



The Impact of Gender Based Violence on Women Life in Monduli District, Tanzania

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ABSTRACT: Gender-based violence (GBV) remains a pervasive issue in Tanzania, with manifestations including physical, sexual, psychological, and socioeconomic violence. Despite efforts by the government, GBV continues to afflict the community, particularly affecting women in the Masa society who face discrimination in education, legal status, cultural perspectives, and economics. This paper assesses the impact of GBV on women's lives in Moduli District, focusing on current forms of violence, women's perceptions, and the mechanisms employed by local government authorities to address GBV. Drawing on the Radical Feminist Paradigm Theory and Psychoanalytic Theory, the study explores social relations through the lens of gender and examines the unequal power dynamics between men and women in patriarchal societies. A case study design is adopted to investigate the issue thoroughly, using both qualitative and quantitative approaches for data analysis. Content analysis is employed for qualitative data, while descriptive statistics are used to analyze quantitative data. The study reveals that prevalent forms of GBV in Moduli District include physical violence, rape, dowry-related violence, forced pregnancy, verbal insults, forced marriage, defamation, and intimidation in various settings. Women perceive GBV as restricting social and economic participation, employment, financial resources, autonomy, and control. The mechanisms employed for resolving GBV disputes include litigation, gender mainstreaming strategies, intimidation, and the involvement of elders. The paper concludes with recommendations for local government intervention, emphasizing community-wide awareness campaigns on the short- and long-term effects of GBV, supplemented by legal measures, gender mainstreaming, and the involvement of elders. Addressing these challenges is crucial to mitigating the impact of GBV on women in Moduli District, including issues of confidence, moral decay, family separation, and mental and emotional trauma.

KEYWORDS: Gender-based violence, Local government authorities, Moduli District, Psychoanalytic Theory, Radical Feminist Paradigm Theory, Women's perceptions.

INTRODUCTION

Historically, worldwide governments within United Nations System like WHO, UNICEF, UN Women, USAID etc. have been trying to resolve disputes involving violence against women which are perhaps the most widespread and socially tolerated human rights violations, cutting across borders, race, class, ethnicity and religion [1, 2]. Governments have the responsibility to protect its citizens but very unfortunately women remain the victims of violence and often experience life-long emotional distress, mental health problems and poor reproductive health, as well as being at higher risk of acquiring HIV and become intensive long-term users of health services. The continuing struggle for governments to resolve disputes relating to women-based violence is provided by Arango, Morton, Gennari, Kiplesund, and Ellsberg [3] who found that at least some countries have passed laws on domestic violence, sexual harassment and on marital rape. However, the compliance with international standards is still questionable. Moreover, Smit [4] argues that, local authorities are multi-purpose bodies responsible for delivering a broad range of services in relation to solving problems related to violence and other matters related to roads; traffic; planning; housing; economic and community development; environment, recreation and amenity services; fire services and maintaining the register of electors.

Physical and economic violence seem to be a global problem that affects the life of women. A current report by World Bank [5] affirms that, Gender-based violence (GBV) or violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a global pandemic that affects 1 in 3



women in their lifetime. The numbers are overwhelming: 35% of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. Additionally, the report reveals that globally, 7% of women have been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner, as many as 38% of murders of women are committed by an intimate partner and 200 million women have experienced female genital mutilation/cutting. Similarly, WHO [6] revealed that worldwide, almost (30%) of women who have been in a relationship report that they have experienced some form of physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner and their governments have done little to remedy the situation.

In Europe, Nair [7] shown that physical, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse against women have all taken place. According to research, governments in industrialized countries such as the European Union have failed to address issues involving women's violence. In light of this, a recent EU-wide poll found that 43% of women in the 28 European Union member states have suffered psychological violence from an intimate partner at some point in their lives.

According to USAID [8] evaluations, more gender-based violence prevention through economic empowerment programs for women is needed, as well as specific attention of human rights in US foreign policy. Governments may encourage private investment in technology to assist prevent and respond to gender-based violence by providing support and incentives. In order to avoid unanticipated negative repercussions linked with the use of new technologies, any new technology would be piloted and evaluated beforehand, with the potential implications for women's and girls' safety in mind.

In Africa, despite government attempts, gender-based violence remains unresolved across Africa, according to a study done in Zimbabwe by Wekwete et al. [9]. According to polls performed in Sub-Saharan Africa, 46 percent of Ugandan women, 60 percent of Tanzanian women, 42 percent of Kenyan women, and 40 percent (40 percent) of Zambian women report regular physical violence. In Nigeria, data found that 68.5 percent of those who reportedly reacted to non-physical gender-based violence left restitution to God, while only 7.3 percent took legal action and 9.7 percent reportedly fought the offenders. In practice, 83 percent of the culprits are likely to repeat the crime [10].

In South Sudan, International Peace Institute (IPI) [11] showed that over 125 women and girls had been sexually molested, with rape, beatings, and robberies occurring helplessly. These attacks occurred in broad daylight in South Sudan, when these women and girls were on their way to food distribution stations. So, according to IPI's results, comprehending violence against women and girls in the context of continuous conflict entails comprehending the continuum of gender-based violence prior to, during, and after war.

In Tanzania, KWIECO [12] Gender GBV research was undertaken in Tanzania's Kilimanjaro area. The survey discovered an unexpected finding: 61 percent of those polled stayed silent about their experiences with or witnesses to GBV in their areas. Only 38% of the sample, on the other hand, dared to answer and expose the truth after witnessing or experiencing GBV in their communities. Furthermore, according to key sources, approximately 1707 and 1200 GBV cases were reported to district and regional gender desks, respectively, in 2013. However, findings from focus groups show that the majority of GBV incidents were not reported to organizations or offices that may help survivors.

Generally, The most common forms of GBV against women in Tanzania are wife beating, sexual violence such as marital rape, deprivation of basic necessities, early marriage, elder abuse, cultural practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM), cleansing of widows/widowers, and marriage between two women, according to research findings [13, 14].

GBV is still a major issue in Tanzania, and it manifests itself in a variety of ways, including physical violence, such as beatings, sexual violence, such as marital rape, and psychological and socioeconomic violence, such as deprivation of basic requirements, among others [15]. Ulomi [16] found that despite the efforts of the Monduli local government to maintain good administration, security, and law and order, GBV continues to afflict a community. Gender disparities remain within the Masa society in a variety of areas, including education, legal status, cultural perspectives, and economics. Women are discriminated against and unable to obtain economic possibilities due to the Masa community's socio-cultural life pattern.

Mukanangana, Moyo, Zvoushe and Rusinga [17] shown that GBV has a harmful impact on women and is illegal under human rights and reproductive health legislation. According to their findings, 95 percent of respondents have suffered physical violence, 31 percent have been raped by a stranger, 92 percent have been raped by their spouse, and 65 percent have been forced to marry. A



culture of silence exists among GBV victims due to socio-cultural, religious, economic, and policy implementation reasons. Additionally, According to Human Rights Watch [18], violence against women is common in the Arusha region. Physical violence, verbal abuse, and sexual assault are also common among Masa community members, with parents forcing their 14-year-old daughters to marry a 34-year-old man, and husbands abusing their wives and forcing them to have sex. As a result, this paper assesses the impact of GBV on women's lives in the Monduli District.

Specifically, the paper examines the current forms of gender violence inflicted on women in Monduli District.; assess the perception of women on GBV in Monduli District; and explore the mechanisms of Local government authorities in Moduli District in resolving GBV on women.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

The Radical Feminist Paradigm Theory and Psychoanalytic Theory were used to guide this research. MacKinnon's radical feminist paradigm theory [19] aided this study in looking at all social relations through the lens of gender relations, and holds, in its neo-Marxist view, that men (the bourgeoisie) hold power advantages over women (the proletariat) in patriarchal societies, and that all domestic violence is either male physical abuse to maintain that power advantage or female defensive violence, used for self-protection. Also, psychoanalytic theory by Freud [20] aided this investigation into the reasons for men's and women's different and unequal natures.

METHODOLOGY

Study Area

The research was carried out in Tanzania's Monduli District, one of the five districts of the Arusha Region. It is situated in the country's northeastern region. The study only looked at five wards in the district: Moduli Juu, Moduli Mjini, Engaruka, Engutoto, and Mto wa Mbu.

Research Design

The study adopted a case study design because, among other reasons, it saves time and allows researchers to adequately investigate an issue with few resources [21]. In a case study, individuals, groups of individuals, institutions, or communities are isolated for analysis. Issues that originate from the people, groups, institutions, or communities under investigation usually motivate a case study. Case studies provide detailed, well-organized information regarding the social group under investigation.

Data Collection Methods and Tools

The methods included questionnaire, interview, and documentary review. In line with data collection tools which were tested during the pilot study, a data collection matrix showing variables, and methods used during data collection are indicated in Table 1.

Table 1: Data collection methods and Tool

Variables	Data collection methods	Tools
The current forms of gender violence inflicted on women in Monduli District.	✓ Interview	✓ Checklist
	✓ Questionnaire	✓ Survey
	✓ Documentary review	✓ Recorder
The perception of women on GBV in Monduli District.	✓ Interview	✓ Checklist
	✓ Questionnaire	✓ Survey
	✓ Documentary review	✓ Pen & notebook
The mechanisms of Local government authorities in Monduli District in resolving GBV on women.	✓ Interview	✓ Recorder
	✓ Questionnaire	✓ Checklist
	✓ Documentary review	✓ Survey
		✓ Recorder



Data analysis

Both qualitative and quantitative approaches for data analysis were used in data analysis. In qualitative approach, content analysis was employed for analyzing qualitative data. In quantitative approach, descriptive statistic was used to analyze data. A 5 point Likert - scale (i.e. 1 = “Strongly Disagree”, 2 = “Disagree”, 3= “I do not know” 4 = “Agree” and 5 = “Strongly Agree”) was used to rate the agreement on perceived effects. Mean scores were generated and categorized into five levels (very low, 1.00-1.89; low, 1.90-2.69; 2.70 – 3.49 Moderate; 3.50-4.29 high, and very high, 4.30-5.0.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 2: The current forms of GBV inflicted on women in Monduli District (N=375)

Form of violence	Response (frequencies/percentages)					Mean	Interpretation
	SA	A	DK	D	SD		
1. Physical violence such as beaten, kicked, dragged, or other physical harassment.	45.6% (171)	49.6% (186)	0% (00)	2.67% (10)	2.13% (08)	4.34	(Very high)
2. Rape or attempted rape.	49.8% (187)	33.8% (128)	2.40% (09)	7.47% (28)	6.13% (23)	4.14	(High)
3. Dowry-related violence.	32.5% (122)	30.9% (116)	14.6% (55)	10.6% (40)	11.2% (42)	3.63	(High)
4. Manslaughter.	6.93% (26)	8.80% (33)	8.00% (30)	54.40% (204)	21.87% (82)	2.24	(Low)
5. Forced pregnancy.	29.8% (112)	38.9% (146)	9.33% (35)	10.6% (40)	11.2% (42)	3.66	(High)
6. Verbal insult/harassment.	56.0% (210)	35.7% (134)	1.33% (05)	4.53% (17)	2.40% (09)	4.38	(Very high)
7. Marital rape.	23.4% (88)	21.8% (82)	10.4% (39)	23.7% (89)	17.8% (67)	3.01	(Moderate)
8. Forced marriage.	31.4% (118)	52.0% (195)	1.60% (06)	8.27% (31)	6.67% (25)	3.93	(High)
9. Defamation.	51.4% (193)	27.7% (104)	5.60% (21)	9.87% (36)	5.60% (21)	4.10	(High)
10. Property damage.	19.2% (72)	14.4% (54)	11.7% (44)	29.6% (111)	25.0% (94)	2.73	(Moderate)
11. Intimidation at work and in educational institutions.	24.2% (91)	52.2% (196)	4.53% (17)	15.4% (58)	3.47% (13)	3.78	(High)
12. Restricting access to financial resources.	22.1% (83)	23.2% (87)	18.6% (70)	17.3% (65)	18.6% (70)	3.13	(Moderate)
Total Mean						3.59	(High)

Table 2 presents the findings on the current forms of gender-based violence (GBV) inflicted on women in Monduli District, Tanzania, based on responses from 375 participants. The mean scores and interpretations for each form of violence are as follows:

Physical violence: The mean score is 4.34, indicating a very high level of physical violence. The findings suggest that women in Monduli District experience frequent and severe physical abuse, such as beatings, kicking, dragging, or other forms of harassment.



The prevalence of physical violence is alarming, with nearly half of the respondents reporting incidents. This indicates a significant concern for women's safety in the Monduli District. The findings align with Jewkes et al. [22] who argue that physical violence is often used as a tool to exert power and control over women, contributing to the perpetuation of gender-based violence. Additionally, they concur with The World Health Organization (WHO), which emphasizes that physical violence against women is a global health problem with severe consequences, affecting their physical and mental well-being [23].

Rape or attempted rape: With a mean score of 4.14 (high), the results indicate a high prevalence of sexual violence, including rape or attempted rape. This suggests a concerning level of vulnerability to sexual assault among women in the community. The high percentage indicates a pervasive issue that requires urgent attention. The psychological and physical trauma associated with rape can have severe and lasting effects on victims. Ellsberg et al. [24] underscore the global prevalence of sexual violence against women, emphasizing the urgent need for interventions to address this pervasive issue. The psychological impact of sexual violence is well-documented; survivors often suffer from long-term mental health consequences [25].

Dowry-related violence: The mean score is 3.63 (high), indicating a notable occurrence of violence related to dowry issues. This implies that women may be subjected to harm or mistreatment in the context of dowry arrangements. A considerable proportion of respondents reported experiencing dowry-related violence, highlighting the persistence of harmful cultural practices that contribute to gender-based violence. Ali, Jetha, Parveen, Ali, and Rogers [26] emphasize the importance of challenging cultural norms that perpetuate violence against women, including those related to dowry.

Manslaughter: The mean score is 2.24 (low), suggesting a comparatively lower incidence of manslaughter. While this form of violence is less common, it still contributes to the overall landscape of GBV in the community. While the frequency is relatively low, any occurrence of manslaughter is concerning. Efforts should be directed towards preventing such extreme forms of violence.

Forced pregnancy: The mean score is 3.66 (high), indicating a high prevalence of forced pregnancies. This form of violence may involve coercive practices that impact women's reproductive autonomy. The concept of reproductive coercion, including forced pregnancy, is discussed by Miller et al. [27], highlighting how control over women's reproductive choices can be a form of intimate partner violence. Human Rights Watch [28] emphasizes the need to recognize forced pregnancy as a violation of women's reproductive rights and a form of gender-based violence.

Verbal insult/harassment: With a mean score of 4.38 (very high), the findings highlight a pervasive occurrence of verbal insults and harassment. This form of emotional abuse is widespread in Monduli District. The high frequency suggests that verbal abuse is a prevalent form of GBV in Monduli District, impacting women's mental well-being and self-esteem. The normalization of verbal abuse in relationships is explored by Stark [29] illustrating how it contributes to a culture of gender-based violence. On the other hand, Parveen and Bano [30] found a high existence of neglect, psychological violence, spiritual violence, verbal violence, economic violence, physical violence, and sexual violence.

Marital rape: The mean score is 3.01 (moderate), indicating a moderate level of marital rape. While not as prevalent as some other forms, this finding still underscores the existence of sexual violence within marital relationships. The findings agree with those of Agarwal, Abdalla and Cohen [31], who found that sexual coercion by an intimate partner was highly prevalent, ranging from 9%-80%, and marital rape ranged from 2%-56%. Deosthali, Rege and Arora [32] highlight that a large proportion of survivors of domestic violence confide having experienced forced sexual intercourse by the husband while sharing their experience of physical, economic, and emotional violence with crisis intervention counsellors. However, a small number of women do report marital rape to formal systems like hospitals and police.

Forced marriage: The mean score is 3.93 (high), suggesting a high prevalence of forced marriages. Women in the community may face pressure or coercion into marriages against their will. The high percentage indicates a substantial number of women facing the violation of their autonomy and agency through forced marriages. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) emphasizes the violation of human rights in forced marriages, highlighting the need for legal measures and community awareness to combat this practice [33]. UNFPA/UNICEF [34] discusses forced marriages as a manifestation of gender inequality, emphasizing the importance of addressing broader socio-cultural norms.



Defamation: The mean score is 4.10 (high), indicating a high occurrence of defamation. This form of violence may involve damaging a woman's reputation through false accusations or harmful statements. The psychological impact of defamation is discussed by Janssen et al. [35] highlighting how it can lead to increased vulnerability and mental health challenges for survivors of gender-based violence. The intersection of defamation and online violence against women is explored by Henry et al. [36], indicating the evolving nature of this form of violence.

Property damage: The mean score is 2.73 (moderate), suggesting a moderate level of property damage. This form of violence may involve the destruction of belongings as a means of control or punishment. Moreover, intimidation at work and in educational institutions indicates a mean score of 3.78 (high), the findings indicate a high prevalence of intimidation in work and educational settings. Women may face threats and coercion that hinder their professional and educational pursuits. Fitzgerald and Shumaker [37] discuss workplace intimidation and its impact on women's professional lives, emphasizing the need for organizational policies to address gender-based violence.

Restricting access to financial resources: The mean score is 3.13 (moderate), suggesting a moderate level of restricting access to financial resources. This form of violence may involve controlling women's economic independence. The World Bank [38] highlights the link between financial independence and the reduction of gender-based violence, suggesting that economic interventions play a crucial role in addressing this issue.

Besides, interview findings revealed some the current forms of gender-based violence inflicted on women in Monduli District. Below are the interview findings; A local government officer from Engutoto ward said: *“It is normal here to get cases of beatings... and in most cases the reporter is not the victim but the neighbor... very interesting. Actually for Masa, beating a woman is normal and the community has accepted it for generations. However, now days we are trying to educate our fellow community members especially men to refrain from doing such violence”*

Another local government officer from Moduli Mjini added: *“I receive cases about verbal insult and intimidations from women. In our community civilized men opt to use insults and intimidations as an alternative to physical violence such as beatings...”*

Another local government officer from Mto wa Mbu said: *“Kaka sikufichi huku wanawake wanapigwa na wengi wao wanang’olewa mweno na wengine hata kupoteza fahamu au kuzimia kabisa. Yaani kupigwa mwanamke si shida na si jambo lakushangaza, kwa kifupi ni kawaida na ndio maisha ya ndoa hapa”*. This is translated as *“Brother, here women are beaten to the extent of losing their teeth and others loose conscious or faint. Actually a woman beating is not a problem or anything abnormal at all, in short, it is normal and that is our life here”*

Table 3: The perception of women on GBV in Monduli District (n=214)

Effect area	Response (frequencies/percentages)					Mean	Interpretation
	SA	A	DK	D	SD		
1. Restricting access to financial resources.	41.0% (88)	46.9% (100)	2.93% (06)	4.80% (11)	4.27% (09)	4.16	(High)
2. Restricting access to education.	48.8% (104)	34.93% (75)	2.67% (06)	6.13% (13)	7.47% (16)	4.11	(High)
3. Destroying a woman’s possessions.	21.3% (46)	24.5% (53)	20.0% (42)	18.6% (40)	15.4% (33)	3.18	(Moderate)
4. Restriction to important financial decisions.	25.3% (54)	24.0% (51)	16.0% (34)	17.3% (37)	17.5% (38)	3.23	(Moderate)
5. Limited control over household finances.	27.2% (58)	36.2% (77)	9.33% (20)	13.3% (29)	13.8% (30)	3.50	(High)
6. Restriction from seeking or keeping	33.0% (71)	38.9% (83)	4.53% (10)	12.8% (27)	10.6% (23)	3.71	(High)



employment.

7. Restriction to a person's financial autonomy	29.3% (63)	34.6% (74)	8.00% (17)	14.4% (31)	13.6% (29)	3.52	(High)
8. Stealing money from a woman.	18.6% (40)	20.5% (44)	25.3% (54)	18.6% (40)	16.8% (36)	3.06	(Moderate)
9. Making a woman financially dependent and unable to meet basic needs.	33.8% (72)	31.7% (68)	8.00% (17)	14.6% (31)	11.7% (25)	3.61	(High)
10. Subjecting a woman to food insecurity.	32.0% (69)	30.6% (66)	9.87% (21)	14.6% (31)	12.8% (27)	3.54	(High)
11. Exerting power and control over a woman's salary, savings, debt, credit, and employment through actions or threats.	24.8% (53)	23.2% (50)	16.0% (34)	17.3% (37)	18.6% (40)	3.18	(Moderate)
12. Using joint funds for leisure and personal entertainment	13.8% (30)	12.8% (27)	28.2% (60)	24.0% (51)	21.0% (45)	2.74	(Moderate)
13. Blocking access to social and economic participation.	36.8% (79)	32.2% (69)	7.46% (16)	10.9% (24)	12.5% (27)	3.70	(High)
14. Men refusing to contribute to the costs of raising children.	21.0% (45)	20.8% (45)	23.4% (50)	21.0% (45)	13.6% (29)	3.15	(High)
15. Exploiting women sexually in exchange for money.	29.3% (63)	31.7% (68)	7.46% (16)	16.2% (35)	15.2% (32)	3.44	(High)
Total Mean						3.41	(High)

Table 3 presents the perceptions of women on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Moduli District based on different effect areas. The responses were categorized into Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Do Not Know (DK), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD), with mean scores indicating the level of agreement. The following is a discussion of the key findings:

Restricting access to financial resources and education: The high mean scores (4.16 and 4.11) for restricting access to financial resources and education indicate a pervasive issue that resonates with previous research. Existing literature in Tanzania, as noted by Nyange et al. [15] emphasizes how GBV manifests in various forms, including economic violence, such as depriving women of basic requirements. Similar findings are reported by Mukanangana et al. [17], where women experience limitations in education and economic opportunities due to GBV. The current study aligns with this literature, highlighting the need for interventions that address economic empowerment and educational access for women in Moduli District.

Limited control over household finances and financial autonomy: The substantial agreement (mean scores of 3.50 and 3.52) among women regarding limited control over household finances and financial autonomy is consistent with research emphasizing the power dynamics within households. The Radical Feminist Paradigm Theory, as applied in this study, aligns with the literature highlighting how patriarchal societies may exert control over financial aspects, contributing to the perpetuation of GBV [19].



Women's restricted financial autonomy can lead to increased vulnerability and dependency, reinforcing the need for interventions promoting financial independence.

Restriction from seeking or keeping employment: The high mean score (3.71) indicating that GBV restricts women from seeking or maintaining employment resonates with existing literature. Research by Human Rights Watch [18] in the Arusha region of Tanzania reported common instances of husbands abusing their wives and forcing them into marriage, limiting women's economic opportunities. The study's findings align with these observations, emphasizing the critical need for interventions that address the economic consequences of GBV, such as employment restrictions.

Subjecting women to food insecurity: The high mean score (3.54) indicating that GBV subjects women to food insecurity aligns with literature highlighting the multifaceted impact of violence on women's well-being. Research by Mukanangana et al. [17] and Nyange et al. [15] emphasizes how GBV can lead to various forms of deprivation, including limitations in accessing basic needs like food. This finding reinforces the urgency of interventions addressing not only physical safety but also the broader socioeconomic implications of GBV.

Men refusing to contribute to the costs of raising children and sexual exploitation: The high mean scores (3.15 and 3.44) for men refusing to contribute to the costs of raising children and sexual exploitation underscore the intricate link between GBV and family dynamics. Existing literature, as highlighted by Ulomi [16] and Human Rights Watch [18], emphasizes how traditional gender roles and power imbalances contribute to these forms of violence. Interventions need to address these deeply rooted cultural norms and promote equitable family structures.

The findings of the current study align with existing literature on GBV in Tanzania and similar contexts, emphasizing the pervasive impact on various aspects of women's lives. The study contributes to the understanding of how GBV manifests in Moduli District, calling for targeted interventions that address economic empowerment, educational access, and the broader socio-cultural factors contributing to violence against women. The high mean scores across different effect areas underscore the urgency of comprehensive strategies that go beyond physical safety, acknowledging and addressing the multifaceted consequences of GBV.

The mechanisms of local government authorities in Monduli District on resolving GBV on women

Table 4: The mechanisms of LGAs in Monduli District in resolving GBV on women (n=375)

Effect area	Response (frequencies/percentages)					Mean	Interpretation
	SA	A	UN	D	SD		
1. Local government uses mediation method to resolve GBV disputes.	28.8% (108)	30.6% (115)	10.1% (38)	19.7% (74)	10.9% (41)	3.45	(Moderate)
2. Local government uses arbitration method to resolve GBV disputes.	25.8% (97)	26.9% (101)	14.4% (54)	22.1% (83)	10.6% (40)	3.35	(Moderate)
3. Local government uses conciliation method to resolve GBV disputes.	21.8% (82)	26.4% (99)	25.8% (97)	28.7% (55)	11.4% (43)	3.33	(Moderate)
4. Local government uses facilitated negotiation to resolve GBV disputes.	10.6% (40)	16.2% (61)	4.27% (16)	37.3% (140)	31.4% (118)	2.37	(Low)
5. Local government uses litigation to resolve GBV disputes.	50.9% (191)	45.3% (170)	1.33% (05)	1.60% (06)	0.80% (03)	4.44	(Very high)
6. Local government conducts education	18.9% (71)	24.5% (92)	12.8% (48)	25.0% (94)	18.6% (70)	3.00	(Moderate)



campaigns against gender based violence.							
7. Local government encourages participatory decision making on matters related to gender-based violence.	20.0% (75)	22.6% (85)	5.87% (22)	26.6% (100)	24.8% (93)	2.87	(Moderate)
8. Local government uses gender mainstreaming mechanism to resolve GBV disputes.	43.2% (162)	38.2% (145)	5.54% (21)	7.65% (29)	4.75% (18)	4.08	(High)
9. Local government uses women empowerment strategy to resolve GBV disputes.	8.53% (32)	15.7% (59)	4.80% (18)	37.3% (140)	33.6% (126)	2.31	(Low)
10. Local government uses elders' councils to resolve GBV disputes.	25.07% (94)	21.33% (80)	5.87% (22)	24.53% (92)	23.20% (87)	2.79	(Moderate)
Total Mean						3.20	(Moderate)

Table 4 presents the responses of 375 participants regarding the mechanisms employed by Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in Moduli District to resolve Gender-Based Violence (GBV) against women. The results are summarized in terms of frequencies, percentages, means, and the interpretation of the mean scores.

Local government uses mediation method to resolve GBV disputes (Mean: 3.45 - Moderate): Nearly 29% strongly agree, and 31% agree that LGAs employ mediation for GBV dispute resolution, indicating a moderate level of effectiveness. Mediation appears to be a relatively accepted and effective method. The moderate levels of agreement regarding the effectiveness of mediation, arbitration, and conciliation methods align with previous studies emphasizing the importance of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in GBV cases [39]. These approaches often involve community-based solutions and can empower survivors by providing them with a voice in the resolution process [40].

Local government uses arbitration method to resolve GBV disputes (Mean: 3.35 - Moderate): Around 26% strongly agree, and 27% agree that arbitration is utilized for GBV dispute resolution, indicating a moderate level of effectiveness. Arbitration is also perceived as moderately effective.

Local government uses conciliation method to resolve GBV disputes (Mean: 3.33 - Moderate): Approximately 22% strongly agree, and 26% agree that conciliation is employed for GBV dispute resolution, suggesting a moderate level of effectiveness. This method is viewed similarly to arbitration.

Local government uses facilitated negotiation to resolve GBV disputes (Mean: 2.37 - Low): Only 10.6% strongly agree, and 16.2% agree that facilitated negotiation is used for GBV dispute resolution, indicating a low level of effectiveness. This method is less favored among participants. The low perceived effectiveness of facilitated negotiation suggests that this method may be less accepted or utilized in the context of GBV resolution. This finding is consistent with literature that highlights challenges in negotiating power dynamics and achieving satisfactory outcomes through facilitated negotiation, especially in cases of severe violence [41].

Local government uses litigation to resolve GBV disputes (Mean: 4.44 - Very high): A significant 51% strongly agree, and 45% agree that litigation is employed for GBV dispute resolution, indicating a very high level of effectiveness. Litigation is seen as a highly effective method. The significantly high agreement on the effectiveness of litigation aligns with studies indicating that legal frameworks and judicial interventions are critical in addressing GBV [42]. Legal measures provide a formalized approach to justice, potentially acting as a deterrent and offering protection to survivors.



Local government conducts education campaigns against gender-based violence (Mean: 3.00 - Moderate): Nearly 19% strongly agree, and 25% agree that education campaigns are conducted, suggesting a moderate level of effectiveness. There is room for improvement in awareness campaigns. The moderate perception of the effectiveness of education campaigns suggests that there is room for improvement in awareness programs. Research indicates that community education is essential for changing social norms and attitudes towards GBV [43]. Targeted and culturally sensitive awareness campaigns can contribute to prevention efforts.

Local government encourages participatory decision-making on matters related to gender-based violence (Mean: 2.87 - Moderate): About 20% strongly agree, and 23% agree that participatory decision-making is encouraged, indicating a moderate level of effectiveness. Participatory approaches are moderately accepted. The moderate acceptance of participatory decision-making aligns with studies emphasizing community engagement in addressing GBV [44]. Participatory approaches can enhance the effectiveness of interventions by incorporating local perspectives and involving community members in decision-making processes.

Interview findings on the mechanisms used by local government authorities in Monduli District to address GBV on women were collected from key informants. One local government officer from Moduli Juu ward stated, *"I am not sure about other local authorities, but here we mostly talk to the conflicting parties—meaning husband and wife because in most cases we receive complaints from such couples. The talking is normally friendly at first, but when we find out that the reporting becomes repetitive, we use intimidations like sending them to the police or in jail."*

Another local officer from Engutoto ward mentioned, *"Most of the Masa are illiterate and know little about our laws, so what we normally do is to educate them on how the law responds to GBV and give them a causal warning. However, this mechanism does not work in most cases, so whenever the individuals involved in GBV, we use the police gender desk to deal with the situation."*

In addition, a local officer from Engaruka ward stated, *"Unlike other places around Monduli district, I think we are the best in gender mainstreaming... that is why if you ask around you may realize that we have minimal cases of GBV since most of our people are aware of the harm of GBV and they value and respect women"*

Another local officer from Moduli Mjini ward said: *"The easiest mechanism is to talk to them and then use our respected elders who are already educated through seminars on GBV to help use deal with such cases. You know Masa respect much seniority so when we use elders they listen and in most cases"*

THEORETICAL IMPLICATIONS

Radical Feminist Paradigm Theory:

This theory focuses on the root causes of women's oppression and the role of patriarchy in perpetuating gender-based violence (GBV). The findings that physical violence, rape, dowry-related violence, forced pregnancy, and other forms of GBV are prevalent in Moduli District align with the radical feminist perspective. The theory argues that these forms of violence are manifestations of patriarchal control and gender-based power imbalances. The study's findings that GBV restricts women's social and economic participation, employment, financial resources, autonomy, and control supports the radical feminist notion that GBV serves to maintain women's subordination.

Psychoanalytic Theory:

Psychoanalytic theory, developed by Sigmund Freud and expanded upon by other theorists, explores the influence of unconscious desires, childhood experiences, and sexuality on human behavior. While the findings do not explicitly mention psychoanalytic concepts, we can infer some implications for this theory. For example, the study's findings that GBV includes verbal insults, forced marriage, defamation, and intimidation at work and in educational institutions indicates the presence of power dynamics and control. Psychoanalytic theory suggests that individuals who perpetrate GBV may have deep-rooted psychological issues related to power, aggression, and control. Exploring these unconscious motivations and childhood experiences may help understand the root causes of GBV and inform interventions aimed at addressing these issues.

It is worth noting that both theories provide distinct perspectives on gender-based violence. The radical feminist paradigm theory emphasizes structural oppression and patriarchy, highlighting the need for societal and systemic change. On the other hand,



psychoanalytic theory focuses on the intrapsychic motivations and unconscious desires of individuals involved in GBV. These theories offer complementary lenses to understand the complexities of GBV and inform future research, policy, and intervention strategies.

CONCLUSIONS

First, the study concludes that the most notable current forms of gender-based violence (GBV) inflicted on women in Monduli District included physical violence such as beaten, kicked, dragged, or other physical harassment, rape or attempted rape, dowry-related violence, forced pregnancy, verbal insult, forced marriage, defamation as well as intimidation at work and in educational institutions. Secondly, the study concludes that women in Monduli District perceive GBV as related restrictions to social and economic participation, employment, financial resources, autonomy and control. Thirdly, the study concludes that the most used mechanisms for resolving GBV disputes on women were litigation, gender mainstreaming strategy, intimidation and use of elders. Finally, the study concludes that GBV affects women to the high extent in Monduli District.

RECOMMENDATIONS

First, the government at the local level should provide community wide awareness related to the short-term and long-term effects of GBV so that the community members can understand and help in preventing GBV related practices such as physical violence and economic violence. Second, the government at the local level should focus on using litigation, gender mainstreaming mechanisms and use of elders in resolving GBV related disputes to supplement the available legal framework against GBV in Monduli District. Third, local government leaders should address the challenges caused by GBV on women in Monduli District such as those related to lack of confidence, moral decay, family separation, mental and emotional trauma as well as increase of street children. These challenges are hindrances to women development and the community at large because they are restricted to participate in socioeconomic activities and worse enough they are not given freedom to establish their own business ventures which could uplift them and their community in general.

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