The African Child Policy Forum

Second International Policy Conference on the African Child

Violence Against Girls in Africa

A Retrospective Survey in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

Save the Children unicef Plan Be a part of it. UNFPA

The African Child Policy Forum

The African Child Policy Forum is an independent, advocacy organisation working for the realisation of child rights. Founded in 2003, through the generous support of Plan International, the Forum is headquartered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Its mission is to contribute towards the development and implementation of effective laws and policies to put African children on the public agenda. To this end, it will provide support where the political will exists and exert pressure where it is absent.

The work of the Forum is inspired by universal values, informed by global experiences and knowledge, and guided by the needs and conditions of African children.

Working in collaboration with other non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Forum regularly publishes research that, along with its programmatic focus, aims to provide a forum for dialogue; contribute to improved knowledge of the problems that face African children; strengthen the capacity of child-rights and human-rights organisations; and finally, to assist governments, policy makers and NGOs in developing and implementing effective pro-child policies and programmes.

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PREFACE

> "The ways of peace must be learned early. So as adults, we have an obligation to begin to work with our children to develop that respect for all rights. We must work at home, in schools, in youth clubs and in our religious and community institutions."
>
> Graça Machel,
> Commonwealth Lecture Address, March 13, 2001

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), as many as 40 million children under the age of 15 are victims of violence every year. Almost certainly, this statistic underestimates the problem. It is clear that violence against children is a serious problem and cause of concern.

Some four years ago, in its resolution 56/138, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, requested that the Secretary-General conduct an in-depth study on the issue of violence against children. The Secretary-General thus appointed in February 2003 an independent expert, Professor Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, to direct the study in collaboration with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO. This report will be based on available evidence, information and a series of regional consultations.

Girls in Africa are particularly vulnerable to various forms of violence - both by virtue of their gender and because of the socio-economic and cultural conditions prevailing in their communities. African girls experience violence in the classroom, at home and in the community, and, in times of conflict and crisis, are special targets of violence. In their communities, girls face physical, sexual and psychological violence, and are harmed through inequalities in access to resources.

The African Child Policy Forum believes that ending violence against girls in Africa is one of the most pressing challenges facing Africa. Comprehensive information on the magnitude of the problem, its causes and consequences is essential if we are to approach violence against girls in Africa from an informed perspective. The

problem must be thoroughly understood, and the means of addressing it comprehensively analysed, if these abuses are to be effectively tackled and ultimately stopped.

Hence, The African Child Policy Forum commissioned retrospective surveys in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda on young women's experiences of violence before they were 18 years old. The research intends to inform the discussions at the Second International Policy Conference on the African Child, which explores violence against girls in Africa and aims to provide the elements for a strategy for the way forward.

The survey aimed to capture the voices of African girls who have experienced violence and, by doing so, enable them to reach policy-makers who can effect change on their behalf. They call on us to take action to meet the challenge of ending violence against girls. It is our duty to respond.

Assefa Bequele, PhD
Executive Director, The African Child Policy Forum

ACRONYMS

FGM Female Genital Mutilation
HTP Harmful Traditional Practice
ISPCAN International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
UN United Nations
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR United Nations High Commission for Refugees
WHO World Health Organization

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

"Wish violence to stop."
Young Kenyan woman

On average, eight out of every ten girls surveyed in these reports are being physically abused by the people who they are supposed to trust most. Almost every girl will be psychologically abused in one way or another. And the majority of girls will be sexually abused (95% in Uganda, 85.2% in Kenya and 68.5% in Ethiopia).

Their mothers are tying them up. Their girlfriends are driving them into prostitution. Their teachers are psychologically abusing them. Their boyfriends are forcing them to have sex. Their brothers are kicking them. They witness their loved ones being beaten and even killed. In short, the girls representing the East African countries of Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda are being denied their fundamental right to be a child. The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, which has been ratified by Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, states:

"States Parties to the present Charter shall ensure, to the maximum extent possible, the survival, protection and development of the child." (Article 5.2)

This convention is given additional weight by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which has been ratified by almost all United Nations member states including Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. It sets out the duties of governments to protect children from violence: "States Parties undertake to ensure the child such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her, and, to this end, shall take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures."

Even with the adoption of these instruments, violence - physical, psychological and sexual - is still an especially pernicious problem in these East African countries. And this study shows that girls are particularly vulnerable because of physical differences, the influence of traditional

values, and tolerance of domestic violence directed at them. In Kenya, 99 per cent of the girls surveyed had experienced physical abuse, with Uganda close behind at 94.2 per cent. Ethiopia, although last at 84 per cent, had the highest reporting rate of all three countries of violent acts against girls under five years old.

Three research teams looked at the situation of violence against girls in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. Each research team selected a group of 500 young women in the capital cities of their respective countries. The women represented various social classes with diverging backgrounds and pertaining to different societal groups. The young women were all between the ages of 18 and 24 years old and the surveys questioned them about their lives until they were 18 years old. They found that young girls are overwhelmingly physically, psychologically and sexually being abused in all three countries.

Other than the widespread prevalence of violence, some alarming information surfaces about the degree to which girls in the three African countries are physically and psychologically abused by people who are supposed to protect them. In Kenya and Ethiopia girls are primarily beaten by their mother (23.5 per cent and 45.2 per cent respectively) while in Uganda their male teachers (48.5 per cent) as well both of their parents carry out the beatings. Unsurprisingly, sexual assaults are usually perpetrated by boyfriends or occasional sexual partners. But what is astonishing is the prevalence of girlfriends who coerce the girls into prostitution; 48.6 per cent of girls who were forced into prostitution were coerced by a girlfriend.

Disturbingly, a large proportion of the girls surveyed considered the physical and humiliating abuse committed against them as acceptable. In Uganda 59 per cent of the girls who were beaten think that the explanation given to them was reasonable. However, the results from Ethiopia are encouraging. Three quarters of the girls there who were beaten, recognised the abuse as excessive and unreasonable.

Almost all of the girls in the three African countries are psychologically abused in one way or another (100 per cent in Ethiopia, 99.6 per cent in Uganda, 96.4 per cent in Kenya). They are shouted at and insulted mainly by their mother, though in Kenya their female teacher will also demean them continually. In Uganda their father will be primarily responsible for making sure they feel worthless.

More than half of these girls will watch as someone they know is severely beaten (51.2 per cent in Ethiopia, 55.2 per cent in Kenya, 63.4 per cent in Uganda) which is not very surprising since 70 per cent to 85 per cent of them have been beaten themselves. Alarmingly, a high percentage of these girls have watched as someone they know or a stranger is murdered (25.2 per cent in Kenya, 11.2 per cent in Uganda, 5.3 per cent in Ethiopia).

As the girls get older and enter puberty they begin to be sexually abused (95 per cent in Uganda, 85.2 per cent in Kenya and 68.5 per cent in Ethiopia). The girls grow up in an atmosphere of constant verbal sexual abuse while half of them experience indecent sexual touching by a sexual offender before they are 18 years old. Greatly troubling are the high instances of rape in these three African nations (42 per cent in Uganda, 29.7 per cent in Ethiopia and 26.3 per cent in Kenya). Instances of early marriage are still high in Kenya (24 per cent), while this practice appears to have diminished within the research population in Uganda (9.6 per cent) and Ethiopia (4.2 per cent).

In almost all types of abuse, very few girls turn to an official third party to report the violence. Many girls never talk about it at all. When they do, they tell their friends and family. Sometimes the girls do not know they are being abused. And in quite a few instances the girls will be punished after they have told someone about what happened. Occasions when the situation was resolved satisfactorily after an abuse has been reported are rare. In light of this evidence, it is imperative that girls are empowered to include themselves in the process and that their voices are heard. The study concludes that measures must be taken to create awareness about the consequences of violence; to establish mechanisms for effectively reporting violence; and to develop procedures for regularly and systematically collecting and analysing relevant data about not only those suffering from violence, but also those who commit violent acts themselves.

METHODOLOGY

The country surveys from Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda selected a group of 500 young women in the capital cities of their respective countries. The women were selected from various social classes with diverging backgrounds and pertaining to different societal groups. They were all between the ages of 18 and 24 years old and the surveys questioned them about their life throughout their childhood until they were 18 years old. Thus, the questionnaires were retrospective and did not ask them about their present situation and experiences. The aim was to assure greater validity of responses, since the young women were asked about their past abusive experiences rather than current ones; young girls currently abused might have been too frightened, ashamed or influenced by others to be able to answer validly.

Further, the study was carried out in line with research ethics that include the need to:

- give enough information and explanation to all research participants about the research (who it is for; what it is about; its purpose, objective and methodology; actual and potential benefits to various bodies, including the institutions carrying out the research, the research team, research participants and their related populations);
- inform all research participants that they have the right not to partake in or to withdraw from the research at any stage;
- secure the informed consent of all respondents who participate in the research;
- protect research participants' anonymity and confidentiality.

The surveys were based on a questionnaire developed by the International Scoiety for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) for an international study they plan to carry out on child abuse, which was adapted by The Africa Child Policy Forum to suit the study on violence against girls in Africa. The 46-page questionnaire is designed mainly to generate quantitative data, yet it does also include limited qualitative inquiries in the form of open-ended questions in order to record some of the individual personal experiences and observations of the respondents.

The English version of the questionnaire was coded and computerised using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. The questionnaires were then entered into the prepared database and subjected to a random data cleaning

process to check for errors in data entry. Finally, the data was summarised and analysed using frequencies and reports.

The surveys are divided into three main sections: Physical abuse, psychological abuse and sexual abuse. Each section looks at various types of abuses under their respective category. Each survey aims to find out which type of abuse is most prevalent within each category, how many times the abuse occurred, at what age and who carried it out. The study also tries to find out whether girls reported the abuses, and if so to whom and what happened as a consequence of their reporting.

CHAPTER TWO

AN OVERVIEW OF VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS IN ETHIOPIA, KENYA AND UGANDA

Violence against women and girls is a fundamental violation of human rights and should be viewed as a crime. It is important that societies acknowledge that certain forms of violence are experienced mainly by women, young women and girls. Some of these, such as rape, domestic violence and incest, exist in the majority of cultures. Others, such as domestic slavery and female genital mutilation (FGM), are related to specific contexts.

At the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, it was observed that at least 60 million girls who would otherwise be expected to be alive are 'missing' from various populations, predominantly in developing countries, as a result of sex-selective abortions, infanticide or neglect.[6]

2.1 Physical Violence Against Girls in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

2.1.a Introduction

This section provides an overview of the survey results from the three East African countries where it was carried out. It synthesises the main conclusions that were drawn in each of the countries about the nature, extent, causes, consequences and perpetrators of various forms of physical abuse committed against girls in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. The study examines physical abuse in schools, families and in the community. Physical abuse as it is documented in this report may consist of just one incident or it may happen repeatedly. In addition, physical

abuse is acknowledged in this report as involving deliberate use of force against a child in such a way that the child is either injured or is at risk of being injured. The various forms of physical abuse in this survey include beating, hitting, burning, kicking, hard labour, putting hot or bitter food or drinks in girls' mouths, being locked up, and being denied food.

2.1.b Physical Violence: Prevalence

In terms of prevalence of physical abuse, beating emerges as the most frequent form of violence, while giving hot or bitter drinks or food is the least common in the three countries as indicated in Figure 2.1. Among the three countries, beating is most prevalent in Uganda (85.8 per cent) followed by Kenya (80.8 per cent) and then Ethiopia (71.1 per cent). As indicated in Figure 2.1, punching or hitting the girl is the second most prevalent form of physical abuse with rates in Ethiopia and Kenya at 59.5 per cent. Compared to the other two countries, abuse in the form of being denied food is much more prevalent in Uganda (52.3 per cent). The same abuse in Ethiopia is minimal at 8.3 per cent. Respondents also reported substantial cases of abuse in the form of hard labour with more incidences in Uganda (47.8 per cent) and Kenya (43.8 per cent), and relatively fewer incidences in Ethiopia (28.6 per cent).

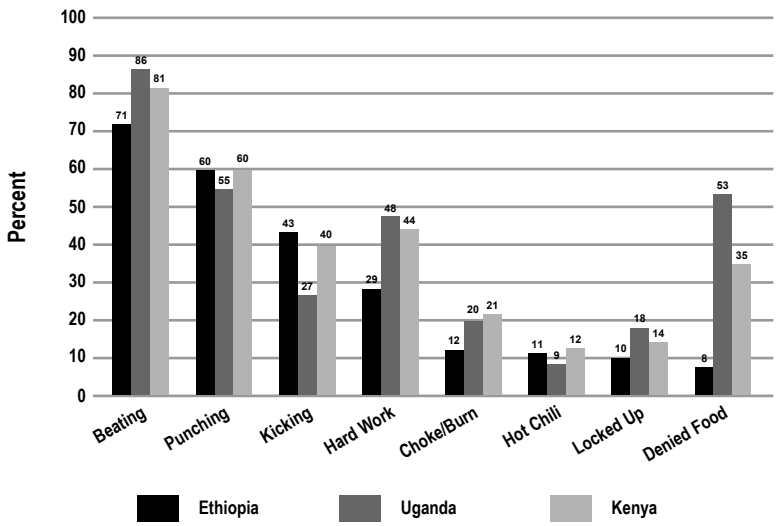

Figure 2.1 - Prevalence of Physical Abuse for Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

2.1.c Physical Violence: Frequency

Beyond the prevalence of the different forms of physical abuses, the survey also sought to discover the frequency of abuse in the three countries. The results are presented in Figure 2.2.

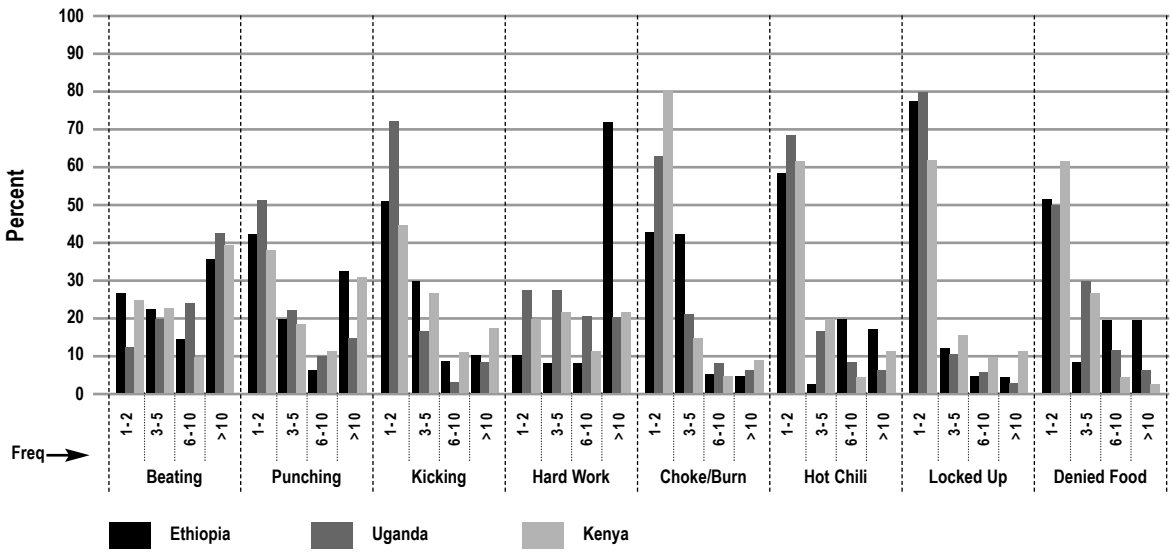

Figure 2.2 - Frequency of Physical Violence in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

In terms of frequency, most of these forms of physical abuse occur one or two times as shown in Figure 2.2. In all countries, girls who are beaten are more likely to experience the abuse more than 10 times than they are for any other type of physical violence. Hard labour is another frequent form of abuse in the three countries with more than 20 per cent of respondents being forced to work hard more than 10 times. One striking revelation is that hard labour is very frequent in Ethiopia as reported by 73.3 per cent of respondents at >10 frequency despite its low prevalence overall. Additionally, abuse in the form of punching or hitting is more frequent in Ethiopia and Kenya (with more than 30 per cent at >10 frequency) compared to Uganda.

The least frequent form of physical abuse is being locked up: most cases occur once or twice and very few at >10 frequency in the three countries.

2.1.d Physical Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

The survey examined and established the age at which the different forms of physical abuse occurred in all three countries. The results are presented in Figure 2.3.

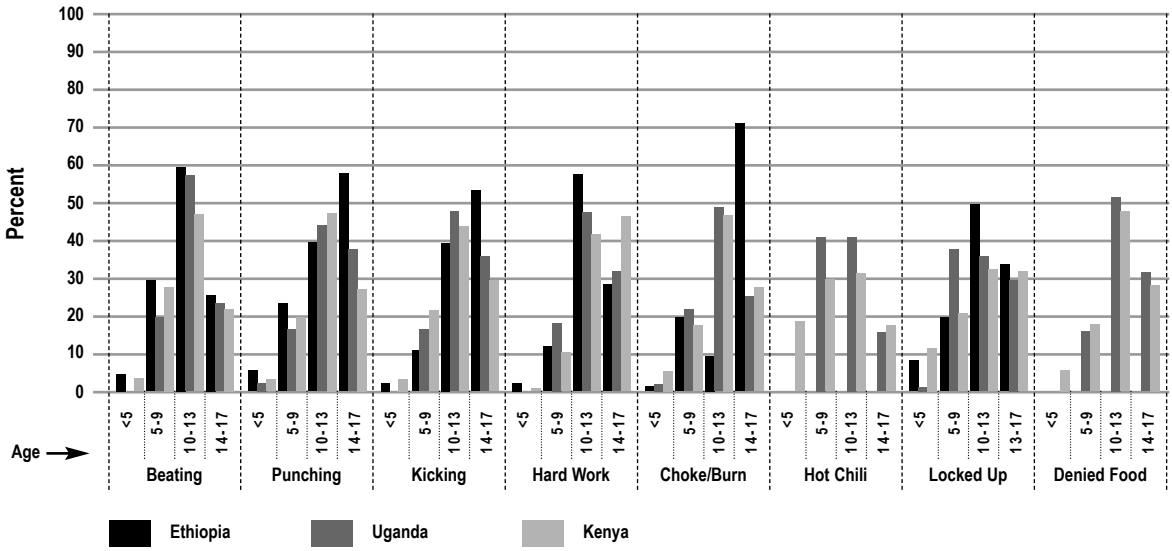

Figure 2.3 - Age at which Physical Violence Occurred in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

The figure shows that there is minimal abuse in the first five years of childhood. However, there are isolated cases reported at this age in Kenya and Ethiopia. For example, about 10 per cent of respondents in the two countries report being locked up before they were five years old. In Kenya, 19.1 per cent of respondents report having hot or bitter foods or drinks put in their mouth before they were five years old. Abuse at this age seems negligible in Uganda as seen in Figure 2.3.

Most physical abuses took place between the age of 10 and 13 years in all three countries. This may be because children in this age group tend to be more adventurous and likely to explore, and sometimes rebellious. Further, in most African traditional societies, disciplining young children might involve some form of physical maltreatment. The same approach has been used in schools to 'tame' the ambitions of this age group. The 'disciplining' usually constitutes some form of physical abuse.

Generally, the findings indicate that all the different forms of physical abuse have a similar pattern in that they are minimal before the age of five; increase at the 5-9 age group; escalate for the 10-13 age group; and drop at the 14-17 age group. Figure 2.3, illustrates this peak within the 10-13 age group that occurs for most of the abuses.

2.1.e Physical Violence: Perpetrators

Table 2.1 illustrates the main perpetrators of the various forms of physical abuse. In terms of abuse in the form of hitting or punching, mothers are the main perpetrators of violence in Ethiopia at 27.2 per cent, while in Kenya female teachers (16.1 per cent) take the lead. Abuse in the form of kicking is mainly performed by brothers in all three countries.

Violence in the form of beating is predominantly perpetrated by mothers in Ethiopia and Kenya accounting for 45.2 per cent and 23.5 per cent respectively. Male teachers are the main perpetrators of beating in Uganda as shown in Table 2.1. Further, mothers and stepmothers lock up their daughters more than any other member of the family or community. In Ethiopia, mothers are responsible for 30.6 per cent of cases, in Kenya 15.9 per cent, and in Uganda it is the stepmothers who predominate at 28.6 per cent.

PERPETRATORS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE IN ETHIOPIA, KENYA AND UGANDA

Hitting/punching			
Rank (top five)	**Ethiopia**	**Kenya**	**Uganda**
1	Mother (27.2%)	Teacher, female (16.1%)	Father (22.9%)
2	Brother (24.0%)	Mother (14.2%)	Mother (17.1%)
3	Father (21.5%)	Teacher, male (11.3%)	Brother (15.6%)
4	Teacher, male (16.5%)	No data available	Stepmother (14.5%)
5	Sister (12.2%)	No data available	Relative, female (13.1%)

Kicking			
Rank (top five)	**Ethiopia**	**Kenya**	**Uganda**
1	Brother (31.2%)	Brother (11.8%)	Brother (23.9%)
2	Other relative, female (21.3%)	Mother (10.6%)	Father (19.4%)
3	Father (13.9%)	Teacher, female (10.3%)	Boys in neighbourhood (9.0%)
4	Adult neighbour, female (13.9%)	No data available	Boyfriend (7.5%)
5	Friend, male (12.9%)	No data available	Boy of same age (7.5%)

Beating with an object			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (45.2%)	Mothers (23.5%)	Teacher, male (48.5%)
2	Father (39.1%)	Teacher, female (15.3%)	Father (43.4%)
3	Brother (23.9%)	Father (13.3%)	Mother (42.9%)
4	Teacher, male (15.5%)	Teacher, male (11.6%)	Female, relative (15.9%)
5	Other relative, female (15.2%)	No data available	Stepmother (14.0%)

Locking or tying up			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (30.6%)	Mother (15.9%)	Stepmother (28.6%)
2	Other relative, female (22.4%)	Father (12.1%)	Father (16.5%)
3	Father (18.4%)	No data available	Mother (13.2%)
4	Brother (12.2%)	No data available	Teacher, male (9.9%)
5	Sister (12.2%)	No data available	Brother (4.4%)

Putting spicy/bitter food or drink in girl's mouth			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (52.3%)	Mother (16.5%)	Stepmother (16.0%)
2	Stepmother (18.2%)	Other relative, female (12.8%)	Other relative, female (10.0%)
3	Father (11%)	Brother (11.3%)	Mother (5.0%)
4		No data available	Sister (5.0%)
5		No data available	Boy of same age (5.0%)

Choking/burning/stabbing			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Occasional sex partner, male (36.7%)	Brother (15.7%)	Stepmother (26%)
2	Neighbour, male (13.3%)	Mother (11.2%)	Other relative, female (16%)
3	Stranger, male (10.0%)	No data available	Brother (15%)
4	Mother (10.0%)	No data available	Father (8%)
5	No data available	No data available	Teacher, male (8%)

Denying food			
Rank (top five)	**Ethiopia**	**Kenya**	**Uganda**
1	Mother (41.7%)	Mother (44.3%)	Stepmother (27.3%)
2	Other relative, female (27.0%)	Other relative, female (13.6%)	Mother (26.1%)
3	Stepmother (25.0%)	No data available	Other relative, female (20.5%)
4	Father (11.1%)	No data available	Father (9.8%)
5	Foster mother (11.1%)	No data available	Sister (8.7%)

Forcing to carry out hard work			
Rank (top five)	**Ethiopia**	**Kenya**	**Uganda**
1	Mother (33.8%)	Mother (18.9%)	Other relative, female (31.0%)
2	Father (33.8%)	Teacher, female (16.9%)	Stepmother (25.1%)
3	Other relative, female (27.2%)	Father (11.4%)	Father (13.8%)
4	Sister (16.9%)	Teacher, male (10.7%)	Mother (13.4%)
5	Foster mother (12.5%)	Other relative, female (10.4%)	Teacher, male (11.7%)

Table 2.1: Perpetrators of Physical Violence

Abuse in the form of making the victim eat bitter food or take bitter drinks is largely carried out by mothers in Ethiopia and Kenya with 52.3 per cent and 16.5 per cent respectively. In Uganda, stepmothers are the leading perpetrators of this act at 16 per cent. In addition, abuse in the form of denying food is mainly performed by mothers in Ethiopia and Kenya accounting for 41.7 per cent and 44.3 per cent respectively. In Uganda, stepmothers again lead in carrying out this violent act at 27.3 per cent.

Mothers again are the main perpetrators in forcing hard labour on their daughters in Ethiopia and Kenya accounting for 33.8 per cent and 19 per cent respectively. It is female relatives that take the lead in handing out hard labour in Uganda at 31 per cent. Finally, maltreatment in the form of choking or burning is mainly perpetrated by male, occasional sex partners (36.7 per cent) in Ethiopia, by brothers (16 per cent) in Kenya and by stepmothers (25.5 per cent) in Uganda.

Generally, the leading perpetrators of physical abuse are found in the girls' households and it is principally mothers and stepmothers that carry out these acts of abuse.

2.1.f Physical Violence: Effects and Impact

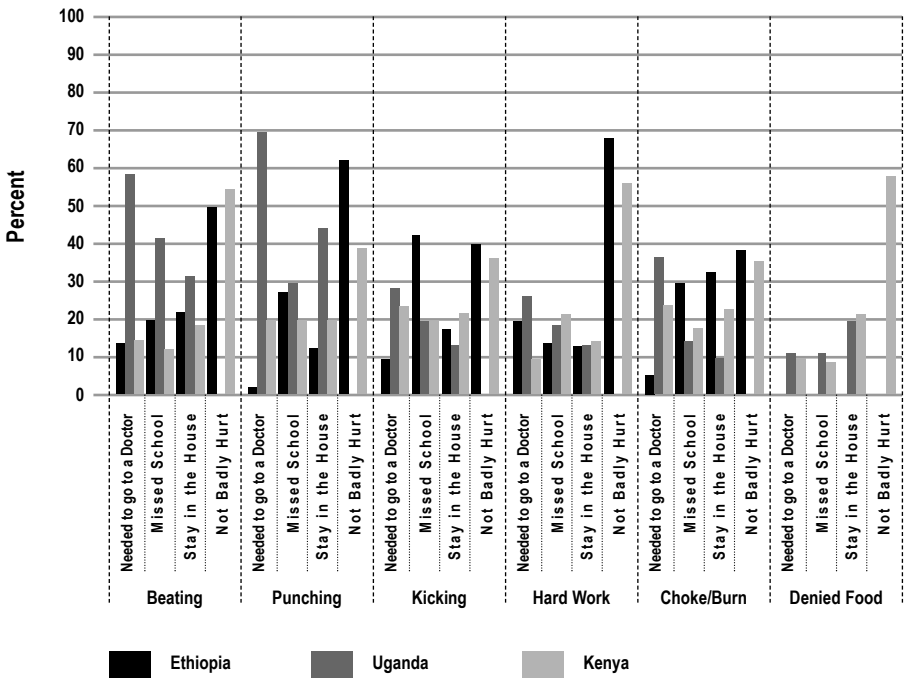

Figure 2.4 - Impact of Physical Abuse for Girls in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

Figure 2.4 indicates that physical maltreatment is more severe in Uganda as indicated by the high number of victims who required medical attention after the abuse. This is closely followed by Kenya where there also was found to be a large number of girls who needed medical attention for the injuries inflicted by abuse. Being forced to work hard and being denied food has the lowest impact on the health and daily routine of the victims in all the countries as shown in Figure 2.4.

2.1.e Physical Violence: Perpetrators

Survey findings indicate that there was more reporting of physical abuse in Kenya than in the other two countries, followed by Ethiopia, and then Uganda. Indeed, in Kenya and Ethiopia more than half the respondents reported their abuse. In Ethiopia, however, only 43.8 per cent of the total respondents reported being forced into hard labour. Reporting in Uganda is well below average in most of the abuses as shown in Table 2.2.

Proportion of cases of abuse reported								
	Hit / Punched	Kicked	Beaten	Locked or tied up	Spicy / bitter food or drink put in mouth	Choked / burned / stabbed	Denied food	Forced to carryout hard work
Uganda	41.0%	No data available	32.0%	No data available	No data available	No data available	42.8%	46.0%
Kenya	83.6%	80.2%	64.7%	70.1%	66.2%	74.8%	54.7%	53.7%
Ethiopia	71.2%	59.8%	53.7%	58.3%	51.2%	79.3%	62.9%	43.8%

Table 2.2 - Trends in Reporting Case of Physical Violence

The survey went a step further to establish what happened after the abuses were reported, looking at whether respondents are satisfied with the way the incidences were handled. The findings are shown in Figure 2.6. In all three of the countries most respondents (20 per cent to 64 per cent) who experienced abuse stated that nothing happened after reporting their ill-treatment. This seems to be more true of Ethiopia and Kenya than of Uganda. In some cases, where action was taken, the respondents said they were dissatisfied with the outcome.

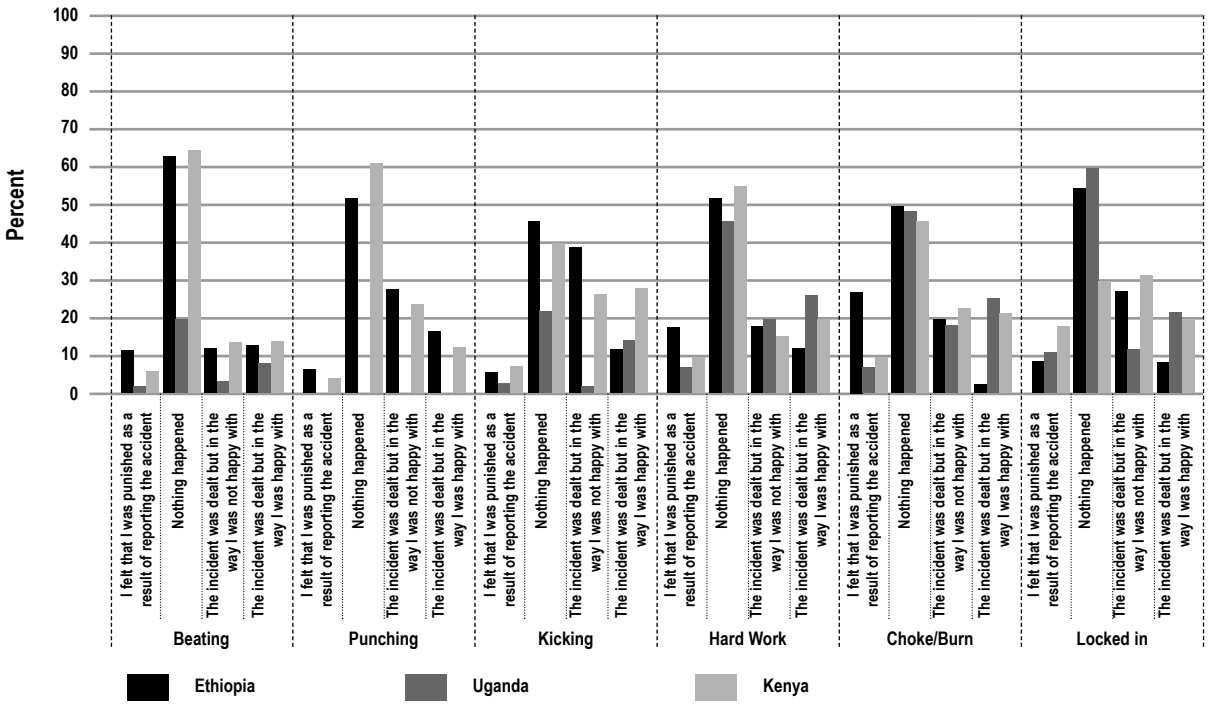

Figure 2.6 - Consequences of Reporting

2.2 Psychological Violence Against Girls in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

2.2.a Psychological Violence: Introduction

Psychological abuse is one of the most common forms of violence against girls, but it can go unnoticed as there is no physical evidence of its occurrence. Consequently, proving psychological abuse has taken place is very difficult. There are various forms of psychological abuse documented in this report including: verbal threats ranging from abandonment to physical harm; insults and causing embarrassment in front of others; shouting or glaring; being made to use force against another human being; and being forced to witness a beating, or worse, the killing of another. This section looks at the type, prevalence and perpetrators of psychological abuse.

2.2.b Psychological Violence: Prevalence

In this study the most prevalent form of psychological abuse across all three study sites is being shouted or glared at, ranging from 67.6 per cent in Ethiopia to 88.8 per cent in Uganda. The least prevalent act of psychological abuse is being forced to use a gun on another person with a rate of 1.1 per cent in Kenya and 1.2 per cent in Ethiopia.

In addition, abuse in the form of insults was widely reported in all three countries with Uganda at 76.2 per cent, Kenya at 70 per cent and Ethiopia at 71.5 per cent. Further, witnessing the severe beating of a known person also is quite high with Uganda at 63.4 per cent, Kenya at 55.2 per cent and Ethiopia at 50.1 per cent. Another prevalent form of psychological abuse is being embarrassed in the presence of other people. This seems to be more prevalent in Uganda and Kenya than in Ethiopia as shown in Figure 2.7.

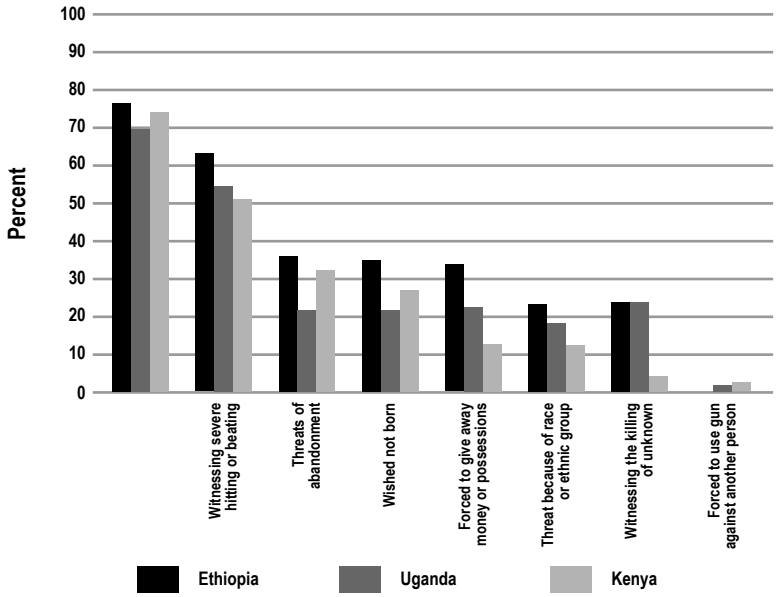

Figure 2.7 - Prevalence of Different Forms of Psychological Abuse

2.2.c Psychological Violence: Frequency

The frequency of psychological abuse fluctuates depending on its type as shown in Table 2.8. The most frequent abuse across all three countries was found to be insulting at an average of 51.7 per cent followed by being shouted at with a prevalence of 45.5 per cent. Looking at the individual countries, abuse in the form of insults is more frequent in Ethiopia at 63.8 per cent on the >10 frequency while Kenya is at 47.3 per cent and Uganda at 43.6 per cent.

	1 OR 2 TIMES			3-5 TIMES			6-10 TIMES			MORE THAN 10 TIMES		
FORM OF ABUSE	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
Embarrassed in front of others	13.2%	35.9%	39.9%	28.9%	24.5%	33.1%	13.8%	15.5%	13.5%	44.0%	24.1%	13.5%
Forced to give away money or possessions	23.6%	27.9%	56.5%	61.1%	34.3%	23.2%	8.3%	15.2%	10.7%	6.9%	22.9%	9.5%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	32.3%	34.8%	41.0%	25.8%	30.3%	23.8%	12.9%	7.9%	4.9%	29.0%	27.0%	30.3%
Family members expressed wish that girl had not been born	26.4%	33.3%	49.7%	21.7%	27.9%	24.6%	14.7%	11.7%	8.4%	37.2%	27.0%	17.3%
Insulted	12.8%	15.6%	13.9%	14.5%	22.5%	26.2%	8.8%	14.6%	16.3%	63.8%	47.3%	43.6%
Shouted or glared at	21.1%	15.2%	13.3%	17.5%	21.5%	22.7%	14.2%	15.7%	21.8%	47.1%	47.5%	42.3%
Ignored	27.2%	18.8%	28.6%	26.6%	28.2%	28.6%	8.1%	16.3%	11.3%	38.2%	36.6%	31.5
Threatened with abandonment	28.4%	44.8%	29%	27.7%	20.0%	24.2%	20.0%	14.3%	12.4%	23.9%	21.0%	8.4%
Witnessed a severe beating	28.5%	26.2%	55.1%	24.0%	27.7%	33.8%	28.9%	15.8%	17.0%	18.6%	30.4%	19.2%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	77.3%	59.6%	89.3%	9.1%	30.8%	1.8%	9.1%	3.8%	1.8%	4.5%	5.8%	5.4%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	89.5%	81.0%	89.0%	0.0%	14.7%	7.1%	5.3%	1.7%	2.4%	5.3%	2.6%	1.6%
Made to use physical force against another person	63.8%	52.0%	54.5%	2.1%	32.0%	24.0%	12.8%	4.0%	11.6%	21.3%	12.0%	9.9%
Forced to use a gun against another person	25.0%	50.0%	Data not available	25.0%	16.7%	Data not available	25.0%	16.7%	Data not available	25.0%	16.7%	Data not available
Threatened with physical harm or death	67.2%	60.9%	61.5%	20.3%	19.1%	22.4%	3.1%	6.1%	5.7%	9.4%	13.9%	9.9%

Table 2.3 - Frequency of Psychological Abuse in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

Violent forms of psychological abuse such as being forced to use a gun, witnessing the killing of a stranger and witnessing the killing of a known person are not very frequent with most girls who experience such abuses being subjected to them only once or twice. Further, being made to use physical force against others was reported to have occurred between one and two times by 54.5 per cent of respondents in Uganda, 63.8 per cent in Ethiopia and 52 per cent in Kenya.

2.2.d Psychological Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Survey findings indicate that there is minimal psychological abuse below the age of five years. However, there is a significant prevalence of severe psychological abuse in this age group in the case of Ethiopia. More than 10 per cent of abuse in the form of witnessing the severe beating of persons close to the victim and threats of physical harm are experienced by girls in this age group.

Generally, psychological abuse is at its highest between the ages of 14 and 17 years. In this age group, the most prevalent forms of abuse are being threatened with abandonment or thrown out of home as well as personal threats of physical harm. Respondents receiving threats of abandonment were reported at 67.5 per cent in Ethiopia, 61.8 per cent in Uganda and 53.7 per cent in Kenya. Further, threats of physical harm are highest in Uganda at 59.9 per cent, followed by Kenya at 57.1 per cent and Ethiopia at 43.2 per cent as indicated in Figure 2.8.

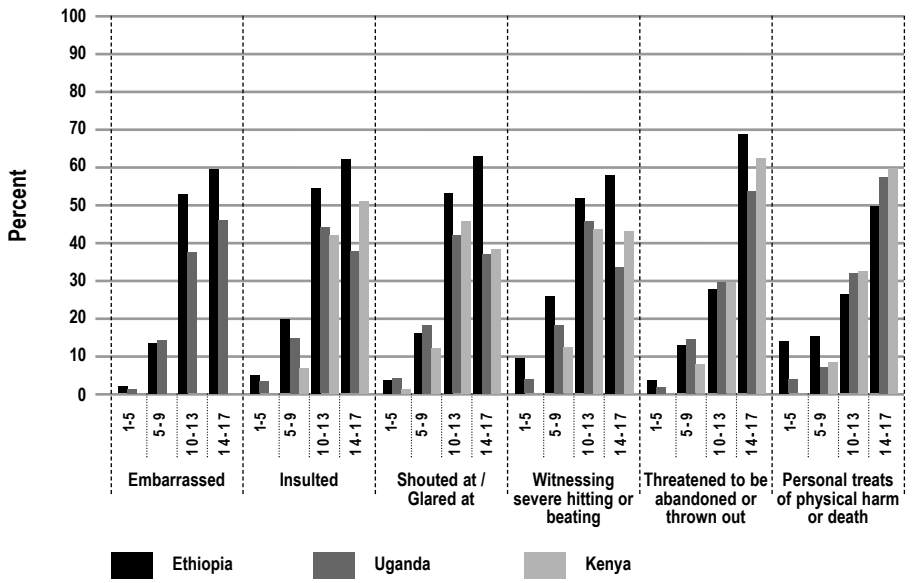

Figure 2.8 - Age at which Psychological Abuse Occurred

Figure 2.8 illustrates that psychological abuse peaks between the ages of 14 and 17 years in Ethiopia and Uganda. However, a number of abuses such as insulting, glaring and witnessing a severe beating are most prevalent between the ages of 10 and 13 years in Kenya.

2.2.e Psychological Violence: Perpetrators

The study indicates that psychological abuses across the three East African countries generally are committed by very close family members. Taking the lead in insulting their daughters across the three countries are mothers at 34.4 per cent in Ethiopia, 31.5 per cent in Uganda and 17.8 per cent in Kenya. They are closely followed by fathers, older siblings and female relatives. The most alarming result is from Ethiopia where mothers ranked as the leading perpetrators in almost all forms of psychological abuse as shown in Table 2.4.

Stepmothers and other relatives also ranked highly as perpetrators of psychological abuse. In Uganda, stepmothers ranked highest as perpetrators of abuse in the form of expressing the wish the girl had not been born or was dead at 33.5 per cent and threatening with abandonment at 28.7 per cent. Other relatives also are reported as perpetrators, though to a lesser degree. For example, on abuse in the form of family members wishing you were not born or dead, the findings indicated that female relatives were responsible for 11.8 per cent of cases in Ethiopia, 16.8 per cent in Kenya and 27.9 per cent in Uganda.

Strangers featured minimally as perpetrators of psychological abuse. Both male and female teachers are ranked as the second highest perpetrators of embarrassing girls across all three countries with Ethiopia at 19 per cent, Kenya at 23 per cent and Uganda at 18 per cent. Other than teachers, perpetrators outside the family are boyfriends, girlfriends and occasional male sex partners. In Kenya and Ethiopia, 29 per cent and 16 per cent of respondents respectively indicate that they were forced to run way from home by either their boyfriends or occasional male sex partners

MOST COMMON PERPETRATORS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE IN ETHIOPIA, KENYA AND UGANDA

Embarrassed in front of others			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Other relative, female (22.6%)	Teacher, female (13.5%)	Other relative, female (19.0%)
2	Teacher, male (18.9%)	Mother (7.7%)	Teacher, male (18.0%)
3	Brother (15.7%)	Girl at school (5.6%)	Stepmother (15.8%)
4	Mother (13.8%)	Father (5.3%)	Mother (11.9%)
5	Adult neighbour, female (13.2%)		Father (11.6%)

Insulted			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (45.8%)	Teacher, female (9.8%)	Father (20.5%)
2	Father (35.3%)	Mother (7.4%)	Mother (20.2%)
3	Brother (31.3%)	Teacher, male (7.1%)	Stepmother (19.7%)
4	Sister (29.9%)	Older girl at school (6.9%)	Other relative, female (19.5%)
5	Girlfriend (23.3%)	Girl of same age at school (5.9%)	Sister (16.5%)

Shouted or glared at			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (42.6%)	Mother (17.8%)	Mother (35.6%)
2	Father (36.3%)	Teacher, female (11.4%)	Father (31.1%)
3	Brother (31.4%)	Father (9.1%)	Female, relative (23.0%)
4	Other relative, female (18.6%)	Teacher, male (8.7%)	Stepmother (18.9%)
5	Sister (16.5%)	Sister (7.1%)	Teacher, female (18.7%)

Ignored			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (34.4%)	Mother (17.8%)	Mother (31.5%)
2	Father (30.9%)	Father (10.3%)	Father (27.3%)
3	Brother (27.1%)	Sister (7.3%)	Stepmother (19.7%)
4	Sister (19.1%)	Other relative, female (6.1%)	Other relative, female (13.9%)
5	Other relative, female (10.5%)	Boyfriend (5.9%)	Sister (10.3%)

Threatened with Abandonment			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (49.0%)	Mother (24.5%)	Stepmother (28.7%)
2	Father (22.2%)	Father (17.4%)	Stepfather (23.6%)
3	Other relative, female (15.2%)	Other relative, female (13.5%)	Father (12.3%)
4	Foster mother (14.6%)	Sister (9.7%)	Other relative, male (11.8%)
5	No data available	Brother (9.7%)	Mother (11.8%)

Forced to leave home before 18			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (25.7%)	Mother (23.5%)	Father (28.1%)
2	Father (18.8%)	Father (19.1%)	Stepmother (24.6%)
3	Other relative, female (18%)	Stepmother (13.9%)	Other relative, female (21.9%)
4	Bother (17.5%)	Brother (8.7%)	Mother (21.1%)
5	No data available	Relative, female (8.7%)	No data available

Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Girlfriend (20.5%)	Boyfriend (8.7%)	Other relative, female (17.2%)
2	Mother (14.8%)	Father (7.2%)	Other relative, male (11.5%)
3	Stepmother (10.2%)	Mother (5.3%)	Father (11%)
4	Data not available	Boy of same age (5.3%)	No data available
5	Data not available	Teacher, female (5.3%)	No data available

Family members expressed wish that girl had not been born			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Mother (37.0%)	Mother (21.0%)	Stepmother (33.5%)
2	Father (14.3%)	Other relative, female (16.8%)	Other relative, female (27.9%)
3	Other relative, female (11.8%)	Father (10.8%)	Other relative, female (15.6%)
4	Data not available	Relative, male (8.4%)	Sister (12.3%)
5	Data not available	Stepmother (7.8%)	Mother (11.2%)

2.3 Sexual Violence Against Girls in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

2.3.a Sexual Violence: Introduction

All types of sexual violence including verbal abuse, rape, sexual harassment, exploitation, trafficking, and harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) are committed against the girls at all of the study sites. Sexual abuse in this study comprises use of vulgar language or someone speaking to a girl in a sexual way about her body; someone exposing their genitalia to the targeted woman; being made to look at sexual scenes in magazines, photos, videos, or on the internet (pornography); being made to pose partly dressed or naked or made to do sexual acts in public; being indecently sexually touched; being made to touch others' genitals with the mouth (oral sex); being made to touch other people's genitals with the hand; and being forced to have sexual intercourse with others against one's will (rape). This section examines the age of the girls who experience these sexual acts as well as their prevalence and the perpetrators. In addition, this section looks specifically at sexual trafficking and FGM. All the sexual acts discussed have happened to children and young girls before the age of 18 years, against their will.

2.3.b Sexual Violence: Prevalence

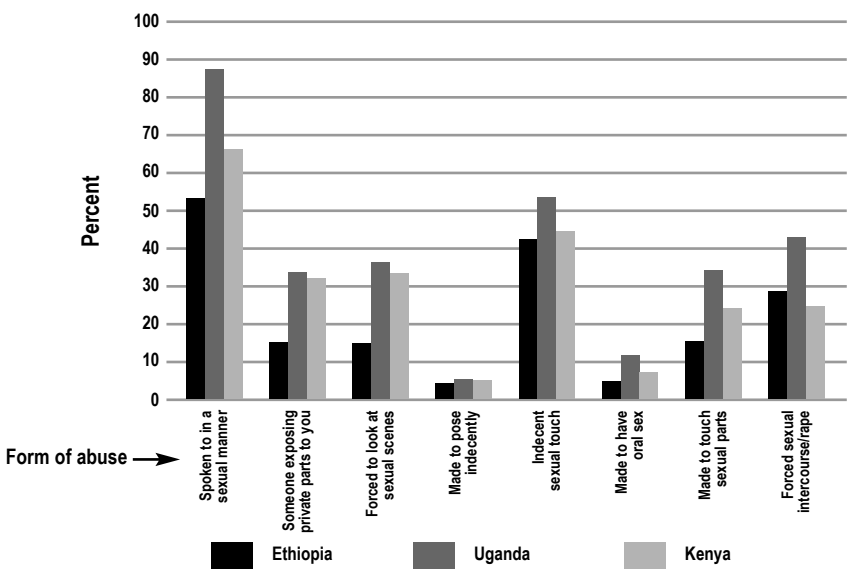

Figure 2.9 – Prevalence of Sexual Abuse in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

The study revealed that different forms of sexual abuse occur with differing frequencies as shown in Figure 2.9.

The most prevalent form of sexual abuse is that which is verbal where girls are spoken to in a sexual manner. The least prevalent is being made to pose sexually. These rates cut across all three countries. The second most prevalent type of abuse is indecent sexual touching with 52.6 per cent of respondents in Uganda reporting cases, 43.6 per cent in Kenya and 41.8 per cent in Ethiopia.

One striking revelation is that rape is the third most prevalent type of abuse with Uganda leading at 42.6 per cent, while Kenya and Ethiopia have rates of 26.3 per cent and 29.7 per cent respectively.

In all the eight forms of abuse studied, Uganda stands out with the highest prevalence rates, followed by Kenya and Ethiopia as shown in Figure 2.9.

2.3.c Sexual Violence: Frequency

The survey sought to investigate the frequency of the aforementioned forms of sexual abuse. The findings are presented in Figure 2.8.

The findings indicate that most of the abuses occur once or twice with the exception of being spoken to in a sexual manner where most girls who have experienced such abuse have been subjected to it more than 10 times.

This is the most frequent form of sexual abuse in Kenya at 41.8 per cent and in Ethiopia at 26.8 per cent at the >10 frequency.

Sexual abuse in the form of being forced to pose indecently is more frequent in Ethiopia than in the other two countries. At the >10 frequency, Ethiopia registered 43.8 per cent, Kenya 15.4 per cent and Uganda 3.6 per cent. Further, forced oral sex is more frequent in Ethiopia (30.4 per cent) and Kenya (20.5 per cent) than in Uganda (5.4 per cent) at the >10 frequency. Rape is also more frequent in the two countries than in Uganda at the >10 frequency as shown in Figure 2.8.

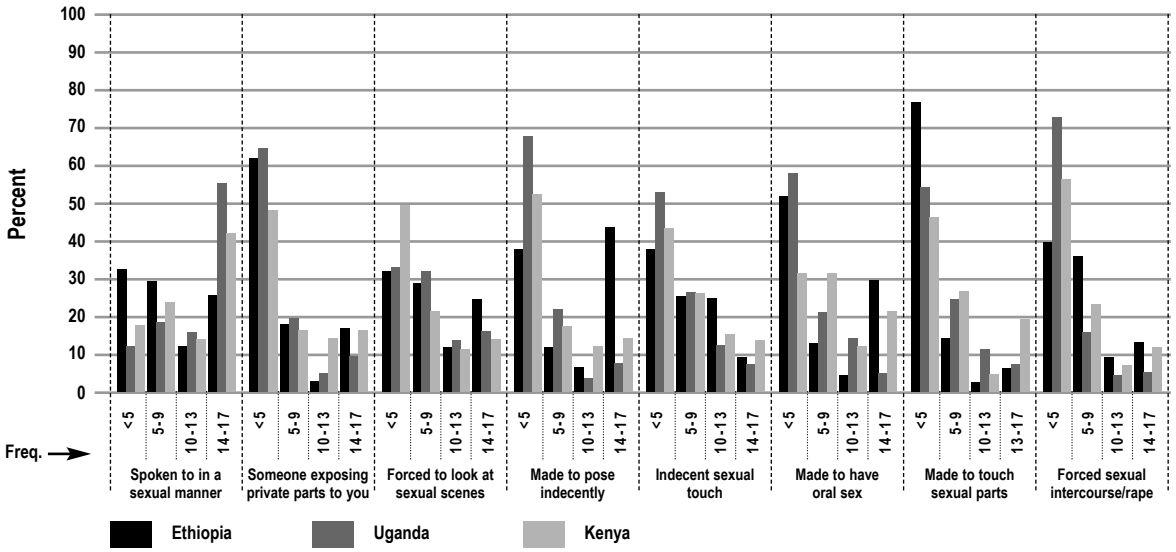

Figure 2.8 – Frequency of Sexual Abuse in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

2.3.d Sexual Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Survey findings indicate that all the forms of abuse investigated are more prevalent between the ages of 14 and 17 in all of the study sites. This is shown in Figure 2.9 below.

Generally, there are very few cases of sexual violence below the age of five years in Uganda and Kenya. However, there are significant cases of severe types of sexual abuse at this age in Ethiopia particularly in the form of being made to pose indecently (17.6 per cent) and rape (5.8 per cent). Within the 5-9 years age group, sexual abuse is more prevalent in Kenya than in the other two countries. All forms of abuse significantly increase between the age of 10 and 13 years and escalate to very high levels within the 14 to17 age group as shown in Figure 2.9.

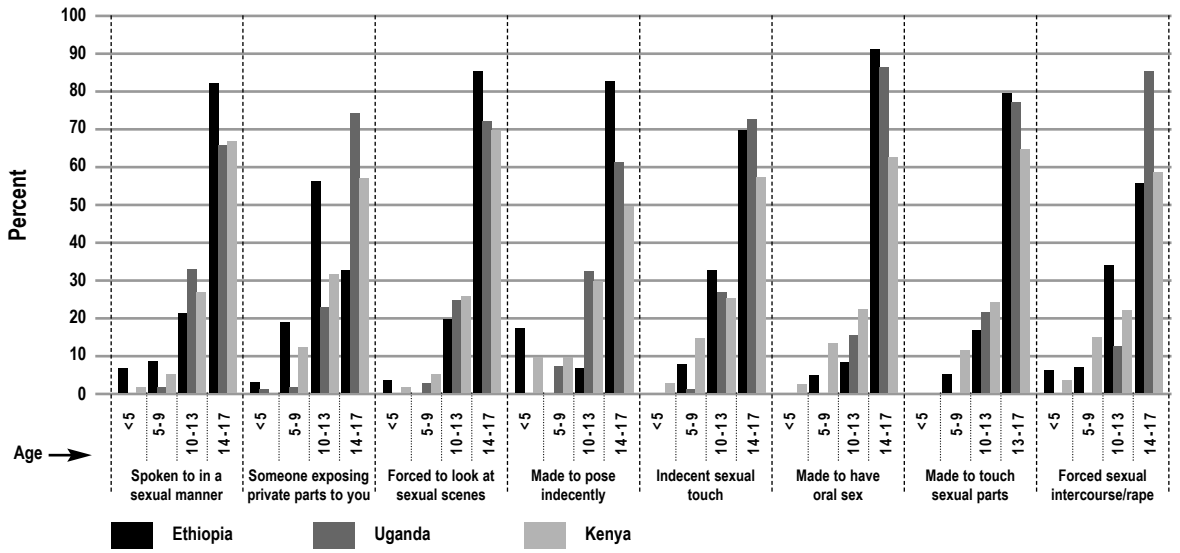

Figure 2.9 - Age at which Psychological Abuse Occurred

2.3.e Sexual Violence: Perpetrators

Survey results indicate that boyfriends are the main perpetrators of most types of sexual abuse in all the countries (see Table 2.5). Sexual abuse in the form of being spoken to in a sexual manner is predominantly perpetrated by male friends in the case of Ethiopia and Kenya at 31 per cent and 20 per cent respectively, while male adult neighbours are the main perpetrators in Uganda at 48 per cent.

Verbally abused			
Rank (top five)	**Ethiopia**	**Kenya**	**Uganda**
1	Friend, male (31.0%)	Friend, male (19.6%)	Adult neighbour, male (48.2%)
2	Older boy at school (22.2%)	Stranger, male (17.1%)	Stranger, male (48.0%)
3	Boy of same age at school (16.3%)	Adult neighbour, male (13.1%)	Boyfriend (39.4%)
4	Stranger, male (13.5%)	Data not available	Older child at school (27.9%)
5	Girlfriend (12.7%)	Data not available	Teacher, male (25.7%)

Abuser exposed genitalia to girl			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Adult neighbour, male (24.3%)	Friend, male (16.9%)	Boyfriend (22.5%)
2	Friend, male (21.6%)	Stranger, male (15.2%)	Adult neighbour, male (15.0%)
3	Stranger, male (18.8%)	Adult neighbour, male (12.2%)	Stranger, male (13.1%)
4	Girlfriend (13.5%)	Data not available	Data not available
5	Foster father (13.5%)	Data not available	Data not available

Forced to look at pornography			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Friend, male (38.1%)	Friend, male (20.9%)	Boyfriend (22.2%)
2	Girlfriend (27.0%)	Adult neighbour, female (12.1%)	Girlfriend (20.1%)
3	Brother (15.9%)	Girlfriend (10.0%)	Child of same age at school, undisclosed gender (17.5%)
4	Older boy at school (14.3%)	Data not available	Boy of same age at school (10.6%)
5	Adult neighbour, male (12.7%)	Data not available	Data not available

Forced to pose sexually			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Friend, male (76.5%)	Friend, male (22.2%)	Occasional sexual partner (28.6%)
2	Child neighbour, male (41.2%)	Stranger, male (14.7%)	Mother (14.3%)
3	Girlfriend (11.8%)	Adult neighbour, male (11.1%)	Stepmother (10.7%)
4	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available
5	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available

Indecent sexual touching			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Friend, male (35.4%)	Friend, male (22%)	Boyfriend (31.2%)
2	Adult neighbour, male (25.3%)	Stranger, male (14.4%)	Stranger, male (26.6%)
3	Older boy at school (14.1%)	Adult neighbour, male (11.1%)	Older child at school (11.0%)
4	Stranger, male (13.1%)	Data not available	Data not available
5	Boy of same age at school (10.1%)	Data not available	Data not available

Forced to perform oral sex			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Friend, male (52.0%)	Friend, male (28.6%)	Boyfriend (46.4%)
2	Teacher, male (28.0%)	Adult neighbour, male (14.3%)	Occasional sexual partner (23.2%)
3	Girlfriend (24.0%)	Data not available	Stranger, male (12.5%)
4	Stranger, male (20.0%)	Data not available	Data not available
5	Occasional sexual partner, male (16.0%)	Data not available	Data not available

Forced to touch abuser's genitalia			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Friend, male (53.7%)	Friend, male (34.8%)	Boyfriend (44.4%)
2	Adult neighbour, male (14.6%)	Adult neighbour, male (11.2%)	Occasional sexual partner (15.4%)
3	Occasional sexual partner, male (12.2%)	Data not available	Adult neighbour, male (13.6%)
4	Boy of same age at school (12.2%)	Data not available	Teacher, male (11.2%)
5	Data not available	Data not available	Male employer or co-worker (10.1%)

Raped			
Rank (top five)	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1	Friend, male (34.0%)	Friend, male (30.5%)	Boyfriend (32.4%)
2	Other relative, male (23.1%)	Adult neighbour, male (14.4%)	Adult neighbour, male (14.6%)
3	Adult neighbour, male (10.9%)	Stranger, male (10.0%)	Occasional sexual partner (11.7%)
4	Boy of same age at school (10.2%)	Data not available	Teacher, male (10.3%)
5	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available

Table 2.5 – Perpetrators of Sexual Abuse

Surprisingly, girlfriends are second to boyfriends or male friends, in carrying out acts of sexual abuse by forcing respondents to look at sexual scenes in Ethiopia (27 per cent) and Uganda (20.1 per cent). Other perpetrators of sexual abuse across the three countries are adult male neighbours, male strangers, male relatives, occasional sex partners, and even teachers.

2.4 Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices (HTPs)

2.4.a Sexual Violence: Prevalence of Trafficking for Sexual Purposes

The survey establishes that an alarming number of girls are trafficked for sexual purposes. In Uganda, 10.2 per cent of respondents were trafficked. The rate in Ethiopia is 9.3 per cent and 5.2 per cent in Kenya.

Most cases of sexual trafficking in Kenya and Uganda happen to girls between the ages of 14 and 17 years old as shown in the Table 2.6.

Age when sexual trafficking occurred	Kenya	Ethiopia
Before age 5	0.0%	0.0%
Between ages 5 and 9	4.3%	2.0%
Between ages 10 and 13	17.4%	12.0%
Between ages 14 and 17	78.3%	86.0%

Table 2.6 - Age Groups most Vulnerable to Sexual Trafficking

However, of these girls in Kenya and Uganda, most were trafficked for sexual purposes only once or twice as shown in Table 5.

How often trafficked for sexual purposes	Kenya	Ethiopia
1 or 2 times	63.6%	57.0%
3-5 times	13.6%	29.0%
6-10 times	4.5%	6.0%
More than 10 times	18.2%	8.0%

Table 2.7 - Frequency of Sexual Trafficking

Most of the respondents from Kenya and Uganda who had been trafficked for sexual reasons were able to return home within six months. However, 74 per cent of those trafficked in Ethiopia were unable to return home for more than three years as seen in Table 2.8.

How long girls trafficked remained away from home	Kenya	Uganda	Ethiopia
Less than 6 months	50.0%	71.0%	10.0%
Between 6 months and 1 year	16.7%	14.0%	9.0%
1-3 years	12.5%	10.0%	7.0%
More than 3 years	20.8%	6.0%	74.0%

Table 2.8 - Period of Time before Girls Returned to their Families

Despite strong evidence indicating the existence of sexual trafficking, the number of reported cases remains low in Kenya (23.8 per cent) and Ethiopia (16.4 per cent) as shown in Table 7. In contrast, reporting is relatively high Uganda (63 per cent).

Proportion of girls who reported the abuse	
Uganda	63.0%
Kenya	23.8%
Ethiopia	16.4%

Table 2.9 - Reporting of Sexual Trafficking

Crosscutting all three countries, most cases of the abuse were reported either to family members such as a brother or sister, to close relatives such as an aunt or grandmother, and to female friends (see Table 2.10). However, reporting of such cases to the police is low across all countries with Ethiopia having the lowest rate (1.5 per cent) followed by Uganda at 4 per cent. Kenya has the highest police-reporting rate at 21.1 per cent. Reporting to a brother or sister is relatively high in the three countries with rates of 36.9 per cent Ethiopia, 15.8 per cent in Kenya and 16 per cent in Uganda.

Rank	Ethiopia	Kenya	Uganda
1st	Brother or sister (36.9%)	Police (21.1%)	Friend, female (36.0%)
2nd	Other relative such as grandparent, aunt or uncle, cousin (15.4%)	Brother or sister (15.8%)	Brother or sister (16.0%)
3rd	Friend, female (15.4%)	Mother/step-mother/adoptive mother (10.5%)	Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother (13.0%)
4th	Father/step-father/adoptive father (10.8%)	Friend, female (10.5%)	Boyfriend/Girlfriend (7.0%)
5th	Friend, male (7.7%)	Father/step-father/adoptive father (5.3%)	Other relative such as grandparent, aunt or uncle, cousin (7.0%)
6th	Mother/step-mother/adoptive mother (6.2%)	Counsellor (5.3%)	Adult neighbour (6.0%)
7th	Boy/girlfriend (4.6%)	Religious leader (5.3%)	Father/stepfather/adoptive father (4.0%)
8th	Police (1.5%)	Other relative such as grandparent, aunt/uncle, cousin (5.3%)	Police (4.0%)
9th	Religious leader (1.5%)	Employer or co-worker (5.3%)	Friend, male (2.0%)
10th		Children at school (5.3%)	Parent of friend (2.0%)
11th		Friend, male (5.3%)	Counsellor (2.0%)
12th		Parent of a friend (5.3%)	Religious leader (2.0%)
13th			Employer or co-worker (2.0%)

Table 2.10 - Person to whom the Abuse was Reported

2.4.b Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices: Forced Prostitution

Cases of forced prostitution were found to be relatively low in all three countries as indicated in Table 2.11.

Percentage of girls forced into prostitution	
Uganda	7.4%
Kenya	7.0%
Ethiopia	5.7%

Table 2.11 - Prevalence of forced prostitution

In Ethiopia, the main perpetrators of forced prostitution are occasional sex partners accounting for 59.5 per cent. In Kenya, adult female neighbours are the main perpetrators accounting for 15.4 per cent while girlfriends lead in Uganda with a staggering 49 per cent as shown in Table 2.12.

Rank	Kenya	Uganda
1st	Adult neighbour, female (15.4%)	Girlfriend (49.0%)
2nd	Girlfriend (7.7%)	Adult neighbour (9.0%)
3rd	Boyfriend (7.7%)	Sister (6.0%)
4th	Policeman, soldier or security officer, male (7.7%)	Child of same age (6.0%)
5th	Mother (5.1%)	Children in neighbourhood (6.0%)
6th	Father (5.1%)	Stranger, female (6.0%)
7th	Other relative, male (5.1%)	Male employer or co-worker (6.0%)
8th	Male employer or co-worker (5.1%)	Mother (3.0%)
9th		Occasional sexual partner (3.0%)
10th		Older child at school (3.0%)

Table 2.12 - Perpetrators of Forced Prostitution

2.4.b Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The practice of FGM is more prevalent in Ethiopia than in Kenya. In Kenya and Ethiopia 11.2 per cent and 42.2 per cent respectively of the girls questioned had undergone female genital mutilation.

Further, in Kenya, FGM is performed more frequently between the age of 10 to 13 years (54.2 per cent) compared to Ethiopia where the practice of FGM is performed at an early stage before the age of five years (73.5 per cent) as shown in the Table 2.13.

Age when FGM was carried out	Kenya	Ethiopia
Before 5 yrs	6.3%	73.5%
Between ages 5 and 9	16.7%	19.4%
Between ages 10 and 13	54.2%	3.0%
Between ages 14 and 17	22.9%	4.1%

Table 2.13: Age at which FGM is Performed

In Ethiopia, 27.4 per cent of girls who undergo FGM experience health problems and 21.7 per cent of respondents have similar experiences in Kenya. Common problems cited include:

- Extreme pain during sexual intercourse;
- Vaginal infection;
- Loss of sexual interest;
- Obstructed labour.

CHAPTER THREE

VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS IN ETHIOPIA

The survey conducted in Ethiopia concluded that in an average group of ten girls, nine will be physically abused, seven sexually abused and all will be made to feel inferior having suffered repeated psychological abuse.

Most physical and psychological violence against these Ethiopian girls is perpetrated within their own homes. In the majority of cases it is their mothers who abuse them most.

As the girls grow up, many are sexually abused, usually by male friends or acquaintances. Disturbingly however, in 35 per cent of the reported cases of rape, young girls say it was committed by one of their own male relatives, including either their father or brother. According to the survey results, three out of 10 girls in Ethiopia will be raped at least once before they are 18 years old.

The possibility of a continuing cycle of abuse passed on from mother to daughter is deeply troubling. Yet a glimmer of hope can be seen in the fact that over 70 per cent of the girls said they found the justification given for their abuse completely unreasonable. However, when these Ethiopian girls made an effort to report their abuse they saw a satisfactory outcome resulting from their testimonies very rarely.

3.1 Survey Population in Ethiopia

The Ethiopian research team surveyed 600 young women aged 18 to 24 years old. They discarded 115 surveys due to gross inconsistencies or incomplete entries. The 485 respondents included in this survey were randomly selected from young women living in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa. The 46-page questionnaire given to the women was translated from the original English into Amharic. Although the surveys were completed by the respondents themselves, a data collector was always present to provide clarification. Considering the confidential nature of the section on sexual violence, privacy was respected in all cases.

3.2 Physical Violence Against Girls in Ethiopia

The survey found that physical violence against girls in Ethiopia is widespread. More than 84 per cent of the girls said they had suffered one or more types of physical violence during their childhood.

"In our community girls face physical violence everywhere."
19-year-old respondent

"Girls are exposed to different violence in our community. Jobless boys and men in our neighbourhood hit girls without mercy."
20-year-old respondent

Most of the young women said that they been beaten with an object (71.1 per cent). Being hit or punched with a hand and kicked are the second and third most prevalent types of physical violence against girls at 59.5 per cent and 43.3 per cent respectively. Being denied food, and being tied or locked up are the least prevalent forms of physical violence at 8.3 per cent and 9.7 per cent respectively.

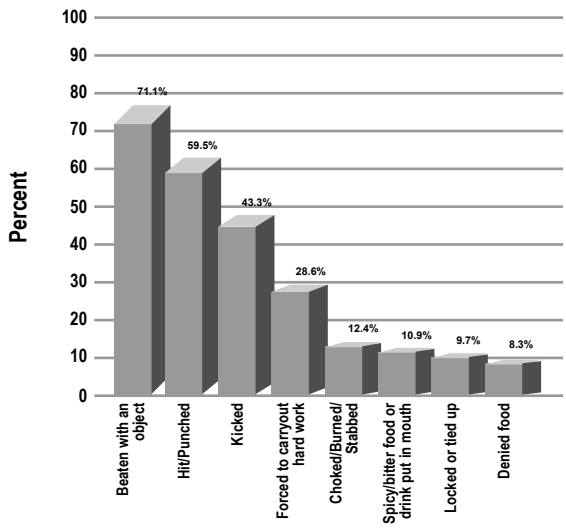

Figure 3.1 - Ethiopia: Prevalence of Physical Violence

3.2.a Ethiopia Physical Violence: Frequency of Abuse

According to the survey population, being forced into hard labour is the form of physical violence against young girls in Ethiopia that recurs most often. Over 73 per cent said they had been forced to work hard more than 10 times during their childhood. Being beaten with an object is the form of physical violence that recurs second most often: 35.8 per cent of the respondents identified it as happening more than 10 times.

Type of violence	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times
Hit/punched	43.1%	20.1%	5.5%	31.4%
Kicked	50.7%	30.0%	8.4%	10.8%
Beaten with an object	26.9%	22.4%	14.9%	35.8%
Locked or tied up	77.3%	13.6%	4.5%	4.5%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	58.7%	4.3%	19.6%	17.4%
Choked/burned/stabbed	45.0%	45.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Forced to carry out hard work	10.4%	8.1%	8.1%	73.3%
Denied food	51.4%	8.6%	20.0%	20.0%

Table 3.1 - Ethiopia: Frequency of Forms of Physical Abuse

3.2.b Ethiopia Physical Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

The survey respondents indicate that girls are most vulnerable to physical abuse between the ages of 10 and 17. As can be seen in Table 3.2, a substantial number of the respondents indicated that most of the physical violence they experienced occurred between the ages of 10 and 13, and 14 and 17. One possible reason for this could be the fact that as the girls got older they were exposed to more causes of violence and classes of potential perpetrators. For instance, not accepting a man's request for sexual partnership, a request that girls face usually between the ages of 14 and 17, is identified by many of the respondents as the reason they were punched or kicked. Additionally, they may find it difficult to remember early childhood experiences, while adolescent experiences are still vivid in their memories.

Type of violence	Before 5 years old		Between ages 5 and 9		Between ages 10 and 13		Between ages 14 and 17	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Hit/punched	18	6.5%	68	24.4%	111	39.8%	163	58.4%
Kicked	4	2.0%	23	11.4%	82	40.6%	109	54.0%
Beaten with an object	17	5.0%	103	30.3%	202	59.4%	82	24.1%
Locked or tied up	4	8.9%	9	19.6%	23	50.0%	16	34.8%
Choked/burned/stabbed	1	1.7%	12	20.3%	6	10.2%	42	71.2%
Forced to carry out hard work	2	1.5%	16	11.9%	79	58.5%	39	28.9%

Table 3.2 - Ethiopia: Age at which Violence Occurred

3.2.c Ethiopia Physical Abuse: Perpetrators

The primary perpetrators of most kinds of physical violence Ethiopian girls experience are members of their own families: mothers, fathers and brothers. This indicates that most of the physical violence girls experience takes place at home. The only exceptions are choking, burning or stabbing, which are predominantly committed outside the home by a male sexual partner, adult neighbour or stranger.

Hitting/punching	
Mother	27.2%
Brother	24.0%
Father	21.5%
Teacher	16.5%
Sister	12.2%
Adult neighbour, female	11.5%
Foster mother	10.8%
Older boy at school	10.8%
Other relative, female [1]	10.0%
Friend, male	10.0%

Kicking	
Brother	31.2%
Other relative, female	21.3%
Father	13.9%
Adult neighbour, female	13.9%
Friend, male	12.9%
Foster mother	10.4%

Beating with an object	
Mother	45.2%
Father	39.1%
Brother	23.9%
Teacher	15.5%
Other relative, female	15.2%
Teacher, female	10.2%

Locking or tying up	
Mother	30.6%
Other relative, female	22.4%
Father	18.4%
Brother	12.2%
Sister	12.2%
Foster mother	10.2%

Putting spicy/bitter food or drink in a girl's mouth	
Mother	52.3%
Stepmother	18.2%
Father	11.4%

Choking/burning/stabbing	
Occasional sexual partner, male	36.7%
Adult neighbour, male	13.3%
Stranger, male	10.0%
Mother	10.0%

Denying food	
Mother	41.7%
Other relative, female	27.0%
Stepmother	25.0%
Father	11.1%
Foster mother	11.1%

Forcing to carry out hard work	
Mother	33.8%
Father	33.8%
Other relative, female[1]	27.2%
Sister	16.9%
Foster mother	12.5%
Brother	11.8%
Adult neighbour, female	11.8%
Stepmother	11.0%
Other relative, male [2]	11.0%

Table 3.3 Ethiopia: Perpetrators of Physical Violence

[1] Other female relatives include girls' grandmothers, aunts or cousins.
[2] Other male relatives include girls' grandfathers, uncles or cousins.

3.2.d Ethiopia Physical Violence: Causes

The young women surveyed were asked if their perpetrators gave them reasons for their abuse. Except where they were denied food, the majority of the respondents stated that the perpetrators had given them reasons for the abuse.

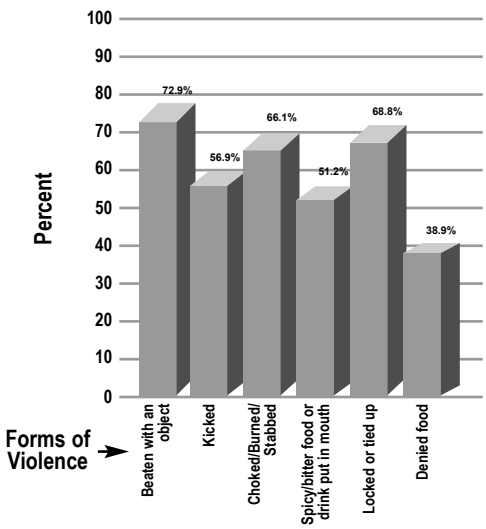

Figure 3.2 - Ethiopia: Proportion of Cases of Physical Violence where Reasons were Given

The most frequent reasons given to the girls for the violence by the perpetrators include:

- you did something wrong;
- you disrupted the home or class;
- you went out of the home without permission or you came in late;
- you failed to do the assignment given to you;
- you refused to accept my proposal for love or sex;
- you gave me a confrontational reply;
- you are going out with men.

Respondents who indicated that they had been given reasons for the violence by their abusers were also asked if they believed the explanation was acceptable. The vast majority of the respondents believe that the explanation they were given was unreasonable. Further, they said that they feel girls are subject to this violence because of the low regard their society has for women.

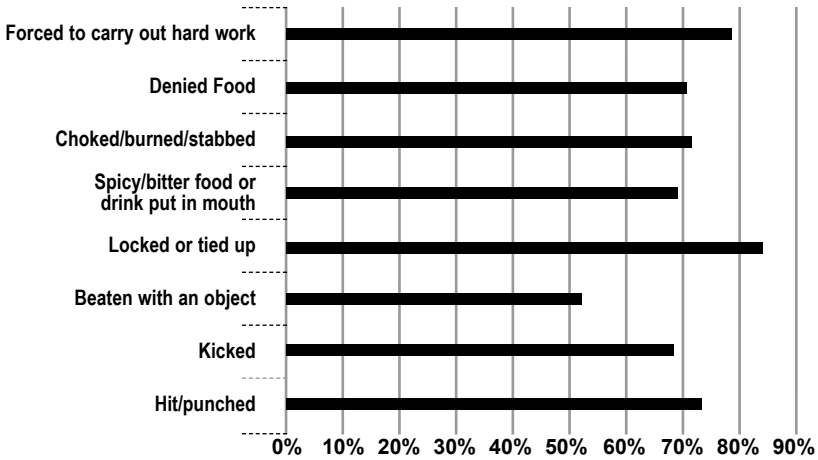

Figure 3.3 - Ethiopia: Proportion of Respondents who Felt the Explanation Given for their Abuse was Unreasonable

3.2.e Ethiopia Physical Violence: Effects and Impact

The physical violence that the girls surveyed suffered often had an adverse effect on their health. Over half of those who reported that they had been kicked, hit or punched said the abuse had resulted in bruises or scratches, broken bones or teeth, or bleeding. A significant number also had to seek medical treatment, missed school or work, or had to stay at home.

Type of violence	Percentage of abuse that caused bruises or scratches, broken bones or teeth, or bleeding
Hit/punched	55.5%
Kicked	57.4%
Beaten with an object	32.2%

Table 3.4 - Ethiopia: Impact of the Abuse

Type of violence	Needed to go to a doctor	Missed school	Had to stay at home	Faced none of these problems
Hit /punched	13.7%	19.5%	21.9%	49.6%
Kicked	2.5%	25.4%	13.7%	62.9%
Beaten with an object	4.9%	11.5%	18.8%	69.1%
Choked/burned/stabbed	19.2%	13.7%	13.7%	66.7%
Denied food	5.6%	30.6%	33.3%	38.9%
Hard work	11.3%	42.7%	17.7%	40.3%

Table 3.5 - Ethiopia: Physical Violence Resulting in Girls Seeking Medical Treatment, Missing School or Work, or Staying at Home

3.2.f Ethiopia Physical Violence: Reporting

Many of the respondents who experienced physical violence did report the incident to someone. The majority of girls who were choked, burned or stabbed reported the violence. The severity of this violence may explain why it is reported to someone in the majority of cases. Forcing girls to work hard is the least reported form of physical violence, with only 43.8 per cent of girls who experienced this reporting it.

Type of violence	Number of girls who experienced abuse	Number of girls who reported abuse	Percentage of girls who reported abuse
Hit/punched	264	188	71.2%
Kicked	189	113	59.8%
Beaten with an object	298	160	53.7%
Locked or tied up	48	28	58.3%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	43	22	51.2%
Choked/burned/stabbed	58	46	79.3%
Denied Food	35	22	62.9%
Forced to carry out hard work	128	56	43.8%

Table 3.6 - Ethiopia: Trends in Reporting Cases of Physical Violence

Most of the young women questioned said they had reported incidents where they experienced violence to their female friends. A significant number of respondents also reported them to their mothers, siblings or teachers. Rarely is physical violence reported to the police: less than 10 per cent of cases for almost all types of violence are reported through this official channel. Most of the respondents reported the violence within one or a few days.

Few of the girls who did report the incidents saw a positive outcome as the result. This is not surprising as most of the reporting was informal, taking the form of confiding in their female friends, with no intention of getting redress. Even where some action was taken as a consequence of a young girl's report, most respondents were not satisfied with the way things were dealt with. Less than 20 per cent of the victims felt the resolution after they reported the incident was satisfactory.

Type of violence	Punished		Nothing happened		The incident was not dealt with in a satisfactory manner		The incident was dealt with in a satisfactory manner	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Hit/ punched	13	6.2%	106	50.7%	56	26.8%	34	16.3%
Kicked	7	5.5%	58	45.7%	48	37.8%	14	11.0%
Beaten with an object	24	12.2%	123	62.8%	23	11.7%	26	13.3%
Locked or tied up	3	9.1%	18	54.5%	9	27.3%	3	9.1%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	5	25.0%	9	45.0%	2	10.0%	4	20.0%
Choked/burned/ stabbed	14	28.0%	25	50.0%	10	20.0%	1	2.0%
Forced to carry out hard work	14	18.2%	39	50.6%	14	18.2%	10	13.0%

Table 3.7 - Ethiopia: Consequences of Reporting

3.3 Psychological Violence Against Girls in Ethiopia

3.3.a Ethiopia Psychological Violence: Prevalence

Psychological violence is pervasive throughout girls' childhoods and takes many forms.

"Due to morally damaging insults by people in my community, I have been compelled to feel inferior as a female." 20-year-old respondent

"In our community, girls are insulted with mentally damaging insults that force them to believe they are inferior beings." 19-year-old respondent

"Psychological violence against girls in our community is beyond anyone's comprehension." 23-year-old respondent

Respondents said that as they grew up they were insulted (71.5 per cent), shouted or glared at (67.6 per cent), and many had to witness the severe beating of a family member, friend or neighbour (50.1 per cent). Even where types of psychological abuse such as being forced to use a gun against another person (1.2 per cent), witnessing the killing of a family member, friend or neighbour (4.5 per cent), or witnessing the killing of an unknown person (5.6 per cent) are not prevalent, their very existence in the lives of these girls is disconcerting. From this random selection of girls, 243 had watched as someone they knew well was severely beaten, while 22 of these girls watched as someone they knew was killed.

Psychological violence	Respondents who had experienced psychological violence	
	Count	%
Insulted	347	71.5%
Shouted or glared at	328	67.6%
Witnessed a severe beating	243	50.1%
Ignored	195	40.2%
Threatened with abandonment	157	32.4%
Embarrassed in front of others	154	31.8%
Family members wished she had not been born	127	26.2%
Forced to leave home before 18	116	23.9%
Forced to give away money or possessions	75	15.5%
Threatened with physical harm or death	74	15.3%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	66	13.6%
Made to use physical force against another person	49	10.1%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	25	5.2%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	22	4.5%
Forced to use a gun against another person	6	1.2%

Table 3.8 - Ethiopia: Prevalence of Psychological Violence

3.3.b Ethiopia Psychological Violence: Frequency

Being insulted, shouted or glared at, and embarrassed in front of others are the most frequently repeated forms of violence experienced by Ethiopian girls, according to the survey results. Unsurprisingly, the more severe forms of violence, like witnessing the murder of a known or unknown person occurred on fewer occasions, but the fact that even a small percentage of these girls say they saw this happen more than 10 times presents an alarming picture of the violent society in which these girls live.

Type of violence	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times
Embarrassed in front of others	13.2%	28.9%	13.8%	44.0%
Forced to give away money or possessions	23.6%	61.1%	8.3%	6.9%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	32.3%	25.8%	12.9%	29.0%
Family members expressed wish that girl had not been born	26.4%	21.7%	14.7%	37.2%
Insulted	12.8%	14.5%	8.8%	63.8%
Shouted or glared at	21.1%	17.5%	14.2%	47.1%
Ignored	27.2%	26.6%	8.1%	38.2%
Threatened with abandonment	28.4%	27.7%	20.0%	23.9%
Witnessed a severe beating	28.5%	24.0%	28.9%	18.6%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	77.3%	9.1%	9.1%	4.5%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	89.5%	0.0%	5.3%	5.3%
Made to use physical force against another person	63.8%	2.1%	12.8%	21.3%
Forced to use a gun against another person	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Threatened with physical harm or death	67.2%	20.3%	3.1%	9.4%

Table 3.9 - Ethiopia: Frequency of Psychological Violence

3.3.c Ethiopia Psychological Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

The occurrence of the three most prevalent forms of psychological violence consistently increases as girls grow up. However, it is interesting to note which abuses are most prevalent within each age group. The form of abuse girls experience most commonly before they are five years old is watching as someone they knew is severely beaten. Between the ages of five and nine most remember experiencing insults and shouts. Girls in this age group continue to be subjected to witnessing someone they know well being brutally hit. As they grow older, the number of girls who experience these abuses increases, and they continue to be the forms of psychological abuse most often experienced.

Type of violence	Before the age of 5		Between ages 5 and 9		Between ages 10 and13		Between ages 14 and 17	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Embarrassed in front of others	2	1.3%	22	14.3%	84	54.5%	97	63.0%
Forced to give away money or possessions	6	8.0%	7	9.3%	37	49.3%	49	65.3%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	4	6.1%	2	3.1%	6	9.1%	52	78.8%
Family members expressed wish girl had not been born	6	4.7%	32	25.2%	47	37.0%	65	51.2%
Insulted	13	3.7%	68	19.6%	188	54.2%	217	62.5%
Shouted or glared at	8	2.4%	58	17.7%	175	53.4%	206	62.8%
Ignored	10	5.1%	14	7.2%	77	39.5%	107	54.9%
Threatened with abandonment	5	3.2%	21	13.4%	44	28.0%	106	67.5%
Witnessed a severe beating	26	10.7%	63	25.9%	125	51.4%	141	58.0%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	1	4.5%	2	9.1%	12	54.5%	7	31.8%
Made to use physical force against another person	0	0	4	8.2%	18	36.7%	24	49.0%
Forced to use a gun against another person	1	16.7%	0	0	1	16.7%	1	16.7%
Threatened with physical harm or death	10	13.5%	10	13.5%	17	23.0%	32	43.2%

Table 3.10 - Ethiopia: Age at which Psychological Violence Occurred

3.3.d Ethiopia Psychological Abuse: Perpetrators

The survey shows that psychological violence, like physical violence, is predominantly committed against the Ethiopian girls by their own families. Mothers tend to insult their daughters, while their fathers will shout or glare at them. Usually mothers are responsible for threats of abandonment, which girls may take very seriously as a quarter of the girls surveyed were forced to leave their home before they were 18 years old.

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Embarrassing girl in front of others	
Other relative, female	22.6%
Teacher, male	18.9%
Brother	15.7%
Mother	13.8%
Adult neighbour, female	13.2%
Father	10.7%
Girlfriend	10.1%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Insulting girl	
Mother	45.8%
Father	35.3%
Brother	31.3%
Sister	29.9%
Girlfriend	23.3%
Boys in neighbourhood	15.8%
Relative, female	13.5%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Shouting or glaring at girl	
Mother	42.6%
Father	36.3%
Brother	31.4%
Relative, female	18.6%
Sister	16.5%
Teacher, male	13.0%
Adult neighbour, female	11.4%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Ignoring girl	
Mother	34.4%
Father	30.9%
Brother	27.1%
Sister	19.1%
Relative, female	10.5%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Threatening girl because of her race, ethnic group or religion	
Girlfriend	20.5%
Mother	14.8%
Stepmother	10.2%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Family members expressing wish girl had no been born	
Mother	37.0%
Stepmother	14.3%
Other relative, female	11.8%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Threatening girl with abandonment	
Mother	49.0%
Father	22.2%
Relative, female	15.2%
Foster mother	14.6%

Most common perpetrators(identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Made to leave home before 18	
Mother	25.7%
Father	18.8%
Relative, female	17.5%
Brother	10.9%

Table 3.11 - Ethiopia: Perpetrators of Psychological Violence

3.3.e Ethiopia Psychological Violence: Where Violence Occurs

Violence surrounds Ethiopian girls in the very places they should feel safe. They are psychologically abused primarily in their own homes by their families and then in their neighbourhoods by their communities. Interestingly, usually it is in the workplace that girls are made to use force against another person.

Type of Violence	Home		Neighbourhood		School		Workplace		Other	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Witnessed a severe beating	81	43.5%	112	62.6%	20	11.2%	15	8.7%	1	1.8%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	12	60.0%	6	31.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	15.8%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	5	29.4%	8	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	31.3%
Made to use physical force against another person	10	21.3%	10	21.7%	3	6.5%	14	30.4%	14	31.8%
Forced to use a gun against another person	3	75.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%
Threatened with physical harm or death	19	30.6%	21	33.9%	13	21.0%	13	21.0%	17	27.4%

Table 3.12 - Ethiopia: Place where Psychological Abuse Took Place

3.4 Sexual Violence Against Girls in Ethiopia

The survey divided the types of sexual abuse into two categories. The first set concerns various forms of sexual abuse perpetrated against girls within their familiar surroundings. The second set looks at sexual exploitation of girls and explores how many have been subjected to harmful traditional practices.

3.4.a Ethiopia Sexual Violence: Prevalence

Of the 485 young women questioned in this survey, 332 said they had been sexually abused in one form or another when they were a child. Based on this survey, therefore, nearly seven in every ten girls are sexually abused in Ethiopia.

"In my community as well as in other communities, a girl could be raped by one or more persons." 18-year-old respondent

"In our community, a girl could not stay out of home after 8 pm. She could face sexual violence." 18-year-old respondent

The particularly prevalent forms of sexual violence such as constant verbal sexual references to a girl's body (53 per cent), and touching and fondling a girl's genitals (42 per cent) lay the groundwork for more serious sexual crimes that are committed against Ethiopian girls: of the population sampled, three out of ten girls were raped before they were 18 years old.

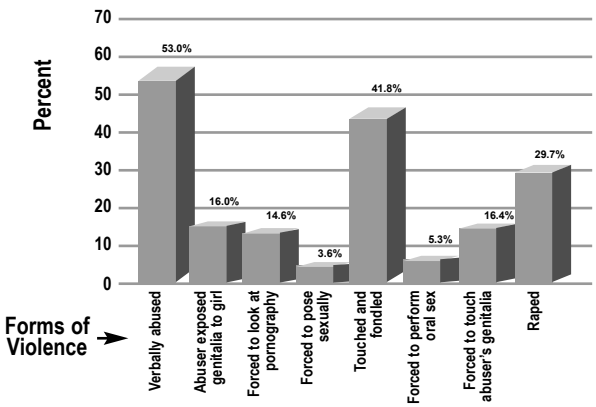

Figure 3.4 - Ethiopia: Percentage of Respondents who Experienced Sexual Violence

Figure 3.4 clearly demonstrates that verbal abuse (53 per cent), being indecently touched sexually (41.8 per cent) and raped (29.7 per cent) are by far the most common forms of sexual violence in Ethiopian girls' lives.

Girls who experience sexual abuse usually are subjected to more than one kind. Of the 328 respondents who were subjected to at least one of the three most prevalent forms of sexual violence, 86 indicated that they had experienced all three; 157 had been verbally abused and experienced indecent sexual touching; 97 who had been indecent sexually touched during their childhood were also raped at some point; while 101 who were verbally abused as girls were also raped.

3.3.b Ethiopia Sexual Abuse: Frequency

Alarmingly, the survey indicates that almost half of the girls who reported that they were raped said it occurred on more than one occasion – 46.5 per cent stating that they were raped from three to more than ten times before they were 18 years old.

Many of the respondents who were subjected to some of the less common abuses such as being forced to pose sexually or being forced to perform oral sex, said they were forced to do so repeatedly.

Type of violence	1 or 2 times		3-5 times		6-10 times		More than 10 times	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Verbally abused	81	31.9%	75	29.5%	30	11.8%	68	26.8%
Abuser exposed genitalia to girls	45	60.8%	14	18.9%	2	2.7%	13	17.6%
Forced to look at pornography	23	33.3%	20	29.0%	9	13.0%	17	24.6%
Forced to pose sexually	6	37.5%	2	12.5%	1	6.3%	7	43.8%
Indecent sexual touching	75	38.1%	51	25.9%	51	25.9%	20	10.2%
Forced to perform oral sex	12	52.2%	3	13.0%	1	4.3%	7	30.4%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	62	75.6%	12	14.6%	2	2.4%	6	7.3%
Raped	57	39.6%	52	36.1%	15	10.4%	20	13.9%

Table 3.13 - Ethiopia: Frequency of Forms of Sexual Violence Against Girls

3.4.c Ethiopia Sexual Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

The age at which girls seem to be most vulnerable to almost all types of sexual violence, according to respondents, is between the ages of 14 and 17 years old. The exception to this is being exposed to an abuser's genitals, which most commonly happens to women when they aged between 10 and 13 years old.

Type of Violence	Before the age of 5		Between ages 5 and 9		Between ages 10 and 13		ages 14 and 17	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Verbally abused	16	6.3%	23	9.1%	52	20.6%	209	82.9%
Abuser exposed genitalia to girl	2	2.9%	13	18.8%	32	46.4%	23	33.3%
Forced to look at pornography	2	3.0%	0	0.0%	13	19.7%	57	86.4%
Forced to pose	3	17.6%	0	0.0%	1	6.3%	13	81.3%
Indecent sexual touching	0	0.0%	15	7.7%	63	32.1%	137	69.9%
Forced to perform oral sex	0	0.0%	1	4.5%	2	9.1%	20	90.9%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	0	0.0%	4	4.9%	14	17.3%	65	80.2%
Raped	8	5.8%	9	6.5%	47	33.8%	76	54.7%

Table 3.14 - Ethiopia: Age at which incidents of sexual abuse occurred

One possible explanation for the higher frequency of abuse during a girl's older adolescence may be that girls of this age interact more with possible perpetrators in their school and their communities.[3]

3.4.d Ethiopia Sexual Violence: Perpetrators

The women questioned indicated that male friends were their prime sexual abusers during their childhoods. The only exception is where an abuser exposes genitalia to a girl. The main perpetrators of this abuse are male children in the girls' neighbourhoods. In addition to male friends and child neighbours, other perpetrators reported by a great number of young women in all types of sexual abuse are adult male neighbours and strangers.

[3] The profile of perpetors, which identifies to male friends or acquaintances as prime abusers, corroborates this analysis.

It is interesting to note that girlfriends - who may themselves be abused - also become abusers. They are among the primary perpetrators of such violent acts as verbal abuse, exposing private parts, forcing their friends to look at pornographic material, forcing them to pose partially dressed or naked, and making them touch another person's genitalia.

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Abused girl verbally	
Friend, male	31.0%
Older boy at school	22.2%
Boy of the same age at school	16.3%
Stranger, male	13.5%
Girlfriend	12.7%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Exposed genitalia to girl	
Adult neighbour, male	24.3%
Friend, male	21.6%
Stranger, male	18.8%
Girlfriend	13.5%
Foster father	13.5%
Stranger, female	10.8%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Forced girl to look at pornography	
Friend, male	38.1%
Girlfriend	27.0%
Brother	15.9%
Boy at school	14.3%
Adult neighbour, male	12.7%
Boy of the same age at school	12.7%
Authority figure, male	12.7%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Forced girl to pose sexually	
Friend, male	76.5%
Child neighbour, male	41.2%
Girlfriend	11.8%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Indecent sexual touching	
Friend, male	35.4%
Adult neighbour, male	25.3%
Older boy at school	14.1%
Stranger, male	13.1%
Boy of the same age at school	10.1%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Forced girl to perform oral sex	
Friend, male	52.0%
Teacher, male	28.0%
Girlfriend	24.0%
Stranger, male	20.0%
Occasional sexual partner, male	16.0%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Forced girl to touch genitalia	
Friend male	53.7%
Adult neighbour male	14.6%
Occasional sexual partner male	12.2%
Boy of the same age at school	12.2%

Most recurrent perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Raped girl	
Friend, male	34.0%
Relative, male	23.1%
Adult neighbour, male	10.9%
Boy of the same age at school	10.2%

Table 3.15 - Ethiopia: Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

The profile of perpetrators of sexual violence against girls implies that most forms of sexual abuse occur in schools, within the home and in the community.

the apparent scale of sexual abuse committed by family members and relatives is very disquieting. For instance, more than 35 per cent of the rapes girls reported to the survey team were committed by an immediate male family member or another male relative. The following statements from respondents express the devastating impact of sexual abuse by a family member or relative:

"I have been subjected to different forms of violence. However, the sexual abuse committed against me by my own father, I could not get out of my mind."
18-year-old respondent

"The sexual abuse by my brother still worries me a lot. Opposite sexes should not sleep together in the same bed as well as in the same room, even if they are brothers and sisters. This is my greatest black spot in my mind."
20-year-old respondent

3.4.e Ethiopia Sexual Violence: Trends in Reporting Violence

Most victims of sexual violence among those questioned (83.6 per cent) did not report the incident to anyone. In the small number of cases where the incident was reported, the girls usually told siblings, relatives or friends. In very few cases was the incident reported to the police.

Most of the respondents who reported the incident did so within one or a few days. Yet, only one fifth of the respondents believe that the incident was resolved satisfactorily as a result. More than one third (36.4 per cent) even stated that they felt they were punished after reporting the sexual crime committed against them.

"I was raped when I was still a small girl by a stranger. My family put a great mental damage to me by telling me that I willingly went to him."
20-year-old respondent

To whom reported	Count	Per cent
Brother or sister	24	36.9%
Other relatives (grandparent, aunt or uncle, cousin)	10	15.4%
Friend, female	10	15.4%
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	7	10.8%
Friend, male	5	7.7%
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	4	6.2%
Boy/girlfriend	3	4.6%
Police	1	1.5%
A religious leader	1	1.5%

Table 3.16 - Ethiopia: Persons to Whom Sexual Violence was Reported

Table 3.16 identifies the low reporting rate of incidents of sexual violence and that when girls report the abuse, usually they do so informally. This makes it likely that the perpetrators will never be held accountable and may continue to perpetrate violence.

3.5 ETHIOPIA SEXUAL VIOLENCE: EXPLOITATION AND HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES (HTPS)

This section considers forms of sexual violence against girls that are associated with harmful traditional practices and sexual exploitation.

Type of sexual exploitation/HTP	Number of girls who have been sexually exploited or undergone HTP	Percentage of girls who have been sexually exploited or undergone HTP
Early marriage	21	4.2%
Abducted	81	17.2%
Trafficked for sexual purposes	43	9.3%
Forced prostitution	34	7.4%
FGM	201	42.2%

Table 3.17 - Ethiopia: Relative Prevalence of Sexual Exploitation and HTPs

3.5.a Ethiopia Sexual Exploitation and Harmful traditional Practices: Early Marriage

Some Ethiopian societal norms seem to be improving in respect to girls' lives. The survey population included 87 women from the population survey who said that marriage had been suggested to them before they were 18 years old, but only 21 married. And out of those, only 11 of them said they felt they had received pressure to do so. Where early marriage was insisted on, it tended to be by the girls' parents. Mothers in particular were cited by the young women who are presently married, as the person who put most pressure on them.

3.4.h Ethiopia Sexual Exploitation and Harmful traditional Practices: Trafficking for Sexual Purposes

Less than one in ten respondents (9.3 per cent), had been victims of trafficking for sexual purposes before they were 18 years old. For 74.4 per cent of those that were trafficked, the experience lasted for more than three years. Very few were reunited with their family or guardian in less than six months.

In more than half of the cases (52.4 per cent) the perpetrators of trafficking for sexual purposes are unknown males. They are followed by male friends or acquaintances (16.7 per cent) and male adult neighbours. Family members collectively account for almost one quarter of the cases.

Reporting of trafficking for sexual purposes is very high; 89.5 per cent told someone about the incident. Adult neighbours (62.9 per cent), friends (37.1 per cent) and siblings (22.9 per cent) are the typical confidants in most cases while parents and the police are almost never informed. The time lapse between the incident and its reporting is at most a few days for almost half the girls who were trafficked (46.2 per cent), while more than one third took longer than a year to do so. The result of reporting in most cases (82.3 per cent) was either that no action was taken or the girl felt she was further punished. Only 8.8 per cent of the respondents who reported the abuse were satisfied with the outcome.

3.5.c Ethiopia Sexual Exploitation and Harmful traditional Practices: Forced Prostitution

The prevalence of forced prostitution was low (7.4 per cent) among the women questioned. From those that were forced to prostitute themselves, 80 per cent continued in prostitution for more than a year. Consistent with the pattern established for other forms of sexual violence, all of the victims except one were between the ages of fourteen and seventeen at the time. The main perpetrators of forced prostitution are occasional sexual partners (59.5 per cent).

Of the 34 girls who became prostitutes, only six ever reported the experience. It was usually relatives, adult neighbours, parents or friends who were informed, while one young woman reported the abuse to the police and another to a teacher. Three reported the incident within a day in half of the girl being forced to prostitute herself. One respondent took a few days, one a few months and the other more than a year. Three of the girls saw no results from their reporting, while two respondents feel that they were punished for reporting the incident. In the remaining case, the girl feels that, though the matter was resolved, the solution was not satisfactory.

3.5.d Ethiopia Sexual Exploitation and Harmful traditional Practices: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

More than two fifths of the Ethiopian respondents (42.2 per cent) have been subjected to FGM. This is unsurprising considering that a preliminary report of the Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey[4] conducted by the Ethiopian Central Statistical Agency in 2005 showed that the national prevalence of FGM for the age group 15-49 was 74.3 per cent.

A substantial majority (73.5 per cent) of the women questioned for this survey were cut before the age of five while almost one fifth (19.4 per cent) were between the ages of five and nine when the procedure was carried out. Only a few were subjected to the practice after the age of nine.

More than one quarter (27.4 per cent) of these Ethiopian girls have faced health problems as a consequence of FGM. The most common health problems identified by victims of FGM are:

- extreme pain during sexual intercourse;
- vaginal infections;
- loss of sexual interest;
- problems during delivery.

4 The DHS project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development. Randomly selected women and girls aged 15-49 from both urban and rural areas are interviewed for the survey. The surveys are available at www.measuredhs.com (accessed April6,2006)

CHAPTER FOUR

VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS IN KENYA

"There is so much violence." Young Kenyan woman

The results of the retrospective survey on violence against girls suggest that in any group of 10 Kenyan girls, all will be physically and psychologically abused, eight or nine of them will be sexually abused, while two of these young girls will be raped.

The Kenyan research team found that from their survey results for 500 young women questioned from different social sectors in Nairobi, 99 per cent said they had been physically abused as a child, 96.4 per cent psychologically abused and 85.2 per cent sexually abused.

An overwhelming proportion of the physical and psychological abuse of young girls is carried out by other females: their mothers, female teachers, sisters or other female relatives. They are beaten, hit and made to work by fellow females who at the same time will shout, insult and demean them in public.

As they grow older they are sexually abused, mainly by male friends who will beat them or tie them down if they refuse their advances.

These experiences are compounded by the lack of redress available to them. As one young Kenyan woman who had been abused said:

> "Life for girls, especially in this country, is depressing. At home we are overworked, in the society we are looked down upon and men just see us as sexual objects. If there is anything possible to end this, please help the girl child."

4.1 Kenya Survey Population

The Kenyan research team surveyed 500 young women aged from 18 to 24 years old in the country's capital, Nairobi. The city was selected because of the diversity of its population in terms of ethnic composition and class differentiation. An attempt was made to select women from many different backgrounds in order to get a fuller picture of violence against girls in Kenya. Thus, some women were selected from the Central Business District (the CBD), mainly the Starehe and Westland divisions. Others were chosen from the Kawangware and Embakasi district, which is primarily populated by middle class families. The survey also sought women from low class communities like the Korogocho slum in Kasarani division.

Primary sources used include the retrospective survey questionnaire, case studies and focus group discussions. Personal testimonies were used to elucidate quantitative results and in order to better understand the violent abuse these girls experience during their childhoods.

4.2 Physical Violence Against Girls in Kenya

"We are not punching bags. Treat girls with love."

An appeal from a young Kenyan woman who was physically abused as a child
This retrospective survey of violence girls experience demonstrates that physical abuse against girls is widespread in Kenyan society. Out of ten girls, eight will be beaten - one so severely that they will have to go to a hospital. Almost half the women questioned in the survey had been forced to carry out hard work as a child, and if they did not do this adequately they were beaten as a result. Mothers are the primary physical abusers in the home, often telling girls that they are beating, hitting, choking, denying them food or tying them down to ensure that she grows up to become a better person.

Girls are also physically abused in their schools, where teachers - especially women - seem to consider it a valid form of punishment for almost anything the girl does and, at times, physically abuse girls for no reason at all.

Most disturbing is that even where physical violence causes bodily harm, the vast majority of girls thought that the explanation given by their abusers was reasonable.

4.2.a Kenya Physical Violence: Prevalence

Most of the young women surveyed in Nairobi (80.8 per cent) said that when they were children they had been beaten with an object such as a broom, stick or belt. Over half (59.5 per cent) said they had been hit with an open hand or punched very hard before they were 18 years old. The least prevalent form of physical violence against girls in Kenya is inserting spicy or bitter food and drink into a child's mouth.

Type of violence	Percentage of girls who experienced the abuse
Hit/punched	59.5%
Kicked	39.6%
Beaten with an object	80.8%
Locked or tied up	14.3%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	12.3%
Choked/burned/stabbed	20.5%
Forced to carry out hard work	43.8%
Denied Food	35.0%

Table 4.1 - Kenya: Prevalence of Physical Abuse

Furthermore, as can be seen in Table 4.1, a large number of the girls were forced to work hard when they were still very young (43.8 per cent). Also, an alarmingly high proportion of girls were denied food for an extended period of time (35 per cent) during their childhood. The case study of Maria, a young Kenyan woman, illustrates what some Kenyan girls go through:

> "Many times Maria was not given food for supper and she had to beg from friends' houses. Once, after being beaten, she was denied food for three days; she was however allowed to drink water and porridge. She had to work as a house girl to raise her own money to pay for her education. As a househelp, the employer and his son abused her."

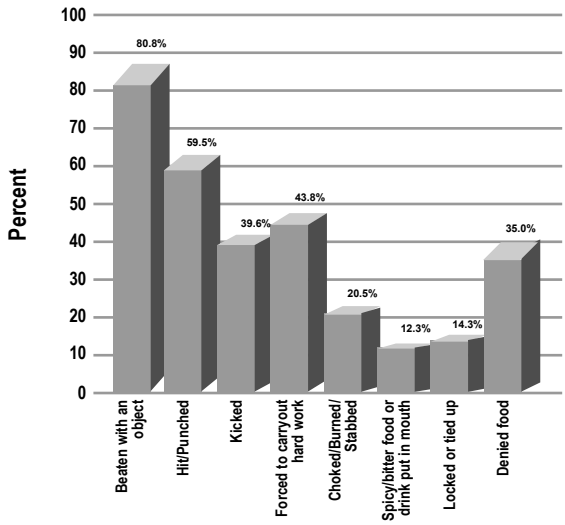

Table 4.1 - Kenya: Prevalence of Physical Abuse

4.2.b Kenya Physical Violence: Frequency

The survey found that the physical hardship young girls in Kenya have to endure with the greatest frequency is hard work. Of those young women who said they were forced to work hard during their childhood, 45 were made to labour almost every day, while another 51 had to do so more than 10 times. They were made to work mainly in the house, doing household chores, cooking, taking care of babies, but also they were made to dig in gardens, fetch water from wells, and take cows out to graze. One woman explained that she was told when she was a child:

> "Because I was eating I also needed to work very hard."

Another was simply given the explanation that:

> "It's a female duty."

If a female child did not do a duty or did not do it well, she was beaten. Girls who were hit, punched or beaten with an object for not working hard enough, or for other reasons, had to suffer this abuse quite frequently, with four out of 10 respondents saying they had been thus abused more than 10 times. The less prevalent forms of violence, like being locked in a small room or cell, being denied food, being given very hot or bitter food or drinks, and being choked, burnt or stabbed were reported to be less recurrent when they did happen; most of these types of violence did not happen more than once or twice.

Type of violence	Number of times girls experienced abuse				
	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times	Almost every day
Hit/punched	38.9%	19.4%	10.8%	30.9%	0.0%
Kicked	45.7%	26.1%	11.2%	17.0%	0.0%
Beaten with an object	25.7%	22.8%	10.8%	40.7%	0.0%
Locked or tied up	62.3%	15.9%	10.1%	11.6%	0.0%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	63.1%	20.2%	4.8%	11.9%	0.0%
Choked/burned/stabbed	69.5%	15.8%	5.3%	9.5%	0.0%
Forced to carry out hard work	20.5%	22.9%	12.9%	23.3%	20.5%
Denied Food	61.8%	28.5%	5.5%	4.2%	0.0%

Table 4.2 - Kenya: Frequency of Physical Abuse

4.2.c Kenya Physical Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Generally, survey results indicate that physical abuse against girls in Kenya is more prevalent once they have reached adolescence. Almost all the physical maltreatments are most prevalent between the ages of 10 and 13 years old, whereas there is a low occurrence before the age of five. With the exception of hard labour (46.9 per cent) and being locked in a confined room (33.3 per cent), other forms of physical abuse are less prevalent after the girls reach the age of 14 years old.

Type of violence	Age when abuse occurred			
	Before 5 years old	Between ages 5 and 9	Between ages 10 and 13	Between ages 14 and 17
Hit/punched	3.6%	20.6%	47.8%	28.1%
Kicked	2.8%	23.2%	44.5%	29.4%
Beaten with an object	4.0%	27.3%	46.3%	22.4%
Locked or tied up	12.0%	21.3%	33.3%	33.3%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	19.1%	30.3%	32.6%	18.0%
Choked/burned/stabbed	6.0%	18.0%	48.0%	28.0%
Denied food	6.0%	18.0%	48.0%	28.0%
Forced to carry out hard work	0.8%	11.2%	41.1%	46.9%

Table 4.3 - Kenya: Age at which Violence Occurred

4.2.d Kenya Physical Violence: Perpetrators

Kenyan mothers abuse their girls using all types of physical violence; beating them, hitting them, locking them up, making them work and denying them food. Overall the survey results indicate that Kenyan girls are most likely to be abused in the home, followed closely by abuse at school. In the home, the mother is more likely to use physical violence against her female child than the father. However, brothers and sisters are equally likely to abuse female siblings.

In schools, female teachers are responsible for much of the violence that girls experience, although male teachers and older children contribute to the prevalence of physical abuse. This has serious consequences for girls' performance in schools. As one young Kenyan woman points out:

> "Without violence I would have performed better in school."

Where girls experience violence outside the home or school, it is female rather than male relatives who the women surveyed identified as most likely to abuse them.

Thus the survey makes clear that it is predominantly Kenyan women themselves who physically abuse young girls. In one of the few categories in which mothers

are not the main abusers, that of hitting and punching the girls, they come a close second to the girls' female teachers. As one young woman from Nairobi testified:

> "My mother was beating me when I made mistakes but my teacher for no special reason."

Another young Kenyan woman was told by her teacher:

> "That I was stupid and careless and can never learn anything unless drums replaced my mind."

In the home brothers are the main perpetrators of kicking, and choking, burning and stabbing, but the mother does not fall far behind.

Girls are primarily locked in small rooms or tied up by parents who account for 28 per cent of such cases. Other perpetrators of this abuse include boyfriends (6.8 per cent) and female relatives (6.8 per cent) as well as female teachers (6.1 per cent). One young woman recalled that her parents would lock her in a small room as a child to prevent her joining her friends; another said she had been tied down as a child to keep her stationary. One woman was tied down by her boyfriend when she refused to have sex with him.

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Hitting/punching	
Teacher, female	16.1%
Mother	14.2%
Teacher, male	11.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Kicking	
Brother	11.8%
Mother	10.6%
Teacher, female	10.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Beating with an object	
Mother	23.5%
Teacher, female	15.3%
Father	13.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Locking or tying up	
Mother	15.9%
Father	12.1%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Putting spicy/bitter food or drink in a girl's mouth	
Mother	16.5%
Other relative, female	12.8%
Brother	11.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Choking/burning/stabbing	
Brother	15.7%
Mother	11.2%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Denying food	
Mother	44.3%
Other relative, female	13.6%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Forcing to carry out hard work	
Mother	18.9%
Teacher, female	16.9%
Father	11.4%
Teacher, male	10.7%
Other relative, female	10.4%

Table 4.4 Kenya: Perpetrators of Physical Violence

Denying a young girl food for an extended period of time is predominantly done by the child's mother (44.3 per cent). This is partly because in most African societies, mothers are the people who are directly responsible for preparing and serving food to the entire family. Other female relatives also contribute to this abuse, accounting for 13.6 per cent of the total responses, whereas both fathers and sisters account for 8.3 per cent. The girls were sometimes told they could not eat because there was not enough food due to family poverty, but on other occasions they were denied food as a form of punishment. One young Kenyan woman recalls her mother refused to give her food "because I left food to cook until it burnt." Another was told that she was being denied food "so that it would make me be the best in future." Sometimes children who lived with relatives or stepparents are the last to be given food. One young girl was told: "Neither my dead mom nor I bought the food."

Forcing young women to undertake hard labour is prevalent in households and schools. Mothers are indicated in 18.9 per cent of the responses as the abuser and fathers in 11.4 per cent of cases. Female teachers are more involved in this form of abuse than their male counterparts, accounting for 16.9 per cent of

incidents as opposed to 10.7 per cent for male teachers. One respondent complained about the labour her teacher forced her to do. She explains:

> "The labour never ceased but instead the teacher hated me and threw me out of her class."

4.2.e Kenya Physical Violence: Reasons for Abuse

The survey questioned girls further about whether the perpetrators of these forms of physical maltreatment gave reasons for their actions. The results are indicated in Table 4.5.

Type of violence	Percentage of girls who were given an explanation for their abuse
Hit/punched	61.2%
Kicked	50.0%
Beaten with an object	70.4%
Locked or tied up	64.3%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	46.3%
Choked/burned/stabbed	49.5%
Denied food	75.9%
Forced to carry how hard work	55.4%

Table 4.5 - Kenya: Prevalence of Instances of Physical Violence where Explanations were Given

Girls were generally slightly more likely to be given a reason for their ill-treatment than not to receive one. In the case of being denied food, they were very likely to receive an explanation – as 75.9 per cent of girls did. Similarly, 70.4 per cent of girls were given a reason for being beaten with an object and 64.3 per cent of girls were told why they were locked or tied up.

Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the young women's testimonies is that for most types of physical abuse around half thought that the explanation given to them justified their abuse. Girls who were told why they were being beaten with an object were especially likely to regard the abuse as justified; 63.1 per cent thought

that their treatment was reasonable. One young woman calmly recounted the beating she had received as a child and the reason given: "My parents said I had failed; this was reasonable."

The only instances where the majority seem to think that the abuse was unreasonable is when they were locked up in a small room or when a bitter or burning food or drink was put forcefully in their mouths. This is especially disquieting considering that the prime abusers of girls are women themselves. If the girls believe that their abuser's behaviour is acceptable, it is likely that these same girls will continue the vicious cycle of abuse into the next generation.

Type of violence	Percentage of girls given an explanation for their abuse who thought
Hit/punched	49.0%
Kicked	43.1%
Beaten with an object	63.1%
Locked or tied up	25.0%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	37.3%
Choked/burned/stabbed	45.2%
Denied food	56.2%
Forced to carry how hard work	50.8%

Table 4.6 - Kenya: Proportion of Girls who felt that the Justifications for Physical Violence Against them were Reasonable

4.2.f Kenya Physical Violence: Effects and Impact

The survey shows that the forms of abuse that resulted in the highest degree of bodily harm to the girls were beatings and kicks. In 64.6 per cent and 62.2 per cent respectively of instances of such abuse, girls were seriously injured.

Type of violence	Percentage of abuse that caused bruises or scratches, broken bones or teeth, or bleeding
Hit/punched	52.3%
Kicked	62.2%
Beaten with an object	64.6%
Locked or tied up	29.9%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	33.8%
Denied food	43.8%

Table 4.7 - Kenya: Impact of the Abuse

Many girls will have to visit a doctor or clinic, miss school or have to stay at home after they experience violence. One Kenyan girl says that after she was beaten she could not go to school because she "couldn't use my hand to write at school." Another continues to feel the effects of being severely kicked: "Problem of the head still persists."

Type of violence	Needed to go to a doctor	Missed school	Had to stay at home	Faced none of these problems
Hit/punched	19.8%	20.9%	20.9%	38.5%
Kicked	23.6%	18.9%	21.7%	35.8%
Beaten with an object	15.0%	13.2%	18.6%	53.2%
Choked/burned/stabbed	24.5%	16.0%	23.4%	36.2%
Denied food	9.6%	8.3%	23.7%	58.3%
Forced to carry out hard work	9.4%	21.7%	14.8%	54.2%

Table 4.8 - Kenya: Physical Violence Resulting in Girls Seeking Medical Treatment, Missing School or Work, or Staying at Home

Girls who are kicked are most likely to withdraw from their normal activities and stay indoors (64.2 per cent), but those who are choked, burned or stabbed (63.8 per cent), and hit or punched (61.5 per cent) are also likely to be affected in this way. Generally, the survey results indicate that physical violence has a significant impact in terms of bodily harm to girls. Physical maltreatment is thus a grave health risk

4.2.g Kenya Physical Violence: Reporting

Overall, the research shows that physically abused girls in Kenya will tell someone what has been done to them. Unfortunately, usually they do not tell any outside third party authority.

Type of violence	Percentage of abused girls who reported their experience
Hit/punched	83.6%
Kicked	80.2%
Beaten with an object	64.7%
Locked or tied up	70.1%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	66.2%
Choked/burned/stabbed	74.8%
Denied food	54.7%
Forced to carry out hard work	53.7%

Table 4.9 - Kenya: Trends in Reporting Cases of Physical Violence

According to estimates based on the study, female Kenyan children are most likely to confide in someone after they have been hit or punched (83.6 per cent) or kicked (80.2 per cent). Only one out of two will talk about the fact that they have been denied food (54.7 per cent) or made to work hard (53.7 per cent).

The problem is that even though levels of reporting are high, the girls do not tell people who can do anything about the abuse they have experienced. In fact, as can be seen in Table 4.10, a quarter of them tell their parents – people who often are violent and abusive towards them. Around two out of 10 girls will turn to their siblings, who are also high on the list of perpetrators of abuse. Another two out of 10 will confide in their girlfriends, who are likely to be subjected to the same violence and usually are themselves powerless to do anything about it.

Person violence was reported to	Hit/ punched	Kicked	Beaten with an object	Locked or tied up	Spicy/ bitter food inserted in mouth	Choked/ burned/ stabbed	Denied food	Forced to carry out hard work
Father/stepfather/ adoptive father	11.2%	8.2%	9.8%	14.1%	11.8%	12.4%	15.6%	15.3%
Adult neighbour	2.6%	5.0%	3.3%	3.5%	5.3%	8.8%	4.7%	2%
Mother/stepmother/ adoptive mother	13.1%	13.2%	16.4%	10.6%	11.8%	9.7%	11.7%	19. %3
Police	3.0%	5.7%	1.3%	4.7%	1.3%	2.7%	1.6%	%1
Husband	0.7%	3.1%	1.0%	5.9%	1.3%	1.8%	1.6%	0. %5
Teacher	4.5%	8.2%	4.9%	8.2%	1.3%	6.2%	1.6%	4.5%
Boy/girlfriend	9.0%	5.0%	4.6%	8.2%	6.6%	7.1%	7.0%	4.5%
Counsellor	2.2%	3.1%	3.3%	4.7%	2.6%	3.5%	2.3%	4%
Brother or sister	13.9%	8.8%	13.8%	15.3%	10.5%	8.8%	9.4%	9.9%
A religious leader	2.6%	2.5%	2.0%	3.5%	2.6%	4.4%	5.5%	3.5%
Other relatives[5]	6.0%	5.7%	6.6%	9.4%	7.9%	9.7%	6.3%	6.9%
Employer or other co-worker(s)	1.1%	0.0%	0.7%	1.2%	0.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.5%
Friend(s) female	13.5%	12.6%	16.7%	5.9%	15.8%	10.6%	18.8%	14.9%
Other children at school	6.7%	8.2%	6.9%	0.0%	3.9%	3.5%	4.7%	5.4%
Friend(s), male	3.7%	3.1%	4.6%	1.2%	5.3%	5.3%	3.9%	4.5%
Other children in neighbourhood	3.0%	3.1%	2.3%	1.2%	6.6%	4.4%	2.3%	2.0%
Parent of a friend	3.0%	3.8%	1.6%	2.4%	5.3%	0.0%	2.3%	1.0%
Other	0.0%	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 4.10 - Kenya: Persons to Whom Physical Violence was Reported

[5] Other relatives include grandparents, aunts and uncles, and cousins.

As the data shows, reporting to external authorities such as the police, religious leaders and counsellors remains limited.

4.2.h Kenya Physical Violence: Time Lapse before Reporting

Most of the young women questioned said that when they did tell someone about the abuse they experienced, they did so within a day; the only exception is when they had been locked up, in which case most do not talk about the incident for a few days.

Type of violence	Period of time that passed before abuse was reported						
	A day	A few days	A few weeks	A few months	A year or two	Three years or more	Never told anyone
Hit/punched	47.6%	25.2%	2.7%	8.2%	5.4%	10.2%	0.7%
Kicked	48.1%	22.1%	6.5%	5.2%	7.8%	7.8%	2.6%
Beaten with an object	40.0%	27.3%	5.3%	5.3%	4.7%	12.0%	5.3%
Locked or tied up	22.9%	31.3%	16.7%	6.3%	6.3%	12.5%	4.2%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	38.5%	26.9%	5.8%	7.7%	3.8%	15.4%	1.9%
Choked/burned/stabbed	40.3%	25.4%	4.5%	11.9%	4.5%	13.4%	0.0%
Denied	36.0%	26.7%	11.6%	12.8%	0.0%	7.0%	5.8%
Forced to carry out hard work	38.4%	18.8%	14.3%	10.7%	3.6%	9.8%	4.5%

Table 4.11 - Kenya: Time Lapse before Reporting

A substantial number of girls who said they did not report the abuse for three or more years. This delay in reporting further decreases the likelihood of any action being taken that could redress the abuse.

4.2.i Kenya Physical Abuse: Results of Reporting

Even when girls did report abuse, the survey found that in most cases no action was taken against the perpetrators. This is especially true in the cases of hitting or punching (60.7 per cent), beating (64.3 per cent) and hard labour (54.9 per

cent). Some of the remaining 14 to 30 per cent, who did see some action taken in consequence of their reporting, said that they were not happy with how the incident was dealt with. Only a small proportion of the respondents were satisfied with the way the reported incidents were handled.

Type of violence	Girl's perception of the consequences of reporting			
	Girl felt she was punished	Nothing happened	The incident was not dealt with in a satisfactory manner	The incident was dealt with in a satisfactory manner
Hit/punched	4.3%	60.7%	22.9%	12.1%
Kicked	7.9%	39.5%	25.0%	27.6%
Beaten with an object	6.4%	64.3%	14.3%	15.0%
Locked or tied up	18.4%	30.6%	30.6%	20.4%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	10.9%	45.7%	23.9%	19.6%
Choked/burned/stabbed	9.7%	46.8%	22.6%	21.0%
Forced to carry out hard work	9.8%	54.9%	15.7%	19.6%

Table 4.12 - Kenya: Consequences of Reporting

4.2.j Kenya Physical Violence: Conclusion

The survey results show that physical abuse against young girls in Kenya is widespread. The most prevalent form of abuse they experience is being punched or hit with an open hand. In many of the cases it is their own mother who abuses them, but female teachers are responsible for a significant amount of the abuse. Although girls seem to talk about the abuse to someone, it is usually not to anyone who can act on their report. Therefore, it is not surprising that few actions are taken to redress incidents of physical violence against girls.

4.3 Psychological Violence Against Girls in Kenya

"They hate and despise me."
Young Kenyan woman refers to her family's feelings about her

Out of the 500 young women questioned in Nairobi, only 18 said they had not been psychologically abused when they were growing up. The other 482 (96.4 per cent) were shouted at, insulted, embarrassed and threatened with murder.

Half of these women had to watch as a person they know, often a family member, was severely beaten; sometimes they watched as a person they knew was murdered. A quarter of the women were themselves threatened with death when they were girls. One young woman describes her childhood:

> "I have experienced more of psychological torture than physical violence. It is not any better. Any kind of violence should be stopped at any cost."

4.3.a Kenya Psychological Violence: Prevalence

The form of psychological abuse experienced by the greatest number of surveyed Kenyan women was being shouted or glared at (76 per cent). This is closely followed by insults (70 per cent) and by being embarrassed or humiliated in public (61.4 per cent). One respondent recalls what her family would say to her as she grew up:

"They said I was stupid."

Another, who was brought up by her stepmother, says:

"I cannot measure up to the standards of my stepsisters and brothers so was thick."

It is no wonder that one of the young Kenyan women concludes:

"I wish I was a boy, life is hard."

Psychological violence	Percentage of girls who experienced the abuse
Insulted	70.0%
Shouted or glared at	76.0%
Witnessed a severe beating	55.2%
Threatened with abandonment	22.1%
Embarrassed in front of others	61.4%
Family members expressed wish girl had not been born	23.7%
Forced to leave home before 18	22.8%
Forced to give away money or possessions	22.5%
Threatened with physical harm or death	24.6%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	19.1%
Made to use physical force against another person	16.8%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	25.2%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	11.4%
Forced to use a gun against another person	1.1%

Table 4.13 - Kenya: Prevalence of Psychological Violence

Over half the young Kenyan women questioned (55.2 per cent) watched as someone they knew was severely beaten. More disturbing is the fact that one tenth (11.4 per cent) saw someone they knew murdered in front of them and one quarter (25.2 per cent) watched as a stranger was killed. A further 24.6 per cent were terrorised with threats of grave bodily harm and even death.

More than one in every five girls questioned were threatened with abandonment or being thrown out of home (22.1 per cent). Growing up in this atmosphere of physical and psychological abuse, it is no wonder that 22.8 per cent actually do leave home before they are 18 years old. By the time the survey was conducted more than half of the women questioned were not living at home.

4.3.b Kenya Psychological Violence: Frequency

The two most prevalent forms of psychological abuse among Kenyan girls, as seen by the survey, were also those that recurred throughout the lives of these children. Almost half of those shouted at and insulted experienced this abuse from more than 10 times to repeatedly. Perhaps it is more disturbing that almost one third of those who watched someone they knew being beaten saw it happen more than 10 times.

More severe incidents such as watching as someone familiar or a stranger was killed occurred to most girls only once or twice. Yet it is alarming to note that 30.8 per cent of the girls who watched the murder of someone they knew did so from three to more than 10 times during their childhood.

Type of violence	Number of times girls experienced abuse			
	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times
Embarrassed in front of others	35.9%	24.5%	15.5%	24.1%
Forced to give away money or possessions	27.9%	34.3%	15.2%	22.9%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	34.8%	30.3%	7.9%	27.0%
Family members expressed wish that girl had not been born	33.3%	27.9%	11.7%	27.0%
Insulted	15.6%	22.5%	14.6%	47.3%
Shouted or glared at	15.2%	21.5%	15.7%	47.5%
Ignored	18.8%	28.2%	16.3%	36.6%
Threatened with abandonment	44.8%	20.0%	14.3%	21.0%
Witnessed a severe beating	26.2%	27.7%	15.8%	30.4%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	59.6%	30.8%	3.8%	5.8%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	81.0%	14.7%	1.7%	2.6%
Made to use physical force against another person	52.0%	32.0%	4.0%	12.0%
Forced to use a gun against another person	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
Threatened with physical harm or death	60.9%	19.1%	6.1 %	13.9%

Table 4.14 - Kenya: Frequency of Psychological Violence

4.3.c Kenya Psychological Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Psychological abuse, according to the survey findings, occurs predominantly when Kenyan girls are aged between 10 and 17 years old. There is a slight decline in girls experiencing shouts and insults once they are 14 years old, but this may be because many have left their abusive homes by this point.

Shouts and seeing someone they know beaten are the most common psychologically damaging incidents for female children between five and nine years old. At this age many will be told by their guardians that it would have been better if they had never been born.

Type of violence	Age when abuse occurred			
	Before the age of 5	Between 5 and 9 years	Between 10 and 13 years	Between 14 and 17 years
Embarrassed in front of others	1.1%	14.2%	38.4%	46.2%
Forced to give away money or possessions	2.6%	15.8%	33.3%	48.2%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	5.0%	14.0%	34.0%	47.0%
Family members expressed wish girl had not been born	3.1%	16.3%	45.7%	34.9%
Insulted	2.0%	15.1%	43.8%	39.1%
Shouted or glared at	2.6%	19.0%	41.7%	36.7%
Ignored	1.2%	13.7%	35.7%	49.4%
Threatened with abandonment	1.6%	14.6%	30.1%	53.7%
Witnessed a severe beating	3.3%	18.0%	45.8%	32.9%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	3.4%	8.6%	46.6%	41.4%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	3.2%	7.3%	37.9%	51.6%
Made to use physical force against another person	0.0%	17.0%	45.5%	37.5%
Forced to use a gun against another person	1.7%	0.0%	50.0%	39.3 %
Threatened with physical harm or death	3.8%	7.5%	31.6%	57.1%

Table 4.15 - Kenya: Age at which Psychological Abuse Occurred

It is disturbing to note that some of the girls began to be psychologically abused before they were five years old. The fact that some of these children witnessed the murder of someone they were close to, or even that of a stranger, and had someone threaten to seriously hurt or kill them is highly alarming.

Some parents justify the abuse they shouted at their child, saying, as one Kenyan woman recalls, that they do so to make sure girls "grow to be wonderful and respectful".

However, such violence may have negative consequences beyond those experienced by the girl. As one respondent concluded:

> "By exposing children to violence while still young they harden and turn violent."

4.2.d Kenya Psychological Violence: Perpetrators

The main perpetrators of psychological abuse of girls in Kenya, according to the survey findings, are females themselves: mothers, female teachers, sisters and female relatives. The primary abuser among these women is the girl's mother. A girl's mother will tell her that she wishes her daughter had never been born, will shout and glare at her, will ignore her, will take away the money her child has been forced to work for and will threaten to throw her out of the home or abandon her. It is of no great surprise, therefore, that the major cause of girls running away from home will be a desire to get away from their mothers. One young respondent hoped that in a better future, "good relationships should be built between mother and daughters to teach them their virtues."

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Embarrassing girl in front of others	
Teacher, female	13.5%
Mother	7.7%
Girl of same age	5.6%
Father	5.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Insulting girl	
Teacher, female	9.8%
Mother	7.4%
Teacher, male	7.1%
Sister	6.9%
Girl of same age	5.9%
Older girl at school	5.8%
Brother	5.4%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Shouting or glaring at girl	
Mother	17.8%
Teacher, female	11.4%
Father	9.1%
Teacher, male	8.7%
Sister	7.1%
Brother	5.9%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Ignoring girl	
Mother	17.8%
Father	10.3%
Sister	7.3%
Relative, female	6.1%
Boyfriend	5.9%
Teacher, female	5.7%
Brother	5.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Threatening girl because of her race, ethnic group or religion	
Boyfriend	8.7%
Father	7.2%
Mother	5.3%
Boy of same age	5.3%
Teacher, female	5.3%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Family members expressing wish girl had not been born	
Mother	21.0%
Relative, female	16.8%
Father	10.8%
Relative, male	8.4%
Stepmother	7.8%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Threatening girl with abandonment	
Mother	24.5%
Father	17.4%
Relative, female	13.5%
Sister	9.7%
Brother	9.7%
Relative, male	9.0%
Stepmother	8.4%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Made to leave home before 18	
Mother	23.5%
Father	19.1%
Stepmother	13.9%
Brother	8.7%
Relative, female	8.7%
Sister	7.8%

Table 4.16 - Kenya: Perpetrators of Psychological Violence

Other females also are protagonists in battering girls psychologically. Girls' sisters and other female relatives also were active in telling the female child that they wished she had not been born. Most respondents indicate that female teachers are likely to publicly embarrass or shame young girls and to insult them. One respondent recalls a common insult:

"Teacher called me stupid and not worthy to be in class."

Interestingly, although male teachers also abuse girls psychologically, as they do physically, they account for a much lower number of incidents than their female counterparts.

Fathers also play a role in abusing girls psychologically, as testified by the women surveyed, but again the amount of abuse meted out by them is much less than by the mother. In many types of psychological abuse, fathers are responsible for less than half the number of incidents perpetrated by the mother.

4.3.e Kenya Psychological Violence: Conclusion

Psychological violence is ubiquitous in Kenyan society. Girls experience abuse primarily at the hands of their mothers, and other female relatives and teachers, but also from fathers, brothers and other males. The abuse ranges from being ignored or shouted at, to witnessing horrific scenes and threatened with death.

If the cycle of violence where women continue to abuse girls is to be broken, girls must be protected from this pervasive psychological abuse and be shown that such violence is damaging.

4.4 Sexual Violence Against Girls in Kenya

"It's very hurting to be violated." Young Kenyan woman

Once Kenyan girls reach 10 years old, they are continually verbally sexually abused. Referring to their bodies in a sexual manner and making vulgar comments about them, reinforces the perception that girls are sexual objects rather than developing people.

The survey found that a quarter of Kenyan girls are raped before they are 18 years old. Of these, 40 per cent are raped before they turn 13, while a disturbingly high number are raped even before they are nine years old.

If they dare to report these incidents often they are met with derision and even in some cases beatings for having provoked the attack. Where women who are assaulted have no recourse they may turn to violence as an answer:

"All rapists should be killed so as to stop this rape culture." Young Kenyan woman

Yet most of the young women questioned hoped that things would change. They want a future where rapists are held legally accountable for their crimes, which they believe would help diminish rape in their country. One young Kenyan woman expresses this desire, simply saying: "Help stop rape."

4.4.a Kenya Sexual Violence: Prevalence

The type of sexual abuse experienced by more than any other by the young women surveyed in Nairobi was verbal sexual violence (67.7 per cent). Out of the 500 young females included in the survey, 218 said that as a child they had been indecently sexually touched against their will; 167 were forced to look at a sexual scene; and, 157 had experienced someone exposing their genitalia to them. In this atmosphere of pervasive sexual abuse it is perhaps unsurprising that 132 of these girls were raped at least once before they reached the age of 18.

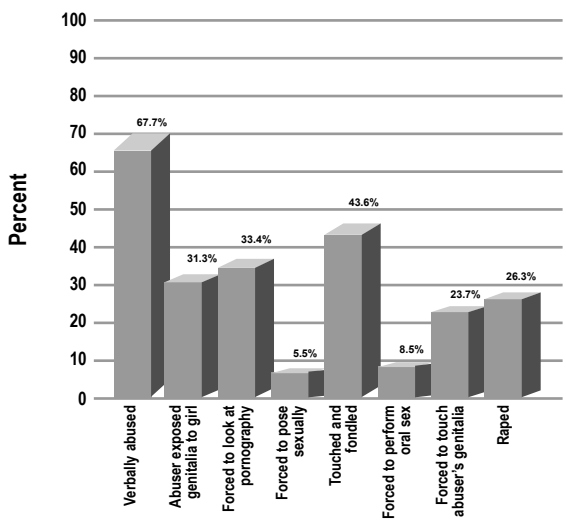

Figure 4.2 - Kenya: Percentage of Respondents who Experienced Sexual Violence

Some forms of sexual violence seem to be uncommon in Kenya: most of the young women (94.5 per cent) said that during their childhoods they were never made to pose indecently for pornographic purposes; 91.5 per cent said that they had never been forced to perform oral sex when they were young. In the context of high levels of violent sexual abuse, this may be simply an indication of Kenyan sexual mores, rather than an assurance that these acts were not practiced out of respect for the integrity of Kenyan girls.

4.4.b Kenya Sexual Violence: Frequency

Most of the women questioned experienced verbal sexual abuse repeatedly during their childhoods; more than 80 per cent of the young Kenyan women thus abused said they had experienced verbal sexual abuse as a child from three to over ten times. More than half the young females testified that they suffered other prevalent sexual abuses repeatedly. Of the girls who were touched indecently, made to touch an abuser's genitalia and forced to look at sexual scenes, 57 per cent, 53.1 per cent and 50 per cent respectively experienced the forms of abuse from three to more than 10 times.

Type of violence	Number of times girls experienced abuse			
	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times
Verbally abused	18.3%	25.1%	14.9%	41.8%
Abuser exposed genitalia to girls	49.3%	18.1%	14.6%	18.1%
Forced to look at pornography	50.0%	21.5%	12.7%	15.8%
Forced to pose sexually	53.8%	19.2%	11.5%	15.4%
Indecently sexually touched	43.0%	26.6%	15.5%	15.0%
Forced to perform oral sex	33.3%	33.3%	12.8%	20.5%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	46.9%	28.3%	5.3%	19.5%
Raped	57.3%	21.8%	8.1%	12.9%

Table 4.17 - Kenya: Frequency of Forms of Sexual Violence Against Girls

Especially disturbing is the frequency of rape as reported by the Kenyan women. Although 57.3 per cent of the girls who were raped said it had occurred only once or twice during their childhood, a further 42.8 per cent of those said that they had

been raped from three to more than ten times. Furthermore, in the sample population selected for the research study alone, 17 young girls were raped more than ten times before they were fully developed adults.

An excerpt from the case study of one young Kenyan girl gives an image of what some girls go through:

> "When Carol was 13 years her father raped her. He told her that if she told anybody he would kill her. Teachers learned about it only when the father raped her younger sister Sarah as well, who was only 10 years old."

4.4.c Kenya Sexual Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Girls in Kenya, according to the survey, more often are sexually abused (50 per cent to 69.6 per cent) when they are between 14 and 17 years old. However, a significant proportion of girls (21.4 per cent to 30.5 per cent) are abused from when they are 10 years old to when they are 13.

Type of violence	Age when abuse occurred			
	Before the age of 5	Between ages 5 and 9	Between ages 10 and 13	Between ages 14 and 17
Verbally abused	0.8%	4.7%	27.1%	67.4%
Abuser exposed genitalia to girl	0.0%	12.6%	30.5%	56.9%
Forced to look at pornography	0.6%	4.2%	25.6%	69.6%
Forced to pose	10.0%	10.0%	30.0%	50.0%
Indecently sexually touched	2.2%	14.8%	24.8%	58.3%
Forced to perform oral sex	2.4%	14.3%	21.4%	61.9%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	0.0%	11.0%	23.6%	65.4%
Raped	2.8%	14.7%	23.1%	59.4%

Table 4.18 - Kenya: Age at which Incidents of Sexual Abuse Occurred

In particular, the survey identifies a deeply troubling trend concerning the rape of young Kenyan children. Of the 132 young females who reported having been raped during their childhood, the majority (74 respondents) said this happened when they were between the ages of 14 and 17 years old. Yet, 29 of these girls were raped before they were 10 years old and four of these respondents said they had been raped before the age of five.

An excerpt from the story of Judy, a teenage Kenyan girl living in a rural area, gives an insight into how rape cases are dealt with:

> "One day when Judy was alone on her family's farmstead, a former shamba boy or house help who used to work for the family came to the house with a friend of his. When she opened the door to them, the boy grabbed her and pulled her down on the floor. He raped her repeatedly and forced her to perform oral sex. She was threatened with death if she did not do so. Judy bled a lot but the boy would not listen to her. He left in a hurry after tying her hands in the back. She told her mother what happened when she came back home. She was beaten for sexually tempting the young man."

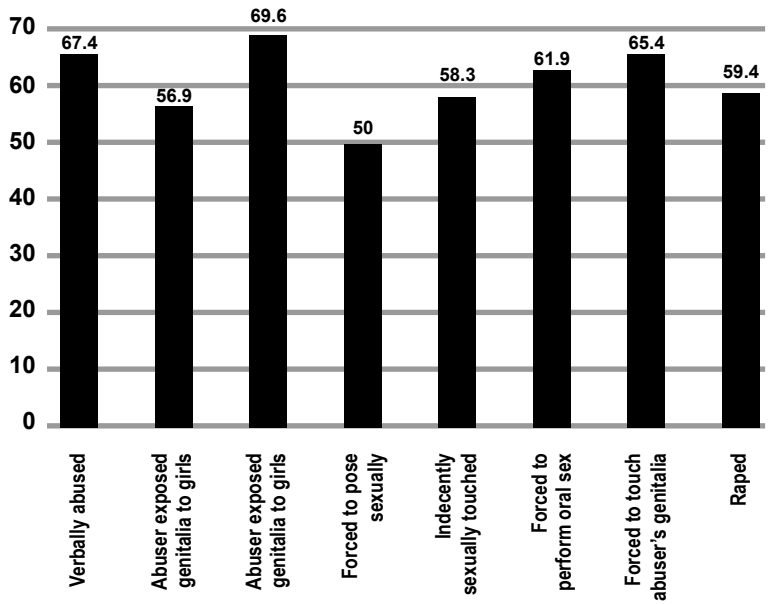

Figure 4.3 - Kenya: Prevalence of Sexual Abuse between Ages 14 and 17

4.4.d Kenya Sexual Violence: Perpetrators

Girls in Kenya are sexually abused by people within their close social circles; by their families, neighbours, school teachers, school friends and predominantly by their own boyfriends.

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Abused girl verbally	
Friend, male	19.6%
Stranger, male	17.1%
Adult neighbour, male	13.1%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Exposed genitalia to girl	
Friend, male	16.9%
Stranger, male	15.2%
Adult neighbour, male	12.2%

Forced girl to look at pornography	
Friend, male	20.9%
Adult neighbour, female	12.1%

Forced girl to pose sexually	
Friend, male	22.2%
Stranger, male	14.7%
Adult neighbour, male	11.1%

Indecent sexual touching	
	22.2%
Stranger, male	14.4%
Adult neighbour, male	11.1%

Forced girl to perform oral sex	
Friend, male	28.6%
Adult neighbour, male	14.3%

Forced girl to touch genitalia	
Friend, male	34.8%
Adult neighbour male	11.2%

Raped girl	
Friend, male	30.5%
Adult neighbour, male	14.4%

Table 4.19 - Kenya: Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

The majority of the young women questioned indicated that their male friends or boyfriends were primarily responsible for forcing them to perform various sexual acts against their will. Male friends speak to girls in an abusive sexual manner that makes them uncomfortable, fondle and touch them against their wishes and sometimes force girls to perform oral sex or rape them. When girls resist, they are shouted at, insulted, beaten up, hit, tied up and sometimes even threatened with murder.

Male adult neighbours, as well as male strangers, are also identified by many of the Kenyan women surveyed as having abused them sexually when they were children. In incidents of rape, 30.5 per cent of the young women said it had been carried out by a male friend, while 14.4 per cent indicated that a male neighbour was responsible for the abuse.

A few women also reported that their male teachers had sexually abused them in their school. The number of reported incidents is not large, but it is of concern that in the few reported cases, teachers violate the children through various forms of sexual abuse including raping these young school girls.

In addition, girlfriends and female neighbours abuse young girls by forcing them to look at pornographic material, even when this makes girls feel uncomfortable.

4.4.e Kenya Sexual Violence: Reporting

Girls in Kenya overall do not report the incidents of sexual abuse. Out of the 500 young Kenyan women questioned only 142 said they had reported the sexual abuse they experienced. Some do not even realise that they are being abused:
"Violence is everywhere in the society and it is sad that some cases go unreported. I grew up in an extended family where dad's relatives were involved. At that time I did not know that I was being molested sexually by dad's relatives until when I grew up." Young Kenyan woman

When they do report the abuse it is primarily to female friends and to mothers, including stepmothers and adoptive mothers. Since their family is one of their main physical and psychological abusers, and female friends may be abused themselves, it is of no great surprise that young girls do not receive any great comfort from confiding in them.

Person abuse was reported to	Percentage
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	6.3%
Adult neighbour	2.1%
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	14.8%
Police	4.9%
Husband	2.1%
Teacher	4.2%
Boy/girlfriend	11.3%
Counsellor	8.5%
Sibling	11.3%
Religious leader	2.1%
Other relatives	3.5%
Employer or other co-worker(s)	0.7%
Friend(s), female	15.5%
Other children at school	3.5%
Friend(s), male	3.5%
Other children in my neighbourhood	2.1%
Parent of a friend	1.4%
Other	2.1%

Table 4.20 Kenya: Person abuse was reported to

More disturbing is that in the few cases where girls report the sexual violence, overwhelmingly nothing is done to redress the abuse. As one young Kenyan female says:

> "There's too much rape yet penalty for rapists is so light."

4.4.f Kenya Harmful Traditional Practices: Early Marriage

A significant number of girls in Kenya are married before they are 18 years old. From the survey population, 120 girls were married while still teenagers and some married as early as 13 years old.

4.4.g Kenya Harmful Traditional Practices: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

It is encouraging to see that most of the young women questioned in Nairobi had not been genitally mutilated. Out of the whole survey population, 56 said they had undergone the procedure as girls. For this small number, the experience was a traumatic one. One girl describes the impact female genital mutilation had on her: "I bled till I thought I would die and I still itch." Another girl testifies that she had bled profusely and had great difficulty urinating afterwards.

Age when girls were genitally mutilated			
Before the age of 5	**Between ages 5 and 9**	**Between ages 10 and 13**	**Between ages 14 and 17**
6.3%	16.7%	54.2%	22.9%

Table 4.21 - Kenya: Age at which FGM was Carried Out

4.5 Kenya Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices: Sexual Trafficking

The survey found very low instances of trafficking for sexual purposes. Only 26 – or 5.2 per cent - of the women questioned testified that they had been trafficked for sex when they were young. This low percentage may be in part due to the inaccessibility of trafficked women, rather than a true picture of how many women are thus exploited in Kenya. The very existence of these reported cases within the scope of this survey is of concern.

Those women who reported having been trafficked at an early age were exploited thus mainly by their boyfriends and, in fewer instances, by a male stranger or by a male relative. Three quarters of the girls did not report the incident and those that did saw no favourable outcome resulting from their reporting.

4.5.a Kenya Harmful Traditional Practices: Forced Prostitution

The survey also found a low incident rate of girls forced to become prostitutes. Of the 500 Kenyan women questioned, 29 said they were forcefully prostituted at a young age, while two reported this was done to them before they were 10 years old. Many of the 29 women say that an adult female neighbour coerced them into prostitution. The majority of these girls (65.6 per cent) said they never reported the exploitation to anyone.

How long girl worked as a prostitute			
Less than 1 month	**1-3 months**	**3-12 months**	**More than 1 year**
42.3%	23.1%	19.2%	15.4%

Table 4.22 - Kenya: Period Worked as a Prostitute

CHAPTER FIVE

VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS IN UGANDA

In Uganda the survey team found that 94.2 per cent of girls are physically abused, 99.6 per cent are psychologically abused and 95 per cent are sexually abused during their childhood. That is to say that out of a group of 10 Ugandan girls there will not be one girl that has not been physically, psychologically or sexually abused in one way or another as a child.

Ugandan girls are overwhelmingly battered psychologically by their close family members, especially their mother, who ensures that they feel stupid, worthless and a failure. When they go to school they are repeatedly beaten by their male teachers, who will then go on to sexually abuse them as they get older.

The girls are forced to carry out hard labour by their families and their teachers, and they are beaten if they refuse or if they do not perform their duties well. Physically and psychologically assaulted by female members of their family, as they get older they are sexually assaulted by their male friends, neighbours, strangers and even male relatives.

Most of them leave home at a young age, either forced to or escaping on their own, yet there is no safe haven to run to and little to expect from the society around them which has condoned all this violence against them during their childhoods.

5.1 Survey Population in Uganda

The Ugandan research team surveyed 500 young women (ages 18 to 24) selected through random social groups in the city of Kampala. Half of the young women questioned grew up in rural areas yet now are residing in the capital. Only one third of the girls were still living with their parents at the time of the survey, which may be indicative of the domestic violence they had to suffer as they grew up. Only

4 per cent of the girls had never had any schooling, yet most (70 per cent) had quit their studies at the time of the survey.

The questionnaire was given to the young women translated into Luganda, yet the responses were recorded in the original English copy. The Ugandan research team conducted face to face interviews and data collectors wrote down observations when going through the questionnaires with the young women.

5.2 Physical Violence Against Girls in Uganda

Out of the 500 young Ugandan women questioned, 471 (94.2 per cent) were physically abused in one way or another during their childhood. The most common type of violence faced was being beaten with an object by their male teachers, being hit and punched by their family, or denied food by their mothers. Half of them were forced to work hard and were beaten if they did not. Many were hit, kicked or stabbed for having broken something or for having carried out a task incorrectly.

Few of these girls told anyone about their abuse. Sadly, many think it was justified. Girls face a further challenge if they do want to report violence: the very people that should be protecting them are their abusers.

5.2.a Uganda Physical Violence: Prevalence

Being beaten with an object is the most prevalent form of violence experienced by the girls in the Ugandan survey population. Indeed, the survey shows that an alarmingly high number of girls growing up in Uganda are beaten with an object (85.8 per cent). This object could be a stick, a broom, belt or anything else at hand. Although experienced by far fewer girls, many girls in Uganda experience being hit or punched (55.0 per cent of the survey group).

Many of the types of violence experienced by these girls in Uganda were perpetrated as a form of punishment. For example, more than half the girls surveyed had been denied food as a form of punishment when they were children. Approximately half of these girls were denied food for more than two days and some for as long as a week.

Being forced to carry out hard work is also prevalent in Uganda. Almost half the girls questioned in Uganda were forced to work during their childhoods.

Furthermore, they were often beaten or denied food if they refuse to work. Out of 500 young women surveyed, 239 were forced to work hard as children. Girls are made to work in the home, doing all household chores, made to fetch water from distant wells, dig up gardens or make bricks, mixing the ingredients with their feet.

Although less common, one fifth (102 respondents) of the girls surveyed in Uganda had been choked, burned or stabbed at least once during their childhood. One young woman recalls:

> "One day I come home late and money had disappeared, I was accused of having stolen it by the stepmother, she stabbed me, when father come and reported I was again burnt. This was too much for me. I had to run away."

Being locked up or forcefully given spicy or bitter food or drink are relatively uncommon in Uganda with 18.2 per cent and 9 per cent of the girls questioned experiencing each of these forms of violence respectively. Yet the very fact that almost one fifth of girls were locked up, and one tenth of girls had been forcefully given spicy or bitter food or drink, is in itself deeply troubling.

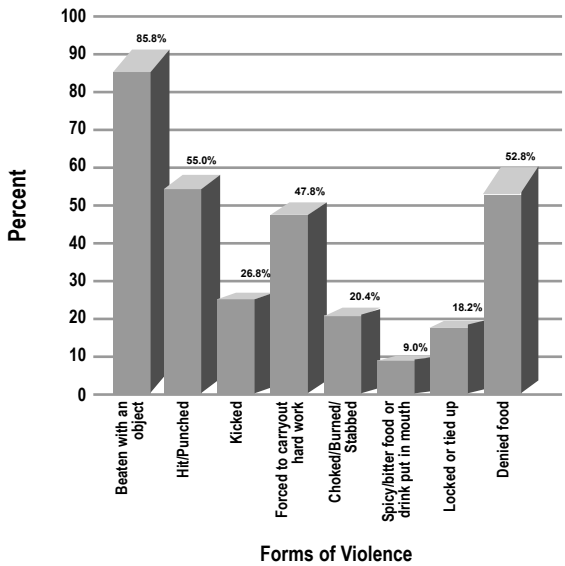

Figure 5.1 - Uganda: Prevalence of Physical Violence

5.2.b Uganda Physical Violence: Frequency of Abuse

The majority of girls who experienced most of the types of violence that they were questioned about, did so one or two times. However, girls who were beaten with an object tended to be subjected to the violence more than once. Out of the 500 young Ugandan women questioned, 429 said they had been beaten on several occasions during their childhood, while almost half were beaten regularly.

Being forced to carry out hard work was also more likely to happen on several occasions than the other types of violence. Over 70 per cent of the girls who were forced to carry out hard work, were made to do so on several occasions, while 21.3 per cent had to carry out hard work from more than 10 times to continuously.

Type of violence	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times
Hit/punched	52.0%	23.3%	9.8%	14.9%
Beaten with an object	12.8%	19.6%	24.7%	42.9%
Locked or tied up	80.2%	11.0%	5.5%	3.3%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	68.9%	15.6%	8.9%	6.7%
Choked/burned/stabbed	63.7%	20.6%	8.8%	9.9%
Forced to carry out hard work	21.8%	28.9%	20.9%	21.3%
Denied food	50.4%	30.3%	12.1%	7.2%

Table 5.1 - Uganda: Frequency of Forms of Physical Abuse

5.2.c Uganda Physical Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Type of violence	Before 5 years old	Between ages 5 and 9	Between ages 10 and 13	Between ages 14 and 17
	%	%	%	%
Hit/punched	1.5%	16.0%	38.2%	44.0%
Beaten with an object	0.2%	19.8%	57.1%	22.8%
Locked or tied up	1.4%	37.0%	56.2%	30.1%
Spicy/bitter food or drink put in mouth	0.0%	37.0%	56.2%	30.1%
Choked/burned/stabbed	2.0%	22.5%	49.0%	26.5%
Forced to carry out hard work	0.0%	18.4%	48.5%	3.1%
Denied food	0.0%	17.0%	51.1%	31.1%

Table 5.2 - Uganda: Age at which Violence Occurred

5.2.d Uganda Physical Abuse: Perpetrators

The survey suggests that girls in Uganda are most likely to experience violence between the ages of 10 and 13 years old. The only type of violence that is not most prevalent within this age group is being hit and punched, which more of the girls questioned experienced when they were aged between 14 and 17.

The decline in abuse as the girls get older may be attributed to many of them by this time having either left home, dropped out of school, or become larger physically making it harder to abuse them.

As with most of the other forms of physical abuse, girls are most likely to be forced to carry out hard work between the ages of 10 and 13. After they turn 14 years old, many of the girls said that they had left home and sought employment on their own. They do not consider this as to be forced work, thus explaining the apparent decline in the number of girls being forced to work hard within this age group. Many women explain further that when they were aged between 14 and 17 years old, they sought work in restaurants in markets or garages, washed clothes for neighbours and some even exchanged sex for money.

Despite the high levels of physical violence experienced by girls in Uganda, it is reassuring to see that the girls surveyed experienced very few incidents of violence before they were five years old as girls of this age are more likely to suffer serious physical harm as a result of their abuse.

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Hitting/punching	
Father	22.9%
Mother	17.1%
Brother	15.6%
Stepmother	14.5%
Other relative, female [7]	13.1%
Teacher, male	11.6%
Other relative, male [8]	10.9%

Most common perpetrators (identified by more than 10 per cent of respondents)	Percentage of Respondents
Kicking	
Brother	23.9%
Father	19.4%
Boys in neighbourhood	9.0%
Boyfriend	7.5%
Boy of same age	7.5%

Beating with an object	
Teacher, male	48.5%
Father	43.4%
Mother	42.9%
Other relative, female	15.9%
Stepmother	14.0%
Other relative, male	10.5%

Locking or tying up	
Stepmother	28.6%
Father	16.5%
Mother	13.2%

Putting spicy/bitter food or drink in a girl's mouth	
Stepmother	16.0%
Other relative, female	10.0%

Choking/burning/stabbing	
Stepmother	25.5%
Other relative, female	15.7%
Brother	14.7%

[7] Other female relatives include girls' grandmothers, aunts or cousins.
[8] Other male relatives include girls' grandfathers, uncles or cousins.

Denying food	
Stepmother	27.3%
Mother	26.1%
Other relative, female	20.5%

Forcing to carry out hard work	
Other relative, female	31.0%
Stepmother	25.1%
Father	13.8%
Mother	13.4%
Teacher, male	11.7%

Table 5.3 Uganda: Perpetrators of Physical Violence

Many of the girls surveyed experienced high levels of violence at school. For example, 48 per cent of respondents were beaten at school by their male teachers had experienced this. The chief pretext was that they had not done their homework. The women testified that apart from using sticks and rulers to hit them, male teachers would often also use blackboard erasers - a long stick with a sponge on the end, weighing up to half a kilo. Teachers also hit and punch girls, although apparently to a lesser extent than beating them. Indeed, male and female teachers were responsible for 20 per cent of incidents where girls were hit or punched.

At home, girls' situations are hardly better; 43 per cent of the girls said their father beat them during their childhood and a further 42.9 per cent that their mother beat them. The main reason tended to be failure to do housework.

The study indicated that kicking a girl is the type physical abuse men most commonly practice in Uganda. Women do not generally perpetrate this form of abuse. Of the 134 young women (27 per cent) who had been kicked as a child, almost 84 per cent of the incidents had been perpetrated by a man.

Strikingly however, it is often females who are responsible for the physical violence perpetrated against girls in Uganda. For some types of violence this is perhaps logical. The main food providers – women in the home – are inevitably the chief perpetrators of this violence against children. Stepmothers are indicated as the predominant abuser by the young women. Yet the girls' birth-mothers do not fall far behind, while other female relatives and sisters also subject children to this suffering. One young woman gave another insight into why females in the home take the lead in this abuse:

> "It [denying food] is easy to do, does not tax energy, fathers or men do more that involve physical [action] such as beating."

In addition, although male relatives including fathers and brothers and - in an abuse of their position of authority - even male teachers force girls to carry out hard work, they are predominantly made to work by females in their households (62.8 per cent). Female relatives and stepmothers are the primary perpetrators identified by the respondents but mothers and sisters also play a major role. Males such as fathers, brother and other relatives also pressure girls into hard labour. Male teachers abuse their position of authority to make girls work for them.

However, women in the home and at school are also responsible for many incidents of other types of physical violence, which do involve physical action on the part of the perpetrator. Stepmothers perpetrated more than one quarter of the cases of choking or stabbing experienced by the girls and mothers were responsible for 42.9 per cent of incidents where girls were beaten with an object.

5.2.e Uganda Physical Violence: Causes

Many of the girls who experienced physical violence before they were 18 years old were told why the abuse occurred. Of the girls who were hit or punched, 72 per cent were told why this took place. Out of 102 women who were choked, burned or stabbed as children, 61 said they were given an explanation by their abuser.

At school, girls were told that they were beaten because they were late for school, or the teacher thought they had misbehaved or had been disrespectful. In the home, apart from parents, girls' siblings and other relatives – with female relatives responsible for more beatings than their male counterparts - beat them because, for example, they had broken or lost something. Similarly girls were hit or punched, or denied food because they had been disrespectful tot heir elders or had not done some housework.

Other reasons given to girls for their abuse include:

- you stole something;
- you fought with other children;
- you were stubborn or disobedient.

In the case of being forced to carry out hard work, many explanations were not related to punishment for a misdemeanour. These include explanations that they are the only ones able to bring in money for the family, that they must learn how to work, or that they have to earn their money for their school fees and food, or simply that it is a punishment.

Alarmingly, the majority of girls who had experienced many of the types of violence thought the explanation they were given was reasonable. Of the girls who were beaten, 59 per cent thought they were given an acceptable explanation for the abuse. Only 55 of the respondents who were denied food feel that their abusers' explanation was unreasonable. Since females are the main perpetrators of this abuse it is troubling to consider that these young women might continue the practice, particularly as they are not even aware that it is not acceptable.

More reassuringly, there are types of violence that most girls felt were unacceptable. Only a third of the girls thought the explanation they received for being hit or punched was reasonable. And of the 61 girls who were given a reason for being choked, burned or stabbed, only 12 thought it was acceptable.

5.2.f Uganda Physical Violence: Effects and Impact

Many of the girls questioned who had experienced physical violence were adversely affected by it. Girls who were regularly beaten, for example, were not experiencing a light corporal punishment. More than half the girls who were beaten either had to visit a hospital or see a local doctor to treat the injuries she suffered. Further, many girls sustained injuries but were not taken to a doctor out of neglect or because the family wished to avoid scrutiny. Thus, many were confined to the house, and so missed school.

The effects of being hit or punched were also severe. Of those surveyed, 69 young Ugandan women said their injuries were so severe after they were hit that they had to see a doctor. But there were others who were not taken to a hospital or doctor despite broken bones. Forty five had to stay at home after they were hit, while 28 missed school due to their injuries. Further, more than half the girls – a total of 63 - had such severe injuries after being choked, burned or stabbed that they either had to see a doctor or could not leave the house.

Of the girls who were denied food, some experienced grave physical harm as a result of the extended period of denial. Twenty-two of the girls had to be hospitalised, some missed school and a great many of them simply stayed at home until they were given something to eat.

In addition, the effects of being forced into hard labour at such a young were immense for many girls. More than half the girls subjected to this abuse either had to go to a doctor, missed school, or had to stay in the house. The effects of being forced to work hard include chest pains, back aches, headaches and injuries sustained from hard physical labour.

Type of violence	Needed to go to a doctor	Missed school	Had to stay at home	Faced none of these problems
Hit /punched	21.1%	10.2%	16.4%	No data available
Beaten with an object	57.3%	41.9%	31.5%	75.0%
Hard work	25.9%	18.0%	14.2%	45.6%

Table 5.4 - Uganda: Physical Violence Resulting in Girls Seeking Medical Treatment, Missing School or Work, or Staying at Home

5.2.g Uganda Physical Violence: Reporting

Many girls never told anyone about the violence that they experienced. Those who did rarely saw a satisfactory outcome from their reporting, possibly because they did not tell an official third party or because in some cases, the very person they were talking to was one of the individuals responsible for much of the abuse they experienced.

Only 32 per cent of the young Ugandan women surveyed said they told someone that they were beaten. This is hardly surprising considering that many of the girls thought their beatings were justified and therefore probably accepted the violence as natural. Not one of the girls attempted to report the abuse to an official third party, like a counsellor or the police. The girls talked to their immediate family and with friends about the incident. Consequently, in most cases nothing happened as a result of their reporting. When some action was taken, the young women said the incident was not dealt with in a way that they were satisfied with. However, a small number of cases were dealt with favourable after someone was told about the violence. For example, one young Ugandan says that after reporting the beating she received at school to her family, "my father asked the teacher never to beat me again."

Other girls do not see redress because the person they report violence to is the same individual who is abusing them, or someone who is powerless to assist her such as a female friend. For example, less than half of the girls questioned (41 per cent) told someone about being hit or punched, which is unsurprising since most of the girls' abusers are their families or from school. When a girl told someone, it was her parents, siblings or friends: no official agents were notified.

Almost half the girls talked to someone about being forced to work so hard. Yet the only people they can confide in are their parents - themselves some of the prime

perpetrators - and their girlfriends. However, it is positive that 28 girls who reported the abuse saw the situation resolved in a satisfactory manner.

Half the girls never told anybody that they had been choked, burned or stabbed. When they did tell someone, usually it was their mother or stepmother - who are often carrying out this abuse. It is encouraging to note that 18 girls who did report the incident were satisfied with the outcome.

Again, half the girls did report being locked up. Usually the individual told was within their close circle of family and friends. Paradoxically most tell their mothers or stepmothers – the very people who are primarily responsible for the abuse. Thus, either there was no result from their reporting, or it was not dealt with in a way that was favourable for the girl. In a few cases, girls felt they were punished as a result of their reporting. However, 10 respondents did say that after they had reported the incident some positive action was taken to redress the abuse.

Some girls experienced further negative consequences as a result of reporting. For example, one young woman who was denied food by her family recounts:

> "Neighbours gave me food; when my father came to know, I was again beaten and the neighbour who gave food was accused of interfering in our family affairs."

Type of violence	Percentage of girls who reported abuse
Hit/punched	41.0%
Beaten with an object	32.0%
Denied Food	42.8%
Forced to carry out hard work	46.0%

Table 5.5 - Uganda: Trends in Reporting Cases of Physical Violence

Person violence was reported to	Number of respondents
Hitting/punching	
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	33
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	22
Friend, female	22
Brother or sister	17
Adult neighbour	11
Boyfriend/girlfriend	8
Other children at school	7
Friend, male	5
Parent of a friend	5
Other children in neighbourhood	4
Teacher	2
Religious leader	1
Councillor	1

Person violence was reported to	Number of respondents
Beating with an object	
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	50
Friend, female	35
Other relative	26
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	22
Adult neighbour	16
Brother or sister	14
Friend, male	14
Other children in neighbourhood	9
Boyfriend/girlfriend	7
Teacher	5

Locking or tying up	
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	14
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	8
Friend, female	8
Adult neighbour	8
Brother or sister	4
Boyfriend/girlfriend	3

Putting spicy/bitter food or drink in a girl's mouth	
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	10
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	9

Choking/burning/stabbing	
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	22
Other relative	14
Friend, female	12
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	11
Adult neighbour	7
Boyfriend/girlfriend	4
Police	4
Teacher	4

Denying food	
Friend, female	43
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	922
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	18
Other relative	18
Adult neighbour	18
Brother or sister	14
Friend, male	9
Boyfriend/girlfriend	7

Forcing to carry out hard work	
Mother/stepmother/adoptive mother	40
Friend, female	20
Brother or sister	18
Father/stepfather/adoptive father	14
Friend, male	8
Boyfriend/girlfriend	5

Table 5.6 - Uganda: Persons to Whom Physical Violence was Reported

Type of violence	Punished	Nothing happened	The incident was not dealt with in a satisfactory manner	The incident was dealt with in a satisfactory manner
	Count	Count	Count	Count
Locked or tied up	5	27	6	10
Spicy/				
bitter food or drink put in mouth	0	19	7	5
Choked/burned/stabbed	5	33	12	18
Forced to carry out hard work	9	50	22	28

Table 5.7 - Uganda: Consequences of Reporting

5.3 Psychological Violence Against Girls in Uganda

From the 500 young women questioned in Kampala, only two said that they had not been psychologically abused as a child. All the other 498 had experienced one or another form of psychological violence during their girlhood. They were shouted and glared at, they were insulted, embarrassed in public and if none of this worked they were simply ignored or forbidden to speak and communicate. Abuse was directed against them in order to batter their dignity and make them doubt their worth.

This constant verbal assault aims to humiliate and demean girls and unfortunately succeeds so well that the girls themselves then sometimes become a partisan of this policy and are even converted into one of its prime progenitors.

Apart from this type of psychological war, girls also grow up surrounded by violence, which would terrorise the hardiest adult not least of all a small child. They watch as people they know were beaten up, they watch as someone in their family or neighbourhood is murdered, they watch as someone who is accused by a mob of a petty felony is stripped and burned alive. They are themselves threatened to be killed.

But these young kids have no shelter, no safe haven to run to. Their home is where they are mainly psychologically abused, as well as physically abused. It is no wonder, therefore, that they would want to leave their home as soon as they can; over half of the women questioned in this survey left their home before they were 18 years old.

Psychological Violence	Number of Respondents who Experience Psychological Violence N = 500	
	Count	%
Shouted or glared at	444	88.8
Insulted	381	76.2
Witnessed the severe beating of another person	317	63.4
Embarrassed in front of others	311	62.2
Ignored	238	47.6
Left home before 18	222	44.4
Threatened with physical harm or death	192	38.4
Family members wished she had not been born	179	35.8
Threatened with abandonment	178	35.6
Forced to give away money or possessions	168	33.6
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	122	24.4
Made to use physical force against another person	121	24.2
Witnessed the killing of an known or unknown person	56	11.2

Table 5.8 - Uganda: Prevalence of Psychological Violence

The most prevalent form of psychological abuse the girls surveyed in Uganda experienced was being shouted or glared at (88.8 per cent), but a significant number reported having been insulted as a child (76.2 per cent). Some experienced threats because of their race, ethnic group or religion (24.4 per cent). This may be linked to Uganda's ethnic and religious diversity. There are over 40 tribes and three dominant religions; Christianity (66 per cent), Islam (12 per cent) and animism. Some of the girls reported that when they decided to convert to Christianity from Islam, they were threatened by their parents or boyfriends.

Psychological violence seems pervasive in Ugandan society, with abuse carried out by family, friends and teachers. This is an alarming indication of how acceptable such forms of violence are within Ugandan communities.

Another form of psychological violence experienced by many of the girls (62 per cent) is being embarrassed or shamed in front of others. One young woman remembers one of her male relatives saying to a group of people:

> "Look at this one so stupid, everything I tell her to do she fails. You are going to fail like your mother."

Parents and other relatives may further damage a girl's self esteem by expressing a wish that she had not been born or that she would die. Girls may be additionally isolated by being ignored or told not to speak (47.6 per cent).

The research revealed that 168 of the girls surveyed (34 per cent) had been forced to give away money or other possessions, which is perhaps unsurprising given the number of girls who were forced to work (47.8 per cent).

Further, girls in Uganda seem to live within a violent environment. Witnessing violence can traumatise any child, or indeed any adult. Physical abuse against girls in Uganda is prevalent, but watching a crime or incident of such violence committed against another person can be equally damaging psychologically, especially in cases of extreme violence.

Out of the 500 young Ugandan women questioned in the survey, 317 (63.4 per cent) had witnessed someone they know well being severely beaten. As violence often escalates, 11.2% of girls had not merely seen someone being severely beaten in front of them, but had witnessed a person they knew being murdered. A further 127 young Ugandan women had watched as someone they did not know was killed.

Some of the women recounted how these incidents were related to the execution of mob justice; a petty thief who is caught in the market trying to steal something and may be beaten, stripped and then killed by a mob. Usually, nothing is done to those who commit these acts. One young woman remembers her own childhood experience:

> "I stay at Kikubo location in Kawempe where I witnessed a young man killed. The whole experience was bad and people poured cooking oil and brought car tyres and the man was burn to ashes. I was shocked and the memory has never moved..."

In such violent surroundings, girls may themselves perpetrate violence. A number of the Ugandan women surveyed said they had been forced to use violence against another person. Further, growing up in such a violent environment means that Ugandan children are vulnerable to violence. Not only did girls watch severe beatings or murders of other people, but they were also threatened with grave physical harm or death.

Of the 500 young women surveyed, 192 said that they had been threatened with grave bodily harm or death. Since 85.5 per cent of the total survey population was beaten during their girlhood it is easy to understand why they would take this threat seriously and consequently be psychologically harmed.

Years of physical and psychological abuse within the home in many cases leads to threats from girls' families that they will be thrown out of home or abandoned (35.6 per cent). Although many of the girls were threatened with abandonment on one occasion (55.1 per cent), this may be because they left home before the threat could be repeated:almost half of the girls surveyed (222 respondents) left home before they were 18 years old. Half were forced to leave and many were pregnant when they moved out. The impact of having to leave home is immense: many of the girls who forced out of their homes were left with no choice but to drop out of school.

Type of violence	1 or 2 times	3-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10 times
Embarrassed in front of others	39.9%	33.1%	13.5%	13.5%
Forced to give away money or possessions	56.5%	23.2%	10.7%	9.5%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	41.0%	23.8%	4.9%	30.3%
Family members wishing she had not been born	49.7%	24.6%	8.4%	17.3%
Insulted	13.9%	26.2%	16.3%	43.6%
Shouted or glared at	13.3%	22.7%	21.8%	42.3%
Ignored	28.6%	28.6%	11.3%	31.5%
Threatened with abandonment	55.1%	24.2%	12.4%	8.4%
Witnessing severe beating of a known person	30.0%	33.8%	17.0%	19.2%
Witnessing killing of a known person	89.3%	1.8%	1.8%	5.4%
Witnessing the killing of an unknown person	89.0%	7.1&	2.4%	1.6%
Made to use physical force against another person	54.5%	24.0%	11.6%	9.9%
Threatened with physical harm or death	61.5%	22.4%	5.7%	9.9%

Table 5.9 - Uganda: Frequency of Forms of Psychological Violence

Many of the most isolating forms of violence happened either continuously or on a significant number of occasions. Almost half the girls said they were shouted or glared at repeatedly, and insulted more than 10 times as they grew up.

Girls who experienced some of the most traumatic types of psychological violence such as witnessing the killing of a known or unknown person, being threatened with harm, death or abandonment, or being made to use physical force against another person usually did so rarely, with proportions of 19.3 per cent, 89.0 per cent, 61.5 per cent and 54.5 per cent respectively of girls experiencing each of these forms of violence once or twice. However, the very fact that some girls were experiencing such violence from six to more than 10 times is disturbing.

Type of violence	Before the age of 5		Between 5-9		Between 10-13		Between 14-17	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Forced to give away money or possessions	0	0.0%	16	9.5%	71	42.3%	81	48.2%
Threatened because of race, ethnic group or religion	0	0.0%	5	4.1%	24	19.7%	93	76.2%
Family members expressed wish that girl had not been born	1	0.6%	21	11.7%	79	44.1%	78	43.6%
Insulted	1	0.3%	23	6.0%	164	43.0%	192	50.4%
Shouted or glared at	5	1.1%	61	13.7%	203	45.7%	175	39.4%
Ignored	1	0.4%	26	10.9%	85	35.7%	126	52.9%
Threatened with abandonment	0	0.0%	14	7.9%	54	30.3%	110	61.8%
Forced to leave home before 18	0	00=.0%	18	8.1%	66	29.7%	195	87.8%
Witnessed severe beating of a known person	1	0.3%	37	11.7%	141	44.5%	138	43.5%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	0	0.0%	9	16.1%	23	41.1%	23	41.1%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	0	0.0%	11	8.7%	39	30.7%	76	59.8%
Made to use physical force against another person	0	0.0%	12	9.9%	66	54.5%	43	35.5%
Threatened with physical harm or death	0	0.0%	15	7.8%	61	31.8%	115	59.9%

Table 5.11 - Uganda: Age at wich Violence Occured

Girls tend to experience more psychological abuse as they grow older. Every type of psychological violence is experienced more after girls are 10 years old. All forms, except family members expressing a wish that the girl had not been born, being shouted or glared at, and being made to use force against another person were most prevalent amongst girls aged 14 to 17 years old.

The increase in threats because of race, ethnic group or religion, may be linked to choices that girls tend to make when they are older: many of the threats were made because the girl converted religion – a course of action older girls may feel better equipped to take.

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Shouting or glaring at girl	
Mother	35.6%
Father	31.1%
Other relative, female	23.0%
Stepmother	18.9%
Teacher, female	18.7%
Sister	15.8%
Other relative, male	13.1%
Brother	12.8%

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Insulting girl	
Father	20.5%
Mother	20.2%
Stepmother	19.7%
Other relative, female	19.7%
Sister	16.5%
Brother	13.4%
Other relative, male	11.3%
Boyfriend	10.8%

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Embarrassing girl in front of others	
Other relative, female	19.0%
Teacher, male	18.0%
Stepmother	15.8%
Mother	11.9%
Father	11.6%
Sister	10.3%

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Ignoring girl	
Mother	31.5%
Father	27.3%
Stepmother	19.7%
Other relative, female	13.9%
Sister	10.5%

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Made to leave home before 18	
Father	28.1%
Stepmother	24.6%
Other relative, female	21.9%
Mother	21.1%

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Family members expressing wish girl had no been born	
Stepmother	33.5%
Other relative, female	27.9%
Other relative, male	15.6%
Sister	12.3%
Mother	11.2%

Threatening girl with abandonment	
Stepmother	28.7%
Stepfather	23.6%
Father	12.3%
Mother	11.8%
Other relative, male	11.8%

Family members expressing wish girl had no been born	
Stepmother	33.5%
Other relative, female	27.9%
Other relative, male	15.6%
Sister	12.3%
Mother	11.2%

Forced girl to give away money or possessions	
Other relative, female	26.2%
Mother	25.6%
Stepmother	18.5%
Sister	14.3%

Threatening girl because of her race, ethnic group or religion	
Other relative, female	17.2%
Other relative, male	11.5%
Father	10.7%

Table 5.12 - Uganda: Perpetrators of Psychological Violence

Parents, including girls' stepmothers, female relatives and siblings take the lead in almost every type of psychological violence from insulting girls, and shouting or glaring, to threatening girls and expressing a wish that they had not been born. Male teachers are responsible for some psychological abuse of the girls in their care, but tend to restrict themselves to embarrassing girls in front of others, while female teachers generally abuse girls by shouting or glaring at them.

Contrary to the belief that it is almost invariably men who carry out violence against girls, it is females who head the lists of perpetrators of psychological violence. This may indicate that women, who have themselves experienced psychological abuse, perpetuate a cycle of violence.

Type of violence	Home		Neighbourhood		School		Workplace		Other	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Witnessed severe beating	147	46.4%	228	71.9%	94	29.7	6	1.9%	0	0.0%
Witnessed the killing of a known person	20	35.7%	33	58.9%	2	3.6%	0	0.0%	4	7.1%
Witnessed the killing of an unknown person	5	3.9%	73	57.5%	5	3.9%	2	1.6%	44	34.6%
Made to use physical force against another person	53	51.2%	34	28.1%	62	51.2%	1	0.8%	2	1.7%
Threatened with physical harm or death	109	56.8%	44	22.9%	31	16.1%	8	4.2%	8	4.2%

Table 5.13 - Uganda: Place where psychological Violence took place

Information given by the young women in response to the survey suggests that some particularly disturbing types of psychological violence occur in the very places girls should feel protected - their homes, neighbourhoods and schools. Almost three quarters of these Ugandan girls had witnessed someone being severely beaten in their neighbourhood: a further 46.4 per cent had seen this taking place in their home.

Predominantly, girls saw people killed in their neighbourhood (57.5 per cent for an unknown person and 58.9 per cent for of someone who was known to the girl), but five girls witnessed someone being murdered while at school.

5.4 Sexual Violence Against Girls in Uganda

5.4.a Uganda Sexual Violence: Introduction

Brought up in an environment of fear and humiliation, where a girl's dignity and self-respect is constantly battered, as girls enter adolescence they will be further assaulted. This time the abuse is of a sexual nature.

As girls reach puberty, verbal sexual abuse becomes constant and omnipresent. It is carried out by male friends, boys in the neighbourhood, adult neighbours, strangers and girls' teachers.

These same abusers will take violence further, molesting girls physically, exposing their genitalia to girls, forcing girls to touch their genitals and ultimately raping them.

Few girls report these crimes, and if they do it is rarely to an official third party. When girls do report sexual violence they have experienced, generally nothing is done as a result.

5.4.b Uganda Sexual Violence: Prevalence

Type of violence	Number of Respondents who Experience Psychological Violence	
	Count	%
Verbally abuse	444	88.8%
Indecently sexually touched	263	52.6%
Raped	213	42.0%
Forced to look at pornography	189	37.8%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	169	33.8%
Abuser exposed their genitalia	160	32.0%
Forced to perform oral sex	56	11.2%
Forced to pose sexually	28	5.6%

Table 5.14 - Uganda: Prevalence of Sexual Violence

Where sexualised language is pervasive and women and girls are considered as sexual objects, often other types of sexual abuse are common. In Uganda, girls grow up in an environment of constant verbal sexual abuse: of the 444 (88 per cent) of girls who had experienced verbal sexual abuse, more than half said that incidents were repeated many times during their childhoods. Another third of the girls had witnessed someone exposing their genitalia to them.

But sexual violence committed against girls can be far more intrusive. A third of the young women (33.8 per cent) had been forced to touch someone's genitals. A smaller - but not insignificant - number were forced to perform oral sex (11.2 per cent). When abusers find themselves able to breach such intimate boundaries without being held accountable, they may feel free to carry out other violent assaults. The survey found that out of a group of 10 Ugandan girls, four will be raped before they are 18 years old.

Modern technologies have exposed girls to new types of sexual violence. Over one third of these girls (37.8 per cent) were forced to look at pornography or sexual scenes in magazines, photographs, videos or on the internet.

In a related form of abuse that is currently uncommon in Uganda, 5.6 per cent of the girls surveyed had been forced to pose sexually. Some girls explained that their parents had made them pose sexually to get money from a local tabloid or magazine.

5.4.c Uganda Sexual Violence: Frequency

Type of violence	1 or 2 times		3-5 times		6-10 times		More than 10 times	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Verbally abused	243	54.7%	83	18.7%	70	15.8%	48	10.8%
Abuser exposed their genitalia	104	65.0%	32	20.0%	0	0.0%	16	10.0%
Forced to look at pornography	64	33.9%	62	32.8%	33	17.5%	29	15.3%
Forced to pose sexually	19	67.9%	6	21.4%	2	7.1%	1	3.6%
Indecently sexually touched	139	52.9%	72	27.4%	31	11.8%	21	8.0%
Forced to perform oral sex	33	58.9%	12	21.4%	8	14.3%	3	5.4%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	92	54.4%	43	25.4%	19	11.2%	14	8.3%
Raped	156	73.2%	35	16.4%	10	4.7%	12	5.6%

Table 5.15 - Uganda: Frequency of Sexual Violence Against Girls

Girls who were made to look at pornography were forced to do so between one and more than 10 times in roughly equal proportions.

However, most types of abuse occurs usually only once or twice before the young women turnss 18 years old. The majority of girls who were indecently sexually touched experienced this only once or twice (52.9 per cent). A similar pattern emerges for being made to touch an abuser's genitals ((54.4 per cent), seeing someone expose their genitalia (65.0 per cent) and being raped (73.2 per cent). But a significant number of girls experienced such abuse on multiple occasions; 5,6 per cent of girls were raped more than 10 times; 19.5 per cent of the girls were forced to touch an abuser's genitals between six and more than 10 times.

5.4.d Uganda Sexual Violence: Most Vulnerable Age Groups

Type of violence	Before the age of 5		Between ages 5 and 9		Between ages 10 and 13		Between ages 14 and17	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Verbally abused	0	0.0%	3	0.7%	147	33.1%	294	66.2%
Abuser exposed their genitalia	2	1.3%	3	1.9%	35	21.9%	120	75.0%
Forced to look at pornography	0	0.0%	4	2.1%	48	25.4%	136	72.0%
Forced to pose	0	0.0%	2	7.1%	9	32.1%	17	60.7%
Experienced Indecent sexual touching	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	72	27.4%	189	71.9%
Forced to perform oral sex	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	14.3%	48	85.7%
Forced to touch abuser's genitalia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	36	21.3%	132	78.1%
Raped	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	28	13.1%	182	85.4%

Table 5.16 - Uganda: Age at which Incidents of Sexual Violence Occurred

It seems that most sexual abuse takes place when the girl is at least 10 years old. A small proportion of younger girls are verbally abused (0.7 per cent), witness an abuser exposing their genitalia (3.2 per cent), are forced to pose sexually (7.1 per cent), and experience indecent sexual touching (0.8 per cent).

The number of incidents of sexual violence increase as the girls grow older, with 84.4 per cent of reported rape cases, and 78.1 per cent of cases where girls are forced to touch their abusers' genitalia, happening when girls are between the ages of 14 and 18.

5.4.e Uganda Sexual Violence: Introduction

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Abused girl verbally	
Adult neighbour, male	48.2%
Stranger, male	48.0%
Boyfriend	39.4%
Older child at school	27.9%
Teacher, male	25.7%
Boys in neighbourhood	25.2%
Boy of same age	19.8%

Perpetrators	Percentage of Number
Exposed genitalia to girl	
Boyfriend	22.5%
Adult neighbour, male	15.0%
Stranger, male	13.1%

Forced girl to look at pornography	
Boyfriend	22.2%
Girlfriend	20.1%
Child of same age, undisclosed gender	17.5%
Boy of same age	10.6%

Forced girl to pose sexually	
Occasional sexual partner	28.6%
Mother	14.3%
Stepmother	10.7%

Indecent sexual touching girl	
Boyfriend	31.2%
Stranger, male	26.6%
Adult neighbour, male	15.6%
Older child at school	11.0%

Forced girl to perform oral sex	
Boyfriend	46.4%
Occasional male sexual partner	23.2%
Stranger, male	12.5%

Raped girl	
Boyfriend	32.4%
Adult neighbour, male	14.6%
Employer, male or other male workers	11.7%
Stranger, male	10.3%

Table 5.16 - Uganda: Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

Most perpetrators of sexual violence against girls are male. For example, a culture of sexualised language is maintained by many Ugandan males; older boys at school, boyfriends, neighbourhood boys and even male relatives or police officers. A high number (25.7 per cent) of cases of verbal sexual abuse are perpetrated by male teachers.

In the case of girls being persuaded to touch an abuser's genitals, boyfriends head the list of perpetrators, but there are other abusers whose presence on such a list is perhaps more disturbing: male strangers; male adult neighbours; male employers; schoolboys and male teachers.

Boyfriends are also the primary perpetrators where abusers expose their genitals to girls; where they are forced to touch their abuser's genitals; or where they are raped. However, male fellow-workers, neighbours, strangers and other male children also appear high on these lists.

In contrast, girls are usually forced to look at pornography by female friends – and may go on to do the same to other girls at some point. In addition, siblings are involved in making their younger sisters look at graphically sexual material, along with boyfriends, fellow schoolchildren and male adult neighbours.

So, the threat of sexual violence pervades girls' lives. Girls may be raped by their male employer, a co-worker or male stranger who has already verbally abused and indecently sexually touched her; or, indeed, her male teacher, who has already physically and psychologically battered her may compound this abuse be sexually assaulting her.

5.4.f Uganda Sexual Violence: Exploitation

Various practices undermine a girl's integrity and freedom of will in addition to violating her dignity. The survey reviews some of these practices within the Ugandan societal context.

Type of violence	Number of respondents who experienced sexual exploitation or an HTP	
	Number	Per cent
Trafficked for sexual purposes	51	10.2%
Early marriage	48	9.6%
Forced into prostitution	35	7.0%

Table 5.17 – Uganda: Proportion of Girls who Experience Sexual Exploitation or HTPs

5.4.g Uganda Sexual Violence: Early Marriage

The traditional practice of marrying young girls at an early age seems to be declining in Uganda. Of the 500 young women questioned only 48 were married at the time of the survey. Yet despite this low number, of concern is the fact that all of those married said they felt they had been pressured to do so. Their families pushed the girls to marry, with female relatives, fathers, and mothers or stepmothers applying the most pressure.

Perpetrator	Number	Per cent
Other relative, female	15	31.3%
Father	11	22.9%
Mother	7	14.6%
Stepmother	7	14.6%
Other relative, male	6	12.5%
Sister	4	8.3%
Foster mother	3	6.3%
Brother	2	4.2%
Boyfriend	2	4.2%

Table 5.18 - Uganda: Individuals who Pressure Girls to Marry before they are 18 Years Old

5.5 Uganda Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices: Trafficking for Sexual Purposes

The indices for trafficking for sexual purposes was not revealed as very high in Uganda through this survey, but this may be due to the inaccessibility to trafficked girls. Simply the fact that of the 500 young women questioned in Kampala 51 said they had been trafficked as girls is a worrying sign.

It is also troubling to note that although 44 girls said they had been trafficked between the ages of 14 and 17 years old, there were seven that testified that they were trafficked at a much earlier age.

The vast majority of girls who were trafficked are kept away from their homes for less than six months (70.6 per cent), but 15.7 per cent of girls trafficked for sexual purposes were kept away for more than a year.

Disturbingly it is a girl's female friend who is most likely to traffic her, accounting for 23.5 per cent of cases.

The majority of girls who reported the incident told a female friend (55.6 per cent). Little was done to address the situations of these girls, and only three out of 16 were satisfied by the outcome of their reporting.

5.5.a Uganda Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices: Forced Prostitution

Despite again the prevalence rate among the survey population being low, it is nevertheless troubling that a certain number of girls were forced at an early age into prostitution in Uganda. From the young women questioned, 35 admitted that they were forced to prostitute themselves before they were 18 years old.

Approximately one third of the girls who prostituted themselves did so for less than one month. Only 11.4 per cent worked in prostitution for more than a year.

One young woman from the Nankulabye slums of Kampala explains how she was lured into prostitution when she was still an adolescent:

> "The girl friends are former or current sex workers who teach you the practice and find you men to exchange sex for favour."

Indeed, 48.6 per cent of cases of coerced prostitution are attributed to a female friend, making them the primary abusers in this situation.

Only 12 girls reported the incident. Not one of them was satisfied by the outcome.

5.5.b Uganda Sexual Exploitation and Harmful Traditional Practices: Conclusion

Although the number of girls who are sexually exploited make up a small proportion of the girls questioned in the survey, the fact that any girls were trafficked or coerced into prostitution is alarming. Further, many of the girls continue to experience pain and exploitation in the name of tradition.

CONCLUSION

> "I thank you for this quiz because it has made me realize we have our rights." – a young Kenyan woman

The findings of these surveys only begin to scratch the surface of the problems and issues surrounding violence perpetrated against African girls. There are several areas of particular concern where follow-up research and grassroots activities, such as education workshops or training seminars about the cost of violence might be needed. One major issue to come out of this study is problems relating to the perception and attitude toward violence. Many of the girls surveyed considered much of the abuse they suffered, both physical and psychological, to be appropriate or "normal". Many of the girls even felt that the explanations given for their abuse were reasonable. Such attitudes may demonstrate a limited level of education about the consequences of such abuse. In addition, while sexual abuse was generally regarded as a violation of their rights, only a few of the girls surveyed reported it. And, in the few instances when they did, overwhelmingly nothing happened to redress the violence. Although the problem might be attributed to culture and tradition, the problem might equally be due to the current reporting mechanism that actually discourages victims and witnesses.

The study revealed the presence of every type of violence against girls at all of the study sites, although with slight variations in prevalence and magnitude. But what did remain consistent within the study is the dominance of the female perpetrator. The girls in the three African countries are significantly physically and psychologically abused by other females; their mother, sisters, female teachers and female relatives. This fact, together with the fact that many of the girls stated the abuse they suffered was acceptable, points to a possible vicious perpetuating cycle in which the abused will become the abuser. Girls who have been so battered physically and emotionally by other women that they come to believe they are worthless, will be even less able to defend themselves against the physical and psychological assaults that may await them from men as they get older.

The biggest problem to solving the "why" behind the female perpetrator is the lack of comprehensive data on the female as the abuser, or for that matter, any real data on any of the perpetrators. This hinders the development of interventions and remedial programmes because other than general information such as age, sex and income, there is no real evidence about the abusers to go on. Hence, the need for regularly and systematically collecting and analysing relevant data about

not only those suffering from violence, but about those who commit the violent acts themselves. Such information could serve as a basis to effectively design and implement intervention strategies. In this regard, participatory research methods on every level should be key when collecting data.

In Ethiopia, data collectors helping the respondents with their questionnaire said that many of the women would begin crying as they became aware that the violence committed against them was not right; many would inquire about how they could go about seeking redress for the abuse they had suffered. Even the simple act of asking about and listening to the suffering of these girls is empowering. Giving an African girl a voice, is giving her dignity and strength.

It is a way forward.

> "Thank you for conducting this research. I like to be treated like a human being not an animal." – a young Kenyan woman

Appendix 1

Profile of Respondents in Ethiopia

Age	Respondents	Per cent
18	140	28.9%
19	103	21.2%
20	45	9.3%
21	39	8.0%
22	41	8.5%
23	61	12.6%
24	56	11.5%
Years of Education	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
No schooling	6	1.2%
1-5 years	20	4.1%
6 or 7	62	12.8%
8 or 9	68	14.0%
10 or 11	136	28.0%
12 or 13	193	39.8%
Current Educational Status	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
Still at school	326	67.2%
Studying in a technical college	23	4.7%
Studying at university	42	8.7%
Studying long distance	8	1.6%
Not studying right now	86	17.7%

Status of Employment	Respondents	Per cent
Full time	216	44.5%
Part time	38	7.8%
Unpaid work	37	7.6%
Not working	194	40.0%
Born and Raised	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
On a farm	17	3.5%
In a village	78	16.1%
A town	251	51.8%
A big city	137	28.2%
Other	2	.4%
Current Living Arrangement	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
With one or both parents	259	53.4%
With spouse/partner	26	5.4%
With spouse/partner and other relatives	12	2.5%
With family and people who are not relatives	75	15.5%
With friends	22	4.5%
At work place	17	3.5%
In a dormitory	17	3.5%
Alone	46	9.5%
Other	11	2.3%
Total	**485**	**100.0%**

Appendix 2

Profile of Respondents in Kenya

Age	Respondents	Per cent
18	72	14.4%
19	69	13.8%
20	80	16%
21	81	16.2%
22	79	15.8%
23	53	10.6%
24	66	13.2%
Years of Education	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
No schooling	15	3%
1-5 years	18	4%
6 or 7	39	8%
8 or 9	59	12%
10 or 11	42	9%
12 or 13	317	65%
Current Educational Status	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
Still at school	57	12%
Studying in a technical college	99	20%
Studying at university	44	9%
Studying long distance	14	3%
Not studying right now	274	56%

Status of Employment	Respondents	Per cent
Full time	92	19%
Part time	51	10%
Unpaid work	21	4%
Not working	326	67%
Born and Raised	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
On a farm	47	10%
In a village	159	33%
A town	172	35%
A big city	107	22%
Other	4	1%
Current Living Arrangement	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
With one or both parents	191	39%
With spouse/partner	52	11%
With spouse/partner and other relatives	59	12%
With family and people who are not relatives	48	10%
With friends	24	5%
At work place	29	6%
In a dormitory	28	6%
Alone	43	9%
Other	14	3%
Total	**500**	**100.0%**

Appendix 3

Profile of Respondents in Uganda

Age	Respondents	Per cent
18	163	33%
19	107	21%
20	96	19%
21	37	7%
22	38	8%
23	27	5%
24	32	6%
Years of Education	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
No schooling	19	4%
1-5 years	81	16%
6 or 7	109	22%
8 or 9	94	19%
10 or 11	96	19%
12 or 13	101	20%
Current Educational Status	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
Still at school	112	22%
Studying in a technical college	30	6%
Studying at university	11	2%
Studying long distance	3	1%
Not studying right now	343	69%

Status of Employment	Respondents	Per cent
Full time	55	11%
Part time	46	9%
Unpaid work	12	2%
Not working	386	77%
Born and Raised	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
On a farm	5	1%
In a village	223	45%
A town	163	33%
A big city	100	20%
Other	9	2%
Current Living Arrangement	**Respondents**	**Per cent**
With one or both parents	147	29.5%
With spouse/partner	106	21.2%
With spouse/partner and other relatives	49	9.8%
With family and people who are not relatives	49	9.8%
With friends	41	8.2%
At work place	29	5.8%
In a dormitory	28	5.6%
Alone	18	3.6%
Other	32	6.4%
Total	**500**	**100.0%**