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The Economic Impacts of Violence against Women on Women's Participation Towards Industrialized Economy in Tanzania

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Abstract

Violence against women and girls is one of the most pervasive human rights violations occurring in the world. It happens in every country, not only in situations of conflicts or crisis, but context,

others call them peacefully and in both public and private spaces. It destroys the potentials of girls and women in developing countries and prevents them from pulling themselves out of poverty.

Addressing violence against women and girls is a central development goal in its own right, and key to achieving other development outcomes for individual women, their families, communities and nations. This article intends to investigate the impacts of violence against women on women's participation towards an industrialized economy in Tanzania. Data were collected in Tarime Tanzania using questionnaire of a sample size of 143 drawn from women using simple random sampling.

Findings using correlation indicate that violence against women has a negative influence on women's participation on industrialized economy in Tanzania. It indicated that, violence against women lowers women's productivity which consequently lowers national GDP. Violence also deprives access of girls to formal education hence makes them to lack skills, competences and innovative ideals to participate towards an industrialized economy due to early marriages and parenthood. The impacts extend far beyond these victims, as it threatens the stability, security, and social welfare of families and their status in the community. In addition, violence against women undermines the human rights of a woman and her family and affects the exercise of her civil rights. This study recommends that, a policy and an intervention program have to be designed to reduce violence against women. So much so that women who compose more than 50% of the population of Tanzania can be able to participate towards an industrialized economy.

Key Words: Economic Impact, Violence, Women's Participation, Industrialize Economy

1.0 Introduction

Violence against women has been recognized as an important social and human rights issue that affects women of all cultures and societies to participate towards on industrialized economy (Lenze and Klasen, 2017). This has been indicated in Rashada and Sharaf (2016) that, more than one out of every three women worldwide has experienced either physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime and that this violence against women is present in both highly developed and less developed countries. These statistics indicate that, violence against women is impacting majority of women all over the world. Similarly, Hossain (2016) advocate that, women violence is significantly lowering the quality of life in terms of social relationships, economic participation and psychological health. They also argue that, violence against women has significant economic costs in terms of lost income for women and their

families, decreased productivity, and negative impact on future human capital formation.

In addition to that, Kumar (2012) advocates that, domestic violence is a worldwide problem and can affect any women at any point. He further adds that, it can take place in any form like physical abuse, psychological bullying, harassment, abandonment, teasing, financial exploitation and emotional abuse. Hence, women violence is tabled as among the barriers towards women participation in industrialization economy.

In recognition of the fact that violence affects women's economic well-being, the government of the United Republic of Tanzania has taken various measures to eradicate this situation so much so that gender equality and gender equity is realized. For example, the constitution which is the supreme legal document of the country recognizes equality among all people and that all people are born free, therefore, no one has a right to own another person as a property. In additional to that, the Law of Marriage Act, provide and declare that no person has any right to inflict corporal punishment on his or her spouse (Magoti, 2016).

Yet, violence against women exists and is evidenced in a number of literatures. For example, Rashada and Sharaf (2016) found and concluded that females of all ages suffer from violence and are victims of violence because of their sex and their unequal status in society. Given this situation, this study intended to analyze the "Economic Impacts of Violence against Women on Women's Participation towards an Industrialized Economy in Tanzania".

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Conceptualization of Terms

2.1.1 Women Violence

In this study, violence against women was termed as any act of brutality which affects and harms a woman; psychologically, physically, sexually, economically as well as cause emotional suffering to women (Scriver, Duvvury, Ashe, Raghavendra and O'Donovan, 2015).

2.1.2 Industrializations

Industrializations are engines of economic growth and development which creates job opportunities at higher skill levels, facilitates denser links across the services and agricultural sectors, between rural and urban economies and between consumer, intermediate and capital goods industries (Felix, 2006).

2.2 Theoretical Literature Review

Lewin's Force-Field Theory

Lewin's Force-Field Theory state that, there are two forces affecting behavioral change in a social situation at the same time (Lewin, 1943). He adds that, these two forces provide a framework for looking at the factors that influence a situation and factors restraining to behavioral change toward social situation. In the context of the current study, the field force theory helped to provide the economic factors pushing women out of participating in industrialization due to violence against women. In this study, analysis of the field force theory helped to provide the economic factors pushing women out of participating in industrialization due to violence against women.

2.3 Empirical Literature Review

Ayodapo (2013) conducted a study on socio-cultural factors influencing gender-based violence on agricultural livelihood activities of rural households in Ogun State, Nigeria. Findings using correlation coefficient analysis shows that there was a negative correlation between the effect of domestic violence and women participation in agricultural activities. On the other hand, Heflin, et al. (2005) in their study of food insufficiency and women's mental health, found that, household food insufficiency is a potential serious consequence for low-income women's mental health resulted from violence. Similarly, Kavita (2014) in his study of long-term physical and mental health effects of domestic violence indicated that,

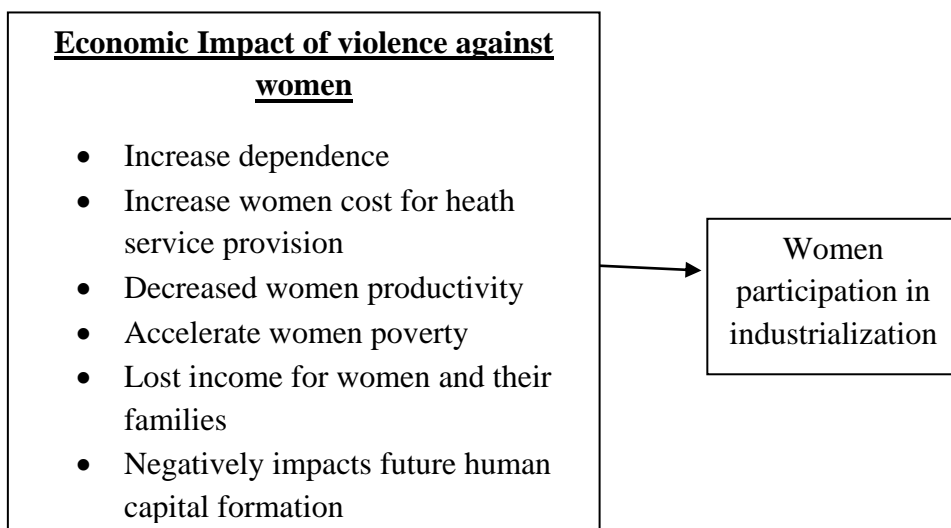
violence has a long-term impact on women's health, well-being and women participation in productivity.

These findings posit hypothesis which state that: There is a positive significant relationship between Economic impacts of violence against women and women's participation towards industrialization.

2.4 Conceptual Framework

Base on the literature review, Increase dependence, Increase women cost for heath service provision, decreased women productivity, accelerate women poverty, lost income for women and Negatively impacts future human capital are conceptualized as Economic Impact of violence against women participation in industrialization.

Figure 2.1 Conceptual Model



Source: Researcher Construct (2018)

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Research approach

The research used qualitative and quantitative research approaches. A qualitative approach attempts to lay the groundwork that leads to future studies or to determine if what is being observed might be explained by a currently existing theory (Greener,2008). In this research, qualitative approach was used to provide in-depth information of real life situation of women violence. This helped to capture contextual issues and better understanding of the current impact of violence against women in Tanzania. More details of the existing situation were profiled and presented in descriptive manner. On the other hand, quantitative approach was also used to test the nature of relationship between economic impact of women violence and women participation in industrialized economy. Thus, the study used a pragmatic philosophical stance and used mixed research design focusing on the qualitative and quantitative approach.

3.2 Study Area

The study was conducted in Mara region of Tanzania specifically in Tarime. The area was selected because of higher statistics of occurrence of women abuse and violence and many governmental and private sector initiatives have been directed to reduce violence against women. Therefore, collecting data from this area helped to provide adequate information to solve the problem.

3.3 Study Population

The study targeted to 630 women more particularly those who have been facing abuse and violence. This population was selected because these women's are the ones who are suffering and impact the economy through violence. On the other hand, the targeted population has experienced gender inequalities at family level and at community level, hence they served as information sources in the current research.

3.4 Sampling Procedure

A simple random sampling was used to pick respondents for quantitative research and this enabled each respondent to have an equal chance of being selected. On the other hand, purposely sampling was used to select key informative respondents among women who suffered from violence. Hence this approach served the purpose of this study in sampling.

3.5 Data Collection Techniques

During data collection, interview, questionnaire and documentary review method was used as data collection techniques in this study.

Interview

Interview was used in qualitative research. The use of interview is considered important in this study at the preliminary stage as it is flexible to accommodate additional information and allow the researcher to capture more contextual variables which provide in-depth insight of the natural setting under study. As it is evidenced in the literature, that interview can generally be used to gather information of greater depth and can be more sensitive to contextual variations in meaning. In this research, interview was conducted at the beginning of the study to better analyze the current practices of women violence and explain the existing model in the context.

Structured Questionnaire

On the other hand, a structured questionnaire was used in this study to collect quantitative data for hypothesis testing and model validation. As argued in literature, that structured questionnaire is mostly used to capture measurable data suitable for statistical testing of the hypothesis of the study. Within this context, a questionnaire was suitable in quantitative research situations of this study as it offers a standardized system of question to collect measurable and factual data to classify a women violence and their circumstances in statistical characterization.

Documentary Review

Documentation was used to increase the level of in-depth insight by capturing data that will be used to provide evidences of what was been collected from the interview. Further, documentation was used in providing data interpretation, support and give evidence of field data. As it is evidenced that, social scientists use documentary research methods to supplement and confirm on the information collected through social surveys and in-depth interviews. In this study, the documentary review served the same purpose.

3.6 Data Analysis Technique

In quantitative approach, Correlation analysis is a method of statistical evaluation used to study the strength of a relationship between two, numerically measured, continuous variables. In this study, correlation analysis was used as a bivariate analysis that measures the strength of association between two variables and the direction of the relationship.

In this study, thematic analysis was used to provide description of the variables (theme) during discussion. This means that thematic analysis helped to search for themes that emerge as being important to the description of the phenomenon and use verbal responses for theme clarification and elaboration.

4.0 Findings

Table 4.1 presents the results of the study based on the indicator variables on economic impact of violence of women against their participation toward industrialized economy.

Table 4.1 Descriptive Statistics

Economic impact of violence	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Decrease women productivity	383	1	5	4.12
Increase dependence	383	1	5	4.08
Accelerate women poverty	383	1	5	4.04
Increase cost for health service provision	383	1	5	3.93
Negatively impacts future human capital	383	1	5	3.90
Lost income for women and their families	383	1	5	3.89
Valid N (listwise)	383			

Table 4.1 above, the findings indicated that decrease women productivity, Increase dependence, accelerate women poverty, increase cost for health service provision, negatively impacts future human capital and Lost income for women and their families in their order have significant economic impact of violence of women against their participation towards industrialized economy. This mean that decrease women productivity yields a high mean value of 4.12 compared to lost income for women which yield a mean value of 3.89. The greater the mean the high the impact or the more the mean value close to five the more the impact. These findings have in line with findings from interview. For example, one of the respondent said that “my husband does not want me to do any business. He only wants me to stay at home”. This was also explained by another respondent who said that “my husband bitted me hardly because he wanted me to give him money which I collected from the business. It took me a number of days to recover my health situation”. This finding collaborated with those of Saito, et al. (2013) who found and concluded that violence against women results to women

poor health status which isolate women from participating in industrialization activities in Thailand. The finding also collaborates with, Kavita (2014) who found that women suffer from more long-term health problems caused by domestic violence which tend to hinder their participation in social economic activities due to poor health. Similarly, these findings concur with, Rashada and Sharaf (2016) who found that, violence against women is consistently linked to poor health and adverse social outcomes which is determined as a strongly evidence to why women are not participating in industrialized economic in India.

They add that, education level, husband's employment status, living in rural areas and type of religion influence the likelihood of experiencing violence that reduce the income ability of women to participate in industrialization. The above findings have aligned with the argument made by Hossain (2016) that, the effect of violence on physical and mental integrity of women is to deprive them of an equal enjoyment and knowledge of human right and fundamental freedom. He further adds that, the traditional attitudes by which women are regarded as subordinate to men involving violence, such as family violence and abuse, forced marriage, dowry death, acid attack and female circumcision.

On the other hand, Kandusi and Waiganjo (2015) found that, men do not want women to compete in leadership and women ideas are not accepted by most men. They concluded that Maasai women' participation in decision making is limited by social cultural factors like social identity, social acceptance, social roles and limiting cultural practices.

Robert, et al (1998) indicated that, doubly abused women had significantly greater risk of current harmful alcohol consumption and lifetime drug dependence than women who reported adult abuse only. On the other hand, Delara (2016), further attempts to establish the psychological impact of physical violence on female victims needs to

take into account the whole spectrum of physical symptoms and the organism functioning from physiologic to cognitive and mental alterations which affect women capital formation. The argument is that the mental consequences reported in literature review, may be due to so much physical violence but also due to accompanying psychological aggression. Given to that situation, psychologically abused women may not necessarily experience physical violence but this may affect their activeness in the industrialized economy.

5.0 Conclusion

Based on the study findings and discussion, it was concluded that, violence against women has a low impact on women participation toward industrialized economy. It is further concluded that violence against women tends to decrease women productivity, increase dependence, accelerate women poverty, increase cost for health service provision, negatively impacts future human capital and lost income for women and their families. In addition, violence against women undermines the human rights of a woman and her family and affects the exercise of her civil rights.

6.0 Recommendation

- Policies that reduce income inequality would help in reducing the level of violence against women.
- There is still there is a need to implement women empowerment stringently and violators should be punished strictly.
- Women with histories of abuse may continue to need support and mental health intervention to deal with the longer term effects that could help to rehabilitate their economic focus and improve their health situation toward economic participation.
- It is recommended that civic education and appropriate programs should be designed and implemented to raise the level of

knowledge and understanding of women rights and potentials in leadership and decision making.

- Continuous and effective sensitization of men and women on changing of their mindsets to accept the ability of women and their leadership potentials is paramount in influencing men's decision making to accept women in leadership and decision making organs.
- Improve spousal relationship to reduce domestic violence and this will facilitate smooth women participation in industrialization.
- To promote human rights and prevent domestic violence, the conscious people must undertake effective steps to ensure gender equality. Government as well as citizens must be more conscious and sensitive to provide access to immediate means of redress to the victims of violence.
- For a democratic country like Tanzania, the government ought to maintain the policy of zero tolerance in bringing the perpetrators of domestic violence to justice. In fact, to make a good nation in industrialization, violence against women should be not only lessened but also stopped.

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