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Exploring Violence and Responses among Women: The Case of Sudanese Women Refugees in Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia

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BAHIR DAR UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

Exploring Violence and Responses among Women: The Case of Sudanese Women Refugees in
Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia

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September, 2022
Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

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in Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia**

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Social Science, Department of Social Work for the Partial
Fulfillments of the Requirements of Master Degree in Social Work

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September, 2022

Bahir Dar University
Faculty of Social Science
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Exploring Violence and Responses among Women: The Case of Sudanese Women Refugees in
Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia

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Declaration

I, Gebeyehu Belay Ejigu, declare that this thesis is the result of my own work and all sources or materials used for this thesis have been appropriately acknowledged. This thesis is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of degree of Masters of Art in Social Work to the faculty of social science, Bahir Dar University. I confidently declare that this thesis has not been submitted to any other institutions anywhere for the award of any academic degree, diploma, or certificate.

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Acronyms / Abbreviation

AU	African Union
CEDAW	Convention of Elimination and Discrimination Against Women
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DEVAW	Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GOE	Government of Ethiopia
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IOM	International Organization of Migration
IP	Implementing Partner
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
RCC	Refugee Central Committee
RRS	Refugees and Returnees Service
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VAW	Violence against Women

Abstract

Violence against women refugees is the critical social problem of the society in the perspective of social work which become the central social, economic and health problem. However, in Ethiopia studies on violence against women refugees are limited. Most researches in this area were conducted in line with other problems of refugees. In order to explore comprehensively, it needs specific study. Thus, the main objective of the study was to explore the forms, cause, consequences and responses done by the actors to address violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp. In order to achieve these objectives, qualitative methods of data collection with case study design was employed. Hence, data were collected from in-depth interview of eighteen women refugees, four key informant interviews and FGD. The study found that Bambasi women refugees in the camp were exposed to sexual, physical, psychological and socio-economic violence including; attempt rape, physical injuries, rape, discrimination and stigmatization, gang rape, and denial of access to services by male refugees, host communities. Moreover, forced idleness, the setting of the camp, economic dependency, physical insecurity, lack of awareness, collapse of social and family structure, poor reporting, poor coordination and legal enforcement mechanisms were identified as contributing factors of VAW. Counseling, resilience training, awareness creation, and material support are among the responses to the survivors of VAW in Bambasi refugee camp. Hence, the researcher revealed the implications to the policy makers, social work practices, and future researchers.

Key words: violence, Sudanese, women refugees, contributing factors, forms, consequences, responses, Bambasi, refugees, camp, Ethiopia.

Table of contents

Contents	page
Declaration.....	3
Acknowledgements.....	5
Acronyms / Abbreviation.....	6
Abstract.....	7
Chapter One: Introduction	1
Background.....	1
Statements of the problem	3
Objectives of the study.....	6
Research questions.....	6
Significance of the study.....	7
Scope of the study.....	7
Operational Definition of Terms.....	8
Chapter Two: Literature Review.....	9
Definitions and Concepts of VAW and refugees.....	9
Forms of Violence against women in refuges.....	11
Contributing factors of violence against women in refuges.....	16
Consequences of violence against women refugees	18
Prevalence rate of violence against women in refuges	19
Perpetrators of violence against women refugees.....	21
Responses to violence against women refugees.....	23
Policies related to women’s rights and protection.	24
Theories on violence against women	25
Chapter Three: Research Methodology	28
Description of the study area	28
Research Approach and design.....	29

Selections of the study participants.....	30
Data collection method	32
Focus group discussion	33
Data collection procedures.....	34
Data analysis method	36
Ensuring trustworthiness.....	37
Ethical consideration.....	37
Chapter Four: Finding.....	39
Descriptions of Profiles of in-depth interview Participants	40
Forms of violence against Sudanese women refugees	41
Contributing factors for Sudanese women refugees	49
Consequences of violence against Sudanese women refugees	58
Responses of violence against Sudanese women refugees	68
Chapter Five: Discussion	76
Chapter Six: Conclusion and implications.....	81
Conclusion	81
Implications of the study.....	82
References.....	84
Appendices.....	89
Appendix A: Profile of the Respondent.....	89
Appendix B: Informed Consent	91
Appendix C: Interview Guideline	92

Chapter One: Introduction

Background

Recently, violence against women (VAW) has become a major concern and a serious problem throughout the world. According to Article 1(A)(2) of the UN Convention (1951) defines a refugee as an individual who is outside his or her country of nationality or habitual residence who is unable or unwilling to return due to war, conflict, and a well-founded fear of persecution based on his or her race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership.

In the global context, 82.4 million people around the world have been forced to flee their homes in which Asians and Africans refugees constitute the majority of all others continents. Among them nearly 26.4 million are refugees and half of the refugees are females (UNHCR, 2022). Africa has 14 million refugees. It has been stated that humanitarian crises, war, unstable political situations, and ethnic, tribal and religious violence are the leading causes of refugees fleeing their countries according to (McKenzie, Agic, Tuck & Antwi, 2016).

Krause (2020) explained that Ethiopia is one of the largest refugees hosting countries in sub-Saharan Africa and has hosted over 920,000 refugees and asylum seekers next to Uganda with 1.4 million refugees. Among these half of them are women refugees. According to RRS (2021), there are 18,831 refugees in Bambasi refugee camp where this research was conducted. The refugees are Sudanese, Congolese, and South Sudanese. Among these, female refugees constitute 50.1%. Refugee women are often exposed to direct humanitarian need and find themselves trying to sustain livelihoods in places which already have challenges such as poverty,

inadequate infrastructure, overburdened public services and governance weaknesses (Suleyman. 2014).

Studies indicated that VAW is highly observed with intimate friends. For instance, (Chakrabarti 2017) stated that marital rape and violence is largely over-looked among refugees. It is stated that, in refugee setting, there are multiple causes of VAW. First, social surroundings can enable assault, where women are more vulnerable. Second, lack of aid organizations and security workers and finally the camp design can permit the VAW.

On the other hand, Shelby, Peterman, & O'Donnell (2021), highlighted that at individual level, victimized women refugees are influenced by certain personal factors, including the age, educational level, migration status and the habit of using drug or alcohol in some ways make women more vulnerable to be sexually abused.

As of different causes, the prevalence rate of VAW in refugee setting is alarmingly increased. Kalunta (2017) stated that the global average estimate for prevalence of sexual and physical violence is about 35%. WHO (2021) exposed that the analysis of prevalence data from 2000-2018 across 161 countries and areas, on behalf of the UN Interagency working group on violence against women, found that worldwide, nearly 1 in 3, or 30%, of women have been subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner or non-partner sexual violence or both. Therefore, it is known that VAW is the concern of human right throughout the world.

In Ethiopia, refugee women and girls have been subjected to "physical, sexual and psychological abuse in the family and the community level which affects women's health, social and economic lives (Andualem, 2014) It is a crime which should be handled by the criminal

justice system. Many scholars agree that despite its high prevalence and its devastating effects on women's health, social and economic systems, VAW is largely a neglected issue (Cherinet & Mulugeta, 2002). The forms and complexity of sexual violence or harassment are getting worst in Ethiopia refugee camps specifically in the study area that motivates the researcher to conduct the study. Violence against women refugees cases have been reported frequently that attracted the attention of the researcher. Thus the researcher decided imperatively to conduct study on VAW refugees at Bambasi refugee camp, western Ethiopia through social work perspective.

Statements of the problem

Violence against women refugees is one of the most humiliating and damaging human rights violence outstretched over borders and cultures. It is the most common problem among women in refugee camps and it is a multifarious problem that cannot be ascribed to single cause but to a various set of dynamics Rashida & McRaith,. (2010). Gardsbane (2016), stated that although violence against women is a global phenomenon, it must be studied from a local perspective in order to address the root causes of the issue. Researchers have been demonstrating that Violence against women refugees is a global and highly complex phenomenon that challenges policymakers, service providers, community leaders, families, and individuals concerned with prevention and response.

The prevalence rate of VAW as Felegush (2019) highlighted that more than 30% of women worldwide have experienced either or both physical and sexual violence. And 38.6% of all female murders worldwide are estimated to be perpetrated by intimate partners. According to the qualitative study of Yonas (2013), gender based violence is seen as a complex and sensitive

issue to engage with, is covered in silence especially in refugee setting. According to IRC and UNHCR survey and assessment of each quarter, Violence against women refugees is frequently reported to the focal persons of GBV particularly in Bambasi refugee camp that the researcher conducted this research.

The qualitative research of Fiseha (2012) tried to explore how to create awareness to minimize intimate violence despite its limitation to assess forms and prevalence of VAW. It suggested that awareness creation of the perpetrator should be emphasized although one side intervention might not solve the entire problem rather creating awareness to the perpetrator shall be experienced. Most researches in this area were conducted in line with other problems of refugees like humanitarian services. In order to assess comprehensively, it needs specific study and exploration.

Etsegenet (2016) highlighted that Ethiopia is inspected for the insufficient legal framework, poor law enforcement and slow court systems, lack of political will, limited awareness of rights and cultural norms when it comes to the issue women violence to its nationality, so the problem becomes more difficult for refugee because they face multiple forms of discrimination experienced by refugee women and men and they become extra vulnerable because of their gender, refugee status affiliation.

Most importantly, violence against women refugees is a critical and worldwide problem that should be pragmatically studied and solutions should be recommended professionally. As of the data of Refugees and Returnees service, there is no study conducted on VAW refugee in Assosa zone, Ethiopia. This research may fill the gaps of the researches about violence against

women refugees since it is in the heart of social work as a student to work and explore social problems of disadvantaged groups especially for women. The study was conducted using qualitative methods to explore violence and highlight the responses and perpetrators as an instrument of rehabilitating from the problem. .

Response of VAW for many victims is unlikely to go to police stations to report their cases due to fear of the community (Helen, 2010). Most of measures taken are highly rely on reporting to the police and the perpetrator will be accused. However, this may not bring durable solution rather working on the awareness creation and prevention. The academic researchers have tried to highlight the prevalence rate, forms, causes and consequences of VAW in refugee settings. However, the measures taken and the responses to any act of violence were not addressed in the study area. Hence, the purpose of this study is to imply the findings of VAW refugees to the practitioners, policy makers, researchers and other concerning bodies. In order to fill the research gaps discussed above, the study explores contributing factors, forms, consequences, responses of refugees using qualitative research approach in Bambasi refugee camp.

Objectives of the study

General objective

This study was conducted to explore violence and responses among Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia.

Specific Objectives

- To explore the forms of violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi Refugee Camp
- To explore contributing factors of violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi Refugee Camp.
- To describe the consequences of violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp.
- To describe the responses taken by the actors (survivors, families, community and the refugee center) faced by Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi camp.

Research questions

- What are the forms of violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp?
- What are the contributing factors of violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp?
- What are the consequences of violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp?
- What measures are taken by practitioners, survivors, families and the refugee community to deal with violence against Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp?

Significance of the study

This study may provide insights to the health professionals, counselors, focal persons of GBV, psychiatrists and the organizations working with refugees about violence against women. This research may also provide suggestion to the communities to take helpful procedures for violence related problems and may help to generate responsive measures for violence against women.

It may also be supportive for social work researchers for literature review and source about violence against women in Bambasi refugee camp. This research may also provide insights for the policy makers concerning the pressing issues of refugee women. The researcher selected the study area due to the frequent reports of women violence to the focal persons of GBV, protection officers, and police in the camp. Hence, the findings of this study imply to the practitioners, policy makers and the researchers that there are various forms of VAW which is considered as a social problem of Bambasi women refugees.

Scope of the study

The scope of the study focuses on violence against women (VAW) and responses among Sudanese refugees at Bambasi refugee camp, Ethiopia. The study is delimited to sample population of Bambasi women refugees at all sites such as Zone A, Zone B, and Zone C sites. Qualitative method with case study research design is used. This study is conducted from January to September 2022.

Operational Definition of Terms

Refugees: are people induced to flee from Sudan following the outbreak of civil war, violence, conflict or persecution to Ethiopia who live in Bambasi refugee camp since 2012

Responses: Are the corrective measures, reactions, services and interventions intended to deliver for the victims to discourage violence against Sudanese women refugees and to rehabilitate survivors in Bambasi refugee camp.

Violence against women refugees: is any violence against Sudanese women refugees that results or is likely to result in physical, economic, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women in public or private life in or out of Bambasi refugee camp.

Women refugees: for the purpose of this research, women refugees are refugees at the age of 18-59 who have fled from Sudan to Ethiopia due to war and conflict and live in Bambasi refugee camp.

Bambasi refugee camp: the refugee camp which is found in the South –East part of Benishangul Gumuz Regional State with more than 18 thousand Sudanese refugees.

Chapter Two: Literature Review

Definitions and Concepts of VAW and refugees

Refugee, for many people, is an elusive concept. Different scholars define refugee differently associating with political and legal perspectives, whose definition has shifted over time. People within this population have been known by different names, such as exiles, asylum-seekers, stateless persons, expellees, forced migrants, nonconformists, and many more. Despite some similarities above, the term refugee is different in concept. For example, according to Mark, Schaubel & Figley, (2012), “Refugee is a person who has fled his or her home country because of life-threatening conditions such as war, armed conflict, natural disasters, or human-made disasters.”

United Nations conventions of 1951 relating to the status of refugees and he defined refugees are persons who have a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion; are outside the country of their nationality; and are unable to or, because of such fear, are unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country. In addition to the above definitions, Martin and Yankay (2013) defined refugee as “a person who is unable or unwilling to return to his/her country of nationality because of fear of persecution”. The perspective of this definition is different from Abraham’s definition. It emphasized on the unwillingness and inability of return back to homeland whereas the first definition focuses on having fear of persecution as the result of war and disaster.

According to Charles (2012), refugees are typed as: Asylum seeker, internally displaced persons (IDPs), Stateless person, and Returnees. However, Sara (2020) explained that refugees shall be classified based on the causes to flee. For example, refugees who have fled due to natural disaster, political difference, war and conflict.

O'Brien (2017), explained that there are situations where women are hungry, under stress, displaced and desperate, which could make them resort to 'survival sex'. In some of these situations, it seems that the women took a conscious decision 'acting to ensure their own survival and, often, the survival of their families. Scholars such as (Mwangi, 2012; Gladden, 2012, have analyzed the experiences and challenges of refugee women in some refugee camps. Despite the purpose of refugee camps being to provide safe shelter and protection for refugees; some of the camps have become unsafe places for several refugees, most of them being women. Gladden revealed that Women and girls often deal with added pressures such as being subjected to sexual abuse and violence in refugee camps.

Forms of Violence against women in refuges

For the purpose of this research, violence against women can be divided to four different main categories. These categories are: physical violence, emotional violence, sexual violence and economic violence. These main categories are often overlapping (Sara, 2020).

Sexual violence

Sexual violence is the most common form of gender based violence and may involve attempt to rape and actual rape, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and trafficking females for sexual purposes within country and internationally (Montle & Mogoboya , 2018). Sexual violence may also include gang rape and abduction. Sexual violence can be for example unwanted touching or attention, sexual comments, sex as result of intimidation, manipulation or extortion or in worse scare scenarios; rape. (Naistenlinja,2017).

Besides, according to Marija (2015) brutalization of women is “a deplorable and persistent trend.” Female refugees across the world are highly vulnerable to all forms of sexual and physical violence. In addition to the dangers women face from contesting armed groups, once on the move from the conflict zone, they are also at risk of being brutalized by human traffickers or even border security forces. Despite declarations and resolutions, current reports show that protecting female refugees from violence remains a complex problem.

Josie (2018) documented that women in refugee camps in Syria had been forced to offer sexual favors in return for aid from the united nation AID workers. Aid workers would allegedly regularly harass and abuse women and girls trying to access humanitarian assistance in the war-torn country, to the point that some stopped asking. According to Opeyemi (2018) about 40%

of the interviewee said that the sexual violence took place when they were accessing services in the southern Syrians cities of Daraa and Quneitra. Sexual violence is all acts in sexual manner in which the victim has no right to decide about their own sexuality. Consent is the key in all sexual matters and it can also be taken away at any time. The right for sexual self-determination is not dependable on how the person dresses or acts. The only one responsible for the violence is the perpetrator

Physical violence

According to (Rachel, 2017), Libyan refugees and migrants to Europe have been beaten, stripped, robbed and give electric shocks by authorities in the European countries where they are seeking asylums. physical violence which can be manifested through beating, punching, kicking, biting, burning, maiming or killing, with or without weapons; often used in combination with other forms of gender-based violence (Yonas, 2013).

Moreover, there are worst forms of physical violence such as trafficking and slavery. This form of violence greatly affects females' health and psychology. According to the WHO Multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women in 10 mainly developing countries, in rural Tanzania 47% of ever-partnered women have ever experienced physical violence by an intimate partner, while 31% have ever experienced sexual violence. Moreover, Physical violence includes all violence that are done in a physical way. These can mean for example spitting, punching, kicking, slapping, throwing and choking to name a few physical violence can be the first form of violence, but more often for example in relationships emotional violence comes before the actual physical violence. All types of physical violence are condemned act (Naistenlinja, 2017.)

Similar studies revealed that materials such as weapons, knives and other sharp instruments are used during physical violence (Mogoboya, 2018). Physical violence includes actual, attempted or threatened, physical assault. Most of the time perpetrators of gender based violence is physical abuse of female/ women are present or former intimate male partner (Mengistab, 2012). Studies from countries show that, one quarter to more than half of women report physical violence, and 40% of all female homicide victims are killed by their intimate partners in the United Kingdom (Johnson, 2004). Likewise, in Ethiopia, (Hiba, 2018) stated that women refugees in Ethiopia are more likely experienced physical violence than other forms of violence.

Emotional/ psychological violence

There is no simple definition of emotional and psychological violence. Researchers define it as the systemic destruction of a person's self-esteem and/or sense of safety, often occurring in relationships where there are differences in power and control (Doherty & Berglund, 2008). Emotional and psychological violence are complex and hidden levels of violence which make these kinds of violence as the serious forms of violence to be analyzed through qualitative studies (Johnson, 2014). Emotional and psychological violence often involves verbal abuse, acts of embarrassment, threats of violence, insult and name calling, humiliation in front of others and disrespect for opposite sex, blackmail, cruel and degrading treatment, placing restrictions on liberty and freedom of movement and the threat of abandonment (Zakar & Qureshi, 2013).

This form of violence is recognized by some researchers that the information was collected by asking women whether they have ever experienced four different acts of violence. The acts include insulting/cursing, humiliating/belittling, intimidating and threatening to hurt the

woman or someone she loves. Among the mentioned acts, insulting, cursing, humiliating and belittling can be considered as verbal violence. However, when the acts that involve threats are added to the mentioned acts, then it becomes emotional violence (Akya & Akarsu, 2015). Emotional violence is a violence that affects negatively on persons self-confidence. It is the most common form of violence, since all other forms include aspects of emotional violence too. Emotional violence can be sometimes difficult to identify but it is also a crime. Examples of emotional violence could be constant criticism, obsessive jealousy, name-calling, lying, threats of violence or destroying the victim's property (Naistenlinja, 2017).

Economic violence

According to Sanders (2015), economic violence is any act of violence related to unwise use of resources and incentives by the any partners, family members or community. Economic violence is one form of violence against women is economic violence. Economic violence is often considered within the scope of emotional or psychological violence. But recently, scholars have begun to define economic violence as a unique form of violence.

Sanders (2015) explained that economic violence is a unique and mandatory form of control behavior that the abuser uses in an intimate relationship other than physical, sexual and psychological abuse. Since economic violence is an important aspect of IPV, studies that ignore economic violence miss an important aspect of violence.

Economic violence are different from other forms of IPV (physical, psychological, and sexual violence), but is moderately associated with them. Victims who are exposed to a form of violence (physical, psychological, or sexual) are probably exposed to economic violence.

Women are exposed to economic violence and physical violence more than men and the risk of those who are exposed to economic violence to be exposed to physical violence are higher than those who have not experienced economic violence. Economic abuse is more common among women who experience IPV and activity restriction especially in refugee settings. It can also indirectly affect women's health through its association with economic, physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Postmus (2020) elucidated that Poverty and socioeconomic inequality are both causes and consequences of economic abuse. Poor women are more likely to be dependent on their male partners, and such dependency can be used as a tactic to control women, and this situation may lead to abuse which is supposed to be occurred in displaced and refugees. the problem is more critical in refugee context especially for women refugees. When rations and non-food item distributions like money, soap, and cooking materials are given to the refugees, men partners and family members use to sell out without the consent of women partners and family members according to the Postmus mentioned above

Contributing factors of violence against women in refugees

Researchers have found that causes of VAW are different depending on the context. For example, Shelby, Peterman, & O'Donnell (2021), highlighted that at an individual level, victimized women refugees are influenced by certain personal factors, including the age, educational level, migration status and the habit of using drug or alcohol in some way make women more vulnerable to be sexually abused. On the other side, Belay (2018) stated that there are various contributing factors of violence against women refugees. Such as, societies, vulnerability, the location of camps, and lack of NGOs. The above definition is limited to only the sexual violence of women despite there are various forms of violence are observed in refugee setting.

On the other hand, Anteneh, (2017) cited Heise,(1998) that there are various causes that push perpetrators to commit VAW and at the same time the victim to expose to such type of violence. Thus, the cause can be taken as a combination of factors, put the risk factors for VAW into four major levels: “the individual, the relationship, the community and the structural level”. A person who was exposed to violence acts in his childhood either experiencing or committing in close partners will have the chance to commit similar acts on his intimate partners. Relationships pattern contributes for the occurrence of VAW. For example a person who has multiple sexual partners can contribute for the risk of VAW. Krause (2020) highlighted that “all forms of violence are strongly linked to social determinants such as poor governance, weak rule of law, cultural, social, and gender norms, unemployment, income, and gender inequality, and limited educational opportunities”. Generally the following are some of the causes of violence against women refugees.

Belay (2013) in his dissertation explained that sometimes “sexual violence is used as a weapon of warfare, to humiliate or cause the disintegration of another community, as a part of ethnic cleansing”. Attacks by neighboring groups may occur in areas where refugees are considered materially privileged compared with the local population. Within camps, women who are economically successful have been targeted. Traditional tensions and feuds between various clans/groups may also give rise to sexual violence. In particular, the communal support systems for the protection of vulnerable individuals may no longer be present, for example, due to the absence of many male members from the community. Male attitudes of disrespect towards women may be instrumental in causing incidents of sexual violence. For example, camp guards and male refugees may look upon unaccompanied women and girls in refugee camps as common sexual property.

Scholars (Gelila, 2019) reasoned out that the geographic location of a refugee camp may increase the likelihood of sexual violence, if the camp is located in an area which has a serious crime problem for example, or is geographically isolated from the local population. The design and social structure in many refugee camps and settlements may contribute to the likelihood of protection problems. Camps are often overcrowded. Unrelated families may need to share communal living and sleeping space. In effect, such refugees are living among strangers, perhaps among persons who could be considered traditional enemies. Poor design of services and facilities may also contribute to security problems. Communal latrines and washing facilities may be at some distance from the living quarters, thereby increasing the potential for attacks.

Consequences of violence against women refugees

According to Heise, Lori, Mary, (2011) VAW has devastating consequences for victims, their families and the broader community. This explains the ecological Model arguing that there is no single factor or consequences that alone cause and effect of violence. Rather, it is the combination of and interplays between several factors on different levels of the society that affects the likelihood of perpetration of violence. The consequences of different forms of gender based violence include; ‘physical and health consequences, psychological consequences, and socio-economic consequences’. Reactions are likely to vary considerably depending on the victim’s age, and personality, prior experience, cultural background and the availability assistance (Campbell & McPhail, 2002).

Health consequences

Health related consequences of sexual violence may include HIV infections; sexually transmitted disease, pregnancy, and abortion. Intimate partner violence has been found to be independently associated with HIV infection (Fonck et al., 2005; Auerbach et al., 2005)

Psychological consequences

Glenn (2017) explained in his book that the consequence of refugee violence lead tot Traumatic disorder as a psychological consequence. Traumatic events like sexual abuse in refugee setting are significantly observed. Even if physical injury is minimal, victims have more probability to experience psychological trauma. In the worst cases they may develop a chronic mental disorder, suicides, endangering their lives, and others.

Social consequences

Scholars (Campbell & Raja, 2005) highlighted that after receiving insensitive treatment, many survivors felt guilty, depressed, distrustful, and reluctant to seek further help from the society. The social consequences of women violence can range from rejection by the spouse and immediate family members, to stigmatization by the community. They can also include deprivation of education, employment (doesn't include refugees' context), and other types of assistance and protection. It is therefore extremely important to be aware of sign of sexual violence and to investigate discreetly if there is any suspicion that an individual may have been subjected to it. Such investigation must be done in a sensitive and sympathetic way with complete respect for confidentiality. Many survivors will experience some degree of acute or chronic mental or physical health disturbance after their rape (Neville & Heppner, 1999).

Prevalence rate of violence against women in refugees

Kusuma, and Babu, (2017), stated that the prevalence of violence against women is highest in Africa (49%), Eastern Mediterranean and South East-Asian countries (39%) than others. However, in the current novel coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19), as of mid-March 2020, there are already reports from Australia, Brazil, China and the United States suggesting an increase in VAW by 50% than before. In China's Jianli County (central Hubei province), the police station reported receiving 162 reports of intimate partner violence (IPV) in February. In the United States, the National Domestic Violence hotline issued a statement in early March

2020 on “Staying Safe” during COVID-19, including anecdotal evidence of how perpetrators were using the virus as a scare tactic to threaten or isolate victims, and urging those at risk to make a safety plan, practice self-care and reach out for help (National Domestic Violence Hotline, 2020). In Australia, a survey of 400 frontline workers indicated that 40 percent reported an increase in “pleas for help” and 70 percent indicated an increase in complexity of cases (Lattouf, 2020).

In Africa natural and man-made disasters are very frequent. Consequently, the majority of the people of Africa, particularly women and girls experience the consequences. Obradovic (2014) highlights that in many cases during conflict men are inclined to face a threat on their home ground whereas women depart looking for shelter. In search of a safe environment and shelter, women and girls become exposed, vulnerable and affected by conflict in different forms. For example, Sinenhlanhla (2014) states several cases have been reported of children and women being subjected to sexual violence during and after their journey in South Africa. According to Sinenhlanhla for example, African Refugee women have less human agency, when they newly-arrive to their destination country.

In Ethiopia, The prevalence of women violence, including domestic abuse 50%, harmful traditional practices 57%, general negative perceptions 10%, attitudes, and beliefs about women and their abilities has been significantly observed. According to Gelila (2019), Following this, the Federal Government of Ethiopia has issued a relatively large amount of gender-friendly legislation and policies, including the ‘National Women’s Policy’, which was issued in 1993. The article conducted by Tenaw, Tesfaye, Gudina, and Habtamu. (2014) highlighted about the Prevalence rate of Violence among Pregnant Women. Among 425 women interviewed, 24% of the respondent experienced domestic violence by their intimate partner.

Perpetrators of violence against women refugees

Jenney (2018) highlighted that the perpetrators of refugee women violence in post disasters as well as in non-disaster times, mostly are men. Those committing women violence post disasters, are often also committing it in non-disaster times. For human trafficking, the criminal gangs are the perpetrators. The triggering factors for the perpetrators are related to, many men, drinking alcohol, unemployment, drug use,

(Jeanne 2010) in the handbooks for coordinating gender based violence intervention in humanitarian setting revealed that Violence against women refugees' perpetration is a global public health problem due to its detrimental effect on health and education, including depression, injuries, self-harm, sexually transmitted infections, substance misuse, chronic diseases, low school achievement, an increased school dropout rate, and increased absenteeism. VAW is linked to gender inequalities, the absence of power and control, social norms, and the mounting of abuse. Addisu, Catherine and Deborah (2020) explained the act of perpetration against women as "It creates and maintains the imbalance of power between men and women and is a fundamental violation of human rights."

Quarantines due to the outbreak of covid-19 also risk increasing VAW through increasing women and children's day-to-day exposure to potential perpetrators. Recent evidence suggests that when men migrate away from home, rates of intimate private violence decrease due to exposure reduction in Ethiopia as well as throughout the world.

Perpetrators usually commit the following crimes according to Sara (2020); Sexual harassment and sexual assault can be visible in different forms. These can be unwanted sexual comments, unwanted touching, forcing to watch porn, rough and violent sex and worst-case scenario rape. In all sexual situations, the consent is the key. All unwanted sexual behavior towards someone is sexual harassment or assault. These experiences can be very traumatizing and create trust issues. There can be also negative effects on body image and sexuality and relationships for a long time. Sara (2020) revealed stalking is also any pattern of behavior which has no real purpose but to annoy, terrorize or harass the victim. Typically stalking includes repeated telephone calls, unwelcome letters or gifts by mail, surveillance at work, home or any place the victim is known to be. Domestic and intimate partner violence is a broad problem in all communities in the world. Anyone can be victim of this violence regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation.

Jenny (2018) highlighted that “domestic and intimate partner violence is a pattern of violent behavior to gain or maintain power over an intimate partner, family member or other relative”. This abuse can take forms of mental, physical, economical or sexual nature. More often than not the violence incidents happen frequently and develop severity. In worst case scenarios this might cause serious physical injury or death. According to Farzana (2017) describe how it is believed that underground trafficking take place in the camps. The few cases that have been known received wide attention in the media. For instance he explains how a gang of three Bangladeshi men was arrested in Dhaka trying to get eighteen men and women to Saudi Arabia with false passports.

Olivius (2016) divides men refugees into three different categories in the context of sexual violence as perpetrators, allies and troublemakers. Olivius’ research showed that the

gender gap in the camps was big. Women are exposed to gender-based violence both from the outside and the inside of the community. Violence from their male partner became more normal now than in the past. The category of the troublemaker contained elements that could lead to women violence.

Responses to violence against women refugees

Ray & Anna (2017) explained that responses are measured through different approaches. According to the scholars, types of approaches and programs like support programs, strengthening identity programs, behavioral reform, community policing and monitoring programs, shelter/protection programs, justice, mediation programs, education programs, situational crime prevention are among the response to VAW.

According to Zelalem (2019), the victim's fear of reporting cases is developed due to their lack of awareness and supposition that no one can protect them. He found that the victims could not get an eyewitness, feared social stigmatization, feared revenge, did not have acceptance on the applicable law, and some of them are afraid to report as the abusers are among the school officials. Hence, such a problem may not be solved or is not likely to minimize the problem unless we will give emphases and more on community policing and behavioral reforms both in male and female.

Olivius (2016) states how governance of refugee camps involves complex relations of division of labor and division of authority. Camps are formally under the jurisdiction of the host country, which may enforce their authority via the presence of police or paramilitary personal In order to change the pattern of violence against women refugees in camps, incidents that are

detected or reported must be dealt with adequately. There is a two-way relationship between community response to cases of women violence and reporting of incidents by individuals. Willingness to report depends on community and family response, but ability to respond is also dependent upon reporting, Toang & Naami (2016). Prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence are directly linked to the protection of human rights.

Policies related to women's rights and protection.

The Ethiopian Refugee Proclamation No.409/2004 stipulates the rights, and obligations of recognized refugees and asylum seekers as it has adopted both in the protocol of UN Refugee Convention of 1951 and OAU Convention of 1969 (Hiba,2018). The Ethiopian Refugee Proclamation states that Ethiopia is providing asylum and protection to refugees and promoting their voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity whenever conditions permit. Article 13(2) of the Geneva Convention related to the Status of Refugees (1951), Article (22) of the Proclamation deals with a wide range of issues related to violence of women refugees within the context of protection. This means that authorities need to take appropriate measures to protect women refugees. According to the Proclamation No.409/2004, it shall be applied without discrimination as to race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. Women refugees should therefore not to be subjected to violence but are still being vulnerable as of the Criminal Code (2005) of Ethiopia. For the sustainable developments and independency of refugees, Ethiopia has adopted the nine pledges that supports and create life opportunities in different perspectives.

Theories on violence against women

Resilience Theory

Resilience is defined as the ability to bounce back from adversity, frustration, and misfortune and is essential for the effective survivors. The literature demonstrates that there is a direct relationship between the stress of the survivor and their ability to maintain resilience in the face of prolonged contact with adversity (Ledesma, 2012). Therefore, survival, recovery, and thriving are concepts associated with resilience and describe the stage at which a person may be during or after facing adversity that go beyond his or her original level of functioning and to grow and function despite repeated exposure to stressful experiences. It describes the ability to recover from negative life experiences and become stronger while overcoming them.

Resilience theory is applied in the study that violence against women refugees has to be suggested that the survivors to respond to thriving in three different ways when confronted by a challenge: first to survive the incident or to recover from the incident, and thrive as a result of enduring the hardship through counseling or other social work practices..

Therefore, this theory was applied for response or coping mechanisms of violence against women refugees since it gives ways how to bounce back from the problems as a social work theory. In line with the specific objectives of this study, resilience theory is a guiding theory to measures and responses taken by the actors especially for the rehabilitation purpose and ways to be resilient.

Public health model

Garcia (2020) stated that this model aims to understand who, what, when, where, and how of the issue. The data needed includes frequency of the violence, where it occurs, and who the

victims and perpetrators are. Such data is usually sourced from police reports, hospitals, and population surveys among others. This model helps to identify risk and protective factors. Identifying the risk and protective factors are important in order to focus prevention efforts. It also helps to develop and test prevention strategies. Planning and designing prevention programs must be evidence-based and drawn from research literature.

Hence, this model was used in the study since it is helpful to assess the risk factors of violence against women refugees and use to plan for the prevention methods as a very significant social work theory that works on the protective practice. The study used this model to deal with the one of the specific objective like contributing factors of VAW and its preventive ways through identifying the cause and prevention strategies.

The ecological model:

This model helps to conceptualize violence against women refugees to intervene a social work practices. The ecological model component of the integrated conceptual framework was used in this study to comprehend how personal, situational and socio-cultural factors work together to trigger violence against women and girls (Heise, 2011)

According to Bronfenbrenner (2005), it explains from individual response to social change. The scholar explains that the ecological model provides a method for understanding some of the key factors that contribute to women's and girls' risk of violence. The model is organized in terms of four levels of risk: individual, relationship, community, and society. The model highlights the importance of understanding the complex interplay of biological, psychological, social, cultural, economic and political factors that increase women's and girl's likelihood for experiencing violence and men's likelihood for perpetrating violence. In individual

level like using alcohol, relationship like marital instability and conflict, community level like norms and belief, and society like lack of legal system determine the magnitude of VAW. Hence, ecological model can be a blueprint for the response from the individual to the society level.

Therefore, this social work theory was used in the study to indicate how the social change and community intervention can bring durable solution than the individual intervention when a social problem is occurred in a community. It is helpful for identifying the forms of violence through community intervention and environmental and geographical influence to violence against women refugees.

Chapter Three: Research Methodology

Description of the study area

The setting of this research is Bambasi refugee camp which is located at Bambasi Woreda in Benshangul Gumuz Regional State, Ethiopia, and is 45 km from the regional town Assosa. According to the UNHCR (2012), Bambasi refugee camp commenced receiving over 9500 refugees since 2012. Nowadays, the camp is housing 18,831 refugees with 51% of the female residents and 4259 households updated RRS (2021). Majority of the refugees are Sudanese and very few refugees are from DRC and South Sudan. They can speak English although their mother tongue is Arabic. Bambasi refugee camp is characterized by very hot weather condition, which is located 7 km far from Bambasi Woreda, encircled by Eastern Oromia and southern Benshangul Gumuz. The camp was established to accommodate Sudanese refugees seeking international protection. Conducting the researches with women violence is quite critical as a social worker since refugee camps are supposed to have violence.

Ample amount of NGOs such as NRC, IRC, IOM, Plan international, UNHCR, ANE, WFP, RADO, LWF and RTP are delivering humanitarian services in cooperation with RRS. Among those service givers, IRC has taken responsibilities working on minimizing refugees' violence against women together with RRS and UNHCR. Despite some assessments and case studies, researchers have not explored researches on women violence in this research setting.

Research Approach and design

The objective of this study is to explore the forms, contributing factors, consequences and response of violence against women refugees. In line with the objectives and the research questions, qualitative method was employed. According to Creswell (2014), Qualitative research provides an in-depth and interpreted understanding of the social world of research participants by learning about their social and material circumstances, their experiences, perspectives and histories. Women refugees were the key target behind the investigation of violence against women. Thus, in choosing women refugees as research participant, the research made thoughtful decision by considering the central focus of qualitative research methodology.

Constructivist research philosophy was applied to understand the subjective reality of the participants' perception, and experiences in violence against women refugees. Qualitative approach was used in the study because it is the most appropriate way of exploring women's view of their experience and reality. Unlike quantitative studies that are concerned more with issues of frequency and distribution, qualitative research is rooted in the perspectives of participants and their subjective meanings. This approach explores and explains the hidden and invisible issues of women (Creswell 2014).

Hence, qualitative research was considered more relevant to undertake this research as it allows a greater capacity to gain more depth and meaning based on the experience of women refugees' violence which is contrary to numerical based of quantitative research Johnson and

Christensen (2017). Qualitative enquiry and analysis fit this purpose with stronger sensitivity. So, this approach was used by the researcher to explore the specific objectives of the study.

Case study research design was employed because it helps to explore the lived experience of the survivors via in-depth interview. In this case, to make the study more concrete and comprehensive in-depth interview was conducted with the interviewees, key informants and focus group discussion was also carried out to strengthen the finding and to cross check the data collected to reduce bias. Therefore, by using these justifications, the researcher found case study research design was the best suited research design to explore violence and response of women refugees in the camp.

Selections of the study participants

According to Jones, Torres and Arminio (2006) “participants’ selection in qualitative research is guided by the purpose of the study, methodology, approach and research questions with particular attention to the selection of cases most likely to provide in-depth coverage and insight in to the phenomenon under investigation”. The target population for this study was women refugees.

In this study, the researcher predominantly used purposive sampling technique to select the participants and the area of the study. Purposive sampling was used because it helps to pick out the sample in relation to some criterion, which are considered important for the particular study with the knowledge and experience they have on the case based on inclusion criteria Etikan, Musa, and Alkassim (2016). Accordingly, the study area, Bambasi refugee camp, was

purposely selected because the researcher is familiar with the area as he lived in a place for a long time. Bambasi refugee camp has three sites separated by zones. Such as Zone A, Zone B, Zone C.

Therefore, to explore the forms, causes, consequences and responses of violence against women, purposefully selected women refugees by setting some inclusion criteria were used. However, before the study participants were identified, the researcher used to select 4 key informants (a counselor, a psychiatrist, a health professional and a social worker) to select the study participants who were survivors of the violence against women in the camp to have a pilot interview.

According to Creswell & Poth (2018) in the in-depth interview study 10-20 respondents and not more than 20 study participants for FGD is recommended. Therefore, the researcher selected 18 respondents and 16 focus group discussants in two groups purposely based on inclusion criteria such as; can speak and understand English well, willingness and able to give explanation, age between 18-59, only Sudanese nationality. Hence, In order to gather qualitative data from victims of VAW, participants selected purposively.

Data collection method

In-depth interview

As Ritchie and Lewis (2003) indicated, “in-depth interview is quite significant because it brings people face to face and helps the interviewer to get essential idea and, can the researcher ask questions that need further elaboration by the interviewee”. The researcher conducted in-depth interviews that included life stories of varying depths with 18 women in three Zones, who were purposively selected. These interviews were conducted at least two separate interview sessions, typically lasting about the minimum of an hour and fifteen minutes up to one and half hours at maximum for each participant from April up to May 2022.

The researcher also tried to select women whose stories thought to be and would represent a range of experiences, including women who said they had good relationships with their male partners after the experience, as well as some who did not. Some of these were women with whom the researcher interacted almost daily but set aside time for more structured interviews. The researcher did not ask women to share their own experience with domestic violence unless they were comfortable doing so, as the researcher was not trying to collect information about the incidence of various types of abuse in the community.

Guiding interviews of violence against women refugees were set for participants, key informants and FGD members separately and differently as the interview questions are different and their role and the information they have is different. With regard to research ethics when interviewing informants, the most common issues was raised in the introduction of interviews

concern data confidentiality, the purpose of the study as well as the audio-video records of the interviews was cleared to the informants. In-depth interview was conducted with 18 victims of VAW cases that they have been identified through the IRC in Bambasi refugee camp.

According to Creswell (2009) in-depth interview allows the researcher digging into a certain issues until the required information is obtained from participants. The study used key informants like health practitioners, counselor, psychiatrist and focal person of GBV from UNHCR, IRC and RRS since they are supposed to know the life experiences of the survivors in the camp. The researcher used interview guides about the function of the health practitioners and focal persons of Violence against women in the camp.

Focus group discussion

According to Guest (2013), the researcher also used focus group discussion as an instrument of data collection. This kind of data collection method is simulating to the respondent that makes the participants reflection on what is being said by the other participants and give a well-reasoned response rather than being one-sided.

The members were from the community to investigate the issue of violence against women and its forms. . The FGD consists of two groups; 16 members of the FGD groups were divided in to two groups with a number of eight. The first eight will be only women and the other eight participants were from both sexes. Social workers and RCC members were included in FGD. The target groups for this technique included groups of women refugees and members of the refugee community with only Sudanese nationality.

FGD also used to get an opportunity to verify or validate research findings. It involved checking the completeness of the accounts gathered through in-depth interviews, or allowing reflections and comment on the research team's understanding and interpretations of the data. The study used FGD because the comprehensive information may not be taken via one to one interview despite the availability of FGD. The intention of the discussion was on the violence against women refugees and its response taken by the actors in the study area.

Data collection procedures

. Hansen (1998) stated that sampling of groups in a focus group takes careful note of any particular demographic, occupational or other dimensions. Hence, participants in this research will be selected following this argument and the shared characteristics like; age, nationality, gender, willingness and ability to explain about the research topic. The researcher used to collect the data needed to conduct the study is discussed as follows. First, the supporting letter was taken from the departments of Social Work in Bahir Dar University and submitted to Bambasi refugee camp coordinator and managements. The purpose of the study was explained briefly to the managements, protections and the coordinators in camp. Next, the camp had given permission and accepted the supportive letter. Then, the researcher showed the supporting letter to the participants of the research and briefly explained the rationale of the research.

The researcher selected the key informants to select the participants purposely by using their inclusion criteria. The researcher created good rapport. Edmond (2010) pointed out that a rapport can improve the level of trust between the researcher and subjects, which, in turn, increases the validity of answers receive with the participants before the in-depth interview.

explain about the main objective of the study, promising about confidentiality of their thoughts and speeches, their rights and explain what to do before, during and after the interviews. During the interview sessions, more time and emphasis was given to individual participants because no one has more knowledge than the person her/himself about her/his life experiences. With the consent of the participants, all the discussions were recorded using tape recorder In order that the interviewees speak openly and truthfully. Hence, interviewing in this research can provide a way of generating practical data about women violence and response by asking them to talk about their lives and experiences. It was really helpful to find out refugee women's personal feelings, thoughts and experiences. Lastly, the interview was completed with cheers.

Besides, the participants in this research were selected following this argument and the shared characteristics like: willingness and positions (who are supposed to have much information and knowledge on the issue) and ability to explain about the research topic. Focus group discussions are advantageous when the interaction among interviewees will likely yield the best information, when interviewees are similar and cooperative with each other (Creswell, 2009). First, the researcher selected discussants, avenue of the discussion, and adjusting the appropriate time for the discussion. Finally the researcher will wind up the discussion with acknowledgments.

Data analysis method

Thematic analysis was used in the study to focus on examining themes or patterns of meaning within data which helps the researcher to emphasize description of the data set and theoretically informed interpretation of the lived experiences of abused women refugees. According to Braun and Clarke, (2006) One of many benefits of thematic analysis is that beginner researchers who are just learning how to analyze qualitative data will find thematic analysis an accessible approach

The researcher went through attentive listening as transcribed the audio record of the responses of the research participants. Next, the data were analyzed, categorized, and organized into themes and further sub themes which emerged through the coding process based on the objectives of the study. Thirdly, the data were interpreted by identifying any recurring themes throughout and highlighting any similarities and differences in the data. The fourth stage was involved data verification, the researcher by rechecking the transcribed and coded data again and again assured the validity of the understanding and based on this the researcher verify the findings of the study previously arrived. Lastly, the data was triangulated with previous studies to make the study more compact.

Hence, the researcher was familiarized with data, transcribes them, created a set of initial codes that represents, created a codebook to keep track of the codes, read through the data again, and identified interesting excerpts and applied the appropriate codes to them. Quotes that represent the same meaning had the same code applied organized codes with supporting data, Group codes into themes, Reviewed and revised themes and wrote narrative of the analysis.

Hence, using the above steps, the researcher decoded perceptions and ideas towards violence against women refugees in qualitative approach.

Therefore, based on the data collection method the researcher used, data were transcribed, codified, categorized, and thematically analyzed following some steps.

Ensuring trustworthiness

The credibility of the conclusion of this research was analyzed by addressing the conclusions as it was adequately describe research participants' perspective. The researcher seeks to determine results related to other contexts. The study assumes that the findings are reflective of the participants' perspective as evidenced in the data rather than being reflections of the researcher's perspectives or bias. In addition, to ensure the trust worthiness of the data, the researcher used easy and simple language and description to describe the findings and to enhance the credibility of the research.

Data triangulation using different methods of data collection-in-depth interview, key informant interview and FGD were used. Prolonged field work and member-checking. Professional guidance and feedback given by the advisor was also one of the trustworthy of the data.

Ethical consideration

Realizing the informed consent of human subjects is absolutely essential. Thus, ensuring the willingness of all research participants will be given priority in the process of data collection.

Moreover, the ethical principles of confidentiality and respect are especially relevant in the in women refugees, due to the traumatic and sensitive nature of the subject material. The researcher used anonymity using pseudonyms throughout the research process for the sake of the participants' privacy and confidentiality which is attached at the appendixes of this research.

During data collection from research participant, the objective of the study was explained to research participants, and they were informed in advance that they have a right to withdraw from the research process at any time. Informed consent, confidentiality and privacy of the respondents were the main concern by creating good rapport with the respondents. The design and implementation of the research was guided by ethical standards to respect and protect the rights of all respondents.

Chapter Four: Finding

This chapter deals with results and discussions collected from the research participants through In-depth Interview, Key participants interview and Focus Group Discussion. The data are discussed qualitatively through thematic analysis. Thus, in line with the objective of the study, this section incorporates four main issues, forms of violence against Sudanese women refugees, contributing factors of violence against Sudanese women refugees, consequences of violence against Sudanese women refugees and responses of violence against Sudanese women refugees by actors in Bambasi refugee camp.

Besides, as it has been noted in the preceding chapter, the research is mainly concerned with the use of qualitative methods. Hence, the actual number of research participants in the study area has been considered as less significant primarily because the sample selected is not a statistically representative one and therefore, survivors' voices remain paramount to the process of investigation. However, some variables have been selected from the questions raised during in-depth interviews and FGD concerning the research participants so as to grasp better understanding of their background. Thus, information with regard to research participants' general background and profile such as; age, educational level, religion and ethnicity are attached in the appendix part. (Profiles of the respondents, key informants and the FGD members is placed using tables in the appendix)

Descriptions of Profiles of in-depth interview Participants

Eighteen female Sudanese refugees living in Bambasi refugee site participated in an in-depth interview. The participants were selected from all camp zones; Zone A, Zone B, and Zone C, the survivors were interviewed about Sudanese women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp in line with the specific objectives of the research. Video and audio recording were also used for better understanding of the cases to the researcher relying on the research confidentiality and ethics of the researcher by asking permission. The research participants of the study were found to be single, married, widowed and divorced women. Nine, two, four and three of them were single, widowed, divorced and married respectively. The respondents' age was in between 18-43 years. Thus, the considerable majority of the respondents were young women. Amongst those one respondent had better education status with diploma certificate whereas the other respondents didn't even complete high school education. Six of the eighteen respondents were illiterate who didn't attend education.

On the other hand, three gender based violence representatives and focal persons of Bambasi refugee camp and one refugee central committee were participating in the in-depth interview as a key informants, three of them have been working as a refugee humanitarian service giver for long time. They are working as a focal person of GBV in IRC, UNHCR and RRS. All of them are female. The key participant from IRC and UNHCR are Master degree holders and the one from RRS is degree holder who works as a nurse and GBV focal person.

The Focus group discussion involved sixteen (16) people (informants) in two groups. Eight (8) are from female RCC members and female representatives whereas eight (8) of the other group is from both male and female RCC members and leaders. The Chairman, the

Secretary, the Shelter Representative, youth representatives, livelihood representatives, the Disabled Representative and Zonal Leaders, female representatives and committee members were among the members of the participants of the FGD. The researcher preferred to select Refugee central committee members because of their intimacy for women refugees and cases and information are regularly forwarded to them which is better than other focal persons of GBV who are working at refugee setting. RCC are the back bone of the victim /violated women who are supposed to solve their problem and looking for solutions for every problems in the camp in the context of their culture.

Hence, both female and male refugee central committees who are working as focal persons of the refugees were interviewed to gather unbiased information concerning refugee women violence in Bambasi refugee camp. Since the intended interviewees are the focal person of the community, they are supplemented with violence related problems among the refugee community. The refugee central committees (RCC) are selected usually every two years and rarely a year by the refugee themselves intended to solve the problems of the community. So, the members of the interview were selected from the representatives of the community from both sexes.

Forms of violence against Sudanese women refugees

The researcher intended to examine the forms of violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp in line with the objectives of the study. In this section, therefore, attempts have been made to identify the various forms of women violence against Sudanese women refugees from the data gathered during the interview.

Physical violence

Physical violence is one form of women refugee violence which includes beating, punching, kicking, biting, burning, maiming or killing, with or without weapons, selling and/or trading in human beings for forced sexual activities, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or removal of organs. The data collected from the research participants showed that female refugees were victims of physical violence in Bambasi refugee camp. A 20 years old respondent explained about the physical violence that she encountered as;

“I had been severely injured and frequently beaten by a refugee who considers himself as the one who loves me and cares about me. I continuously reported to the protection but nobody helped me ”.

As of the above case, physical violence was immensely observed in the refugee context by the refugees themselves from the community. For example 11 of 18 respondents experienced physical violence. The respondent experienced all forms of physical violence like beating and slapping. In addition to the physical health impacts that resulted from penetrative sex, assaulted women faced a lot of physical harms due to beating and falling on ground and walls in trying to escape from rapists. It is also common to harm the physical health of potential victims by giving excessive alcohol and other toxic drugs. Physical violence is the commonest forms of violence because when a perpetrator slaps and tries to rape the woman and takes some money after raping, it has a probability to be physically injured. At the same time, she experienced economical violence after sexual violence since rape is one part of sexual violence. Therefore, there is a possibility of being physically injured if a survivor is sexually assaulted.

Similar to the respondent, *the* key informants of the research explained about the reports of women physical violence in Bambasi refugee camp. There have been various reports by the women refugees related to physical violence in the camp. The RCC explained about the physical violence as

“Physical violence is the most inevitable form of women violence in Bambasi refugee camp since its complexity with family members, partners, husbands and other persons. Cases are always reported that a woman was beaten, stalked, punched, scratched, injured, hurt and others.” Eleven reports per a month is reported”

The FGD members have also explained about the existence of physical violence in the camp during the interview. There have been many reports which were different in their form. However, most of the cases had been frequently reported as physical violence and occasionally sexual violence. That physical violence is mostly caused by disagreement between the husbands and wives, women with ex-husbands, women with host community perpetrators while women refugees were looking for collecting fire woods in the bush. According to the respondent and the key informants, physical violence was the common forms of violence in Bambasi refugee camp.

According to the FGD members, Insulting and using verbal violence is common in the camp among different tribes due to their difference of language and culture.

“There have been women who reported to RCC why a man insulted her that because she is from PHUGN ethnic tribe and he is from ENGESENA”

The Sudanese women refugees are supposed to marry and have love affair with only their tribe and ethnic groups as the interviewees elucidated. For instance, the above cases of the respondent disclosed that she experienced physical violence due to her violation of the culture not to marry from other ethnic groups. She was repeatedly beaten by her mother that the survivor had relation with other tribes. The respondent had revealed that there are many cases like her who don't need such cultural influences and had been beaten in ample of refugees in the camp. Commonly, data collected from the respondents, key informants, and FGD members demonstrated that among the forms of violence against women refugees experienced by women refugees in the camp. Physical violence was one of the major violations which have damaging consequences among the victims as of the eleven of the m experienced.

Sexual violence

Data collected from **the respondents** revealed that sexual violence is the most frequently reported and predominant forms of women violence in Bambasi refugee camp. Some of the female refugees approached through the in-depth interviews exposed that rape is committed upon some female refugees. One of the 33 years old women disclosed about her violence which was unwanted sexual harassment by her husband.

“I am divorced right now. my former husband beats me and even forced me to be with him after we divorced. He sexually harassed me, usually beat me and always insulted me as if I am guilty of cheating him.”

The respondent explained about the case which she never expected that might happen because they never had such habits rather her husband committed that to revenge her.

The key informant of the research from IRC pointed out women refugees' violence was recently related to the lockdown of the CORONA VIRUS.

“The closure of movement outside home had detrimental effects on the safety of women, leading to increases in adolescent pregnancies, and sexual exploitation and abuse due to the outbreak of COVID-19”.

The key informant also added similar reasons and explanations about the situations of the camp during the outbreak of the pandemic that.

“Since Sexual violence is intolerable to negotiate, it should be seen by doctors for medical care and legal enforcements and should be reported to the police for justice as a crime.”

As the collected data from the key informants of this research, Sexual violence like rape, attempted rape, unwanted sexual intercourse, unwanted sexual touching, any sexual contact whether consensual or not and Sexual intercourse or sexual intrusion between family were among the forms of sexual violence.

The FGD members of the research participant had also elucidated that sexual violence was the serious problems among the communities in Bambasi refugee camp for the last many years. According to the group participants of the research, the perpetrators are from three perspectives. Those were; by the men refugees like intimate partners (forced to show pornography), abduction, husbands, ex-husbands, families and neighbors, by host community men perpetrators who meet the women refugees while collecting firewood and going to the market, and by the police/ special forces in camp. The group members described, for example, three months ago, women were sexually battered by the host community perpetrator while collecting firewood at the jungle far from the camp and that is usually reported the RCC

members. Hence, sexual violence has been one of the common forms of violence that has been identified in this research setting in which eight of the respondents encountered sexual violence.

Psychological/emotional violence

The research participants, key informants and the FGD members elucidated about the actual cases of psychological or emotional violence encountered in Bambasi refugee camp were like isolation from others, verbal aggression, threats, intimidation, harassment or stalking, insults, humiliation and offence.

The respondent of the research participants stated that psychological/ emotional violence has become common in/ out of the camp at women refugees. One of the survivors explained as

“He warned me that if I got married, he would kill or/and hurt me. In spite of his intimidation, He started following me like his wife. When I got scared of his threats, I reported to the RRS protections.”

According to the survivor’s intimidation, aggression and threats were encountered as a psychological violence. The key informants of the research participant had also revealed that psychological violence was one serious problem on women refugees like other forms of violence.

“Emotional and psychological violence usually encountered if there were women who were physically injured and sexually abused.”

Due to lack awareness and misperception of the community, disabled women refugees were frequently insulted, humiliated and abused. Not only to the disabled but also there were

harassments, isolating and stalking among refugee women in Bambasi refugee camp as the Refugee Central Committee collected reports from the community members.

The FGD members also described about the magnitude of emotional and psychological violence towards women refugees. There were many reports and cases which were encountered by women refugees that were orally abused due to cultural and tribal differences. .One of the member of the FGD explained the experience.

“The woman that I heard as the RCC member is that the women were emotionally abused, isolated and threatened because of her tribal difference.”

Hence, intimidations, isolation, staking, insulting and verbal harassments were among the manifestations of psychological and emotional violence were observed among the women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp.

Economic/financial violence

In the context of this research area, economic violence doesn't only include restricting access to essential resources such as clothing or transport, and denying the means to improve a person's economic status (for example, through employment, education or training, however; it is mainly about food security which is one of the prior basic need. Since refugees can't afford basic needs by themselves and depends on the UNHCR fund, the survivors elucidated that they are harassed by their family members and husbands. Some men refugees sell their monthly ration to drink alcohol and use drugs without any consent of women refugees which leads to starvation and famine of the family.

The other manifestations of women refugees' economic violence is related to polygamy and its consequence. Men refugees are allowed to marry up to four women refugees despite equal treatment of woman as a wife and financial supports.

The researcher forwarded the interviews in line with the specific objectives of the research in three grounds; the survivors, the key informants and the FGD members about economic violence among women refugees. The respondent of the research participants revealed that;

“He receives ration with my name and children but he sometimes give for his wives. We all wives are neighbors. I sometimes see that he gives money for them so, I can't live in refugee camp. Life is difficult for me to live that we are starving”

The key informants of the research participants also exposed that there have been women economic violence by some of the men refugees at the camp. some of the women refugees reported to UNHCR and RRS officials to see their cases about the way of delivering money in cash to them rather giving to their husbands and male relatives since the money has not been delivered to them.

“Economic violence is critical in refugees. Many victims reported that they have experienced financial disputes and unable to use their rations without the permission of their husbands which is considered as forms of violence”

The other ground was the FGD members who were intended to manipulate information about the forms of violence among women refugees in this research. The FGD members told to

the researcher about the past experiences that they observed about women economic violence. RCC member in the community explained cases frequently reported about women violence. Among that violence, economic violence was critical cases. For example, there are few women who always fought with their husbands and family members who can't afford money for their living expenses. Some of the husbands used to drink all days and their families were starving. Property damage, restricting access to financial resources with economic responsibilities was among the problems that the FGD members witnessed.”

Therefore, the researcher recognized in this study that many different forms of violence against Sudanese women refugees, such as verbal harassment, physical abuse, sexual abuse and economical violence were immensely revealed. Sexual abuse would most commonly be done as rape which also includes gang rape. Sexual abuse was also recognized in forms of forced or threat of marriage, sex trafficking and abduction. Emotional and psychological abuse was also present in the data, this form of violence included degradation, control and isolation, neglect, harassment, stalking and threats of serious violence and murder. Serious violence was also common which included punching, kicking, stomping, burning, choking and assault with and object or weapon. The perpetrators recognized in the data were family members (immediate or extended), partner, friends, police officers, gangs, and strangers. There were more often many perpetrators rather than just one.

Contributing factors for Sudanese women refugees

It was stated in chapter two that women refugees in refugee camps are victims of different forms of violence against women. Hence, identifying the causes and risk factors of

violence against women refugees is an important step in order to indicate violence against women refugees in refugee camps. Thus, in the following section, an attempt has been made to discuss the major causes and risk factors for violence against women refugee in Bambasi refugee camp.

Settings of the camp

The geographic location of a refugee camp may increase the likelihood of sexual violence, if the camp is located in the areas where there are hills and downs or where there has been a serious crime problem for example, or is geographically isolated from the local population. Refugee camps are mostly located in boarder areas and rarely in towns. Hence, there are high probability of violence against women violence in boarder areas and jungles than in the towns. For instance respondent 5 of the interview revealed the situations how she was abused like:

“One day, while I was going to collect firewood, since the camp is near to the forest. There were two persons coming to me. I didn’t collect the firewood. They tried to rape me.

The respondent had experienced sexual violence due to the location of the camp where there is jungle near to and around the camp. The woman was moving to collect the firewood near the camp in the jungle while the perpetrator tried to abuse her. The setting of the camp by itself creates good environment for the perpetrators to commit the crime since they have a tendency not to be seen while committing the delinquency. Opportunistic violence, often manifested by rape, occurred during transit and women looking for firewood and going to the market on foot in the rural area outside the camp. When women depended on others to reach their destination, and

often going for firewood and it increases the vulnerability of women refugees for rape and abduction.

The member of the FGD-1 of the interviewees disclosed that According to the report, among the causes for the violence against women in Bambasi refugee camp like joblessness of men refugees, lack of awareness, using alcohol, and the geographical location or inappropriate location of the camp with the host communities are revealed. According to the interviewee, the geographical location of the camp can be the trigger of women violence especially sexual violence were likely to happen in Bambasi refugee camp as the reports showed. The other member of the FGD had also pointed out that the location of the camp could be the cause for women violence.

“Some of the perpetrators were not familiar with the survivors rather they met the women refugees while they were moving for different purposes like going to the market and collecting firewood.”

Therefore, considering the data that were gathered from the interviewees, the setting of the camp has been contributing for the escalating of violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp.

The Outbreak of Covid -19

The outbreak of the pandemic covid-19 throughout the world has a huge impact on the lives of human beings since 2020 in different perspectives. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, emerging data and reports from those on the front lines, have shown that all types of violence against women and girls, particularly domestic violence, has intensified. Women who report feeling unsafe at home or in public, or who report direct or indirect experiences of violence, are

more likely to say that corona virus has worsened their feelings of stress and anxiety, particularly in cases of physical violence and sexual violence. These women are also more likely to report an inability to stop worrying and a lack of interest in doing things. The key informants of the interview elucidated that corona virus has been a huge trigger for violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp. The key informant of the interview from UNHCR stated as;

“Complications include significant increases in domestic violence by intimate partners during lockdown due to COVID-19 outbreak intensified violence, rape and harmful traditional practice.”

The principle of lockdown due to the outbreak of corona virus intensified the case of different forms of violence especially sexual and physical violence by the family members as stated above. Different reports have been reported by the survivors and the intimate friends to the police and the refugee representatives worse than the lockdown days. According to the informant, despite various awareness raising activities, incidents are underreported due to stigma, discrimination and fear of revenge, as well as limited awareness of GBV and referral pathways, timely reporting within 72 hrs. after incidents still remains high.

In addition, the FGD member of the interview added that the lockdown played a huge role boosting the women violence in Bambasi refugee camp. The lock down effects of COVID-19 also escalated abuse, with the majority of those interviewed noting that the worsening economic conditions contributed to increased violence within the household and community.

“The escalation of violence against women and girls at home was linked to lockdown measures that forced victims to spend more time with their abusers and prevented them from seeking safety elsewhere, even temporarily.”

Hence, violence against women refugees was worsened by corona virus which has been one of the major trigger. The closure of movement outside home had detrimental effects on the safety of women, leading to increases in adolescent pregnancies, and sexual exploitation and abuse. The survivors experienced at least one form of violence (psychological, physical, economic, and sexual) in the last 12 months in Bambasi refugee camp significantly more likely among family members as the interviewee exposed. As the key informant sourced his clients during lockdown that the forms of violence were listed as; among those who reported their cases, most of the victims have been victims of physical violence followed by sexual violence during the last 12 months. In addition, Psychological violence was also the most common form experienced by the victims. Economic violence by men was also the other cases. Many victims reported that they have experienced at least one episode of violence from all forms of violence.

Alcohol and drug abuse

Idleness among male refugees of Bambasi refugee camp committed with alcohol, drug and Pornography movies exposed women refugees to different forms of gender based violence. Accordingly, forced idleness is one of the factors which make refugees hopeless. Since refugees receive the minimum services, including access to basic needs; and more, they have no right to work which leads male refugees in this camp to hopelessness. Similarly, data collected from male refugees revealed that refugees in the camp are forced to be idle that lead them to drink alcohol and use drugs in the refugee camp.

“My brother delaying for long time, he came and I saw him that he was not normal who couldn’t even talk. I knew that he used to have narcotic drugs HASHISH that he couldn’t remember what he did last night”

According to one male refugee, since majority of male refugees are forced to be idle, they spend their time by drinking alcohols, taking illegal drugs and watching pornography so as to alleviate their stress and misery. Correspondingly, health officer in the camp also elucidates its effect. Majority of the refugees are young and they spend their time by smoking as they have no job. They are also psychologically affected people. Literature also identified alcohol and drug abuse as contributing factors of gender based violence against women. The research finding also indicates that there are some video centers around the camps in which they show pornography at night. According to one male refugee, the prevalence of such video centers encourages young refugees to perform the act as displayed in the movies.

Similarly, study conducted in different parts of the world also proved the connection between sexual violence and pornography. Marlene Goldsmith (1993) For instance, in a comparative study of rape rates in the USA, Scandinavia, Britain, Australia and New Zealand, the study found a positive connection between the availability of pornography and the level of rape (Rape increased after liberalization of pornography). Generally, based on the information collected from different informants, it is possible to say that forced idleness coupled with the prevalence of pornography, alcoholism and drug intoxication exposed female refugees to different forms of violence against women refugees. From the other dimension, similar with male refugees, female refugees are also forced to be idle in the camp. This is also another cause of violence against women refugee.

Poor legal enforcement mechanism and low awareness creation

The other cause of violence against women refugees identified by the study is poor reporting, coordination and legal enforcement. During investigation, attempts have been made to

examine the enforcement of laws that address gender based violence and its reporting system in the camp. Nevertheless, the findings of this study revealed that many cases of women violence in Bambasi refugee camp went unreported due to different reasons. Consequently, victims of gender based violence commonly rely on friends, relatives for emotional and material assistance as opposed to more formal mechanisms such as the police and justice system. A government representative in the camp stated the following regarding reporting cases of gender based violence.

The key informant stated that

“We have been creating awareness for the community that they have to report to us if any form of violence and abuse is encountered as much as we can but it was not enough. there have been at least 15 cases reported.

The above story revealed that many of the victims haven't exposed their story to the police due to poor legal enforcement towards the perpetrators. A refugee representative or RCC also stated that most women violence cases in the camp are unreported or underreported to the court or police. Subsequently, according to the refugee central committee, only few cases of gender based violence has been reported to the police. In addition to this, the study affirmed the existence of not only poor reporting system but also poor enforcement of laws as well. UNHCR senior protection officer confirmed the presence of poor legal enforcement and coordination mechanisms: Generally, the data collected through in-depth interview with female refugees, key informant interviewees, FGD members, and personal observation displayed that there are different constraints within Bambasi refugee camp that impede violence against women refugee cases from being reported. As a result, the absence of effective reporting, coordination and law

enforcement mechanisms create room for potential offenders to attack women refugees. Thus, the absence of effective law enforcement and reporting mechanisms is both an obstacle to the delivery of justice and a contributory factor for the increasing number of perpetrators. Thus, it can be argued that poor legal enforcement, reporting and coordination mechanisms are among the causes of gender based on violence against women refugees in the camp. Therefore, assessing the reasons why cases are not reported to the police is an important step to solve the problem at stake.

Furthermore, even when female refugees report their issue to the police station of the camp they don't get the treatment and support they deserve as victims: one of the key informants revealed:

“When we report the case to the police they don't give attention. They sometimes insult and disrespect you in the presence of the one who oppressed you. Sometimes, it is better to keep silent”

Such treatments greatly hamper the reporting system of violence. The insensitive attitudes of police officers affected reporting cases of violence against women refugees. For example, respondent 3 of the interview, a member of the police/LIYU HAIL/ raped her and nobody accused him and asked as he was guilty rather he started living without any law enforcement.

Polygamy

Culturally, communities that tend to be more closed due to religious and traditional values, have seen less reporting from the women refugees, while enabling the perpetrators of these abusive practices to continue to perpetuate gender-based violence, causing their actions to

constitute gross violations of human rights, as well as violations of the laws of Ethiopia concerning refugees. Some of the women also have high dependency on their husbands. Some of the victims consider reporting as bringing dishonor to their family. Therefore, the most appropriate way these issues are dealt with is traditionally with the involvement of the community.

The research participants (13) of this research explained that in culture of Sudan a man can marry multiple women as if he could manage them properly.

“My husband couldn’t treat me like his two wives.”

As the story of the woman revealed, the culture exposed her to be abused in different forms of violence like economic and psychological violence. This lead her to become economically very poor that she couldn’t feed her children and couldn’t afford anything to buy since her husband receives the ration for himself and his wives. The doctrine and dogma of Islam allowed that a man can marry multiple wives since he treats them equally. However, this respondent has not been equally treated as the other wives. Therefore; the researcher has noticed that she is a victim of economical and emotional violence due to cultural and religious issues.

Consequences of violence against Sudanese women refugees

Physical and health consequence

Women violence in refugee context is a critical violation of human rights and it has an intensive short and long term impact on health, psychological and social well-being of females. Women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp were victims of different forms of women violence as the data gathered from the survivors. They experienced various damaging consequences in their life. The negative consequences of various forms of women violence against women refugees will be discussed below based on the data gathered from the survivors, key informants and the FGD members.

The data gathered from the survivors/ respondents/ indicated that violence against women refugees affected various women refugees' health in different ways. Health related consequences of women violence like abortion, unwanted pregnancy, injuries and sexual-related diseases like (fistula) were among the negative consequences. The respondents of the research participant explained about the health related consequences of the violence.

“I have a severe pain and infection. I was also injured due to his physical harassment and continuous beating at home.”

The above cases of the research participant reveal that infections and injuries are the consequences of health related problems on the sexually violated women. Physical health impact has been identified as the common consequences of sexual violence against women refugees in this study. In this study, various physical health-related impacts were reported by the majority of sexually assaulted women refugees. Among the women who had experienced serious forms of

sexual violence (rape and other penetrative sex), some of them developed physical health related complications. The most common health related consequences were vaginal trauma and bleeding.

Unwanted pregnancy that led to abortion was the next. Fistula, and vaginal infection were also reported by abused women refugees. Three of the study participants who were raped by male refugee was attending medical care in the Clinic. In the above case, one of the survivors was not aware of her pregnancy. Her friend took her to Clinic when her abdomen getting bigger. Due to big gestation, the nurses refused to terminate the pregnancy. Other than the above physical harms that were directly resulted from unwanted sexual behavior (anal sex) faced injury as result of beating and falling down on the ground. One women refugee expressed that she had dislocation on her hand when she tried to defend herself physically.

In addition, the key informants of the research had also exposed about the negative consequences of violence against women refugees. Physical injury, pregnancy, abortion, and other health related diseases/ consequences were observed among women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp. Plenty of the women refugees in the camp hid their internal problems and violence fearing of their culture after violence, however, after some days of violence they usually sick and transferred to hospital. Infections and other sexually transmitted diseases and physical sever injuries were also observed. Similarly, the FGD members of this research participant explained the consequences of women violence on the survivors 'health.

“Pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease which are resulted from sexual violence in the camp and injury was also among consequences of the violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp.”

Hence, Physical health impact has been identified as the common consequences of sexual violence against women refugees in many studies. In this study, various physical health-related impacts were reported by the majority of sexually assaulted women refugees. Among the women who had experienced serious forms of sexual violence (rape and other penetrative sex), two of them developed physical health related complications. The most common health related consequences were vaginal trauma and bleeding. Unwanted pregnancy that led to abortion was the next. Fistula, and vaginal infection were also reported by the respondents of refugees. One of the study participants who were raped by male police member was attending Ante-natal care in the Clinic. She was not aware of her pregnancy. Her friend took her to Clinic when her abdomen getting bigger. Due to big gestation, the nurses refused to terminate the pregnancy. Other than the above physical harms that were directly resulted from penetrative sex assaulted and faced injury as result of beating and falling down on the ground. One women refugee expressed that she had dislocation on her hand when she tried to defend herself physically.

Moreover, the findings of this research revealed that there had been many unheard voices and uncompensated physical violence that lead to health related problems. For instance, there was a woman in the interview was physically and psychologically abused that lead to sever health problem. The woman had a fiancé and got a child with a man whose tribe is different from her before she gets married. Although bastard is cursed in Sudanese culture, her mother bothered about why her daughter had sexual relation with other tribe.

She explained about the consequence of violence as;

“I started to isolate myself from the society. Hence, I decided to abort my baby and went to the clinic. The nurses refused to take responsibilities of aborting a three months unborn baby. Later, I used traditional herbs to abort and it was aborted.”

Hence, the researcher identified that the victim experienced physical and psychological violence that lead to sever health problem. Her mother influenced by their culture and frequently beat her that triggers the woman to abort her three months baby. The researcher thought that it was not sexual violence because she was 22 years old who had love affair and positive relationship with her fiancé then. If she was under 18 or she didn't have any interest of having sexual intercourse with her boyfriend and was forced to have sex that can be considered as violence. However, both of them had positive relationships. According to the survivor's interview, she was abused by her mother but not by her fiancé. When the victim reported to the police, the police asked her if she was deliberately and voluntarily had sexual intercourse and she replied that she did it because she loved him. So, the researcher did not consider it as sexual violence rather she had physical and psychological violence by her parents and the community. After the abortion, the survivor was severely sick and remains unhealthy for long time since she took traditional herbs. Therefore, according to the respondent, there are physical and health related consequences of violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp due to abortion and sexual abuses.

Psychological related consequence

Furthermore, psychological and social impacts of VAW refugees were also revealed. The data collected from victim women refugees disclosed that psychological consequences of violence against women refugees were pervasive and various. Consequently, the following evidences are necessary to show the way how women violence left the victims with different psycho-social consequences according to the survivors' experiences.

“I couldn't go everywhere alone because he was chasing and intimidating me to kill. It was painful for many months. I was discriminated due to our culture from the community because of him”

Considering the survivor's story, intimidation, isolation and anxiety were the psychological consequences of the violence against women refugees. Psychological or mental impacts were the very common outcome of sexually abused Sudanese women refugees in this study. The massive and of (15 among 18) victimized Sudanese women refugees experienced at least one form of psychological impact after they got raped or physically injured. Countless psychological and mental health impacts were given by sexually assaulted women refugees immediately following the incidence and through time. Although they were few in numbers, assaulted women refugees were reported that they had suicidal thoughts after they had been assaulted. Most importantly, one woman refugee who was raped by the refugee community was usually exposed.

In addition, the other participant of the research narrated about the social consequence of her violence and her life span after the violence as;

“I was raped by one of intimate friend. I was walking at the evening while we had a walk along a street far from the village. I was injured for long time. I suspect that my classmates heard about the situation and I dropout of the school after the violence fearing of the discrimination”

Social impacts, though varied, were reported by more than one-half of sexually abused or harassed. Common social impacts for harassed of VAW were: Drop out of the school, losing their job, migration to other city, discriminated by the neighbors and disliked by the society. Drop out of the school and Job termination or fired from job was the commonest social impact of sexual harassment that was reported by the majority of sampled subjects, followed by blaming family and neighbors. Along with the rapists, their wives, friends and other family members were the main agents to pressure and fire the sexually abused women refugees. As of the above case of the young woman who was a student, she had been raped by the perpetrator and consequently the survivor left the school and drop out. Further, she was begged to commence her education despite her refusal due to fear of discrimination by the school community and classmates. Hence, according to one of the key informants of this research interview, it is common for assaulted women refugees that job termination or drop out was not only initiated by the side of the perpetrators but also initiated by the survivors themselves due to feeling of shame, blaming and fear of further exploitation. Moreover, FGD discussants also expressed, assaulted women refugees leave their education and works for fear of further exploitation and discriminations.

Likewise, the key informants of the research participant witnessed that there were different forms of psychological side effects of women violence were observed in the camp.

“Anxiety, trauma, stigma, isolation from the community and other related consequences were observed. Despite various awareness raising activities, incidents are underreported due to stigma, discrimination and fear of revenge in Bambasi refugee camp.”

The above story of woman refugees witnessed us that there were different negative psychological consequences of Sudanese women violence. The FGD members also disclosed about the negative psychological consequences of women violence in the camp. According to the informant, there were the survivors who dropped out of the school because of the violence due to social discrimination and fear of her friends’ related to cultural influence.

Psychological or mental impacts are the very common outcome of sexually abused women refugees in this study. The vast majority of victimized women refugees experienced at least one form of psychological impact after they got raped. Countless psychological and mental health impacts were given by sexually assaulted s immediately following the incidence and through time. The majority of them were found to feel depression and anxiety. Although they were few in numbers, assaulted women refugees were reported that they had suicidal thoughts after they had been assaulted. Most importantly, a woman refugee who was raped by her relatives had developed psychological and emotional consequence like drop out of the school and quit their job. .

Social impacts, though varied, were reported by more than one-half of sexually abused or harassed refugee women. Common social impacts for harassed women refugee were: drop out of the school. Migration to other city blamed by the neighbors and ostracized by the society. Job termination or fired from job was the commonest social impact of sexual harassment that was reported by the majority of sampled subjects, followed by blaming family and neighbors. Along

with the rapists, their wives, friends and other family members were the main agents to pressure and fire the sexually abused women refugees. After she had been raped by her ex-husband,, the survivor lost her work from being a janitor. Further, counselors told her that she would report to police and get jailed if she came back again. According to one of the protection Officers,

Economic consequences

On the other hand, since the research prone area was in refugee setting where there is a critical financial problem who can't afford to survive; economic consequence of violence against women is considered to be worsening. The survivor also displayed that economic and financial related problem were encountered throughout the refugees' life.

“I couldn't feed my children and couldn't afford anything to buy since my husband receives the ration for himself and his other wives. I was also injured that he repeatedly beat me if tell him to stop.”

Since the refugees' life is relying on the donation of the humanitarian aids, no one can afford to feed his/her self. According to the respondent, her husband used to receive money from the UNHCR which is supposed to give for his wife and for all households but was used to drink alcohol.

The above survivor's case was worsening that she can't afford to buy cloths and foods to survive due to her husband's daily intoxication. The survivor's husband has two wives in addition to her. According to the respondent, it is possible to marry up to four wives if the husband creates conducive environment to the wives in their culture. Considering the culture, she

allowed him to have multiple wives. However, he violated the culture that he be used to drink alcohol and drugs by the money and the ration that was intended to be given for their children and the family. The respondent exposed that the family member had been in trouble and hunger. Hence, economical violence was the most complicated and serious issues in refugee context especially for the marginalized women in Bambasi refugee camp.

Similarly, evidences and data from the key informants showed that there was economic exploitations and unwise use of resources by the male refugees received from the UNHCR monthly ration.

“Denial of resources and opportunities is a challenge mainly women and girls face; especially accessing education, and having control over household income”

As the above key informant perspective, refugee women have less usage resources like men. Hence economic related problems were encountered since women refugees are more likely as disadvantaged groups. Moreover, the demands of the women refugees are not luxuries, but rather basic ones which doesn't require men refugees to spend much. Thus, it creates good opportunity for potential offenders to easily mischief women refugees. Majority of women refugees have no income, but live with the monthly distributed rations and feels loneliness when at home. The most irritating thing is that the man used to sell that ration using his power to drink alcohol.

In addition to the above respondent, the other respondent elucidated that her big brother used drugs and alcohols from their monthly cash and scholastic materials without asking her. Students in RRS are always given exercise books and other scholastic materials for education purpose. However he used to sell it for drug abuse.

“My elder brother has never given me any monthly cash and even sell our exercise books, pens and other”

Moreover, the FGD members had also exposed the imbalance usage of resources and economic exploitations in Bambasi refugee camp because of the culture they have.

“We know as the RCC member is that Cash is used to get in the name of the number of the households although the husband has the power to exploit the money than the family members”

Hence, men refugees who have better sources of income (remittance) take advantage of the poor economic status of women refugees to make unreasonable demands like sex in exchange for a single meal. Likewise, the refugee central committee representative also stated that economic dependency of women refugees on humanitarian agencies is one of the major causes of gender based violence in the camp. Besides of their families then, they are easy going when invited even for a dinner. Afterwards, the men refugees who offered the invitation can easily force them to have unwanted sex

Similarly, according to FGD participants, some of the relationship between women and men refugees in the camp is based on economic status which contrary to the culture of Sudanese.

Even though, violence against women refugees might minimize in the country of safety, Bambasi refugee women’s consequences of the violence experienced in the camp as the key informants and the health practitioners exposed that complex trauma, ongoing family separation anxiety, social stigmatization and food and housing insecurity are few burdensome effects. The finding of this research indicates that consequences of the violence such as physical injuries, infections, unwanted pregnancies, and symptoms associated with depression, fear for the family,

anxiety and sexual consequences which might bring out sexually transmitted disease, psychological chronic pain, and physical disability.

Responses of violence against Sudanese women refugees

The responses taken by the actors have been addressed by different actors and arenas the responses taken by the community, the humanitarian organizations, families /police and health practitioners, were gathered as a data from three main informants like the respondent/ survivors, the key informants and the FGD members. Giving assistance to the victims to respond to women violence which is very critical for refugees, such as: shelters and financial assistance programs; women's police stations or services; victim advocacy programs, trainings and awareness creation, medical services and counseling are among the responses.

Sexually victimized women and survivors often employed certain coping mechanisms to prevent worst and extended forms of violence by themselves. Their actions also aimed to rehabilitate from sexual injury. Their responses against the incidence of sexual assault could also be related with the existed socio-cultural, educational and legal constraints.

“I don't want to see Ethiopian Special Forces/ LIYU-HAIL with their uniform that the person who raped me wore the military uniform. So, when I saw them, I always hide myself and even try not to go around the staff and working area of him.”

But, in the case of refugees, sexual harassment was characterized by unwanted burden of sexual requirements in the context of tremendous inequality of power in the family relationship

combined with extreme anxiety to keep the attachment. Sexually assaulted women refugees tended to report the case to the police whereas some others kept silent due to feeling of ashamed to speak about sex and fear for ostracized if they disclosed the problem. Others were unaware of the fact that the sexual harassment that was inflicted on them was a crime and, thus, accepted as normal.

Counseling, training and psychosocial support

First, the researcher has tried to gather data of the intended responses delivered by different actors after the violence happened from different sources. Counseling and trainings were the most frequently delivered services when a woman experienced violence in Bambasi refugee camp. The researcher has collected data from the survivors, key informants, and the FGD members accordingly.

Respondent 5 indicated that counseling and trainings were among the responses she got after the violence.

“I took some trainings and counseling delivered by UNHCR focal person about rape and its protecting mechanisms for some days.”

The training was about how to recover and resilience from the problem and created awareness about the prevention mechanisms of violence via training and counseling by IRC and UNHCR. Some of the cases and the violence were treated through counseling and traditional conflict mechanism by the community elders among refugees. Especially, for the physical and psychological violence, the cases were not likely to be reported rather to be seen and solved

through community elders counseling which is not professional and sometimes not fair to the disadvantaged women concerning violence. The actors/ counselors from humanitarian organizations have usually pretended to help us, however, it was not fully helpful for the victims rather they emphasized to get picture of the victim and for reporting purposes.

The key informants of the research from IRC have also revealed that counseling and trainings are the most importantly used responses towards the victims. The humanitarian organizations like IRC have been identifying the survivors through community representatives and protections to deliver different services and supports. Trainings, awareness creations, law enforcements together with RRS protections and other socio economical and psychological supports have been given to the survivors and awareness and punishments have been given to the perpetrators in different areas despite the respondents argued as some female refugees are victims mainly because of their economic dependency so, solving this fundamental cause is not emphasized. But rather giving short trainings about sexual and physical violence and giving cloths to the victims is the usual practice in the camp which might not solve the root cause of violence. According to the key informant, to get rid of the problem, in 2022 quality and integrated case management was enhanced through improved coordination and continuous capacity building of case managers. Coherent use of violence against women refugees information management system were ensured. Community based protection intervention was being scaled up, diversifying channels to various community leaders and strategizing community mobilization methodologies towards the goal of communities independently advocating for women refugees and counseling were enormously delivered.

Financial and Material support

The other key response of violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp was financial support by different actors. According to the data gathered from the survivors, most of the victims have likely suffered economic problems due to different reasons. Regarding psycho-social and material support, evidence from victims of violence against women refugees revealed that the material support they obtain, particularly, was not sufficient: Most of the time, victim women refugees who encountered gender based violence receive little material support from humanitarian organizations; usually one cloth and one shoes

Respondent 10 of this research asked a question about the necessity of financial and material support comparing with low enforcement. Despite financial support is salient, this may never be the durable solutions. The research participant asked the interviewer during the interview

“Do you think this is enough support for a victim? I don’t think so , the perpetrators should be asked as equivalent to their crime”

Hence, the respondent exposed that material support was one of the most frequently responses by the actors especially by the humanitarian agents and organizations.

Moreover, one of the FGD member of the interview revealed that despite the responses mentioned above, there were some women refugees who were abused and they reported to the protections of the refugees and later the UNHCR gave them the VISA process to get scholarship and settlement in USA, they got the chance to go to USA and other European countries which was given a chance for the survivors in the refugee setting as per the protocol of UNHCR that an abused person should have a priority and opportunity to have a visa process than other refugees.

Legal enforcement and communal crisis resolution

Response of violence against women refugees by the police, the organizations, religious institutions the community and the family members have been assessed in this research gathered from the respondents, key informants and FGD members of the interview. Most of the cases especially sexual violence cases were frequently seen under police investigations and engagements of protection officers in the camp. Whereas, the other forms of violence like physical, economic and psychological violence were mostly reacted by the community elders counseling, religious views, and family involvements for conflict resolution methods and sometimes even untold story of the victims fearing of the culture and community discrimination.

The respondent 2 of the interview explained that most of the time violence against women cases are solved within the community rather than the Ethiopian legal enforcement since the Sudanese refugee culture and Ethiopian culture of conflict resolution methods are different. The police always give priority to solve the problem in cultural and religious views by the refugee community by themselves. For instance, respondent 2 stated that;

“I reported first to the RCC leaders and later to UNHCR, RRS, and the police. They accused him to the protection of RRS and asked why he did. He was not arrested but orally warned and told him to see the case by our culture.”

The above case of woman refugee who was abused by a refugee man revealed that was intended to solve culturally than in law. Hence, some of the violence against women was seen by cultural and religious perspectives. The survivor has also reported to the UNHCR but they couldn't take any measure that was connected with culture and religious case that could be solved by the community elders and religious institutions since a man can marry up to 4 women

according to Sudanese culture as the respondent insisted. The police told to the respondent that that was religious matters that they couldn't interfere with such cases. They told the survivor that those cases shall be solved and seen by the community religious leaders and Refugees central committee.

However; one of the FGD members insisted on the case that there were many cases which were seen under law and courts. For example there was a man who abused an 18 years old women before 5 years and he was accused and detained for years and later transferred to his homeland in Sudan. However, some cases were seen in religious ways that they couldn't interfere with such cases. The cases shall be solved and seen by the community religious leaders and Refugees central committee.

Medical service and visa opportunity

The other quite significant responses of violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp has been medical investigation and treatments by the health practitioners. The respondent, the key informants and the FGD members were about the responses of VAW in the camp in line with the specific objectives. Hence, they revealed out that medical services and investigations were used to test the victims if they are encountered mainly sexual violence and rarely for severe physical injury after violence.

The first respondent of the interview explained about the responses of the case as;

“I was abused by my husband. I couldn't know myself for long time that the case was critical. I was in Addis Ababa for medical checkup and medication for months that I was severely sick.”

According to the above respondent, medical investigation, checkup and treatments was among the responses after sexually abused by the perpetrator. After the medical treatment, if the case was really investigated and really happened, UNHCR mostly give a visa process to go to the developed countries as of their wish as reinforcement.

The FGD member of the interview explained about the case that despite the responses mentioned above, there are some women refugees who were abused and they reported to the protections of the refugees and later the UNHCR gave them the VISA process to get scholarship and settlement in USA and other western countries, they got the chance to go to USA and other European countries which was given a chance for the survivors in the refugee setting.

In spite of some survivors like the above stories some of them couldn't see themselves to the doctors due to their culture. One of the female FGD members shared the story of the abused women who didn't want to share her story to anyone. She didn't even know she was pregnant until her belly started showing. The dreadful part was her unwillingness to follow up in hospital on her pregnancy. She only reported to a female protection officer at UNHCR and still nothing was done about her case but was told not to abort her baby. The female FGD member exposed that the survivor told her that she was not safe.

‘I am only telling you about it because you are female. It is a taboo to talk about such things. It is not halal.’

The FGD member explained to the researcher that the survivor did not want to go to counseling because she did not want to remember what had happened to her and worry about her culture and religion.

In addition, one of the key informant from refugee central committee told to the researcher that there some women refugees who regularly go to clinic for checkup and medical treatment when they are abused to avoid unwanted pregnancy, for sexually transmitted disease in the camp. Since, sexual violence survivors have been found to have an elevated prevalence of various types of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including gonorrhea, and human immunodeficiency virus. Such infections may lead to other extremely serious health problems like pelvic inflammatory disease, chronic pelvic pain, infertility, cervical cancer, and AIDS.

Chapter Five: Discussion

The study sought to explore the forms, causes and consequences of violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp. In addition to these, the authentic responses of violence against women refugees by different actors are also explored. In this section, the major findings of the study are discussed in relation to the empirical studies conducted on the study topic. Therefore, the content of the discussion is organized relying on the specific objectives of the study.

Forms of Violence against Sudanese women refugees

The findings of this study revealed as the respondents of the interviewees affirmed that one form of violence against women is physical violence which embedded beating, punching, injury, scratching, slapping, and physical assault and severe punishment. Simultaneously, Yonas (2013) indicates that female refugees are exposed to diverse forms of physical violence due to the absence of adequate facilities in the camp which is poor lighting at nights, the settings of the camps and less women violence protections.

In addition, the finding of this study is in line with the result of Mtetwa (2017) that the most common form of violence against women is psychological violence (57%), followed by physical violence (54%). Sexual violence (35%) was the third most common whilst economic violence (12, 5%) was the fourth forms of women refugee violence. Similarly, the influence of culture in perpetuating VAW was enormously observed as noted by (Gouws, 2016). Emotional and economic violence were trivialized as forms of women violence maybe because of the way people are socialized in this society. Despite the above study that economic violence was

revealed less than other forms of violence, this study investigated that economic violence is the commonest forms of VAW in the study area. The results revealed a cycle of violence as psychological violence usually precedes other forms of VAW. Intimate partner violence was also the most prevalent in the study and it manifested itself through rape. In a culture where men's rights are prioritized over women's, there is bound to be abused as VAW due to gender inequality (Gonzalez, 2016). The same is reflected in the findings of Keygnaert et al. (2012). In most of the interviews, sexual and family violence in the domestic sphere were mentioned, and it was talked about as very common with women experiencing violence from their husbands

Contributing factors of Violence against Sudanese women refugees

The second findings of this study showed that the leading causes of violence against women refugees are COVID-19, gender power imbalance, low awareness, Cultural issues, poor legal enforcement, camp setting/ geographical/, poverty, alcohol and drug, failure of parents to fulfill parental obligations to the child, death of one parent/single parent. This result is concurrence to Belhorma's findings (2016). This study highlights that poverty is another reason for an upsurge in VAW using the frustration excitation hypothesis as people vent off their anger to innocent victims be it spouses or children. Some respondents stated that VAW is increasing because men feel left out in the legal apparatuses, although this is share ignorance by men, negligence and marginalization are among the various reasons VAW is still experienced in refugees today. Thus, there is need to educate the public on the neutrality of the legal frameworks in addressing VAW issues. Although activism against VAW has increased, men pretend this as a form of disrespect from their spouses and hence violence increases.

Furthermore, the outbreak of Covid-19 has upset the lives of all parts of the society especially the refugees where people live crowdedly in a tent as a refugee. The finding of this study investigated that corona virus was one of the main triggers of women violence at a time of lockdown and stay at home. The respondents indicated that the Covid-19 outbreak has made a significant impact on the mental health, education, and daily routine of students in general and women violence in particular. The Covid-19 related interruptions highlight key challenges and provide an opportunity to women violence in refugee settings. In line with this study, Saha (2020) stated that the emergence of Corona Virus disease (COVID-19) has led the world to an unprecedented public health crisis. Emergency protocols were implemented in India to control the spread of the virus which resulted in restrictions on all non-essential public movements.

Consequences of Violence against Sudanese women refugees

The third finding of this study revealed that the consequences of violence against women refugees such as poor mental health, suicide, drug abuse, drop outs from school, disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, contracting sexually transmitted diseases, unwanted pregnancy, death, abortion, depression and hunger.

This result substantiates Morley and Lussier (2010) who asserted that sexually harassed female often exhibit impulsive behavior. Therefore poor mental health and the tendency of suicide were enormously observed after the violence in refugee settings. Also, Bhana (2012) in his study reported that sexually harassed persons inevitably displayed feeling of humiliation, withdrawal syndrome, aggressive behavior and fear and trauma.

Furthermore, the findings of study indicated that the survivors of violence against women refugees had latter exposed to be abusive in their behavior and decided to drop out from school fearing of discrimination and bias from the schoolmate in particular and the community in general.

As per the findings of this study, violence committed against women refugees has psychological consequences in the form of fear, mistrust of others, reductions of commitment to work, unwilling to attend classes, and quit jobs. In addition, an attempted rape, sexual harassment were the other types of sexual violence, women refugees experienced while they were moving around the camp. Similar with the study, Krause, U. (2015) indicated that sexual harassment among women is becoming an alarming stage especially in refugee setting where human right violation is probably observed which the world didn't give attention.

Response of Violence against Sudanese women refugees

The findings indicate that much of the focus of professionals regarding measures addressing sexual violence in refugee camps is on the victims of violence, response resources, and activities for women. The findings emphasize the importance of trust in relation to an individual as well as community. Furthermore, the findings show that professionals collaborate and interact with many other actors, and that they think training on VAW within organizations is important. Some challenges related with addressing the topic were portrayed. The professionals perceive various challenges related with policies and political concerns.

Hence, The finding of this study revealed that advocacy, counselling and resilience training, financial Support, legal law enforcement, resource mobilization and support, coping

mechanism and awareness creation on the perpetrators were among the responses by different actors like the family member, the community, the perpetrator, the security forces and by the survivors itself.

Concurrently, (Gardsbane, 2016) revealed that responses of violence against women were from different actors like like the government bodies, security, family members and the community at large seeking for justice, law and order; health; and education. Programming addresses together with both prevention for the best future and response to the victims.

In addition, the qualitative finding of Otero, Merab, et al. (2014) found that responses of violence against women were supported by resource mobilizations and financial support to the survivors was the vital responses among other responses. Since refugees are economically needy and have to be supported even in the normal situation. Therefore it is very supportive and advisable that resource and financial supports are inevitably supportive even though it is not a durable solution according to the finding of this research.

However, the finding of the study also revealed that some of the cases are not reported as the case happened due to fear and cultural issues. This finding relates with (Keygnaert et al, 2015) stated that feelings of shame and embarrassment were some reasons for not disclosing sexual violence, and that often women do not report it officially. Sexual violence is often more difficult to report than other forms of violence.

Chapter Six: Conclusion and implications

Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study, it is concluded that the common forms of violence against women refugees are psychological, physical, sexual and economic violence. The findings show that all forms of violence in refugee camps are perceived as the problem of different perpetrators. Many incidents of various forms of violence in terms of the contexts they are perpetrated become the threat of women refugees.

The findings also show that the contributing factors for violence were determined as the epidemic Covid-19, the location of the camp, drugs and alcohol, polygamy, unaccountability of the perpetrator, gender inequality and power abuse.

Hence, those contributing factors for violence against women refugees bring about poor mental health, drug abuse, drop outs from school, disability, post-traumatic stress, contracting sexually transmitted diseases, unwanted pregnancy, and depression.

Lastly, the findings of this study indicates that the responses of the violence against women refugees in Bambasi refugee camp delivered from different actors; like the perpetrators, the police officers, the community, the organization, the family and the survivors themselves. So, counseling and resilience training were given by the organizations as an immediate response of the victims. Resources and financial supports were also among the responses by the community and the organizations. Legal enforcements and personal care giving was also responded by the police officers and the family members. Coping mechanism and self-resilience response is also one of the response by the survivors and the perpetrators.

Implications of the study

The coordination of social work practitioners, policy makers, researchers, NGOs and GOs who are working in refugee settings are strongly implied to get rid of the problem.

Implication to social work practice

The finding of this study implies that social workers can intervene in the lived experiences of abused women refugees. One intervention area is expanding counseling services to the survivors, their families and the community. Social worker can be an advocate for expansion of such services particularly in violence against women refugees. They can also take part in the provision of quality and sustainable counseling service to women refugees. Another area for social work intervention is in terms of helping both the negative and positive partners face their situation and also the responses they may get after disclosing their status. This is one area where counseling services to be addressed.

As revealed in the findings of this study, women refugees are vulnerable for human right violations perpetrated by the host community, security bodies, refugee community and the family members. Social workers can be engaged in identifying, assessing, planning, intervention and evaluation of services to imply intervention mechanisms, empower and improve services as a social work practices. Hence, social work intervention in Bambasi refugee camp is needed and social workers should have a role of advocacy to stand for the disadvantaged (abused women refugees) group. The advocacy should be on the behalf of the abused women refugees to be the voice of the voiceless.

Implications for social policy

. Even though a lot has been done in Ethiopia in terms of policy framework providing for the protection of the rights of women and violence against women refugees for example in line with 1991 UN protocol; it is perhaps the most widespread and socially tolerated of human rights violations. The policy could address abused women refugees on the measure to prevent violence against women refugees.

The study findings revealed that various forms of violence against women refugees are rampant where the study is conducted. Hence, the study implies the policy makers to address further policy frameworks to sustainably combat VAW refugees via creating conducive environment for preventions and copying mechanisms. Hence, the findings of this study may imply for social policy makers concerning women violence in refugee context.

The other implication is for service providers. The study indicates that the available counseling services and awareness creations focus mainly on the survivors which excluded the perpetrators. Even though the copying mechanisms on the survivors are quite salient, it can bring durable solution for the problem if the perpetrators are included.

Implications for researchers

This study was conducted on the qualitative research approach which explores the lived experience of violence against women refugees. The study findings showed that there is various women refugee violence which may be the reference for the future researchers. Hence, this study implies to the future researcher to conduct mixed research approach to get numerical, broader, deeper, and/or more useful information concerning the issue.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Profile of the Respondent

Table 1: Profiles of In-Depth Interviewees

Pseudonyms	Sex	Age	Marital status	Religion	Educational status
Chirowara	Female	18	Single	Christian	G-9th
Ikram	Female	18	Single	Muslim	G-9th
Rawda	Female	18	Single	Muslim	G-8th
Efrah	Female	19	Single	Muslim	G-8th
Eslam	Female	19	Single	Muslim	G-7th
Etmad	Female	19	Single	Muslim	G-7th
Ayida	Female	20	Single	Muslim	G-6th
Fetiya	Female	20	Single	Muslim	G-10th
Selima	Female	24	Single	Muslim	G-5th
Amal	Female	27	Widowed	Muslim	Non-literate
Bitul	Female	30	Divorced	Muslim	G-6th
Sentima	Female	31	Married	Muslim	G-8th
Asha	Female	33	Married	Muslim	Diploma
Siham	Female	38	Married	Muslim	Non-literate
Omelhasen	Female	39	Widowed	Muslim	Non-literate
Medina	Female	40	Divorced	Muslim	Non-literate
Nidal	Female	40	Divorced	Muslim	Non-literate
Teyiba	Female	43	Divorced	Muslim	Non-literate

Table two: Profiles of the key informants

Pseudonyms	Sex	Age	Educational status	Religion	Occupation
Helen Samuel	Female	33	MA	Orthodox	GBV focal person of IRC
Hiwot Belay	Female	29	MA	Protestant	GBV representatives of UNHCR
Askale Seyoum	Female	37	Degree	Orthodox	GBV FOCAL person of RRS
Kedija Hamid	Female	37	G-8th	Muslim	Refugee central committee (RCC)

Table 3: profiles of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) 1 members

Pseudonyms	Sex	Age	Educational status	Religion	Occupation
Halima Juma	Female	43	Non- literate	Muslim	The Secretary of Refugee Central committee
Toma Alamin	Female	38	Grade 3 rd	Muslim	Shelter representative of Refugee Central committee
Aziza Abut	Female	34	Grade 7 th	Muslim	Member of Refugee Central committee
Hayat Sebit	Female	45	Grade 12 th	Muslim	Livelihood representatives of Refugee Central committee
Asia Khalifa	Female	33	Certificate	Muslim	Youth representative of Refugee Central committee
Amuna seid	Female	42	Certificate	Muslim	Member of Refugee Central committee
Shama Sale	Female	37	Diploma	Muslim	Disabled representative of Refugee Central committee
Okango Suma	Female	45	Diploma	Protestant	Zonal leader

Table four: profiles of FGD 2 members

Pseudonyms	Sex	Age	Educational status	Religion	Occupation
Hayat Abdu	Female	35	Grade 8 th	Muslim	Refugee central committee (RCC) member
Ektimal Musa	Female	32	Grade 10 th	Muslim	RCC member
Hanan Eku	Female	41	Certificate	7 th Adventist	RCC zonal leader
Asimet Taha	Female	37	Diploma	Muslim	RCC zonal leader
Hussen Jamat	Male	36	Diploma	Muslim	RCC member
Jalal Aside	Male	30	Diploma	Muslim	Protection in RCC
Mikael Omna	Male	40	Degree	Protestant	Education representative of RCC
Johnson Jacob	Male	56	Degree	Protestant	Health representatives of in RCC

Appendix B: Informed Consent

Oral Consent

Hello, my name is _____. I am interested in learning about some of the needs and concerns of people in this community. I'm especially interested in trying to understand some of the issues related to violence that women have to deal with here. I hope that your answers to my questions will help improve services for people in this community. I expect our discussion to last about 45 minutes to one hour. Specifically, I am conducting an assessment of support services in this community for survivors of violence against women (VAW). Please note that I am not asking about your personal experiences with VAW. Violence against Women is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females. It can include rape, unwanted sexual contact, intimate partner violence, domestic violence, physical abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, threats, and controlling behavior. It can also include trafficking women for sex, forced marriage, and other forms of violence. Women are disproportionately affected by Violence across the globe. Again, I am only interested about the issue and concerns of people in this community and not about you personally or about you being a Survivor. During the interview, someone will make audio recording and take notes in order not to miss all the important points we will discuss.

However, if you do not wish that the interview be recorded we will not. You may feel uncomfortable talking about some of the topics or your experiences. You are free not to answer any of the questions we ask, and you can stop your participation in the study at any time. Although we would appreciate your participation, you are free to decide not to participate. The study findings may contribute to efforts to improve services. Questions about your rights as a research participant, you may also contact the RRS which approved this study about any problems or concerns via Email: gebeyehubelay6@gmail.com.

Do I have your permission to continue?

Interviewer's Signature and date: -----

Appendix C: Interview Guideline

1. Interview Guideline for Women Refugees at Bambasi Refugee Camp

This question is prepared for collecting a data to conduct a research work on Violence and responses against Sudanese women refugees: in case of Bambasi refugee camp, for the partial fulfillment of MA Degree Award in Social Work.

Your cooperation in providing genuine answers to the following questions is highly important for the success of this study and your response will be kept confidential. It is only for academic purpose.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation. **Gebeyehu Belay**

Research Site: **Bambasi refugee camp**

Date _____

General Information

1. Tell me about yourself. How old are you? Where is your place of birth? What is your Religion? What ethnic group do you belong to? What is your academic status?
2. When did you leave Sudan? How long have you lived in the refugee camp?
3. What is your current living arrangement (with whom are you living now)?
4. What are your favorite ways to spend time?
5. Could you please explain the existing gender relation between women refugees and men refugees or security force or NGO workers in the camp?
6. How equal are the opportunities for female and male refugees in Bambasi refugee camp?

Question on Physical Violence

In this question physical violence includes: Beating, punching, kicking, biting, burning, Injuring or killing, with or without weapons, selling and/or trading in human beings for forced sexual activities

7. Do you think that physical violence is a serious problem in Bambasi refugee camp? If yes why?
 8. While you are living in Bambasi refugee camp, have you ever experienced physical violence?
 9. If yes, could you explain in detail what that physical violence is? Where and when did that incident happen to you? Did you report it? If so, to whom?, If not why?
 10. What do you think are the conditions that contribute to force you to have physical violence?
 11. Without mentioning names or indicating anyone specific, who are the perpetrators? What happens to the perpetrators?
 12. Has anyone helped you to deal with your experiences? If so, how did they help you?
 13. Do you know any laws, policies, rules and regulations which address physical violence in the refugee camp? If yes, please explain them and their enforcement?
 14. Have you ever been informed about physical violence in the refugee camp by any one through orientation or other mechanism? If yes please describe its importance?
 15. Have you encountered any kind of health/psychological/social or other problem because of various forms of physical violence? Explain them in detail.
 16. Do you think that physical violence against women refugee is a violation of human rights? If yes, how?, If no why?
 17. What do you think should be done in the refugee camp to avoid physical violence ?
- What are the response taken by the community, organizations, the police, family, perpetrators against the violence?
18. Do you have any other comments regarding to this topic or physical violence in Bambasi refugee camp?

Question on Socio-Economic Violence

In this question socio-economic violence includes: discriminatory access to basic health caress, education, social exclusion, inadequate shelter food, economic deprivation, Discrimination social exclusion, obstructive legal practices, such as denial of the exercise and enjoyment of rights, acts that involve denial of opportunities or services.

19. Do you think that socio-economic violence is a serious problem in Bambasi refugee camp?
If yes why?
20. While you are living in Bambasi refugee camp, have you ever experienced socio-economic violence?
21. If yes, could you explain in detail what are those socio-economic violence? Where and when did these incidents happen to you? Did you report it? If so, to whom? If not why?

22. What do you think are the conditions that contribute to force you to have socio-economic violence?
23. Without mentioning names or indicating anyone specific, who are the perpetrators? What happens to the perpetrators?
24. Has anyone helped you to deal with your experiences? If so, how did they help you?
25. Do you know any laws, policies, rules and regulations which address socio-economic violence in the refugee camp? If yes please explain them and their enforcement?
26. Have you ever been informed about socio-economic violence in the refugee camp by any one through orientation or other mechanism? If yes please describe its importance?
27. Have you encountered any kind of health/psychological/social or other problem because of various forms of socio-economic violence? Explain them in detail together with the general effect these problems had on you?
28. Do you think that socio-economic violence against female refugee is a violation of human rights? If yes, how? If no why?
29. What do you think should be done in the refugee camp to avoid socio-economic violence in the refugee camp?
What are the response taken by the community, organizations, the police, family, perpetrators against the violence?
30. Do you have any other comments regarding this topic or socio-economic violence in Bambasi refugee camp?

Questions on Sexual Violence

Sexual violence: is any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or other act directed against female using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting. It includes: any type of Rape, inappropriate touching, forced prostitution, gang rape and sexual harassment etc.

31. Do you think that sexual violence against women refugee is a serious problem in Bambasi refugee camp? If yes why?
32. While you are living in Bambasi refugee camp, have you ever experienced sexual violence?
33. If yes, could you explain in detail what are these sexual violence? Where and when did those incidents happen to you? Did you report it? If so, to whom? If not why?
34. What do you think are the conditions that contribute to force you to have sexual violence?
35. Without mentioning names or indicating anyone specific, who are the perpetrators? What happens to the perpetrators?
36. Has anyone helped you to deal with your experiences? If so, how did they help you?
37. Do you know any laws, policies, rules and regulations which address sexual violence in the refugee camp? If yes please explain them and their enforcement?
38. Have you ever been informed about sexual violence in the refugee camp by any one through orientation or other mechanism? If yes please describe its importance?

39. Have you encountered any kind of health/psychological/social/physical or other problem because of various forms of sexual violence? Explain them in detail together with the general effect these problems had on you?

40. Do you think that sexual violence against women refugee is a violation of human rights? If

yes, how? If no why?

41. What do you think should be done in the refugee camp to avoid sexual violence against women refugees in the camp?

42. Do you have any other comments regarding this topic or sexual violence in Bambasi refugee camp?

43. What are the response taken by the community, organizations, the police, family, perpetrators against the violence?

Interview Guideline for Key Informants

Semi-Structured Interview to be asked for RRS official, UNHCR official, Health officer, and GBV Refugee Representative: This study is going to be undertaken by a student of Bahir Dar University, faculty of social science as a partial fulfillment for the award of MA in Social Work. This interview is designed to obtain information on exploring Violence and responses against women Refugees in Bambasi Refugee Camp. The information collected is purely for academic purpose and will be kept confidential. Hence, you are requested to participate in this discussion as truthfully as you can.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation. **Gebbeyehu Belay**

Research Site; Bambasi refugee camp

Date_____

Personal information

Sex_____

Age_____

Position in the refugee camp_____

How long you stayed in this position_____

Semi-Structured Interview for UNHCR, IRC and RRS Official in the Bambasi Refugee Camp

- Could you explain the forms of violence against women refugees in the camp?
- What are the frequently reported forms of violence against women refugees in the camp?
- What do you think is the major causes of violence against women refugees in the camp?
- What are the consequences of violence against women refugees in the camp?
- What challenges have you faced in the effort to avoid violence against women refugees?

- What are the major measures taken to protect women refugees from violence?
- Do you think that the available legal and institutional mechanisms in the refugee camp are sufficient to deal with violence against women refugees?
- What do you think that measures should be done to avoid or to reduce violence against Women refugees in the camp?

Focus Group Discussion Guideline

This question is prepared for collecting a data to conduct a research work on Violence against Sudanese Women Refugees in Bambasi refugee camp, Ethiopia for the partial fulfillment of MA Degree Award in Social Work. Your cooperation in providing genuine answers to the following questions is highly important for the success of this study and your response will be kept confidential. It is only for academic purpose.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation. **Gebeyehu Belay**

- Could you please explain the existing gender relation between women refugees and men refugees or security force or NGO workers in the camp?
- How equal are the opportunities for women and men refugees in Bambasi refugee camp?
- Discuss current life conditions of women refugees in the camp?
- What do you think about violence against women refugees in the camp?
- Could you please explain different forms of violence against women refugees in the refugee camp (please mention some examples)?
- Without mentioning names or indicating anyone specific, who are the perpetrators? What happens to the perpetrators?
- What are the reactions of women refugees who survived the abuses?
- What do you think about the cause of violence against women refugees in the camp?
- Discuss the consequences of violence against women refugee in the refugee camp?
- Discuss the mechanisms to prevent violence against female refugee in the camp?
- What are the responses and coping mechanisms taken by the actors like the perpetrators, family, community, organizations and the police?