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UACE Geography paper 3: S101 General Paper section A topics: Domestic violence

Domestic violence poses the biggest social concern in my community. Domestic violence is a situation where one or more members of the family inflict pain on the rest. Or domestic violence are abusive behaviors in which one individual of a family gains power over another individual(s). Domestic violence may take a physical form such as beating, fighting and use of sharp objects or a psychological form of abuses, avoiding or denying individual's obligation such as providing food, education requirements, sex to a partner and so on. These forms of violence emanate from differences in family backgrounds, poverty, catastrophe such as Covid 19 and other social anxieties

Cause of domestic violence

In my community poverty is the main cause of domestic violence in my community. (note that the point is stated in full sentence). When someone or husband is poor, he is unable to afford requirements needed by his homestead and this leads to conflicts with family members especially the spouse. (elaboration of the point). The spouse may think that the husband is spending the money on another person and this may result into fights and hence domestic violence. (illustration of the point)

Taking alcohol and drugs contributes to domestic violence because most drunk person and people whose drugs cannot control their behaviours and are most likely to abuse their spouses. This is very common with people who drink alcohols or smoke the herbs such as marijuana.

Traditions and beliefs may contribute to domestic violence. In most traditions men are taken to be superior to women and such men feel that they have a right to control women. For example in Kiganda traditions women must serve men while kneeling down and a woman who refuses ends up with a slap. In some tribes women being beaten by a husband is believed to be a sign of love.

Mental illness is another cause of domestic violence in my community. Mentally ill people with mania and other illness are highly aggressive which may be extended to their family. Mental illness was estimated to be about 23% of the population in 2023.

Differences in political affiliation another cause of domestic violence in my community. In an underdeveloped country like Uganda supporting a different political party is taken as a crime on the national and personal level. Consequently spouses showing support to different political parties especially during

campaign season has resulted into domestic violence. Because women usually support the NRM currently in power and has emancipated them while men vote for change.

Early and forced marriages have led to domestic violence in my community. Early marriage cause domestic violence because the spouses are not mature and not prepared for the tasks ahead of marriage. In most cases partners in early marriage lack means of income and living in deprivation may spark situations of domestic violence since distress and stress lead to loss of libido. Likewise forced marriage leads to hatred among spouses culminating into domestic violence.

Difference in the religious beliefs of the spouse has led to domestic violence in my community. For instance non moslems may fail to come to term the frequent prayers the moslems undertake in a day their behaviour of keeping the toilets wet all the time. Similarly non saved may fail to tolerate their noisy prayers through out the night. These differences may lead to domestic violence such as abuses and complaints.

Low academic achievement may lead to domestic violence because poor academic achievers usually have low self esteem and sometime assert themselves through violence which may be extended to their family members.

Aggressive personality. Some individuals are simply aggressive in nature probably due to their previous history of being abused. Previous victims of domestic violence often become abuser themselves.

Effects of domestic violence

The effects of domestic violence include breakage of marriages and lack of support to the childrens. Usually children deteriorate in their academic performances and lose trust from their parents.

Domestic violence in my community has led to increased school drop-outs because the children in the family experiencing domestic violence feel isolated and lose motivation for schooling

Domestic violence in my community has led to increased number of street children. These are running away from home to look for food and other necessities because domestic violence often lead to the failure of the father to provide for the family.

Physical abuse may cause disability such as loss of sight, broken legs and arms and sometime death

Domestic violence in my community has led loss of trust among married couples; depression and lack of emotional support for each other.

In conclusion domestic violence has no positive gain and every one in a family should endeavor to avoid it at all costs. However domestic violence sometimes presents with complex scenarios with no obvious solutions for instance a man denied sex commits domestic violence when he rapes a spouse or engages in extramarital sex.

Solutions to avert domestic violence

- Promotion of family and religious values to protect the childrens from acquiring violent traights
- Civil and political education expecially during voting periods.
- Early diagnosis and treatment of mental illness.
- Report any abuse and seek for arbitration.
- Discourage alcoholism and drug abuse through peer grougs.
- Minimize radicalism in religions.
- Government should invest in education and also employment oportunites for its citizens.
- Take a stand. If you witness any form of violence or abuse, stand up, step in, or shout out that the offender is actually the uncool one, and the violence has to stop.

Thank You

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