

**Assessing the Impact of Domestic Violence on Women's Involvement
in Community Development Initiatives in Chalinze District**

Herman Alfred Nachihangu,¹ & Neema Mturo, PhD.²

¹*Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA),
Arusha, Tanzania. Email: hermanalfredo9@gmail.com*

²*Tumaini University, Makumira,
Arusha, Tanzania. Corresponding author. Email: neemamturo@yahoo.com*

Abstract:

This study examines the impact of domestic violence on women's participation in community development initiatives in Chalinze District, Tanzania. Guided by the Ecological Framework, a convergent parallel mixed-methods design integrated a household survey with qualitative interviews (key officials) and two focus group discussions with women survivors. Quantitatively, over half of respondents reported being prevented from joining local projects (52.9%), feeling reluctant to assume community roles (55.4%), and withdrawing from initiatives due to family conflicts (53.7%). Social isolation was pronounced: deliberate isolation from friends/groups (52.3%), constrained freedom to socialize (55.9%), and avoidance of public gatherings due to shame or fear (55.4%). Civic participation also declined, with reduced leadership roles (55.4%), damaged civic reputation (55.9%), and diminished decision-making involvement (58.4%). Qualitative data deepened these insights, revealing three main pathways through which domestic violence undermines women's participation: (i) household conflicts that deter participation, (ii) deliberate partner-imposed isolation reinforced by stigma, and (iii) erosion of women's leadership credibility and access to decision-making. The study concludes that domestic violence operates as both a personal and structural barrier, silencing women's voices and weakening inclusive, sustainable community development. It recommends strengthening gender desks and social welfare services, intensifying norm-change campaigns, expanding women's economic and leadership empowerment programs, enforcing protective laws, and institutionalizing multi-agency collaboration to restore women's visibility and influence in local development.

Keywords: Domestic violence, Intimate partner violence, Community development, Women's participation, Social isolation, Civic engagement.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Globally, domestic violence, particularly intimate partner violence (IPV), remains one of the most pervasive violations of women's human rights and a critical barrier to sustainable development. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that nearly 27% of women aged 15–49 have experienced physical and/or sexual IPV at least once in their lifetime (Sardinha et al., 2022). Beyond its immediate physical and psychological harm, domestic violence profoundly constrains women's socio-economic participation by limiting their access to employment, education, and financial autonomy (Stöckl & Sorenson, 2024). A key dimension of this problem is economic abuse, which manifests through restricting women's income, controlling resources, and sabotaging their economic independence (Postmus et al., 2020; Johnson et al., 2022). Consequently, domestic violence undermines women's ability to contribute meaningfully to household welfare and community development, perpetuating cycles of poverty and inequality. Despite the existence of international instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5) on gender equality, economic aspects of domestic violence remain under-addressed in global policy frameworks, weakening collective progress toward inclusive and equitable development (Eggers del Campo & Steinert, 2022).

In Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), domestic violence against women is entrenched in deep-rooted patriarchal traditions, poverty, and weak institutional frameworks. Studies show that between 40–50% of women in the region have experienced IPV, making SSA one of the most affected globally (Coll et al., 2020). Cultural norms that endorse male authority and normalize female subordination often silence victims and perpetuate abuse (Khanal et al., 2023). Moreover, limited access to education, economic resources, and justice systems restricts women's capacity to escape violent relationships (Abdullahi et al., 2021). Economic abuse, although widespread, is often overlooked in both research and policy, leading to continued marginalization of women and erosion of their economic productivity (Awino & Ngutu, 2023). Such abuse weakens collective community progress by excluding women from decision-making and local development activities (Sibisi, 2024). The absence of targeted social protection and empowerment programs addressing the economic aftermath of domestic violence has further perpetuated intergenerational cycles of poverty and dependency across the region (Greulich & Dasré, 2022).

In Tanzania, domestic violence persists as a serious social and economic issue, with nearly 40% of ever-married women aged 15–49 reporting experiences of physical or sexual violence from intimate partners (Abramsky et al., 2019). Although the government has enacted frameworks such as the Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act and the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (2017–2022), enforcement and accountability remain weak (Ngusa, 2024). Economic abuse, including the denial of financial control, restriction from employment, and confiscation of women's

earnings, remains underreported and normalized within households (Mutasingwa & Mwaipopo, 2022). This form of abuse erodes women's autonomy, impedes their involvement in economic activities, and limits their participation in community development.

In Chalinze District, located in Pwani Region, local reports reveal a steady rise in domestic violence cases, particularly economic abuse, accounting for a significant proportion of gender-based violence incidents (Chalinze DSWO, 2023). Women engaged in petty trade and small-scale agriculture often experience restricted access to their income and limited decision-making power, perpetuating economic dependency and social exclusion (Alla, 2021). Despite the establishment of gender desks and awareness programs, weak institutional capacity and persistent stigma discourage victims from seeking justice. These challenges underscore an urgent need for localized, evidence-based interventions to address the socio-economic consequences of domestic violence and enhance women's participation in community development initiatives in Chalinze District.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This section reviews literature related to the study "Assessing the Impact of Domestic Violence on Women's Involvement in Community Development Initiatives in Chalinze District." It covers three areas: the guiding theoretical framework, empirical evidence from global, regional, and national contexts, and the research gap that motivates this study. The review focuses on how domestic violence, especially economic and psychological abuse, affects women's participation in income-generating and community development activities.

2.1 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study is guided by the Ecological Framework, which provides a multi-level perspective for understanding the causes and effects of domestic violence. Developed by Urie Bronfenbrenner (1979) and later adapted by the World Health Organization (2002) for analyzing gender-based violence, the framework explains violence as the result of interacting factors at four levels: individual, relationship, community, and societal. At the individual level, it considers personal history, psychological well-being, and exposure to violence; the relationship level focuses on control, emotional abuse, and economic dependency; the community level examines social norms and access to support systems; while the societal level highlights gender norms and institutional structures that perpetuate inequality. In the context of Chalinze District, the framework enables a holistic understanding of how these levels influence women's experiences of domestic violence and their participation in community development. Although largely descriptive and limited in predicting behavioral outcomes, it remains suitable for this study by providing a comprehensive basis for analyzing how domestic violence affects women's socio-economic engagement while also integrating women's lived experiences, resilience, and coping strategies.

2.2 EMPIRICAL REVIEW

2.2.1 Global context

Globally, research has demonstrated that domestic violence significantly undermines women's socio-economic participation and community engagement. Awino and Ngutu (2023) examined economic violence in Luanda Sub-County, Kenya, revealing that control over financial resources and income deprivation restricted women's independence and limited their participation in community initiatives. Similarly, Postmus et al. (2020) and Johnson et al. (2022) found that economic abuse, including forced financial dependency and employment restriction, reduces women's economic agency, thereby affecting household and community welfare. However, most global studies have focused on economic outcomes rather than the broader impacts of domestic violence on women's collective participation in development initiatives, leaving a gap in understanding the community-level implications of such violence.

2.2.2 Regional context (Sub-Saharan Africa)

In Sub-Saharan Africa, domestic violence remains widespread due to entrenched patriarchal norms, economic dependency, and limited access to justice systems. Abdulwasiiu and Musa (2023), studying women in Sokoto State, Nigeria, found that intimate partner violence leads to psychological trauma, social stigma, and economic dependency, which collectively limit women's involvement in community development programs. Nyataya (2019), in rural Rwanda, demonstrated that domestic violence reduces women's motivation and capacity to participate in community-driven projects, weakening collective productivity and cohesion. Similarly, Sibisi (2024) in South Africa observed that while empowerment programs help women overcome the effects of gender-based violence, lack of tailored interventions in rural contexts hinders broader participation in socio-economic activities. These studies underscore that while violence has been widely studied in urban or post-conflict settings, less is known about how it constrains women's development roles in rural East African communities, such as those in Tanzania.

2.2.3 Tanzania context

In Tanzania, evidence points to a persistent link between domestic violence and women's socio-economic marginalization. Mutasingwa and Mwaipopo (2022) reported that gender-based violence leads to low school retention and poor educational outcomes among girls, thereby limiting women's long-term empowerment and capacity to participate in community development. Ngusa (2024) and Patric (2022) noted that economic abuse, including denial of access to financial resources and control over women's earnings, is a key factor in women's exclusion from development initiatives.

Despite government interventions such as the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (2017–2022), enforcement remains weak, and economic abuse is rarely recognized as a distinct form of violence. Studies within the Tanzanian context thus highlight the absence of empirical data on how domestic violence directly affects women's income-generating capacity and participation in local development projects, particularly in semi-urban districts like Chalinze.

3. METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted in Chalinze District, Pwani Region, Tanzania, which was purposively selected due to the high prevalence of domestic and gender-based violence reported between 2020 and 2023. Patriarchal social norms and economic abuse, including denial of income and property rights, continue to limit women's participation in socio-economic and community activities (Nyataya, 2019; Mutasingwa & Mwaipopo, 2022). These conditions made the district appropriate for examining the impact of domestic violence on women's involvement in community development initiatives.

The study adopted a convergent parallel mixed-methods design under the pragmatist philosophy, allowing quantitative and qualitative data to be collected concurrently (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2010). Quantitative data were collected through structured questionnaires measuring participation in community activities, social interaction, and civic engagement, while qualitative data were gathered through interviews and FGDs to capture survivors' experiences and institutional perspectives (Creswell & Creswell, 2020). From a population of 316,759 (NBS, 2022), a sample of 384 respondents was selected using stratified random sampling, while purposive sampling guided the selection of qualitative participants.

A total of 319 questionnaires were successfully returned, alongside eight key informant interviews and two FGDs involving 14 women survivors. Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS version 29 through descriptive statistics, while qualitative data were thematically analyzed following Braun and Clarke's (2021) approach. Integration of findings occurred during interpretation, where qualitative evidence explained quantitative trends related to participation, social isolation, and civic engagement. Ethical principles such as informed consent, confidentiality, and safe interview settings were maintained, although the study faced limitations related to self-reported data and limited generalizability beyond Chalinze District.

4. FINDINGS

The study examined the impact of domestic violence on women's involvement in community development initiatives in Chalinze District. Women's participation is crucial for sustainable local development through collaboration, resource sharing, and leadership in addressing community challenges. However, domestic violence hinders this engagement by lowering confidence, restricting social interaction, and weakening civic participation. The analysis focused on three dimensions: participation rate, social

isolation, and decline in civic roles, each assessed using five-point Likert scale items. Results are presented in frequency tables and mean scores to show how domestic violence affects women's community involvement.

4.1 Participation rate

This indicator examined whether domestic violence prevents women from joining local development projects, reduces their willingness to take part in community roles, or forces them to withdraw from initiatives altogether. The detailed distribution of responses is summarized in Table 4.1.

Table 1: Respondents' Views on Participation Rate (n = 363)

Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Std. Dev.
Domestic violence prevents me from joining local development projects.	50 (13.8%)	58 (16.0%)	63 (17.4%)	101 (27.8%)	91 (25.1%)	3.34	1.37
I feel reluctant to take part in community roles due to issues at home.	41 (11.3%)	49 (13.5%)	72 (19.8%)	118 (32.5%)	83 (22.9%)	3.42	1.29
I have withdrawn from community initiatives because of family conflicts.	28 (7.7%)	62 (17.1%)	78 (21.5%)	107 (29.5%)	88 (24.2%)	3.45	1.24

Source: Field data (2025)

The distribution in Table 4.1 shows a clear tilt toward agreement on all three items. For the statement Domestic violence prevents me from joining local development projects, 27.8% selected Agree, and 25.1% selected Strongly Agree, with a mean of 3.34 (SD = 1.37). For I feel reluctant to take part in community roles due to issues at home, 32.5% selected Agree, and 22.9% Strongly Agree, yielding a mean of 3.42 (SD = 1.29). For I have withdrawn from community initiatives because of family conflicts, 29.5% selected Agree, and 24.2% Strongly Agree, with a mean of 3.45 (SD = 1.24).

Across items, the central tendency values are above the neutral point (means 3.34–3.45), and the largest single-category responses cluster in Agree or Strongly Agree, indicating a general tendency toward agreement as presented in the table. The standard

deviations (1.24–1.37) indicate moderate dispersion, suggesting variation in experiences but with responses leaning toward agreement.

Based strictly on the reported category percentages and means in Table 4.1, the pattern presented is consistent with domestic violence being associated with reduced participation and role-taking in community activities in Chalinze District. Further interpretation beyond these tabled values (e.g., combined percentages) has been intentionally avoided to align with the supervisor’s guidance.

4.2 Social isolation

This indicator assessed whether domestic violence fosters isolation by limiting women’s freedom to socialize, excluding them from friends and groups, or forcing them to avoid public gatherings due to shame and fear. The findings are presented in Table 4.2.

Table 2: Respondents’ Views on Social Isolation (n = 363)

Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Std. Dev.
I am often isolated by my partner from friends and social groups.	30 (8.3%)	58 (16.0%)	85 (23.4%)	114 (31.4%)	76 (20.9%)	3.41	1.22
Domestic abuse limits my freedom to socialize and engage with others.	32 (8.8%)	51 (14.0%)	77 (21.2%)	111 (30.6%)	92 (25.3%)	3.50	1.25
I avoid public gatherings due to shame or fear related to domestic violence.	37 (10.2%)	61 (16.8%)	64 (17.6%)	116 (32.0%)	85 (23.4%)	3.42	1.29

Source: Field data (2025)

The findings indicate that domestic violence intensifies social isolation, severely limiting women’s ability to build and sustain supportive networks in Chalinze District. Over half of the respondents, 52.3% (31.4+20.9), reported deliberate isolation from friends and groups, while 55.9% (30.6+25.3) agreed that domestic abuse restricted their freedom to socialize, with mean scores between 3.41 and 3.50. Similarly, 55.4% (32.0 +23.4) admitted to avoiding public gatherings due to shame or fear. These patterns reflect controlling behavior by abusive partners and the broader social stigma that discourages

women's participation in public spaces. The results suggest that domestic violence isolates women not only physically but also emotionally and socially, weakening their confidence, cutting off vital support systems, and diminishing their ability to engage meaningfully in community life.

4.3 Decline in civic roles

This indicator focused on whether domestic violence reduces women's civic roles by preventing them from holding leadership positions, damaging their reputation, or excluding them from decision-making processes. The results are displayed in Table 4.3.

Table 3: Respondents' Views on Decline in Civic Roles (n = 363)

em	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Std. Dev.
I no longer take leadership roles in the community due to domestic issues.	32 (8.8%)	58 (16.0%)	72 (19.8%)	112 (30.9%)	89 (24.5%)	3.46	1.26
Domestic violence has affected my civic reputation and engagement.	38 (10.5%)	48 (13.2%)	74 (20.4%)	102 (28.1%)	101 (27.8%)	3.50	1.31
My participation in decision-making at the community level has declined.	37 (10.2%)	44 (12.1%)	70 (19.3%)	106 (29.2%)	106 (29.2%)	3.55	1.30

Source: Field data (2025)

The findings reveal that domestic violence severely undermines women's civic visibility and leadership capacity in Chalinze District. More than half of the respondents reported withdrawing from leadership roles 55.4% (30.9+24.5), experiencing damage to their civic reputation 55.9% (28.1+27.8), and reduced participation in community decision-making 58.4% (29.2+29.2), with mean scores ranging from 3.46 to 3.55. These results indicate that domestic violence extends beyond personal harm to restrict women's public engagement and influence in governance. By diminishing their credibility, confidence, and leadership opportunities, domestic violence perpetuates gender inequality and limits women's contributions to community development. The consistent agreement across all indicators demonstrates a cumulative erosion of women's civic roles, depriving communities of balanced participation and inclusive leadership.

The findings show that domestic violence significantly reduces women's involvement in community development initiatives in Chalinze District through multiple forms of exclusion. It lowers participation rates by forcing women to withdraw from projects, fosters social isolation as abusive partners restrict interactions, and leads to a decline in civic roles by eroding confidence and limiting leadership opportunities. These effects silence women both privately and publicly, weakening their visibility and influence in community affairs. Ultimately, domestic violence emerges as not only a personal tragedy but also a major barrier to inclusive and sustainable grassroots development.

Building on the quantitative results, which showed that over half of the respondents reported being prevented from joining community projects, discouraged from public roles, or withdrawing from initiatives due to domestic conflicts (Tables 4.1–4.3), the qualitative findings offer deeper insights into how these experiences manifest in women's lives. Through interviews with survivors, community leaders, and key informants, the study identified three interconnected themes: (i) reduced participation in community activities resulting from persistent household conflicts, (ii) deliberate social isolation and stigma imposed by partners and societal norms, and (iii) diminishing civic roles and decision-making power among women. Together, these qualitative insights complement the quantitative data by revealing the mechanisms through which domestic violence constrains women's engagement, silences their voices, and undermines their contribution to community development in Chalinze District.

Theme 1: Reduced participation rates due to household conflicts

Many respondents explained that domestic violence discourages women from joining local projects and weakens their willingness to engage in collective initiatives. Survivors described partners threatening them if they participated, while others said constant conflicts at home drained their energy and confidence to contribute in public forums. This resonates with the quantitative results, where 52.9% of women said they were prevented from joining projects and 53.7% admitted withdrawing from initiatives because of domestic problems (Table 4.7).

In affirming this, one respondent noted that:

...I wanted to join a women's agricultural project, but my husband told me I should not waste time there because my duty is only at home. Whenever I tried to attend, he became violent, and I feared the beatings. Eventually, I stopped going, even though I knew that project would have helped my family. (W-07, farmer, 33 years).

Adding to this perspective, a community leader explained that:

...Domestic conflicts have made many women step back from community roles. Some are active for a short time, but when family problems escalate, they withdraw completely. This is why you see women dropping out of projects midway, which affects the progress of our community development plans. (KII-LGL, Local Government Leader, 2025).

These narratives highlight how household-level violence translates into community-level exclusion, reducing women's contributions to shared initiatives and weakening the collective benefits of grassroots projects.

Theme 2: Deliberate social isolation and stigma

Another theme that emerged strongly was isolation from social networks and public gatherings. Many survivors said their partners restricted them from visiting friends or attending group meetings, while others avoided public spaces out of shame, fear of gossip, or emotional trauma. This corresponds to the survey findings where 55.9% agreed domestic abuse limited their freedom to socialize, and 55.4% reported avoiding public gatherings due to fear and stigma (Table 4.2).

One survivor emphasized this by saying:

...He controls where I go and who I talk to. I used to be part of a women's group, but he accused me of using it as an excuse to meet other men. If I insisted on going, he would beat me or lock me inside. Over time, I lost friends and became ashamed to appear in gatherings because people whispered about my situation. (W-08, trader, 29 years).

Reinforcing this view, a women's association leader explained that:

...Some women stop attending meetings not because they are lazy but because they are isolated at home. Others avoid gatherings because of shame they fear people will gossip about their situation. This kind of isolation is damaging because women lose not only their voice but also the confidence that comes from being part of a group. (KII-WAL, Women's Association Leader, 2025).

These findings show that domestic violence fosters isolation, and physical restrictions by abusive partners and social exclusion driven by stigma. Both forms of isolation silence women and erode the networks they need for resilience and empowerment.

Theme 3: Decline in civic roles and decision-making power

Respondents also emphasized that domestic violence diminishes women's leadership and decision-making roles in the community. Survivors shared how they withdrew from leadership positions after facing pressure or humiliation, while informants noted that women's civic reputation is often tarnished by domestic conflicts, making them less likely to be chosen for decision-making roles. This directly aligns with the survey data, where 55.9% said domestic violence affected their civic reputation and 58.4% confirmed a decline in participation at decision-making levels (Table 4.3).

One woman narrated her experience as follows:

...I used to be a chairperson of a small community savings group, but after my husband became violent and caused chaos at one of our meetings, I resigned. People started associating me with domestic problems instead of leadership. Since then, I have avoided taking up any positions because I don't want to be embarrassed again. (W-09, 40 years, former leader).

Supporting this observation, a ward officer explained that:

...We have seen good female leaders stepping down because of domestic violence at home. Some are denied permission to attend decision-making forums, while others lose credibility in the eyes of the community when their family problems become public. This reduces women's representation and leaves leadership dominated by men. (KII-WO, Ward Officer, 2025).

These testimonies illustrate how domestic violence erodes not only individual confidence but also community trust in women leaders, systematically undermining gender equality in civic participation and governance.

The qualitative evidence reinforces the quantitative results by revealing the lived experiences behind the data. Reduced participation (Theme 1) explains why many women were discouraged or withdrew from projects, social isolation (Theme 2) aligns with reports of restricted interaction and avoidance of public spaces, and decline in civic roles (Theme 3) reflects loss of leadership and decision-making power. Collectively, these findings show that domestic violence silences women both privately and publicly, eroding their agency and excluding them from community life. Ultimately, domestic violence

emerges as not only a violation of women's rights but also a major barrier to inclusive and sustainable development in Chalinze District.

5. DISCUSSION

The findings revealed that domestic violence significantly undermines women's participation in community development initiatives in Chalinze District. More than half of the respondents reported being discouraged from joining local projects, withdrawing from community activities, and avoiding leadership roles due to domestic conflicts, with mean scores consistently above 3.3. These findings are consistent with studies conducted in Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Tanzania, which found that domestic violence limits women's socio-economic participation through economic control, psychological trauma, stigma, and restricted mobility (Awino & Ngutu, 2023; AbdulwasIU & Musa, 2023; Nyataya, 2019; Mutasingwa & Mwaipopo, 2022). However, the Chalinze findings extend previous studies by demonstrating that domestic violence not only affects women's economic independence but also systematically discourages their involvement in collective community initiatives and local governance processes.

The study further showed that domestic violence contributes to social isolation by restricting women's freedom to socialize, participate in groups, and engage in public gatherings. Many respondents associated abuse with shame, fear, and withdrawal from social networks, reducing their access to community support and opportunities. Similar observations were reported by Nyataya (2019) in Rwanda and AbdulwasIU and Musa (2023) in Nigeria, where domestic violence weakened women's confidence and public participation. The results thus indicate that domestic violence serves as a private and public tool of exclusion and as a suppression of women's visibility and contribution to community cohesion and development.

The findings also demonstrated that domestic violence weakens women's civic engagement and decision-making power. Over half of the respondents said they believe violence has negatively impacted their participation in leadership positions and community decision-making, which shows that violence is taking a toll on women's public influence, reputation and confidence. This aligns with Mutasingwa and Mwaipopo (2022) who believe that GBV limits women's socio-economic and civic empowerment in Tanzania. The results also corroborate the findings of Sibisi (2024) who stated that women's participation and resilience are largely influenced by the existence of providing social and institutional interventions. Without such support, social and political voices of women remain muted and inclusive grassroots development is weakened by domestic violence.

The findings also reinforce the Ecological Framework, which explains domestic violence as a product of interacting individual, relationship, community, and societal factors. In the relationship context, abusive husbands limited women's freedom of mobility and participation, and in the community and societal context, women were largely excluded from leadership and development activities due to stigma, patriarchal norms and power imbalance. The study therefore demonstrates that domestic violence is not only a household issue but also a structural challenge that undermines women's empowerment, community participation, and sustainable local development in Chalinze District.

6. CONCLUSION

The study concludes that domestic violence significantly undermines women's involvement in community development initiatives in Chalinze District by limiting their participation, fostering social isolation, and reducing civic engagement. Quantitative results revealed that over half of the women surveyed were discouraged or prevented from joining community projects, while qualitative evidence highlighted the lived realities of emotional control, stigma, and diminished leadership roles. Domestic violence thus emerges as both a personal and structural barrier, silencing women's voices and excluding them from decision-making processes essential for inclusive development. The findings demonstrate that when women are denied active roles in community initiatives, local progress and social cohesion are weakened, making the fight against domestic violence a critical step toward achieving sustainable and equitable community development.

6.1 Recommendations

To address the adverse impact of domestic violence on women's participation in community development, the study recommends a multifaceted approach involving legal, institutional, and community-based interventions. First, local government authorities in Chalinze District should strengthen gender desks and social welfare offices to ensure timely response, protection, and psychosocial support for survivors. Second, public awareness campaigns should be intensified to challenge cultural norms that tolerate violence and to promote gender equality and mutual respect within households. Third, women's empowerment programs such as economic support initiatives, leadership training, and access to microfinance should be prioritized to rebuild confidence and autonomy among survivors. At the policy level, stronger enforcement of national gender and domestic violence laws is essential to enhance accountability and deterrence. Lastly, collaboration among government agencies, civil society organizations, and community leaders should be institutionalized to create safe, inclusive spaces for women's participation. By integrating prevention, empowerment, and protection strategies, Chalinze District can strengthen women's roles as active agents of sustainable community development.

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