Relationship Between Bride Wealth and Security of a woman in Makindye Division, Kampala District

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Abstract

The study objective was to establish whether there is a significant relationship between bride wealth and security of a woman in Makindye division, Kampala District. It was guided by the following research question; what is the relationship between bride wealth and security of a woman in Makindye Division Kampala District, Uganda? The study adopted a cross sectional case study design. The study population was 110,224 from which a sample size of 56 respondents was chosen from the Married Women, Local Community Opinion Leaders, and Local Council Leaders (LC1) in Makindye Division. The study used both primary and secondary data collection methods as complementary on Questionnaire Survey and Interview instruments. The study found out that; bride wealth and Security of a woman are significantly correlated (r =-0.355), the sig. value indicate that there is negative and significant correlation (sig. = 0.000 <0.05) leading to a conclusion that Bride wealth significantly improves Security of a woman at 5% level of significance. Basing on these results, the stated null hypothesis of "there is no significant relationship between Bride wealth and security of a woman" is rejected, and thus the findings showed a negative relationship between Bride wealth and security of a woman. These results lead to a conclusion that an improvement in the bride wealth is likely to improve security of a woman in Makindye Division. The same results are supported by the Linear regression results which also indicate that all bride wealth existing in makindye division influence security of a woman in makindye division (F=22.290, sig. =0.000). The same results also indicate that all aspect on bride wealth included in the regression model contribute over 12% towards variations in security of a woman in Makindye division (Adjusted R^2 =0.120). About the Relationship between bride wealth and security of woman, the study recommends that; Non State Actors should carryout advocacy programmes that would stop escalation of bride wealth and create security of a woman while in marriage.

1. Introduction

Bride wealth refers to money, property, animals or other form of wealth paid by a groom to the family of the woman. In some societies, marriage is delayed until all payments are made. If the wedding occurs before all payments are made, the status is left ambiguous. The bride wealth tradition can have destructive effects when young men don't have the means to marry. In strife-torn South Sudan, many young men steal cattle for this reason, often risking their lives. Quite a number of societies which encourage paying bride wealth to the bride's family believe that it (bride wealth) has many functions such as legitimization of children, solidifying bonds of marriage, and to compensate the girls' family for loss of services. Basically, this study focuses on the relationship between bride wealth payment and security of a woman. Bride wealth payment is said to result in marriage stability because kinsmen find it difficult to return it and so put pressure on the woman to remain in the marriage. Furthermore, from the standpoint of the man and the woman involved in marriage institution, the payment of the bride wealth puts both of them into the status of husband and wife respectively, and in so doing confers certain rights and obligations on the two. There is a strong relationship between bride wealth and security of a woman because bride wealth payment strengthens marriage as legal and conjugal rights on the side of a woman to her husband and can fully accuse the husband when such rights are violated. As a husband and a wife they incur reciprocal rights and obligations for which they are held accountable. In addition, bride wealth payment to some extent enables the woman have some sense of being respected by the groom's family, becomes part of the family and may have a say on some issues concerning her husband's home. However, what should be noted is that; nor does the payment of bride wealth prevent a woman from seeking to end an unsatisfactory marriage, since she can usually find another man who is both willing and able to return the bride wealth-a situation that makes her less dependent on her kinsmen.

Key words

Relationship, Bride wealth, Security of a woman

2. Review of Related Literature

This section reviewed related literature about the subject matter under study. The literature reviewed was picked from books, journals, presentations and reports.

Relationship between bride wealth and security of a woman

According to Rogers (2004) Studies on the effects of high bride wealth on marital stability abounds. Bloch and Rao (2002) studies in rural India showed that high bride wealth could affect marital stability. They presented a model whereby the husband hurts his wife's well-being in order to extract a payment from his in-laws where he feels the bride wealth was much. Bloch and Rao rely on a signaling mechanism, in which the abandonment threat is made credible by resort to violence. The bride's family gives in to violent behaviour because it can only be committed by husbands willing to abandon their wife if their request is not satisfied. Thus, bride wealth was found to precipitate violence which has high tendency to affect stability of marriages. Writers of marriage payments have deliberated on the impact of high bride wealth on stability of marriages in Africa and other developing countries.

Alupo (2004) have cited instances where Bride wealth is a major factor contributing to domestic violence in the relationships thereby threatening the stability of marriage in Uganda. Bride wealth is a commercial transaction with the marriage being valid only when bride -wealth has been paid but it has sometimes been seen as the basis for the claim that women are exchanged for goods as if they were commodities, normally there is bargaining between the parties concerned. To him, a lot of women in Uganda have suffered and had their rights violated because of bride wealth payment. This has implications on the stability of marriage in the area and elsewhere in the world. Once the man has paid Bride Wealth the woman is reduced to the status of property because the man has paid for her. She does not only become part of the property but even what she works for, becomes part of the husband's family property because they paid bride wealth. This affects women's freedom thereby affecting their marital stability. It forces a woman to live under an intolerable and hostile family environment subjects her to servitude and slave like conditions hence leading to violence against women, when the marriage breaks down.

Ansell (2001) argue that though marriage payments can take many different forms, no consensus exists on which of these forms, if any; will enhance the welfare of women. In theory, bride wealth could be interpreted as explicit recognition and valuing of women's productivity and contribution to marriage; in practice, it often serves to limit women's control over their bodies. Both sexually and in terms of their labor, high bride wealth has long been linked to domestic violence, owing to women's fear of returning to their natal home without being able to repay the bride wealth. Bishai and Grossbard (2006) demonstrate that high bride wealth increases the number of extramarital affairs for men, but decreases those of women. This extra-marital affairs increase the chance of marital problems in the family. Often the men do feel that a woman has become his property hence heavy bride wealth paid on her head.

Rogers (2004) commenting on the bride -wealth and dehumanization of women in Uganda, linked it to some violence against women which could destabilize marriages. To him, bride wealth is supposed to be a symbol or a token of appreciation to the family of the girl to be married off (the bride) and not meant to dehumanize women as property to be owned, sold and bought off in order to satisfy men's selfish desires and egos. However, bride wealth is being misused to abuse Women and women. Men tend to think that after paying the bride wealth women become their goods, services and personal property to be owned, mistreated and dumped when they have outlived their purpose and use. The conception produces a negative effect as the relationship between men and women is affected.
Methods and Sampling Techniques.

Area of the study

The study was carried out in Makindye Division in Kampala district. Makindye Division was one of the five administrative divisions of Kampala, the capital of Uganda, and the largest city in that country. The city's five divisions are: (a) Kampala Central Division (b) Kawempe Division (c) Lubaga Division (d) Makindye Division and (e) Nakawa Division. Makindye Division is in the southeastern corner of the city, bordering Wakiso District to the south and west. The eastern boundary of the division is Murchison Bay, a part of Lake Victoria. Nakawa Division lies to the northeast of Makindye Division. Kampala Central Division lies to the north and Lubaga Division lies to the northwest.

3. Methodology
Target population

The Target population was 110,224 from which a sample size of 56 respondents were chosen from the married women, local community opinion leaders (women) local council leaders (LC1) in Makindye Division and had the relevant information on bride

wealth and security of women (UNBOS Population Census of Uganda, 2014).

Sample size

Due to limited time and resources, a sample size of (56 people) was selected from the target population of (65) respondents (Krejcie & Morgan, 1970) divided as seen in Table 1 below. This study used simple random sampling for those in the community opinion leaders and local council leaders Simple random sampling is good for in-depth analysis, it enabled high representation of the population, less bias, and simplifies data interpretation and analysis of results (Black, 1999). While purposive sampling was used for married couples it allowed for probing more on security of a woman.

Table 1: Shows the distribution of sample Size

Category	Target Population	Sample size	Sampling technique
Community opinion leaders	15	12	Purposive sampling
Local council leaders (LCI)	10	10	Purposive sampling
Married women	40	34	Simple Random sampling
Total	65	56	

Source: Primary Data, 2017

Sampling Techniques and Procedures

The Makindye division was chosen because it ranked the highest in population of people especially married couples (GoU, 2003). In addition the area was accessible to the researcher in terms of cost, time and information (Creswell, 1994).

Simple Random Sampling

The participants in the study were selected through simple random sampling method for respondents among them married couples to have an equal chance of being selected to be part of the study. Simple random sampling was best because it was easy to collect data when the population members are similar to one another on important variable (Gay, 1996). It also ensured a high degree of representativeness and ease of assembling the sample (Thompson, 2002; Levy& Lemeshow, 2008).

Purposive Sampling

Purposive sampling was used for selecting the particular groups of people in the population especially community opinion leaders, Local council leaders (LCI). This

sampling procedure was used for its cost efficiency and effectiveness to collect specific information and allows for probing for clarity (Kothari, 2004).

Data collection methods

The study used both primary and secondary data collection methods as complementary.

Questionnaire Survey

These were designed objective by objective (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999) for 56 respondents. The questionnaires were used to collect data on the factors that lead to security of a woman because it was practical; allows large amounts of information which can be collected from a large number of people in a short period of time and in a relatively cost effective way, could be carried out by the researcher, the results of the questionnaires can usually be quickly and easily quantified by either a researcher or through the use of a software package (Sekaran, 2003). Questionnaires help gather information on knowledge, attitudes, opinions, behaviors, facts, and other information.

Interview Method

The researcher had an interview guide and a note book to ask and record the interview session and also used a recorder and after that the data was thematically arranged and meaning made from it through descriptive methods that allows for quotations to be made. The method was more expensive than questionnaires, but was better for more complex questions, low literacy or less co-operation. In addition, this method was good for probing and keeping the respondent in line with the questions for clarity and expansions, and was used to collect data from mainly key informants on security of a woman.

Documentary Review Method

This method allowed a researcher to obtain information related to the study from journals, magazines, government reports textbooks, legal instruments, and periodical reports among others to gain an understanding of factors that lead to security of a woman in Makindye Division and other urban centers in Uganda.

Data collection instruments

Self-Administered Questionnaires

The research instrument included the Self-Administered Questionnaire (SAQs). SAQs were used because they were the most suitable in a survey that involves a large number of respondents (Amin, 2005). In addition, Self-Administered Questionnaire was very suitable for the target respondents given their high levels of English

literacy. Finally, SAQs consume less time and money compared to other methods (Alston & Bowels, 1998). A questionnaire was also preferred because it provides first-hand information.

Interview Guide

Interviews were mainly used to get information from key informants. Interviews were good for probing clarity, and more detailed explanations by the respondent and they keep them focused to the study topic. In addition, the interviews were used in order to collect additional data that might have been left out by the questionnaires especially closed-ended ones (Amin, 2005).

Documentary Review Guide

The documentary review method was used for ascertaining trends, gaps and the way forward. Some of the documents reviewed include government, non-government documents and reports, dissertations, library books, the Internet, newspapers and magazines as were presented in the literature review.

Validity and Reliability

Validity

Validity was the ability of the research instrument to measure what it aims or is supposed to measure. According to Amin (2005), the research instrument must be appropriate for the study objectives to be achieved. The researcher consulted and discuss validity instrument with colleagues and supervisors to limit errors as much as possible (these should be judges who are experts in the field). The colleagues with the expertise were given questions so that they could rate each question on a five point rating scale which indicates strongly agree (1), agree (2), neither agree or disagree (3), disagree (4), and strongly disagree (5). The formula is;

$$CVI = \frac{\text{Number of Questions Declared Valid in Q}}{\text{Total Numbers of Questions}}$$

Where CVI is Coefficient Variable Indicators
Out of the total number of items of the questionnaire, the questions that were considered very relevant and quite relevant were rated. The content validity index for the questionnaire should indicate 0.7 to confirm them valid since it was above 0.7 (Amin, 2005). This meant the items of the instrument were proved valid. The researcher finally incorporated the comments while drafting the final copy.

Reliability

Reliability of an instrument is the dependability or the trustworthiness of an instrument. According to Amin (2005), it is the degree to which the instrument consistently measures what it is supposed to measure. This method picked on a single pre-test group and showed the degree to which the items in the questionnaire were inter-correlated. That is, a respondent who would had completed the questionnaire were again politely asked to complete another fresh questionnaire (retest) after two weeks to prove the answers earlier filled for consistence or how close they relate (Amin (2005). Internal consistence of the items in the questionnaire was established using Cornbach's formulae to computer the alpha co-efficiency of reliability.

To get the reliability, the data was entered in the computer and analyzed using the statistical package for social scientists (SPSS), which was useful for providing a Cronbach Co-efficient Alpha test for testing reliability. After approval, 56 copies were given to the respondents to ensure completeness, consistency and coding of data systematically in its entirety on the same day to allow contact of respondents for further information or clarification if needed (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999). The Formula states;

$$\alpha = \frac{K1}{K-1} \left[\frac{1 - \sum \sigma^2 \, K}{\sigma^2} \right]$$

σ = Variable of the total test
$\sum \sigma \, K$ = Sum of variance of the questions in the instrument]
K = No. of questions in research instrument

Data Collection Procedures

The researcher first sought permission from local council leader who later granted the permission to the researcher to conduct research in his area. Thereafter a rapport with the respondents was created to ensure trust. The procedure helped to improve the usefulness, timeliness, accuracy, comparability and data collection of high quality for better analysis and reporting.

4. Data Analysis

This was the process of bring understanding and meaning to data collected for validity and reliability (Sekaran, 2003). Data collected from the field was first of all sorted, edited, coded and entered into in the computer using SPSS. This package was useful to the researcher to present data using tables, graphics and frequency tables and further help the researcher generate descriptive statistics such as means and standard deviations.

Qualitative data was analyzed and presented in form of texts and interviews, impressions, words, photos; symbols are examined and presented using descriptive or narrative method where the researcher presented detailed literature description of the respondents' views for the reader to make their opinions (Bell, 1993). While quantitative data was presented using a percentage distribution technique (Creswell, 1994). Closed-ended questions were record and then the answers to each question were checked for every questionnaire for used for calculating the percentage of participants who gave each response. For saving time and cost, they were analyzed by generating quotations, single words and making brief phases. For individual interviews, these were used to produce data in the form of notes, a summary of individual interviews (Bell, 1993).

Results and Discussions

Here, results are presented and discussed in line with the stated objective.
The objective of this study was; to assess factors that lead to security of a woman
This objective was intended to assess the factors that lead to security of a woman a case study of Makindye Division, Kampala District. The Security of a woman constructs included; Assurance, Countermeasures, Defense in depth, risk and vulnerability. Each of these constructs had three (3) items respectively. Interpretation of mean scores in the subsequent tables was based on the following mean ranges:

Mean range	Interpretation
3.26-4.00	Very good
2.51-3.25	Good
1.76-2.50	Fair
1.00-1.75	Poor

Table 2: **Pearson's Linear Correlation Coefficient results for Bride wealth and Security of A woman**

Variables correlated	R-value	Sig.	Interpretation	Decision on Ho
Bride wealth Vs security of woman	-.357	.000	significant relationship	Rejected

Source: Primary Data, 2017

The results in Table 2 indicate that Bride wealth and Security of a woman are significantly correlated (r =-0.357).the sig. value indicate that there is negative and

significant correlation (sig. = 0.000 <0.05) leading to a conclusion that Bride wealth significantly improves Security of a woman at 5% level of significance. Basing on these results, the stated null hypothesis of "there is no significant relationship between Bride wealth and security of a woman" is rejected, and thus the findings showed a negative relationship between Bride wealth and security of a woman. These results lead to a conclusion that an improvement in the bride wealth is likely to improve Security of a woman in Makindye Division, Kampala District.

To get the final picture on how Bride wealth affects security of a woman, three aspects of Security of a woman index were regressed against bride wealth, results of which are indicated in table 3 bellow; and the remaining three aspects were not significant, however the overall general picture showed a positive and significant effect.

Table 3: Regression Model for Security of a woman and Bride wealth

Variables regressed	Adjusted R²	F	Sig.	Interpretation	Decision on Ho
Security of a woman Vs Bride wealth	.120	22.290	.000	significant effect	Rejected
Coefficients	**Beta**	**T**	**Sig.**		
(Constant)	___	31.798	.000	significant effect	Rejected
Cows and land	-.339	-4.485	.000	significant effect	Rejected
Property	-.311	-4.077	.000	significant effect	Rejected
Money	-.182	-2.300	.023	significant effect	Rejected

Source: **Primary Data, 2017**

The Linear regression results in Table 3 above indicate that bride wealth significantly affects Security of a woman (F=22.290, sig. =0.000). The results indicate that the three constructs of Bride wealth included in the regression model contribute over 12% towards variations in all the three aspects of Security of a woman in Makindye Division (Adjusted R^2 =0.120). The coefficients section of this table indicates the level to

which Bride wealth affect Security of a woman and this is indicated by Beta values. For example, of all the three aspects in bride wealth , Money has the biggest impact on Security of a woman with a beta value of -0.182, suggesting that Money contribute over -18% towards variations in security of a woman . This is followed by Property style (Beta=0.311), and lastly Cows and land style (Beta=-0.339). This implies that for Security of a woman to improve and last, the bride grooms in Makindye division should come up and emphasis Money as an aspect of bride wealth, followed by Property and Cows and land, bride wealth should be thought of if they want to boost Security of a woman in Makindye Division.

Results using Pearson's Linear Correlation Coefficient found that bride wealth significantly and positively correlated with security of a woman (r=-0.355, sig.=0.000). Regression analysis results indicated that bride wealth was found responsible for over 12% variation towards security of a woman in Makindye division (Adjusted r²=0.120).

> "These findings were in congruent with the ideas generated from interviews, where the local leader revealed that there is a strong relationship between bride wealth and security of a woman because it is after paying it to the bride's family then a wife gains respect in a grooms family, and feels comfortable in marriage and sometimes becomes part and parcel of the family decisions. Chairman LC I said. In addition, one the community opinion leader said, when bride wealth is paid then wife (bride) is fully considered a member of the grooms family and can produce for that family without fear".

These findings were also in line with those of Ansell (2001) who argue that though marriage payments can take many different forms, no consensus exists on which of these forms, if any; will enhance the welfare of women. In theory, bride wealth could be interpreted as explicit recognition and valuing of women's productivity and contribution to marriage and can make woman feel comfortable but he later differed with the findings of this study when he said that n practice, bride price often serves to limit women's control over their bodies. Both sexually and in terms of their labor, high bride wealth has long been linked to domestic violence, owing to women's fear of returning to their natal home without being able to repay the bride wealth.

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