

**TYPES OF INJUSTICES AMONG WOMEN IN BUDAKA DISTRICT VERSUS IN THE
NOVEL "SHADOWS OF TIME "BY VICTOR BYABAMAZIMA**

BY

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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE IN
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UNIVERSITY.**

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Statement of Declaration

I declare that this report is my original work and its contents have not partially or wholly been presented for any academic award by any person in any university or institution of high learning.

Kaanyi Rita...... Date...8/9/2020...

Endorsement by the supervisor.

This research report has been prepared under my supervisor upon appointed by Busitema University.

Dr. Tendo Shira Namagero.

Sign.......... Date.....08/09/2026.....

Dr. Nakazinga Racheal

Sign.......... Date.....8th September, 2026.....

DEDICATION.

I dedicate this research report to my lovely mother Mrs. ANYANGO SCOVIA and my father MR. NDOBOLE JOHN and my lovely husband MR. MUGOLE ALEX for their financial and material support they have given me throughout my study period. May the Almighty God reward them abundantly.

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I express my sincere gratitude to the Almighty God for the gift of life and spirit of endurance and above all for providing me with physical strength, good health and resources to undertake this study.

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SUMMARY

This study explores the parallels between the injustices faced by women in Budaka District, Uganda, and the portrayal of women's struggles in Victor Byamazima's novel "Shadows of Time". Through a mixed-methods approach involving questionnaires and focus group discussions, the research reveals alarming rates of gender-based injustices, including domestic violence, property dispossession, and limited access to education and economic opportunities. The study juxtaposes these findings with the novel's depiction of women's experiences, highlighting themes of patriarchal dominance, cultural oppression, and resilience. The research underscores the persistence of these injustices in both reality and fiction, emphasizing the need for cultural shift and policy interventions to address gender disparities.

Definition of key terms.

Injustice.

This is a situation or an act that results in unfair treatment or violation of rights often leading to harm or disadvantages for individuals or group of people particularly women in this context.

Gender -based violence (GBV)

This refers to the violence directed at an individual based on their gender, including physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse.

Portrayal.

The representation or depiction of characters, themes or issues in literature such as portrayal of women injustices in *Shadows of Time*.

“*Shadows of Time*”.

A novel by Victor Byamazima that explores themes of injustices, gender, and socio-political issues serving as a primary text for analysis in the study.

Empowerment.

The process of increasing the capacity of an individual particularly women to make choices and transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes.

ACRONYMS

CEDAW- Conventions on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.

GBV- Gender Based Violence.

FGD - Focus Group Discussion.

SPSS - Statistical package for social sciences.

NGO – Non-Government Organization

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1.0 CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter is comprised of the background of the study, problem statement, purpose, aim, objectives and significance of the study and research questions or hypothesis.

1.2. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1. Simone de Beauvoir.

Author: Simone de Beauvoir, originally published in French in 1949, English translation in 1953 by Jonathan Cape. Context: De Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* is foundational in feminist philosophy. She argued that women have historically been treated as the "other" in a male-dominated society. "One is not born but rather becomes a woman"

Contribution to understanding injustice.

She exposed how societal structures and myths perpetuate women's subordination making it clear that gender roles are culturally constructed.

2. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. *We Should All Be Feminists* (2014), based on her TEDx talk, Adichie advocates for a more inclusive and accessible feminism. Feminism should involve everyone and cultural change is essential for achieving gender equality.

Contribution to understanding injustice.

She makes the case that sexism is a global issue and true justice for women requires changing mindset especially in everyday life and parenting.

3. United Nations Reports and Conventions, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) 1979. These documents provide legal and policy framework for protecting women's rights globally.

Contribution to understanding injustice.

These institutional tools map global gender disparities in education, healthcare, political participation and labor offering data-driven approaches to combat injustices.

Conclusion

The injustices women face is systematic, historical and intersectional. From foundational texts like the second sex to global policy efforts like CEDAW, the literature and activism surrounding women rights illuminate not just the struggles but also the strategies for achieving gender equity.

1.2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Despite efforts to promote gender equality, many women especially in rural or traditional communities of Budaka district continue to face systemic injustices. In *Shadows of Time* by Victor Byamazima, it highlights how these injustices are normalized and sustained by societal and cultural institutions. The study seeks to investigate how injustices against women and what it reveals about the broader societal attitudes towards gender are portrayed in Budaka district and in *Shadows of Time*.

1.3 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to critically examine the various forms of injustices experienced by women in Budaka district Vs *Shadows of Time*. To also explore how gender-based discrimination, cultural norms and societal inequalities are portrayed through the female characters and how these injustices affect their lives, choices and identities.

1.4. AIM OF THE STUDY

To explore and analyze the depiction of gender-based injustices faced by women in Budaka district and in *Shadows of Time* with focus on how cultural, social, and patriarchal factors contribute to their oppression and to understand the ways in which female characters resist and navigate these challenges.

1.5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To examine the various types of injustices faced by women in Budaka district and in *Shadows of Time*.

To find out the prevalent types of injustices affecting the psychological well-being of women in Budaka District in percentages.

To analyze the role of literature in advocating for women's rights and social justice.

1.6. HYPOTHESES/RESEARCH QUESTIONS

How does economic injustices affect women in Budaka district and what insights does *Shadows of Time* offer on women's economic empowerment and financial independence?

What are the different forms of injustices that women in Budaka district face?

What is the status of women's representation of leadership positions in Budaka district?

1.7. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study will contribute to the academic discourse on gender and literature particularly African feminist literary criticism.

It will raise awareness about the realities of gender-based injustices in African societies.

It will highlight the role of literature as a mirror of society and a tool for social change.

It will offer insights into how writers like Victor Byamazima use fiction to critique oppressive systems and advocate for changes

2.0. CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. INTRODUCTION

Women in Budaka district, Uganda face a lot of challenges that affect their social, economic and cultural well-being. Injustices such as gender-based violence, discrimination and limited access to education and economic opportunities are pervasive affecting their ability to pass through and reach their full potential. Victor Byamazima's novel "shadows of time", provides a portrayal of the struggles women face, shading light on the systematic and structural barriers that perpetuate inequality. This chapter explores the types of injustices faced by women in Budaka district drawing comparisons with the themes and narratives presented in shadows of time

2.2. INJUSTICES AMONG WOMEN

2.2.1 Gender injustices and Feminist theory (2000s)

Butler's exploration of gender as a performative act has been foundational for understanding gender injustices especially in the context societal norms that restrict women's freedom. This work contributed to post structural feminist thought and has influenced ongoing discussions about the fluidity of gender, sexual violence and societal control over women's bodies.

2.2.2 The second sex (2009)

Beauvoir analysis of women as the "other" continues to inform discussions of gender injustice today. The 2009 translation of her work remains highly influential in understanding how women are historically structured as inferior and subjected to social and political domination.

2.2.3 Feminist Literature and injustices depicted in Fiction (2000s – present)

Literary criticism has explored how women's stories are told and how injustices against them are represented in literature. Many works of fiction have emerged that address the systematic oppression of women in varied cultural and social context for example in the novel shadows of time by Victor Byamazima.

2.3. THE PREVALENT FORMS OF INJUSTICES FACED BY WOMEN IN BUDAKA DISTRICT.

2.3.1 Gender based violence (GBV)

Gender based violence is one of the most prevalent forms of injustices faced by women, it encompasses various forms of violence including domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking and harmful traditional practices. Examples of gender-based violence explored by different scholars include:

- a) *The body in pain* (1985, reprinted 2008). Scarry's theoretical framework is essential for understanding the deep connection between physical pain, social systems and gender violence her work discusses how violence particularly against women is not just an individual act but a social problem that affects women's bodies
- b) *Rape* (2003)
Oates novel examines the social and psychological effects of rape in the lives of women. It critiques how legal systems often fail to bring justice to victims and how societal attitudes towards sexual violence can perpetuate rape.

2.3.2 Economic Injustices and Disempowerment

In many areas especially the low-income urban areas women often face economic inequalities that restrict their ability to be independent and to participate fully in society. These economic injustices manifest as limited access to education, unequal wages, lack of property rights and barriers to employment. Example

- a) *The female Malady* (1985, Reprinted 1997)
Showalter's analysis of the social construction of the female madness speaks to the way mental health and economic pressures intersect in women's lives. She shows how historically women's emotional and psychological struggles have often been misunderstood or mis diagnosed. In rural areas, limited health care access often means women's mental health needs go unmet, contributing to economic marginalization.

2.3.3 limited access to education.

Education is a fundamental right but in many remote areas, girls and women face several barriers to education such as early marriage, household responsibilities, cultural biases and under prioritization of girl's schooling. Example

a) I Am Malala (2013)

Malala's memoir chronicles her battle for girl's education in Pakistan highlighting how girls in certain areas face violent opposition to education. Her advocacy draws attention to gender-based violence and cultural obstacles that prevent girls from pursuing education and patriarchal societies.

b) The girl effect (2010)

Nike foundation showcases how investigating in girl's education can radically transform their communities. In many areas girls face educational deprivation due to gender bias, early marriage and lack of resources. Empowering girls through education is seen as a key strategy to tackle the systematic economic, social and political injustices they face.

2.4. GAP IN EXISTING RESEARCH

2.4.1 limited understanding of intersectional injustices

Existing does not adequately capture the intersectional nature of injustices faced by women in Budaka district particularly how factors like age, disability, social economic status and cultural background intersect to reduce experiences of injustice

2.4.2 Limited exploration of literary works as a tool for social change

While literary works like shadows of time may be powerful tools for raising awareness about injustices faced by women, there's limited research on the specific impact of such works on attitudes behaviors and policy changes in the context of Budaka district

2.5. CONCLUSION

The literature reveals that women in Budaka district like many other parts of the world face various forms of injustices that impact their health, economic empowerment, education and overall well-being. The novel shadows of time by victor Byamazima provides a powerful

portrayal of these injustices highlighting the need for understanding of complex factors that contribute to them. To address these injustices, it's essential to implement a multi-fest approach that includes strengthening laws and policies promoting education and awareness providing support services and empowering women economically.

3.0 CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter is all about the possible procedures which were followed to collect data during research study. It focused on research methods, study area, study population, sampling criteria, limitation of the study, research tools and instruments, validity and reliability of the methods proposed, proposed data analysis procedures and ethical considerations.

3.2 RESEARCH METHODS

The study used a qualitative and quantitative research approach. These approaches were considered because the study sought to examine the injustices women face and their effects to their well-being.

3.2.1 Questionnaire

I used questionnaires to collect data from women in Budaka district, allowing me to gather information on their experiences and perceptions of injustices. I administered the questionnaires to a representative of MIFUMI Organization that fights for women rights who gave me full information in details with the kinds of injustices in percentages, ensuring confidentiality and anonymity to encourage honest responses.

3.2.2. Observation method.

I conducted observation in public spaces, community gatherings, and households, taking note of the social dynamics, power relations and cultural norms that perpetuate injustices. This method provided rich qualitative data enabling me to contextualize the experiences of women and identify patterns and themes that may not be captured through other methods.

3.2.3. sampling method.

I used a stratified sampling technique to select a representative sample of women from different sub-counties. This ensured that the sample is representative of the district's diverse population, allowing me to generalize findings to the large population.

3.2.4. Survey method.

Survey was conducted to gather data on the socio-economic characteristics of women in Budaka district including their levels of education, occupation, income and household decision making power. This method provided quantitative data enabling me to identify trends and patterns in the experiences of women in Budaka district.

3.3 STUDY AREA

Budaka district is located in eastern Uganda, approximately 180km north east of Kampala city. The district is bordered by several other districts and has a diverse geography that includes rural and semi urban areas. By focusing on Budaka district, the study aims to shed light on the specific challenges and injustices experienced by women in this region. The insights gained from this research can inform policy and intervention strategies tailored to unique needs of women in this district.

3.4 STUDY POPULATION

The study population consisted of women residing in Budaka district, Uganda. This population is diverse encompassing women of different ages, marital statuses, educational background and socio-economic statuses. The study focused on women who are below and above 18 years and above living in both remote and semi-urban areas of the district.

3.5 SAMPLING CRITERIA FOR THE STUDY

To ensure a representative and relevant sample for the study on types of injustices among women in Budaka district, the following sampling criteria was used: -

3.5.1 Inclusion criteria

Age- women aged 16-18 years and above were used.

Residency- only women who are residents of Budaka district were used.

Willingness to participate- women who were willing and able to provide information were consulted.

3.5.2 sampling strategy

A combination of stratified and purposive sampling techniques was used to select participants. This approach ensured that the sample is a representative of the diverse population of women in Budaka district and the specific sub-groups are adequately represented.

3.5.3 Sample size

The sample size was determined based on the research objectives, the complexity of the research questions and the desired level of precision. A sample size that is large enough to provide meaningful insights but manageable within the resources available for the study was selected. Women of age 18 to 55 years were selected for the samples to get meaningful information.

3.6 limitations of the study

3.6.1 Geographical limitations

Localized focus, the study was confined to Budaka district which may limit the generalizability of the findings to other regions or districts with different socio-economic and cultural context.

Rural versus urban divide, the study's focus on a rural district may not capture the experiences of women in urban areas where challenges and injustices may differ significantly.

3.6.2. content limitation.

Scope of injustices, the study may not cover all forms of injustices faced by women potentially overlooking specific issues that are unique to certain subgroups or contexts.

Depth of analysis, given the broad nature of the topic, the study might not be able to derive deeply into every aspect of women's injustices potentially limiting the depth of analysis of certain issues.

Literature comparison, the comparison with shadows of time by Victor Byamazima may be limited by the novel's specific narrative and themes which might not encompass all aspects of women's injustices in the district.

3.7 Research tools and instruments

To collect and analyze data for the study on types of injustices among women in Budaka district, and their portrayal in shadows of time by victor Byamazima, the following instruments and research tools were used.

3.7.1 Questionnaires

A structured questionnaire was designed to gather quantitative data on the social demographic characteristics of women in Budaka district, their experiences of injustices and their perceptions of the issues portrayed in the novel.

3.7.2. focus group discussion guides (FGD)

FGD guides facilitated discussion with groups of women enabling the collection of qualitative data and their collective experiences and perceptions.

3.7.4. Literary analysis framework

A framework was developed to analyze the portrayal of women's injustices in shadows of time including themes, characters, and plot development.

3.8 Data analysis procedures

3.8.1 Quantitative data analysis

Descriptive statistics- means, percentages were used to summarize socio-demographic data and responses to close ended questions.

Influential statistics, chi-square tests and regression analysis was used to examine relationship between variables and identify predictors of women's experiences of injustices

3.8.2 qualitative data analysis

Thematic analysis, themes and patterns was identified in the qualitative data using coding and memoing techniques.

Content analysis, the portrayal of women's injustices in shadows of time was analyzed using a content analysis framework.

3.8.3 data integration

Triangulation, quantitative and qualitative data was integrated to provide a comprehensive understanding of the research questions. Comparison, findings from qualitative and quantitative data was compared to identify areas of convergence and divergence.

3.8.4 data analysis software

SPSS- used for quantitative data analysis, NVivo, used for qualitative data analysis

3.8.5 data analysis steps

Data was cleaned, coded and entered into the analysis software; quantitative and qualitative data was analyzed separately and then integrated then findings were interpreted in the context of the research questions and literature review. After the result were presented in tables, figures and narrative form.

3.9. VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE METHODS.

In assessing the validity and reliability of the methods I used, I ensured that the sampling accurately represented the population through stratified Sampling which enhanced external validity while consistence in the selection process contributed to reliability.

The questionnaire was designed to measure relevant constructs with pre testing conducted to ensure clarity and using established scale to improve both content validity and internal consistency.

Focus group discussions followed a structured guide to address key issues and neutral facilitation was applied to minimize bias enhancing the discussion's validity while consistent moderation techniques supported reliability.

4.0 Ethical considerations

The study prioritized informed consent ensuring that participants are aware of the research purpose, procedures, risks and benefits. Before participating, women in Budaka district were provided with clear information about the study and their consent was obtained through a consent form. This form was to outline the study's objective, the potential risk and benefits and the measures in place to protect their confidentiality. Participants were informed that their involvement was voluntary and that they could withdraw from the study at any time without facing any negative consequences. By obtaining informed consent, the study respected the autonomy and dignity of the participants.

Confidentiality and anonymity are critical components of the study's ethical framework. To protect participants' identities, I used coding mechanisms to ensure that data cannot be linked to individual participants. All data collected will be stored securely and access will be limited to authorized personnel only. By maintaining confidentiality and anonymity, the study created a safe and trustworthy environment for participants to share their experiences.

Given the sensitive nature of the study, which involves discussing injustices faced by women, I was mindful of the potential emotional impact on the participants. Participants were provided with information about support services in case they experience disgrace or require additional assistance. I also respected participants boundaries avoiding any pressure to disclose more than they are comfortable sharing. By prioritizing the wellbeing of participants, the study minimized potential harm and ensured that the research process is respectful and dignified.

Conclusion

This chapter has comprehensively outlined the research methodology that will be employed to explore the types of injustices faced by women in Budaka district and their portrayal in shadows of time by Victor Byamazima. The study will adopt a mixed methods approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis method to provide understanding of the research problem. The study population will comprise of women residing in Budaka district and literary analysis framework of the novel. By employing a rigorous research methodology, this

study aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the types of injustices faced by the women in Budaka district and inform strategies to address these issues

4.0. CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the data analysis and findings from the research conducted in Budaka district regarding women's issues. The aim was to examine the various challenges faced by women, including domestic violence, early marriages, gender-based violence, unemployment, educational attendance, representation, and societal attitudes.

Data Analysis

The data collected were analyzed using qualitative and quantitative methods. Surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions provided insights into the experiences of women in Budaka. Below is a Respondent's bio data table.

summary of the key findings organized.

RESPONDENT'S DATA.

A total of 385 women between 16-18 and above were targeted and responded as follows using the formula $\% * 385 =$.

Types of injustices	Frequency(n)	Percentage%
Domestic violence	270	70
Early marriages	154	40
Gender Based Violence	212	55
Unemployment inequalities	250	65
Low Education attendance	193	50
Low Representation	227	59
Societal Condemnation	173	45

NB. One respondent reported multiple injustices at the same time as it's a big challenge among women in Budaka District.

Table showing types of injustices among women in Budaka district from MIFUMI Organization that covers different sub counties of Budaka District.

Types of injustices/issues.	Percentage%	Comments
Domestic violence	70	Majority experience abuse
Early marriages	40	High incidence before age 18
Gender based violence	55	Pervasive harassment reported
Unemployment inequalities	65	Women face significant barriers
Low education attendance	50	Poor attendance due to various factors
Low representation	59	Few women in leadership positions
Societal condemnation	45	Stigma attached to reporting issues.

4.2. Findings of the types of injustices in the novel shadows of time by victor Byamazima.

Gender Based Violence.

Flora's life is defined by sexual violation. Tom an unconscionable criminal leader exploits her and later rapes her in her own marital home while her husband Steve is away. Furthermore, she is handed over by Tom to a white man to act as a call girl and is raped by her driver on the way to the job.

Unemployment inequalities.

Flora is trapped in a situation of extreme economic vulnerability. The lack of job opportunities forces her into a "call girl" situation highlighting her lack of economic autonomy. She is dependent on men for survival and status.

Domestic violence.

Wife beating and violence are normalized in the context of the novel. The macabre ritual of abortion which Flora undergoes is a form of and response to the violence she experiences transforming her from an innocent girl to a broken woman.

5.0. CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the discussion of the findings, conclusion and the recommendations of the study. It summarizes the key findings on injustices faced by women in Budaka District as reflected in Victor Byamazima's *Shadows of Time*.

5.2. Discussion of findings in the novel, shadows of time by victor Byamazima on the types of injustices among women in the text

Role of patriarchy

The injustices in the novel are rooted in a deeply patriarchal society where men feel empowered to control, rape and commodify women.

The impact of injustice on Agency.

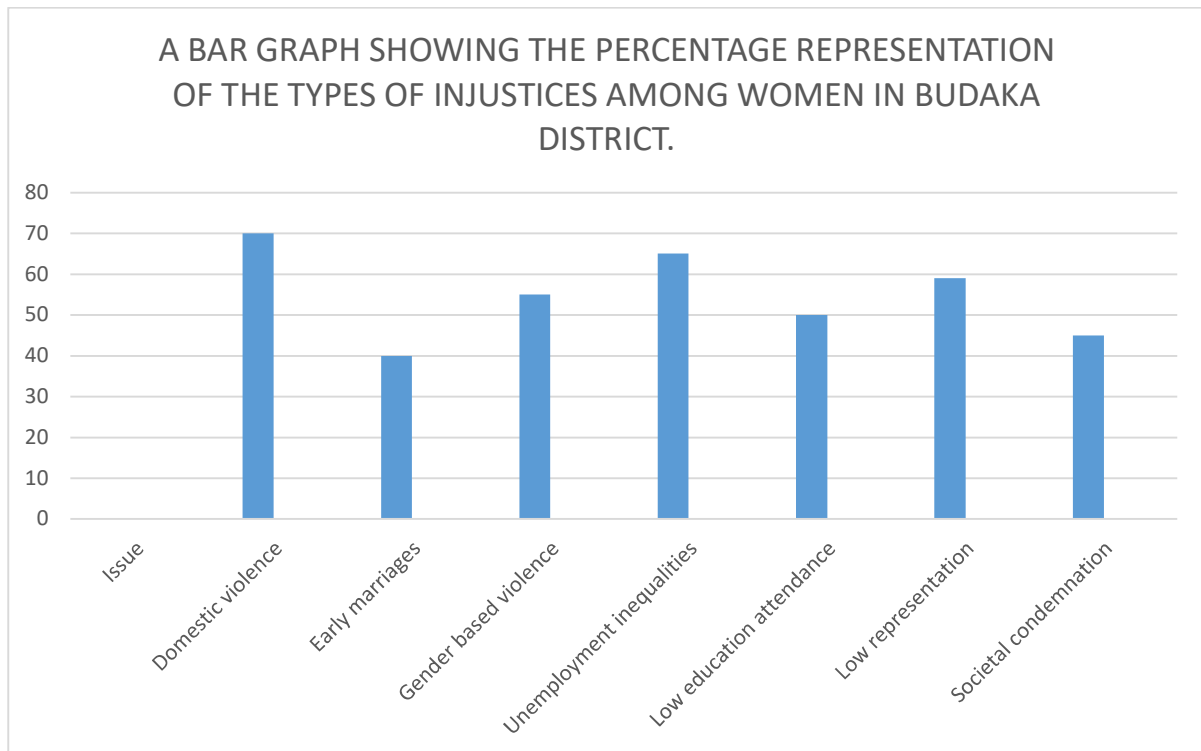
Flora's vulnerability makes her a hostage in her own life, limiting her ability to make independent decisions. Her dark past constantly haunts her, a shadow that restricts her future options.

The failure of institutions.

The novel shows that the state and societal structures offer no protection as the authorities are also shown to be involved in or indifferent to the abuse of women.

5.3. Discussions on the findings of the types of injustices of among women in Budaka district

Women in Budaka District continue to face many forms of injustice that affect their social, economic, educational, and personal wellbeing. These injustices are deeply connected to cultural beliefs, poverty, gender inequality, and limited access to opportunities and protection services. The findings presented reveal the major challenges experienced by women and girls in the district and demonstrate how these problems continue to limit their freedom, dignity, and development.



5.3.1. Domestic Violence (70%) – Majority Experience Abuse

Domestic violence emerged as the most common injustice affecting women in Budaka District, with 70% of respondents indicating that many women experience abuse within their homes. Domestic violence includes physical assault, emotional abuse, verbal insults, denial of basic needs, sexual violence, and economic control by spouses or partners.

Many women in Budaka remain financially dependent on their husbands, which makes it difficult for them to leave abusive relationships. Cultural norms also encourage women to remain silent and endure violence in order to “protect the family” or avoid shame in the community. In some homes, men believe they have authority to control women through force, intimidation, or punishment.

The effects of domestic violence are severe. Women suffer physical injuries, emotional trauma, stress, depression, and fear. Children raised in violent homes are also affected psychologically and may grow up believing violence is normal. Domestic violence reduces women’s

productivity, weakens family relationships, and contributes to poverty and poor health conditions within households.

Despite the increasing awareness about women's rights, many victims do not report abuse because they fear retaliation, social stigma, or lack confidence in receiving justice from authorities. Some cases are settled informally by families or local leaders, leaving women without proper protection.

5.3.2. Unemployment Inequalities (65%) – Women Face Significant Barriers

The findings show that 65% of women experience unemployment inequalities. This means women face more difficulties than men in accessing jobs, income-generating opportunities, and economic resources.

In Budaka District, many women are involved in subsistence farming, petty trade, or unpaid domestic work. Very few women hold stable formal jobs due to low education levels, lack of vocational skills, and limited access to capital. In many families, girls are expected to focus on household responsibilities while boys are encouraged to pursue careers and income opportunities.

Gender discrimination also contributes to unemployment inequalities. Some employers prefer hiring men because they believe women are less productive due to family responsibilities such as pregnancy, childcare, and domestic work. Women who attempt to start businesses often struggle to obtain loans because they lack ownership of land or property that can serve as collateral.

Economic dependence increases women's vulnerability to exploitation and abuse. Without financial independence, many women cannot make decisions freely or support their children adequately. Poverty among women also limits access to healthcare, education, and better living conditions.

5.3.3. Low Representation (59%) – Few Women in Leadership Positions

The study indicates that women have low representation in leadership and decision-making positions, with 59% reporting that few women participate in governance and community leadership.

Although women make up a large part of the population, they are still underrepresented in political offices, local councils, school management committees, and other leadership structures in Budaka District. Traditional beliefs often portray leadership as a role for men, discouraging women from participating in politics and public decision-making.

Women who attempt to contest for leadership positions may face intimidation, discrimination, lack of financial support, or negative stereotypes. Some community members perceive outspoken women as disrespectful or unsuitable for leadership roles.

Low representation means that women's concerns are often overlooked during planning and policy implementation. Issues affecting women, such as maternal health, gender-based violence, education for girls, and economic empowerment, may not receive adequate attention when women are excluded from leadership spaces.

Increasing women's participation in leadership is important because women leaders can advocate for equal rights, influence community development programs, and inspire younger girls to pursue leadership opportunities.

5.3.4. Gender-Based Violence (55%) – Pervasive Harassment Reported

Gender-based violence remains a serious injustice affecting women and girls in Budaka District, with 55% of respondents highlighting widespread harassment and abuse.

Gender-based violence includes sexual harassment, rape, forced relationships, emotional abuse, intimidation, and exploitation based on gender. Women and girls often face harassment in workplaces, schools, markets, and even within their homes.

Young girls are especially vulnerable to sexual exploitation by older men, teachers, employers, or other influential individuals. Some victims are threatened into silence or fear reporting incidents because of community judgment and weak support systems.

Gender-based violence has devastating consequences. Victims may suffer physical injuries, unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, emotional trauma, and school dropout. Many survivors also lose self-esteem and confidence, affecting their ability to participate fully in society.

The persistence of gender-based violence is linked to unequal power relations between men and women, weak law enforcement, poverty, and harmful cultural practices that normalize abuse.

5.3.5. Low Education Attendance (50%) – Poor Attendance Due to Various Factors

The findings reveal that 50% of girls and women experience low education attendance.

Education remains a major challenge due to poverty, domestic responsibilities, menstrual health challenges, early marriages, and limited parental support.

In many households within Budaka District, boys' education is prioritized over girls' education. Girls are often required to help with cooking, cleaning, farming, and caring for siblings, leaving little time for school. Some parents withdraw girls from school due to inability to pay fees or because they believe girls will eventually marry and join another family.

Menstrual hygiene challenges also contribute to absenteeism among school-going girls, especially where sanitary products are unaffordable. In some cases, girls face harassment or insecurity while traveling long distances to school.

Low education attendance affects women's future opportunities. Women with limited education are more likely to remain unemployed, dependent, and vulnerable to exploitation. Education is important because it empowers women with knowledge, confidence, and skills needed for personal and community development.

5.3.6. Societal Condemnation (45%) – Stigma Attached to Reporting Issues

About 45% of respondents identified societal condemnation as a major challenge facing women who attempt to report injustices. Women who speak out against abuse, violence, or discrimination are often criticized, isolated, or blamed by society.

In some communities, victims of violence are accused of causing family conflicts or bringing shame to their homes. Survivors of sexual violence may face rejection, gossip, or discrimination instead of receiving support and protection.

This stigma discourages many women from seeking help from police, health workers, or local authorities. Fear of public humiliation forces some women to remain silent even when they are suffering serious abuse.

Societal condemnation reinforces injustice because perpetrators continue their harmful behaviour without accountability. Communities that silence victims create an environment where abuse becomes normalized and difficult to eliminate.

5.3.7. Early Marriages (40%) – High Incidence Before Age 18

Early marriage is another significant injustice affecting girls in Budaka District, with 40% indicating a high incidence of marriage before the age of 18.

Poverty is one of the leading causes of early marriage. Some families marry off daughters in exchange for bride price or to reduce financial burdens at home. Cultural beliefs and peer pressure also contribute to the practice.

Girls who marry early are usually forced to drop out of school, limiting their future opportunities and economic independence. Many young brides experience domestic violence, early pregnancies, and health complications because their bodies are not fully mature for childbirth.

Early marriage also denies girls their rights to education, freedom, and personal development. Instead of pursuing their dreams, many are forced into adult responsibilities before they are emotionally and physically prepared.

Conclusion

The findings clearly show that women in Budaka District continue to experience multiple forms of injustice that limit their rights, opportunities, and wellbeing. Domestic violence, unemployment inequalities, gender-based violence, low education attendance, low representation in leadership, societal condemnation, and early marriages are interconnected problems rooted in gender inequality, poverty, and harmful cultural norms.

Addressing these injustices requires combined efforts from government institutions, community leaders, civil society organizations, schools, religious leaders, and families. Community sensitization, stronger law enforcement, promotion of girls' education, economic empowerment programs, and increased support for survivors of violence are essential steps toward achieving gender equality and protecting the rights of women in Budaka District.

5.4. CONCLUSION.

The study highlights the various injustices faced by women in Budaka District, including pervasive domestic violence, early marriages, low representation in leadership roles, and gender-based violence, all of which reflect systemic inequality and cultural norms that undermine women's empowerment. Domestic violence remains alarmingly common, with societal tolerance allowing such abuse to flourish, while early marriages deny young girls their right to education and personal growth, trapping them in cycles of dependency. The underrepresentation of women in decision-making roles limits the diversity of perspectives in governance and policy-making, perpetuating an environment that fails to address women's issues effectively. Furthermore, gender-based violence continues to violate women's rights, reinforced by societal stigma that discourages victims from seeking help. These injustices are compounded by economic barriers, such as unemployment inequality and limited educational access, which further marginalize women and hinder their independence. Addressing these interconnected issues requires a multifaceted approach involving legal reform, community engagement, and economic empowerment, fostering a more just and equitable society where women can thrive as empowered individuals and active contributors to their communities.

While as in *Shadows of Time* by Victor Byamazima, the text is a powerful, albeit tragic testament to the types of injustices women in developing conflict ridden societies face. Through Flora, Byamazima highlights that when unchecked, male chauvinism, economic dependence and sexual violence reduce women to shadows of themselves stripping them of their dignity and autonomy.

5.5. RECOMMENDATIONS

To effectively address the issues faced by women in Budaka District and in the novel *Shadows of Time* by Victor Byamazima, the following recommendations were proposed after the study.

Community Education Programs, launch educational initiatives aimed at changing societal attitudes towards domestic violence and gender equality. These programs could involve community leaders and local influencers to ensure broader outreach and acceptability.

Empowerment through Skills Training, provide vocational training and entrepreneurship support for women and girls to enhance their employability and economic independence, breaking the cycle of dependency.

Legal Support and Advocacy, establish legal aid clinics to provide women with access to legal resources and representation in cases of domestic violence and gender-based violence.

Advocating for stronger laws protecting women is vital.

Health Services Access, improve access to health services for survivors of domestic violence, including counseling, healthcare, and safe spaces where they can seek refuge.

Educational Incentives, create scholarship programs specifically for girls to encourage their educational participation, along with mentorship programs connecting successful women with girls in schools.

Youth Engagement Initiatives, develop programs that engage young men and boys in discussions about gender equality, empathy, and respect for women, addressing the root causes of gender-based violence.

Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks, establish systems to monitor and evaluate the impact of programs aimed at reducing domestic violence and promoting gender equity. This will help in assessing the effectiveness of interventions and making necessary adjustments.

Collaboration with NGOs, Partner with non-governmental organizations operating in the region to leverage resources, expertise, and existing networks for more effective implementation of gender equality initiatives.

Public Awareness Campaigns, Initiate media campaigns to raise awareness about the impacts of gender violence and the importance of women's rights. Using various platforms, including social media, can help reach broader audiences.

Support Groups, establish local support groups for women survivors of violence where they can share experiences, receive support, and access resources for rehabilitation and empowerment.

In conclusion, the challenges faced by women in Budaka District and in the text, are complex and interconnected, requiring a multi-faceted approach for effective resolution. Implementing

these recommendations can significantly enhance the quality of life for women, promote their rights, and empower them to become active participants in their societies. With commitment from all stakeholders, it is possible to create a positive shift towards gender equality and improved outcomes for future generations of women in the district.

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APPENDIX I(RESEARCH TIMELINE)

ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF DAYS
Approval of research topic	30
Writing of chapter one, two and three.	43
Writing of chapter four and five	27
Submission	1
Total	101

APPENDIX II (RESEARCH BUDGET)

Item	Amount
Data	35000shs
Airtime for consultation	5000shs
Stationary	67000shs
Total	107000shs

APPENDIX III (RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRES)

BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION.

P.O. BOX236.

TORORO.

I KAANYI RITA, a student of BUSITEMA doing research on a topic "TYPES OF INJUSTICES AMONG WOMEN IN BUDAKA DISTRICT VS SHADOWS OF TIME BY VICTOR BYAMAZIMA", I am kindly requesting you to spare of your valuable time and respond to my questionnaire. All information provided will be treated with confidentiality and used only for study purpose.

Section 1: Background Information

1. Age: _____

2. Education Level: _____

3. Occupation: _____

4. Are you a resident of Budaka district?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Section 2: Types of Injustices in Budaka District.

5. What types of injustices do you believe women face in Budaka district? (Select all that apply)

Domestic violence ☐
☐

Gender based violence.

Limited access to education ☐

Low representation ☐

Societal condemnation ☐

Unemployment inequalities. ☐

Early marriages before 18 ☐

Other (please specify): _____

6. How prevalent do you think these injustices are in your community?

Very prevalent ☐

Somewhat prevalent ☐

Not very prevalent ☐

Not at all prevalent ☐

7. In your opinion, what are the most significant barriers to addressing these injustices? (Select all that apply)

Lack of legal protection ☐

Cultural beliefs ☐

Economic constraints ☐

Lack of education ☐

Other (please specify): _____

Section 3: Themes from "Shadows of Time"

8. Have you read "Shadows of Time" by Victor Byamazima?

Yes ☐

No ☐

9. If yes, what themes related to women's injustices did you notice in the book? (Select all that apply) ☐

The impact of war on women's rights

The struggle for education ☐

Gender-based violence ☐

Women's roles in society ☐

Other (please specify): _____

10. How do you think the themes in "Shadows of Time" reflect the realities for women in Budaka district? ☐

Very closely

Somewhat closely ☐

Not very closely ☐

Not at all ☐

Section 4: Personal Experience and Community Impact

11. Can you share a personal experience or a story from your community that highlights injustices faced by women?

12. What changes do you believe are necessary to improve the situation of women in Budaka district?

13. How can literature, like "Shadows of Time," raise awareness about these issues?

Section 5: Final Thoughts

14. Do you have any additional comments or insights on the topic of injustices faced by women?

Thank you for participating in my questionnaire, your contributions are valued and will be treated with confidentiality.