



WOMEN INCLISIVITY IN SECURITY AND PEACE IN GARISSA COUNTY

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ABSTRACT :

Women have clear-cut roles to offer in the security mechanisms in the perspectives of social economic, cultural and religious aspects. Women have the motivation to accelerate effectively and participating in many issues including the resolving of conflicts in affected areas for permanent solution. Their participation in various issues promotes harmony and safe for the societies. Women are known as the mirror of the society, when they are marginalized the societies are oppressed. This study aims to assess the inclusivity of women in security, peace and harmony in the society and the factors hindering women inclusivity in security peace in Garissa County. Qualitative research design was applied where cross sectional research design was applied to carry and the data was collected through questionnaire, interviews and secondary data from a sample of 150 respondents including women representing both National and County Governments. The data analysis was conducted using SPSS Version 25 using descriptive statistic and inferences. The findings showed women involvements in peace and security in the county played a significant role in minimizing the conflicts rates. It also contributes National integration especially pastoralist societies. Therefore, this study recommended the relevant government agencies and international organizations to support peace involvement in security issues, being stakeholders of security agencies in the Garissa County.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Women play vital role to end wars in application of traditional approaches. In 2014 the world realized the highest rates of death since nineties and even emerging of the cold war. In globe there were displacement from wars, violence's rape cases, kidnapping and other vices (U. N security resolution 1325(2000). They contributed to the world peace and took leads on ending the extremism in the societies. Women involving in peace and conflicts and likelihoods that will breakout. Women strengthen peace theses has necessitated to minimize the upsurge of the war or conflicts instead mediation is more preferred tool to ensure conflicts could recur in the area compared to military zones (U.N SecurityResolution1820(2008). Women promotes dialogue and build mutual trust in the society .Women acts as honest brokers in peace mediation compared to men ,this has brought trust to women dialogue in conflicts areas .this has happened in Srilanka where the rebels refused to talk to the government and opted to talk to negotiators (women). Women hails the wounds of the war and bridges through mobilizing strong coalitions in the conflicts areas .Women adapted to build coalition through bridging war affected societies using ethnics ,religious political wings and cultural apparatus to heal the conflict. In Philippines women had level of mediation's that beard fruits the 2014 peace accords between the government and Moro Islamic liberation fronts. This has given space for more talks and the women acted as a broader based society to bring more rebels to the mediation's rooms. Women raised fundamental issues that are vital for peace prosperity. They proposed women as less involved in war but die in higher number indirect effects. These are brought by breakdown of social order, human right violation, spread of social crimes to women, spread of infectious disease and economic devastation (U.N Resolution2467 (2019). Therefore, women act as stumbling blocks breakers in the conflict's areas, when war broke the risks that the society's passes will fall on women in political, social, economic activities. In Rwanda experienced across the civil war brings these statics to life (U.N Resolution2122 (2013).

1.2 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The aim of the study is to analysis the factors that promotes women inclusivity in peace and security and factors that hinders the inclusivity of the women in security and peace in Garissa County. The study targets:

- i. To analysis the factors promoting women to participate in security and peace building in Garissa County.
- ii. To explore issues that hinders the participation of women in peace, security building in Garissa County.

1.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- i. What are the factors promoting women to participate in peace and security in Garissa County?
- ii. What are the issues hindering the women to participate in peace, security in Garissa County?

1.4 JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY.

Women are the most affected individuals in the societies .When there's war or conflicts in the war prone areas .They can make a significant change in the societies when they involve in the participation of decision making .They apply traditional approaches such as changing the minds of the societies to stop crimes and other atrocities, take part in the mediation process of the war conflicts agents ,they can bring mutual understanding and create atmosphere of meditations and talks .They also craft on the process of agreement and leads to prosperous understanding Therefore women involved in peace and security in Garissa county.

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEWS

Women involvement in peace and security in the world is underpinned on peacemaking ideas voluntarily between the armed conflicts and peace-making agents. The literature entailed the concepts of conflicts, factors promoting women inclusivity in peace and security and the issues hindering women inclusivity in peace and security , social inclusion theory ,conceptual frameworks of women inclusivity in peace and security inclusivity of women .Peace building is very important process of achieving mutual peace and understanding .According to Bertram peace is a new field .Women roles as mediators are termed as community level-disputes resolution ,for example Somali women are termed to serve first line mediators propelling message between clans to settle disputes as they have greater freedom of movement of the conflict members due to inter-clan marriage(Antonniapotter).Another study in Philippine south Asia Mindanao reports long traditional leading community level disputes resolution which ranges from mediating to conflicting clans to negotiating. In Liberia Muslim women and Christian women came together in pressure warring parties, they established negotiation that ended the disastrous conflicts in the country. In Kenya some communities in North Rift women formed community peace dialogue of course they are not allowed women to play mediation roles in the society due to cultural norms They led peace building efforts meant to confronting initial held patriarchal norms .In Kisumu and Nandi had a crucial negotiation peace .In 2014 a month long conflicts halt the business between two communities, it was stopped by the women from both sides worked tirelessly to end the conflicts. In 2016 two prominent women with a wide group of likeminded individuals set up compounded groups from different communities in conflicts affecting communities .They called POTUMA women forum .This was formed by the pokot,Turkana and marakwet communities and compromised the long lasting agreements in the conflicts through negotiation of the groups ,this challenged the patriarchal beliefs that women cannot participation in peace and security issues.

2.1 CONCEPT OF THE CONFLICTS

Conflicts can be defined incompatibility of interest ,goals ,values needs ,expectation or ideology of an individuals ,groups or an organization .It is as result of disagreements between the actors on the basis of perceived incompatible goals (conflicts sensitivity consortium2012:2).Concepts of conflicts are the idea behind the conflicts .this can be brought by territorial boundaries and boarder conflicts, where this has continuous subjects of political unrest or conflicts and subjects matter is boundaries .Some of the major conflicts are brought by various aspects such as political dimensions changes, availability of Natural resources or expansion of settlements of the existing communities.

2.2 FACTORS PROMOTING WOMEN INCLUSIVITY IN PEACE AND SECURITY.

Women are stumbling blocks for social, economic and political sphere in Africa. They're ultimate agreements the entire world on women protection, prevention, participation and partnership and coordination within the continents including Africa, this will bring change in physical dimension of the countries in Africa.

Participation mechanisms on women in the conflicts areas needs to be addressed. It helps to emphasize the needs for capacity building and more awareness raising of the programs for the women in regards to the National laws which provides protections to the women through engagements in advocating and promoting protection with their irrespective governments. These helped the women to be more enlightened on compacting the conflicts issues and more trained on the conflict's resolution. The involvement of women in dialogue creates honest and promotes peace this leads women to act decisively in the conflicts areas. This also motivates the warring parties to assume that women are non-partisan in conflicting societies hence seen as less threats them. Women act outside formal power mechanism and to be assumed to be inciters or prevents of the conflicts and mobilizing the wars this has accelerated the conflicts parties to deny the leaders in the negotiation.

Prevention of the women in peace and conflicts areas. The implementation of the legislative framework to identify the existing discriminatory rules and regulation with legislative laws may prevent the women from being discriminated, gender imbalance, human trafficking and violation of women rights in marriage, inheritances.

Participation of women in decision making in affected areas of conflicts and peace. Women should be given equal participation and gender equality in peace and security in decision making at all level of conflicts in the society .The participation can attained in wholeheartedly in the legislative areas such as National parliaments and local public agencies and increasing women participation in security force and other forces including intelligent agencies ,the corporate corps and peace negotiators .The involvement of other partnership in women peace and security including the international development agencies are paramount to take measure especially the multi-national agencies to collaborate and making a horizontal suggestions .The endorsement of the (UNSCR 1325) resolution that engaged upon the provision of the guidance on how members states can ensure women peace and

security and request the international community to participate in the implementation on this agenda of the partnership. The women peace and peace security agenda which was endorsed in 2000 compliments issues like gender equality, decent work, economic growth and inclusive governance and peace.

2.3 FACTORS HINDERING WOMEN INCLUSIVITY IN PEACE AND SECURITY.

Several studies have identified several factors that hinders women not involved in peace and security in the county that are affected areas but in this context the research study laid down some of these problems.

Low-level of education among women in the peace and security in the society. Education is life (John Dewey) socialist inspired. The firm embedded society with education always propels compared to illiterate society. Women are sidelined as not an educated as men to handle diligent negotiations that needs courageous as men does. Women are not subjected to meaningful participation especially governance structure hence subjected to high rate of illiteracy rates that skewed in favor of the masculine in many African states including Kenya. The few literates' women in the society are marginalized or isolated from the society.

Lack of skills and experiences in handling peace and security negotiations' concepts of negotiating in conflicts affected areas are to be carefully. Women are criticized to have no any skills or experiences in handling peace and to part in negotiating tables. This has lowered the compatibility of the women tackle the crucial talks and hence cannot handle peace security. Women are diligent people in the society with soft embarked talks that may not bear fruits for the community.

Armed conflicts and insecurity among the society in the conflicts affected areas. The conflicts and militarization leads to prolong impacts on the society especially vulnerable people such as women and the children to post war violence's and securities. Due the changes of genders roles there's likelihood of increased domestic violence's in such formula. Women cannot lead negotiations table where there tensions or unrest in the situation.

Restrictive patriarchal institutions. Women are restricted by the patriarchal misconception where men are predominantly occupied the most of the leadership compared to women. This has been termed as social norms and attitudes that reinforce traditional beliefs on genders roles in the community. Majority of actors in conflicts and post conflicts settings from the communities and peace keeping to international organization and peace negotiating delegations usually have strong bias the inclusivity of women in peace and security (U.N INSTRAW2008).

Religious Norm, cultural perspectives and travel ban on women. The restrictive measure put upon the women not taking part in negotiation table in conflicts areas are common in some societies Women are tied by the cultural perspectives and even ban in travelling to far distances. This norms has made women as subordinates and men as they are superior. Some community have strong culture and religious norms where women are not allowed to go out in the public and cannot communicate with men in the publicly. Some cultural practices placed women at a lower position in such a way that they cannot represent a whole society in negotiating table and any agreement reached can be nullified due to feminal positions.

Poverty, personal attributes and confidences of the women in the society. Women are termed to be the breadwinner of the family, they hustle and struggle to make ends meet in their daily activities to sustain the family and alleviate poverty. The presence of in the family duties is important in the prosperity of the family. This subjected their personal attributes towards development and the achieving of the daily tasks. The confidentiality of the women to handle sensitive part of the family progress.

The perception on the responsibility of women towards leadership. The misconception of gender roles are only affecting women opportunity but also in making decision, roles and even the confidence to participate actively in decision making in the negotiation. This has positively affected the opportunity and desire of the take apart decision making roles in various places. Who take up a powerful leadership positions are considered as diverting the social norms and allowing men to lead and women branded to be failure in their household responsibility at home.

2.1.0 THEORITICAL CONCEPTS.

2.1.1. SOCIAL INCLUSION THEORY.

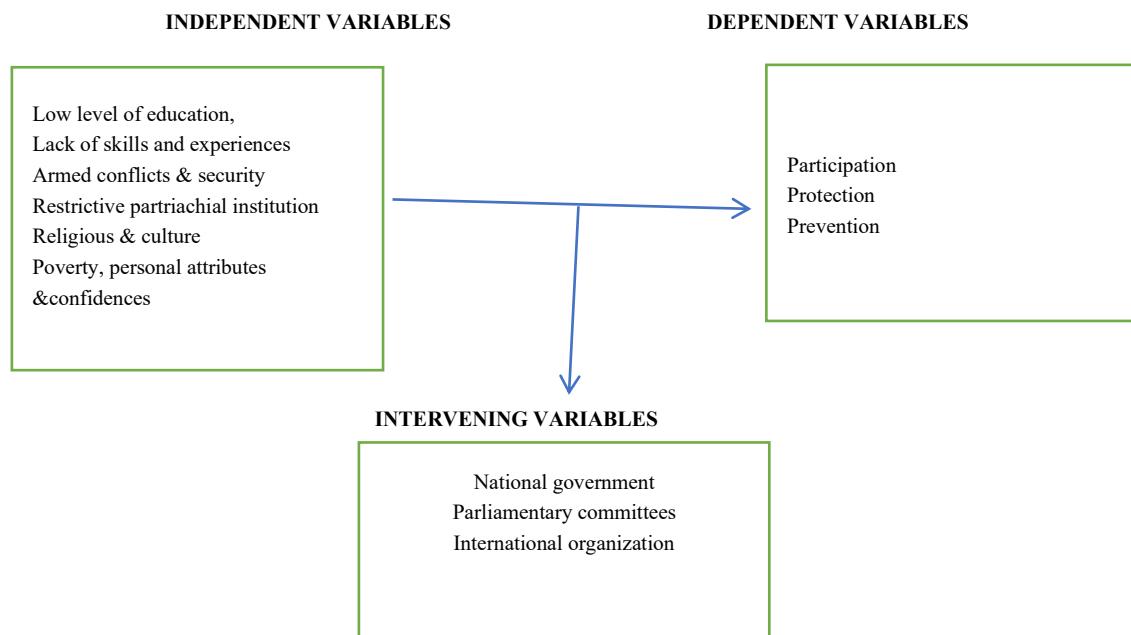
This theory premises on the multidimensional social roles on social groups and individuals from social relation and institution when restricted them the full participation in the activities of the community (silver2007). The result may affects individuals or groups who were to participate fully in the society activities in the social, economic political aspects. It also accounts the gender roles faced by women in the various areas. The theory has proclaimed in 1970 during feminist movements where women were marginalized in their labour duties. It proposes the equality of men and women in the participation of labour in both private and public sector (luchsinger2010). Women engage in negotiation takes decrease chances of achieving lasting peace but they still represented a whole population (macarthey2011).

In nutshell any acts of social inclusion to be a parted from its advantage as proper explanation from its subjective use in order to expose new way of interference in legal regulation (arthurson&jacobs2004). The theory gives women social rights in any place of work or duty.

2.1.2 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

In this models the conceptual framework shows how the invariables dependents affects the variable depends and intervening variable acts as the intermediate. Invariable dependents are issue that declines the women inclusivity in peace and security. These includes low level of education, lack of skills and experiences, restrictive patriarchal institution and religions and culture norms poverty, personal attributes and confidences while dependents variable are factors that promotes women inclusivity in peace and security such as prevention, participation and protection of the women and intervening variable are National Government especially parliamentary committees on peace and international organization such as united Nation security councils.

FIGURE 2.1.2 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.



3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.

The researcher used qualitative descriptive research design because the research used to describe the respondents. It was carried in Garissa Township Sub County in Garissa County. Garissa Township was selected because, it is the center of the older Garissa Districts with administrative offices where reliable data and good respondents can be found. The research targeted sub county officers in both National and county government, women peace initiatives groups, youth, and international peace organization. This study applied purposive sample to select National governments officers and county governments and stratified sampling was applied to women peace initiatives groups. The study uses both primary and secondary data collection. The technique methods of data collection were interviews, questionnaire and group discussion. Questionnaire were applied to government officers, individuals to get reliable data. The questionnaire were opened and closed end questions to give more chance to respondents to give clear answer. The researcher used test-retest instruments through pilot in Garissa county. The SPSS version 25 was used to analysis the result. The data was analyzed objective by objectives.

4.0 FINDINGS

4.1 RESPONSE RATES

Out of 150 targeted participants and forwarded questionnaires, 125 participants filled and returned questionnaires and 25 could not responded to all questions to the questionnaire papers. The 35 expected for an interviews but the researcher had managed to conduct 15 interviewers.

Table1: Response rate

Data collection techniques	Frequencies rates	Response rate percent %
Quantative surveys	98	83.3%
Interviews	15	10%
Focus group discussion	12	6.7%
Total	125	100

N=125

4.2 DEMOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

The research was involved by the female who were above 18 years particularly women in peace initiatives in Garissa sub county security officers both in National and county governments, non-government organizations and youth. The researcher heavily relied on the women peace initiatives because they had to give out reliable data on women inclusivity in peace and security.

4.3 Nyumba Kumi Initiatives (Ten Houses initiatives).

The study sought to find out women inclusivity in peace and security tasks in Nyumba kumi policing initiatives since the government adopted the initiatives. The participants who took part in five years started from 2020 to 2024. They were informed to mark each of them from the study only 0.4% of the interviewers took part in the first year of the starting of initiatives with the numbers slightly went up to 0.9% the following year, third year increased 4.9% interviewers took part, likewise others followed were increased as the table below shows.

Table 2, shows the Nyumba kumi initiative participants

YEARS	FREQUENCIES	PERCENTS	CUMULATIVES PERCENTS
2020	5	5.8%	5.8%
2021	11	12.7%	18.5%
2022	15	17.4%	35.9%
2023	25	29%	64.9%
2024	30	34.8%	100
Total	86	100	100

From the table 2 above most of the participants were women as only. As the number of the participant increases the popularity of the initiatives increased. The study therefore shows that women are increasing in their participation. It also indicates women in the community projects such as peace and important to be considered.

4.3 Factors hindering women inclusivity in peace and security.

Women inclusivity in peace could not be successful without funds to the initiatives and operate. The inclusivity starts with awareness going around the public in various sub-counties therefore needs funds. To find out the challenges or factors hindering the activities and the women involvements in the initiatives as persons during the exercises. Therefore the researcher sought that if the women have enough supports on funds for them conduct the activities in the previous years in the county.

The table below shows the sentiments of the women as being used the letters (strongly disagree SA, somehow agree SOA, Disagree Agree A, strongly agree TA)

Table 3. Availability of funds for the Nyumba kumi initiatives

SENTIMENTS OF THE WOMEN TO INITIATE PEACE PROGRAMS.	SA	SOA	D	A	SA
I did not have funds to conduct the initiatives in year 2020,2021,2022	3	8.7	1.3	38	44
I did not have enough support of manpower to conduct the initiatives in 2023,2024	6.1	2.3	10	32	10

The researcher sought that 3.0% strongly disagree and 8.7% somehow agreed and 1.3% disagree, these accumulates 13% and agreed accumulates 83.6%, therefore the participants lacked adequate funds for the Nyumba Kumi programs hence needs to be funded. The availability of funds helps the women to be inclusive in peace as it boost the psycho-social behavior of the women to achieve their goals (krause2004).

4.4 Factors promoting women inclusivity in peace and insecurity.

Women inclusivity in peace meetings, sensitization of the public also promotes the peace in the county. More vigilance, builds satisfaction of the security stakeholders in the county. It also minimizes waves of crimes such as terrorism, killings and robbery. Awareness can be a tool to overcome the crimes in the county.

Quotes from one participants

....women inclusivity in the public participation improves the recognition of the women in the development of peace.

Women participation will not the security in the county but gender stereotype will be there, effective involvement in the public participation of women creates a good atmosphere in gender balance in the leadership. Therefore, from the study both women and youth provides ultimate participation of the peace and security in the county during crises.

Apart from women and the youth participating in peace in the security and peace in the county the police officers took a bigger responsibility to return the situation to normal during the crime scenes such as the 2014 terrorist attacks in Garissa University.

Quote from one policeman officer

.....” in 2014 terrorist attack at Garissa university was my worse day, I played role as an security officer and sacrifice my life and defend the innocent souls who were affected in the scenes. We all cooperate as brothers and sisters to save lives.”

Apart from the normal duties the police officers had hard time to sacrifice their life's for the ordinary Kenyans. This has brought by bridging of community policing systems where the citizens and security officers work together as on family and share ideas. Since women are most affected individuals when war erupts, they are inactive individuals their presences in the security and peace in the Nyumba kumi are minimal.

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

5.1 Summary

Despite women being important agents in the inclusivity in peace and security in the county they can initiate grassroots discussions in the security issue from the youth women all other stakeholders in the county. They are closer to the community and makes them to heed their words. They can challenge women involving in the county issues, they can easily convince the public on the effected of the violence and crimes. The women as parenthood can lead the community in peace and trust with them. They create harmony among the community, they have the mechanisms of talking and convincing youth who are angry with issues going in the community as motherhood.

In this findings women inclusivity in peace and security brings out the real situations of the crimes because women included in the task force for the security brings out the root cause of the problems in the situation due to their parenthood. Despite the above opportunity from the opportunity from the women included in security and peace. They are unique challenges such as lack of education, lack of skills and experiences, patriarchal behavior and cultural and religious challenges. These challenges can be overcome through allowing women to participate in leadership, decisions making on security issues, preventing them from violating their rights. They are depressed and marginalized on the normal issues.

5.2 Conclusion

Due to lack of participation, prevention and protection of the women they suffer. They should be given a chance to challenges the dominance of men in various work including leadership. Their participation harmonizes the communities to shared their experience. Women known to passionate of assisting the needs. In the villages women are much involved in the community affairs, because they are nearer to the weak community member's. Therefore the study concludes women inclusivity in peace and security make a big in the security of the county.

5.3 Recommendation

- For the women to be vocal person, they should be have, skills and experiences to face the challenges of insecurity in the county.
- The way the women and the youth had funds, the women involved in security should be set aside funds to help them to be trained and improved their skills on security issues
- The government should partner with the international organizations on violence on women and solicited fund for the women when challenges faced to them in the course of their duties.
- The government should make a strategic plan on women inclusivity in peace and security policies especially when doing collection of reports and public awareness policies.
- The government should have clear rules and policies on women mistreated during clashes, house crimes or workplace to stop violating their rights of living and in their workplaces.

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