

Midlands State University



FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

VICTOR NYIKA

R122271A

TOPIC: *THE ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AFFAIRS, GENDER AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN REDUCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ZENGEZA 4 CHITUNGWIZA DISTRICT.*

LEVEL: **4.2**

SUPERVISOR: **MS. MUKUHLANI**

A dissertation submitted to the faculty of Arts in partial fulfilment of the Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies (Honours) degree.

Approval Form

The undersigned certify that they have read and recommend to the Midlands State University for acceptance of a dissertation entitled: The role of the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in reducing Domestic Violence in Zengeza 4:Chitungwiza District.

Submitted by: Victor Nyika, **Reg No#** R122271A in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the B.A Development Studies **Honours** Degree.

SUPERVISOR

.....

Date/...../.....

CHAIRPERSON

.....

Date...../...../.....

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

.....

Date.....

RELEASE FORM

Name of student : Victor Nyika

Title of Dissertation : The role of the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in reducing Domestic Violence in Zengeza 4: Chitungwiza District.

Degree Title : B.A Development Studies Honours Degree.

YEAR GRANTED : 2015

Permission is hereby granted to the Midlands State University Library to produce copies of this dissertation and lend or sell such copies for scholarly purposes only. The author reserves no other publication rights; neither the dissertation nor extensive extracts from it may be printed or otherwise reproduced without the authors' written permission.

SIGNED :

Permanent Address: 2791 Maridale Hills Norton

Dedications

This piece of work is dedicated to my extremely supportive family

Acknowledgements

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the presence of God the Almighty who is my strength and provider. My sincere gratitude goes to P.D.O Mr. Masango and the entire MWAGCD team for their unwavering support and assistance during my research.

My appreciation and gratitude goes to the Nyika family for the financial and moral support during my research. I also want to thank my best friends Anesu Wake Zimunya and Simon Nigga Shuva who encouraged me throughout the process of completing this research. I would also like to thank my supervisor Mrs. Mukuhlani for her guidance throughout my research. Lastly, I want to thank all my friends who made the completion of this degree possible through their teamwork and cooperation I say we made a great team!!

ABSTRACT

The study aimed at investigating the role of MWAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District. The study traced the various causes and effects of domestic violence on women. Women are an integral group of people with vast potential to achieve development in political, economic and social dynamics of the nation. The study was conducted in Zengeza 4 targeting women and ministry's staff. Although scholars have gathered capacious literature on domestic violence in Zimbabwe and Africa in as a whole domestic violence is still continuing. The study is an investigational case of MWAGCD on its mandate to reduce domestic violence in Zengeza 4 using qualitative methodology. The study revealed that MWAGCD has managed to raise awareness and administers programmes that seek to reduce domestic violence. Limitations were noticed in relation to MWAGCD such politicization, lack of funding, deep rooted cultural practices. Therefore there is need for effective monitoring of programmes and proper implementation of polices that seek to reduce domestic violence in Zimbabwe. The researcher managed to manage to work past difficulties to come up with a reliable research and recommendations were given.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents	
Approval Form.....	ii
RELEASE FORM.....	iii
Dedications	iv
Acknowledgements.....	v
ABSTRACT.....	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vii
LIST OFACRONOMYS	ix
Background to the study.....	1
Statement of the problem	4
Theoretical framework	5
Conceptual Framework	6
Research objectives	7
Research questions	7
Significance of the study.....	7
Literature review	8
Research methodology	11
Research design.....	12
Target population	12
Sampling method.....	13
Opening ended questionnaires	14
Interviews	15
Desk Research.....	16
Limitation of the study	16
ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS	16
CHAPTER ONE.....	17
AN OVERVIEW OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ZIMBABWE.....	18
1.1 Introduction.....	18
1.2 Legal Frameworks in Zimbabwe.....	18

1.3 An overview of domestic violence in Zimbabwe.....	19
1.4 Area of study	22
1.4 The causes of domestic violence on women in Zimbabwe.....	22
1.5 The nature/forms of domestic violence experienced by women.....	29
1.6 Effects of domestic violence on women	31
CHAPTER TWO	33
The contribution of MWAGCD in addressing domestic violence in Chitungwiza, Zengeza 4. ..	34
2.1 introduction	34
2.2 The evolution of the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development	34
2.3 Ministry Structure.	36
2.4 Programmes undertaken by the ministry focusing on the Gender Department.	37
2.5 projects undertaken by the women affairs and community development departments	46
Chapter 3	50
Successes and challenges faced by Ministry WAGCD in ending domestic violence in Chitungwiza, Zengeza 4.....	51
3.1 Introduction	51
3.2 Achievements from 2005 -2015 by ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence .	51
3.3 Challenges faced by ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza	56
3.4 Conclusion and Recommendations	62
Reference list.	64
APPENDICES	69
Appendix 1: Questionnaire for Zengeza 4 community	69
Appendix 2: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR ZENGEZA 4 RESIDENTS.....	71
Appendix 3: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR MWAGCD STAFF.....	73

LIST OFACRONOMYS

CEDAW:	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women.
C.D.O:	Community Development Officer.
D.D.O:	District Development Officer.
MWAGCD:	Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development.
IWD:	International Women's Day.
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organization.
IGPs:	Income Generating Projects.
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme.
UNICEF:	United Nations Children Emergency Fund.
V.F.U:	Victim Friendly Unit.
WHO:	World Health Organization.

Introduction

Domestic violence against women, men and children is a worldwide phenomenon that stems its roots from time when society started distinguishing roles between men and women Heise (1998). The research focused on domestic violence perpetrated by men to women. According to Godwin, (2005) violence against women is an indicator of uneven power relations between men and women. Inequality between men and women has affected the full innovation of women in development. Dzinotizei (2014) cited in the Human Development Report (1998) Zimbabwe has been described as a, 'highly unequal society' because of patriarchal basis and cultural practices which perceives women to be men's property and it is because of this realization that the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development was formed. Despite the enactment of the Domestic Violence Act in 2007 and ongoing efforts to protect women and vulnerable populations against domestic violence. There is widespread recognition in Zimbabwe that Gender Based Violence is on the increase as highlighted by the VFU (2015) that the first quarter of this year realized 10500 cases of domestic violence. However eight years down the line the domestic violence act has not managed to reduce the levels of violence towards women. The study focused on the role played the Ministry of Women Affairs Gender and Community Development in reducing incidence of Domestic Violence on women in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District.

Background to the study

Violence against women is a world-wide phenomenon and stems its roots from the time when society started differentiating roles between women and men. Violence against women and girls is a global pandemic that is both a manifestation of gender inequality and discrimination, and a

tool used to maintain women's subordination status. According to the UNECA (2001) one in three women globally is a victim of domestic violence and one in five women is sexually abused before the age of fifteen. Societies deliberately formulated beliefs and traditions which facilitated violence especially towards women.

The concept of domestic violence has been largely exacerbated on the basis of the nature of the roles, society started to perceive men's roles as being superior to those of women and as such the status of men was given a superior position that resulted in power imbalances and consequently abuse. According to Browne (1987) the introduction of the 1824 ruling by the Mississippi Supreme Court in U.S.A permitted husband to exercise the right of moderate chastisement in cases of great emergence. It was not until the late 18th century when Maryland became the first state to outlaw wife beating and a charge of domestic assault carried a punishment of 40 lashes or one year imprisonment. As cases of domestic violence were increasing it became a societal concern which led to adoption of legal frameworks worldwide. According to Bronwe and Gelle (1990) In the late 19th century USA adopted legal frameworks such as the no fault divorce 1969, the domestic violence act 1978, the victim of crime act 1984 to address the increasing cases of death related domestic violence cases. The growing awareness of the significance of domestic violence culminated in the United Nations World Conference on Human Rights (UNWCHR) in Vienna in 1993 placing violence against women at the epicenter of the human rights discourse. In December 1993, the UN General Assembly's adoption of the declaration on the elimination of violence against women added impetus to the gains made at Vienna. In a similar vein, the adoption of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against women by the UN General Assembly affirmed that States must exercise due diligence to investigate and prosecute acts of violence can against women and in 1997 domestic violence month was set in October.

In the African context according to Walker (1999) African countries have a similar background pertaining the paradigm of domestic violence, he based his views on the aspect of colonization arguing that domestic violence was a Western ideology which had a trickledown effect on the Africans. Domestic violence in Africa is caused by a plethora of factors such as patriarchy, poverty, the docile nature of the African woman, low social status of women, oppressive political structures, oppressive fundamental religious beliefs that devalue women, civil conflicts and economic hardships. According to Gaidzanwa (1981) the patriarchal ideology is deep rooted in almost all African societies and it bases its operation in the premise that men are more superior to women, since women are biologically weak and have to depend on men for survival.

Zimbabwe has managed to put in place enabling legal instruments to address the gender based violence problem that has also rocked the nation. Some of the legislations put in place for gender equality and women empowerment includes the Legal Age of Majority Act (1982), the Matrimonial Causes Act (1986), the Sexual Discrimination Removal Act (1990), the Sexual Offences Act (2001) and the Domestic Violence Act (2007). The country is also a signatory to many regional, international conventions and treaties that strive to promote gender equality and women empowerment such as the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW, 1991), the Beijing Declaration (1995). In 1997 Zimbabwe ratified the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development. However despite the enactment of various laws put in place to eradicate societal decadence, they have not adequately managed to effectively address and tackle Gender Based Violence in the nation as both women and men continue to be subjected to physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse yet these laws are designed to protect them from all forms of abuse.

The Zimbabwe National Report to the fourth world conference on Women held in Beijing in 1994 stated that domestic violence was the most prevalent form of violence against women. Statistics shared by ZIMSTATS for the three quarters of 2014 indicated that more than 6158 women fell victims to domestic violence compared to 1152 men. According to ZIMVAC (2015) out of a national total of 7310 domestic violence cases recorded between January and September 2014, Harare province recorded 1431, Mashonaland East Province 1273, Manicaland Province 933, Mashonaland 850, Matabeleland North 734, Midlands Province 686, Masvingo 485, Matabeleland South 410 and Mashonaland West 370. According to SIDA (2009) the aggregated cost of gender based violence in Zimbabwe was estimated to be US\$ 2 billion this was in the year 2009 alone. With the rates of gender based violence having continuously increased since 2009 the cost of GBV is expected to more than double.

The research seeks to examine the role of the Ministry of Women Affairs Gender and Community Development in reducing and curbing cases of gender based violence in the case of Zengeza.

Statement of the problem

In Zimbabwe domestic violence remains a major problem and has acted as a barrier to women's participation in development. Despite legislative frameworks and the enactment of numerous laws and implementation of policies such as affirmative action there is little progress to show for Zimbabwe's efforts in promoting gender equality SAGPA (2012). When the Domestic violence Act came into force in 2007, it was regarded as the most progressive law for the empowerment of women in Zimbabwe but it has however failed as statistics show that gender based violence cases have been on the increase. According to VFU (2015) statistics from first quarter of 2015

highlighted that 10500 cases of domestic violence were recorded compared to previous years. In 2009 it recorded 3193, 2010 witnessed 10351 cases, 2011 had 10087 cases of domestic violence. The nation has only a few months left to achieve MDG goal 3 which calls for the promotion of gender equality yet the situation on the ground however shows the nation is far from achieving this fit. So an evaluation of the role Ministry of Women Affairs Gender and Community Development is critical so as to assess whether it has been an effective tool for the promotion of gender equality and protection of women against domestic violence.

Theoretical framework.

Marxist feminist.

This research is informed by a Marxist feminist's perspective which evaluate gender relations within what they consider to be more fundamental structure of the class systems in the capitalist class system. The primary source of female oppression is the capitalist economic system which placed men at the top of the economic hierarchy because they owned the means of production. Women were unpaid workers in the private sphere and were observed as the property of men. According to Engels (1984) women's subordination is not a result of her biological makeup but of social relations and that men's efforts to achieve their demands for control of women's labour and sexual faculties have gradually become institutionalised in the nuclear family. Benston (1972) argued that capitalism benefits from a large army of women, an unpaid workforce who are willing to do as they are told because women have been socialised to act in this way and they rear future workers to think the same way. She further stated that this social reproduction of labour is not just about producing children as future workers but it is also about ideological conditioning. For Marxists the family is also a site of social class reproduction. Ansley (1972)

further analyses the Marxist idea stating that the wife is an emotional safety valve absorbing the husband's frustrations created by the capitalist system. This explanation views society in conflict rather than consensus. This theory places men in charge and they are viewed as the ones who call the shots whilst women are said to be oppressed because they do not own the modes of production. Therefore, society places many expectations on men because they are viewed as powerful hence cannot express vulnerability. Marxist Feminism perceives men as having control and power economically as compared to women so they are considered as perpetrators rather than victims of domestic violence. Marxists feminists believe that women's oppression was caused by their economic dependence in the family and this keeps them exploitive. Women have always been beaten and abused. Women suffer double exploitation through patriarchy and capitalism.

Conceptual Framework

Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development (MWAGCD) -The ministry came into being in 2005 to ensure women empowerment, promote gender equality and equity and enhance the development of communities through poverty reduction programs.

Domestic violence- According to the Domestic Violence Act Chapter 5.16 domestic violence is any unlawful act, omission or behaviour that result in physical or mental injury or death, This includes physical abuse, for instance beating, slapping, kicking and punching, sexual abuse, economic abuse, forcing entry into a house when you are not staying together, abuse carried out in the name of culture or selling family property without family consent.

Victim –According to Hall (2001a), a victim is a person who unjustly suffers harm and therefore deserves sympathy, attention, assistance and support. Hall (2001a) further states that the

definition of victimhood is influenced by other factors such as the cultural perceptions of victims and the legal definition of victims.

Research objectives

- ❖ To give an overview of domestic violence in Zimbabwe.
- ❖ To assess the contribution ministry of WAGCD in ending domestic violence.
- ❖ To unearth the success and challenges faced by the ministry of WAGCD.

Research questions

- ❖ What are the causes and effects of domestic violence?
- ❖ What has been the contribution of the ministry of WAGCD in ending Domestic Violence?
- ❖ What are the successes and challenges faced by the min of WAGCD in ending domestic violence in Zimbabwe?

Significance of the study

The research's interrogation of the role of the ministry of WAGCD as a panacea to fight and mitigate the plight of women on domestic violence. It is the researchers' hope that by the end of the research, the ministry of women affairs gender and community development, development practitioners, NGOs and women will benefit from this research. It is the aim of this research to close gaps that have been realized in the area of domestic violence and also to a way in dealing with limitations that the ministry of WAGCD is facing to combat domestic violence. The purpose of the study is to try and document the successes', challenges and recommendation to

the ministry of WAGCD for the protection of women's' rights and to reduces vulnerability and susceptibility to the Zimbabwean women. It is the purpose of this study to analyse the policies, convections and programmes that are implemented by the Zimbabwean government such as the Domestic Violence Act in 2007,anti-domestic council, the constitution amendment in 2013, recently the Beijing 20 plus. However these legal frameworks have been criticized for failing to curb domestic violence as there are failing to penetrate the private sphere. The results of this study significantly contribute to the understanding of various issues relating to domestic violence. Specifically, it enables one to analytically understand and appreciate with the aim of reducing the various causes and effects of domestic violence.

Literature review

Theories have been proposed by various scholars in explaining the nature and drivers of domestic violence across the globe. Domestic violence has been defined in various ways across academia. According to Garba (2008) defined domestic violence is every form of insulting manner in relationship used by partner to uphold authority and control over another partner. According to Kambarami (2009), domestic violence is tantamount to wife mauling. Both (2003) in Genyi (2005), coincided that domestic violence is orchestrated as a desire of one party in a relationship to control the other partner. Therefore this shows an element of authority breakdown and misrepresentation of an intimate relationship. Genyi (2005) further highlighted that, domestic violence remains a serious economic, social and psychological problem that has no cultural, social, economic and psychological group inhibition. Therefore one can argue that capacious literature on domestic violence focused much on causes of domestic violence,

however this research seeks to explain the contribution of government departments on reducing domestic violence.

This study adopts a broader definition which presents domestic violence as a variety of abusive behaviors between related people who share some affection, Loseke et al (2005). This includes abuse by parents against children, abuse by men toward women, abuse by women against men and abuse among siblings. The abusive behaviors can either be physical, psychological, emotional, economic, sexual and verbal. Studies carried out by Maboreke (1986) and Nzuma (2000) debated the contribution of law both (customary and common) and culture in Zimbabwe in promoting domestic violence. According to Maboreke (1986), the patriarchal culture predominant in Zimbabwe has a considerable effect on domestic violence against women.

Pickup et al (2001) noted that domestic violence, ostracize women's freedom to participate in the social, political and economic realm of life thereby marginalizing them from the processes and events that shape their destiny as human beings. The Oxfam Gender Policy (1993), also highlighted that violence against women constitutes an infringement of basic rights, undermines women's self determination and their ability to lead successful lives. Violence against women, do not only destroy their lives but also damages the social fabric which is critical for human beings to realize their potential.

According to Kiamba (2008), women have been sidelined because men are at the top of the decision making structures. In many societies women are still dispensed to a secondary place by the prevailing customs and culture. Thus the current patriarchal structures give room for domestic violence to occur. Kiamba (2008) argues that the socialization of the girl child is often blamed for the perceived increase in domestic violence. He argues that the life passages of

women are not celebrated or even acknowledged. Religion has also bolstered these cultural norms, as observed in by wife inheritance and girl child pledging among other issues whereby women are perceived as less equal than men in almost all mainstream religions.

According to Mensah (2005), lack of education is also a causative factor to domestic violence. Culturally in traditional societies, boys' education is often preferred against girls' education. Education makes one confident, understand a lot of issues and can therefore make one economically independent. With more girls attaining tertiary level education, there would be a significant improvement of women in the levels of education hence economic independence. Mensah (2005) therefore argues that it is crucial for women and girls to acquire the requisite educational qualifications if they are to emancipate themselves from domestic violence. Marxist feminist scholars would contend that marriage itself is a property relation in a class based society and the family is viewed as an element of the super structure and apparatus of the state. For Bryson, (2003) it is within the institution of marriage that the Zimbabwean woman has been disempowered through the payment of lobola of which practice is perpetuated by both males and females.

In the view of Weyer (2007), from a psychological perspective, biology based models explain stable biology differences between genders as a result of psychological dispositions. These different psychological profiles of the sexes have evolved over time. Socialization and cultural explanations are received more widely to explain the entrenched psychological beliefs of women about their expected roles in societies. It assumed that gender role stereotypes which appear perverse and innate are produced through interaction over time.

The family system theory by Gelle (2000) views domestic violence as a watch and learn aspect where a child witnesses domestic violence in homes and the child learns to be a victim as well as potential victimizers. They often develop a sort of pecking direction towards violence. He further highlighted that female children typically learn to be victims again in their marriage as they witness their mothers abused in homes.

Ridgeway (2004) noted that culture is central to the forces that trigger domestic violence, leading to the violation of women's rights and subsequently to the spread of HIV. Since culturally, women are viewed as 'objects', Southern Africa has witnessed an increase in domestic violence (DV), and the violation of women's rights which have resulted in growing cases of HIV infection. Of concern, however, is that many people are ignorant of the link between domestic violence and culture. The research is going to highlight the causes and effects of domestic violence with the aim of addressing the root cause of domestic violence.

Research methodology

Research methodology can be simply defined as giving a clear guideline of the methods and processes is going to be informed by a research. Research methodology maps out the whole research and gives credibility to the efforts of a researcher. Bell (1993) states that research methodology are the study of methods or means by which data is extracted or obtained from a research project. The researcher employed qualitative research method due to its ability to explore personal experiences of a given research issue and also enabled the researcher to solicit in-depth impact of ministry of WAGCD in solving domestic violence. This type of research is grounded in people's experiences and how people interpret their experiences. The assumption is

that human beings are conscious of who they are and can interpret their own existence since this study seeks to interrogate the role of the ministry of WAGCD in curbing domestic violence.

Research design

Heppner *et al* (1992:73) defines a research design as “a set of plans and procedures that reduce error and simultaneously help the researcher obtain data about isolated variables of interest”. The underlying issue that these authors suggest is that research should not be carried out haphazardly. As such then, this researcher felt that an ideal research design, should entail a standardised set of instructions that regulate actions to be carried out in order to bring forth facts that can be used to adequately argue the case for or against any claim. The researcher used the descriptive design. The researcher meant to give a thorough description of the phenomenon of domestic violence on women perpetrated by members of the immediate family; this is in line with Kumar (2005) who notes that, what a descriptive research aims to do is to explain a trend or the way people react towards a matter. An explanatory research design was also used in order to give explanation and unearth the reasons and causes with regards to why a member of the immediate family engage on domestic violence.

Target population

According to Tustin *et al* (2005) a target population is the group from which the sample would be drawn from the population to be considered in the research. Fraenkel and Wallen (2003) defined population as a group to whom the researcher wishes to generate the results of the study and this entails that the population is the group of people which the study is about and this is defined as the target population. The research targeted the ward development officers, the community development officers, the district development officers and the provincial

development officers from the Ministry of Women Affairs Gender and Community Development and women in clubs. A sample size of thirty people was used. Purposive sampling method was used to come up with a sample was difficult to interview every member of the ministry the researcher targeted the people with relevant information. Kothari (2004), states that for a large population where a complete enumeration is impossible, at least a 10% representation is reasonable. Creswell (2006) states that qualitative data generally limits sample size and rather than relying on numbers it is more concerned with the fact that the population targeted captures all the various elements or characteristics of the population under study.

Sampling method.

Sampling is the process of selecting a few from a bigger group to become the bias for estimating or predicting the prevalence for an unknown piece of information, situation or outcome regarding to the bigger group Ranjit (2005). A sample can also be defined as a subgroup of the population a research is interested in Kothari (2004). The process of selecting a sample from a population has merits and de-merits .The merits are that time and resources are spared and the de-merits are that if the researcher does not find information about the population's characteristics of interest to the researcher it might lead to a mere estimation and prediction and there is a possibility that an error will occur in the estimations (Ranjit. K 2005). According to Zina (2004) the process of sampling is far from any haphazard activity and is always strategic and mathematical. There are different types of sampling techniques and all have their respective advantages and disadvantages. Random sampling is a process whereby each element in a population has an equal chance of selection Zina (2004). The random sampling process has been appraised for eliminating bias in a research and allows for statistical analysis however the disadvantage of the

this type of technique is that it demands that all elements of a population are known and accessible which is a laborious exercise to the researcher given the time frame for completing the research. Another disadvantage of the random sampling techniques are that there might be a possibility that all the desired set of characteristics essential for the research will be absent Fowler (2002) Another type of sampling technique is the nonprobability sampling technique which is the process of picking respondents based on their convenience and availability. For the purpose of this study, purposive sampling was used, which is a method that involves the selection of a sample based on the researchers' judgment through handpicking participants for the study. Purposive sampling allowed the researcher to deliberately select respondents possessing a set of desired characteristics. The researcher did this easily because he was familiar with the people since he did the attachment at the ministry of WAGCD.

Opening ended questionnaires

According to Wegner (1999), self-administered questionnaires can be handed out randomly wherever the target population can best be reached. The researcher, distributed thirty questionnaires to relevant people who interact with community such as the ward development officers, the community development officers, the district development officers and the provincial development officers from the Ministry of Women Affairs Gender and Community Development. The open ended questionnaire was left for the respondent to fill in their own time. Self-administered questionnaires save time and the researcher is available to answer questions where clarification is needed. Open ended questionnaires were distributed to sampled population to assess the role of MWAGCD in reducing domestic violence. Purposeful sampling was opted because of the need to minimize challenges posed by having to travel long distances to interview

women in Zengeza on the role of MWAGCD. Open ended questionnaires were delivered to the addresses of the respondents identified for the study and collected by hand on a scheduled pick-up date. To enhance the response rate, the questionnaires were delivered by hand. The distribution was done in this way to avoid problems with the local communication system which is not reliable most of the time.

Interviews

The researcher made use of interviews so as to have more accurate results. Some respondents could not write the questionnaires whilst others were giving disjointed answers thus the researcher had to make use of interviews. Interviews help in extracting people's perceptions, thoughts, experiences and meanings. This helped the researcher to get information about people's views on the role of ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza. Kuale (1996) defines qualitative research interview as an interview whose purpose is to gather descriptions of life world of the interviewee with respect to interpretations of the meanings of the described phenomenon. Carter (1999) notes that an interview is a two way communication method which involves the extraction of data by the interviewer from the interviewee. This helps to gather information about a person's perspectives knowledge and opinions about a certain topic. The researcher interviewed the respondents from the sample population with much attention to those who had given disjointed answers on their questionnaires. This helped the researcher to have a balanced and more accurate result pertaining the research. However, it should be noted that interviews are time consuming as it takes time to interview the population sample.

Desk Research

Desk research is classified under secondary research which involves analysing the synthesis of already existing data for a certain topic. This method includes the collection and study of already existing data concerning and related to a certain topic. This is considered to be the starting point of every research as it gives the researcher the general overview of the whole topic. It helps to enlighten the researcher about the concepts involved in a certain topic before dwelling much to the research area. Desk research allowed the researcher to have a vast knowledge about the topic in the form of already existing literature. The researcher made use of books, e-journals, published electronics sources and newspapers. It should be noted that desk research is an effective medium of gathering data and at the same time it is cheap.

Limitation of the study

The limitations of the researcher is going to face is lack of adequate time to undertake the research adequately since the researcher is a full time student but however the researcher will utilize the little time to undertake the studies. Lack of financial resources is one of the limitations the researcher is going to face in undertaking the study but however the researcher will effectively assess the role of the ministry of WAGCD as a panacea to the plight of women on domestic violence.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

In carrying out of the research, the research will follow the respect to confidentiality so as get honest views from respondents. Privacy as some interviewees do not want their names disclosed. The researcher will gather some information of the program by being part of a community based

organisation team that will be interviewing respondents who are participants in the program. In this way information will be gathered in a proper manner

CHAPTER ONE

AN OVERVIEW OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ZIMBABWE.

1.1 Introduction

The chapter will look at the nature, and background of Domestic Violence (D.V) on women. The chapter is going to unearth the causes and effects of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. The chapter is going to explain the current trends of domestic violence in Zimbabwe and the major fulcrum of this chapter is to give an overview of domestic violence focusing on women in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District.

1.2 Legal Frameworks in Zimbabwe

During the colonial era and after independence, Zimbabwe did not have laws covering for domestic disputes. As a way of creating a gender sensitive environment in various spheres of life, the legal Age of Majority Act was promulgated in 1982, Matrimonial Causes Act 1986, Sexual Discrimination Removal Act 1990. Zimbabwe is signatory to regional, international conventions and treaties that promote gender equality and women empowerment such as the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW, 1991) under article 5 aimed at modifying the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices, customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women. The Global Platform of Action (1995). In 1997 Zimbabwe ratified the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development in which article 20 entails that state parties are to combat and address issues of gender-based violence through

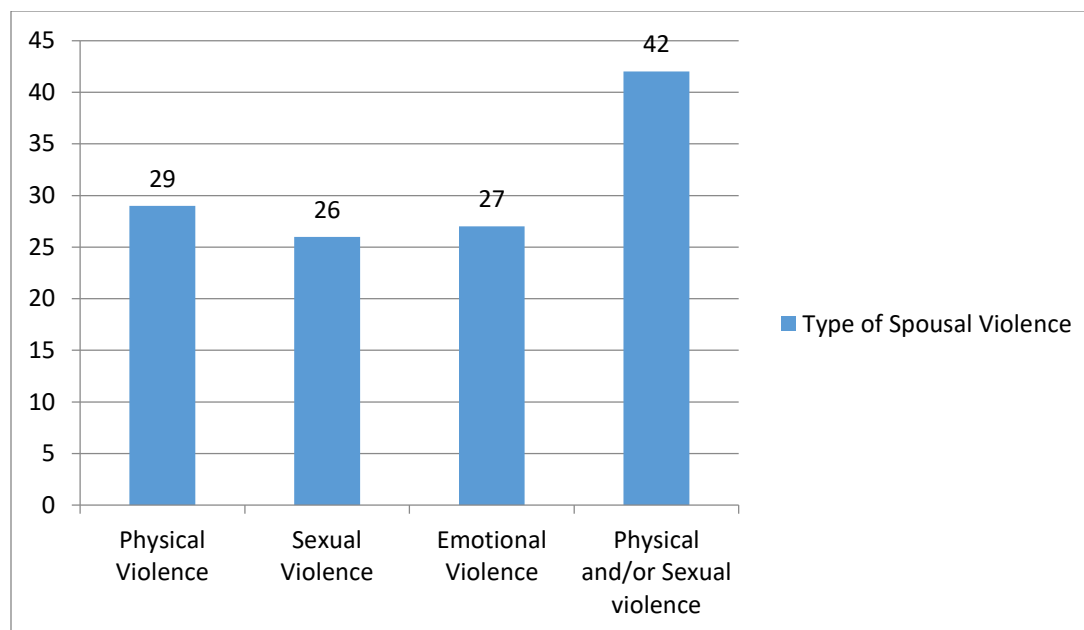
legislation and government programs as well as its addendum on the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women and Children. The Sexual Offences Act (2001), the Domestic Violence Act (2007) and currently the 2013 constitution in Section 52 on the Right to Personal Security which entails the right to be free from all forms of public and private violence. Section 53 includes a right to be free from torture or degrading treatment, which, depending on future interpretations may apply to gender-based violence. Section 25, on the Protection of the Family, commits the government to adopt measures to prevent domestic violence.

1.3 An overview of domestic violence in Zimbabwe

To begin with, despite the legal conceptions and protocols adopted by the government Domestic Violence against women in Zimbabwe is intertwined to the history of patriarchy which is a socially constructed system that endowed man with power and authority over women. According to Kambarami, (2006), in this social system, men and women are socialized into gendered roles, men become breadwinners while women are socialized into caregivers. Pickup et al (2001) argues that domestic violence on women compromises their freedom to participate in the social, political and economic realm of life there by ostracizing them to participate in development. Despite the legal frameworks adopted by Zimbabwe and the existence of the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development violence against women has been acknowledged to be widespread and ubiquitous in Zimbabwe. This is supported by the Gender Based Violence Strategy (2012-2015) that over 60% of women in Zimbabwe are victims to domestic violence. A plethora of factors such as quagmire of poverty, economic hardships, food insecurity, patriarchy, alcoholism and drug abuse, cultural beliefs, low self-esteem, women oppressing women, theory of self-prophecy, weak civil society are undermining the process of ending domestic violence.

Furthermore the socio-cultural context affects women's ability to use the protective measures of the law, as they fear being castigated by their families, resulting in many women withdrawing their reported cases from the police and courts.

The Zimbabwe National Report to the fourth world conference on Women held in Beijing in 1994 stated that domestic violence was the most prevalent form of violence against women. According to the Poverty Assessment Report (2000) over 80% of the Zimbabwean population where living below poverty datum line, the socialization of making men the breadwinners led to women's vulnerability as they depended on their male counter parts for the material base. According to the ZDHS (2010-2011) 30% of women aged between 15-49 years have experienced physical violence since the age of 15. According to ZIMSTATS, (2012) of the 4,658 married or previously married Zimbabwean women between 15 and 49 years, 47, 1 percent have experienced a form of physical, sexual or emotional violence by their husband or partner, specifically 27, 3 percent have experienced emotional violence, 29, 5 percent have experienced physical violence, 18, 9 percent have experienced sexual violence, 38, 2 percent have experienced physical and sexual violence. Statistics shared by Chief Magistrate's Office indicate that from January to April 2013 a total of 2654 new cases of domestic violence were received by the courts and there had been a 60% increase of murder cases instigated by domestic violence. According to Victim Friendly Unit (2015) 10500 cases of gender based violence has been recorded in the first quarter of 2015.



Type of spousal violence Source: Zimbabwe National Gender Based Violence Strategy 2012-2015

The table illustrates the type of domestic violence experienced by women as reflected in the Zimbabwe Demographic Survey of 2010-2011. As depicted from the above table physical violence against women recorded 29%, sexual violence 26%, emotional violence 27% and women who had been affected by both sexual and physical violence recorded 42% these current trends shows that violence against women in Zimbabwe is not coming to an end due to socio-economic and cultural factors in the country.

1.4 Area of study

Chitungwiza is a residential area established approximately 30 kilometers south of Harare City Centre which was designed to house industrial workers in Harare. Chitungwiza was established in 1978 and it is one of the largest high density suburb in Harare. According to the population census carried in 2012 estimated that Chitungwiza has a population of about 356,840. The poor performance of the economy has led to many formal job losses concomitantly leading to an increase in informal employment. According to the Zimstats Poverty Survey (2008), estimated that over 65% of populace in Chitungwiza are living below the poverty datum line and cases of domestic violence have been on the increase. This is because of the strong link between poverty and domestic violence. According to Zimvac (2015) Harare Province recorded 1431 cases of domestic violence between January and September 2014 with Chitungwiza district having 410 cases of domestic violence cases. Cases of domestic violence in Chitungwiza specifically in Zengeza 4 are caused by a plethora of factors such as poverty, infidelity and early marriages as highlighted by VFU sharing about 245 cases recorded between 2013 and 2014. According to Herald (2013) a Chitungwiza government official residing in Zengeza 4 axed his wife to death over a domestic dispute. It is highlighted that 70% of victims are withdrawing their cases and only 30% cases have reached the courts. This probed the researcher to investigate the role of MWAGCD in reducing domestic violence.

1.4 The causes of domestic violence on women in Zimbabwe

1.4.1 Economic dependency

The socialization in Zimbabwe that created the gender roles between man and woman basing on the reproductive role has exacerbated high incidence of domestic violence. This is in accordance

with the Marxist Feminist theory which accuses capitalism as the underlying driver of oppression and underdevelopments of women since man are the proprietors of financial generation. According to Chinchilla et.al (1991) men are at the highest point of the financial progressive system in light of the fact that they claim the methods of creation while women are dismissed and are unpaid specialists in the private circle and subsequently they turn into the property of men. This has resulted in men abusing women. Amid the 2008 period where Zimbabwe experienced hyperinflation, liquidation and food insecurity cases of domestic violence increased as shared by VFU (2012) that in 2008 cases of domestic violence were estimated to 1940. According to the Poverty Assessment Report (2010) over 60% of the Zimbabweans were living under the poverty datum line. Therefore one can concur that economic dependency of women on men has propelled disputes in homes leading to wife battery.

1.4.2 Culture

Ridgeway (2004) noted that culture is central to the forces that trigger domestic violence, leading to the violation of women's rights and subsequently to the spread of HIV. According to Tsanga (1996) most traditional and customary practices regard women as minors to men and hence both their gender and sex roles perpetuate the stereotype view of women. In accordance with the contention the social science hypothesis by David Brash means that parts are controlled by reproductive mechanisms. Traditional practices like the initiation ceremonies and pre-marriages counseling have been used to articulate the sexual and gender roles of a woman or wife as that of serving or pleasing the man. The Zimbabwe Demographic and health Survey report of 2010-2011 cited that socio-cultural norms and values have negated women's ability to use the protective measures of the law as they fear to be castigated by their families. The report further highlighted that most turned to family which is 58%, 36% turned to in-laws and 13% to

friends and neighbors for assistance. The figures show that women are still trapped in a domestic violence cycle due to these deep rooted beliefs about the subordinate role of women, men find it difficult to accept women as their equals. These cultures and traditions that invest superiority in men are acknowledged as contributing factors to domestic violence.

1.4.3 Knock on effects of poverty

Poverty is rife in Chitungwiza community which has brought about socio-economic lapse as people's standard of living by far has been compromised. Zimbabwe as a country was adversely affected by ESAPS which also contributed to the poor living standards of the general populace thus including the people in Zengeza 4. According to the Poverty Assessment Report (2010), poverty has affected majority of the families since most of the families are struggling to have the basic needs. Due to quagmire of poverty, men are becoming aggressive to their families making them vulnerable to domestic violence as they are failing to provide for the families. The Marxist feminist blames capitalism as the root cause of oppression as women became unpaid workers in the private sphere and are actually the property of man. According to Dodman (2008) and Powely (2010) women make up 70% of the worlds poor. Poverty is the underlying cause of vulnerability and inability to recover from the effects of various hazards.

1.4.4 The docile nature of women

The docile nature of women makes them think that there is nothing they can do if they report cases of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Zimbabwean women have socially acceptable that men are the ones endowed with power and authority while women are supposed to wait for the husband to decide. Other social traits that contribute to domestic violence are societal norms on sexual rights including denial of conjugal rights. According to ZIMVAC (2012) over 30% of

women have been raped by their husbands and over 25 % cases are withdrawn from courts as women fear to lose their marriage. Therefore one can argue that fear to be a witness and lack of legal skills has affected and increased cases of domestic violence as the majority of women are unaware of court procedures. More so women are afraid to be blamed by relatives for failing to protect her family.

1.4.5 Corruption

Corruption cannot be ruled out as a contributing factor in the rise of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. This has been highlighted by ZWLA (2010) which noted that effective policing of domestic violence cases is hampered by patriarchal attitudes as well as corruption within the police and judicial system. Radical feminists also blame patriarchal men whom they regard as vessels of corruption, conflict and bad governance. AIDS-Free World (2009) describes the police and legal infrastructure in Zimbabwe as seriously compromised. Transparency International (2009) ranks Zimbabwe at number 146 in the perceived level of public sector corruption. As such, efforts to curb domestic violence is allegedly hampered by corrupt practices in the country particularly by those who are supposed to stop it.

1.4.6 Religious factors

Violence against women in Zimbabwe has been linked to religious principle basing on the argument that women must be submissive to their husbands. The so called pastors today have become marriage counsellors who are telling wives to pray and trust in God domestic violence is a demon that seeks to break marriages. This newly nominated marriage counsellors are quoting verses from bible to due to economic hardships the marriage counsellors are stopping women from pressing charges against her husband fearing that this would attract unnecessary conflicts

within the family. Therefore the researcher believes that religion is playing a role in hiding domestic violence perpetrators leading to the increase of domestic violence.

1.4.7 Drunkenness or Alcoholism

Excessive alcohol consumption is a major contributor to the occurrence of intimate partner violence according to Krug et al (2000). Drunkenness directly affects cognitive and physical function, reducing self-control and leaving individuals less capable of negotiating non-violently to conflicts within relationships. Furthermore, drinking of one partner can exacerbate financial difficulties, child care problems, infidelity this can create marital tensions, increasing the risk of violence occurring between partners. Economic meltdown has led to man engaging in excessive alcohol drinking that as the capitalist they are supposed to provide food hand-outs for the family. this has increased cases of domestic violence has increased as statistics shard by VFU on domestic violence related to drunkenness recorded 680 in 2008.therefore one can argue that excessive drinking has increased domestic violence in Zimbabwe.

1.4.8 Weak enforcement mechanisms

There is a problem within the police that are supposed to protect victims and arrest perpetrators of domestic violence. This is due to inadequate funding and resources, reluctance on the part of the police and judiciary and lack of awareness of rights. Law enforcement and court mechanisms have to be made friendly and accessible to victims. Again, units like the Victim Friendly Unit are biased towards women, when men report abuse they are not taken seriously. There is a problem that women are withdrawing their cases fearing that they will affect the relations with the families.

1.4.9 Fear of Stigma on women

Relatives have often discouraged and at times even tried to stop women from pressing charges against her husband fearing that this would attract unnecessary attention thereby tarnishing the image of the family. This is line with the African feminism that focuses much on pleasing husbands, for example the kitchen parties are common in communities where elderly women encourages young women that domestic violence happens in a family setup. Families have been also known to reprimand and to socially isolate a woman for pressing charges. Fear of shame is one of the greatest challenge that prevents women from lodging their complaints with the law enforcement agents. It also emerged during the door to campaign that most women did not want to report the abuse since they were ashamed of giving the impression that it was their fault. Many women therefore justify their injuries sustained during domestic violence by saying that she fell or bumped against the door.

1.4.10 Lack of respect

The Legal Resources Centre,(2011) states that the chief reason why husbands beat their wives is the need to exercise power and control over them; that being men they should be the dominant people in the home. The Zimbabwean men are also blamed for failing to respect their spouses and for failing to adjust to changes in society which give women the same right as men. The African culture places the husband at the top hierarchy in the family and the women and children become men's property. Failure to respect the head of the house has increased wife battery as the majority of husbands are denying the concept of gender equality basing on the concept of lobola payment. Therefore in a way lack of respect has been regarded as a causal factor of domestic violence.

1.4.11 Infidelity and promiscuous behavior

Infidelity and promiscuous behavior has become topical in the current discourse as a major cause of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. According to Oxford dictionary it defined infidelity as the action or state of being sexually unfaithful. Most of physical injuries are caused by infidelity especially to young couples according to the African feminist thinkers. Therefore the researcher thinks that the small house phenomenon has led to young women indulging in sexual activities because of jealousy. According to Newsday 2013 a Chitungwiza government official axed his wife to death after she found her having intimacy with another man. Therefore one can argue that such promiscuous behavior has propelled high incidence of domestic violence in Zimbabwe.

1.4.12 Weak civil society

Weak Civil Society is another factor which has led to the increase of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. Organisations which deal with domestic disputes such as Musasa Project do not effectively penetrate the private sphere to disseminate information on domestic violence. They carry out campaigns on the streets of which this is not effective because information is not effectively disseminated. According to United Nations Women Report (2010) the problem faced by civil societies in Zimbabwe is that politics is affecting the operations of most organisation to work with communities to combat cases of domestic violence. Therefore weak civil society has increased cases of domestic violence due to lack of effective information dissemination in communities to combat domestic violence.

1.4.13 Limited participation of women in decision making

Limited participation of women in decision making is another contributing factor of domestic violence. In many cases women do not take part in matters that concern them. Men are the ones who make most decisions concerning issues to do with women affairs. A case in point is the Beijing 20 plus meeting Zimbabwe did not send any women to represent and air out women's issues that are affecting them. Therefore low participation of women in government quarters to represent women's rights has increased cases of domestic violence as women plights are not seriously taken into consideration by the capitalist system.

1.5 The nature/forms of domestic violence experienced by women

1.5.1 Sexual violence

The National Baseline on the Life Experiences of Adolescents, (2011) highlighted that sexual violence takes different forms which include; unwanted sexual touching which includes unwanted touching, kissing, grabbing or fondling; attempted sex without consent; physically forced sex; or pressured sex which includes threats, harassment, luring, or tricking. According to Kelly and Lovett (2005), Sexual violence is a wide term used to describe rape and the humiliating range of unwanted, pressured and coerced sex that may be experienced in domestic violence contexts. Johnson (1995), denotes sexual violence as connected to physical violence that is perpetrated immediately after physical assault and commonly accompanied by verbal violence.

1.5.2 Physical violence

The NCPEA National Committee for Prevention of Elder Abuse (2013) denotes physical abuse to any deliberate act that directly impairs the victim's physical wellbeing. It is the intentional use of physical force with the potential of causing harm, injury, disability or death. Physical violence includes pushing, choking, slapping, punching, and burning among other acts that can cause physical harm. According to the gender based violence strategy (2012-2015) shared that 29% of women fell victims of physical violence. According VFU (2013) statistics shared by Chief Magistrate's Office indicate that from January to April 2013 a total of 2654 new cases of domestic violence were received by the courts and there had been a 60% increase in the number crimes of passion. According to GBV strategy (2012-2015) 30% of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence since the age of 15.

1.5.3 Emotional and psychological violence

This is behavior that affects victim's feelings and sense of self with the intention of directly impairing the victim's psychological integrity. Such acts include insults, stalking, threats and denial of access to needs and requirements. Kelly (1988) notes, psychological violence or emotional cruelty is hard to pinpoint and name, which adds to the difficulty of help-seeking or reporting to the police. According to the Zimbabwe National GBV Strategy (2012-2015) shared that about 27% of women were subjected to psychological and emotional violence. This type of violence affect women and children as women are care givers of children. Therefore children are affected as the charter for child welfare under article 19 entails that it is the parental responsibility to take care of the child. Therefore if the mother is psychologically affected the child's entitlements are affected.

1.6 Effects of domestic violence on women

1.6.1 Death

According to the 1993 world development report, violence is a serious cause of death and incapacity among women of reproductive age as cancer and a greater cause of ill health than traffic accidents and malaria combined. In a domestic set up physical violence and sexual violence have contributed to the death of victims. Physical violence cause health problems on women and injuries. According to Newsday (2013) a senior government official axed his wife following a domestic dispute in Chitungwiza. Also Statistics shared by Chief Magistrate's Office indicate that from January to April 2013 a total of 2654 new cases of domestic violence were received by the courts and there had been a 60% increase in the number crimes of passion. Therefore one can argue that domestic violence has tremendous effects on women

1.6.2 Health problems

Sexual violence is a serious public health and human rights problem with both short and long term consequences on women's physical, mental, and sexual and reproductive health. Abused women are to suffer from depression, anxiety, psychosomatic systems, eating problems and sexual dysfunction. According to the World Health Organization, (2005) indicates that domestic violence puts women at risk internationally for the negative health outcomes of physical injury, mental health problems, sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies. . Sexual violence lead to obstetric vaginal fistula that affect women making them vulnerable to death. According to ministry of health in Zimbabwe report (2010) cited in SIDA (2009) the aggregated cost of gender based violence was estimated at US\$ 2 billion. Therefore in

a subtle manner one can note that domestic violence has affected development as funds meant to develop other sectors is channeled to health for catering victims of gender based violence.

1.6.3 Injuries and disabilities

Domestic violence has led to injuries and disabilities on women as husbands exercise too much control over women. Loss of masculinity on men has made women vulnerable to cases of domestic violence. Zimbabwe as a patriarchal state women are supposed to be submissive as the husband is regarded as the head of the house who makes decision. Violence has been worsened by lack of proper communication between the husband and his wife that when the two disagree the women will be in trouble as she had fail to listen to the head of the house. According to Zimstats (2012), domestic violence has claimed 30% of injuries on women, therefore with such statistics shows that women are susceptible to domestic violence perpetrated by men in homes.

1.6.4 Children's rights are compromised

Domestic violence has tremendous effects on children witnessing the occurrences of disputes in families. According to the African Charter on the Welfare of Children's Rights Article 21 entails that children have got the right to parental care, however this has been compromised as domestic violence has caused divorces in families. Every child has been has his or her own rights due to domestic disputes in homes these rights are ostracized. Article 11 of ACWCR states that every child has the right to education, Tichagwa and Maramba (1998) highlighted that the trauma that children experience when they witness domestic violence in the home, plays a major role in their development and physical wellbeing. The children, however, will exhibit physical symptoms associated with their behavioral or emotional problems, such as being withdrawn from those around them, becoming non-verbal, and exhibiting regressed behaviors such as being clingy and

whiney. They further argued that anxiety often accompanies a physical symptom in children who witness domestic violence in the home. Therefore in a subtle manner one can that domestic violence has negative effects on children as they are traumatized

Chapter Summary

The chapter has given an overview of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. The chapter explained the legal frameworks adopted by the Zimbabwean government to mitigate the impacts of gender based violence. However the chapter highlighted that these legal frameworks have failed to yield results in ending domestic violence in Zimbabwe. The chapter also took a view on the causes of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. Furthermore the chapter explained the nature or forms of domestic violence perpetrated by men on women. Lastly the chapter examined the effects of domestic violence on women and children caused by men in homes.

CHAPTER TWO

The contribution of MWAGCD in addressing domestic violence in Chitungwiza, Zengeza 4.

2.1 introduction

The chapter will explicate the contributions of the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza. It is the purpose of this chapter to explain the evolution of the ministry of WAGCD. The chapter will also try to explain programmes and projects undertaken by the ministry as empowering tools that reduce dependency on the male counter parts. The chapter will explain programmes that seek to reduce domestic violence such as the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence, 4 Ps Campaign, zero tolerance to domestic violence, gender dialogues, door to door campaigns, International Families' Day. The chapter will also outline government funded projects focusing on women empowerment as a way of reducing vulnerability to domestic violence cases such as Internal Savings and Lending Schemes, Skills Development, fire wood projects, income generating projects. The focus of this chapter is to explain the role played by the 3 departments of the ministry which is the gender, women affairs and the community development in reducing domestic violence.

2.2 The evolution of the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development

There was no ministry solely responsible for women's affairs before independence in 1980. In 1981 saw the emergence of a ministry which was mandated to look at issues that affected women, the ministry was known as the Ministry of Community Development and Women

Affairs. This ministry operated until the formation of the Ministry of Co operatives and worked as a team so that every member of community would benefit from the resources available. It was then noted that not all members of the community benefited and the ministry merged with the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture to become Ministry of Political Affairs. From 1989 to 1993 the Gender Department was in the office of the President and Cabinet and the Women Affairs Department was in the Ministry of Political affairs .The two ministries did not fully address the needs of women in relation to personal and national development. So the Ministry of National Affairs, Employment Creation and Co operatives was formed. This ministry was put in place to encompass both men and women in national Development.in 1997 the ministry of Gender Issues Department was set headed by the minister of state in the President's Office.

In 2000, Ministry of Youth, Gender and Employment creation was formed and it later changed to Ministry of Youth and Employment Creation was formed and it later changed to ministry of Youth and Employment creation. This ministry was put in place to enable youth to be self sustainable and not to depend on for everything from their parents or government. It was letter realized that there had to be a standalone ministry which focuses on the disparities that exist between men and women and also ensure the empowerment of women and communities. This saw the birth of the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in 2005.The ministry was mandated to formulate and implement policies, strategies and programmes that promote women's participation in national development, ensure women empowerment, promote gender equality and equity and enhance the development of communities through poverty reduction programmes.

2.3 Ministry Structure.

The ministry has three departments which are namely Women Affairs, Gender and the Community development departments. The departments have different programs they implement but it must be noted that all these departments aim for the realization of women empowerment and a society which enjoys gender equality and equity. Within the structures of the ministry there is also the finance department which is responsible for all the administration of the ministries finance, the administration department, an internal audit and human resources

The Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development is a grassroots based ministry hence it has offices from the Head office to the lower level (ward level). The head of the ministry is the Minister Honorable O. Muchinguri who is deputized by Honorable Damasani. There is the Permanent Secretary (Dr P Gumbo) who is charged with responsibility of running the operations and day to day affairs of the ministry on behalf of the minister and the government. Then the five directors and the General Manager follow her who is responsible for coordinating programs and projects in their Departments. The Deputy Directors then comes after the directors followed by administration officers who do all the administrative work in their departments with the assistance of directors and deputy directors.

The Provincial offices are led by Provincial Development officers who are assisted by three administrative officers each officer representing a particular department within the ministry. At provincial office there is one Human resources person, one accountant and they all report to the Provincial Development officer who then reports to the permanent secretary. Within the Province there are districts which are directly linked to the grassroots. The district is led by the DDO, and two CDOS and the district office reports directly to the province. At ward level there

is the Ward Development coordinator who coordinates all activities and programs at ward level. WADCOs report daily to the district office and every month they produce their various progress reports which are then compiled to make the district report

2.4 Programmes undertaken by the ministry focusing on the Gender Department.

2.4.1 Gender based violence prevention strategy

The Ministry adopted the National Gender based violence strategy (2012-2015) which focused on raising awareness in communities and to improve the efforts of the government, civil society, and donors to prevent and to respond to gender based violence. The ministry and ZWALA successfully lobbied for the enactment of the Domestic violence act of 2007 which is a legal framework introduced to protect everyone from domestic violence. The ministry managed to establish a national anti-domestic violence council (ADVC) with the role of overseeing the implementation of the domestic violence act in communities. The ministry has established anti domestic violence counselors from provincial, district to ward level. At provincial level the Provincial Development Officer is the chief anti domestic violence counselor. The ministry also runs safe shelters which serve the purpose of providing shelter for domestic violence victims. Therefore the introduction of the gender based violence strategy seeks to reduce the increase of domestic violence in Zengeza by raising awareness and the availability of the anti-domestic violence council to provide information on domestic violence.

2.4.2 4 PS Campaign

The ministry launched the 4PS campaign in 2010 to raise awareness on the domestic violence act and to mitigate the impacts of domestic violence on women. According to the Gender Based

Violence Strategy (2012-2015) the introduction of the 4PS campaign by the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development was regarded as the best campaign as it called for the involvement of men that are the perpetrators of domestic violence. The 4PS stands for prevention, protection, participation and programmes. In fostering the process of prevention, the ministry and the government introduced legal frameworks that protect women and children that are victims of domestic of domestic violence. The ministry has also worked with line ministries and NGOs in order to reduce high incidence of domestic violence in Zimbabwe. According to ZWALA (2012), the vulnerable groups that is women and children should be protected from domestic violence and also participate in programmes that seek to reduce cases of domestic violence in Zimbabwe as a whole. The participation of women from ward levels to national programmes enlightens them to know the basic principles that govern their rights. The 4ps campaign focus on prevention against domestic violence through economic empowerment especially to women as literature on the causes of domestic violence entails that violence against women is mainly caused by economic dependency on men.

4.2.2.1 Prevention

In fostering the process of prevention, the ministry and the government introduced legal frameworks that protect women and children against domestic of domestic violence. In a bid to prevent high increase on domestic violence cases that caused a by a plethora of factors the ministry calls for introduction of stiffer penalties on perpetrators of gender based violence. According to SIDA (2009) gender based violence should be prevented at all cost ,it is the duty of everyone to monitor and curb the scourge as in 2009 the cost of gender based violence was estimated to about US\$2 billion. Therefore one can argue that the ministry has increased

awareness to prevent increase in domestic violence through issuing of pamphlets, broadcasting in the media allowing information to reach everyone.

2.4.2.2 Protection

In order to protect women and to reduce vulnerability the ministry of WAGCD hold sensitization workshops and administers the domestic violence act and raising awareness in communities, mainstreaming gender in all spheres of development. The Domestic Violence Act includes protection from cultural or customary practices such as forced virginity testing, female genital mutilation, and forced marriages. In a bid to protect women from domestic violence the anti-domestic violence counsel hold sensitization workshops in the communities in raising awareness and educating women on ways to report cases of domestic violence. According to Chuma and Chazovachi (2012) domestic violence article number 7 entails that victims of domestic violence in Zimbabwe are entitled to apply for a protection order which mandates the abuser to stop abusing the victim. In a bid to protect victims of GBV the ZRP have setup a complaints desk in every police station to allow members of the public to report cases of ill-treatment and alleged mishandling of cases by the police. According to statistics shared by the Harare civil courts from 2011 to 2013 there were 3014 applications for protection orders in Harare and 2,931 protection orders were issued. The ministry has safe shelters to protect victims of domestic violence. Therefore one can highlight that the launching of the 4ps has improved awareness on the protection of women and children's rights.

2.2.2.3 Participation

The launching of the 4Ps campaign calls for participation of both men and women to address issues of domestic violence and gender based violence. The ministry is advocating for equal

opportunities and participation between men and women in all sectors of development. In order to achieve its objective of total removal of gender based violence by 2020 the ministry is advocating for participation of women and men in helping to end this societal decadence which have tremendous effects of crippling development.

2.2.2.4 Programmes

In a bid to promote women empowerment and reduce poverty on women the ministry introduced various programmes and projects in communities to promote awareness on domestic violence. Various programmes are undertaken from ward levels to national levels by the MWAGCD such as zero tolerance to domestic violence, 4ps campaign, 16 days of activism against gender based violence, international families day and international women's day.

2.4.3 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence

The ministry has been spearheading the coordination of events like 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence from the 25th of November to the 10th of December with the aim of advocating for the laws that safeguard the rights of women and ending violence against women in Zimbabwe. The role played by the ministry is to mobilize communities to participate on the campaign and passing on the information so it could penetrate the private sphere. The purpose of this campaign by the gender department is to mainstream gender in all sectors and to mitigate women's susceptibility against gender based violence. In 2014 the ministry invited different stakeholders on the campaign held at Harare International Conference Centre, chiefs, village heads, police officers and church leaders focusing on gender issues. The idea was to get their views and an understanding of gender based violence and to take the correct pathway in addressing domestic violence. The role of this campaign is to improve information dissemination

on women empowerment and to allow women's participation in programmes that seek to reduce cases of gender based violence by mainstreaming gender in all spheres of development.

2.4.4 The International Families' Day

In a bid to raise awareness and to protect families, The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution in 1993, proclaimed that 15 May shall be observed as the International Day of Families. The National launch, which marked commemorations throughout the country in all the provinces, was held in Manicaland province, Mutare on the 15th of May 2014 with the theme "protect, empower, and educate women and children for stronger families and communities". After the national launch the programmes is also undertaken at ward level with the District Development Officer, in Chitungwiza IFD was held at Chibuku Stadium in Zengeza 4. The IFD gives the opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to family and increase the knowledge of the social, economic and demographic process affecting families. According to the Gender Based Violence Strategy (2012-2015) the minister of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development also pointed out that the day seeks to promote the importance of a healthy and well-balanced family. The ultimate aim of this event is to showcase the significance of families as fundamental units of humanity, fostering equality, bringing about a fuller sharing of domestic responsibilities and employment opportunities. It highlights the inherent strengths of families, including their great capacity of self-reliance, and stimulates self-sustaining activities. The ministry of WAGCD and other stakeholders that seek to promote gender equality and empowerment of vulnerable groups' addresses issues of gender based violence focusing on domestic violence. The thinking behind holding international families day is to bring families together and protect women and children from effects of domestic violence.

2.4.5 The International Women’s Day

The Ministry of WAGCD coordinates the celebration of the International Women’s Day in Zimbabwe every year. The 2014 International Women’s Day was held at HICC under the theme “stop violence against women and children”. After the national launch the IWD is celebrated again in communities to promote awareness. The IWD in Chitungwiza at celebrated at Chibuku Stadium to promote information dissemination on rights of women enshrined in the constitution. The unique women’s sexual reproductive system makes women more susceptible to many health problems than men therefore there is need to reduce health problems related to domestic violence. The awareness campaigns and mobilization of communities to attend such programmes is a way to allow information to penetrate in the private sphere so as to reduce women’s susceptibility to domestic scourge.



Source: Research Data (2015)

The ministry of WAGCD believed that there is need to include males in programmes that concern women as a way of removing stereotypes and to address issues of culture that are leading factors of gender based violence in a domestic setup.

2.4.6 Door to Door Awareness Campaigns.

In order to disseminate information on gender based violence, the ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community development has undertaken door to door campaign at ward levels through the ward development officers and the community development officer. The purpose of the campaign is to discuss with families on issues of domestic violence. These campaigns have shared light to the ministry showing that despite the presents of legal frameworks women are still oppressed in the families by their husbands. The ward development officer and the community development officers are responsible for holding counselling workshops during the door to door campaign as a tool to reduce domestic violence within the family set up. The community development officer reports to the district development officer with a plethora of reasons why cases of domestic violence are still existing and continuing in Zimbabwe despite the domestic violence act. It is through these door to door campaign that helps the ministry to know the projects and programmes to undertake for women empowerment so as to reduce high incidence of domestic violence. Increased door to door awareness raising is important to educate people that anyone in a domestic set-up can make use of the law, by giving them the referral pathway in cases of domestic violence.

2.4.7 National Campaign against Rape and Sexual Abuse on Women and Children

The ministry launched the national campaign against rape and sexual violence on women and children to fight the increasing rates of sexual violence and rape at Chitungwiza Aquatic

Complex Centre. According to VFU (2013) the first quarter of 2012 saw a total of 2 326 women being raped. Of the 2012 January to June figures, 1 553 of the victims were girls under the age of 16. In 2013, the number increased to 1 628 during the same period. A total of 773 women over the age of 16 were raped during the same period in 2012 compared to the 812 who were raped in 2013. With these disturbing statistics of sexual violence and rape the ministry launched this campaign seeking government interventions to increase penalties to the perpetrators of this scourge. There is need to close the gap between the policy coordination and those who implement it, as the perpetrators continue to abuse women and children wittingly. A sad story shared by Musasa project in 2014 on the campaign where a number of girls were reporting that there were raped by close relatives some of them being government officials but no legal measures were taken to deal with the perpetrators. The minister of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development Oppah Muchinguri pleaded with the government to help the ministry in ending this scourge as it have serious short and long term physical, psychological and social consequences not only for the survivor, but also for their families and communities.

2.4.8 Community gender based violence dialogues

The ministry of WAGCD has introduced gender dialogues at the community levels in discussing topical issues on women and tries to promote the culture of communication between men, women and children on how to end all forms of gender based violence. In Zengeza 4 the community dialogues are held at Tambanevana council church, the dialogue forums bring together women, men, NGOs, churches, the business community, caregivers, clinics, schools and government departments to the negotiating table to develop homegrown practical solutions to challenges being faced to curb domestic violence. The ward development coordinator with line ministries and NGOS engage communities to attend the monthly dialogue to discuss pertinent

issues affecting women's participation in development. The purpose of the dialogue is to raise awareness and build safety societal nets for the protection of the women on domestic violence. It is through these dialogue forums that women and men air out the problems faced in homes that lead to domestic violence in homes. Therefore one can highlight that through these campaigns undertaken it allows victims to express themselves and possible measures that can be adopted by the government to end gender based violence.

2.4.9 Implementation of the domestic violence act

It is the ministries' mandate to raise awareness and disseminate information on what the domestic violence act holds through the anti-domestic violence council. The Ministry established anti domestic violence counselors at ward level as indicated by Article 15 of the Domestic Violence Act. These counselors are representatives from social welfare, health and child welfare, Ministry of WAGCD, Chiefs, headman, police, extension workers and private voluntary organization concerned with the welfare of women and children. The duties of anti domestic violence counselors include advising, mediating, offering counseling to survivors of domestic violence, carrying out investigations, making arrangements for temporary shelter for survivors of domestic violence, collecting statistics and monitor incidences of violence and educating communities about domestic violence. In a bid to raise awareness the ward development officer coordinates the road campaigns in a bid to reach the private sphere on issues of domestic violence. In 2014 the ministry held a road campaign on zero tolerance to domestic violence from Pagomba to Chikwanha shopping centre where the domestic violence act pamphlets were written in vernacular language and were distributed in the community. The campaign gave the women a referral pathway to report the cases of domestic violence for their own protection from physical, psychological and emotional harm from domestic violence.

2.4.10 Awareness campaigns on the current constitution

The ministry of WAGCG has also raised awareness campaigns from ward levels to the national levels disseminating information on the constitution. The 2014 constitutional literacy campaign was held at the HICC and later on in communities. In Chitungwiza district the constitutional literacy campaign was held at ward level was held at Tambanevana council church, the purpose of this campaign was to increase women's knowledge on their rights in all spheres of development. The ministry of WAGCD coordinates and engage stakeholders that are based on promoting women's rights such as WOZA, Musasa project, ZWALA for increased involvement in the private sphere. According to the constitution amendment number 20 article 4 section 56 which entails that every person has the right to treated in an unfairly discriminatory manner on such grounds as their nationality, culture, sex, gender, marital status, pregnancy. To this end the ministry of WAGCD therefore act as an effective tool for the protection of women's rights across all spheres of development as women are equipped with knowledge that there are not supposed to be subjected to physical, psychological torture in public and private sectors.

2.5 projects undertaken by the women affairs and community development departments

The ministry saw that increased cases of domestic violence in Zimbabwe are linked to economic collapse and dependency of women on men for survival. The ministry's aim is to promote gender equality and to reduce gender based violence by 2020 in Zimbabwe hence it introduced various projects in communities to promote self-sufficiency on women who were deprived by the capitalist society. The community development and women affairs seeks to reduce the dependency syndrome in communities and building the capacities of women for sustainable development. The scope of community development varies from small initiatives within a small

group, to large initiatives within a small group, to a larger initiative that involves the whole community.

2.5.1 The Women Development Fund.

The ministry of WAGCD saw that women were marginalized and did not own means of production and there were impoverished by the cultural practices. The ministry introduced the women development fund that gives women groups' loans to engage in different projects so as to reduce economic dependency on men. It is the duty of the ward development coordinator to disseminate information in the communities and to form women clubs that will be given loans by the ministry. Of the questionnaire's that were distributed to the community to assess the how the women development fund is alleviating poverty on women to mitigate the impacts of domestic violence. The response that the researcher received from the respondents had forty seven percent (47%) agreeing with the notion that the WDF has reduced domestic violence as poverty on women and the dependency on men are the drivers of intimate partner violence. While 27% disputed that this programme introduced is not reducing domestic violence. Also 17% did not know that the ministry has such a programme that provides loans for women to kick start projects. A great number of women benefited from the WDF programme introduced by the ministry of WAGCD which is indicated through the question in the questionnaire that asked if WDF is helpful in reducing domestic violence. Below is the picture of one of the beneficiaries who have engaged in chicken production. (Mushamukadzi they are into poultry production)



Source: Research Data (2015)

2.5.2 Women's fire wood project.

The Women's Firewood Project was initiated in May 2013 after a call by His Excellency the President of Zimbabwe, Robert Gabriel Mugabe at the International Women's Day Celebration held in March 2013 at the Chitungwiza Aquatic Complex for the MWAGCD to initiate women economic empowerment projects that would generate money, bring peace as well as benefit the community and environment. The project was supposed to run for two years from 2013-2015 it targeted at urban women from high density areas and had the backing of the Environmental Management Agency (EMA), Organ for National Healing Reconciliation and Integration (ONHRI), Altim Timbers as well as the project initiators ministry of WAGCD. The implementation of the firewood project has played a leading role in reducing the rates of domestic violence that are perpetuated by poverty and economic reasons as women are now economically empowered. From the interviews carried out from women participating in the fire wood project a large number noted that the coming of the project reduced their over reliance on their spouses as they managed to become economically self-sufficient.

2.5.3 Introduction of Nutritional gardens

The ministry has introduced income generating projects in communities to promote food security in Chitungwiza. According to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (2003), women and girls constitute three fifth of the world's poor. Magaji (2004) argues that women have been the poor sex throughout the 20th Century and have constituted a substantial majority of the poor since poverty was first recognized. In a bid to alleviate poverty on women the ministry with the help of NGOs such as Care International, world vision have introduced these projects as a way to reduce over reliance on their spouses which triggers wife battery. The ministry has introduced nutritional gardens in Chikwanha where various groups of women are cultivating and planting small grains. In an interviews carried out by the researcher one of the respondents was quoted saying

“Kuuya kwakaita ma garden nevanhu veku gender kwakatibatsira nekuti ndavakugona kubatsirawo murume wangu uye mumba medu hamuchisisna mhirizhonga.”

Simple translation this means that the introduction of nutritional gardens by the MWAGCD has helped me to assist my husband to provide for the family, therefore this has reduced domestic violence. Therefore one can argue that the ministry is has contributed to the reduction of domestic violence related to poverty in Chitungwiza as it introduced the nutritional gardens near a market place where agricultural products are on demand. Hence by empowering women the ministry is trying to reduce high incidence of domestic violence by addressing the causal factor of domestic violence that is poverty.

2.5.4 Skills Development Training

The ministry has coordinated the coming in of different stakeholders to ensure that before a project is implemented targeted beneficiaries are imparted with requisite skills, knowledge and attitudes. Skills development trainings are held at Zengeza 4 high school where various women are trained entrepreneurship skills. Skills development promotes entrepreneurial skills development for women and communities in consultation with other line Ministries and stakeholders. Recently women in Chitungwiza received training from Mr Chilawa from Forestry Commission on how to make candles using residues from honey combs which does not require much capital and it is environmentally friendly. The ministry has donated peanut butter machines to different groups as they received training on peanut butter making and food processing in Chitungwiza. From the questionnaire that were distributed the 68% respondents noted that skills development is important as it equip women with knowledge before projects are undertaken. Therefore one can argue that the ministry of WACGD has played a pivotal role as it promotes skills development which reduces project failure and empower women to be self-sufficient.

Chapter Summary

The chapter explained the contribution played the ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence and vulnerability of women and children. The chapter outlined various programmes undertaken by the ministry in a bid to protect and promote women's rights in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District. The chapter also explained the legal frameworks that are administered by the ministry of WAGCD such as state party reporting on issues of domestic violence and the raising information of domestic violence through the anti-domestic violence council.

Chapter 3

Successes and challenges faced by Ministry WAGCD in ending domestic violence in Chitungwiza, Zengeza 4.

3.1 Introduction

This chapter is highlighting the successes and challenges faced by ministry of WAGCD towards ending domestic violence in Chitungwiza basing with the role of programmes described in chapter 2 and research findings. Therefore the development approach will be employed to measure the successes and failures on uplifting the ostracized rights of women, basing with the methodology that was used to extract data from the respondents. Basically the chapter will be more descriptive in nature therefore results will be described and analyzed thematically. Qualitative research methodology was used as it took consideration of opinions and perceptions of women and the ministry's staff that work with communities.

3.2 Achievements from 2005 -2015 by ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence

3.2.1 Setting of the gender council

To begin with, the ministry has successfully set Gender councils at provincial and district levels as a way to address issues to do with gender based violence. According to Makaudze and Gudhlanga (2010) cited in SPR (2012) that the function of the gender council include facilitation decisions of gender issues at local levels assisting in the identification of local practices ,customs and beliefs that hinder gender equality. The gender council holds campaigns in communities in disseminating information to curb domestic violence scourge. The introduction of gender council in Chitungwiza has managed to disseminate information on issues on gender based violence in

schools, women clubs, holding workshops in Chitungwiza aquatic complex centre and issuing of pamphlets in communities on domestic violence. A recent campaign spearheaded by the gender council and MSF in Chitungwiza at the aquatic complex centre primary school children where acting a local drama on domestic violence and its effects on women and children. Therefore it can be noted that the ministry has successful set the gender council as a way to disseminate information in the communities on issues to do with gender based violence in Chitungwiza.

3.2.2 Income generating projects

The ministry has been credited for implementing income generating projects in communities as pilot projects to reduce over reliance of women on their husbands on economic bases. Women's marginalization is deep rooted from the patriarchal ideologies that women were viewed as property of men. When Zimbabwe witnessed sanctions and economic meltdown cases of domestic violence were increasing as the majority of the people were not employed and the economy was facing liquidation. According to Zimvac (2012) it stated that cases of domestic violence have drastically increased, with 1,940 cases reported in 2008, 3,193 in 2009, 7,628 in 2010, 10,351 in 2011, and 10,871 cases in 2012. The Ministry is mandated by an act of parliament to spearhead women empowerment and to this end it has developed many programmes and projects. These projects are targeted at empowering women in all facets of their life namely economically, socially and politically as it is believed that incidence of domestic violence are linked to poverty. One of the interviews by the ward development officer said financial injection from the government and other NGOs to support the projects have managed to reduce cases of domestic violence in Chitungwiza.

3.2.3 Setting the anti domestic violence council.

Another factor underpinning the success of the ministry of WAGCD is the setting of the effective anti-domestic violence council in Chitungwiza which is mandated to raise awareness on the domestic violence act. In a bid to raise awareness in Chitungwiza community the anti-domestic violence council has held counseling sessions with victims of domestic violence. In an interview with the district development officer Mr. Nyanhete he noted that the anti-domestic violence has managed to hold workshops in communities to raise awareness of the laws that are protecting women and children. This is highlighted in the African Charter on People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa Article 5 entails that states should raise public awareness in all sectors of the society regarding harmful practices that affects humanity.

3.2.4 Women Development Fund.

In a trying to reduce high incidence of domestic violence against women in Chitungwiza the ministry of WACGD introduced the Women Development Fund which was mandated to allow women to access loans from the Peoples Own Savings Bank without collateral security. The introduction of WDF was to promote women's access to loans for them to start projects that will improve their structural and material base. As discussed in the chapter above domestic violence is caused by poverty on women and their overdependence on men. The introduction of the WDF was a measure to reduce poverty on women by giving groups of women loans to undertake projects which are monitored by the ward development officer.

3.2.5 Increased male involvement.

Increased male involvement in gender based violence prevention strategies is another success that can be credited to the ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza.

The ministry has managed to work with civil societies and line ministries in the call for the involvement of man in ending domestic violence. According to the Symbolic Interactionism theory domestic violence, like any other social identity, emerges out of social interaction and it is incorporated into the individual's trans-situational self and must be confirmed across varying interactional situations. Gender theorists who apply symbolic interactionism argue that as a child, a person learns how they are identified and how they relate to others in the environment. Symbolic interactionism explains how people maintain a gendered self in various situations and how people act according to internalized meanings. The involvement of man in gender programmes who are the perpetrators of domestic violence reduces high incidence of domestic violence.

Programmes	Total attendance	Women	Man	Percentage of man
International women's Day	750	680	70	9,3%
Zero tolerance to domestic violence	350	300	50	14,3%
16 Days of activism against GBV	225	180	45	20%
International families day	450	345	105	23,3%

Source: Report from MWAGCD Chitungwiza District Offices.

It is crystal pellucid from the above table that there is an increase in the percentage of male involvement in gender programmes that seeks to raise awareness on issues of domestic violence and mitigate the impacts of domestic violence on women and children. Increased male involvement in domestic violence prevention programmes can help the ministry to disseminate

information and to reduce cases of domestic violence in Chitungwiza as others commit domestic crimes without knowing that they are perpetrating it.

3.2.6 Implementation of the 4Ps campaign.

Another success that can be noted is the implementation of the 4Ps campaign by the ministry of WAGCD as a measure to address and reduce domestic violence cases. The 4Ps main focus is on prevention, protection, participation and programmes. These programmes are focused on disseminating of information on domestic violence act and the general governing women's rights in Zimbabwe. According to Matizha (2010) cited in National Aids Council report (2013) that there has been an increase of women participating in politics these has been witnessed by the 2013 elections where women were campaigning to engage in politics. In holding the campaign the ministry has managed to undertake road campaigns in disseminating information so as to penetrate the private sphere. Therefore one can conclude by saying the ministry's has managed and successfully introduced the 4ps campaign to promote reduce domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza district.

3.2.7 Coordination

Another success that can be credited to the ministry of WAGCD reducing domestic violence is partnership with NGOs for effective coordination of women's issues in Chitungwiza. In a bid to address problems that arise in cases of domestic violence the ministry has engaged with civil societies and other line ministry to curb domestic violence in communities. The ministry is coordinating with the various NGOs such Musasa Project, Padare, Zwala and VFU in providing national statistics of gender based violence. This has been witnessed by VFU which is providing quarterly statistics of gender based violence as a way to raise awareness in communities to curb

the scourge. In an interview with the district development officer he stated that the partnership of the government departments and NGOs have increased awareness campaigns in the communities as most civil society organizations are complimenting government efforts. Therefore one can concur that the marriage between the ministry of WAGCD and civil society organizations has improved information dissemination in communities through issuing of pamphlets t-shirts, holding road campaigns for information to penetrate the private sphere.

3.3 Challenges faced by ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza

3.3.1 Politicization of the ministry

Although the ministry has implemented the domestic violence act to address domestic violence cases, domestic violence cases have rather been on the increase, according to the VFU in Chitungwiza cases of domestic violence have increased from 169 in 2012 to 258 in 2013. The increase in cases of domestic violence despite the existence of domestic violence legislation has been cited to be because of the politicization of the ministry which has led to it redirecting its attention away from its primary mandate. Politics of patronage is at the centre stage of the ministry's day to day running of the business which is affecting the ward development officers in undertake their duties in the communities. In an interview the district development officer of Chitungwiza he stated that *"the problem is that we are working with shadow counselors who are vibrant supporters of the ruling party but are not instead voted counselors occupying office"*.

Another respondent was quoted saying *"pese pese patinounganidzwa ne women affairs tinotanga taita slogan yemusangano"*. Simple translation this means that whenever the ministry of WACGD conducts programmes they begin with the party slogan. Therefore one can concur that politicization of the ministry has posed as a challenge in ending gender based violence in

Chitungwiza as workshops are identified with a political party thus affecting the general attendance of such vital workshops by many women who refuse to be politically affiliated.

3.3.2 Lack of finance.

Another challenge that has been faced by ministry of WAGCD in ending domestic violence is lack of finance in the ministry's coffers to effectively undertake sensitization meetings in the communities. Lack of finance has affected the ministry to engage communities and holding programmes that seek to end domestic violence and promote information dissemination on women's rights. On an interview with the Provincial Development Officer he mentioned that *“lack of finance has crippled the operations of the ministry as the anti domestic violence council is not operating very well in communities.* Therefore in the foregoing analysis the researcher can ascribe to the notion that there is need for government intervention to inject funding and allow the coming in of NGOs to help the communities to end this scourge. The current trends of domestic violence cases are increasing as discussed in the above chapter and women continue to be emotionally and psychologically affected. Another interview with the Ward Development Officer noted that the district has got no vehicle and to make matters worse the province has got one vehicle. She further highlighted that when there are going into communities they will be using their own money. Therefore one can argue that there is also little political will to follow up on issues of women empowerment. This is evidenced by budget allocations to the Ministry responsible for gender as well as failure by political parties to reach parity in decision making positions despite the inclusion of such policies in manifestos and the party and national constitutions.

3.3.3 Lack of proper counseling tools

The lack of effective training in proper counseling techniques by the ministries ward development officers has also acted as a challenge. In a bid to reduce cases of domestic violence in Chitungwiza the ministry of WAGCD tasked the ward development officers to impart counseling to victims of domestic violence. According to Pietrofesa et al., (1983:5) “counseling is a professional service offered by a competent counselor who has the expertise to generate alternatives, help the client in loosening and breaking old patterns, facilitate the decision-making process as well as find viable solutions to problems”. The ward development officers however lack training and proper counseling techniques and have thus failed to offer viable ways forward to break the cycle of domestic violence to victims. In one of the interviews with a woman who had a counseling session with the WDCs she was quoted saying *“advice yatakapihwa semadzimai ndeyekuti tinofanira kuno reporter kumapurisa kana tichishungurudzwa mudzimba nevarume.”* The WDCs are giving advice yet counseling is not giving advice but generation of best probable alternatives to address a problem. This as result has led to cycle of violence and strained relations between spouses.

3.3.4 Poor implementation of laws

Lack of implementation of laws to support and protect survivors of domestic violence is also another challenge faced by the ministry of WAGCD in effectively ending domestic violence in Chitungwiza. According to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on Women article 8 entails that law enforcement organs at all levels should be equipped to effectively interpret and enforce gender equality rights. In an interview with the ward development officer Ms. Mlema explained that the ministry is facing problems with victim friendly unit as women reporting cases of domestic violence and are told to go home and solve family disputes. Therefore in a subtle

manner one can argue that the laws are documented by policy makers but there is a problem with those who implement the policies. In an interview with student attached in the ministry mentioned that there is the problem that the courts and victim friendly unit are not publishing statistics on domestic violence this has led to an increase of domestic violence as people are unaware of such increasing in cases of domestic violence in Zimbabwe.

3.3.5 Poor monitoring mechanism

Lack of proper monitoring mechanism is another stumbling block faced by the ministry in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza. In a bid to reduce dependency syndrome of women on men the ministry introduced various projects to empower women and to alleviate poverty in communities. However despite numerous projects undertaken by the ministry cases of domestic violence and the majority of women are still in quagmire of poverty as the projects lack proper monitoring techniques. The projects were meant to be monitored by community development officers and the ward development coordinators who did not have the technical knowledge as it is requirements of the project as well as general technical expertise in project management / in monitoring and evaluation.

3.3.6 Strong cultural and religious beliefs.

Another stumbling block that has affected the ministry of WAGCD in ending domestic violence is strong cultural and religious beliefs on both women and men in Chitungwiza. Customary beliefs and practices render some sections of the constitution ineffective and women pay the price. It is argued that the payment of lobola as a customary practice gives intimate power to the husband in the home and it causes untold suffering for women to negotiating sexual issues. All the interventions and programmes have failed to end domestic violence as customary have taken

precedence over general law. In an interview with the ward development officer she mentioned that cultural beliefs have affected the ministry's objective of reducing cases of domestic violence by 20% in 2015 in Chitungwiza. Therefore it can be noted that the ministry has been challenged by these cultural beliefs as the majority of women are still sexually, psychologically and emotionally abused by their husbands.

3.3.7 Docile nature of women.

Another factor that is hindering the ministry of WAGCD in ending domestic violence is the docile nature of women in Chitungwiza. The gender council has faced challenges in curbing domestic violence as other women have accepted to stay in an abusive relationship for the sake of the children. This has reduced the rate women to report cases of domestic violence as they are afraid of losing the marriage. The findings revealed that the raising of awareness by the ministry towards eradication of gender based violence has been compromised by the docile nature of women.

3.3.8 Shortage of safe houses.

Another challenge that has been faced by the ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza is shortage of safe houses to protect victims of domestic violence. Due to lack of funding the ministry cannot accommodate victims of domestic violence since it managed to secure one safe house in Rusape. Shortage of safe house has affected the ministry's mandate to promote and protect women's rights in Zimbabwe in general. Women have rather chose to stay in an abusive relationship because the ministry's programmes are half bagged as they raise awareness on women to report cases of gender based violence and later do not make follow ups to see if the victim is safe from domestic violence.

Chapter Summary

The ministry of WAGCD has played a pivotal role in reducing the problem of domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza district. The ministry of WAGCD opened a forum of hope to women who were once impoverished by the capitalist society by offering those projects and programmes that are aimed at reducing poverty and over reliance to their husbands for economic bases. From the interviews and questionnaires conducted, the researcher concluded that the ministry of WAGCD has managed to empower women and have worked hard to reduce domestic violence in Chitungwiza. The researcher also noticed that despite various programmes and projects undertaken in communities by the ministry has faced quiet a number of challenges in its quest to mitigate the impacts of domestic violence in Chitungwiza. Therefore the researcher concluded that the ministry of WAGCD has managed to empower women and reduced cases of domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District.

3.4 Conclusion and Recommendations

3.4.1 Conclusion

The research focused on the role played by the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development (MWAGCD) in reducing domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District. The research targeted the ministry staff from the Provincial Development Officer to the Ward Development Officers and women benefiting from various projects and programmes. The research managed to highlight a brief of domestic trends in Zimbabwe and also explained the causes of domestic violence on women in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza. The factors leading to the increase of domestic violence were highlighted in the research. The research managed to identify and reveal the effects of domestic violence on women. The increasing trends of domestic violence drove the government to introduce and craft laws that were to be implemented by the ministry of WAGCD to reduce high incidence of domestic violence.

The research went on to bring a brief overview of domestic violence in Chitungwiza. The research outlined the contribution of the ministry of WAGCD in reducing domestic violence in Chitungwiza. The researcher used qualitative research methodology in extracting data from the area. The researcher made use of the questionnaires and interviews in unearthing information respondents. The research concluded that the ministry of WAGCD is helping women and children in dealing with problems of domestic violence in homes. The overall conclusion was that the ministry of WAGCD has played a pivotal role in reducing domestic violence in Zengeza 4 Chitungwiza District.

3.4.2 Recommendations

The researcher managed to note some recommendations that were being outlined by the respondents. The recommendations mainly came from ministry's staff and women who responded from the interviews undertaken by the researcher.

- The Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development should develop a standard monitoring and evaluation framework for its projects, as well as develop the capacity of its staff in policy formulation and monitoring and evaluation.
- Total transformation of traditional values and beliefs that consider women as second class citizens who should be beaten to understand. Since society played a huge part in forming and shaping such attitudes, it should be involved in reversing such imbedded beliefs.
- Provisions of available policies must be made known to all concerned individuals. Policies must also be written in a simple format and language that must be clearly understood by all people. This can be done through workshops, seminars and the mass media.
- The ministry should be aggressive in fundraising, it should liaise with donors and present their programmes as the budget allocated by the ministry of finance to MWAGCD is very little to hold any programme.
- The ministry should separate government functions and party functions. It was recommended that the current minister should be able to separate her roles as the secretary of women's league and her role as the minister of WACDG. It was recommended that women should not wear party regalia when holding commemorations such as international families' day, 4ps campaign against gender based violence.

Reference list.

- Amstrong, A. K. (1998) Culture and Choice: Lessons from Survivors of Gender Violence in Zimbabwe. Violence Against Women in Zimbabwe Research Project, Harare.
- Banda, F. (2005), Women, Law and Human Rights: An African Perspective. Hart Publishing, Oxford and Portland, Oregon.
- Bell , J.A (1993) Qualitative Research Design : an Interactive Approach , Thousand Oaks CA :
- Benson, C. (1998) Drought and the Zimbabwean Economy. London: Macmillan.Sage Publications.
- Bryson, V. (2003). Feminist Political Theory. Basington: The MacMillan Press.
- Chafetz, J. (1988). Feminist Sociology of Contemporary Theories. Itasca: IL.
- Chinchilla, A. (1991).When Women have Wings.Feminism and Development in Medellin, Colombia. Michigan: Michigan University Press.
- Chuma, Maxwell and Bernard Chazovachii. (2012). "Domestic Violence Act: Opportunities and Challenges for Women in Rural Areas: The Case of Ward 3, Mwenezi District, Zimbabwe." International Journal of Politics and Good Governance. Vol. 3, No. 3.
- Creswell J.W (2006) Understanding Mixed Methods Research. Sage Publications :London
- Domestic Violence Against Women on Family Relationship. <http://www.may/pol./org.UK/> retrieved 18 September 2015 at 1200 hrs.
- Dienye, P. O. (2008) Domestic Violence against Men in Primary Care in Nigeria. University of Port Harcourt: International (Pvt.) Ltd.

Fraenkel, J. R. (1991). Educational Research: A Guide to the Process. New York: McGraw Hill.

Garba, J. (2008) Society and Domestic Violence. The New Nigerian. Women Aid Collective.

Getecha, C. and Chipika, J. (1995) Zimbabwe Women's Voices. Harare: Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre and Network.

Gender based violence national prevention strategy (2012-2015) report

Hall, M. (2001a) The unequal victims: Discussion by members of Loughgall Truth and Justice Campaign. Newtownabbey: Island Publications.

Heise, J. (1998) "Violence Against Women. An integrated ecological framework". Violence Against Women.

Kambarami, M. (2006) Femininity, Sexuality and Culture: Patriarchy and Female Subordination in Zimbabwe. University of Fort Hare: South Africa.

Kelly, L. (1999) Domestic Violence Matters: an evaluation of a development project. London: Home Office.

Kelly, L. and Lovett, J. (2005) What a Waste: The Case for an Integrated Violence Against Women Strategy. Women's National Commission.

Kelly,L.(1998) 'Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls: An Approach to An International Overview' Rethinking Violence Against Women, London: Sage Publications.

Kiamba, J. M. (2008). Women and Leadership Positions: Social and Cultural Barriers to Success in Women Activism for Gender Equality in Africa. Vol 6, Special Issue.

Kothari, M (2004) Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living: Addendum: Mission to Kenya (2004, 2, 9-22), UN Doc.E/CN.4/2005/48/Add.2.the Special Rapporteur.

Kothari, C. R. (2004) Research Methodology: methods and techniques. New Delhi: New Age.

Krug, Etienne, Linda Dalhberg, James Mercy, Anthony Zwi, and Rafael Lozano, Eds. (2002). World Report on Violence and Health. Geneva: WHO.

Kumar, R (2005) Research Methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners, 2nd Edition, Sage Publications Ltd: London.

Loseke, D. R., Gelles, R.J. & Cavanaugh, M. M. eds. (2005) Current Controversies on Family Violence. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Maboreke, M. (1989) “Violence against wives” A Crime Sui Generis. *Zimbabwe Law Review*, Vol. 4, No. 1-2, pp. 88-111.

Magaji S. (2004). “Introduction to Project Evaluation “. Sanitex press Abuja

Makore- Rukuni, M. N. (2001). Introduction to Research. Harare: Open University

Mensah, B. A. (2007). Women in Politics and Public Life in Ghana. Accra: Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

Ndlovu, C. (2005) Breaking the Silence: Gender Based Violence and the Church Community In Zimbabwe: Commemorating 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence 2005. Harare: Women’s Coalition of Zimbabwe

Nemarundwe, N. (2005) ‘Women Decision-Making and Resources Management in Zimbabwe’
in the Equitable Forest, Diversity. Sustainable Resource Management.

Nzuma O.R. (2000) Battered women and peace orders: The problems faced in their enforcement
.A case study of the Harare Magistrates Civil Court. Master’s Thesis: SEARCWL-UZ.

Oxfam Gender Policy (1993) Gender and Works, London: Sage Publications.

Pick Up, F., Williams, W. and Sweetman, C. (2001) Ending Violence against Women, A
Challenge for Development and Humanitarian Work, London: Oxfam GB.

Pietrofesa, (1983) Counselling: An Introduction. 2nd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

Ridgeway, C. (2004). Status Relationships in Encyclopaedia of Social Theory. Vol 1-2.

SAFAIDS (2009).Emerging issues from the Zimbabwe policy dialogues. Exploring links between
GBV, HIV and Culture.

Shreeve, J. (1995) The Neanderthal Enigma: Solving the mystery of modern human origins.
New York, Morrow.

Tichangwa, W. and Maramba, P. (1998) Beyond inequalities: Women in Zimbabwe ZWRCN &
SARDC, Harare.

Tsanga, A. (2004) Taking Law to the people: Gender, Law Reform and Community legal
education in Zimbabwe ,Weaver Press ,Harare.

UNDP, Violence Against Women :Missing Millennium Development Goal, www.scoop.co.nz/stories/WO1012/S00211/violence-against-women-missing-millenniumdevelopment-goal.htm accessed on 18 August 2015 at 2145 hrs.

UNDP, Human Development Report, 2003.

UNIFEM (2003) Not a minute more: Ending violence against women. New York,

UNIFEM. United Nations (1995) Fourth World Conference on Women: Beijing Declaration. www.un.org/womanwatch/daw/beijing/platform/declar.htm accessed on 24 September 2015 at 2200 hrs.

Walker, L. E. (1999). Psychology and domestic violence around the world. The American Psychologist, 54, 21_30.

Walker, L. (1984). The battered woman syndrome. New York: Springer.

Weyer, B. (2007). Twenty Years Later: Explaining the Persistence of the Glass Ceiling for Women for Women Leaders in Management Review, Vol 22, Iss: 6, pp 482-496.

World Health Organization, (2005). Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women. Geneva, Switzerland.

Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey 2010-2011 (2012) Zimbabwe National Statistics

Agency: Harare

Thank you.

Appendix 2: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR ZENGEZA 4 RESIDENTS

Victor Nyika, is a student at Midlands State University in the department of Development studies. He is carrying out a research on the role of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in reducing domestic violence. I do cordially appeal for your contribution in this assessment by responding to the listed questions. The data gathered will be solely used for academic purposes and it will be confidentially treated and kept.

1 Do you know the ministry which deals with women issues in Zimbabwe?

.....
.....

2 if yes what has it done to promote and protect women’s issues?

.....
.....

3 Have you heard of the domestic violence act if yes does it address issues that women encounter?

.....
.....

4 How has the community benefited from the ministry?

.....
.....

5 What recommendations can you give to the ministry?

.....
.....

Thank you.

Appendix 3: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR MWAGCD STAFF.

Victor Nyika, is a student at Midlands State University in the department of Development studies. He is carrying out a research on the role of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development in reducing domestic violence. I do cordially appeal for your contribution in this assessment by responding to the listed questions. The data gathered will be solely used for academic purposes and it will be confidentially treated and kept.

1 What is the mandate of the ministry?

.....
.....

2 What is your role in the communities?

.....
.....

3 what other interventions and strategies would you recommend as a way of preventing and responding to domestic violence perpetrated by members of immediate family?

.....
.....

4 what are the challenges you have faced in addressing domestic violence?

.....
.....

5 How have you copied with challenges as the ministry?

.....
.....

6 what criteria do you use to choose project beneficiaries?

.....
.....

7 What monitoring mechanism do you have to monitor projects?

.....
.....

8 what recommendations can you give to the ministry?

.....
.....

Thank you.

