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Editorial

The overarching theme of this volume is gender in post 2015 development agenda. The Volume begins with stock-taking: Fayemi maps the intellectual landscape and trajectory of feminism, gender project and feminists' struggles and solace in the aftermath of Beijing Conference. The author nicely chronicles setbacks and successes of the post Beijing Conference particularly in Africa, and notes that knowledge production, institutional building and policy formulation are critical to safeguarding the Conference's gains as well as to surmounting present gendered challenges. Olusola, appositely responds to the issues of knowledge production raised in Fayemi's paper. The author explores Snail-sense Strategy in Promise Okekwe's Triology a post Beijing intellectual paradigm- not only to fore-ground African feminists' commitment to the gender project but also to emphasize the importance of education in women's empowerment. Similarly, Adejumo in this volume shows that education of both male and female certainly contributes immensely to higher productivity and economic growth. Adedigba *et. al.*, indicate that education should be made to respond to issues of sexual violence among adolescents within tertiary institutions. The authors identify factors that underpin the violence and argue that they are highly susceptible to awareness campaign and education, including information on where victims can get help. While Adedigba *et. al.*, discuss the prevalence of sexual violence and its susceptibility to interventionists' programmes, Olateju shows ways in which sex is verbally performed, commoditized and consumed by local drug marketers and their customers through the advertisement of medications for sexually transmitted diseases.

Mbagwu and Alaiyemola push the narrative beyond Adedigba *et. al.*, and Olateju's erogenous zones to demonstrate how conflict complicates gender narratives as well as completely consumes the entire female gender. The authors argue that this form of consumption is visible in the context of Boko Haran insurgency where insurgents forcefully capture and convert female bodies into terrorists' trophies or time-bombs. Adimula furthers the discourse of exploitation of female body through her ethnographic interrogation of lived and narrated experiences of victims who have passed through "the fire" and presently live under the "shadows of war" as Internally Displaced Persons in Sierra Leone. The author avers that these victims currently grapple with ubiquitous forms of gender-based

violence, which need the urgent attention of gatekeepers and managers of humanitarian space.

Ojo *et.al.*, however turn the page on the dark side of gender narratives to interrogate female gender's covert and overt responses and resistance to various sources of stress and subjugation the gender experiences in everyday sociality. They examine sources of stress and coping strategies among female professionals, who have not only demystified the macho-image of engineering. They are also builders/engineers in construction works. Furthermore, Olasupo unveils several attempts by female gender to overthrow patriarchy in the garb of Christian, Islam and African religions. Faborode gives an insight into how some obstacles inherent in Christian religion can be turned into opportunities for female Christian devotees. The author suggests that inaugurating a church-based agricultural extension delivery system will invariably transform economic status of these female believers who spend a greater part of their time in the presence of their God. Akinbamijo notes that remaking agriculture to guarantee gender sensitivity holds the key to Africa's greatness. Alidou *et al* posit that gender mainstreaming in higher education will facilitate the dawn of a new era in Africa. These scholars collectively offer necessary individual and institutional adjustments needed to build on the gains of Beijing Conference, and thereby put gender in the front burner of post 2015 development agenda in Africa.

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INDIGENOUS OUTCAST: THE INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS EXPERIENCE IN SIERRA LEONE

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ABSTRACT

Armed conflict and natural disaster (act of god) are two major causes of displacement. One of the biggest direct consequences of armed conflict is the creation of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps with poor living conditions and diverse Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The 1991-2002 civil war in Sierra Leone left many indigenes homeless while several IDPs camps were created, notable among them was "Grafton" otherwise known as Amputees Camp. To protect the rights of the IDPs in Africa, some international instruments were put in place. The objectives of the study were to: examine the rights of IDPs in Africa, investigate the extent of implementation of the international instrument and to evaluate GBV being faced by residents of Grafton Amputees Camp in Sierra Leone.

The study adopted a descriptive survey design, with quantitative and qualitative tools to elicit data. The research instruments were structured interview and key informants interview guides. Snowballing sampling technique was used to identify actual displaced persons

The findings of the study are that: both males and females faced GBV in Grafton Camp; there is discrimination against camp residents from host community; Government is not giving any support expected in camps for basic welfare of the IDPs.

In conclusion, the absence of punishment for perpetrators of GBV made GBV survivors more vulnerable and the absence of penalty for non-compliance with international agreements on protection of Refugees and IDPs made violation thrive.

Keywords: Amputees, Gender-Based Violence, Internally Displaced Persons, International Agreements/Instruments, Refugees.

INTRODUCTION

Conflicts is a global phenomenon and the African continent is not exempted. Insecurity of lives and properties arising from armed conflicts and natural disaster has become a regular occurrence. According to Solomon and Mathews (2002), conflicts rage in many regions across the African continent. These conflicts result in tragic loss

of lives, devastation of communities, and displacement of millions of people.

For example, in the Middle East and North Africa, Shah (2011) noted that a wave of protests has erupted throughout the sub-regions. This includes the combination of the global financial crisis, rising costs of living, high unemployment especially of educated youths and frustration from decades of

living under authoritarian and corrupt regimes. Also, Global Issues (2000) noted that, the 30 years of conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea deteriorated into war a couple of years after Eritrea introduced its own currency in 1997. War resulted over what seemed to be a minor border dispute in May 1998. According to IDMC (2006), not less than 1.1 million people were displaced by the 1998-2000 border war between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Though a majority of them have long returned home, but Ethiopia's refusal to accept the decision of an international arbitration commission has left some 40,000 Eritreans internally displaced persons (IDPs) unable to return.

Also, Shah (2006), reported that the cause of the Rwandan genocide has typically been explained as ancient tribal hatreds, omitting many of the deeper and also modern causes, such as international economic policies, power politics and corruption of the elite. Global IDP Project (2003) reported that, since the 1994 genocide, in which up to two million people fled their homes, Rwanda has suffered repeated waves of displacement. Following the government's military victory over the perpetrators of the genocide in 1994, the majority of the population fled to Zaire (now Democratic Republic of Congo), Burundi and Tanzania, by the end of 1996, the government's army launched attacks in then Zaire against refugee Camps and rear bases of the perpetrators of the genocide. The majority of the refugees who had fled to Zaire in 1994 were thus forced back to Rwanda.

In West Africa, following elections in Cote d'Ivoire in October 2010, both President

Laurent Gbagbo and opposition candidate, Alassane Ouattara, claimed victory. International observers agreed that Ouattara had won, but Gbagbo refused to accept this. Negotiations failed, the situation became volatile leading to war. About a million people were reported to have fled their homes with about 100,000 cross over into neighbouring Liberia. IDMC (2014) reported that though many IDPs have been able to return to their home areas since mid-2011, yet, more than 300,000 still live in internal displacement.

Furthermore, Stonehudson (2002) reported that **the main causes of the first civil war in Liberia** were the mismanagement of President Samuel Doe Administration, political tension and poverty; while Kieh and Klay (2009) said that the contingent causes of the second Liberia war (1999-2003) consisted of the failure of the post-first civil war transitional processes such as disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation and re-integration. According to the IDMC (2014), the Liberia's civil war forced some 500,000 people to flee their homes between 1989 and 2003.

Moreover, the activities of Boko Haram (a religious sect against formal education) in the North East Nigeria has resulted in high threats to lives and properties, death of many and displacement of several people. National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA 2015) put the figure of people that are internally displaced to be about 1,400,000 in the north east Nigeria only; while in Sierra Leone, the report of Stonehudson (2002) revealed that, corruption, mismanagement of natural

resources, insecurity and the brutal civil war going on in neighbouring Liberia played an important role for the actual outbreak of fighting in 1991.

Assessing conflicts in Africa, Nkundubagenzi (1999) noted that the two most frequent types of conflict in Africa are disputes about borders between states and intra-state wars involving groups competing for power or demanding secession from the state. Thus, it can be said that, the roots of social conflicts in Africa are associated with struggle for maintaining or challenging a dominant power status (Dahrendorf, 1975); religious/cultural differences, poverty based on the state of insecurity and bad governance (Draman, 2003).

According to Bashi (2003), a very quick count shows that about 27 out of the 54 African countries, representing 50% are either in one kind of armed conflict or another or have emerged from one recently. These countries are spread throughout the whole continent- West, Central North, East and Southern Africa. The millions of people, including workers in these countries and their neighbours, are affected by these conflict situations in such areas leading to the displacement of huge populations, movement of refugees and interruptions in trade and communications.

IDMC (2014) reported that in 2014, the total number of people internally displaced by armed conflict and violence worldwide was estimated to be 38 million people, the highest figure IDMC has ever recorded. Also that

there were 12.5 million IDPs in the 21 sub-Saharan countries as at the end of 2013, which is about a third of the global total, and that Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Sudan had the largest populations of IDPs in Africa.

According to Global Protection Cluster Working Group (2006), in more than 50 countries around the world, some 26 million individuals are uprooted from their homes and displaced in their own countries as a result of conflict or human rights violations. In addition, natural disasters caused the displacement of 36 million persons worldwide in 2008. They explained that IDPs are part of the broader civilian population that needs protection and assistance because of conflict and human rights abuses or due to natural disasters. Forced from their homes, IDPs also experience specific forms of deprivation, such as loss of shelter, and often face heightened or particular protection risks which include: armed attack and abuse while fleeing in search of safety; family separation, including an increase in the number of separated and unaccompanied children; heightened risk of sexual and gender-based violence, particularly affecting women and children; arbitrary deprivation of land, homes and other property; and displacement into inhospitable environments, where they suffer stigmas, marginalization, discrimination or harassment.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are defined in the 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as;

persons or group of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effect of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.

Under Article 1(A) 2 of the 1951 Refugee Convention the term "refugee" shall apply to any person who:

...owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.

Giacca, (2011) in the Rule of Law in Armed Conflict Project (RULAC) in Geneva

reported that Internally Displaced Persons, now constitute some 22 million persons and listed several differences between IDPs and Refugees. First, IDPs are not the subject of a treaty adopted at the universal level, although the guiding principles are based on binding international human rights and humanitarian law. Second, as opposed to refugees, IDPs have not crossed an international border from their country of origin. Third, the definition of IDPs in the guiding principles is significantly broader than the refugee definition, including those displaced by armed conflict, human rights violations and natural disasters, while the refugee definition is restricted to those with a well-founded fear of being persecuted on at least one of the five grounds.

It is important to note that, one of the biggest direct impacts of armed conflict (the third impact after casualties and injury) is the creation of refugees and internally displaced persons resulting in the loss of access to land, property, jobs and traditional support structure (Kirsten, 2007). Other negative effects include the lack of access to health and social services, increased mortality and morbidity and increased food insecurity. In addition, displaced people become more vulnerable to infectious and communicable diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection/Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and Tuberculosis (TB). What is most startling is that IDPs are vulnerable to further violence, with women and girls particularly vulnerable to sexual assault or forced to trade sexual favors for food, shelter or protection.

In Uganda, Kilgour (2004), noted that:

“More than 1.7 million northerners have been displaced by the war and live in harsh and often desperate conditions in Camps for the internally displaced (IDP). . . Camp conditions have led to acute malnutrition in children and the near-total destruction of social networks, culture and norms. . . more than 300,000 children under the age of five suffer from malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea and preventable diseases. . . Many women and girls are forced to trade sex for basic necessities, obviously contributing to the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, the Camps are far from secure, in spite of the presence of local militias organized for protection”.

Similarly, in Nigeria, the Vanguard Newspaper, (2015) reported that the Boko Haram, struck in their determined bid to overrun the North Eastern States of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa, ostensibly to impose extremist Islamic-style hegemony in these parts has led to displacement of people from their various communities, these victims of terrorists attacks were resettled in selected Camps in the capitals of the affected States, including the Federal Capital, Abuja. Marama, Yusuf & Ojeme (2015) reported that the IDPs in these Camps were experiencing “incidents of unwanted pregnancies, rape, child labour/trafficking and sexually transmitted diseases”

Pittaway (2004) noted that in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya, the lack of safety in the Camp, particularly for women and girls,

is a factor for major concern. The incidence of rape and sexual violence is extremely high and domestic violence is commonplace

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR 2000) claims that, the problem of human displacement in Africa is expanding and becoming increasingly complex. According to them, approximately 4.6 million refugees reside in African border Camps (UNHCR 2003). In addition, approximately 9.5 million of the world's 20 million internally displaced persons are found in Africa (UNHCR 2000). The United States Committee for Refugees (2003) in comparing refugee populations to local residents claimed that, eight of the 20 countries with the highest ratio of refugees per local resident are in Africa.

In West Africa, the UNHCR (2012) reported that 280,540 refugees are found in the sub-region and approximately 168,000 refugees, mainly Ghanaians, Ivorians, Liberians, Mauritians and Senegalese, are dispersed in both urban and rural areas in several West African countries.

Also, Internally Displaced Monitoring Centre (IDMC, 2012) reported that, over 400,000 people have been displaced by floods sweeping across West Africa caused by torrential rains in August, 2012.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Vann (2002), defines the term gender, as referring to the different characteristics of men and women that are socially determined. Gender refers to the different social roles men and women have in a particular society. It defines culturally

acceptable attitudes and behaviour of men and women, including their responsibilities, advantages, disadvantages, opportunities and constraints. Vann (2002) explained that, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) encompasses a range of acts of violence committed against females because they are females and against males because they are males, based on how a particular society assigns and views roles and expectations for these people.

The United Nations referred to “gender-based” violence to acknowledge that such violence is rooted in gender inequality and is often tolerated and condoned by laws, institutions and community norms; it is not only a manifestation of gender-inequality, but often serves to enforce it, Heise, Ellsberg and Gottemoeller (1999). GBV is everywhere, in every society, cutting across all races, religions and socio-economic positions that people may have. But some people in certain situations are more vulnerable to become victims of GBV than others. People living in Camps have lost protective mechanisms such as social and economic support systems and family and community structures, and are therefore more vulnerable.

International Instruments on Protection of Refugees and IDPs

In pursuit of protection of the rights of IDPs and Refugees, the United Nations and African Union have put in place some international Conventions and Agreements. Some of the international instruments include the UN 1998 Guiding principles on

Internal Displacement, 1951 Refugees Convention, UN Security Council Resolution 1325, Maputo Convention, 2003, African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention), among others.

Though the 1998 Guiding Principles on IDPs are not binding, but they are based on, and consistent with existing international legal instruments. The provisions include that the national government must ensure that displaced persons (IDPs) enjoy the same rights as other citizens of the same country and protection from arbitrary displacement and from violent treatment.

Article1 (1) provides that: “Internally displaced persons shall enjoy, in full equality, the same rights and freedoms under international and domestic law as do other persons in their country. They shall not be discriminated against in the enjoyment of any rights and freedoms on the ground that they are internally displaced”.

Article 3 (1 & 2) states that: “National authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction. . . and that “ Internally displaced persons have the right to request and to receive protection and humanitarian assistance from these authorities. They shall not be persecuted or punished for making such a request”.

Not only that, UN Security Council Resolution 1325, an international instrument relating to women, peace and security adopted on 31st October, 2000, expressed concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons. To this end, the Council reaffirmed the need to implement fully, international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts and called for a number of actions which include, increasing female participation in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution; equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security; and embracing a gender perspective during repatriation, settlement, rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction.

Above all, the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention), was adopted in October, 2009 and came into force on 6th December 2012, currently, it legally binds 15 African countries and it is a continental instrument that binds governments to provide legal protection for the rights and well-being of those forced to flee inside their home countries due to conflict, violence, natural disasters, or development projects. It reaffirms that national authorities have the primary responsibility to provide assistance to IDPs and recognizes the critical role that

civil society organisations, and the communities which take them in, play in assisting IDPs and obliges governments to assess the needs and vulnerabilities of the forcibly displaced, and the host communities, in order to address the plight of people uprooted within their borders.

Moreover, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) is a groundbreaking women's rights legal instrument that expands and reinforces the rights provided in other human rights instruments. The Protocol provides a broad range of economic and social welfare rights for women. Importantly, it was produced by Africans and pays attention to the concerns of African women. The Protocol which was adopted by the African Union (AU) on July 11, 2003 entered into force on November 25, 2005 and 49 out of the 53 AU member countries have signed the Protocol, while 31 of those countries have ratified it.

Unfortunately, despite the fact that, African countries including Sierra Leone were parties to and signatories to these international Instruments, there are no adequate protection for IDPs undergoing displacement. Also, discrimination against women participation in decision making in Camps and civil societies still exists as a result of gender inequality, against the provisions on these instruments.

The reason for the high disregard for these legal instruments, can be accounted for as a result of lack of sanctions or penalties against the violators and also because there is

no monitoring authority to ensure compliance with the provisions of the instruments.

no monitoring authority to ensure compliance with the provisions of the

To reduce the effects of suffering in Camp, it has been reported that UN and some international NGOs give welfare support to refugees, especially women, to improve their standard of living. For example Turner & Simon (2000) reported that in Tanzania, UNHCR invited women to form their own committees or participate in mixed committees in order to facilitate communication between Camp authorities and grassroots women. The women then organised to ensure vulnerable neighbours (e.g. the elderly, pregnant women and separated children) were linked to programmes run by international agencies. Also, El-Bushra and Fish (2004) reported that, UNICEF, provides important support to children in war-affected contexts, including protection, support to schools and out-of-school activities; while The World Food Programme (WFP) specifically targets women to ensure equal access to food, in the belief that women are the first and fastest solution to alleviating hunger and poverty. WFP's experience is that food placed under women's management reaches children more efficiently and frequently.

Civil War in Sierra Leone (1991-2002)

devastating one and it has left a mark of huge displacement of people that West Africa sub-

supply of Burkinabe mercenaries, with payment to be made in Sierra Leone diamonds, analysts claimed. This and more led to the outbreak of civil war in 1991.

Grafton IDPs (Amputees) Camp

The focus of this research work is on Grafton (Amputees) camp in Sierra Leone, where the researcher visited in April, 2012 to collect relevant data. Grafton is located at the outskirts of Freetown the capital city of the country. Freetown is an island, a town

surrounded by water, located about 1.5 hours drive away from Lungi where the international airport is situated, and an hour journey on a ferry from Targrin Ferry Terminal.

Grafton camp, otherwise known as amputees' camp, hosts about 5,000 residents of amputees and their families. Many of the male residents' hands or arms were amputated by the militants during the 1991 to 2002 war, as rebel fighters cut off the hands and limbs of civilians depending on the victim's response to their aggressiveness.



Figure 1: Map of Sierra Leone (Insert: Grafton Area of Freetown)

The camp was established in 2002 by the Sierra Leonean government for settlement of the amputees - victims of the war. The findings show that the United Nations assisted the Sierra Leonean government to put Grafton camp in place and welfare packages were given to the amputees only for a brief period before both the UN and the national government withdrew their humanitarian provisions. Thereafter, national and international NGOs and Faith Based organisations took over the responsibility of providing humanitarian and health care assistance to the camp residents. These organisations include: Action Centre la Fair (ACF), World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, International Rescue Committee, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Cotton Foundation Sierra Leone, World Food Programme, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Concern Universal. Some of these organisations were still providing assistance to the amputees at the time of the researcher's visit.

METHODOLOGY

The research design adopted for this study was the descriptive survey method while the research involved both quantitative and qualitative components in order to explore and test constructs of GBV in Grafton IDPs camp. The population of the study comprised all Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in Sierra Leone, while residents of Grafton IDPs Camp in Sierra Leone constituted the target population.

Non-probability multi-stage sampling

procedure was used to select respondents for the study. First, Sierra Leone was purposively selected because of the presence of camps for displaced persons and Grafton camp was selected because of the uniqueness of the camp residents who are largely "amputees". Moreover, Sierra Leone status as Anglophone country was also instrumental to her selection since this allowed for easy approach to the administration of survey instruments on the ground of elimination of language barrier. Thereafter snowballing sampling technique was used to identify actual displaced persons.

Two research instruments were used for data collection in this study; being a semi-structured interview guide and key informant interview guide; assisted by two research Assistants between January and April, 2012.

ANALYSIS AND RESULT

Six (6) respondents and two (2) key informants (community leaders) provided information on structured interview. Their responses revealed that there was no provision for preventive, protective and punitive measures in the camp against GBV, one of them said . . . "we have no latrine here, we fetch water and wash our clothes in the stream over there . . ."; there were more women than men in the camp and many of the original settlers who are men are amputees (See Photo 1) who live with their family members in the camp. A majority of the residents are people between ages 21 and 40 years old (about 47%) and mostly

children of the amputees. Only about 20% adults are amputees (men). In respect of occupational status, a majority of the residents in Grafton engage in alms begging in the host community of Freetown to feed themselves and their family members; and there is high discrimination against the Amputees from the host community (Freetown). The Community head said "... nobody wants to associate with us, even the government is not providing anything for us, when we sit on the road to beg alms, people treat us as outcasts ...";

Some women engage in petty trading in the only market situated in the camp (See Photo 2). Each family lives in dilapidated mud houses (See photo 3) without any support from the government or any authority. His Eminence, His grace the Arch Bishop of Freetown said: "... the government stopped giving support to them in Amputees camp barely two years after creating the camp, since then up till now, it's Faith Based organizations and international NGOs, including Action Centre la Fair (ACF), World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, International Rescue Committee, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Cotton Foundation Sierra Leone, World Food Programme, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Concern Universal; that have been giving welfare support to the camp residents ..."

There were many single girls with babies of unknown fathers, who got impregnated through rape and other sexual violence. One of the women referring to her daughter said "... we don't know the father of the baby she is carrying, but to allow her go back to school

I take care of the baby for her ...". There was no mechanism put in place in response to GBV in the camp. A woman (Treasurer of Community Association) said: "... when we report rape cases to the police they don't do anything to help our girls ... and you see this borehole water is what the entire community fetch to drink, that is why I hold the keys to unlock for people to fetch water at 6am, 3pm and 6pm every day ..."

DISCUSSION

Interviewees in Grafton camp noted that both male and female faced different types of GBV in the camp, viz: assault, rape, discrimination, among others. This finding is consistent with the report of Pittaway, (2004) that in Kakuma Refugee camp, Kenya, the incidence of rape and sexual violence was extremely high and domestic violence was commonplace.

Furthermore, there is no form of security presence in the camp. They noted that residents are forced to secure their lives and property by themselves; also that there is no punitive measure against perpetrators of GBV in the camp. Thereby, no guarantee that perpetrator of any GBV will be punished and this makes survivors of GBV more vulnerable. Not only that, no form of welfare support whatsoever was made available to camp residents. The houses are poorly built, and as such, the average camp resident is exposed to threats of diseases. However, they stated that the few facilities available in the camp are fast fading away. For example, the only primary school in the camp is in a terrible state of disrepair. The

children do not enjoy the most basic educational materials such as books, chairs, and other relevant learning materials. Therefore teaching and learning cannot go well in the school at the camp. This situation is inconsistent with the provisions of Article 3 (1 & 2) of the 1998 UN Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement that: "National authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction".

Further, there is discrimination against the residents of the camp. The host community treats the amputees and their families as outcasts, they do not interact with them. The camp residents have their separate market and schools which the host community do not patronize. Also, no business interaction with camp residents for economic purposes, thus the amputees are forced to do alms begging before they can feed their families. This is inconsistent with the provisions of Article 1 (1) 1998 Guiding Principle on equality status of IDPs with other nationals and the principle against discrimination of the IDPs in their own country.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that lack of respect for constitutional provisions by African leaders makes room for conflicts leading to insecurity of lives and property; and eventually to displacement of a huge population. In Grafton camp in Sierra Leone, both male and female face different types of gender-based violence, while the government made no provision for

preventive, protective and punitive measure for camp residents; thus, the absence of punishment for perpetrators of GBV made GBV survivors more vulnerable, especially women and girls who are more vulnerable to GBV in conflict situations.

The fact that the national government made no welfare provision whatsoever to the camp residents, made Grafton camp residents live in abject poverty and the absence of provisions of penalty for non-compliance with international agreements on protection of Refugees and IDPs gave room for high disregard for legal provisions, which made violation thrive. Hence, the national government, international bodies and authorities including the NGOs have roles to play, to curtail the GBV faced in camps and to improve the standard of living of camp residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations of this research work are as follows:

National governments should uphold the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998) on equality status of IDPs and other nationals.

Also, since African countries are signatories to the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa (Kampala Convention) 2009 and Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) which international agreements protect the rights of displaced persons and recognize gender

perspective in policy decisions, UN, AU and ECOWAS should ensure that member countries comply with these international instruments, by putting in place authority to monitor compliance within their territories.

Furthermore, United Nations through the Guiding Principles in IDPs camp should have minimum standards, especially relating to GBV reporting systems in IDPs camp whereby perpetrators of GBV in IDPs camp can be monitored and punished.

UN, AU and ECOWAS to ensure implementation of International Conventions/ Instruments. Implementing these international Instruments will reduce GBV among Refugees and IDPs especially of the female gender, who are the most at risk when hazardous conditions such as conflicts leading to displacement arise.

Above all, international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) should support refugees and IDPs by coordinating women for economic and social empowerment and other benefiting projects. This will reduce the vulnerability of the displaced women and make them equipped to pursue their protection rights.

Implications for Peace Studies

The findings of this study especially in relation to various GBV faced by camp residents and their deplorable conditions, should assist gender experts to develop interest in taking proactive measures in preempting violence against women to nïb situations that can degenerate into violence in the bud.

The findings of this study can also be useful in peace education, especially in training and development of curriculum, by incorporating conflict preventive methods and displaced people's protective measures in peace education curriculum.

Importantly, the findings of this study can serve as resource materials for peace intervention and policy formulation by governments and International Authorities viz: the UN, AU& ECOWAS in refugee and IDPs camps and as a springboard for future research on GBV in camps.

Limitations of the Study

Walker (1997) noted that the outcome of a research might be dependent on various factors such as the choice of an appropriate research methodology, how reliable the data collected are and the application of appropriate statistical tools, if relevant.

First and foremost, the study focused only on a displaced persons Camp in Sierra Leone, being Anglo-phone West African country. As such, the findings, conclusion and recommendations of this study may only be relevant for displaced persons within Sierra Leone and/or Anglo-phone West Africa. Therefore, caution should be applied in drawing inference from the study findings on displaced persons in other West African Countries especially the Franco-phones due to inherent differences in cultural, political, and religious dispositions.

In addition to the above, the study was limited to only one displaced persons camp within the Anglo-phone West African

region; as such, there was little or no randomization in the camp selection stage in the sampling procedure.

Despite these limitations, the study was able to elicit information on the occurrence of GBV in displaced persons camps, particularly Grafton Camp in Sierra Leone,

and also identify and evaluate the prominence of international instruments on protection of refugees and IDPs in Africa, thereby proffering necessary recommendations on how to ameliorate the observed gaps in the system.



Photo 1: Amputees in Grafton IDP camp, Sierra-Leone

Source: Researcher's Field Study, 2012



Photo 2: Marketplace in Grafton IDP camp, Sierra-Leone

Source: Researcher's Field Study, 2012



Photo 3: A typical accommodation for IDPs in Grafton camp, Sierra-Leone

Source: Researcher's Field Study, 2012



Photo 4: A typical latrine in Grafton IDP camp, Sierra-Leone

Source: Researcher's Field Study, 2012



Photo 5: A queue at the sole available water source in Grafton IDP camp, Sierra-Leone

Source: Researcher's Field Study, 2012

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