

**ASSESSMENT OF THE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO GENDER BASED  
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN TANZANIA: THE CASE OF  
SELECTED MARKETS IN DODOMA CITY**

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN GENDER  
STUDIES**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK OF THE OPEN  
UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA**

**2024**

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned certifies that I have read and recommended for acceptance by the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) a Research Report titled "Assessment of the factors contributing to gender-based violence: The case study of selected markets in Dodoma City." This report partially fulfills the requirement for the Master of Arts in Gender Studies of the Open University of Tanzania.

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**DECLARATION**

I, **Esther Kachingwe Kaselenge**, do hereby declare that this dissertation is my own original work. It has not been presented and will not be presented to any other University or High Learning Institutions for a similar or any other degree award.

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this work to my beloved family, Mr.Frefrick Kasengele and Mrs. Elizabeth Chambo. They highly emphasized to me to take this path and remain calm all the time when I was busy accomplishing this work. The mighty hands of God bless them abundantly.

The work is also a special dedication to my fellow work mates from the ministry of community development, gender, women and special groups found in Dodoma region. Their invaluable advice and guidance were a constant source of support throughout the accomplishment of this report.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am deeply grateful to Almighty God for guiding me throughout my research journey. I also extend my sincere thanks to the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women, and Special Groups for their invaluable permission to undertake this study. Their support was instrumental in my research. I also appreciate the Open University of Tanzania administration for their various services that fostered a conducive learning environment.

I am sincerely grateful to Dr. Johnas Buhori (PhD) and Dr. Mariana Makuu (PhD) for devoting their time to supervising and encouraging me while writing this dissertation. They helped me grow in my writing style, taught me much about the research process, and pushed me to think beyond my imagination. Their support was critical to my success.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my husband Emmanuel Patrick Mbwana, and my children Margaret Mbwana and Thamani Mbwana. Their unwavering support and love, and their tolerance during the study period, were of immense importance to me. I could not have completed this study without them.

Thank you to my Employer for accepting me to undergo a master's degree at the Open University of Tanzania, the Teachers of the Open University of Tanzania for their academic effort invested in me, and my colleague students of the Open University for the academic year 2023/2024.

**ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONOMY**

AAR	Action Aid Report
AU	Africa United Nations
GBV	Gender Based Violence
NGO's	Non-Government Organizations
NPA-VAWC	National Plan Action to End Violence Against Women
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Science
TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
UN	United Nation
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAWC	Violence Against Women
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization

## **ABSTRACT**

The focus of this study was to determine the causes of gender-based violence among the people of Tanzania, more specifically, the marketplaces in Dodoma city– the capital city. Three objectives were assessed: assessing the extent of awareness of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), reviewing the cultural aspects relating to GBV, and the effects of GBV on the marketplaces. The Theory of the Social Ecological Model underpinned the study, which Urie Bronfenbrenner developed. It employed an interpretivism research philosophy and exploratory research design. The methods used were qualitative, involving 45 subjects selected through purposive, and snowball sampling. Participants were interviewed in-depth, and data evaluative content was conducted through thematic analysis and discussion of the results presented under specific themes. The findings reveal that entrenched cultural norms and attitudes cause violence against women to be viewed as an acceptable form of harassment that can even include battery. Most respondents were concerned with GBV as it curtails women's participation in the markets, thus limiting their income, leading to their poor financial position, and affecting their freedom and independence in the long run. Furthermore, it was noted that the consequences of market gender-based violence go beyond the individuals assaulted and influence the market and economic activities as a whole. The study recommended Strengthen Legal Frameworks, Implement Awareness Campaigns, Provide Support Services, Promote Women's Empowerment Initiatives, and Enhance Market Safety Measures. Further, it seeks to highlight the need to create awareness of GBV, work towards changing damaging cultural attitudes, and build community structures that protect and uplift women. If GBV is approached in a way that tackles its causes, then markets can be more inclusive and economically functional for everyone.

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0 Chapter Overview**

Gender-based violence is a significant issue in Tanzania, particularly in a marketplace where economic activities converge. This study aims to assess the factors contributing to gender-based violence in these settings, recognizing the unique vulnerabilities and dynamics present. The research will explore issues related to awareness levels, social-cultural matters, and related adverse impacts that perpetuate violence against women and other marginalized groups. By identifying these factors, the study seeks to provide evidence-based recommendations to mitigate gender-based violence and promote a safer, more equitable market environment.

#### **1.2 Background Information**

Gender-based violence (GBV) is widely defined as the most extreme form of gender-based action manifested as an act inflicting physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty (United Nations Women, 2022). GBV is a form of action that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on the basis of equality with men. It is a global phenomenon that violates women's international human rights (United Nations Women, 2022).

However, Researchers on gender-based violence have spotted some incidents (Vera-Gray & Kelly, 2020) show that unwanted sexual harassment in disproportionate numbers has occurred in workplaces. According to Wood (2018) shows that those living in areas impacted by violent conflict and war are targeted with gendered violence and rape. These are just some examples of how gender-based violence can

be an everyday occurrence for many Women. In sheer numbers, Women remain the primary targets of gender-based violence. However, despite the focus on people in most research on gender-based violence, it is primarily Women who are harmed by gender-based violence. Emerging research shows that transgender, non-binary, and gender-nonconforming people (Wirtz et al., 2018), as well as men who fall outside patriarchal norms of masculinity, such as gay men, are harmed by gender-based violence (Evens et al., 2019). As gender-based violence is rooted in the systemic reinforcement of gender norms and inequality, it is essential to recognize how it affects Women. Recent research indicates that gender-based violence is pervasive throughout the country, with high rates of both gender-based and intimate partner violence. The tendency is driven by early marriage, limited economic independence, and low levels of education (**World Bank Report, 2022**).

Across the world, Women face unacceptable rates of violence at the hands of their intimate partners. GBV can be in the form of mental, physical, or sexual violence; statistics show that Globally, 35% of Women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence, that is 736 million Women around the world have been affected by GBV and 7% of Women have been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner (World Health Organization, 2020).

In America, the survey shows that 32% of Women have experienced gender-based violence in 2020, and an estimated 10 million people experience domestic violence every year - about 20 people every minute (Action Aid report, 2022). In Latin America, over 42% of Women have experienced gender-based violence at some

point in their lives. Also, South America has faced significant challenges with femicide. Generally, femicide refers to the intentional killings of Women based on their gender (United Nations Women 2022).

In Europe, the survey data show that 43 % of Women in Western Europe have experienced some form of psychologically abusive and/or controlling behavior when in a relationship, 17 % of victims of sexual violence by a partner suffered two to three different types of physical injuries because of the most severe incident (European Union, 2022). Likewise, in Eastern Europe, statistics show that 30% of Women have experienced gender-based violence at some point in their lives; some countries in Eastern Europe, like Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus, have a high rate of femicide (United Nations Women, 2022).

In Asia, Statistics show that in the Asia-Pacific region, over 37% of Women in South Asia have experienced violence in their lives, 40% of Women in Southeast Asia have experienced violence in their life and up to 68% of Women in the Pacific have experienced violence at some point in their life (World Health Organization 2020). In some Asian countries, such as India, Bangladesh, and Nepal, a significant proportion of Women have experienced violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Also, studies show that 30% to 40% of Women have suffered from sexual harassment in public places (United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization, 2021).

In Africa, statistics show that in sub-Saharan countries, 38% of Women have experienced gender violence, 48% of Women have experienced gender-based violence in Eastern African Countries, and 32% of Women have experienced gender-

based violence in Southern African Countries. Sexual violence, including rape and sexual assault, is a significant concern in Africa. Also, child marriage, human trafficking, and female genital mutilation are a common problem in African countries (World Bank Report, 2022).

In Tanzania, statistics show that 46.2% of Women have experienced lifetime physical and/ or sexual partner violence, 30.5% of Women have experienced child marriage, 10% have experienced female genital mutilation, and 29.6% of Women have experienced physical and sexual intimate partner violence in the last 12 months. Also, in Tanzania, 31% of women are married before age 18 (World Bank Report, 2022).

Tanzania, through the National Plan Action to End Violence Against Women (NPA-VAWC), has established several interventions and responses toward eradicating all forms of violence against children, Women, and special groups (including gender violence) (NPA-VAWC Report, 2022). Tanzania has implemented a variety of preventative and eradicated steps to combat and eliminate violence against Women. These include, but are not limited to, the development of the following: The Tanzania Development Vision 2025, The Poverty Reduction Strategy; Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), National Plan of Action to End Violence of Women (VAWC of 2017/18-2021/22) and The Women and Gender Development Policy, (NPA-VAWC Report, 2022).

### **1.3 Statement of the Problem**

Gender-based violence (GBV) against women remains a pervasive issue globally, with devastating impacts on individuals, families, and communities. Ideally, society should be a safe space where women can live free from violence and discrimination, supported by robust legal frameworks, community awareness, and effective interventions. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 5, emphasize gender equality and the eradication of all forms of violence against women. In Tanzania, the National Plan of Action to End Violence against Women and Children (2017-2022) demonstrates the government's commitment to addressing GBV through multi-sectoral efforts, including education, healthcare, and community sensitization initiatives.

In reality, the situation in Tanzania starkly contrasts this ideal. Despite the existence of legal and institutional frameworks, GBV against women persists at alarming rates. Reports from the Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS) indicate that a significant proportion of women experience physical, sexual, or emotional violence in their lifetime. Markets in urban areas like Dodoma City are hotspots for GBV due to sociocultural factors, economic vulnerabilities, and inadequate enforcement of protective measures. Women in these settings face harassment, exploitation, and physical abuse, which remain underreported due to stigma and fear of retaliation (Tanzania Human Rights Report, 2022). This gap between the ideal and reality necessitates an in-depth assessment of the factors contributing to GBV against women in markets where women frequently engage in economic activities to support their livelihoods. Understanding these factors is crucial to designing context-specific

interventions that address sociocultural attitudes, improve awareness, and enhance the enforcement of preventive measures. Focusing on the selected markets in Dodoma City, this study seeks to provide actionable insights into mitigating GBV and promoting safer environments for women to thrive economically and socially.

#### **1.4 Research Objectives**

This study is guided by three specific objectives derived from one general objective,

##### **1.4.1 General Objective**

The general objective of this study will be to assess the factors contributing to gender-based violence against women in selected markets in Dodoma City.

##### **1.4.2 Specific Objectives**

- i. To assess the level of awareness of GBV in selected markets.
- ii. To examine the social-cultural factors associated with GBV in markets.
- iii. To examine the impacts of GBV against women in markets.

##### **1.4.3 Research Question**

- i. What is the level of awareness of GBV in markets?
- ii. What are the social-cultural factors associated with GBV in markets?
- iii. What are the impacts of GBV against women in markets?

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study will provide critical insights for policymakers, community leaders, and gender activists, highlighting the importance of planning targeted

interventions aimed at creating awareness of women's legal rights. Such awareness is pivotal in fostering attitudinal changes among women regarding gender-based violence (GBV). Additionally, the study will contribute to the body of knowledge by offering empirical evidence on the prevalence, nature, and patterns of GBV in Tanzania. This data can inform the development of evidence-based policies, legal frameworks, and interventions designed to address the root causes and manifestations of GBV in society.

Moreover, these findings will equip community members, particularly women, with practical knowledge about their rights and the mechanisms available for seeking redress against GBV. Increased awareness among women can empower them to take action, engage with relevant authorities, and actively participate in efforts to control and mitigate violence in their communities. Specifically, the study will shed light on the experiences of women in marketplace environments, where GBV is often underreported. This contextual understanding will not only raise awareness but also help women recognize their social and legal standing in the fight against GBV.

Furthermore, the insights derived from this research can serve as a foundation for advocacy initiatives and educational programs aimed at sensitizing stakeholders on the critical need for gender equality and the eradication of violence. By focusing on marketplaces, which are significant economic hubs for women, the study underscores the urgency of creating safe spaces that promote women's economic empowerment and well-being. This contribution will be instrumental in aligning community practices with national and international goals, such as the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDG 5), which emphasize gender equality and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.

### **1.6 Scope of the study**

This research will be conducted in Dodoma city, in the Dodoma region, specifically at markets. The focus of the study will be to assess the factors contributing to gender-based violence in Dodoma City's markets.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter provided the literature review for the study. The review involved both theoretical and empirical literature. Towards the end, this chapter also presented the research gap that was observed after a critical review of several research works done by others.

#### **2.2 Conceptual Definition**

In this study, conceptual definitions clearly outline what is meant by a specific term or concept within the context of the study. These definitions ensure that all readers and researchers have a common understanding of the term used. They help create a foundation for understanding the key elements of the research and ensure clarity and consistency throughout the study.

##### **2.2.1 Gender**

Gender is the term used to express social roles and relationships and the values set by society for Women and men (World Health Organization, 2020). In the context of this work, gender is defined as socially constructed roles, behaviors, and expectations that a particular society considers appropriate for individuals based on their sex.

##### **2.2.2 Gender-based Violence**

Gender-based violence is the violence that targets individuals or groups based on their gender, which plays on norms and gender exclusions to break people down both

physically and emotionally (United Nations Women, 2022). It is rooted in gender inequality and the abuse of power, and it can be manifest in various forms, including physical, psychological, sexual, or economic violence. In the context of this work, gender-based violence refers to any form of violence that is predominantly directed against individuals based on their gender.

### **2.3 Theoretical Framework**

A theoretical framework provides a conceptual structure for Understanding and analyzing a particular phenomenon. When examining gender-based violence in the workplace, several theoretical frameworks can be applied. According to Morgan (2022), the following is the theory related to gender-based violence in the workplace:

#### **2.3.1 The Ecological Model Theory**

The Ecological model theory, also known as the social-ecological model, is a theoretical framework that helps to understand the complex interplay between individuals and their environment. This theory was developed by Urie Bronfenbrenner, an American psychologist in the World Health Organization, born in 1917 and died in 2005; he developed the ecological model theory in the late 1970s and formulated it as the theory in the 1980s. The ecological model emphasizes the multiple levels of influence that shape human behavior and development; it provides a holistic perspective that considers the individual and their interactions with various environmental systems (Heis, 2017).

A strong argument of Urie Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory in addressing gender-related matters is its comprehensive approach to understanding

how multiple environmental influences shape individual behavior and outcomes. This multi-layered perspective helps address complex issues like gender inequality and gender-based violence. The key strength lies in its ability to integrate various factors across different levels of influence. A holistic understanding of the theory emphasizes that immediate personal relationships and broader societal influences shape gender-related behavior and attitudes. This holistic view is crucial for understanding how deeply ingrained gender norms and power structures perpetuate gender inequality and GBV. Also, this theory argues on interconnectedness systems, the importance of interconnected systems (microsystem, microsystem, ecosystems, macro system, and chronosystem), and how they collectively influence gender roles and expectations. For example, the interplay between family dynamics (microsystem) and societal norms (macro system) can either reinforce or challenge traditional gender roles (Berk, 2000). Bronfenbrenner's Ecological System Theory provides a robust framework for understanding and addressing gender-related matters by recognizing the complex interplay of various environmental factors. This comprehensive approach is essential for creating sustainable change in gender norms and reducing gender-based violence.

### **2.3.1.1 Relevancy of Ecological Theory**

Contextual dynamics, the model argues that individuals and their environment are not static but evolve, as well as historical events, life transitions, and sociocultural shifts in shaping development. Interactions and relationships: The model emphasizes the importance of Understanding the interactions and relationships between different environmental systems. Holistic perspective, the model takes a holistic approach to

Understanding human behavior and development; it rejects reductionism and acknowledges the multidimensional nature of individuals' lives. Implications for interventions: The model provides a framework for designing interventions and policies that create supportive environments and foster positive relationships.

Apart from emphasizing the importance of understanding the interactions and relationships between different environmental systems, the model highlights the importance of environmental factors, personal characteristics, and contextual factors in shaping development. Ecological models, such as Bronfenbrenner's, offer a holistic approach to understanding the various dimensions of human development (Emma, 2015).

#### **2.3.2.1 Awareness of Gender-based Violence**

The model presents a clear context for how violence against Women occurs across our societies. Multiple interacting systems influence human behavior and development, such as culture, history, and historical context. Most gender-based violence cases are caused by the interplay between individuals, interpersonal, community, and sociocultural factors, which are represented by the different levels of the Ecological Model. In this way, the Ecological Model helps us gain a deeper understanding of the issue of violence against Women (NPA-VAWC Report, 2022).

#### **2.3.2.2 Social Cultural Factors Influenced with Gender-based Violence**

Gender violence occurs throughout the world, although in some countries, there has been little research conducted on the problem. Available data suggest that in some countries, nearly one in four women may experience Gender violence by an intimate

partner, and up to one-third of adolescent girls report their first Gender experience as being forced. Some countries have come up with policies to control Gender violence. These include Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. Although such policies represent considerable progress, it is often difficult for a woman to press charges in some countries. This is because of the evidential rules concerning the crime (UNICEF, 2020).

Gender violence is still prevalent in Africa, where different data on the subject matter exhibit its existence. However, the communities outside sociocultural factors also have a tremendous influence (Anderson, 1974). The community's patriarchal ideology is bitterly blamed as a triggering factor for men's supremacy over women (Burns, 2012; Westbrook & Schilt, 2013; Wondimu, 2020). The recent Muluneh et al. (2020) report revealed that the traditional practices of the community in Ethiopia, such as female genital mutilation and premature marriage, have changed the attitudes of women. In Kenya, according to the KBS 2019, almost four out of ten women in Kenya have ever experienced Gender violence (39 percent). As expected, forced Gender intercourse is much more common among women than men.

The cultural and societal settings in Tanzania still exist in broader cultural, social, and political contexts that influence gender-based violence. Societal norms, beliefs, attitudes, cultures, power imbalance, and media shape expectations and behaviors related to gender roles, power dynamics, and interpersonal relationships. Beliefs such

as men being superior to Women or accepting violence as a means of control can contribute to the perpetuation of GBV in the community (Action Aid report, 2022).

### **2.3.3.3 Impacts of Gender-based Violence against Women**

According to the model, gender-based violence has more significant impacts on the individual level, interpersonal level, community level, societal level, and intergenerational impacts. The presence of GBV at the individual level can cause physical, psychological, and emotional violence; at the interpersonal level, it can affect interpersonal relationships within the microsystem by causing survivors to experience difficulty in maintaining healthy relationships due to trauma, to the community can cause fear and insecurity, intergenerational impacts can affect the society through chrono-system (USAID, 2021). This theory supports this study as it is essential for violence prevention initiatives to encourage communities to focus on a positive vision for change. Effective violence prevention initiatives can support reference groups to normalize respectful and violence-free relationships. The evidence reviews show that there are far too few rigorous impact evaluations on the topic in developing contexts generally. There is some evidence from the World Bank that multi-component programs can reduce the risk of GBV and help women cope with violence. Gender-based violence will be a focus area for future World Bank evaluations. Relevant outcomes range from domestic violence (emotional, physical, sexual, economic), sexual abuse or harassment, traditional practices harmful to women, female homicide, human trafficking, and mental or physical health consequences of exposure to violence. There is a great need for more efforts to fight such violence to get its remedy and hence save the victims (UN Women, 2019).

## **2.3 Empirical Literature**

An empirical literature review systematically examines and synthesizes existing empirical studies and data related to a specific research question (Cooper, 2016). The empirical review in this study aims to assess the factors contributing to gender-based violence against women in Tanzania.

### **2.3.1 Level of Awareness of GBV in Selected Markets**

Awareness of gender-based violence (GBV) plays a pivotal role in prevention and intervention efforts. However, the level of understanding varies across different regions and is influenced by legal, cultural, and socioeconomic factors. For instance, a study in Spain revealed that only 40% of women were aware of their legal rights regarding GBV despite the presence of comprehensive domestic violence laws (Gonzalez & Martinez, 2021). This indicates a critical gap between the existence of legal frameworks and women's awareness of their rights. However, the study does not explore the specific factors contributing to low awareness, leaving a gap in understanding the barriers to legal education for women in European contexts.

Similarly, research conducted in India found that only 30% of women, particularly in rural areas, were aware of the legal protections available due to cultural barriers and limited access to information (Chatterjee et al., 2020). While this highlights the intersection of culture and GBV awareness, the study primarily focuses on rural areas, neglecting urban populations' unique challenges, such as informal labor settings like markets. This gap underscores the need to investigate awareness levels in diverse contexts within developing countries. A report in Brazil showed that despite the Maria da Penha Law, only 38% of women were aware of their rights,

particularly in marginalized communities with restricted access to information (Rodriguez & Silva, 2021). Although the study sheds light on legislative awareness, it needs an in-depth analysis of the effectiveness of existing awareness campaigns, leaving unanswered questions about how these initiatives can be scaled and tailored to reach vulnerable populations effectively.

In North America, a survey in the United States revealed that while 50% of women understood their legal protections against GBV, awareness varied significantly by ethnicity and socioeconomic status (Johnson & Davis, 2022). Although the study identifies disparities, it does not explore how systemic inequalities influence awareness levels, presenting a gap in comprehending the structural challenges of raising awareness among marginalized ethnic groups. In Africa, traditional norms and limited education further compound the issue of GBV awareness. For example, the African Union (2022) reported that only 32% of women in rural Uganda, Ethiopia, and Kenya were aware of GBV legislation. The study underscores the need for awareness campaigns but needs to examine the cultural nuances and logistical challenges of implementing these campaigns in rural settings. Similarly, research in South Africa found that 42% of women understood their legal rights but needed knowledge of available support services, such as shelters and counseling (Mokoena & Dlamini, 2021). This highlights a gap in connecting legal awareness to actionable survivor support mechanisms. In Tanzania, disparities in awareness levels are influenced by education and socioeconomic backgrounds. A study by the Tanzania Gender Network Program (2020) revealed that 45% of women in urban markets were aware of GBV laws, compared to only 28% in rural markets. While this emphasizes

the role of socioeconomic factors, the study needs to address how the unique environment of markets influences GBV awareness among women. Research by UN Women (2022) further highlighted that many Tanzanian women were unaware of support services such as shelters, legal aid, and counseling, pointing to a significant gap in service awareness and accessibility.

Moreover, a report by the Economic Commission for Africa (2020) highlighted a 15% increase in GBV reporting in East African regions with active community awareness campaigns. This demonstrates the effectiveness of such initiatives in empowering women to report violence. However, the report needs to explore how these campaigns are perceived by women in informal economic settings such as markets. It also overlooks critical aspects such as the sustainability and scalability of these interventions, particularly in marginalized communities. Furthermore, the study needs more specific insights into the challenges in tailoring campaigns to reach women in marketplaces. This presents a gap in understanding the informal sectors' unique needs and barriers. Addressing these issues is essential for designing effective, context-specific awareness programs.

The reviewed literature above underscores a global and regional deficiency in GBV awareness, with varying degrees of emphasis on legal rights, cultural barriers, and access to support services. However, a distinct gap exists in understanding how GBV awareness manifests in informal economic settings such as marketplaces, particularly in Tanzania. Existing studies must comprehensively examine how marketplaces' unique social and economic dynamics affect women's understanding of their rights and access to GBV support services.

### **2.3.2. Socio-cultural Factors Associated with GBV Against Women**

Socio-cultural factors significantly contribute to the persistence of gender-based violence (GBV) across the globe. In various regions, societal norms that prioritize male dominance and perpetuate traditional gender roles often normalize violence against women. In Europe, a study in Italy revealed that cultural expectations of masculinity were a driving force behind intimate partner violence, with 46% of male respondents acknowledging that they felt justified in using violence to assert control in their relationships (Rossi et al., 2021). However, this study does not explore how these cultural expectations manifest in informal economic settings like markets, leaving a gap in understanding GBV in non-domestic contexts. Similarly, in Asia, a study conducted in Pakistan found that 62% of women believed that societal norms permitted men to use violence as a form of discipline, reflecting deep-rooted patriarchal values that continue to perpetuate GBV (Khan & Hassan, 2020). While this highlights the influence of entrenched norms, it fails to examine how these norms are perpetuated or challenged in workplaces, particularly among women in informal economies like markets.

In Latin America, cultural perceptions of gender also contribute to the high rates of violence against women. A study conducted in Mexico found that machismo, a cultural belief that emphasizes male superiority, was a significant factor in domestic violence, with 39% of women reporting that they experienced violence as a result of their partner's desire to demonstrate power (Ramirez & Ortiz, 2019). However, the study primarily focuses on domestic violence, neglecting to address how machismo impacts women working in market environments where power dynamics differ. In

the Middle East, similar patterns are observed. In Jordan, a survey revealed that 51% of men believe that women should be obedient to their husbands, even if it means enduring violence, further illustrating how sociocultural norms can normalize abusive behaviors (Al-Mahadin & Naber, 2020). While this study highlights the normalization of violence within households, it overlooks the public or workplace implications of these attitudes, particularly for women engaged in economic activities outside the home.

In Africa, cultural practices undermining women's rights are critical contributors to GBV. A study conducted by the World Health Organization (2020) across several African countries, including Nigeria and Ethiopia, identified harmful traditional practices such as bride price, forced marriage, and female genital mutilation as major sociocultural drivers of GBV. In Nigeria, for example, 45% of women in rural areas reported that the payment of a bride price gave men the perception that they had ownership over their wives, leading to increased rates of domestic violence (Olatunji & Okechukwu, 2021). In Ethiopia, a similar study found that female genital mutilation was linked to increased acceptance of violence, as women who had undergone the procedure were often viewed as submissive and more likely to endure abuse (Gebregziabher & Bekele, 2021). However, the study does not address the connection between these practices and GBV in market settings, leaving a critical research gap.

In Tanzania, traditional gender norms and social practices play a significant role in shaping attitudes towards GBV. A qualitative study by Mvungi (2021) revealed that 58% of women working in market spaces accepted violence as a regular aspect of

their relationships, citing societal pressure to tolerate abusive behavior. These findings reflect a broader cultural acceptance of violence, where women are often expected to remain silent and endure abuse to preserve family honor.

Additionally, alcohol consumption, particularly in social settings like markets, was found to exacerbate the prevalence of intimate partner violence. However, the study does not examine whether such acceptance varies by age, education level, or economic status, creating a gap in understanding how specific factors shape attitudes in market environments. A joint study by the Economic Commission for Africa and United Nations Women (2020) identified alcohol as a significant driver of violence in Tanzanian markets, where 42% of incidents reported were linked to heavy drinking. While this emphasizes the role of alcohol, it does not explore how community interventions could mitigate its effects or address the cultural tolerance of alcohol-fueled violence.

The stigma associated with GBV in Tanzania also discourages women from seeking help or reporting abuse. A study by United Nations Women (2022) found that many women felt societal expectations forced them to remain silent about their experiences with violence. As a result, even when women are aware of their legal rights, cultural pressures often prevent them from taking action. This stigma perpetuates a cycle of violence that is difficult to break without addressing the underlying sociocultural beliefs that enable it. However, this study fails to address whether targeted awareness campaigns or support services within market spaces could overcome such stigma. To combat these sociocultural factors, community initiatives that promote gender equality and challenge harmful cultural norms are essential. A report by the Tanzania

Gender Network Program (2020) emphasized the importance of community-based programs in raising awareness about GBV and encouraging women to speak out against violence. These initiatives, which involve engaging both men and women in discussions about gender roles and violence, have shown promising results in changing attitudes and reducing the acceptance of GBV in Tanzanian markets.

Addressing these gaps requires further exploration of GBV in informal economic settings like markets, focusing on the intersection of cultural norms, economic factors, and workplace dynamics. Research that integrates these dimensions can better inform interventions tailored to the unique challenges faced by women in these environments.

### **2.3.3 Impacts of GBV against Women**

The impacts of gender-based violence (GBV) are profound, extending beyond individual victims to affect entire communities and economies. Globally, survivors of GBV often face severe mental and physical health challenges, which hinder their ability to participate fully in social and economic activities. In Europe, a study conducted in Spain revealed that women who experienced intimate partner violence were twice as likely to suffer from depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (Gómez & Martinez, 2021). However, this study does not explore how these health issues impact women's economic productivity in informal sectors such as market environments, leaving a gap in understanding GBV's broader economic implications. In North America, research in Canada found that 35% of women affected by GBV reported long-term health problems that hindered their workforce

participation, thus limiting their economic independence (Smith & Brown, 2020). While these findings emphasize the financial consequences of GBV, they primarily focus on formal employment and do not address how informal workers, such as market traders, experience and navigate similar challenges

In Asia, the economic consequences of GBV are considerable. In India, a study revealed that women facing domestic violence had a 40% reduction in work productivity due to physical injuries and psychological trauma, significantly impacting their ability to remain financially stable (Sharma & Patel, 2021). While these findings are critical, the study overlooks the experiences of women in informal market settings, where workplace dynamics and GBV patterns might differ significantly from domestic or formal environments.

Similarly, in the Middle East, research from Jordan found that GBV caused many women to withdraw from the labor market, with 28% of women experiencing violence, reducing their work hours, or quitting their jobs altogether, leading to economic instability for their families (Al-Tarawneh & Hassan, 2020). Although the study identifies a clear link between GBV and reduced economic participation, it does not investigate the specific experiences of women working in informal trade sectors, where economic dependence on daily earnings is often higher. In Africa, GBV has widespread economic implications. A report by the African Union (2022) estimated an annual cost of \$15 billion due to lost productivity and high healthcare and legal expenses. In Kenya, women in market settings who experienced GBV were found to lose an average of 20% of their income due to time off for medical treatment (Muthoni & Njoki, 2021). While these findings highlight the economic toll

of GBV, the study does not explore whether market-specific interventions could mitigate these losses. Similarly, in South Africa, survivors of GBV faced barriers to accessing markets, entrenching poverty among women and their families (Dlamini & Zondi, 2021). However, the study needs to examine the structural factors within markets that exacerbate these challenges, creating a gap in understanding how to make market environments safer and more inclusive.

In Tanzania, the negative impact of GBV on women's economic participation is especially pronounced in market environments. A study by the World Bank (2022) found that 40% of women who had experienced violence were forced to reduce their work hours or leave their jobs altogether, severely affecting their economic stability and independence. The study also noted that many women engaged in informal market activities face additional risks of GBV, discouraging their full participation in trade and entrepreneurship. This hostile market environment limits women's ability to earn a stable income and contributes to broader gender inequalities in economic participation. However, the study does not investigate how specific support systems or market policies might reduce these risks or enhance women's economic empowerment in informal settings.

The intergenerational effects of GBV are also significant in Tanzania. Research indicates that children who witness or experience violence are more likely to perpetuate the cycle of abuse in their future relationships, further entrenching patterns of violence in the community (World Health Organization, 2021). However, this research does not explore how interventions targeting market environments could disrupt these cycles and create safer spaces for women and children. In

Tanzania, children exposed to GBV are at higher risk of experiencing emotional and behavioral issues, which can affect their educational attainment and future employment opportunities. This perpetuation of gender inequality hinders the overall development of communities and highlights the urgent need for comprehensive strategies to address and prevent GBV in market settings.

Addressing these impacts requires a multi-faceted approach that not only provides support to survivors but also addresses the broader economic and societal consequences of GBV. The World Bank (2022) emphasized the importance of creating safe and supportive market environments through policies that protect women from violence and promote their economic empowerment. Additionally, raising awareness about GBV and its consequences among market participants, combined with legal reforms and enforcement, can help reduce the prevalence of violence and its adverse impacts on women and communities.

Despite highlighting the health and economic impacts of GBV, the reviewed literature reveals a critical research gap: more attention should be given to understanding how GBV uniquely affects women in informal economic sectors, such as markets, and how targeted interventions could mitigate these impacts. Addressing these gaps requires studies focusing on the intersection of GBV, market dynamics, and women's economic participation, particularly on creating safe and supportive market environments.

## **2.4 Research Gap**

While numerous studies have explored gender-based violence (GBV) globally and within various African contexts, significant gaps remain in understanding the unique sociocultural and economic factors contributing to GBV in Tanzanian market environments, particularly in Dodoma City. Existing research has examined the financial repercussions of GBV, such as loss of income and reduced participation in market activities, as demonstrated in Kenya (Muthoni & Njoki, 2021) and South Africa (Dlamini & Zondi, 2021). However, these studies generalize market dynamics across regions, failing to account for local contexts like the informal market structures, traditional practices, and community dynamics unique to Tanzania.

In Tanzania, studies have primarily focused on broader aspects of GBV. For instance, the Tanzania Gender Network Program (2020) assessed women's awareness of GBV. Still, it did not investigate how awareness levels influence their ability to report and seek help in market settings. Similarly, while Mvungi (2021) highlighted sociocultural factors like societal norms and alcohol consumption, the research did not explore how these factors specifically intersect with the economic vulnerabilities faced by women in market environments.

Thus, this study aims to address these gaps by providing a focused assessment of the factors contributing to GBV against women in selected markets in Dodoma City, emphasizing understanding the local sociocultural, legal, and economic drivers of GBV. Doing so will contribute to a more nuanced understanding of the problem in Tanzania and offer insights into targeted interventions and policy reforms to reduce GBV in market environments.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Chapter Overview**

Research methodology is a systematic and scientific approach researchers use to collect, analyze, and interpret data to answer research questions or test hypotheses (Kothari, 2004). This chapter describes the research philosophy or paradigm (research design and approaches), study population, sampling procedure, sample size, selection criteria (inclusion and exclusion), secondary data source, primary data source, qualitative data rigor, data analysis and presentation, and ethical considerations.

#### **3.2 Research Philosophy**

A *research philosophy* is a framework that guides how research should be conducted based on ideas about reality and the nature of knowledge (Dye, 2013; Mellors Bourne et al., 2014). This research study philosophy is interpretivist research philosophy because it is used to explore and meet the needs of social science. It is concerned with exploring the complexities of social phenomena by achieving an empathic understanding of the research subject's view based on findings from a relatively small sample size (Collis & Hussey, 2014).

##### **3.2.1 Research Design**

A research design is the conceptual framework guiding the systematic approach to data collection, measurement, and analysis (Kothari, 2004). It provides a blueprint that ensures the study is structured and addresses its objectives effectively.

According to Kothari (2004), there are three main types of research designs: exploratory, descriptive, and explanatory. This study adopts an exploratory research design to delve into individual thoughts, experiences, and perceptions related to the factors contributing to gender-based violence (GBV) against women in selected markets in Dodoma City. The design is suitable for gaining a deeper understanding of this complex phenomenon within its context.

### **3.2.2 Research Approach**

A research approach is an overarching strategy that guides a study, encompassing the philosophical assumptions, research design, and specific methods for data collection, analysis, and interpretation (Hemed, 2022). This study employs a qualitative research approach, particularly suited for exploring complex social phenomena. Qualitative research focuses on collecting, analyzing, and interpreting non-numerical data to better understand individuals' experiences, perceptions, and social contexts (Hemed, 2021). By using this approach, the study seeks to uncover the intricacies of gender-based violence (GBV) against women in selected markets in Dodoma City. Furthermore, the qualitative approach is ideal for capturing the complexities and nuances of how GBV manifests in market environments and its impact on women, aligning with the study's aim to assess the factors contributing to this issue (Kothari, 2004).

### **3.3 Study Area**

Study area refers to a specific geographical area where research on the problem of interest will be done and analyzed (Yang, 2024). The study was conducted in

Majengo and Sabasaba Market in Dodoma City. Dodoma City was officially declared the capital of Tanzania in the Special Gazette of the United Republic of Tanzania No. 7 Vol. 99, dated 25th September 2018, and also led to the relocating of 42 government institutions from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma. This relocation has contributed to a significant population increase, positioning Dodoma as one of the fastest-growing regions, now home to over 3 million residents (NBS, 2022). The rapid urbanization and infrastructural development accompanying this population growth have introduced various social challenges, including a notable rise in crime rates, particularly Gender-Based Violence (GBV) (Lema & Mwaipopo, 2020).

Marketplaces in Dodoma serve as critical public spaces where women are frequently engaged in economic activities, often in informal settings, making them vulnerable to GBV due to their interactions with diverse groups of people (Kamazima et al., 2021). These markets function as hubs of both economic and social exchange, where power dynamics, cultural norms, and financial pressures may contribute to gender-based violence (Mbilinyi, 2019). Reports of increasing incidents of GBV in public spaces such as marketplaces, compounded by the growing urban population, highlight the need for in-depth research into the issue (John & Muro, 2022).

#### **3.4 .Population of the Study**

The population of the Study, also known as the target population, represents the entire group or set of individuals that possess specific characteristics and interests to the researcher (Kothari, 2004). Therefore, the target population of this Study was 45 respondents from two selected market which are Sabasaba and Majengo in Dodoma City,

### **3.5 Sampling Procedures**

Sampling procedures refer to the methods used to select individuals or groups from a larger population to participate in a study (Hemed, 2022). In the current study, snowball sampling and purposive sampling were used as described below:-

#### **3.5.1 Purposive Sampling**

The study employed purposive sampling to intentionally select female participants from the Sabasaba and Majengo markets in Dodoma City. This method was chosen to focus specifically on women who had either experienced or witnessed gender-based violence (GBV) in their work environment. Purposive sampling is particularly effective in qualitative research when the goal is to gather in-depth information from individuals who are most knowledgeable about the issue being studied (Patton, 2015). By targeting individuals who were likely to have relevant insights, the study aimed to gather detailed data that would directly address the research objectives. This method allowed the researcher to ensure that participants possessed firsthand knowledge of the issue (Creswell & Poth, 2018). Participants were selected based on their market roles and exposure to situations where GBV was likely to occur, ensuring that the study captured experiences from diverse market sectors. Furthermore, women from different age groups and socio-economic backgrounds were included to represent a wide range of perspectives, which is essential for obtaining varied insights (Etikan et al., 2016).

### **3.5.2 . Snowball Sampling**

Snowball sampling was employed to reach women who were less accessible or hesitant to participate due to the sensitive nature of GBV. Snowball sampling is often used in studies that involve hidden populations, where potential participants are difficult to locate because of issues such as stigma or fear (Browne, 2005). After initial participants were identified through purposive sampling, they were asked to refer other women who had relevant experiences with GBV in the markets. This approach proved effective in overcoming challenges related to discussing sensitive topics like violence, where individuals may be reluctant to participate (Noy, 2008). Snowball sampling expanded the pool of participants by leveraging trust between individuals, enabling the researcher to reach women who might otherwise have been overlooked. This method also ensured that the study gathered information from a broader spectrum of individuals, including those who were more discreet or marginalized in their experiences of GBV. Through these referrals, the researcher was able to access richer and more nuanced data, which is strength of snowball sampling in qualitative research (Biernacki & Waldorf, 1981)

### **3.5.3 Sample Size**

Sampling is a process of selecting several individuals or objects from a population so that the selected group contains elements representative of the characteristics of the entire group (Kothari, 2019). The sample size for this study was determined based on the principle of data saturation, a common practice in qualitative research aimed at gathering rich, in-depth information (Creswell, 2013). Initially, 30 female participants were selected through purposive sampling from the Sabasaba and

Majengo markets in Dodoma City. These participants were chosen based on their experiences or knowledge of gender-based violence (GBV) in the markets, ensuring that they could provide valuable insights aligned with the study's objectives.

The purposive sampling approach effectively supported the first objective—to assess the awareness of GBV in selected markets—by targeting women with direct knowledge or experiences relevant to the issue. This method also facilitated the examination of the social-cultural factors associated with GBV in markets, allowing the selected participants to share their unique perspectives on the influences and societal attitudes that perpetuate violence.

The sample size expanded through snowball sampling, as initial participants referred other women with relevant experiences of GBV. This method continued until saturation was reached, meaning no new significant data emerged from additional interviews (Guest, Bunce, & Johnson, 2006). This approach allowed the researcher to effectively capture diverse experiences and insights necessary for examining the negative impacts of GBV in markets while ensuring the sample remained manageable for in-depth qualitative analysis. Overall, the combination of purposive and snowball sampling ensured a comprehensive exploration of the study's objectives, providing a nuanced understanding of awareness, social-cultural factors, and the impacts of GBV in the selected markets. The total sample size reached 45 participants.

### **3.6 Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria**

Inclusion and exclusion criteria are essential to research, as they help define the target population and ensure the study sample is appropriate for answering the research question (Ayaji, 2023). The inclusion criteria for this study were designed to ensure that participants had relevant experience and knowledge of gender-based violence (GBV) in the market context. The study included male and female vendors aged 18 years and above to ensure a broad range of perspectives and experiences. Participants, such as vendors, market officials, or security personnel, had to be actively involved in market activities, as these individuals are directly exposed to the market environment where GBV might occur. Only individuals willing to participate voluntarily and could provide informed Consent were included, ensuring ethical research practices. Preference was given to those with direct experience or knowledge of GBV, either as victims, witnesses, or individuals involved in addressing GBV in the market.

In contrast, individuals who were not directly involved in market activities, such as residents near the market but not engaged in its operations were excluded from the study. Additionally, minors under 18 were not included, as they may need more legal capacity to provide informed Consent and might have limited experience with GBV in the market setting. Participants without knowledge or understanding of GBV in the market environment were also excluded, as their input would not contribute meaningful insights to the study's objectives. Finally, those unwilling to participate or unable to provide informed Consent were excluded to maintain the ethical integrity of the research process.

### **3.7 Secondary Data Source**

Secondary data refers to information that has been collected and analyzed by others, which researchers can access and use to inform their studies (Ajayi, 2023). The current study accessed secondary data through documentary reviews, such as published and unpublished sources, journals, online databases, past research studies, institutional records, and the Internet.

### **3.8 Primary Data Source**

Primary data refers to first-hand data gathered by the researcher himself (Kothari, 2004). As highlighted, the primary data sources are surveys, observations, questionnaires, focus groups, case studies, and interviews (Ajay, 2023). In the context of this study, the primary data were collected through interviews to gain an in-depth understanding of the topic under study.

### **3.9 Data Collection Methods**

Data collections methods refer to methods used to collect, gather, and analyze different forms of data from different sources, either primary or secondary (Kothari, 2004). In this study, the data collection method was interviews.

#### **3.9.1 Interview Guide**

It is a tool used to guide a direct face-to-face interview that aims to gather reliable and valid information through verbal responses from respondents (Akakpo, 2024). In-depth interviews were conducted with 45 female participants who had relevant experiences or knowledge related to GBV in the selected markets of Sabasaba and

Majengo. The interviews were structured around an interview guide designed to elicit detailed responses aligned with the research objectives.

The interview guide consisted of open-ended questions that encouraged participants to share their perspectives and experiences regarding GBV. Questions focused on their awareness of GBV, the cultural norms and practices influencing violence, and the perceived consequences of GBV on women in the market environment. The interview process began with an introduction explaining the purpose of the study, followed by obtaining informed consent from the participants to ensure ethical standards were upheld (Creswell, 2013). The interviews were conducted in a private and comfortable setting to encourage openness and confidentiality, acknowledging the sensitive nature of the topic. Each interview lasted approximately 30 to 45 minutes, allowing participants ample time to express their views. This qualitative approach facilitated rich, nuanced data collection, essential for understanding the complexities surrounding GBV in the market context (Patton, 2015). In summary, the study conducted in-depth interviews with 45 women, utilizing a structured interview guide to gather comprehensive insights into the factors contributing to gender-based violence in the selected markets of Dodoma City.

### **3.10 Qualitative Data Rigor**

Qualitative data rigor refers to how researchers demonstrate the quality and trustworthiness of qualitative research (Norman et al., 2011). Additionally, Makuu (2019) stated that this may encompass the systematic processes that researchers employ throughout the research design, data collection, analysis, and reporting phases to minimize bias and enhance the reliability of findings.

### **3.10.1 Dependability**

This refers to consistency in the research and the ability of another researcher to achieve the same results with the same research process (Johnson et al., 2020). In the current study, the researcher ensured detailed documentation of the data collected to maintain clear records that would enable other researchers to replicate or build upon the study.

### **3.10.2 Credibility**

Credibility refers to the accuracy of the results representing participants' experiences (Norman et al., 2011). In the current study, the researcher enhanced credibility through various methods, including sharing research findings, themes, and summaries with participants to help confirm that interpretations accurately reflect their experiences. Additionally, the researcher was able to spend a significant amount of time in the field, which allowed the researcher to gain a deep understanding of the context during data collection.

### **3.10.3 Conformability**

This component assesses the extent to which findings are shaped by the participants' perspectives rather than researcher bias (Johnson et al., 2020). In this study, data triangulation was achieved by incorporating primary and secondary data sources to enhance the rigor and ensure the findings were shaped by participants' perspectives rather than researcher bias, as Johnson et al. (2020) recommended. Primary data were gathered through in-depth interviews with 45 female participants from the Sabasaba and Majengo markets in Dodoma City, selected using purposive and snowball

sampling techniques. These interviews captured a diverse range of experiences and perspectives on gender-based violence (GBV), focusing on participants' awareness, social-cultural factors influencing violence, and the negative impacts experienced in the market environment. Secondary data were drawn from relevant literature, reports, and studies on GBV, cultural influences, and market dynamics in Tanzania and other regions. These secondary sources provided context and a comparative framework, further strengthening the findings and ensuring they were well-grounded in a broader body of evidence.

#### **3.10.4 Transparency**

Transparency refers to a critical aspect that enhances the credibility and trustworthiness of qualitative research (Fred et al., 2021). This study maintained transparency and rigor by clearly documenting all stages of the research process, ensuring credibility and trustworthiness, as emphasized by Fred et al. (2021). The researcher began by explaining the purpose of the study to participants, ensuring they fully understood the objectives and scope of the research. Ethical issues were thoroughly addressed, with participants being informed about their right to consent and confidentiality assurance. This included signing informed consent forms before the data collection process. Additionally, the researcher presented all necessary permits and official documents from relevant authorities, such as ethical clearance and permission to conduct research in the Sabasaba and Majengo markets. These measures helped build trust with participants, ensuring they were comfortable and willing to engage, enhancing the study's credibility.

### **3.11 Data Analysis and Presentation**

Data analysis and Presentation are crucial aspects of conducting high-quality research in social science (Kothari, 2004). In this section, the researcher analyzed and presented the data below to communicate the findings effectively.

#### **3.11.1 Data Analysis**

In this study, data analysis was conducted through a thematic analysis approach, commonly used in qualitative research to identify, analyze, and report patterns or themes within the data (Braun & Clarke, 2006). The following steps were taken to analyze the data collected from the in-depth interviews: Data Familiarization: The researcher began by transcribing the recorded interviews verbatim and thoroughly reading the transcripts several times to become familiar with the data. This process helped the researcher to immerse themselves in the participants' perspectives and identify initial patterns related to the research objectives.

Generating Initial Codes: After familiarization, the researcher systematically went through the data and assigned codes to significant phrases, statements, or ideas related to gender-based violence (GBV). This step involved labeling sections of the text that corresponded to the key aspects of awareness, social-cultural factors, and the impacts of GBV in the markets.

Searching for Themes: The researcher grouped similar codes into broader categories or themes. For example, codes relating to cultural attitudes or norms that perpetuate GBV were clustered together under the theme "Social-Cultural Factors." This helped in organizing the data according to the specific objectives of the study.

**Reviewing Themes:** The researcher then reviewed the identified themes to ensure they accurately represented the data. At this stage, any irrelevant or overlapping themes were refined or merged to make the themes more coherent. **Defining and Naming Themes:** Each theme was clearly defined and given a descriptive name to capture its essence. Themes such as "Awareness of GBV," "Cultural Norms Influencing GBV," and "Impacts of GBV on Women" were crafted to align with the study's specific objectives.

**Interpreting the Data:** Finally, the researcher interpreted the themes in relation to the research questions and objectives. The analysis focused on understanding the participants' experiences, perceptions of GBV, and the socio-cultural factors that contributed to the violence. The results were then compared with existing literature to draw conclusions. This thematic analysis ensured that the findings were deeply grounded in the data collected, providing insights into the factors contributing to GBV in the selected markets.

### **3.11.2 Data Presentation**

Data presentation refers to clearly and understandably displaying research findings, analysis results, and data (Kothari, 2004). This study presented the data using the best quotation or statement.

### **3.12 Ethical Consideration**

Ethical considerations in conducting research are essential principles that guide researchers in ensuring participants' rights, dignity, and welfare are protected

throughout the research process (Kothari, 2004). The critical ethical consideration principles applied in this study are listed below.

### **3.12.1 University Clearance**

Refers to the process by which researchers must obtain ethical approval from the institution before commencing their studies (Buhori, 2021). This clearance is essential to ensure the research meets ethical standards and regulations. In this study, the researcher requested a clearance letter for data collection. The researcher asked for a letter to collect data from The Open University of Tanzania. Then, the researcher could apply for a permit to collect data through the Second Vice President's Office in Zanzibar. The clearance letter and permit for data collection are attached to the appendix sheet. 4.

### **3.12.2 Anonymity and Confidentiality**

This refers to researchers' ethical obligation to protect their participants' privacy by ensuring that sensitive information collected is not disclosed in any way during data collection and processing (Mirza, 2023; Danison, 2023). In the current study, the researcher adhered to this Principle by ensuring the data collected were kept in a safe and privacy-protected storage (in a device with a strong password), protecting sensitive data like names and addresses, photographs, and video footage.

### **3.12.3 Informed Consent**

Informed Consent is a process where individuals are provided with relevant information about a study to help them decide whether to participate (Kothari, 2004). In this study, informed Consent was sought from the participants before enrolling.

The researcher explained to the participants the purpose of the study and the risks and benefits of participating and reiterated the participant's right to withdraw from the research without penalty. Finally, the researcher asked them to sign a consent form before enrolling in the study.

#### **3.12.4 Voluntary Participation**

This means giving participants an option or choice and the ability to opt out at any time, even if they have already agreed to take part in the study undertaken (Denison, 2023). In this study, the participants were informed about the freedom to participate in the study freely, with the right to withdraw at any time without any coercion or undue influence. In addition, they were told about the benefits of their Participation as it may be one way of developing solutions to the current situation of CSA.

#### **3.12.5 Do not Harm Principle**

This fundamental Principle emphasizes the importance of minimizing potential harm to research subjects (Kothari, 2004). This Principle is rooted in the broader concept of beneficence, which requires researchers to act in the best interest of research subjects and ensure that they are not exposed to unnecessary risks or negative consequences due to their Participation in the study (Mirza, 2023). This was manifested in this study through observing various forms of harm, including physical, psychological, social, and legal harm.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

#### **4.1 Chapter Overview**

The chapter consists of an analysis of the findings of this study. This paragraph is arranged according to the research and presentation's questions and objectives. Further, this section has been categorized into two subsections, namely, the presentation of demographical characteristics of the research participants and findings obtained through the study's research questions. The research questions of the study are as follows;

- i. To assess the level of awareness of GBV in selected markets.
- ii. To examine the social-cultural factors associated with GBV in markets.
- iii. To examine the impacts of GBV against Women in markets.

#### **4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Research Participants**

A diverse group of 45 vendors participated in the study, representing a cross-section of the community. They were selected from two distinct markets in Dodoma City, with 66.7% (30 participants) from Sabasaba Market and 33.3% (15 participants) from Majengo Market, as shown in Table 4.1 below.

The distribution of age categories among the participants was as follows: 46.7% were less than 20 years old, 40% were aged 21-30, 11.1% were between 31-40 years old, and 2.2% were aged 41-50 years old, as shown in Table 4.1. This data highlights the

significant contribution of young women, who bring energy and enthusiasm to economic production.

The distribution of education levels was as follows: 15.6% attended primary school, 73.3% attended secondary school, and 11.1% attended college/university, as shown in Table 4.1. This indicates that the majority of the respondents have completed at least secondary education.

The distribution of marital status was as follows: 62.2% were single, 15.6% were married, 22.2% were separated, and 2.2% were divorced, as shown in Table 4.1. This demographic breakdown emphasizes the varied marital circumstances of the vendors, which may influence their experiences and perspectives on gender-based violence

**Table 4.1: Demographic Characteristics of the women vendors in the market**

Characteristics	Frequency(n-45)	Percent (%)
<b>Market name</b>		
Sabasaba Market	30	66.7
Majengo Market	15	33.3
<b>Age</b>		
less than 20 years	21	46%
21-30 years	18	40%
31-40 years	5	11.1%
41-50 years	1	2.2%
<b>Educational level</b>		
Primary level	7	15.6%
secondary level	33	73.3%
college/university	5	11.1%
<b>Marital status</b>		
Single	28	62.2%
Married	7	15.6%
Separated	10	22.2%
Divorced	1	2.2%

**Source: Field Data (2024)**

### **4.3. Level of Awareness of GBV in Selected Markets**

This research aimed to evaluate the extent of knowledge about gender-based violence (GBV) among the members of the Sabasaba and Majengo markets in Dodoma. This part of the writing deals with the findings collected during the research through interviews focusing on GBV knowledge among the respondents, how and where, if any, they perceived this problem existed, and how much they understood the laws and support available to combat such issues.

### **4.3.1 . Proportion of Respondents Who Know About GBV**

The researcher explored respondents' overall knowledge and awareness of GBV, emphasizing their understanding and definitions of the issue. The findings revealed varying degrees of awareness shaped by the specific contexts of two distinct markets in Dodoma City: Sabasaba and Majengo. While some respondents recognized GBV as encompassing physical, emotional, and psychological abuse, others exhibited a narrower understanding, focusing primarily on physical violence. This disparity reflects differences in exposure to education on GBV and the distinct social, cultural, and economic realities of the two market environments.

One respondent from Sabasaba Market stated during an in-depth interview, *"To me, GBV is any violence committed against an individual because of his or her gender. Usually, it is men attacking women, but it also goes the other way round."*

This response illustrates a foundational understanding of GBV but does not account for the broader sociocultural or economic dynamics influencing these perceptions.'

These findings align with Heise's (1998) ecological framework, which highlights the interplay of individual, relational, community, and societal factors in shaping perceptions and experiences of GBV. In the Sabasaba Market context, where informal trading is predominant, and women face direct economic competition with men, the prevalence of GBV is influenced by economic tensions and traditional gender roles. Conversely, in Majengo Market, characterized by more community-based interactions, GBV awareness is shaped by entrenched sociocultural norms, including perceptions of masculinity and women's societal roles.

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Theory (1979) further supports that those distinct social systems, such as market environments, influence individual behaviors and societal attitudes toward GBV. The findings suggest that these markets serve as economic hubs and microcosms of broader social realities, where financial pressures, cultural norms, and individual interactions converge to shape GBV awareness.

Moreover, Jewkes et al. (2010) argue that variations in GBV awareness often stem from differences in community education and social discourse exposure. This is evident in Dodoma's markets, where respondents from Sabasaba, a more dynamic and diverse market, demonstrated slightly higher levels of awareness than those from Majengo, where traditional norms are more entrenched.

#### **4.3.2. Sources of Information on GBV**

The study sought to assess the sources of information through which respondents learned about GBV, revealing a variety of channels such as community programs, media, and educational institutions. Respondents emphasized the role of community workshops, local awareness campaigns, and media outlets such as radio and social media.

For instance, one participant from Sabasaba Market noted during an in-depth interview, *"I have learned about GBV from workshops at the local community center and also through radio announcements.*

It is not something you hear about often, though." This response illustrates the critical role of community-level interventions in raising awareness, particularly in markets where informal networks dominate information dissemination.

However, the study found a significant gap in the role of formal educational settings in providing comprehensive GBV education. This lack of school emphasis was more pronounced in Majengo Market, where traditional norms dominate, and formal education levels are generally lower than in Sabasaba Market. These contextual differences underline how social realities, including cultural and economic aspects of market environments, shape the effectiveness of GBV awareness efforts.

This finding aligns with Heise's (1998) ecological framework, which emphasizes the influence of multiple systems—such as media, community programs, and educational institutions—on promoting awareness and addressing GBV. Community workshops and media outlets are vital in filling the information gap in Dodoma, particularly in markets like Sabasaba, where diverse cultural and economic interactions foster broader exposure to GBV discourse. Conversely, in Majengo, the reliance on traditional communication channels limits the reach and depth of GBV awareness campaigns. The results are further supported by Jewkes et al. (2015), who highlight the effectiveness of community-based campaigns in addressing GBV, particularly in contexts where formal education systems fail to prioritize this issue. Their work underscores the importance of integrating GBV education into multiple platforms to ensure more inclusive and effective knowledge dissemination. However, the unique market environments in Dodoma reveal additional layers of complexity, such as the interplay between economic vulnerabilities and sociocultural norms, which require tailored interventions.

### 4.3.3 . Perception of the Prevalence of GBV in the Market

This section sought to explore respondents' beliefs about the prevalence of GBV in market settings. Respondents generally acknowledged that while GBV is not always overtly visible, it remains a pervasive issue, often manifesting subtly and discussed in hushed tones. For example, one participant from Majengo Market noted during an in-depth interview,

*"I do not see GBV happening all the time, but I know it exists. There are whispers about women being harassed, especially at night in the market."* This response underscores a growing awareness of GBV while highlighting the perception of it as an issue buried beneath societal norms and rarely addressed openly.

The findings reveal differences in how GBV is perceived between Sabasaba and Majengo markets. In Sabasaba, where market dynamics are more diverse and include a mix of cultural and economic interactions, respondents were more likely to recognize GBV as a systemic problem linked to broader societal issues. In contrast, in Majengo, where traditional norms dominate, GBV is often viewed as a series of isolated incidents rather than a reflection of systemic inequalities. This distinction underscores the influence of social realities, such as economic vulnerability and cultural norms, on shaping community perceptions of GBV.

These results align with Walby and Allen's definition of GBV as violence rooted in socially constructed and culturally transmitted gender norms. They also reflect Heise's (1998) ecological framework, which emphasizes how prevailing ideologies and culturally mandated behaviors can conceal the prevalence of GBV. The

perception of GBV as a hidden issue in Majengo is consistent with Heise's argument that societal structures often normalize such violence, making it difficult to address openly. Similarly, Jones et al. (2013) and Garcia-Moreno et al. (2015) highlight that GBV is frequently underappreciated and regarded by many as a series of isolated events rather than a systemic societal problem. These findings highlight the necessity for further interaction with the residents of such communities to dispel the stereotypes and encourage the colonization of GBV discourse as a complex issue.

#### **4.3.4 . Awareness of Policies, Laws, or Support Systems Addressing GBV**

The final aspect of the study sought to examine respondents' understanding of the laws, policies, and support structures available to combat GBV. The findings revealed a significant gap in awareness, with respondents expressing confusion about the existence of such frameworks or how to access them. This deficiency was particularly pronounced in the Majengo Market, where traditional gender roles and limited access to formal education appeared to exacerbate the lack of awareness. In contrast, respondents in Sabasaba Market demonstrated slightly better knowledge, attributed to greater exposure to community workshops and advocacy programs. However, even in Sabasaba, awareness remained limited.

During an in-depth interview, one respondent from Majengo Market stated, "*I have heard that laws exist against GBV, but in truth, it seems that few, if any, of us are actually acquainted with such laws or where to seek assistance.*"

This statement underscores the disconnect between the existence of legal frameworks and community knowledge about them. While the quote effectively highlights the

respondents' lack of awareness, it is important to contextualize it within the broader socio-cultural realities of the markets. For example, Majengo's traditional social structures and limited institutional presence contribute to this gap, while Sabasaba's diverse population and economic activities provide more opportunities for engagement with awareness initiatives.

These findings align with Heise's (1998) ecological theory, which emphasizes the influence of socio-cultural and structural systems on individual behavior and knowledge. The lack of awareness in Majengo reflects how traditional norms can obscure the importance of legal protections. In contrast, Sabasaba's comparatively better awareness demonstrates the role of external interventions in shaping community understanding. Similarly, Tjaden and Thoennes (2000) reported similar deficiencies in public knowledge of domestic violence laws in the U.S., reinforcing the notion that gaps in awareness are not unique to developing contexts. Heise further argues that community education about legal frameworks and support systems is essential for empowering individuals to act against GBV.

The results highlight the critical need for targeted educational campaigns to bridge the knowledge gap. For instance, Sabasaba Market could benefit from expanding community programs to deepen residents' understanding of their legal rights. In Majengo, outreach efforts should focus on dismantling traditional gender norms and fostering trust in formal support structures. These findings also underscore the urgency of integrating GBV education into broader social and economic interventions, ensuring that awareness becomes a foundational community development component. In conclusion, while laws and policies to combat GBV are

crucial, community members' limited knowledge of these frameworks could improve their effectiveness. Addressing this gap requires a nuanced approach that considers each market's distinct socio-cultural and economic realities. By prioritizing education and engagement, stakeholders can effectively empower communities to recognize, report, and combat GBV.

#### **4.4. Social-Cultural Factors Associated with GBV in Markets**

##### **4.4.1 Cultural Factors Contributing to GBV**

The findings on cultural factors contributing to GBV highlighted the pervasive influence of gender stereotypes, patriarchal ideologies, and societal myths in sustaining women's subjugation and promoting gender violence within market environments. Respondents emphasized that men often perceive themselves as superior to women, fostering a climate conducive to GBV. This dynamic stems from deeply entrenched cultural values that undermine accountability for perpetrators and normalize violence against women.

During an in-depth interview, a participant from Majengo Market shared, "*In our community, men still see themselves as superior, and this belief makes them think they can mistreat women without consequences.*"

This statement underscores the prevalence of patriarchal norms that prioritize male authority and marginalize women. While this perspective was also present in Sabasaba Market, respondents from this location highlighted a comparatively greater exposure to advocacy programs, suggesting a potential avenue for shifting perceptions. These findings are consistent with Heise's (1998) ecological model,

which posits that cultural norms reinforcing male dominance contribute significantly to an environment where GBV is tolerated. Patriarchal structures in informal settings like markets exacerbate this issue by limiting women's agency and weakening social control mechanisms that could otherwise deter GBV. The lack of formal oversight in the Majengo Market amplifies the problem, as cultural traditions dominate and maintain gender inequities. Conversely, the slightly more structured and diverse environment of Sabasaba Market may dilute patriarchal influences to some extent, though challenges persist.

In the broader literature, researchers such as Jewkes et al. (2010) and Garcia-Moreno et al. (2015) have similarly documented how cultural factors perpetuate GBV by normalizing harmful gender roles and dismissing women's experiences. These studies emphasize the need for community-level interventions to challenge deep-seated norms and promote gender equality. The findings from this study reinforce these arguments and highlight the need for culturally sensitive approaches that address the specific realities of each market.

To address these challenges effectively, targeted interventions must consider the distinct socio-cultural and economic dynamics of the Majengo and Sabasaba Markets. For example, in Majengo, interventions should focus on educating men and women about the harmful impacts of patriarchal ideologies while introducing formalized mechanisms for reporting and addressing GBV. In Sabasaba, efforts could build on existing advocacy programs, enhancing their reach and sustainability.

In conclusion, the findings underscore the critical role of cultural norms in shaping attitudes toward GBV and perpetuating its occurrence in market environments. By contextualizing these insights within the unique realities of each market, stakeholders can design more effective strategies to challenge patriarchal ideologies, promote gender equality, and reduce the prevalence of GBV.

#### **4.4.2 Community Perception of Women's Market Participation**

The findings revealed that women engaged in market activities frequently face backlash from men who perceive their independence as a threat to traditional gender roles. This resistance often manifests in the form of insults, verbal abuse, and, in some cases, physical violence, creating an environment that reinforces patriarchal norms. Participants noted that such aggressive behaviors discourage women from asserting themselves in public spaces, stifling their participation in economic activities and limiting opportunities for advancement. The resulting cycle of intimidation perpetuates gender inequality and discourages women from fully utilizing economic opportunities in market settings. During an in-depth interview with a female vendor at Sabasaba Market, one participant explained: *"When women go out to the market to work or sell things, some men threaten them and harass them to make them submissive."*

This testimony highlights the oppressive environment many women face, characterized by hostility and control. Notably, respondents from Majengo Market echoed similar sentiments, although they described a more pronounced reliance on informal dispute resolution mechanisms, reflecting the community's socio-economic

realities. These findings align with Garcia-Moreno et al. (2015), who observed that women's increased economic activity often challenges established gender norms, provoking violent reactions from men. Heise's ecological framework (1998) further supports this analysis, suggesting that deeply entrenched cultural ideologies perpetuate gender-based violence by maintaining male dominance in public and private spheres. The dynamic observed in the markets of Dodoma reflects a broader struggle between traditional societal expectations and evolving gender roles.

However, contextual differences between Sabasaba and Majengo Markets provide additional insight. Sabasaba Market, being more urbanized and diverse, exposes women to slightly more progressive attitudes, albeit within a still-hostile environment. In contrast, Majengo Market operates within a more insular community where patriarchal norms are deeply rooted, leaving women with fewer support structures to counter such challenges. Studies by Jewkes et al. (2010) emphasize the importance of addressing the structural barriers that reinforce gender violence and advocating for interventions that promote safer economic spaces for women. These findings underline the urgency of implementing policies that tackle cultural resistance to women's empowerment and enhance support systems for market vendors.

To create safer and more supportive environments for women, stakeholders must address the socio-cultural dynamics unique to each market. For example, in Majengo, initiatives could focus on building community-level awareness and providing platforms for women to report and address harassment. Meanwhile, in Sabasaba, advocacy programs should emphasize legal protections and reinforce

community policing to deter gender-based violence. The findings illuminate the tension between women's changing economic roles and societal resistance in Dodoma's markets. Addressing these challenges requires context-specific strategies to dismantle patriarchal norms, foster inclusivity, and empower women to thrive in their economic endeavors.

#### **4.4.3 Gender Expectations and GBV in Market Settings**

The findings revealed that harassment and violence are typically directed at women when they challenge societal norms by assuming leadership positions or expressing themselves publicly in market spaces. Respondents observed that society enforces gender roles that suppress women's voices and actions, maintaining a patriarchal structure that restricts women's participation in public life. This intimidation perpetuates traditional power dynamics, reinforcing self-censorship among women. The resulting fear not only undermines women's self-esteem but also discourages them from pursuing income-generating activities, perpetuating economic inequality. This phenomenon reflects broader issues of gender-based violence in the macroeconomic context.

A female vendor interviewed at Sabasaba Market stated: "*When a woman tries to take charge or speak up in the market, some men get angry and say she is stepping out of her place. That is when the harassment begins.*" Similarly, a trader from Majengo Market highlighted instances where women who attempted to lead faced backlash, reflecting a community's resistance to changing gender norms. These observations align with Jewkes et al. (2002), who argue that men often resort to

violence to assert power when women deviate from traditional gender roles. Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Theory (1979) also supports this finding, explaining that societal beliefs and norms about gender influence individual behaviors, leading to violence when these expectations are challenged. This dynamic is particularly evident in informal settings like markets, where formal mechanisms to address such behaviors are limited.

Despite the overarching similarity, contextual differences between Sabasaba and Majengo Markets shed light on the variation in the manifestation of these challenges. Sabasaba, being more urbanized, shows signs of gradual shifts toward accepting women's leadership, although resistance persists. In contrast, Majengo, with its more insular and traditional community structure, exhibits stronger reinforcement of patriarchal norms, leaving women with fewer avenues for asserting their rights.

Jewkes et al. (2002) emphasize that such cultural resistance to women's leadership underscores the need for interventions that challenge deep-seated societal attitudes. Additionally, programs that promote awareness of gender equality and empower women to lead in public spaces can help dismantle harmful stereotypes and reduce instances of gender-based violence. The findings underscore the necessity of context-specific interventions. At Sabasaba Market, initiatives could focus on building alliances with male allies to challenge traditional gender roles. In Majengo, programs could prioritize grassroots advocacy and involve community elders to shift cultural narratives. Addressing these challenges requires coordinated efforts to challenge societal norms, enhance women's confidence, and create safer environments where they can thrive as active economic participants.

In conclusion, the study highlights the entrenched cultural barriers that perpetuate gender-based violence in Dodoma's markets. By addressing these structural and cultural challenges, stakeholders can promote a more inclusive and equitable environment for women in market spaces.

#### **4.4.4 Cultural Beliefs and Attitudes Toward GBV**

The findings revealed that entrenched cultural beliefs often justify gender-based violence (GBV) by framing it as a private or familial matter. This perception creates significant barriers for women seeking justice, as GBV is frequently trivialized and normalized within the community. Respondents highlighted how patriarchal norms reinforce male dominance, effectively silencing women and discouraging external intervention.

For instance, a respondent from Sabasaba Market stated: "*In our culture, it is the men who are referred to as the heads of the family, and violence against women, even if committed by men, is usually viewed as an intra-familial problem rather than one in which outsiders should get involved.*".

These findings are consistent with Heise (1998) and Jewkes et al. (2002), who argue that cultural stereotypes—such as male superiority and the acceptability of certain forms of GBV—protect perpetrators and perpetuate cycles of violence. Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Theory (1979) supports this, explaining that cultural norms at the macrosystem level significantly shape societal attitudes and individual behaviors, contributing to GBV's persistence. The social realities of the two market contexts in Dodoma—Sabasaba and Majengo—shed light on how differing

community structures impact perceptions and responses to GBV. Sabasaba, a more urbanized and economically dynamic market, reflects a growing awareness of GBV issues, though patriarchal norms remain deeply entrenched. Participants from Sabasaba emphasized how increasing female economic participation sometimes clashes with traditional expectations, leading to subtle forms of violence and intimidation.

In contrast, Majengo Market, with its more traditional and conservative community structure, reveals a more vital adherence to patriarchal beliefs. GBV is more openly justified under the guise of maintaining family order, leaving women with fewer avenues for justice or support. Participants from Majengo expressed greater fear of social ostracism and economic retaliation when speaking out against GBV, highlighting the intersection of cultural norms and financial dependence.

The findings underscore the role of socio-cultural and economic realities in shaping community perceptions of GBV. In both markets, patriarchal norms serve as mechanisms for control, with violence used to reinforce these norms. The trivialization of GBV as a private matter limits women's access to justice and perpetuates their marginalization in public and economic spheres. These dynamics highlight the need for targeted interventions that address each market's specific cultural and economic contexts.

Programs in Sabasaba Market might focus on leveraging its relatively progressive outlook by promoting public awareness campaigns, legal literacy, and women's empowerment initiatives. Conversely, in Majengo, interventions should prioritize

engaging traditional leaders and community influencers to challenge harmful norms while directly supporting survivors. In conclusion, while the findings demonstrate that cultural beliefs significantly influence GBV, they also emphasize the importance of tailoring interventions to the distinct socio-cultural and economic contexts of markets like Sabasaba and Majengo. This approach can help dismantle patriarchal structures and create pathways for women to access justice and equality.

#### **4.5 Impacts of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Markets**

Gender-based Violence is commonplace in different cultures and practices and influences markets and women in them as well as the markets in general. Through interviews, the participants expressed the negative aspects of Violence against women, paying attention to the market context.

##### **4.5.1 What are the impacts of GBV against Women in markets?**

The findings revealed that gender-based violence (GBV) in market environments has significant negative consequences on women's economic activities. Respondents identified that GBV forces women to limit their market presence, restricting their income opportunities and exacerbating financial insecurity.

One participant from Sabasaba Market explained: *"GBV makes it hard for women to focus on their businesses. Many of us leave the market early or avoid certain areas because fear directly affects how much money we can make."* This quote illustrates how GBV directly undermines women's ability to freely engage in economic activities, limiting their earning potential and financial stability.

Another respondent from Majengo Market added, "*When violence happens in the market, it disrupts the whole community. Customers stay away because they feel unsafe, and this hurts everyone's business, not just the women.*"

This comment highlights the broader implications of GBV in the market, where the violence creates an unsafe environment that affects not only women but also the entire marketplace's activity. Customers, feeling unsafe, are deterred from coming to the market, which reduces overall foot traffic and negatively impacts all traders, regardless of gender.

These observations align with the findings of Garcia-Moreno et al. (2015), who argue that violence against women in public spaces, such as markets, harms not just the individuals directly involved but also the broader community by fostering insecurity and limiting economic participation. Similarly, Jewkes et al. (2002) contend that GBV suppresses women's potential to engage in productive economic activities, as it creates an environment where women are either unable or unwilling to guarantee their presence in the market. This, in turn, leads to economic losses for both the women and the market as a whole.

The influence of context—specifically the two distinct markets in Dodoma, Sabasaba, and Majengo—shapes how GBV affects women's economic participation. In Sabasaba, a more urbanized and commercially vibrant area, respondents expressed awareness of GBV, but the challenges seemed less overt. However, the fear of violence and its disruptive impact on business was still noted. The economic impact of GBV in Sabasaba primarily concerns individual market women who are forced to

reduce their working hours or avoid certain areas altogether, limiting their financial independence.

In contrast, Majengo Market, with its more conservative and closely-knit community structure, experiences a higher incidence of GBV. The violence in this market not only directly affects women's businesses but also significantly disrupts the broader market environment. The fear induced by violence keeps customers away, thus negatively affecting the economic stability of the entire market. Women in Majengo appear to face more pronounced challenges, not only due to the physical violence but also because of a more deeply ingrained cultural belief system that normalizes such violence.

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Theory (1979) provides a valuable framework for understanding the broader impact of GBV on market dynamics. According to this theory, the stress and violence directed at an individual (microsystem) can ripple out, affecting the decision-making and management of the wider community (mesosystem). In the case of the markets, GBV affects not only the women directly involved but also disrupts social interaction and market productivity. This creates a cycle of insecurity that reduces market participation and economic activities on a larger scale.

These findings illustrate how GBV negatively impacts women's ability to engage in economic activities and the broader market environment. The context of the two markets in Dodoma reveals that while Sabasaba may experience more subtle forms of disruption, Majengo faces more pronounced consequences due to its cultural and

social structure. As such, interventions should be tailored to the specific needs of each market, addressing both the individual and community-level impacts of GBV, focusing on creating safer and more supportive environments for women in the marketplace. By doing so, we can promote women's economic participation and reduce the broader economic repercussions of GBV.

#### **4.5.2 How has GBV affected women's ability to participate in economic activities within the market?**

Respondents emphasized the negative impact of gender-based violence (GBV) on women's participation in economic activities within market environments. Several respondents highlighted that the fear of harassment and violence forces women to reduce their time in the market or avoid certain areas altogether, thus diminishing their earning potential. For instance, one respondent from Sabasaba Market noted:

*"I often feel anxious when I am at the market because of the harassment. I sometimes close my stall early to avoid trouble, which means I lose sales."*

This comment illustrates how GBV directly limits the number of hours women can operate their businesses, negatively affecting their financial independence.

Another participant from Majengo Market added

*"Women who are abused often stop coming to the market altogether. They cannot afford to risk being attacked or humiliated in public."*

This highlights how GBV drives women out of economic spaces, exacerbating their financial insecurity. The direct consequence of such violence is the loss of potential earnings and, in some cases, a complete withdrawal from economic activities.

These findings align with Heise's (1998) assertion that the availability of safe environments is crucial for women's full participation in economic life. Heise argues that GBV severely limits women's access to economic opportunities by restricting their public participation, thus reducing their financial autonomy. Similarly, Jewkes et al. (2002) emphasize that violence against women not only limits their ability to earn a livelihood but also perpetuates poverty by diminishing their economic potential.

The context of the two distinct markets—Sabasaba and Majengo—shapes how GBV affects women's economic participation. Sabasaba, a more urban and commercially vibrant area, has a slightly different dynamic than Majengo, which is more conservative and tightly-knit. In Sabasaba, respondents acknowledged the impact of harassment and violence but described it as a more subtle challenge. The fear of violence in Sabasaba mainly results in women shortening their working hours or avoiding certain parts of the market. While the economic consequences were clear, they appeared less disruptive than those in Majengo.

On the other hand, Majengo Market, with its more closely-knit community and higher incidence of GBV, experiences more pronounced economic disruptions. In this market, GBV not only affects the women directly involved but also creates an unsafe atmosphere that deters customers, reducing overall market participation. The

fear of harassment and violence leads many women to completely withdraw from economic activities, severely impacting their financial independence and the broader market economy. Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Theory (1979) provides a relevant framework for understanding how GBV affects women's participation at various environmental levels in market settings. According to the theory, violence at the individual level (microsystem) has a ripple effect on the broader community (mesosystem). In the context of the markets, GBV impacts the women directly involved and creates an atmosphere of hostility and fear that diminishes overall economic activity. This affects the community's social and economic fabric, limiting women's contributions to the market economy.

The findings demonstrate that GBV severely limits women's ability to participate in economic activities in the market, with broader consequences for the market environment as a whole. The context of Sabasaba and Majengo markets reveals that while Sabasaba faces more subtle forms of disruption, Majengo experiences more significant challenges due to its cultural and social dynamics. These findings suggest that interventions to address GBV should be context-specific, considering each market's unique characteristics. By creating safer, more supportive environments, such interventions can enhance women's economic participation and reduce the broader economic consequences of GBV.

#### **4.5.3 Summary**

In conclusion, gender-based Violence in markets creates an unsafe and hostile environment that severely limits women's participation in economic activities. Women face reduced working hours, diminished earnings, and, in many cases,

withdrawal from market activities altogether. Tackling GBV in market settings is crucial for maintaining economic independence for women and creating a safe and effective marketplace for everyone. Systemic interventions, such as Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory, are necessary for enhancing safety and equality in these environments.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Chapter Overview**

Chapter classification summarizes the study findings, conclusions, and recommendations. In the summary section, the author elaborates on the critical findings of every objective and question the research addresses. On the other hand, the conclusions section presents how the outcomes achieved relate to the questions and objectives put forward. Finally, such a chapter focuses on giving recommendations to policymakers, practitioners, and society.

#### **5.2 Summary**

This section summarizes the findings obtained from the three objectives governing the study and describes the key themes outlined in the sub-sections below.

##### **5.2.1 Level of awareness on GBV in selected markets.**

The study sought to measure the awareness of gender-based violence (GBV) in the locations of Sabasaba and Majengo markets in Dodoma. Several main findings are highlighted: Spot the respondents' proportions who know about GBV: The study population displayed disparities in terms of knowledge of GBV. While some appreciated its complexity and understood that it involves physical, emotional, and psychological abuse and violence, others had limited knowledge of the same. This shows that more awareness campaigns should be done to correct several assumptions concerning GBV and its causes.

Form of Information on GBV: Respondents stated that they accessed information on GBV from television, radio, and other community programs, including educational institutions. Community programs like the local handling of workshops also contributed to such adjustments in participants' perceptions. However, more comprehensive education on GBV needed to be provided within formal educational settings, highlighting the necessity for integrated education across various platforms.

Perception of the Prevalence of GBV in the Market: While respondents acknowledged that GBV exists within market settings, many believed it often goes unrecognized, manifesting in subtle forms. Some participants were willing to see GBV as something that needs to be more systemic. Therefore, it is important to continue engaging the community to oppose stereotypes and teach that GBV is everybody's problem rather than only the concerned one. Knowledge of Policies, Laws, or Support Systems Taking Care of GBV: The study revealed an information gap regarding policies and legal mechanisms that have been put in place to protect people from GBV. Several respondents were unsure where they could seek legal help or even if legal help was available, which shows the need for education and outreach on these issues in the community.

### **5.2.2 Social and Cultural Factors Associated with GBV in Markets.**

The interview conducted in Sabasaba and Majengo markets revealed several social and cultural factors contributing to gender-based violence (GBV). The findings can further be defined in the following ways: Cultural Factors: The respondents cited traditional gender roles, social pressure, and patriarchal systems as the significant contributions towards GBV. These elements set a stage that supports violence against

women, often with no consequences. Participants emphasized that in the community, men still consider themselves superior, and this enables them to ill-treat women without any fear of justification.

**Community Perception of Women's Participation:** The participants pointed out that in the market, women's participation and their ability to engage independently in the marketplace may change people's perception of gender roles creating more harassment and violence. Men do not take it lightly that women go beyond the usual boundaries, and such men regard such women with contempt. **Influence of Gender Expectations:** The discussions highlighted that women are abused because they fail to conform to certain feminine ideals. Respondents shared experiences of harassment when women attempted to assert themselves in market activities. This indicates that gender norms dictate acceptable behavior for women, and any challenge to these expectations can lead to aggression.

**Cultural Beliefs and Attitudes:** Respondents expressed that cultural narratives often justify GBV, mainly through views of male dominance. Participants conveyed that GBV is trivialized and viewed as a private matter, making it difficult for victims to seek justice. On the whole, the results suggest that a number of elements, including cultural values and social practices, significantly help perpetuate GBV in the market context. To curb these issues, not only individual effects but also a comprehensive change in society's orientation toward gender equity and the eradication of negative views are needed.

### **5.2.3 Impacts of GBV against Women in Markets.**

The respondent revealed several negative impacts of GBV on women's economic participation and the overall market environment. **Economic Participation:** Respondents pointed out that being a victim of GBV hinders women's engagement in productive activities. Women participant explained that they end up leaving the market way too early or stay away from certain spots because of the fear of possible violence, which impacts their earning potential. Participants highlighted that forms of discrimination such as harassment inhibit the effective running of women's businesses, hence leading to losses and insecurity.

**Market Disruptions:** Participants outlined that violence perpetrated by market members in the course of trade affects the periphery as much as it does the specific individuals who experience it. When violence occurs, customers tend to stay away due to safety concerns, negatively impacting all vendors and reducing overall market activity. This creates an unsafe and unproductive atmosphere that affects the economic health of the market. **Long-term Consequences:** Many women reported that GBV drives them out of market activities entirely. The fear of being attacked or humiliated discourages them from participating, leading to long-term financial instability and a lack of autonomy. This withdrawal from economic spaces exacerbates their dependence and diminishes their economic independence.

**Safe Environments:** Guided by stakeholder perspectives, it was evident that there is a need to provide safe environments for women to engage in economic activities. The acceptance of violence in the market environment threatens women's input and

involvement in business. In general, the conclusions highlight that GBV has some deploring consequences for women's economic involvement that have far-reaching economic consequences for both the person and society. Therefore, correcting these problems requires an all-inclusive approach integrating safety, equity, and women's welfare within market systems.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

This study shows how widely gender-based violence (GBV) affects women about the whole society. The results demonstrate that widespread cultural values and societal beliefs make it easy to perpetrate violence against women, which then results in harassment. The participants reported that GBV prohibits women from seeking any source of income, thus lacking income for themselves and their dependents and losing the freedom that comes with being economically independent. Moreover, GBV has long-term effects on market activity and the economy since its impact is not only on the victims but also on the market. Overcoming these challenges requires profound transformations to realize safety and equity within the market sphere. These strategies include educating people about GBV, addressing negative cultural norms, and creating communities that support women. By concentrating on these areas first, the markets will not only be friendly to these women but will also be economically active for the good of the whole society.

### **5.4 Recommendations**

Based on the findings of the study and the conclusion drawn above, the study recommends the following:

#### **5.4.1 Recommendations to the Government**

**Strengthen Legal Frameworks:** The state needs to review and upgrade legal frameworks about contextualizing GBV and women's protection laws to satisfy prosecution and punishments. This also relates to putting in place mechanisms for reporting and dealing with cases of violence that occur in markets.

**Implement Awareness Campaigns:** Start extensive and participative public awareness campaigns that seek to promote people's understanding of gender-based violence (gbv) and its consequences for gender equality. The campaigns must seek support from both women and men in an all-around effort to eliminate abv. **Provide Support**

**Services:** Promote the establishment of support services such as psychological counseling or legal representation for victims of GBV within markets. This may include preparing the market authority and other community leaders to help affected individuals.

**Promote Women's Empowerment Initiatives:** Adopt programs aimed at women's economic empowerment, including skills provision, capital provision, and markets and connections. This will make women better off financially, resulting in decreased risks of GBV. **Enhance Market Safety Measures:** Allocate resources to meet women vendors' and clients' security needs in the markets, such as providing security guards, adequate lighting, and surveillance facilities.

#### **5.4.2 Recommendations for Further Study**

**Longitudinal Studies:** Conduct longitudinal studies to evaluate how GBV has affected women's economic participation and the equilibrium of community-level

interventions in the years to come. This would enable understanding of the challenges that persist and correlate after the interventions have been implemented.

**Comparative Studies:** Opt into comparative studies in several markets or in various geographical areas to understand the reasons for GBV and determine the effectiveness of measures undertaken to address the issue. **Gender-Specific Interventions:** Analyze the effectiveness of gender-based violence GBV-reducing interventions in market settings. This may include the assessment of those programs that aim at women's empowerment and programs that address men for not practicing violence.

**Community-Based Approaches:** More studies should aim at community-based theoretical frameworks that enlist community leaders and organizations to combat gender-based violence in the community. These frameworks, on the other hand, create responsibilities to the community. **Impact of Economic Policies:** Research on reproductive policies concerning women's economic activity and their effectiveness in the markets, as well as possible changes that would increase women's safety and respect for their rights in the economic sphere. In implementing these recommendations, the government attempts to ensure that significant progress will be made concerning the security of the market and the reduction of gender-based violence, which in turn will help achieve a fairer society.

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**APPENDIXES****IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW GUIDING QUESTIONS****Section i: Instructions**

My name is Esther Kasengele from the Open University of Tanzania. I am currently conducting a study on “factors contributing to gender based violence in Tanzania. The case Sabasaba and Majengo markets in Dodoma city”. I request you respond to the questions by providing the relevant required information that will enable me to accomplish my study. Your feedback is valued and will be confidential which will be used only for the purpose of research. The feedback will inform the researcher, academicians, policy makers and entire community towards the research topic. Your participation is voluntary, you have right to withdraw from the study at any time. Do you Consent to participate in this study?

**YES**    **NO**

**Section ii: Demographic Characteristics**

**(Instructions: Put a tick (√) on the appropriate response of your choice)**

*Please put an appropriate answer by filling and ticking the correct answer*

<p>1) What is your Sex?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Male      <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>	<p>5) What is your education level?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Primary Education</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ordinary level Secondary Education</p>
<p>2.)What is your age (Years from):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 21 -30 years   <input type="checkbox"/> 41 -50 years</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 31 -40 years   <input type="checkbox"/> 51- 60 years</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 61 +</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> High level Secondary Education</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Diploma level/Certificate</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor Degree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Post graduate education</p> <p>6. Date of interview.....</p>

**Section iii: Interview Guiding Questions for Participants**

**Objective NO: 1 To assess the level of awareness on GBV in selected markets.**

Question i. What is the perception of the prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) in the market?

Question ii. What is your understanding of gender-based violence (GBV)?

Question iii. Have you ever received any information, training, or education about GBV? If yes, from where?

Question iv. Do you understand policies concerning GBV?

**Objective NO: 2 To examine the social cultural factors associated to GBV in markets.**

Question i. What are the social cultural factors associated to GBV in markets?

Question ii. What is the community perception of women's participation in market?

Question iii. What are the cultural beliefs and attitudes toward GBV in market?

Question iv. How do gender expectations influence gender-based violence in market settings?

**Objective NO: 3 To examine negative impacts of GBV in markets.**

Question i. What are the negative impacts of gender-based violence (GBV) in markets?

Question ii. How has GBV affected women's ability to participate in economic activities within the market?

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATION**

## APPENDIX II: INTERVIEW GUIDE IN SWAHILI VERSION

### MASWALI YA MAHOJIANO YA KINA

Sehemu ya i: Maelekezo

Jina langu ni Esther Kasengele kutoka Chuo Kikuu Huria cha Tanzania. Kwa sasa, ninafanya utafiti kuhusu “sababu zinazochangia unyanyasaji wa kijinsia nchini Tanzania. Kesi ya masoko ya Sabasaba na Majengo katika jiji la Dodoma”. Naomba uweke wazi maelezo yako kwa kujibu maswali haya ili kunisaidia kukamilisha utafiti wangu. Maoni yako ni ya thamani na yatakuwa ya siri, na yatumika tu kwa ajili ya utafiti. Maoni haya yatafaidisha mtafiti, wanazuoni, wabunifu wa sera, na jamii nzima kuhusiana na mada ya utafiti. Ushiriki wako ni wa hiari, una haki ya kujiondoa katika utafiti wakati wowote. Je, unakubali kushiriki katika utafiti huu?

NDIO  HAPANA

1. Sehemu ya ii: Tabia za Demografia

(Maelekezo: Weka alama (✓) kwenye jibu sahihi unalochagua)

Tafadhali weka jibu sahihi kwa kujaza na kuashiria jibu sahihi

2. Je, wewe ni wa jinsia gani?

. Mwanamke..... 2.Mwanaume .....

3. Ni kiwango gani cha elimu ulicho nacho?

a) Elimu ya Msingi

- b) Elimu ya Sekondari ya Kawaidao
- c) Elimu ya Sekondari ya Juuo
- d) Shahada ya Diploma/Sitishoo
- e) Shahada ya Kwanzao
- f) Elimu ya Postgraduateo

1. Tarehe ya mahojiano.....

5. Je, umri wako ni miaka mingapi:

6. 41 -50 miakao 21 -30 miaka

51- 60 miakao 31 -40 miaka

61 +.....

. Sehemu ya iii: Maswali ya Mahojiano ya Kiongozi kwa Washiriki Wote wa Utafiti

Lengo Na: 1 Kuangalia kiwango cha uelewa kuhusu GBV katika masoko yaliyochaguliwa.

Swali i. Ni nini mtazamo kuhusu uwepo wa unyanyasaji wa kijinsia (GBV) katika soko?

Swali ii. Unaelewaje kuhusu unyanyasaji wa kijinsia (GBV)?

Swali iii. Je, umewahi kupokea taarifa yoyote, mafunzo, au elimu kuhusu GBV?

Ikiwa ndio, umetoka wapi?

Swali iv. Je, unaelewa sera zinazohusiana na GBV?

Lengo Na: 2 Kuangalia sababu za kijamii na kitamaduni zinazohusiana na GBV katika masoko.

Swali i. Ni zipi sababu za kijamii na kitamaduni zinazohusiana na GBV katika masoko?

Swali ii. Ni vipi jamii inavyopokea ushiriki wa wanawake katika soko?

Swali iii. Ni zipi imani na mitazamo ya kitamaduni kuhusu GBV katika masoko?

Swali iv. Je, matarajio ya kijinsia yanaathiri vipi unyanyasaji wa kijinsia katika mazingira ya soko?

Lengo Na: 3 Kuangalia athari mbaya za GBV katika masoko.

Swali i. Ni zipi athari mbaya za unyanyasaji wa kijinsia (GBV) katika masoko?

Swali ii. Je, GBV imeathiri vipi uwezo wa wanawake kushiriki katika shughuli za kiuchumi ndani ya soko?

**ASANTENI KWA KUSHIRIKI**

**APPENDIX III: ESTIMATED RESEARCH BUDGET**

A budget table indicating the running costs of the overall research activities.

<b>S/N</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>
01	Stationary services	100,000/=
02	Preparing documents	100,000/=
03	Traveling	300,000/=
04	Communications	100,000/=
05	Consultations	300,000/=
06	Internet services	200,000/=
07	Data collections devices	500,000/=
08	Field visit for data collections	300,000/=
09	Emergences	300,000/=
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2,200,000/=</b>

**APPENDIX IV: TIME FRAME AND BUDGET**

ACTIVITIES	February - August 2024	September 2024				October 2024	
		W1	W2	W3	W4	W1	W2
Proposal Writing							
Data Tool Testing and Data Collection							
Data Analysis							
Report Writing and Submission							

**APPENDIX V: CLEARANCE LETTER**

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA**



Ref. No OUT/PG202087372

12<sup>th</sup> March, 2024

City Director,  
Dodoma City Council,  
P.O.Box 1249,  
**DODOMA.**

*CITIO*  
*Please work on*  
*[Signature]*



Dear City Director

**RE: RESEARCH CLEARANCE FOR MS. ESTHER KACHINGWE KASELENGE, REG NO: PG202087372**

2. The Open University of Tanzania was established by an Act of Parliament No. 17 of 1992, which became operational on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1993 by public notice No.55 in the official Gazette. The Act was however replaced by the Open University of Tanzania Charter of 2005, which became operational on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007. In line with the Charter, the Open University of Tanzania mission is to generate and apply knowledge through research.

3. To facilitate and to simplify research process therefore, the act empowers the Vice Chancellor of the Open University of Tanzania to issue research clearance, on behalf of the Government of Tanzania and Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology, to both its staff and students who are doing research in Tanzania. With this brief background, the purpose of this letter is to introduce to you **Ms. Esther Kachingwe Kaselenge, Reg. No: PG202087372**, pursuing **Master of Arts in Gender Studies (MAGS)**. We here by grant this clearance to conduct a research titled "**Assessment of**

*CITIO*  
*Akiyokang*  
*Akiya tuonave*  
*Akiya*  
*Akiyokang*  
*2/3/2024*

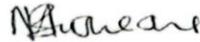
E.10/4

**Factors Contributing to Gender based Violence in Tanzania: A Case Study of Selected Markets in Dodoma City**". She will collect her data at your area from 13<sup>th</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

4. In case you need any further information, kindly do not hesitate to contact the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) of the Open University of Tanzania, P.O.Box 23409, Dar es Salaam. Tel: 022-2-2668820. We lastly thank you in advance for your assumed cooperation and facilitation of this research academic activity.

Yours sincerely,

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA**



Prof. Magreth S. Bushesha

For: **VICE CHANCELLOR**