화를 목표로 하는 성균형 정책을 시행하였다. 이 기간 동안 여성의 48.8%가 의회 의석을 부여 받았고 이로서 르완다는 세계에서 국가 입법부 내 여성의 비율이 가장 높은 국가로 선정되었다. 이는 불과 10년전

17.1%였던 여성 의석 비율과 매우 비교되는 수치이다. 이러한 변화는 르완다 공화국의 현 대통령인 폴 카가메가 이끄는 훌륭한 리더십의 결과였다. 2008년 9월 총선을 통해 르완다의 여성 사법 대표성의 최고 성적이 다시 한번 재확인되었다. 그 선거에서 여성은 같은 해(2008년)에 의회에서 56%의 의석을 얻었다. 르완다는 여성이 모든 기관에서 배제되고 희롱 당하고 가족 내에서 주요 역할이 주로 가사 활동(육아, 청소, 노인 돌보기, 요리)에 한정돼 있기 때문에 여성에 대한 폭력에 맞서 싸우는 것을 목표로 하는 법안에 투표했습니다. 르완다 사회는 오랜 기간 남성이 대부분의 결정권을 갖고 여학생이 어머니의 가사 일을 돕느라 학교에 가지 못하는 등 가부장적인 사회가 지속되어왔다. 그러나 2008년 의회와 다양한 기관에서의 여성 대표성 증가, GBV법(성차별) 투표, 2003년 성균형정책의 도입은 여성에 대한 가정 폭력의 극적인 증가라는 예기치 못한 결과를 야기했다. 그 수치는 36%에서 2005년 56%로 증가했다. 법원 내 이혼 건수는 1900%라는 놀라운 비율로 증가했다. 이러한 문제들은 사회규범과 비교되는 여성의 지위 변화와 연관되어 있을 가능성이 있다. 구체적으로는, 해당 변화에 대하여 남성이 받아들이지 않았을 가능성이 있고, 여성이 성균형 개념에 대하여 제대로 인지하지 못하고 남편에 대한 보복의 기회로 여겨서 일 수도 있다.

본 연구는 가정폭력의 증가가 여성역량강화(성균형) 정책 시행과 어떤 관련이 있는지 살펴보는 것을 목적으로 한다. 르완다 사회에서 GBV금지법이 제정되었음에도 불구하고 가정 폭력이 증가한 이유를 조사한다. 르완다 사회에서 지속되는 가정 폭력 문제를 해결하기 위한 몇 가지 접근 방식을 제안한다. 이러한 맥락에서 친밀한 파트너로부터 가정 폭력은 상대에 대한 통제력을 획득하거나 유지하기 위해 모든 관계에서 사용되는 행동 스타일로 묘사된다. 학대는 신체적, 성적, 정신적, 재정적 어느 방식으로든 다른 사람에게 영향을 미치는 부정적인 행동이나 위협이다. 누군가를 겁주거나, 위협하거나, 조종하거나, 해를 끼치고, 굴욕감을 주는 등의 행위는 모두 이 카테고리에 포함된다. 여성의 역량강화가 가정내 폭력의 증가로 이어진다는 가설을 검증하기 위해 르완다 전역의 가능한 대상에게 온라인 설문조사와 대면 그룹 인터뷰를 진행할 것이다. 응답자를 2가지 조건(젠더 정책 시행자와 지역주민)으로 무작위 배정하여 설문에 응답하도록 하고, 그 결과는 여성 역량 강화 정책 이후 가정폭력 비율의 증가 원인을 분석하기 위해 사용될 것이다.

키워드: 가정 폭력; 여성의 권한 부여; 가정 폭력 이론; 르완다의 전통 사회와 현대 사회에서 여성의 역할, 가정 폭력의 유형, 성 균형 정책.

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