

**ASSESSING SOCIAL RESPONSE OVER VIOLENCE AGAINST DISABLED
WOMEN IN ZANZIBAR**

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE
REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK OF
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA**

2018

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that he has read and hereby recommends for acceptance by the Open University of Tanzania a dissertation titled: *Assessing social response over violence against disabled women in Zanzibar*, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of a Master of Social Work Degree of the Open University of Tanzania.

.....

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.....

Date

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DECLARATION

I, **Pili A. Hamad**, do hereby declare that this dissertation is my own original work and that it has not been presented and will not be presented to any other University for similar or any other Master's degree award.

.....

Signature

.....

Date

DEDICATION

This dissertation work is dedicated to my beloved husband whose love care and guidance I highly appreciate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The accomplishment of this arduous task has been possible through the guidance, professional support and encouragement I received from various people. Obviously, it is impossible to mention all people that in one way or another assisted me to complete this work. However, I feel compelled to mention the following people whose contribution was tremendous. First of all, I owe many thanks to my supervisor Dr. Omar Mohamed Maguo, for his guidance and professional support which laid the foundation for successful accomplishment of this report. Likewise, I owe similar gratitude to other Open University staff that used their time and energy to go through the several drafts of this report.

My appreciations should kindly go to my Master in Social Work classmates. Honestly, I benefitted a lot from their ideas and emotional encouragement during the writing of this work.

More importantly, I extend similar appreciations to my two daughters, namely Zahra and Farhana and to my three sons Mundhir, Ashraf and Murshid for their tolerance throughout the period that they missed my love and guidance while I was sometimes away from them because of undertaking this assignment. Lastly, I thank the almighty God for giving me strength and courage to complete my postgraduate studies.

ABSTRACT

Disabled women in Zanzibar as other disabled women in Africa are engulfed in a number of problems. This study evaluated the social response measures taken by the government and other stakeholders to curb the gender-based violence facing disabled women in Zanzibar. Data for this study were collected using structured interviews and focus group discussions with social welfare officers, representatives of disabled people's organizations, disabled women and disabled girls. In addition, to data from the interview and focus group discussions, data from relevant documents including acts and policies were analyzed using qualitative content analysis. Findings of the study have revealed that although Zanzibar has designed and implemented some interventions to eliminate gender-based violence, still disabled women and girls were the major victims of gender based violence. The findings further indicated that the interventions aimed to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls with disabilities included policy formulation, enacting laws and providing specific support services to the victims. The research findings have also shown that the challenges facing interventions included lack of collaboration between family members, the police and other legal organs in Zanzibar. The study has concluded that the social response over violence against women and girls with disabilities need to be reinforced by gradually attempting to change the attitude of the society towards women and girls with disabilities. The study has recommended that social workers, social welfare officers, legal and paralegal professionals as well as NGOs should collaborate to eliminate the offence; stern measures should be employed against the perpetrators of gender based violence against women and girls with disabilities.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CHAVIZA	Chama cha Viziwi Zanzibar
DDA	Department of Disability Affairs
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DPOs	Disabled People's Organizations
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender Based Violence
LHRC	Legal and Human Rights Centre
MKUZA	Mkakati wa Kupunguza Umaskini Zanzibar
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
TAMWA	Tanzania Media Women Association
TAWLA	Tanzania Women Lawyers Association
UN	United Nations
UNGA	UN General Assembly
UWZ	Umoja wa Walemavu Zanzibar
WoWAP	Women Wake UP
ZACDID	Zanzibar Centre for Disabled Inclusive Development
ZANAB	Zanzibar National Association of the Blind
ZAPDD	Zanzibar Association for People with Developmental Disability

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This study explored and assessed social response over violence against disabled women in Zanzibar. It analyzed the prevailing system of interventions aiming at prevention and response to the women and girls with disabilities. Finally, the study discussed the views of various stakeholders such as NGOs and the officials of the Department of Social Welfare as far as the prevention and support for disabled women and disabled girls is concerned. This chapter provides the background of the study, the statement of the problem, general objective of the study, specific objectives, research questions, the scope of the study, significance of the study, operational definitions of the key terms, and the limitations of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

The violence against women and girls with disabilities has got some common characteristics with violence against women and girls in general. Women with disabilities also experience forms of abuse that women without disabilities do not experience. Violence against women and girls with disabilities is not just a subject of gender based violence - it is an intersectional category dealing with gender based violence. The confluence of these two factors results in an extremely high risk of violence against women with disabilities (Koda, 2000). They experience a wider range of emotional, physical and sexual abuse by personal attendants and by health care providers, as well as higher rates of emotional abuse both by strangers and other family members (Dowse et al., 2013).

Similarly, UN (2012) through the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against women, defined gender-based violence as an act that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. It is estimated that worldwide, one third of all women have experienced violence of beating, sexual coercion or other forms of abuse, at some point in life (World Health Organization, 2005).

Plummer and Findley (2012) have argued that women experience some form of violence of privacy, restraint, strip searches, and solitary confinement that replicate the trauma rape, rape by staff and other inmates/residents of institutions, forced abortion and forced sterilization. In a study by Plummer and Findley (2012), comparing the rates of instances of sexual and physical assault among women with and women without disabilities, it was determined that women with disabilities were four times more likely to have experienced a sexual assault than women without disabilities. Studies suggest that the rate of abuse of women with disabilities is similar or higher compared to the general population, there continues to be a lack of attention to this issue.

Also, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recognizes that women and girls with disabilities are often at greater risk, both within and outside the home, of violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, and expresses concern about the difficult conditions faced by persons with disabilities who are subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination

(Plummer & Findley, 2012).

Fulu, Kerr-Wilson and Lang (2014) stressed that violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread abuses of human rights worldwide, affecting one third of all women in their lifetime. It is the leading cause of death and disability of women of all ages and has many other health consequences. Violence against women and girls is a fundamental barrier to eradicating poverty and building peace in many societies.

There are various barriers that specifically affect women with disabilities such as difficulty in making contact with shelters or other intervention services, lack of access to information about available services, difficulty in accessing transportation, fear of losing their financial security, their housing or their welfare benefits and fear of being institutionalized (Ngaiza, 2002). Law enforcement authorities may not take appropriate action to respond to reports of violence against women with girls with disabilities and women with disabilities may avoid reporting instances of abuse in order to avoid discriminatory action, retribution, potential institutionalization or loss of economic and other supports (Ethiopian National Disability Action Network, 2010).

It is well documented that women with disabilities face barriers in their participation as equal members of society in all parts of the world. In Zanzibar, disability advocates argue that despite national laws and UN conventions, disabled people are still being abused and neglected. Abusing them is against the universal Declaration

of Human Rights which states “all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights” (Zanzibar Association for People with Developmental Disability report, 2013).

Women and girls with disabilities are recognized to experiencing exclusion on account of their gender and their disability. They are among the most vulnerable groups in the society. They are often undereducated, untrained, often unemployed or underemployed and live under poor economic condition. This study evaluated the interventions and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities in Zanzibar. The study addressed the strengths and weaknesses of these interventions that are done by both the governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Despite a number of measures and declarations taken and made to prevent gender based violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar, little has been known about interventions and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities in the Isles. One of the measures and response to the situation has been the development of the Zanzibar Strategy, for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUZA), 2006 – 2010, Zanzibar Vision 2020, among other aims, which sought to provide equal opportunities for orphans, people with disabilities (including women and girls) and other disadvantaged groups in every aspect of social, economic and cultural life. However, Ballan and Freyer (2012), found that women with disabilities were victims of frequent domestic violence which were caused by a good number of

barriers to self-protection against domestic violence for women with diverse disabilities and the women use nonfatal force as self-defense. This study therefore supplements previous studies by evaluating the interventions and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities in Zanzibar. The study also addressed the strengths and weaknesses of these interventions that were done by both the governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations.

1.3 General Objective of the Study

The general objective of this study was to assess the social response over violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar.

1.4 Specific Objectives

The study was guided by the following objectives:

- i) To identify preventions which are in place to prevent gender-based violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar
- ii) To assess the strengths of the social response over violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar.
- iii) To identify challenges faced by disabled women and girls in Zanzibar.
- iv) To suggest ways of improving the social response over violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar.

1.5 Research Questions

The study was guided by following four research questions:

- i) What are the preventions used to prevent and respond to violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar?
- ii) What are the strengths of the social response over violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar?
- iii) What are the challenges facing disabled women and girls in Zanzibar?
- iv) What should be done to improve the social response over violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar?

1.6 Scope of the Study

1.6.1 Geographical Scope

The study was conducted in urban west region in Zanzibar. The selection of this area based on the fact that most of the institutions including NGOs and DPOs dealing with prevention and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities are located in this area. Also, it was more convenient to conduct this research in this area because it was easier to reach the institutions and the study participants.

1.6.2 Content Scope

The study involved the assessment of the interventions on gender based violence against disabled women and disabled girls in the urban west region in Zanzibar. The study made an in-depth evaluation of the interventions and response taken by the government, NGOs, and DPOs to address gender based violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar. It also focused on the effectiveness of these interventions and then provides recommendations for improving the intervention and response to violence against women.

1.7 Significance of the Study

The findings of this study show the gaps on the preventions so far in place to fight against gender-based violence to women and girls with disability in Zanzibar.

The study findings would inform the Ministry of Empowerment, Adults, Youth, Women and Children in Zanzibar on the interventions which need to be improved in order to make the life of women and girls with disabilities better.

The findings would add to the current body of knowledge and debates about the concepts of gender-based violence and women and girls with disabilities.

The study results would help to inform the DPOs in Zanzibar on the strategies they need to promote so as to play active role in the fight against violence to people with disabilities especially women and girls in Zanzibar.

Findings would enlighten the government and other stakeholders to improve the existing interventions and response to gender based violence and to design more effective strategies to eliminate sources of abuse and discrimination against women and girls with disabilities.

1.8 Operational Definition of Key Terms

The following terms are defined in accordance with this study:

(a) Disabled person: refers to any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment or is regarded as having such impairment. (Fulu, E. et al 2014).

(b) Prevention: refers to working at different levels of society to change institutions and implement targeted interventions with specific groups, and more generalized approaches for the population at large (e.g. campaigns, mass media messaging and other awareness-raising initiatives). Broad areas of intervention include: Influencing government policy and legislation to explicitly address primary prevention, changing organizational practices to be more gender aware and put in place specific and proactive policies of zero tolerance; fostering coalitions and networks; mobilizing communities, education and social marketing; changing individual knowledge and attitudes; reaching young people and engaging men and boys as allies; and empowering women socially and economically.

(c) Response: refers to the reaction to an event, occurrence, or situation, aimed at its containment or control.

(d) Violence against disabled women and disabled girls: refers to any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women and girls with disabilities, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

1.9 Limitations of the Study

This study focused on evaluating the social response over violence against women and girls with disabilities. The study was limited by limited financial capability which made the researcher to do not cover a large sample of the population as

planned. Also, some of the study participants were deaf and could not be directly recorded like other participants. Though there was an interpreter, the meaning of the messages conveyed might have been affected by the interpretation.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This section shows the review of related literature. It covers both theoretical and empirical literature reviews. It examines the concepts of gender based violence against women and girls, the concept of women and girls with disability, policy environment and some previous studies on the topic of the study.

2.2 Theoretical Literature Review

2.2.1 Neo-liberalism

Neo-liberalism refers to the political and cultural promotion of free-market principles and individualism and the rejection of state control. The major assumption of the neo-liberalism is that “individual” has no gender, and the market delivers advantage to the smartest entrepreneur, not to men or women as such. However, the theory neo-liberalism does not pursue social justice in relation to gender. In Eastern Europe, for instance, though the same period saw an expansion of the human rights agenda, which has been, on the whole, an asset for gender equality, the restoration of capitalism and the arrival of neoliberal politics have been followed by a loud weakening in the position of women (Ngaiza, 2004; Sartori, 1987).

In rich Western countries, neo -liberalism from the 1980s on has attacked the welfare state, on which far more women than men depend; supported deregulation of labor markets, resulting in increased casualization of women workers; shrunk public sector employment, the sector of the economy where women predominate; lowered rates of

personal taxation, the main basis of tax transfers to women; and squeezed public education, the key pathway to labor market advancement for women. In this study, neo-liberalism theory has been conceptualized as a weakening of element in the search for women's emancipation across the world (Ryan, 1993).

Furthermore, neo-liberalism functions as a form of masculinity politics because of the powerful role of the state in the gender order. This means that the state constitutes gender relations in multiple ways, and all of its gender policies affect men. Many mainstream policies, that is, in economic and security affairs are substantially about men without acknowledging this fact (Connell, 2003). This study therefore was not guided by the neo-liberal theory founded by John Locke, Adam Smith, Thomas Jefferson and John Stuart Mill (Ryan, 1993).

2.2.2 The Object Relations Theory

The object relations theory advocated by Klein (1952) places emphasis on relationship-seeking. According to Klein, the term "object relations" refers to the self-structure that we internalize in early childhood, which functions as a blueprint for establishing and maintaining future relationships. The major assumption of the object relations theorists contend that humans have an innate drive to form and maintain relationships, and that this is the fundamental human need that forms a context against which other drives, such as libidinal and aggressive drives, gain meaning.

In the 1960s and 1970s, when feminist theories started questioning the domination of men over women, many feminists believed in the power of socialization to change

gendered patterns of behavior. In this respect, they assumed that if boys and girls were socialized in similar ways (i.e., if girls were not trained to do “girl” things and boys were not trained to do “boy” things) stereotypical gender roles would not persist. Gender roles would become obsolete, and sexism at the micro level would be largely eliminated. However, this has not been the case.

Despite significant changes in socialization, for instance, the rise in girls’ sports and more gender neutral activities in school, there are still strongly gendered preferences among both boys and girls in many social settings (Ainsworth, 1969). In this study, the object relations theory has been conceptualized as a motivating factor for the members of society to value the role of relationships. However, it has failed to recognize the role of multiple factors in promoting positive social relationships and justice. The founder of this theory is Melanie Klein whose major interest is on psychology and psychodynamics of human relationships and life in general. This theory is therefore very important to this study as it helps to understand the nature of gender based violence in the society.

2.2.3 Critical Social Theory

Critical social theory has been coined by Kellner (1989). Kellner was particularly influenced by Held (1980), as is evident in the concept of standpoint epistemology, which she defines as the philosophic viewpoint that what one knows is affected by the standpoint (or position) one has in society. In actual fact, what makes critical theory “critical” is its commitment towards justice, for one’s own group and/or for that of other groups (Held, 1980).

Critical social theory uses the term “matrix of domination” to underline that the position (perceptions that people have towards one another in the society) that some has in the society is made up of multiple contiguous standpoints rather than just one essentialist standpoint. In this regard, the critical social theory emphasizes the bodies of knowledge and sets of institutional practices that actively address central questions facing groups of people differently placed in specific political, social, and historical contexts characterized by injustice. In this study, the matrix of domination has been conceptualized as the different factors which might influence the domination of disabled women and girls in the society. This study has used this theory because of its emphasis on multiple factors which might influence gender based violence against disabled women and girls and promote justice in a given social setting.

2.2.4 Literature Review from Earlier Studies

Several studies on the prevention and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities have been conducted (Fulu, Kerr-Wilson & Lang, 2014; Adjah & Agbemaflle, 2016; Chepuka et al., 2014; Colucci & Hassan, 2014). Seedat et al., (2009) explain that the social dynamics that support violence against women with disabilities in many African societies include widespread poverty, unemployment, and income inequality; patriarchal notions of masculinity risk-taking, and defense of honor; exposure to abuse in childhood and weak parenting; widespread alcohol misuse; and weaknesses in the mechanisms of law enforcement.

Despite the advances in the development of services for victims of violence, this

study has also revealed that innovation from non-governmental institutions, there has been few efforts taken by the government to intervene and respond to various forms of violence against women. Successful prevention of violence and injury, according to Seedat et al. (2009), is contingent on identification by the government of violence against women as a strategic priority and development of an inter-sectoral plan based on empirically driven programs and policies.

A study conducted by Lundgren (2015) on intimate partner violence and sexual violence among adolescents found that there was emerging evidence of effectiveness of the prevention strategies that were taken by the governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The study revealed that community sensitization is still needed in many communities to get rid of communities' negative attitude on people with disabilities particularly women and girls. Nevertheless, this study did not address the effectiveness of the prevention and response strategies to violence against women and girls with disabilities.

Although there are many risk factors behind gender-based violence a research carried out by Morrison, Ellsberg and Bott (2007) has established that disability among women is an additional risk factor which make women and girls prone to violence at individual, relationship, community and society level. However, this study did not indicate whether the interventions in place have been effective or not. A study conducted for the Disability Right Commission (DRC) reported that 97 percent of respondents stated that harassment had had an impact on their mental health, which was incidentally described as the single most distressing consequence of. The impact

also reported in decline in their physical health (Sin et al., 2009).

Frohman and Cadwallader (2014) found that structural inequality is intersectional, meaning that the various elements of the discrimination or inequality they may face as women, as people with disability. Understanding the interactions between gender, ability, race and other elements of structural inequality is essential to an adequate response. Violence against women and girls with disabilities cannot be addressed in isolation. Mainstream women's organizations and organizations of persons with disabilities, including organizations of women with disabilities, must work more closely together.

Mussie (2006) has shown that persons with disabilities are victims of abuse on a far greater scale than persons without disabilities. One factor behind the increased incidence of violence against persons with disabilities is the stigma associated with disability; persons with disabilities are often considered by society to be “not completely human and of less value. The absence of representations of their identity favours the perception that one can abuse them without remorse or conscience. Some societies may believe that the disability is a punishment from God or that the person with the disability may infect others with the disability. Others may see a person with a disability as an object for charity or pity, rather than as a person deserving equal rights. Literature shows that there are ranges of behaviors that can constitute physical abuse including hitting or pushing, slapping, punching, kicking or use of weapons.

2.2 Conclusion

The review of the literature has shown that violence against women and girls with disabilities is rampant in various parts of the world. Several interventions including policies and institutions have been designed. Basically the interventions and response described in this review aim to prevent and respond to gender-based violence by increasing access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence, providing support to women who have been affected by violence, and by designing more effective strategies of preventing gender-based violence. However, there is very little information regarding the effectiveness and weaknesses of the interventions which are so far in place in Zanzibar (ZAPDD report, 2013). Thus, the present study has attempted to fill this gap by assessing the effectiveness of this social response to gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the research design for this study. It covers all the procedures that were used in conducting this study. The procedures are explained clearly. This description also covers location of the study, target population, sample and sampling procedures, data collection procedures/instrumentation, ethical consideration, validity and reliability, data analysis plan, budget and time plan.

3.2 Research Design

Research design, according to Cresswell (1994) means the plan which describes the process of data collection and execution of the research. In this study, qualitative research design was used because of the following two reasons. Firstly, qualitative research design is flexible. The research procedures and steps may change during the process as the researcher gains more understanding from the phenomenon under study (Hoepfl, 1997).

This design was appropriate for this study as it helped the researcher to gain more understanding of the interventions and responses to gender based violence against disabled women and girls in their social setting. This was done through direct personal interactions with the respondents. Kothari (2004) argues that qualitative research design helps the researcher to be in close proximity to the real world and share personal experiences. Secondly, qualitative research design allows the researcher to gain understating of the meanings of the participants. Since this

research aimed at assessing the prevention and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities and to explore their living situation and experiences the researcher chose this qualitative research design.

Nevertheless, this design may have a disadvantage of being influenced by personal interests and researcher bias. Thus in this study, the researcher tried to reduce bias through data triangulation. Data triangulation involved the use of more than one method. In this study, apart from interview, Focus Group Discussions and documentary analysis were used to triangulate the data.

3.3 Area of the Study

The study was conducted in the urban west region, Zanzibar. Zanzibar consists of two major islands namely Unguja and Pemba. There are five administrative regions and 11 districts. This study area was selected due to the increasing number of cases of violation of human rights and violence against women and girls with disabilities. The area is also selected because of the presence of most of the agencies and organizations which are dealing with gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities in Zanzibar.

3.4 Research Approach

One of the key decisions made in planning and conducting a research programme had been the extent to which quantitative methods (which broadly follow the positivist philosophy) or qualitative methods (which broadly follow the phenomenological philosophy) would be successfully used (Armstrong, 2009).

Research approach could be qualitative or quantitative. This study was undertaken by applying a qualitative approach. Qualitative methodology is a type of research approach which enables the researcher to come up with data that cannot be produced by using statistical procedures or other means of quantification. It is an appropriate means of exploring and understanding the meanings of individuals or groups ascribed to social or human problems (Creswell, 2009).

3.5 Population, Sample and Sampling Procedures

The target population for the present study comprised of all the disabled women and disabled girls in the region. The respondents were selected from the Ministry of Empowerment, Adults, Youth, Women and Children (MEAYWC) and the disabled people's organizations (DPOs). The sample for this study consisted of 75 respondents including 30 women (aged 18 and above) with disability (physical, intellectual, and sensory, albinism), 25 disabled girls (aged 14 to 17), 10 representatives-two from each of the 5 selected DPOs) and 10 officers from MEAYWC Zanzibar.

As this study employed qualitative design, this sample was enough to provide the needed information. Usually qualitative research is interested in the richness and the quality of the data rather than the quantity of the data or the respondents. Hence, in this study, the researcher was satisfied with the number of the respondents who provided sufficient information as far as the objectives of the study are concerned.

Table 3.1: Study Population and Sample Size

Study population	Number of Respondents (Sample Size)	Valid Percentage
DPOs representatives	10	13.3
Disabled women	30	40.1
Disabled girls	25	33.3
MEAYWC	10	13.3
Total	75	100.0

Source: Researcher's analysis, 2017

These respondents were selected by using purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling enables the researcher to use judgment to select cases that best answered the research questions and objectives. Sequentially, headed for receiving delegate illustration, straight forward indiscriminate sampling technique be engaged, furthermore this facilitate the examiner in the direction of provide everyone in the same opportunity of being selected, for that reason may possibly be diminishing preconceived notion during the carry out investigate (Kothari, 2004). Therefore, qualitative method used in this study because of the nature and purpose of this study which is to assess the social response over violence against disabled women in Zanzibar.

Moreover, this approach has been selected due to other reasons including the number of respondents available is small and that qualitative approach tends to be more appropriate according to the nature of objectives of this study than quantitative approach. The main data of the research was word description of the situation or feelings of the respondents which helped to answer the research questions.

3.6 Methods of Data Collection

3.6.1 Documentary Analysis

Documentary analysis of some relevant documents such as policies and reports

related to gender based violence against women and girls in Zanzibar in particular and other countries was done. Documents such as international policies, covenants and local workshop training documents, DPOs annual and workshop reports were analyzed to further inform this study.

3.6.2 Interview

This is a scheduled set of questions used to collect information through oral or verbal communication in a face-to-face communication between the researcher and the respondents (Kothari, 2004). Interview data is always inter-subjective; it is always made out of dialogue (Zucker, 2009). The researcher records answers to the question. The interviewer's job is to draw the respondent out at the same time ensuring that the information required is obtained. To this end it is desirable to ask a number of open-ended questions that cannot be answered by Yes or No and which promote a full response.

But a good interviewer had other types of questions to be asked whenever that deemed necessary. The major advantage of the interview as Fraenkel and Wallen (2001) assert is that the interviewer can clarify questions that are obscure and also ask the respondents to expand on answers that are particularly important or revealing. Interviews are useful to obtain detail information about personal feelings perception and opinions. They allow more detailed questions to be asked. They usually achieve a high response rate. Interviews help in collecting large amount of information and can be transferred by the researcher or research assistant without affecting the information's validity and reliability. However, interviews can have some

disadvantages, including the difficulty in establishing the truthfulness of the respondents.

Collected data may lack validity. Similarly, it is not possible to tell the seriousness of the respondents in answering the questions. Quantifying information allows the researcher to collect just a limited amount of information that lacks explanation. In addition, respondents may misunderstand the question, and therefore the reply may be based on their own interpretations. Also, questions included in the interview protocol may be based on what the researcher, deems important, which can amount to researcher impositions, and the researcher may miss out on useful information. In this study, this method was used to collect data from the Social welfare officers and DPOs. It was selected because it yielded rich information from the interviewees regarding the gender based violence of disabled women and girls in Zanzibar.

3.6.3 Focus Group Discussion

Focus group discussion was also used to collect data in this study. According to Kitchen and Tate (2000), focus group discussion has been proven as an effective instrument to illustrate and explore the inter-subjective dynamics of thoughts, speech and understanding of the members of a group. Focus group discussion may be consisted of six to ten individuals discussing on a particular topic under a guidance of a moderator who promotes interaction and directs the conversation (Kitchen and Tate, 2000). This method was used to obtain information, which can only be obtained through freedom during group interactions because respondents argue different points and correct one another.

It gives out deeper information from their experience (Kane, 1995). Focused group discussions are useful in answering the same questions as interview except in social context (Patton, 1990). It also involves the existence of peer pressure which is valuable in challenging the thinking of the respondents and illuminating conflicts of opinions.

The researcher had conducted 10 Focus group discussions with the groups of women and girls with disabilities. In each group the researcher had made list of participants in order to get relevant information, and the groups expressed their views regarding preventions which are in place to prevent GBV against them, strength and weaknesses of the preventions, the challenges that they faced and what should be done to improve the social response and to stop the violence against them.

3.7 Validity and Reliability

To ensure that the instruments for data collection are valid and reliable, the researcher pre-tested the instruments by doing a pilot study with three participants. After the pilot study, the interview questions were revised in order to make sure that the participants would be able to grasp the main ideas behind each question. The researcher also sought assistance of the supervisor to go through the tools to see if they actually measured what the researcher planned to measure. Then the researcher made necessary changes and improvements to the tools as per the guidance from the supervisor.

3.8 Data Analysis

In this study data were collected through interviews, FGDs and documentary

analysis. For the data obtained from interviews and FGDs, the process of data analysis involved reading thoroughly the fieldwork notes followed by transcribing, coding, analyzing and interpreting of the data (Braun & Clarke, 2006). Some of the interview and FGD data were translated by the researcher from Kiswahili into English. These were the quotes that were found relevant for the purpose of this research report.

Data from the relevant documents were thoroughly read summarized and coded. Qualitative content analysis approach was employed to the interview, the FGD data and the documents and by using pre- prepared document analysis work sheet. However, some of the interviews were not recorded because some interviewees were women with hearing disabilities and difficult to record. Thus, there was an interpreter and the researcher was taking notes during the interviews.

In relation to the audio records, data were managed and analyzed initially, by doing transcription of the audiotapes and was carried out by me. After the audiotapes were transcribed I listened again and reviewed the transcription to correct any mistakes made. After several readings of the transcribed interviews, based on significant phrases and sentences, four key themes were developed from the data (Bryman, 2004), (Miles & Huberman, 1994).

These themes were: (1) available preventions to prevent gender based violence against disabled women and girls, (2) strengths of the social response over violence, (3) challenges faced by disabled women and disabled girls, (4) ways of improving the social response of prevention to violence against disabled women and girls.

Patton (1990) suggested that the theme categories should be judged by two criteria: "internal homogeneity and external heterogeneity" (p. 403). These judgments were based on the theme category making sense and explaining a particular grouping of concepts and the theme categories being mutually exclusive to the extent that the differences among the theme categories were bold and clear. The description of the essential themes was written and reworked several times. This entailed a back-and-forth process during the analysis and synthesis of the data to assure the accuracy of the theme categories and the placement of the data in the theme categories. The participants are presented with pseudo names.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

There are a number of ethical issues that affect research. They include the need for researchers generally to act with integrity, for example in their dealings with the organization in which they are researching and the people they deal with. They must also respect the rights of participants by not publishing any information that might harm their interests and to be honest about their role when participating in research, especially when they are participating observers.

During the whole process of conducting the study ethical standards were highly considered. The process began with seeking permission from all gate keepers before conducting the study. Participants' consents were sought before conducting interviews by giving consent forms with relevant information for participants to sign confirming their willingness to participate in the study. The participants were assured of being protected from physical, psychological and social risks through

confidentiality, anonymity and privacy. To maintain anonymity for example, pseudonyms have been used instead of the real names of the study participants.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter briefly describes the participants and presents the data that were collected from various categories of respondents. In addition, it presents the analysis and discussion of the interview and Focus Group Discussion findings as well as findings obtained from the data collected from relevant documents such as policies and reports related to disability issues in the study context. Most of the data were obtained from interviews and focus group discussions. The detailed description of the method and rationale used for data collection are described in chapter three.

According to McMillan and Schumacher (2001) data analysis is "... primarily an inductive process of organizing the data into categories and identifying patterns (relationships) among the categories". In this study analysis of data obtained from the interviews, focused group discussions and document analysis was done by using content analysis. The analysis involved identifying, coding and categorizing the primary patterns in the data. The researcher took notes during the interviews and FGD means of which made it possible for the researcher to listen to the responses again.

4.2 Description of the Participants

The participants for this study were 75. They were selected from various institutions in the study area. Their institutions, gender and category are summarized in Table 4.1

Table 4.1: Category, Gender and Institutions of the Participants

Category	Number		Institution
	Male	Female	
Social welfare officers	5	5	Ministry of Labour, Empowerment , Adults, Youth, Women and Children Zanzibar
DPOs representatives	-	2	JUWAUZA
		1	UWZ
		2	ZACDID
	2		CHAVIZA
	2		ZANAB
	1		ZAPDD
Women with disabilities	-	30	JUWAUZA
Girls with disabilities	-	25	JUWAUZA
Total	10	65	

Source: Researcher's analysis, 2017.

4.3 Analysis and Discussion of Findings

4.3.1 Available Social Response to Prevent Gender-Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities

In response to this question, respondents mentioned a number of preventions used to prevent gender based violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar. The first one was lobbying and advocating for policy formulation and legislation in the interest of persons with disabilities. This strategy was reported by ZAPDD representative during the interview with the DPO interviewees. This strategy has been successful since 2006 after enactment of the *Persons with Disabilities (Rights and Privileges) Act (No. 9) of 2006*. However, the implementation of this act is still not very much successful because of the increasing number of incidences of violation of the rights of the people with disabilities including those with disabilities. Data from the FGDs with the women and girls with disabilities also showed that they are

somehow involved in the formulation of policies that lay down the foundation for the accessibility of basic political and socio-economic rights of women and girls with disabilities. Other strategies according to the study participants included advocating for abolition of unfriendly laws that violate rights of disabled women and disabled girls that aim at delivering messages on the rights of the women and girls with disabilities as well as lobbying and advocacy for enactment of laws that protect rights of women and girls with disabilities is another strategy carried out by DPOs.

Likewise, elaborating on the interventions and response to gender based violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar during the focus group discussion, a certain DPO representatives stated:

[Mikutano ya mawaziri hufanyika kila baada ya miezi mitatu angalau mara mbili kwa mwaka. Wao hujadili mambo mbalimbali ambayo hujitokeza kama ni vikwazo dhidi ya vitendo vya ukatili na udhalilishaji kwa watoto wa kike na wanawake watu wazima wenye ulemavu. Wizara ya Kazi, Uwezeshaji, Ajira, Wanawake na Watoto ipo katika mchakato wa kuanzisha mpango mkakati wa kupambana na vitendo vya ukatili na udhalilishaji kwa wanawake na watoto wakiwemo wenye ulemavu].
(Mohammed)

'There are quarterly meetings for the Cabinet of ministers at least twice a year. They usually discuss various issues that impede those interventions on the abuse and humiliation against girls and women with disabilities. The Ministry of Empowerment, Adults, Youth, Women and Children, is currently in the process of launching strategies against women and children including those with disabilities' (Mohammed)

According to the social welfare officers who participated in the interview, the strategy is planned to commence in 2017 and end in 2021. What is important therefore is to make sure that this strategy is implemented effectively and benefit the target group especially women and girls with disabilities in Zanzibar. Another thing

that needs careful planning and consideration is to make sure that the strategy covers both rural and urban areas and not just the urban areas.

Women with disabilities are also involved in organizing the commemoration of national and international events aimed for sensitization of the society to respect the human rights for all people especially the most vulnerable ones. Such events are organized by NGOs, DPOs and the government. They include national campaigns against violence on women and girls including those with disabilities (Ngaiza, 2003; 2004).

Additionally, representatives from JUWAUZA explained on the contribution of their association in protecting the women with disabilities from different types of violence. JUWAUZA has been providing training workshops for women with disabilities to enhance their self-esteem, confidence and how to protect themselves against violence. Additionally, to reduce the economic dependency of these women with disabilities, JUWAUZA in collaboration with other stakeholders train the women in petty businesses like food, hair dressing, and provide them with startup capital. The Association also facilitate for the women with disabilities to get training by other organizations about their rights.

Apart from the strategies and interventions from DPOs and the government, other NGOs also carryout projects that aim to intervene in reducing violence against women and girls with disabilities. Tanzania Women Law Association (TAWLA), Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA) and Crisis Resolving Centre

(CRC) are implementing Gender Equality and Women Empowerment with emphasis on prevention and reduction of Gender Based Violence (GBV). The project duration was two years from October 2012 to September 2014 funded by the Government of Denmark.

These foregoing findings about the strategies for preventing and responding to the violence against disabled women and girls are consistent with WHO findings. WHO (2009) has recommended several strategies, with some evidence of effectiveness, for the prevention of interpersonal violence. These strategies include (1) developing safe, stable, and nurturing relationships between children and their parents and caregivers; (2) developing life skills in children and adolescents; (3) reducing the availability and harmful use of alcohol; (4) promoting gender equality to prevent violence against women; and (5) changing cultural and social norms that support violence.

On the other hand, with regard to interventions carried out by government and NGOs to prevent gender based violence against women and girls with disabilities, participants mentioned a number of intervention implemented to improve access to rights of women and girls with disabilities. These strategies included intervening in cases involving sexually gender based violence against women and girls with disabilities; campaigning for inclusive policies for all aspects of livelihood. For example, currently the DPOs are collaborating with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Zanzibar to develop inclusive education policy that will also help in making sure that all children including those with disabilities get their right to

education; offering legal consultancy to women and girls with disabilities; offering psychotherapeutic services to the victims of violence against women; planning meetings for educating law enforcers such as police, local government leaders, religious leaders, magistrates and judges in order to know the needs and challenges facing the women and girls with disabilities; sensitizing women and girls with disabilities and their families to abstain from taking money from the perpetrators of violations of their rights especially for cases related to sexually gender based violence; and establishment of police desks at each regional police office. These desks are specifically for listening to accusations or cases of gender based violence including violence against disabled women and girls.

According to the respondents, those interventions were however not well organized. They were sometimes challenged by lack of co-ordination and co-operation among the stakeholders in the community. For example, while the government and DPOs were struggling to raise awareness on the need to protect women and girls with disabilities from gender based violence, some very close family members had been in the forefront to hinder the success by refusing to give evidence in case of raping or other offences committed against the women and girls with disabilities. Also, such interventions required very close monitoring by involving the police force as well as the community police and the local government leaders.

4.3.2 Strengths of Social Response to Prevent Violence

Interviews with the interviewees from DPOs were confident of the success of some of the strategies and interventions taken by the government and other stakeholders.

One of the achievements, according to the interviewees was increased awareness on the rights of women and girls with disabilities among members of the general public. Unlike the previous years, currently women are organizing themselves in self-support groups. One of the FGD participants stated:

[Kwa kiasi fulani mwamko wa wanawake dhidi ya unyanyasaji umeongezeka, kwani wameweza kujitambua na kuzijua haki zao wanazostahiki kupata katika jamii na katika familia zao. Sasa hivi jamii wanaripoti matendo ya udhalilishaji na ukatili wa kijinsia wanaofanyiwa wanawake na watoto wenye ulemavu. Pia wamehamasika katika kutafuta ushauri wa kisheria.] (Farida)

“To some extent the awareness among women about the abuse of women has now increased. This is because these women gained understanding about themselves and their rights that they deserve from the society and their families. Now cases about the abuse of women and girls with disabilities are reported. They are also sensitized to seek legal advice” (Farida)

One of the great strides made in advocating for the rights of people with disabilities is the formulation of legislation and policies such Inclusive Education Policy (2016 draft), Persons with disabilities (Rights and Privileges) Act (9) of 2006. The implementation of these legislations and policies has contributed to the increased awareness in the society on the need for respect for disabled women and disabled girls in the society. Also disability policy is now in pipeline. Furthermore, respondents explained that the Evidence Act No. 5 of 1917 has now been amended (2016). The act now considers the victims of violence and sexual abuse. The victims who are intellectually disabled can now give evidence in the court.

Respondents revealed that increased reporting of sexually based gender violence cases as opposed to the previous situation of which members of the community were

concealing such cases or resolve these cases amicably. Also it was reported that now more actors in the judiciary are aware of the rights of women and girls with disabilities. Another success in the strategies and interventions against gender based violence is the possibility of conducting DNA test in Zanzibar. This success has now responded to the problem of women and girls with intellectual disabilities in giving evidence in the court when they are victimized through gender based violence (Ngaiza, 2002).

With regard to weaknesses, data from documentary analysis has revealed that Zanzibar has enacted some acts and policies related to gender and disability in Zanzibar. For example, *The Persons with Disabilities (Rights and Privileges) Act (No. 9) of 2006*. This Act protects persons with disabilities including women. Also, this Act under section 4 (1) has been addressing the issues related to domestic and gender-based violence including violence against disabled women and girls. Although the Act has been enacted since 2006, its implementation is still lagged behind. Several cases of gender based violence especially on women and girls with disabilities are still not uncommon in Zanzibar.

Likewise, the Daily News (April 4, 2012), the law enforcement in protecting women and girls especially those with disabilities has not been very effective. Also, Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA) has revealed that gender based violence in Zanzibar is still rampant. Also, quoted by TAMWA an officer from the Ministry of Empowerment, Adults, Youth, Women and Children reports that “we still have a lot to do in fighting GBV. Many parents and children seem to be ignorant

about the importance of reporting abuse cases. Some members of the community also feel shame to help victims of rape, and to most police officers, rape cases are minor to them,’’ (Daily News April 4, 2012).

4.3.3 Challenges Faced By Women and Girls with Disabilities

Data from FGDs with the disabled women and girls showed that there is a lack of enforcement of Zanzibar People with disabilities (rights and privileges) Act No.9 of 2006 section 4 (2). There are no measures taken against parents/guardians or family members who neglect women and children with disabilities especially those with developmental disabilities.

On this issue one of the women said during the FGDs:

[Moja kati ya changamoto ni kutokuwepo kwa hatua kali dhidi ya wazazi au wanafamilia wasiowashughulikia wanawake na watoto wa kike wenye ulemavu na kuwalinda dhidi ya unyanyasaji hasa wa kijinsia.] (Sabrina)

“One of the challenges is lack of strict measures against parents or family members who do not protect women and girls with disabilities against sexual abuse.” (Sabrina)

According to the respondents, another challenge is that as yet the Zanzibar community’s willingness to protect and respect people with disabilities is in question. Families and close relatives are still stigmatizing people with disabilities including women and girls. These family members are sometimes among the perpetrators involved in sexually abusing women and girls with disabilities. For instance one of the girls during the FGDs commented that:

[Tunadharauliwa hata na familia zetu. Wakati mwengine familia hazitoi matunzo, msaada na uangalizi wa kutosha kwa wanawake na watoto wa kike wenye ulemavu na hasa wale wenye ulemavu wa akili] (Shufaa)

'We are being neglected even by our families. Sometimes families do not provide adequate care and support and protection of girls with disabilities especially those that have intellectual disabilities.' (Shufaa)

Furthermore, other respondents commented during the FGD that some parents did not collaborate with law enforcers to give evidence or to report cases of abuse to women and girls with disabilities. This situation had been contributed by feeling of shame to report the matter to the authorities when women and girls with disabilities are sexually abused.

Another challenge faced by women and girls with disabilities is isolation they face in society especially on social issues such as marriage. The girls and women in this study argued that it is socially challenging for women with disabilities to be accepted by the in-laws when they are married to people without disabilities. Also these women with disabilities also stigmatized and excluded in decision making, in employment opportunities and other social aspects of life.

It was also revealed by the women during the FGDs that the social welfare officers available at district level did not have adequate knowledge and communication skills to communicate with people with disabilities such as those with hearing and speech impairments.

According to the participants of this study, most of the DPOs were focusing on those people with disabilities who live in the urban areas. There are fewer interventions in the rural areas in comparison with the interventions made in the urban areas. Also the DPOs seem to be donor dependent as most of their income is from external sources.

More often than not the support given to the women and girls with disabilities are not adequate enough to empower them sustainably to become self-dependent.

Another challenge mentioned by the participants is that the police, local leaders (Shehas) and the court are sometimes involved in slowing down the efforts to stop abuse against women and girls with disabilities. This is sometimes happened when the police, the local leaders or even the court advise the victims not to take legal action against perpetrators. Instead, they should resolve the issues through negotiations or by advising them to forgive the perpetrators. Previous research has also found that many women find that the police and the justice system are not supportive of their reports (Sin et al., 2009).

Furthermore, they found that many women with disabilities after they faced violence they rarely report the issues to the legal authorities. Researchers identified a number of barriers to reporting, particularly in relation to the police. For example, women with disabilities do not get legal protection after they report the case. Powers et al. (2009) contend that in many cases legislative instruments remain at the level of paper documents and are not being translated into practice.

The participants also mentioned the challenge regarding the evidence for people with intellectual disabilities. They further argued that the Persons with disabilities (rights and privileges) Act No.9 of 2006 has not considered people with intellectual disabilities in issues related to their legal rights. For example, there is no mechanism for accepting the evidence given by people with intellectual disabilities in the court.

This challenge has also been reported by Swedlund and Nosek (2000) who stated that the reported cases involving women and girls with intellectual disabilities are unlikely to result in prosecution due to the real and perceived difficulties in proving beyond doubt that an offence has been committed. In relation to this challenge, Healey (2013) has found that lack of legal support to the victims can impede the response to the offences committed to these vulnerable women.

The challenge regarding low socio-economic status among most of the women with disabilities was associated with the vulnerability and risk of being abused as these women become dependent on other people. The finding is consistent with what (Brownridge, 2006) found that in some cases women with disabilities are abused due to their low socio-economic status and dependency on other people.

The kinds of violence against disabled women and disabled girls include physical violence, sexual violence and psychological or emotional violence. Such kinds of violence according to the participants occur in the family whereby the perpetrators include close family members; in public service places such as schools, hospitals, police centers, in the courts in workplaces, transport and in public offices, as well as in marriages (for married disabled women). In the marriage bond women with disabilities can be dehumanized and stigmatized by their in-laws.

When asked to describe the kind of violence that they have experienced Zainab said during the FGD:

[Sisi watu wenye ulemavu tunanyanyaswa katika maeneo mengi. Kwa upande wa watu wenye ulemavu wa akili wengine wanapigwa au

kutukanwa na kuitwa majina kama wapumbavu au wendawazimu. Na mara nyingine wananyanyaswa kijinsia na hata kubakwa. Kwa wasioona na walemavu wengine tunabaguliwa katika sehemu za kazi na hata wanafamilia wenzetu.] (Zainab)

“We people with disabilities are abused in many ways. Those with intellectual disabilities are beaten, insulted and given bad names such as crazy or stupid. Sometimes they are sexually abused and even raped. For the blind and those with other disabilities, we are discriminated in work places and even in our own families.” (Zainab)

Describing about the violence and abuse that women with disabilities face in their marriages, data from the FGDs revealed that they face psychological or emotional violence mainly from the relatives of their spouses as Sofia lamented:

[Inapotokea mwanamke mwenye ulemavu ameolewa na mtu asiye na ulemavu, basi tunapata mateso kwa kusemwa na ndugu na jamaa wa mume na kuonekana kama ni mzigo tu kwa familia na kwamba hakuna msaada wowote tunaotoa.] (Sofia)

“When it happens that a woman with disability is married to a man without disability, we are tortured through the words of the spouse’s relatives who see the woman as a burden to the family and this woman does not have any support to the family” (Sofia)

4.3.4 Ways of Improving Social Responses to Prevent Violence against Disabled

Women

Data from the representatives of DPOs revealed that women and girls including those with disabilities are given sensitization through workshops, seminars and mass media. Education services provided to these women are also directed to other people in the society. The DPOs organize and carry out workshops and seminars aimed at disseminating knowledge to the public on identification and protection of rights of women and girls with disabilities. For example, in order to prevent violence against

these disabled women and girls, the DPOs conduct regular workshops to empower them on advocating for their rights and to avoid exploitation:

[Sisi ZACDID tunatoa elimu kwa wanachama wetu kila baada ya mwezi mmoja ili kuhakikisha wanazijua haki zao wanazostahili na wanazipata katika jamii. Vilevile tunatoa elimu kuwajenga uwezo wa kupambana na udhalilishaji. Tunazo kamati zetu zinazoshughulika kutoa elimu kwa kuhakikisha unyanyanyasaji unaondoka katika jamii kwa walemavu wa akili.] (Asha)

“We ZACDID offer education to our members monthly in order to make sure that they know their rights that they deserve. We also provide education to build their capacity on fighting against women exploitation. We have our committees dealing with provision of education to make sure that exploitation of women is eliminated in the society.” (Asha)

However, such workshops are not adequate as they are mostly concentrated in urban areas and very few are conducted in rural areas. This creates differences between the victims in urban areas and those in the rural areas. Also, some of the DPOs have programs to provide knowledge to the disabled women and disabled girls on how to prevent and respond to violence against disabled women and girls such as raping, stigmatization otherwise to provide better services and love to them.

Representatives from JUWAUZA argued that many DPOs have programs of involving women and girls including those with disabilities in order to increase their income and hence avoid being exploited and humiliated by other people in the society. One participant from;

[Tunawaingiza wanawake na watoto wa kike wenye ulemavu katika miradi ya kuwashughulikia watu wanaoishi katika mazingira magumu.] (Maryam)

“We include these disabled women and girls in projects for people living in difficult conditions. We have for example, a project called “Pamoja

tuwalee''which provides support to women living in difficult conditions''
(Maryam).

The interviews with representatives from the Ministry of Empowerment, Adults, Youth, Women and Children explained that the Ministry through its Social Welfare Department provides home support services to those women and girls who need that support such as food, health services and other basic needs. The social welfare officers produce monthly reports about the situation of people living in difficult conditions including disabled women and girls. The provisions of these services intend to prevent cases of violation of their rights and violence by unscrupulous men in the society.

When asked about other services provided to the women and girls with disabilities, the officers from the Ministry as well as the women and girls with disabilities themselves motioned that there are guidance and counseling services allocated to vulnerable women and girls with disabilities. The services are provided freely to the women and girls for the purpose preventing violence against this vulnerable group. Research conducted by Mussie (2006), has revealed that guidance and counseling services especially for the victims of gender-based violence are significant and may help to support the victims.

When asked about the future plans in relation to interventions to reduce violence against women and girls with disabilities, the DPO representatives mentioned that they are planning to seek legal advice and assistance in issues related to gender-based violence cases to support women and girls with disabilities; to work more closely

with other stakeholders in order to make sure that the implementation of the policies and legislations regarding the rights and protection of people with disabilities become more effective; to empower women and girls with disabilities with knowledge and skills that will enable them to be self-reliant instead of being dependent in order to reduce the risk of being neglected because of low income; and to liaise between the interventions from all the DPOs and other community members who have good intention to protect and support women and girls with disabilities.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary, conclusion and recommendations.

5.2 Summary

This study has been conducted in Zanzibar to evaluate the social response response to gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities. The method used for data collection included interviews and FGDs. The sample which included 75 participants was purposively selected from the social welfare officers, DPOs representatives and women and girls with disabilities. The study findings have indicated that cases of violence against women and girls with disabilities are still rampant in the Zanzibar society despite the various interventions and response measures that are being carried out by the government in collaboration with other stakeholders such as DPOs.

The results have shown that the areas where the violence occurred has been in the family where the perpetrators could be close family members, in the marriages and in the public places such work places, hospitals and police stations. Among the interventions is the enactment of legislations such as The Persons with Disability (Rights and Privileges) Act No 9 of 2006.

Also, there are prevention done by the DPOs which target women and girls with disabilities. These interventions include: (1) Community sensitization on the need to respect and protect women and girls with disabilities against gender based violence, (2) Provision of education through workshops and seminar to the community and women and girls with disabilities, (3) Empowering women and girls with disabilities by involving in income generating projects so that they can be self-independent and reduce the risk of being abused by unscrupulous men and other perpetrators, (4) Lobbying and advocacy for enactment of laws that protect rights of women and girls with disabilities is another strategy carried out by DPOs.

The prevention done by the government and NGOs, according to the participants in this study are mostly concentrated in the urban areas rather than rural areas. Data from the social welfare officers have shown that some of the interventions and response to violence against disabled women and girls have been successful. One of the achievements is the increase in the number of reported cases of violence against the women and girls with disabilities. The establishment of gender desk in some police stations has helped to the increase of reported cases. Also provision of guidance and counseling services has helped to raise awareness in the society.

Challenges hindering the prevention and response to the violence against disabled women and girls include inadequate support given by the government and other stakeholders to the victims and lack of strict measures against parents or family members who do not protect women and girls with disabilities against sexual abuse. With regard to their recommendations, the findings from the participants of the study

have indicated that there is still a great need of reinforcing the sensitization and rising of awareness on the importance of respecting and protecting human rights of all people including those with disabilities such as women and children in the Zanzibar society in general.

The study participants and data from the relevant documents have also indicated the need for increasing the scope and coverage of the prevention made to eliminate gender based violence against women and girls with disabilities. These preventions, according to this study results have to be extended throughout Zanzibar instead of focusing more attention to the urban areas.

5.3 Conclusion

Based on the results of this study it can be concluded that the prevention and response to violence against women and girls with disabilities in the study context have not been very much successful. However, this does not mean that nothing has been done on the issues. It should be noted that combating gender based violence especially on the vulnerable groups such women and girls with disabilities is a process rather than an event. This process needs a concerted approach by gradually changing the attitude of the society on the importance of respecting and protecting the human rights for all people including the vulnerable ones. An important implication from the study findings of this study is that without changing the attitude of the community on the rights of people with disabilities especially women and girls, the cases of violence against them will be difficult to eliminate. This study has therefore shown that the current prevention and strategies have yielded positive

results somehow, but still more efforts should be in place in order to reduce or eliminate the problem.

Another crucial implication of the findings of this study is to the social work profession and the social workers. The finding implies that social workers in Zanzibar must be recruited to work very closely with the communities. They should also be equipped with adequate knowledge to help the women with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in the communities who fall victims of violence. The social workers need adequate knowledge and techniques of supporting women and girls with disabilities against violence.

5.4 Recommendations

Based on the research findings, the following recommendations for policy makers and future research are put forward:

5.4.1 Recommendations for Policy Makers

Based on the above conclusion, this study recommended as follows:

The study findings have an implication of the need for policy makers to increase efforts in making sure that there are systemic changes in the prevention and response to the offence committed to women and girls with disabilities. Such topics should be incorporated in social work courses. In addition, counseling courses should also attempt to give basic skills of working with women with disabilities who face violence.

The legislations targeting people with disabilities should focus on all types of disabilities rather than focusing on specific types of disabilities. People with intellectual disabilities for example, are often forgotten among the people with disabilities. There is a need for close involvement of the local government leaders (Shehas) in identifying and reporting crimes related to abuse of women and girls with disabilities.

The government should make use of the existing network of paralegal officers located in each constituency. These paralegal officers should work in tandem with other similar networks such as the network social welfare officers, community police and other stakeholders who have good intention of supporting the government in ensuring respect for human rights of all people in the society. It is also important to raise community awareness on disability issues through training workshops, radio and television programmes, leaflets, posters, newsletter and brochures, and communal meetings. Despite the prevention that has so far been taken there is still a need of raising society awareness and changing social norms. Efforts must be taken to break the silence and challenge social norms that promote or tolerate violence against women and girls with disabilities in Zanzibar.

Raising awareness must also be extended to: (1) Teachers and other school staff: teacher training including on gender responsive pedagogy and teaching specific strategies for prevention of violence against women and girls with disabilities (2) Developing codes of conduct and manuals to address school based violence; creating or strengthening formal guidance and counselling; (3) Establishing girls or children's

clubs; life skills and rights training; (4) Setting up opinion boxes in schools and other areas where cases of violence against women and girls with disabilities are predominant. This step will help to anonymously report violence cases to the relevant authorities.

Legal measures should be taken against the family members who will be found to lock inside children with disabilities. Likewise, those who will be known to conceal reports about gender based violence especially when involving women and girls with disabilities. The legislations about people with disabilities must be friendly to people with disabilities. These legislations should take into consideration of all people with disabilities.

5.4.2 Recommendations for DPOs

It is important for all DPOs to come together and design joint projects in order to improve to economic conditions of women and girls with disabilities. All DPOs must work together to make sure that all the governmental and non-governmental institutions design appropriate interventions to protect them especially women and girls with disabilities. DPOs should also ensure that they are actively involved in the planning and strategies designed to bring about development in the country.

5.4.3 Recommendations for Further Research

As the study findings have shown that there is a paucity of research on issues related to the violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar, future research should focus on the magnitude and causes of violence against people with disabilities in

general. Another important area for consideration of further research is on the effectiveness of the strategies and interventions made by international and local NGOs.

It would also be beneficial to conduct a survey throughout Zanzibar regarding the extent of the gender-based violence against people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. The research should include both genders because gender-based violence may also involve men and boys as victims.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: Interview guide for officers from the Ministry of Empowerment, Adults, Youth, Women and Children Zanzibar

(The researcher/assistant self-introduction and purpose of the study)

1. Please briefly tell me about yourself and your role in this office.
2. How does your office provide services/support to people with disabilities?
3. What social responses are in place to prevent gender based violence against disabled women?
4. What are the strengths of those social responses to violence against them?
5. What is your recommendation for improvement of these preventions / programs?

APPENDIX II: Focus Group Discussion guide for women and girls with disabilities

(The researcher/assistant self-introduction and purpose of the study followed by introduction from the participants)

1. What are the main challenges you are facing as disabled women?
2. What are the main issues related to violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar?
3. What are the preventions/programs that are offered to you related to the fight of violence against women and girls with disabilities?
4. What do you think is good about these preventions/programs?
5. What do you think is not good about these preventions/programs?
6. What do you suggest for improvement of these social responses?

APPENDIX III: Interview guide for Representatives of DPOs

1. Please tell me briefly about your DPOs
2. How are your organizations involved in fighting for the rights of disabled women and disabled girls?
3. What social responses /preventions have your organizations made in the past five years?
4. What have you been able to achieve so far?
5. What are your future plans to stop violence against disabled women and girls in Zanzibar?

APPENDIX IV: List of Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) In Zanzibar

No.	Name of DPO	Email address	Members			Programs/ projects
			M	F	T	
1	Zanzibar Association for People with Developmental Disabilities (ZAPDD)	zapddzanzibar@yahoo.co.uk	1200	1430	2630	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Education, • Access to Justice for People with Developmental Disabilities, • Advocacy for People with Developmental Disabilities • Development Project-strengthening ZAPDD
2	Organization of Disabled People (UWZ)	umojawawalemavu@hotmail.com	3002	3916	6918	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) • Membership Development and Training • Institutional Development and Advocacy
3	Zanzibar National Association of the Blind (ZANAB)	wasioona@gmail.com	234	215	449	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School advocacy, • Capacity building • HIV/AIDS • Capacity Building
4	Association of the Deaf (CHAVIZA)	zandeaf@yahoo.com or muddydeaf@live.com	1371	1241	2612	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse • Governance and human rights
5	Association of Women Disabled Organization (JUWAUZA)	Disabledwomen2012@gmail.com	8	190	198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy • Human resource • Awareness raising
6	Zanzibar Association of Albino (JMZ)	jmzzanzibar@yahoo.com			121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising

7	Sports Association for Disabled People (SAD's)	-			68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate and sports for People with disabilities in Zanzibar
8	Jumuiya ya Usalama Barabarani kwaWatu wenye Ulemavu	idrissadaima@yahoo.com	29	21	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate PWD on road safety
9	Special Olympic Zanzibar	spolimpicszanzibar@yahoo.com or tmnnahoda@gmail.com	89	76	163	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sensitize sports for children with developmental disabilities Capacity building
10	Zanzibar Centre for Disabled Inclusive Development (ZACDID)	zacdid@yahoo.com	-	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitize government and community at large to develop plan and strategies that include the variety needs of people with disabilities
11	Zanzibar Psychosis Association (ZPA)	zpsa@rocketmail.com	15	10	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Clinic services for the patients
12	JUWALAZA	Juwalaza74@gmail.com	15	10	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide sign language services and training for people who need as well as sign language training interpretations

**APPENDIX V: UWZ Cumulative Number of Registered Members by Gender
and District**

District	Females	Males	Total
West	711	883	1,594
Chake Chake	336	490	826
Wete	322	453	775
Micheweni	331	423	754
North A	348	472	820
Central	260	344	604
Urban	197	300	497
Mkoani	173	208	381
South	184	158	342
North B	108	146	254
Total	3,916	3,002	6,918

Appendix vi: ZANAB registered members by gender and districts

Districts	Females	Males	Total
West	26	35	61
Chake Chake	22	21	43
Wete	24	37	61
Micheweni	26	25	51
North A	17	18	35
Central	20	9	29
Urban	22	32	54
Mkoani	24	13	37
South	27	32	59
North B	7	12	19
Total	215	234	449

APPENDIX VII: ZAPDD Registered Members by Sex and Region

Region	Females	Males	Total
Urban West Region Unguja	293	220	513
North Region Unguja	220	173	393
South Region Unguja	239	230	469
South Region Pemba	419	320	739
North Region Pemba	259	257	516
Total	1430	1200	2630

APPENDIX VIII: Informed Consent Form

My name is **Pili A. Hamad**. I am a student at Open University of Tanzania. I am conducting research for the requirements of Master's Degree in Social Work.

The title of my study is assessing the social response over violence against disabled women in Zanzibar. The purpose of the study is to gain better understanding of the above mentioned issues.

The methods that will be used to meet this purpose are: documentary analysis, one to one interview and small group discussions.

This study will be conducted to acquire master's degree in Social Work from Open University of Tanzania. The participation in this study will be on voluntary base.

The collected data will be limited for this use or other research related usage with the recognition of the university.

The interview will be recorded for accurate capturing of the insights. The name and identifying information will not be associated with any part of the written report and also all information and interview response will be kept confidential. Pseudonyms will be used instead of real names.

There is a full right to withdraw from the participation in any time and information would be canceled upon request. A summary of the result will be given to participant upon request.

By signing this consent form I certify that I _____
agree to terms of this agreement.

Name _____

(Date) _____