

**THE CULTURE OF SHAME AND THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD: FEMALE –
PERPETRATED GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN AND HELP-
SEEKING BEHAVIOUR**

By

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge, the work presented in this study, for the Degree of Masters of Arts in Human Rights, Governance and Development has not been presented either wholly or in part for any other Degree of Masters and is not currently submitted for any other degree.

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate, this research to Almighty God through His Grace, Love and my dear parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kasungu for laying the foundation for my education and their full support and encouragement throughout my study I will always be very grateful for this gift.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to explore factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence. The study used a quantitative approach, which emphasized objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through questionnaires. Specifically, the study sought to; identify the socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence; identify factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men and to; explore the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. From 100 circulated questionnaires to men residing in Mtendere Township, 44 valid responses were received representing a 44% total response rate. Three officials from the Gender Division under the office of the Vice President and a Police Officer from Mtendere Police station under Victim Support Unit were also engaged in the study. It was revealed that violence against men is not uncommon, but many tend to dismiss, ignore and treat it with selective inattention. Male abuse remains hidden while female abuse is paraded before the public, as crisis lines and victim shelters are being established. It was revealed that numerous factors led to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence. The study established that men did not want to be viewed as weak by the community and their spouses. However, it was a taboo and a big shame in some cultures for a man to be beaten by a woman. Fear of embarrassment was another socio-cultural barrier to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. It was also reviewed that society looks at men as stringer beings hence men who experienced female perpetrated gender-based violence barely reported to the police. Lastly, it was established that the justice system is not well equipped to deal with GBV cases against men. Consequently, government should improve the quality and access to legal services for GBV survivors Efforts to reduce GBV should be based on the evaluation of all laws put in place and involve women to participate in decision making to ensure compliance to these laws and policies to ensure family welfare and development. In addition, churches and local organizations must work to identify victims of GBV in their community and ensure that they do not end up adopting negative coping up strategies like drug and alcohol abuse. There is need to ensure that advocates of gender-based violence should not be very bias when talking about issues to do with domestic violence. They should be encouraging both men and women to stop engaging themselves in domestic violence.

Key words: Female-Perpetrated Gender-Based Violence, Help-Seeking Behavior

ABBREVIATIONS

CCV	Common couple violence
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
GBV	Gender based violence
GNP	Gender national policy
LCMS	Living conditions monitoring survey
VSU	Victim Support Unit
ZDHS	Zambia Demographic and Health Survey

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CHAPTER ONE – INTRODUCTION

1.0. Introduction

This chapter presents the background of the study, the statement of the problem, the research objectives, the research questions and the scope of the study, the significance of the study, the research methodology, the conceptual framework, and the organization of the study.

1.1 Background of the study

According to Shamita (2019), gender-based Violence against men comprises of violent acts that are committed against men exclusively and disproportionately. Men are depicted as perpetrators and victims of violence altogether. Sexual violence against men is perceived variably in any given society from that perpetrated against women, which makes it to international law unrecognizable (Veronique, 2016).

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2017), Gender-based violence is a reality that is global and is present in many communities irrespective of culture and class or income among others. It is a two-sided issue both in the violation of human rights and public health aspect. Studies of social attitudes show violence is perceived as more or less serious depending on the gender of victim and perpetrator. Solange and Moutaan (2013) argue that, in contrast to sexual violence against women and children favourably, sexual violence against men has been disregarded. A reason for this variation in focus is that men hold more physical strength than women which makes violence against men prone to be condemned due to this gender setup.

Richardson (2012) argues for the hypothesis that violence against women differs from violence against men. Most violence is motivated to achieve power or vengeance and to endorse or guard self-image regardless of gender. Young (2019) disapproved the feminist movement for failure to do enough to test dual standards in the male victims' treatment of physical abuse and sexual assault. John Hamel (2014) arranged the Domestic Violence Research Group to generate the Partner Abuse State of Knowledge Project (PASK). PASK found equality in rates of both execution and harassment for women and men. Victimized men who suffered domestic violence are usually unwilling to report the incident or find help.

Friedersdorf and Conor (2016) claims, as per other practices of violence against men, the generally less renowned in society is intimate partner violence where the victims are men and perpetrators are women. Women violence against men in relationships is frequently 'trivialized'

due to the physique of women that is supposedly weaker: in such cases, the use of dangerous objects and weapons is eliminated.

Office for Nations Statistics in the United Kingdom reported giving examples that, the official figure in the United Kingdom is about 50% of the number of violence acts by men against women. However, there are hints that only about 10% of male victims of female violence report the occurrences to the authorities, largely because of taboos and fears of misapprehension fashioned by a culture of masculine prospects (Office for Nations Statistics, 2017). Comparison entails that 1.9 million people aged 16-59 expressed to the England and Wales Crime Survey (ending of March 2017), that there existed victims of domestic violence and 79% absconded from reporting their partner or ex-partner 1.2 million of the 1.9 million were female and 713,000 were male.

A Canadian report, (2017) discovered that men were 22% more likely to tell about being spousal violence victims in their existing relationship than women. A 2010 study, established that nearly one-quarter (23.6 per cent) of men in particular conflict-affected territories of Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) had suffered sexual violence in an estimation of 760,000 men.

The Uganda's Refugee Law Project established that, more than one-third (38.5 percent) of 447 adult male refugees had experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, together with 13.4 percent in the earlier year. A study of Sudanese refugees in Uganda exposed that 30.4 percent of men had witnessed or experienced the sexual abuse of a man; among non-refugee Sudanese men. Residing a conflict-affected state in Sudan, almost half (46.9 percent) had witnessed or experienced sexual abuse of a man. Men (as well as women) are predominantly vulnerable in confinement canters, where 50 to 80 percent of male-torture survivors reported sexual violence. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) data analysis disclosed that, among 118,000 survivors of sexual violence attended to across 61 countries between 2004 and 2013, roughly 5 percent were male; they note, nonetheless, that reporting is possibly low because men and boys experience multiple barriers to seeking care. (Chynoweth, 2017).

In Zambia, gender-based violence against men is still a complex issue where men have behaviours of hiding various acts of gender-based violence against them by women due to cultural reasons. Mbabazi (2016) shows that GBV against men in Rwanda is rooted in our cultural or religious philosophies, and numerous social circumstances creating unfit power relations and gender norms, which men use to keep silent about gender-based violence against

them. It is noted that only women and few men come in contact with some one stop-canthers, where victims are given psychological medical support, and offered legal aid, since men survivors hesitate to speak out and share their experiences.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Gender based violence has been acknowledged as a problem worldwide. Despite GBV affecting both male and female, much of the research on GBV portrays men as perpetrators and women as victims. However, research has shown that both men and women are violent and recently, women have been making headlines about abusing men, according to Banda (2016). A total number of 20,540 cases of gender based violence cases were reported countrywide in 2021, 12,186 women and only 3,053 men. This shows that there has been a low turnout of men reporting cases of GBV. This is something that has been overlooked as many studies have continually focused on strategies aimed at fighting against GBV in women but there is less or no strategies and studies that have been done to establish why less men report cases of GBV despite witnessing instances of GBV against men, some of which have led to fatalities like the Mtendere case. Consequently, this study sought to bridge this gap by conducting a comprehensive study that looked at factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence.

1.3 General objective of the study

The general objective of the study was to explore factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence.

1.4 Specific Objectives

1. To identify the socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence
2. To identify factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men
3. To explore the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

1.5 Research Questions

1. What are the socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence?

2. What are the factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men?
3. What are the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men?

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study would inform health care providers and policy makers alike, in this area of the need for sensitivity to recognize GBV among men and offer support services. Remedial measures on how to combat GBV against men will eventually allow for the early detection and prevention of GBV among men. Besides, the findings will provide insight for policy makers on how they handle female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men.

1.7 Scope of the study

The scope of the study was limited to exploring factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence in Mtendere Compound. In addition, the sample was confined to men in the Mtendere Compound, as this will allow the researcher to do an in-depth study.

1.8 Chapter Summary

This chapter has presented the general introduction to the research. The chapter has also discussed the research background, research problem, justification for the study, research aim and objectives as well as research objectives. The next chapter will present related studies that have been done before as well as their findings.

CHAPTER TWO – LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses the theoretical and conceptual frameworks of this study. Also, the chapter looks at various similar studies that have been before on the subject at hand. The chapter attempts to present the literature review by introducing the key concepts and terminologies that are relevant to this study, applicable theories as well as the conceptual framework. The chapter discusses the concept of GBV, Socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence, the perception of gender-based violence by men, possible causes of gender-based violence against men, Theories of gender-based violence against men, conceptual framework as well as a personal critique of literature.

2.1 The concept of gender-based violence

Different authors understand or define the concept of gender-based violence differently. A study conducted in India by Hoogensen and Rottem (2011) defines GBV as a state when a human's wellbeing or sense of self or safety is likely compromised. Such violence includes any behaviour that may cause physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to victims, which includes coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Gender-based violence is often used interchangeably with the term 'violence against men and women' and must be understood in the context of structural inequalities between men and women (Bakker, 2008).

Men and boys can also experience gender-based violence. In these cases, the violence occurs in the context of 'gendered' abuse. Examples include: men being 'feminised' through rape, forced to commit rape and/or incest or made to watch the abuse of their partners and children (Australian Red Cross, 2013). Gender-Based Violence is described further by Coomarswamy and Rajasingham (2010) as behaviour where women use violence to control men and men use violence to control women, a control to which they feel they are entitled and that is supported by their culture and likely to cause physical and mental health problems, which include chronic pain, physical disability, drug and alcohol abuse, depression and lower their self-esteem. Consensus is that GBV affects both men and women, although many men may feel uncomfortable discussing it, which at times seem to reflect on men in general, portraying all of them as aggressive, violent, irresponsible, wife beaters or sexual predators (Muwanigwa, 2017).

According to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (2016) study on the paradoxical approach against men's violence in Finland, violence is used as a coercive measure. This is not necessarily confined to physical violence, but may be extended to the creation of an atmosphere of terror, a situation of threat and reprisal. Violence lies in the power of dynamics of social situations, and it is more precisely the abuse of power (Mulama, 2004). Domestic, sexual and gender-based violence are global health, human rights and developmental problems. These problems have profound, immediate and long-term consequences involving physical, psychological and social effects (McGoldrick & Gerson, 2010; LeBeau et al., 2010).

Furthermore, Stemple (2009) contends that men are also frequent victims of violence, particularly young men, who end up committing suicide especially those between the ages of 15-30 years. Stemple (2009) further adds that sexual violence against men is treated differently in any given society from that committed against women and may be unrecognized by international law.

Female domestic violence against men has always been the most controversial subject in the field of domestic violence (Hindin, 2008). Literature shows that domestic violence against women is a norm, while violence against men is not only regarded as an exception but almost non-existent. This kind of conceptualization of domestic violence has historical underpinnings. From medieval times, within patriarchal societies, it has been considered a "great taboo" for a man to be a victim of violence initiated by a woman.

Mulama (2004) argues that this was due to the coalescence of two forbidden beliefs in society: firstly, that a man can be beaten by a woman, secondly, the uncomfortable reality that women can be aggressive and violent, which contravenes stereotypical notions of femininity and is an attribution that neither men nor women wish to acknowledge. It is for this reason that, historically in France and England, society ridiculed, and humiliated husbands thought to be battered and/or dominated by their wives (Hindin et al. 2008).

Such treatments of husbands have been attributed to their perceived inability to live up to the male-oriented patriarchal ethos in society, which persisted well into the twentieth century (Shirwadkar, 2009). Bott et al. (2008), stated that the maintenance of a gendered patriarchal framework in society is premised on the unequal distribution of power and resources between people, particularly men and women. In terms of partner abuse, such power inequalities are seen to be maintained in and through gender stereotypes of the man as aggressive and dominant

and the woman as passive and submissive (Sangari, 2008). This viewpoint is complemented by Bakker (2008) when he argued that the history of domestic violence is linked to the patriarchal ideas of men always being the perpetrators, as in earlier periods when women had fewer rights than men and were subordinate to them in the home. Such stereotypes have not been helped by the surge of feminist scholarships in the early 1970s and this is because gendered structures in society were seen as the bedrock of female oppression and were thus the support of feminist research (Ponto, 2015).

2.2 Socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of Gender-Based

Information on socio demographic characteristics is important to the study. An understanding of the participants' age, marital status, education, and religion provided important aspects of the understanding of gender-based violence in general.

2.2.1 Age

In Bangladesh, there is evidence of men who have abandoned their families because their women became verbal and physical abusers (Bakker and Arnold, 2014). Some of these men drown their frustrations in bars, while others take hard drugs (African Development Bank, 2015). According to Bott et al. (2008), spousal age difference, which refers to the difference between the ages of wife and husband is a factor in female-perpetrated gender-based violence. Asher, Schears, & Miller (2011) state that the tradition of female dominance in marriage is still prevalent in Africa, where unemployed men marry women that are older than they are. However, this could be one of the ways of creating an opportunity for women to exercise power as the family head. This age gap in marriage poses several problems such as differences in maturity, differences in opinions and the partners' sexual lives may be affected at a later stage. It is always possible that a couple may influence each other to adopt new interests, but an age gap in the relationship can compromise this (Oladejo et al., 2011).

Moreover, male victims from the ages of 25–74 years are married and in some relationships, men become involved in relationships with older women because there are benefits associated with such relationships even if the woman is far much older than them (Dustin, 2009). This age discrepancy may lead to a man enduring an abusive relationship and possibly suffering gender-based violence at the hands of their older female partners.

2.2.2 Education

However, in another study conducted in Iran, results showed that domestic violence rises with the level of education (Ghazizadeh, 2008). The study also found that a man's risk of being

beaten, kicked, or hit rose along with his low levels of education and in effect, this correlation points to the imperative need for attitudinal change among women in society in general. Family violence researchers suggest that socio-demographic indicators of structural inequality influence propensities for domestic assaults (Pendleton, & Tapscott, 2010).

In addition, LeBeau et al. (2010) in Nigeria argues that domestic violence is rooted in gender and power imbalances. Findings in this regard indicate that incompatibilities in income and educational status are differentially associated with domestic violence as perpetrated by women and men.

Studies done in Zambia on the relationship between partners show that education may impact positively or negatively on the rate of abuse among intimate partners whereby almost half of the victims had secondary education but only 9% had been educated at a higher level (Zambia Demographic and Health Survey, 2013).

2.2.3 Religious beliefs

Religion is a personal and institutional reality in the lives of individuals and may lead to abuse in different ways (Oladepo et al., 2011). In addition, a perspective associated with Catholicism and some Evangelical groups, is that marriage is indissoluble-justified by Luke 16: 18: “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries a divorced woman commits adultery” (Holy Bible, 2002). Many charismatic churches permit divorce after conversion to Christianity: “if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here”.

Therefore religion may not cause violence perpetration per se but may contribute to its sustainability. Based on scriptures, some women may feel empowered and tend to abuse their husbands knowing that they will not be divorced (Chang & Romeo, 2008). Some Protestant Churches put emphasis on God’s love, seeing divorce as the person’s own decision; if divorce and re-marriage is a sin requiring remorse, other Christians can forgive a divorcee.

According to Zambian Red Cross (2013), Christian missionary shelters and hospitals are some of the places where abused people receive care. The deep-set beliefs and traditions of the country make religious conversion complicated; somewhat apparent as even those who call themselves Christian and attend church weekly behave in vicious manners. Religious text teachings can serve as resources to assist those who have experienced abuse in finding safety and in the process of healing.

2.2.4 Gender-based violence and marital relationship

It is important to understand that domestic violence has shown that men and women act violently in relationships at about the same rate (Marbin, 2019). Furthermore, men and women are equally likely to instigate violence against one another. Oladepo et al. (2011) in Bangladesh claim that not only that violence tend to escalate frequently amongst those who call themselves single over time but also that violence occurring during the dating phase is a strong precursor of marital violence. Oladepo et al. (2011) further assert that abusive marriages are generally preceded by violent dating relationships and are characterized by strategies to control and restrict men's and women's autonomy in terms of perpetration and partners reported most severe forms of physical abuse than married partners.

Muwanigwa (2017) in Namibia regard male physical violence as being used primarily in the context of self-defence and mutually violent relationships especially when they are in a cohabitating relationship. Moreover, women with a lower tolerance to violence associated with a higher awareness of their rights may generate more conflict that makes men more vulnerable and more emotionally dependent on the relational dimensions of their lives.

In addition, Ingolo (2012) in Malawi argues in the same line with this study as they hold that abusive female partners target their husbands' feelings and emotions and the soft spots that affect their mood, self-esteem and confidence. Ingolo (2012) further discloses that such type of abuse is mainly in the form of derogatory statements regarding sexual performance and generally lack of respect for husbands.

Furthermore, O'Grady (2011) in Zambia in his findings reveals that verbal abuse in relationships is one of the major methods women use to inflict violence on men as they can easily insult and undress a husband in the presence of the children. Furthermore, Arbache et al. (2010) in Zambia agree that women are able to humiliate, falsely accuse, or manipulate men to submit to undesirable behaviour, make men feel unwanted and unloved, threaten men economically, or isolate victims from support systems.

According to Singh (2009), men tolerate and stay in abusive and violent relationship for many reasons fundamentally; belief and hope that things would get better, fear of losing social respect and position, protection, and love towards their children and family. Many abused men feel that they have to make their marriages work. They are afraid that if things fall apart, they will be blamed. Singh (2009) in Zambia further asserts that many abused men also believe that it is their fault and feel that they deserve the treatment they receive.

The Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (2013) shows that divorced, separated, or married men and women are more likely to have experienced physical violence by any perpetrator, compared to men and women who were currently widowed, living with a partner, or never married. Victims are also more likely experience sexual violence by any perpetrator, compared to those who were currently married, living with a partner, or never married.

2.3 The perception of gender-based violence by men

According to Australian Red Cross (2013), men are stronger than women but that does not necessarily make it easier for them to have their way all the time. The problem is that the man who suffers domestic violence is hardly heard due to cultural reasons. Men are assumed aggressors even if they show up with bruises. An abused man faces a shortage of resources, scepticism from the police and other major legal obstacles especially when it comes to gaining custody of his children from an abusive mother (Sigal & Denmark, 2013).

Although scholars like Hindin et al. (2008) show from English historical evidence, and later analysis that in the nineteenth century and before there was considerable concern for the violation of patriarchal norms of the violence of wives against husbands, this was not taken seriously because it contradicted the principles of feminism. Röder (2012) also refers to the work of McGoldrick & Gerson (2010) who first describes the battered husband's syndrome and the impact that this had on the view of domestic violence as a solely male against female action. McGoldrick & Gerson (2010) further report that violence against men by women was as common in the United States of America as violence against women by men.

However, Chan & Mulrone (2011) describe how McGoldrick & Gerson (2010) were ridiculed and received verbal abuse and bomb threats and efforts were made to remove them from their academic posts because of their unconventional study. This made other researchers in the same field back away from this area because of the feminist lobby. In the historical context Sigal & Denmark (2013) contend "Criticisms have ranged from personally attacking the researchers, to more academic efforts directed at attacking the work itself by denying the validity of the reports, to an outright defence of the violent behaviour of women or otherwise minimizing its significance".

As the feminist perspective on domestic abuse has been so strong in recent years this has therefore meant that male victims have subsequently been deselected from any sample groups and accordingly, one can assert that the feminist analysis of domestic violence is gender-biased, and its findings will reflect such a bias (Edwards-Jauch, 2014). Thus, it sounds

plausible to conclude that contradictory views to feminist theory of men being perpetrators have continuously been suppressed, unreported, reinterpreted, or denied. This comes against the backdrop of evidence that demonstrates that there is now a recognition that a serious problem exists with every type of domestic violence by whichever gender, although the police and support services have not fully responded to the change (Chang & Romeo, 2008).

In the literature, it is clearly indicated that there are no absolute rules for understanding the emotional differences between genders. GBV is any incident or threatening behaviour, abuse or violence (physical, sexual, financial, psychological or emotional), between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality. Goldberg and Tomlanovich (2014) note that research data on GBV victims that required hospital treatment has revealed that women are capable of inflicting serious physical damage to their victims. In support of this, George (2014) points out that researchers have reported that men are likely to suffer serious injuries because of the prevalence of weapons used by women against men. Katy (2019) argues that as result of domestic abuse, psychological damage can have severe implications for a person's life, and this can lead to depression, anxiety, and substance abuse that can affect all aspects of life.

According to Nicholls and Spidel (2015) feminists, believe that, universally, females are more vulnerable to abuse by men, and men are less vulnerable to abuse by women. Wilson and Daly (2013) mention that feminist researchers argue that violence perpetrated by women against men is different from the violence perpetrated against them by men. According to Stets and Straus (2014), family violence researchers suggest that women are more likely to initiate violence against men, and violence against men by women can always be constructed as self-defence.

In support of this, Straus and Gelles (2016) and Morse (2015) make the point that women are more likely to be the perpetrators of GBV and more likely as well to use severe violence against their male partners. MacInnes (2014) argues that gender is a concept that has been constructed by society to imagine the existence of differences between men and women, when there is none. Traditionally men were viewed as breadwinners and women as the nurturers. This culture created stereotyped views instilled in society and repeatedly by the media that makes it hard for people to believe that women could be perpetrators of GBV, as men are the dominant sex.

Traditionally, men who were victims of GBV are publicly humiliated to conform to societal gender roles that they are the dominant sex. This culture had the effect of repressing male

victims to keep GBV against men invisible (George 2007). Kimbrell (2014) study argues that argues that GBV is not about gender or society, and that GBV should be seen as a human issue where all victims can get help, and all need to rebuild their lives regardless of whether they are men or women. Dobash and Dobash (2014) and George (2019) argue that men who are the victims of GBV deserve help and their needs should be identical to the needs of female victims (e.g. funding should also be available for men, as well as equal services). Lambert et al. (2003) argue that the anti-man culture surrounding GBV has an effect on male victims, as they are reluctant to get help because of humiliation and ridicule they may experience. Dominant notions of masculinity also play a major role in viewing men as perpetrators of GBV, but they also influence why men victims seem reluctant to seek help and support.

According to Dasgupta (2021), the recent movements against women abuse have been confronted with an extraordinary twist of circumstances because practitioners and advocates around the world have noticed an increase in the number of women being charged for domestic violence. In support of this, Fontes (2019) makes the point that the feminists have addressed half of the problem regarding intimate violence, because their primary interest is to display the maltreatment of women by men, while neglecting the maltreatment of men by women. Lambert et al. (2013) argue that feminist do not believe that women have the potential to be abusers in intimate relationships. Miller (2019) further argues that feminist do not acknowledge that women are abusers because feminist research findings are deeply rooted in feminist beliefs that do not recognise women as perpetrators of violence against men.

Furthermore, Kimbrell (1995) maintains that feminists are moving away from constructing domestic violence as a human issue to emphasising the gender aspect. Conversely Lambert et al (2003) contend that the well-known feminist Erin Prizzey maintains that violence is not a gender issue because violence is due to a dysfunctional background, which both men and women can experience in their youth, and therefore concluded that domestic violence is a family and societal issue.

According to Lambert et al. (2003), culture has played a major role in the perpetration of GBV against men. Lambert et al. (2003) further argue that society throughout history has repressed male victims of GBV, and an anti-man culture surrounding domestic violence has been created. Governments have also elevated this culture of repressing male victims of GBV with their focus on female victims in their policy and disregard for male victims, and that has also greatly impacted authorities, especially the police services, in the way they deal with male abuse.

Fontes (2019) claims that GBV against men has been neglected because domestic violence workers do not see this as a social problem to be addressed, or they are not interested, or do not care or have the will to reach for male victims as they have for female and child victims. Fontes (2019) further argues that domestic violence workers neglect male victims because they want funding to be earmarked for women and children only. They do not want to spend the money on male victims of GBV.

In the Zambian context, Steinmetz (2020) contends that violence against men is not uncommon but many tend to dismiss, ignore and treat it with selective inattention. Steinmetz (2020) further argues that male abuse remains hidden while female abuse is paraded before the public, as crisis lines and victim shelters are being established. Ristock (2019) study in Zambia established that intimate partner violence could be difficult because language itself is not neutral and it reflects assumptions that are embedded within the dominant culture.

Brown (2014) study in Zambia on GBV established that gender role messages have created myths about intimate partner violence, regarding who can be a victim or a perpetrator. Language change in our culture can be one of the major steps to addressing the cultural challenges that we face. For example, a man cannot go to the police, report the violence, and mention that his boyfriend due to the heterosexist culture and language abused him. There are several social and cultural reasons that cause men not to report gender based violence against them, and not many efforts have been made to encourage men to report the abuse. Most of the literature has shown that men are always perpetrators and women are the victims of gender-based violence, forgetting that women now have lobby groups, NGOs, and government intervention programmes to support them and speak out about domestic abuse and violence against them.

2.4 Possible causes of gender-based violence against men

Several authors have identified various perceptions and causes related to gender-based violence among men. According to Oladepo et al. (2011), gender-based violence may be caused by unemployment, lack of knowledge of human rights, consumption of alcohol and changing lifestyles or modernization. This is like the findings of Ghazizadeh (2008) study in Iran that reveals GBV as significantly associated between husbands' education levels and violence against them. However, this is not consistent with the report from Rwanda where men with lesser education were less likely to report physical violence (Stemple, 2009). Oladepo et al. (2011) asserts, "Men who experience such violence may suffer further physical and mental

health problems in their lifetime” and this may include an increased risk of sexually transmitted infections, depression and anxiety. In addition, several common factors contributing to gender-based violence are described below.

2.4.1 Economic factors

Literature espoused from a study conducted by Mashizha (2013) highlighted that lack of economic resources underpins men’s vulnerability to violence and their difficulty in extricating themselves. Chang & Romeo (2008) postulates that the link between violence and lack of economic resources and dependency is circular. The threat and fear of violence keep some men from seeking employment, and compels them to accept low pays, home-based exploitative labour. Due to lack of economic independence, some men have no power to escape from violent relationships. Campbell (2010) stated that increasing levels of poverty, unemployment, hardship, income inequality, and alcohol abuse have led to increased violence in the society in general. These factors act indirectly to raise some men's vulnerability by encouraging more risk-taking behaviour, more alcohol and drug abuse, breakdown of social support networks and the economic dependence of men on their partners, LeBeau et al. (2010). This literature was supported by a study done in South Africa by Dustin (2009) which discloses that men who are employed and earned cash were less likely to report having experienced emotional and sexual abuse than unemployed men due to the fear of encountering social stigma and shame.

Another reason is increasing economic and other dependency on women. In cases where an abused man is mentally, emotionally, or financially dependent on the woman, the idea of leaving the relationship generates feelings of depression and anxiety (Wingood & DiClemente, 2010).

2.4.2 Patriarchal factors

Patriarchy is not only a function of male physical, social, economic and political power that may influence why men are viewed as perpetrators of domestic violence as it involves men asserting their authority over women but patriarchy also influences why male victims of domestic violence find it difficult to seek help and support (Ingolo, 2012). A study conducted in South Africa by Mosavel et al. (2012) stresses that issues of gender have been misunderstood and they are now causing instability in many homes.

The study further emphasizes that patriarchal beliefs in a society or a community make men feel that they cannot speak about the abuse they are receiving from the women in their houses and most of these men end up committing suicide. This suggests that particularly men as

challenging perceive the gender equality policy and programs. One of the consequences of GBV is denial of human rights to men such as the principles of fundamental rights and freedoms of every human being that are guided by a broad concept of human rights that stretches beyond civil and political rights to the core issues of economic survival, health and education that affect the quality of daily life for most people (United States Agency for International Development, 2016).

Bakker and Arnold (2014) in Uganda states that patriarchal beliefs cause men to suffer silently in their relationships which makes it difficult for men to seek help because of social constructions of masculinity that states that men are strong and tough and fighters, that men do not feel pain or cry, and therefore cannot be vulnerable to abuse. Reporting GBV to the police by men according to Asher et al., (2011) in Namibia is observed particularly problematic, because police officers will dismiss and/or ridicule the victim.

Male victims seem reluctant to get help as their self-esteem and confidence deteriorate due to the violence but, regardless, they still want to remain “manly” to the outside world. Many men deny that they are victims of domestic violence in order to still feel masculine. Others feel too embarrassed to seek help and advice and those victims that do try to seek help from the police or social services are sometimes ridiculed (African Development Bank, 2015).

Increasing levels of poverty, unemployment, hardship, income inequality, and alcohol abuse leads to increased violence in the society in general (Dustin, 2009). These factors act indirectly to raise women's vulnerability by encouraging more risk-taking behaviour, more alcohol and drug abuse, breakdown of social support networks and the economic dependence of women on their partners (Charles & Erin, 2011).

Sherifat and Olanrewain (2014) in Zambia argue that focusing on the specific individual manifestations of men’s violence to women as a social problem places individuals in a wider context and makes it possible to consider the nature of violence as a dynamic process affecting the lives of men as well as women. In addition, such a contextual approach includes an analysis of factors such as the dynamics of gender relations within a society, the impact of cultural beliefs and values on violent behaviour. It is therefore legally binding under international law for governments that have ratified with these organizations to protect all people from crimes of violence and to also bring the perpetrators to justice.

2.5 Theories used to explain gender-based violence against men

This research will be anchored on a grounded theoretical framework and also influenced by Weber's verstehen approach to social phenomena

2.5.1 Grounded Theory

Strauss and Corbin (1998:12) define grounded theory as theory that was derived from data, systematically gathered and analysed through the research process." A Grounded theory type of research disputes use of existing theory to direct research or test hypotheses, instead theories or explanations of phenomena are constructed from the data collected from the field after analysis. Glaser & Strauss (1967) assert that data collection, analysis, and the ultimate theory stand in close connection to one another, forming two fundamental features of this theory, (i) it is concerned with the development of theory from the data, (ii) the approach is iterative, or recursive, as it is sometimes called, denoting that data collection and analysis proceed in tandem, repeatedly referring back to each other. Yet it is not every research conducted that has the capacity to generate a theory.

Bryman (2008:541) confirms that although it has just been suggested that grounded theory is a strategy for generating theory out of data, in many cases, reports using a grounded theory approach generate concepts rather than theory as such." Generation of a theory is a huge task and short term researches like this one may fall short of such capacities due to their small size and sometimes the duration that they cover. Failure to generate a theory however does not disqualify the use of grounded theory as a theoretical framework, as earlier alluded to, research anchored on grounded theory framework which fall short of the capacity to generate theory may at least provide enough information for detailed explanations of the phenomena under study. This research does produce a theory but it has generated important information on the topic of GBV against men in relation to its objectives.

2.5.2 Max Weber's Verstehen Approach

In literal sense, verstehen means understanding. Max Weber and Georg Simmel introduced interpretive understanding of sociology in which social phenomena are interpreted from the point of view of the social actors rather than interpreting them in terms of the researcher's own perspective (Simmel 1920). Macionis and Gerber (2010) define Interpretative sociology as, "the study of society that concentrates on the meanings people associate to their social world." Schwalbe (2001:83) commenting on the importance of the meanings people attach to their actions states,

“It is important to let people explain their own behaviour. We might or might not accept their explanations at face value but we should at least listen to how people explain their own behaviour before presuming or judge them. It is much easier to rely on stereotypes and prejudices than it is to find out the facts about other people’s lives...”

Interpretative sociology strives to show that reality is constructed by people themselves in their daily lives and that taking away these meanings would be refuting the reality on the ground. It relates to how people in life give meaning to the social world around them and how the social scientist accesses and evaluates this "first-person perspective". The goal of verstehen is to identify human actions and interpret them as literal observable events that not only provide good explanations for individual actions but also for group interactions. The meaning attached to such actions help to analyse the motivation for such actions that ultimately provides the subjective understanding of the action of the social agents. This is important because human beings create their world by organizing their own understanding of it and giving it meaning, therefore ignoring their understanding of the meanings they attach to their actions would be treating them like objects.

2.6 Conceptual Framework

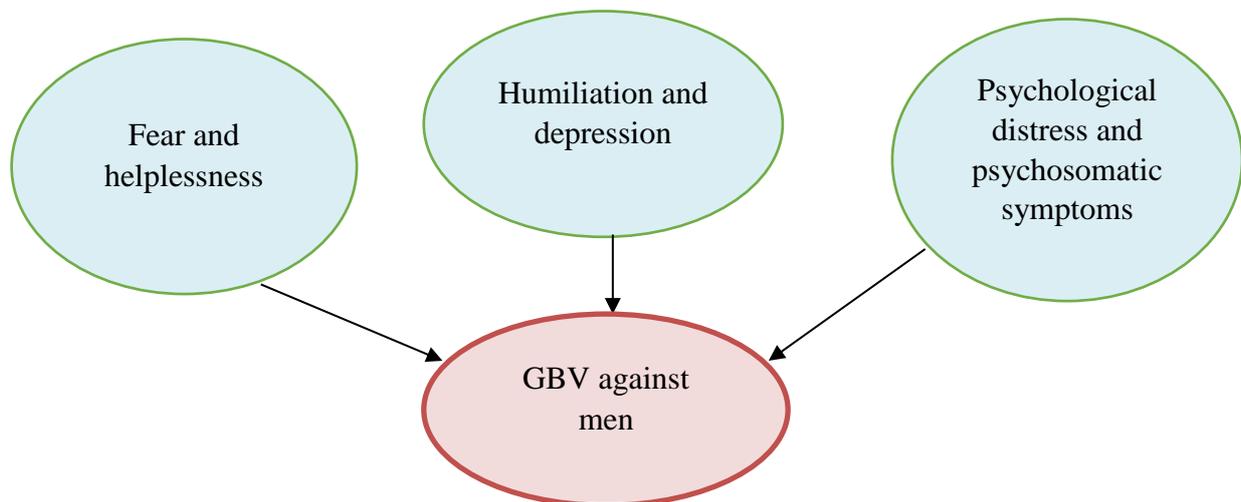


Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Author, 2022

The conceptual framework above shows the causes of female perpetrated GBV against men (independent variables). Abused men are at risk of emotional hurt, fear, helplessness, revenge seeking, anger, sadness, shame and humiliation, depression, psychological distress and psychosomatic symptoms (Dependent variables)

2.7 Personal critique summary

A lack of enough local literature on the effects of GBV on men creates a gap in literature. In addition, the majority of the studies are narrower in scope because they mostly focused on forms of GBV that men experience disregarding the factors that lead to low turnout of men reporting cases of GBV against them. Besides, the majority of studies revealed did not offer recommendations on how GBV against men can be handled. Consequently, the researcher sought to bridge this gap by conducting comprehensive research that will bring out the causes of low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence and also offer recommendations on how more men can be encouraged to report cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence in order to document such cases and bring the perpetrators of the vice to book.

2.8 Chapter Summary

This chapter has deliberated on the literature relating to the factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of sexual and gender-based violence as well as the frameworks and conceptual framework. The chapter has also offered a critique of the literature. The next chapter looks at the research method to be employed in the study, the data collection techniques to be used and the target population.

CHAPTER THREE – RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

The proceeding section seeks to explain the research methodology to be employed. It addresses issues pertaining to the approach to be used, the data gathering techniques as well as the targeted population and the means to be used to deduce the sample size. Other areas of concern constitute of the ethics to be upheld while conducting the research.

3.1 Research design

A survey design was opted for in pursuit of exploring factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence against men. Survey research is mostly a quantitative method with two important characteristics. First, the variables of interest are measured using self-reports. Marti (2013) postulated that a survey case study ensures that verifiable information is reported through questionnaires or interview guides. Survey data is often analysed using statistics. Consequently, this survey design allowed the researcher to collect provable and objective data from male respondents.

3.2 Research approach

The study used quantitative approaches that emphasized objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through polls, questionnaires, and surveys, or by manipulating pre-existing statistical data using computational techniques (Jha, 2008). The purpose of quantitative research is to attain greater knowledge and understanding of the social world. Researchers use quantitative methods to observe situations or events that affect people. Quantitative research produces objective data that can be clearly conversed through figures and statistics (Marti, 2013). This research approach was relevant for exploring factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence in Mtendere compound of Lusaka district as it enabled the researcher to generate objective data that can be clearly communicated through statistics.

3.3 Study Site

The study was carried out in in Lusaka province particularly Mtendere Township. Mtendere is one of the areas in Lusaka that has experienced female- perpetrated gender based violence. For instance, a 26-year-old woman of Lusaka Mtendere compound in 2022 stabbed her husband to

death after fighting over marital issues (Times of Zambia, 2022). Thus, this study area was suitable for this study.

3.4 Study sample

Johnson (2000) defines target population as a group of people with rich information about the topic under investigation. The target population in this study were men residing in Lusaka district.

3.5 Sample size

Kothari (2011) indicates that sample size refers to the number of participants selected from the population with common characteristics, knowhow and accessible to help in the study under investigation. The sample size was 100 men of Mtendere Compound, three officials from the Gender division under the office of the Vice President and a Police Officer from Mtendere Police station under VSU department.

3.6 Sampling procedure

The respondents were randomly sampled and selected for the study. Respondents were given information about the objectives of the study. Those who are interested in participating in the study were then be recruited to the study. When collecting the data, structured questionnaires were used as well as interview guides for three officials from the Gender division under the office of the Vice President and a Police officer from Mtendere Police station. Structured questionnaire is a document that consists of a set of standardized questions with a fixed scheme, which specifies the exact wording and order of the questions, for gathering information from respondents (Par, 2001). Msabila and Nalaila (2013) assert that probability or random sampling techniques are those where the selection of individuals for the sample gives all the individuals in the population an equal chance of being selected for the study.

3.7 Data collection instruments

The study used both secondary and primary sources of information. Primary information was obtained through engaging with respondents while secondary information will be gathered from reputable existing literature. Secondary data was gathered from various literatures relating to gender-based violence. However, primary data will be the underpinning of this study and was obtained via questionnaires which were administered to the respondents as well as

interview guides. The questionnaires were made up of close ended questions to ensure consistency and lessen complexities as the study was quantitative in nature.

3.8 Data Analysis techniques

The research study used statistical packages for social sciences for quantitative data analysis. The researcher decided to adopt it because it is fast and reliable. The process of using SPSS is also swift when it comes to cleaning data and screening. It is also possible to analyse data to fulfil the objectives and get correct results. The researcher had the choice to edit the data without the worry of over-riding the data that was required.

3.9 Operational definitions

Violence: Any form of behaviour by an individual that intentionally threatens to or does cause physical, economic or psychological harm to others (Nain, 2000).

Gender: The relations between men and women both perceptual and material as constructed by society (UN, 2001).

Gender Based Violence (GBV): Any act of violence that results in or is likely to bring about physical, sexual or psychological damage to an individual, including coercion or deprivations of freedom (UN, 2002)

Survivor: A person that continues to live after being a victim of a danger.

3.10 Ethical consideration

Data collection has to follow stipulated ethical measures, protect and maintain the interest both the researcher and the researched at all times (Bell, 1995). Ethical considerations are important because they ensure that there is fairness in the manner in which the research is conducted. This study considered the following ethical measures.

3.10.1. Approval for Conducting Research

It is important to note that for research to be conducted in an institution or on any living thing should be approved by a lawful ethical committee to ensure there is double protection. In view of this, approval for conducting this study should be obtained from the institution (McMillan and Schumacher 1997). In this study, the researcher ensured the ethical committee at UNZA

approved the study before conducting the study. After that, the researcher got a letter from the directorate of research and graduate studies that outlined the kind of research to be conducted.

3.10.2 Informed Consent

It is important to realize that participants have the right to participate and not to participate in a study at hand. Tuckman (1994) noted that the choice to participate in the study lies in the participant and his or her will to do so. For this reason, the informed consent is signed between the researcher and the respondent (Robson, 1995). An informed consent is done through explaining the nature of the research, its impact, participant implication and be informed that they are free to withdraw from the study (McMillan and Schumacher 1997). In doing so, the researcher explains to the respondents the need for their participation, their roles and any information they would need to know before the research can start. Since permission was given, it is for the same reason that Bell (1999) said that securing permission is one thing, yet the researcher needs to have support from the people giving you the information. The participants were not enticed to take part in the study or forced, but they were informed on what the study was about, and they would volunteer.

3.10.3 Confidentiality and Anonymity

Data collection in research is conducted on specified sample, the data collected is treated with maximum confidentiality and the respondents are not named or tagged according to the data they provide (Christians, 2003). In this study, the identity of the respondents regarding their names, status, age and any kind of data they provided was not be exposed to any person. In data analysis, the names of the facilities, participants and research areas were not named to protect the image and integrity the respondents in case of whatsoever type of results that come out. This procedure is in line with Oppenheim (1996) when he said the basic ethical principle is that no harm should come to the respondents because of their participation in the research either sociological or psychological.

3.10.4 Access to Results

Results from the field were only to be accessible after the completion of the study and this will be after the publication of the paper is done. In addition, McMillan and Schumacher (1997) insists that subjects from the sample who were researched from are entitled and should have access to the research results. In line with this study, a copy of the findings was sent to the relevant offices for dissemination after the successful completion of the program.

3.11 Chapter summary

This chapter has presented the methodology that was used in the collection of data and answering the research questions of the study. The chapter has also discussed the research design, study population, sample, sampling techniques, instrument of data collection, data collection procedure, methods of data analysis, ethical considerations and a chapter summary.

CHAPTER FOUR -STUDY FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This Chapter shows the analyses and deliberations of the data that was obtained from the field so as to successfully explore factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence. The results of the analyses are shown using different ways such as mean, frequencies tables and so forth.

4.1 Socio- demographic characteristics of respondents

The sample size was 100 men of Mtendere Compound, three officials from the Gender division under the office of the Vice President and a Police Officer from Mtendere Police station under VSU department. After the interviews with the 100 respondents, the researcher will identify 20 men who are victims of GBV from the sample and conduct in-depth interviews with them. A total of 44 valid responses were obtained from men of Mtendere Compound.

4.1.2 Age

Respondents were required to specify their ages from the specified choices of; below 30 years, 30- 40 years, 41– 50 years and above 50 years. The results were presented in Table 4.1; (21%) were below 30 years, (27.24%) were between 30 –40 of age, (30.42%) were between 41 –50 of age, (21.34%) were over 50 years of age.

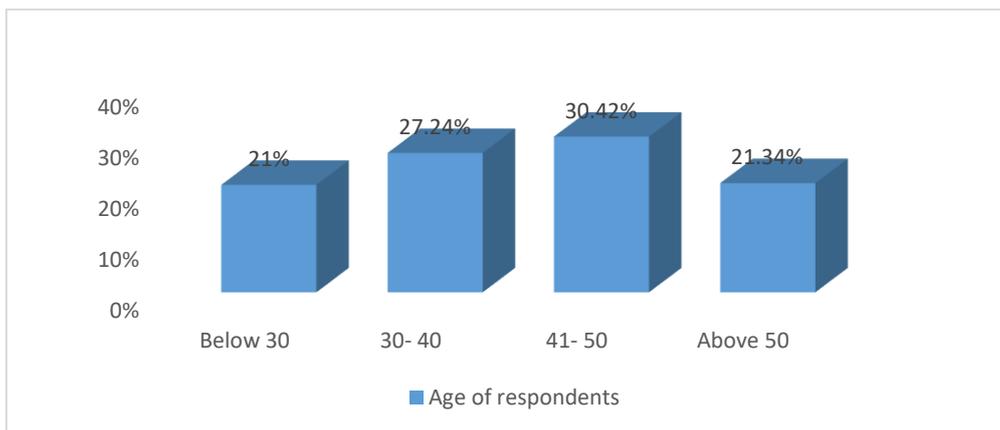


Figure 4.1: Age of respondents

4.1.3 Education background

Respondents were required to indicate their highest level of education from the prearranged options of; Never attended, Primary school level, Secondary school level and Tertiary level. The results showed that the education background of respondents was wide-ranging, the majority (41%) reached secondary level of education, while a minor 4.54% had never attended school as shown in figure 4.2

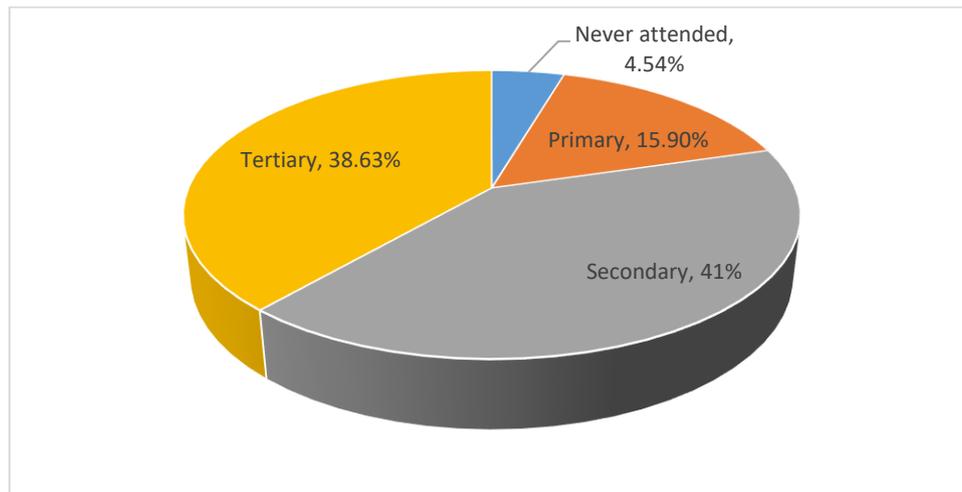


Figure 4.2: Education background of respondents

4.1.4 Marital status

From the 44 returned questionnaires from the respondents, the results showed that the majority (52.3%) were married while a minor 4.72% were widowed as shown in figure:

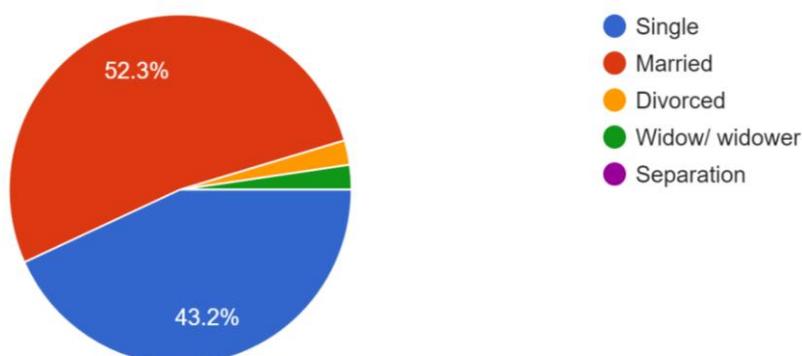


Figure 4.3: Marital status of the respondents

4.1.5 Occupation of respondents

Respondents were asked to state their employment status and the results revealed that the majority (79.5%) were employed as shown in figure 4.4.

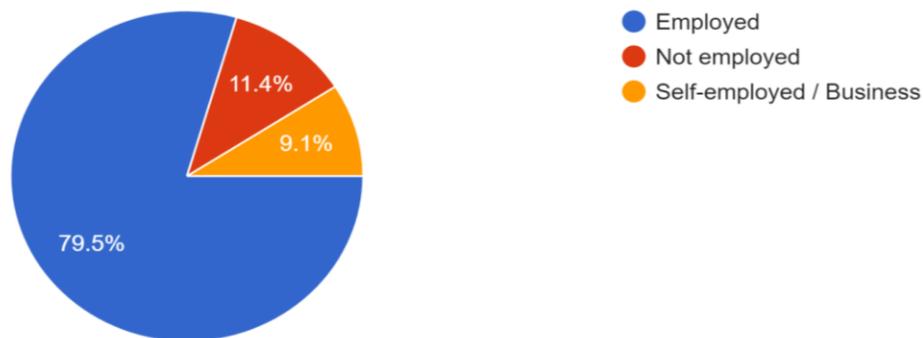


Figure 4.4 Occupation of participants

4.2 The socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence

All the participants in the study stated that they have heard of Gender Based Violence before. When asked to define GBV, 22.7% stated that it was violence against any woman, 20.5% stated that it was violence against your wife while the majority (97.7%) also indicated that it was violence against both men and women as shown in figure 4.5 below.

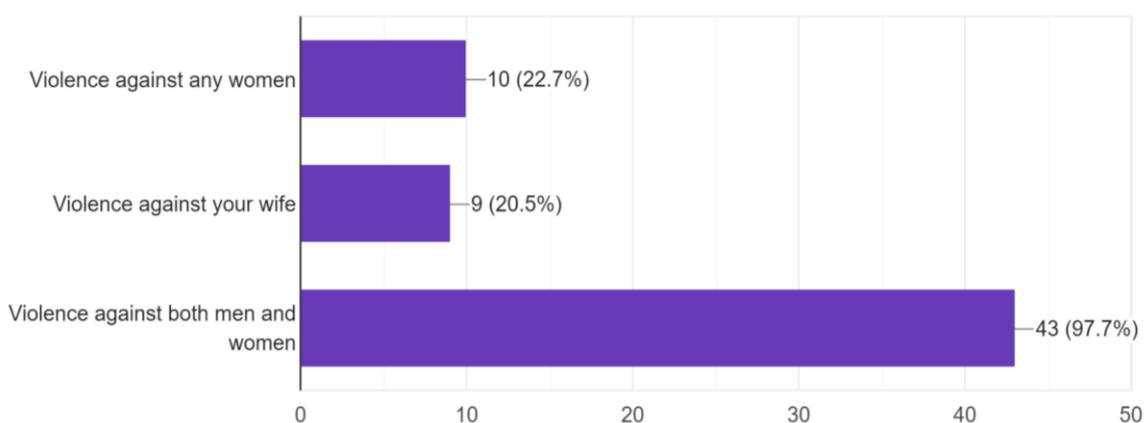


Figure 4.5: Definition of GBV

The researcher further asked the participants to state if they had ever been victims of Gender Based Violence. The study revealed that 25% of the participants had been victims of Gender Based Violence before as shown in figure 4.6

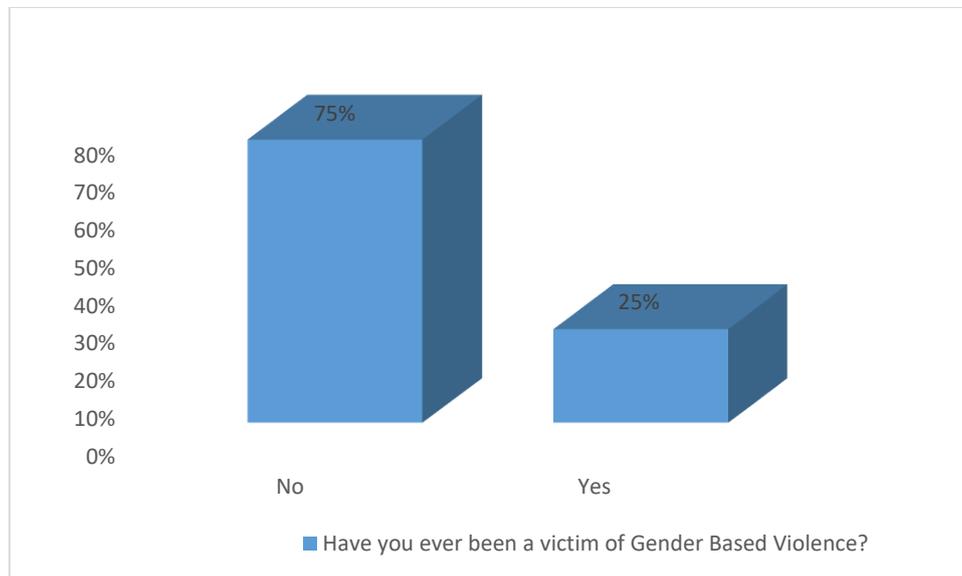


Figure 4.6: GBV victim

Figure 4.7 shows the relationship of GBV victims to the perpetrators of GBV. The majority (51%) of perpetrators of GBV against men were wives.

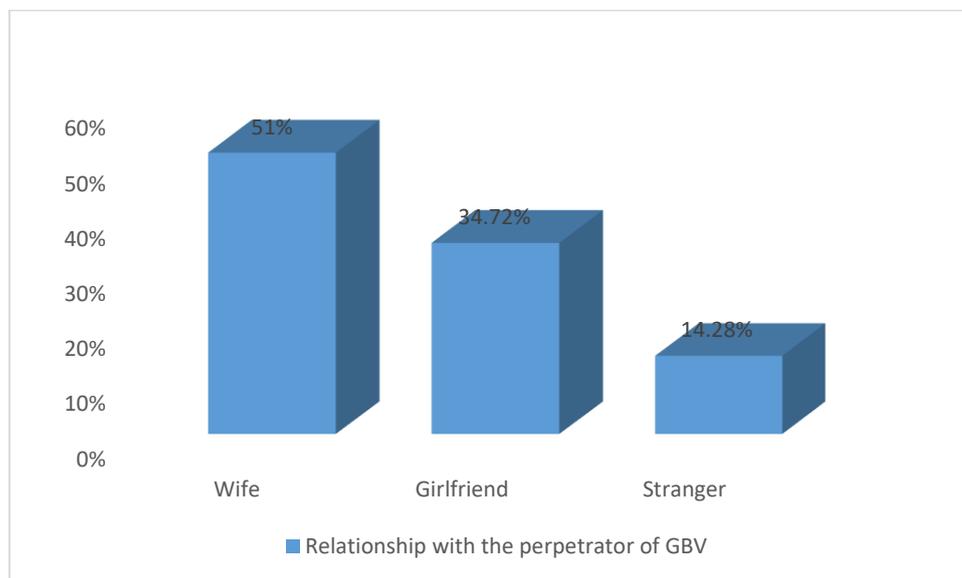


Figure 4.7: Relationship with the perpetrator of GBV

The major form of GBV which the victims of female perpetrated GBV encountered was physical (64.52%) followed by emotional (37.30%) and sexual (17%) as shown in figure 4.8.

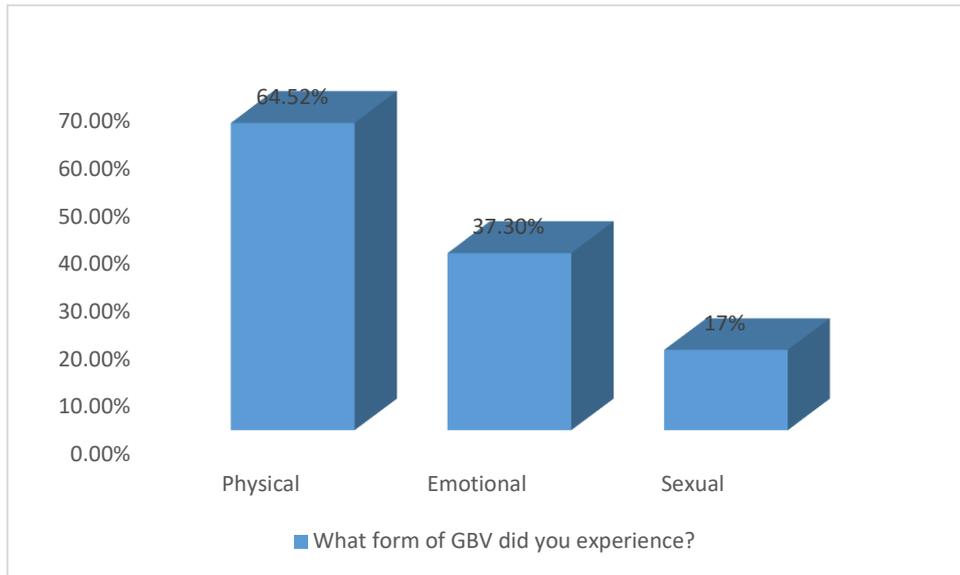


Figure 4.8: Forms of GBV

The study identified four major social demographic characteristics of men who were mostly victims of female perpetrated gender-based violence, these were; Unemployed (100%); Low education level (84%); Low income (100%) and; Old age (68.20%) as shown in figure 4.9.

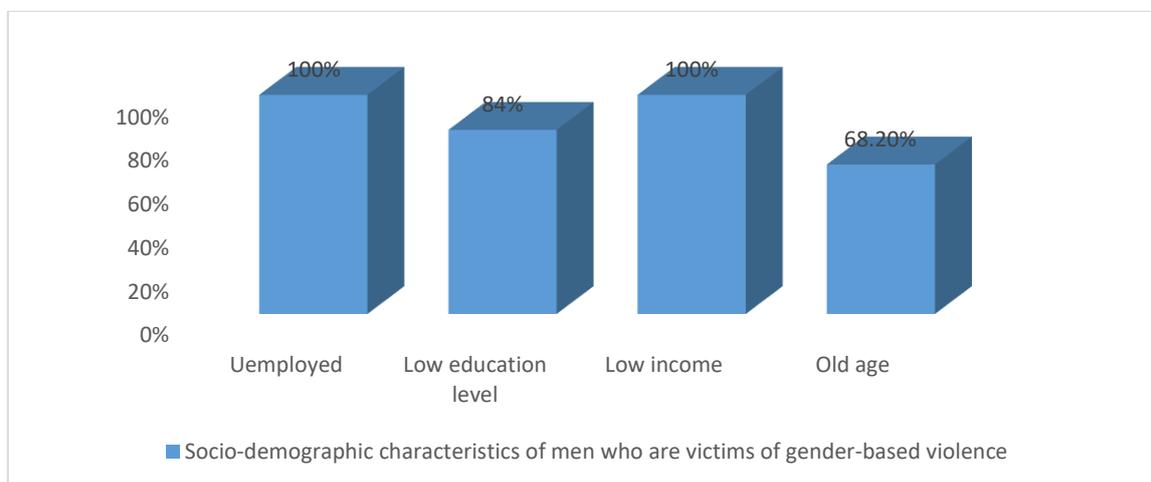


Figure 4.9: Socio demographic characteristics of men who are victims of GBV

4.3 Factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

Respondents were asked to indicate how common female- perpetrated Gender Based Violence was compared to male perpetrated Gender Based Violence and the results were as shown in

figure 4.10, a minor 9.3% were neutral, 27.9% indicated that the cases were uncommon while another 27.9% indicated that the cases were very common.

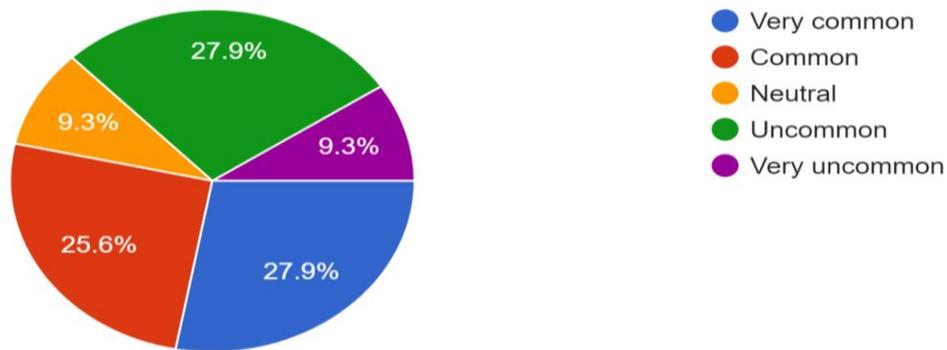


Figure 4.10: Prominence of male- perpetrated GBV

Among the major factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men were; Lack of love (85%), Low levels of income (60%), Alcohol and drug abuse among men (100%), alcohol and drug abuse among women (100%), Lack of employment (90%), Modern culture (100%), Age difference among couples (54%), Difference in economic status among couples (64%), Joblessness among men (100%), Poverty (91%) and Personal traits (100%) as shown in figure 4.11.

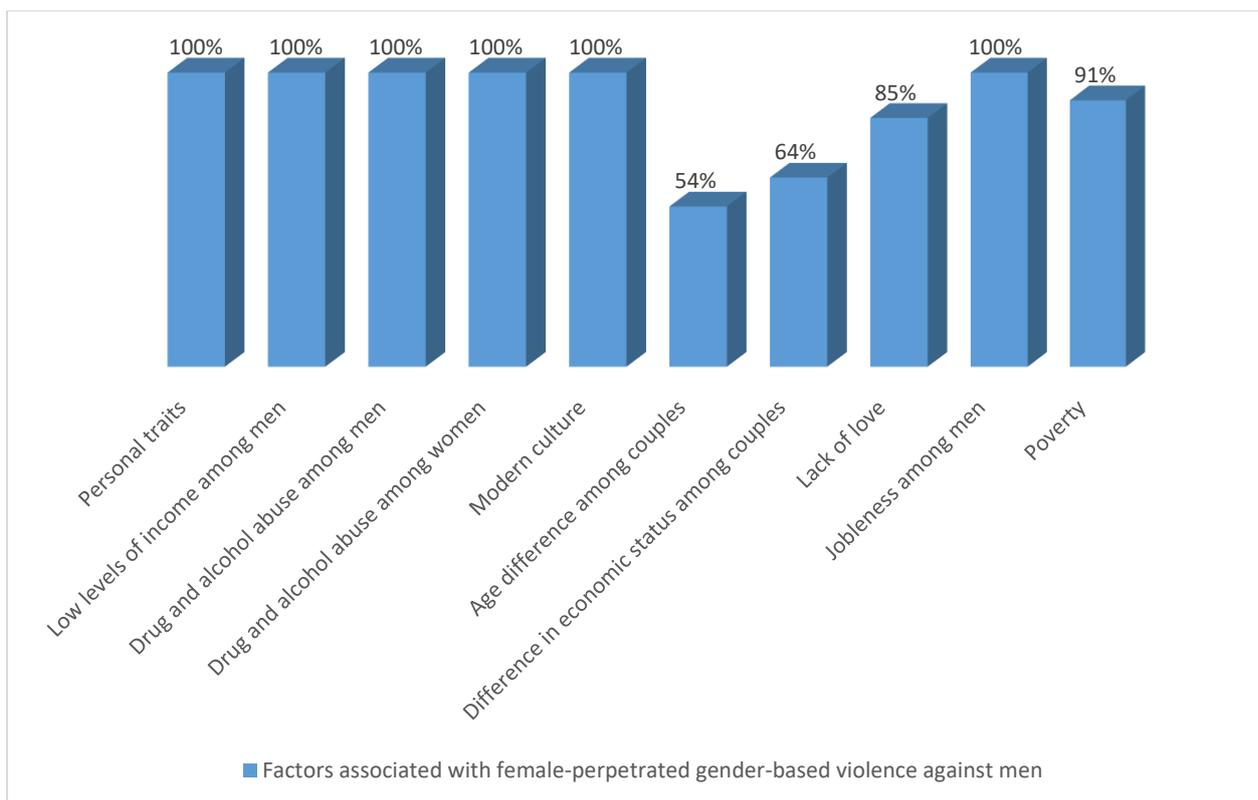


Figure 4.11 Factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

Table 4.1: Why would men be victims of gender-based violence?

Why would men be victims of gender-based violence?	Frequency	Percentage
They often do not retaliate when they are victims of violence from women	30	63.83
Most women know that men victims do not usually report GBV cases	47	100
Poverty and lack of money	47	100
Most women act in defense after being victims of male perpetrated GBV	34	72.34

Feedback from men residing in Mtendere, officials from the Gender Division under the Office of the Vice President as well as the Victim Support Unit from Mtendere Police revealed that men become victims of gender-based violence due to the four major reasons shown in table 4.1, that is: They often do not retaliate when they are victims of violence from women (63.83%); Most women know that men victims do not usually report GBV cases (100%);

Poverty and lack of money (100%) and that; Most women act in defense after being victims of male perpetrated GBV (72.34%).

Men who experienced gender-based violence indicated how they dealt with it. It was established that some men resorted to substance abuse while others refused to admit – denial. Others reported to the police while some believed that if they stayed long enough, they would be able to rescue the situation. In addition, some men called on family members to help while some decided to file for divorce.

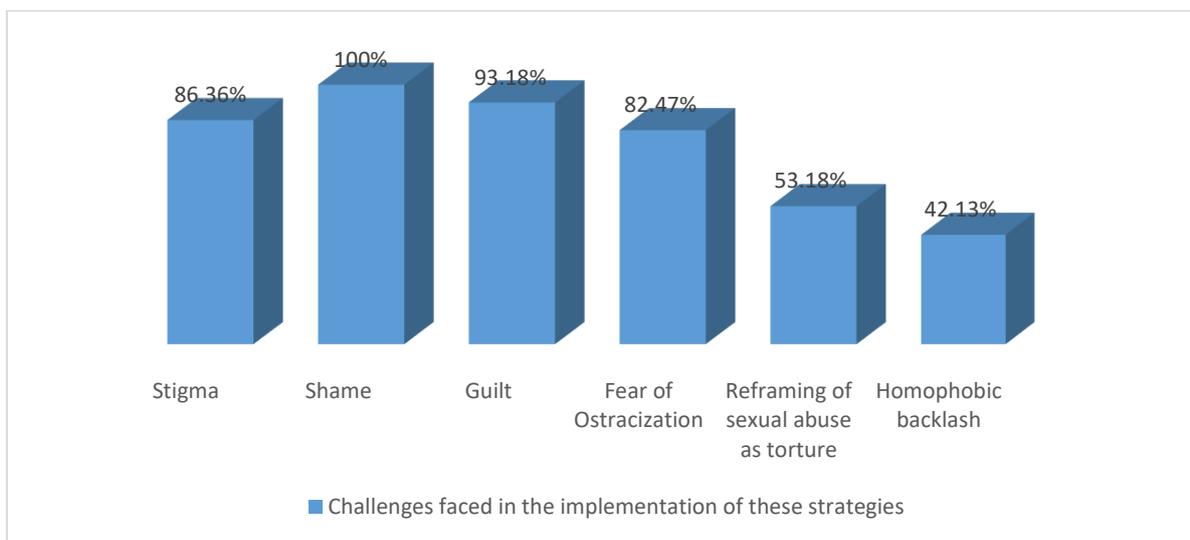


Figure 4.12 Challenges faced in the implementation of these challenges

Figure 4.12 shows the challenges faced by men who were victims of female perpetrated gender-based violence in implementing their coping up strategies against gender-based violence, these in included: stigma (86.36%); Shame (100%); Guilt (93.18%); Fear of Ostracization (82.47%); Reframing of sexual abuse (53.18%) and; Homophobic backlash.

4.4 The Socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

The majority of respondents (95.45%) were of the view than men were less likely than women to report cases of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men.

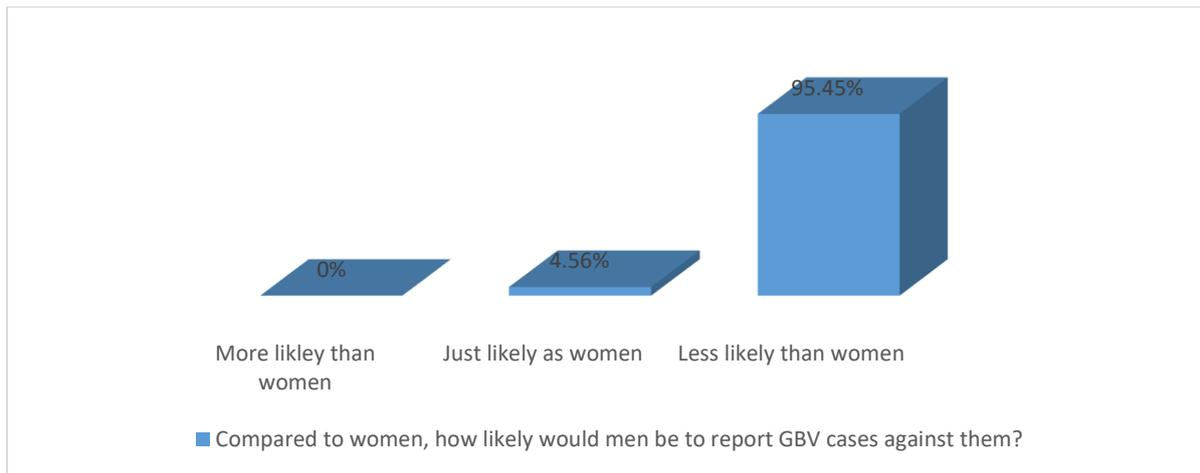


Figure 4.13 Reporting of GBV cases

The respondents in the study pointed out the main socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men as shown in figure 4.14: Men do not want to be viewed as weak by the community (14.32%); men do not want to be viewed as weak by their spouses (100%); It is a taboo and a big shame in some cultures for a man to be beaten by a woman (100%); Fear of embarrassment (100%); the justice system is not well equipped to deal with GBV cases against men (32.11%) and that; Community views men as stronger beings (92.62%).

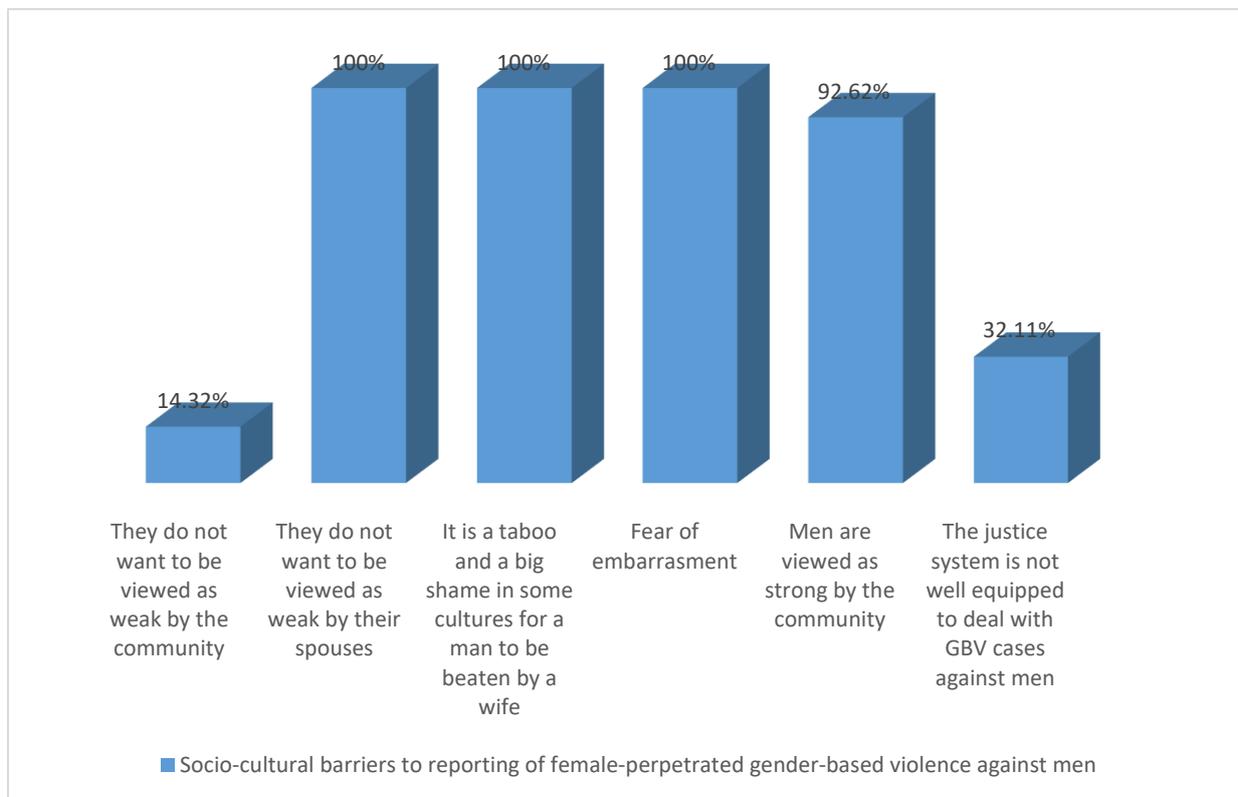


Figure 4.14 The Socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

On what would motivate men to report cases of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against them, men residing in Mtendere, officials from the Gender Division under the Office of the Vice President as well as the Victim Support Unit from Mtendere Police brought out three factors that would motivate men to report such cases as shown in figure 4.15: Men would report cases if the Police were not judgmental (44.56%); Men would report cases if the police officers who handled such cases were men (48.43%) and that; Men would report cases if cases were kept secretly (88.46%).

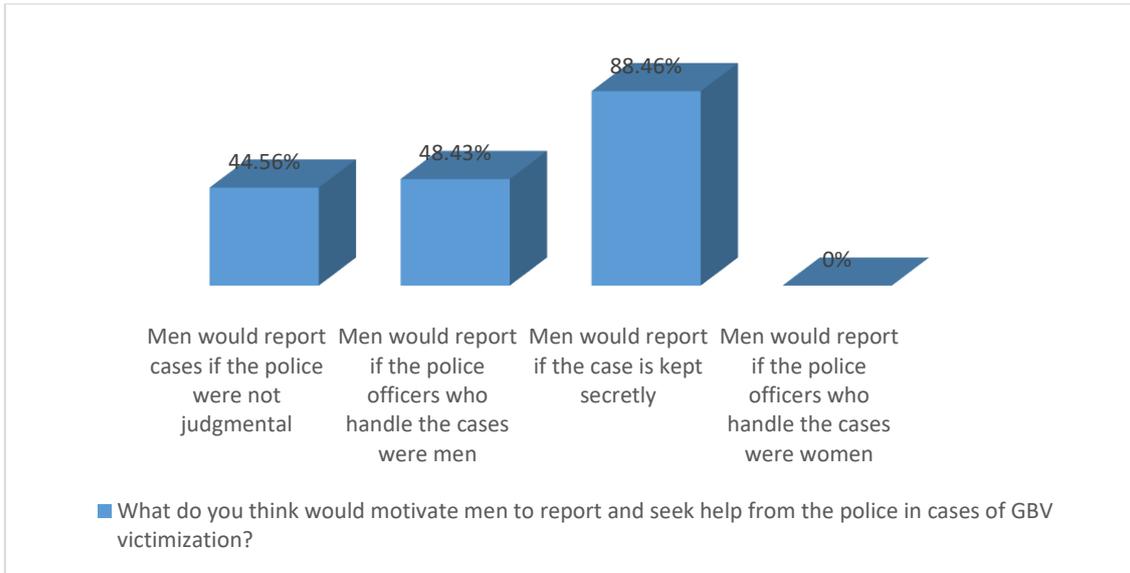


Figure 4.15 Motivation to report GBV cases

The researcher further asked victims of GBV to indicate if they knew any organization in the area that dealt with matters related to GBV, the majority (90%) were not aware of any organization as shown in figure 4.16 below.

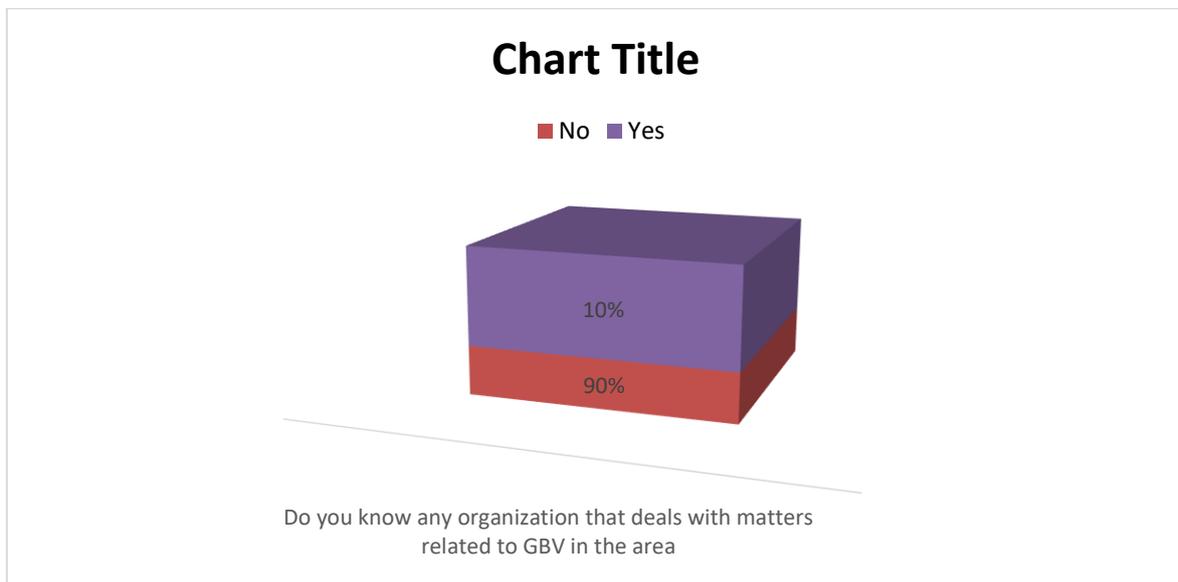


Figure 4.16 Organizational support

Among the main remedial measures to female perpetrated gender- based violence identified from the survey were: Community sensitization about female perpetrated gender based (100%); encouraging men to report all forms of female perpetrated gender-based violence (100%) and that; Police should treat all perpetrators of gender-based violence equally regardless of their sex as shown in table 4.17.

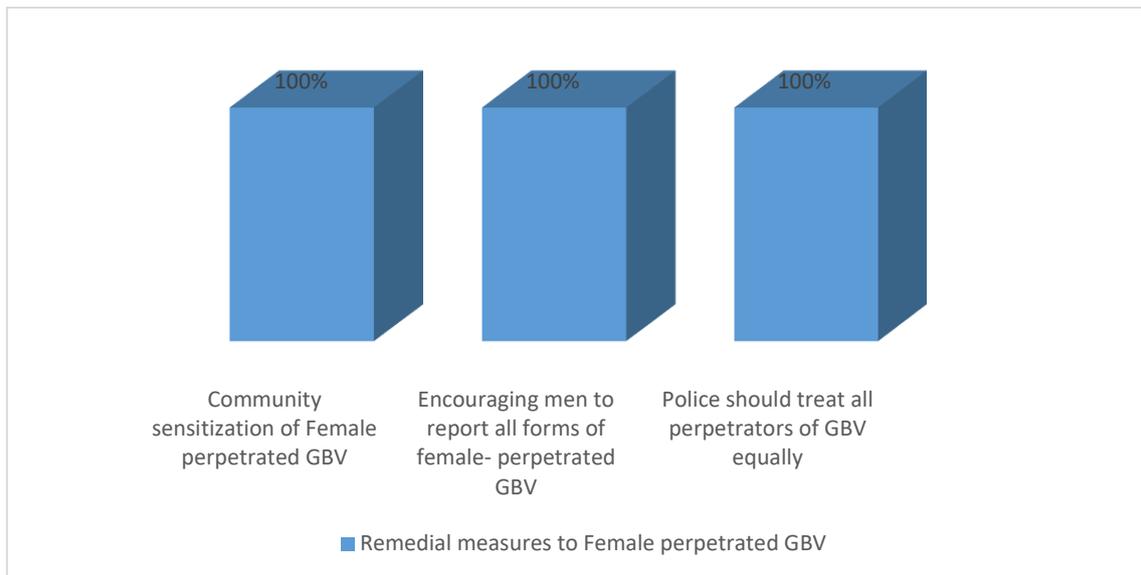


Figure 4.17 Remedial measures to female perpetrated GBV

4.5 Chapter summary

The study sought to explore factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence. This chapter has displayed the results obtained from the study through tables and figures. The subsequent chapter discusses these findings as per specific objectives of the study.

CHAPTER FIVE - DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

5.0 Overview

This section of the research shows the summary of findings arising from survey conducted by the researcher in Mtendere Township to explore factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence

5.1 The socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence

The first objective of this study sought to identify the socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence. The study established that unemployment, low education level, low income and old age were the main social demographic characteristics of men who were mostly victims of female perpetrated gender-based violence.

Similarly, in another study conducted in Iran, results showed that domestic violence rises with the level of education (Ghazizadeh, 2008). The study also found that a man's risk of being beaten, kicked, or hit rose along with his low levels of education and in effect, this correlation points to the imperative need for attitudinal change among women in society in general. Family violence researchers suggest that socio-demographic indicators of structural inequality influence propensities for domestic assaults (Pendleton and Tapscott, 2010).

In addition, LeBeau et al. (2010) argues that domestic violence is rooted in gender and power imbalances. Findings in this regard indicate that incompatibilities in income and educational status are differentially associated with domestic violence as perpetrated by women.

5.2 Factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

Furthermore, the researcher sought to identify factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. Among the major factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence were lack of love, low levels of income, alcohol and drug abuse among men, alcohol and drug abuse among women, lack of employment, modern culture, and age difference among couples, difference in economic status among couples, joblessness among men, poverty and personal traits.

This is consistent with Oladepo et al. (2011) who pointed out that gender-based violence may be caused by unemployment, lack of knowledge of human rights, consumption of alcohol and changing lifestyles or modernization. This is like the findings of Ghazizadeh (2008) study in Iran that reveals GBV as significantly associated between husbands' education levels and violence against them. However, this is not consistent with the report from Rwanda where men with lesser education were less likely to report physical violence (Stemple, 2009).

5.3 The socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

Finally, the researcher also sought to explore the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. It was established that Men do not want to be viewed as weak by the community and their spouses. In addition, it was a taboo and a big shame in some cultures for a man to be beaten by a woman. Fear of embarrassment was another socio-cultural barrier to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. It was also reviewed that society looks at men as stronger beings hence men who experienced female perpetrated gender-based violence barely reported to the police. Finally, it was established that the justice system is not well equipped to deal with GBV cases against men.

This is consistent with George (2007) who asserted that traditionally, men who were victims of GBV are publicly humiliated to conform to societal gender roles that they are the dominant sex. This culture had the effect of repressing male victims to keep GBV against men invisible. Similarly, Lambert et al. (2003) argue that the anti-man culture surrounding GBV has an effect on male victims, as they are reluctant to get help because of humiliation and ridicule they may experience. Dominant notions of masculinity also play a major role in viewing men as perpetrators of GBV, but they also influence why men victims seem reluctant to seek help and support.

Likewise, Naino (2013) contend that the counter man culture encompassing GBV affects male casualties, as they are hesitant to get help due to embarrassment and derision they might insight. Prevailing thoughts of manliness likewise assume a significant part in survey men as culprits of GBV, yet they likewise impact why men casualties appear to be hesitant to look for help and backing. This is also steady with Mubanga (2019) who stated that generally, men who were casualties of GBV are openly embarrassed to adjust to cultural orientation jobs that they are the predominant sex. This culture curbed male casualties to keep GBV against men imperceptible.

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Introduction

This chapter talks over the study's main findings. The chapter presents conclusions and recommendations. It further summaries particular suggestions for future research related to the topic under discussion.

6.1 Summary

The purpose of the study was to explore factors leading to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence. The study used a quantitative approach that emphasized objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through questionnaires. Specifically, the study sought to; identify the socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence; identify factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men and to; explore the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. From 100 circulated questionnaires to men residing in Mtendere Township, 44 valid responses were received representing a 44% total response rate. Three officials from the Gender Division under the office of the Vice President and a Police Officer from Mtendere Police station under Victim Support Unit were also engaged in the study.

6.2 Conclusion

It was revealed that violence against men is not uncommon but many tend to dismiss, ignore and treat it with selective inattention. Male abuse remains hidden while female abuse is paraded before the public, as crisis lines and victim shelters are being established. It was revealed that numerous factors led to low turnout of men in reporting cases of female perpetrated gender-based violence. The study established that men did not want to be viewed as weak by the community and their spouses. In addition, it was a taboo and a big shame in some cultures for a man to be beaten by a woman. Fear of embarrassment was another socio-cultural barrier to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men. It was also reviewed that society looks at men as stronger beings hence men who experienced female perpetrated gender-based violence barely reported to the police. Lastly, it was established that the justice system is not well equipped to deal with GBV cases against men.

6.3 Recommendations

Based on the objectives and findings of the study, the subsequent recommendations are deemed essential:

- Government should strengthen support behavioral change through community outreach to prevent and advocate against GBV
- Government should continue working in collaboration with local and international cooperating partners to help victims and survivors of GBV
- Government should improve the quality and access to legal services for GBV survivors
- Efforts to reduce GBV should be based on the evaluation of all laws put in place and involve women to participate in decision making to ensure compliance to these laws and policies to ensure family welfare and development.
- More research needs to be conducted not only on domestic violence against men but violence against men in general.
- There is need for a change in perception that gender-based violence is only a woman's issue. This research has revealed that gender-based violence affects men as well yet there is more to this violence than what has been revealed
- Churches and local organizations must take a leading role in counselling other counsellors such as traditional and community counsellors to help curb this type of violence
- Also, churches and local organizations must work to identify victims of GBV in their community and ensure that they do not end up adopting negative coping up strategies like drug and alcohol abuse.
- There is need to ensure that advocates of gender-based violence should not be very bias when talking about issues to do with domestic violence. They should be encouraging both men and women to stop engaging themselves in domestic violence.
- The Police and other relevant authorities should be applying the law equally to encourage both men and women to report perpetrators of domestic violence.

- There is also need to put up more programs to sensitize the public about the rights that people have with regards to domestic violence

6.4 Suggestions for further reading

Regarding to this current study, several recommendations for future research are drawn. Firstly, this study only focused on Mtendere Compound Lusaka Province. Similar studies can be conducted in other compounds or towns with an increased sample size and make the findings even more generalizable. Besides, the study established that GBV was caused by factors like low income as well as alcohol and drug abuse. Perhaps, studies can be conducted to specifically investigate how these factors eventually lead to GBV against men.

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Appendices

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MEN

Dear Respondent,

*My name is **Lenford Kasungu** a resident of Lusaka and a student from the University of Zambia (UNZA), would like to undertake a research study with you on the culture of shame and the right to be heard: Female perpetrated gender based violence against men and help- seeking behaviour. Thank you for the time you are taking to respond to complete this questionnaire. This is purely an academic exercise; the answers you provide will be used for academic purposes only and will be held in a strictest confidentiality. You are free not to respond to any question that you are not comfortable answering.*

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do not write your name in the questionnaire
2. Please do not omit anything
3. Seek clarification on any question you are not clear#

Section A: Background data for respondents.

1. Marital status

- a. Single []
- b. Married []
- c. Divorced []
- d. Widow/ widower []
- e. Separation []

2. What is your age?

.....

3. What is your employment status?

- a. Employed
- b. Not employed
- c. Self-employed / Business

d. Other__specify_____

4. Level of education

- a. Primary
- b. Secondary
- c. Tertiary
- d. Never been to School

5. What is your religious background?

- a. Christianity
- b. Muslim
- c. Others, Specify.....

Section B: Socio-demographic characteristics of men who are victims of gender-based violence

6. Have you ever heard about GBV? Yes [] No []

7. What do you understand as GBV (Mark all that apply)

- a) Violence against any women
- b) Violence against your wife
- c) Violence against both men and women
- d) Other_____

8. Have you ever been a victim GBV? Yes [] No []

Follow up questions should be the relationship the victim has with the perpetrator and also if they are not victims, ask about what they think are the likely victims of GBV against men!

9. If yes what is your relationship with the perpetrator

- a) Wife
- b) Girlfriend
- c) Stranger
- d) Other

10. What form of GBV did you experience?

- a) physical
- b) Emotional

- c) Sexual
- d) Other

.....

11. Whom do you think is the likely perpetrator of GBV against men

- a) Wives
- b) Girlfriends
- c) Strangers
- d) Other

12. How did the incident affect you (circle yes or no to the following)?

- i. Emotionally? (yes, no)
- ii. Psychologically? (yes, no)
- iii. Economically? (yes, no)
- iv. Socially? (yes, no)
- v. Other.....

Section C Factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

1. What factors are associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

- a. Joblessness among men
- b. Alcohol and drug abuse among men
- c. Alcohol and drug abuse among women
- d. Age difference among couples
- e. Poverty
- f. Modern culture
- g. Area of residence
- h. Others

.....

2. What strategies did you use to deal with GBV?

- a. Report to the police
- b. fight back
- c. Report to elders / Family members
- d. Not reporting anywhere. Give reasons

e. Other

3. What are the challenges faced to the implementation of these strategies?

- a. Stigma.
- b. Shame.
- c. Guilt.
- d. Fear of Ostracization.
- e. Reframing of sexual abuse as torture.
- f. Homophobic backlash
- g.
.....
.....
.....

4. In your own opinion what do you suggest on what can be done to address the challenges mentioned?

- a. Community Sensitization on female- perpetrated GBV
- b. Encouraging men to report all forms of female- perpetrated GBV
- c. Other
.....
.....
.....

Section D the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

1. What are the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men

- a. Men are viewed as strong beings be cannot be abused
- b. Men who report GBV cases against their spouses are viewed as weak
- c. Other

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

2. Do you have any institution or organization that is mandated to address issues related to GBV?

Yes [] No []

3. Are you aware of GBV services offered by institutions? Yes [] No []

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR OFFICIALS FROM THE GENDER DIVISION

1. How prevalent is gender based violence against men in Zambia
2. What are the laws governing gender based violence in Zambia
3. What are the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men
4. What challenges is the government facing in fighting gender based violence against men
5. What policies have you put in place to fight Gender Based Violence

Thank you for your time

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR OFFICIALS FROM THE VICTIM SUPPORT UNIT

1. How prevalent is Gender Based Violence against men in your area?
2. How often do you receive cases of female perpetrated Gender Based Violence against men in your area?
3. What are the factors associated with female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men
4. What are the socio-cultural barriers to reporting of female-perpetrated gender-based violence against men
5. What challenges do you face in fighting gender based violence against men
6. What policies have you put in place to fight gender based violence?

Thank you for your time