DETERMINANTS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ON MARRIED WOMEN BY SPOUSES IN KANDARA SUB COUNTY, MURANG’A COUNTY, KENYA

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A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE (POPULATION REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT) IN THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES OF KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER, 2018
DECLARATION

Student

I confirm that this thesis is my original work and has not been presented in any other University/Institution for certification. The thesis has been complemented by referred works fully acknowledged. Where text, data, graphs, pictures or tables have been borrowed from other works including the internet, the sources are specifically accredited through referencing in accordance with anti-plagiarism regulations.

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To the married women participants of this study who were experiencing Physical Violence.
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION.................................................................................................................................................. ii  
DEDICATION................................................................................................................................................... iii  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS........................................................................................................................................ iv  
TABLE OF CONTENTS....................................................................................................................................... v  
LIST OF TABLES................................................................................................................................................ ix  
LIST OF FIGURES............................................................................................................................................... xi  
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.................................................................................................. xii  
OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS........................................................................................................ xiii  
ABSTRACT............................................................................................................................................................ xiv  

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION ................................................................................................................. 1  
1.1 Background to the Study............................................................................................................................ 1  
1.2 Problem Statement....................................................................................................................................... 3  
1.3 Purpose of the Study...................................................................................................................................... 4  
1.4 Objectives of the Study.................................................................................................................................. 5  
1.5 Null Hypotheses.......................................................................................................................................... 5  
1.6 Significance of the Study............................................................................................................................. 5  
1.7 Delimitations of the Study.......................................................................................................................... 6  
1.8 Limitations of the Study.............................................................................................................................. 6  
1.9 Assumptions................................................................................................................................................ 7  
1.10 Theoretical Framework.............................................................................................................................. 7  
1.11 Conceptual Framework............................................................................................................................. 8  

## CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW ...................................................................................................... 11  
2.1 Introduction................................................................................................................................................ 11  
2.2 Prevalence of Physical Violence on Married Women by their Spouses Worldwide. ... 11  
2.3 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Married Women and Spouses that Influence Physical Violence. ......................................................................................................................... 13  
2.4 Forms of Physical Violence........................................................................................................................ 15  
2.5 Socio-cultural Factors of Physical Violence on Married Women ......................................................... 16  
2.5.1 Socio-Economic Status of Married Women....................................................................................... 19  
2.6 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women Experiencing physical violence .... 20
2.7 Summary of the Literature Review ................................................................. 23

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY ........................................................................ 25
3.0 Research Design .................................................................................................. 25
3.1 Study Variables .................................................................................................. 25
3.1.1 Independent Variable and dependent variables ........................................... 25
3.2 Study Area .......................................................................................................... 27
3.3 Target Population ............................................................................................... 28
3.3.1 Inclusion Criteria .......................................................................................... 28
3.3.2 Exclusion Criteria ........................................................................................ 28
3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Technique ............................................................. 29
3.5 Research Instruments ......................................................................................... 30
3.5.1 Pre-Testing Of Research Instruments ........................................................ 31
3.6 Validity of the Instruments ............................................................................... 31
3.6.1 Reliability of Instruments ............................................................................ 32
3.7 Data Collection Tools ......................................................................................... 32
3.7.1 Interview Schedule ...................................................................................... 32
3.7.2 Key Informant Interviews ............................................................................ 33
3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation ......................................................................... 33
3.9 Logistical and Ethical Considerations ............................................................... 33

CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS .......................... 35
4.0 Introduction ........................................................................................................ 35
4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the Married Women Experiencing
   Physical Violence ................................................................................................... 36
4.2 Social Demographic Characteristics of Spouses as Reported by Married Women .... 38
4.3 Socio-cultural Factors of physical violence on married women .................. 40
4.3.1 Socio-Economic Status ............................................................................... 44
4.4 Forms of Physical Violence Experienced by Married Women .................... 45
4.5 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women Experiencing Physical Violence
   from their Spouses in Kandara Sub County ...................................................... 50
4.6 Relationship between Socio-Demographic Characteristics and PV on Married
   Women in Kandara Sub County. ....................................................................... 55
4.7 Relationship between Socio-cultural Factors and Physical Violence on Married Women

4.7.1 Living With In-laws and Physical Violence ................................................................. 63
4.7.2 Spouse Marrying a Second Wife and Physical Violence ............................................. 65
4.7.3 Dowry payment by spouse and Physical Violence ....................................................... 66
4.7.4 Witnessing Inter-Parental Violence and Physical Violence ........................................ 66
4.7.5 Giving Birth to Girls Only and Physical Violence ...................................................... 67
4.7.6 Cycle of Violence within Marriage and Physical Violence ........................................... 68
4.7.7 Retrogressive Traditional Norms and Beliefs and Physical Violence ........................... 69
4.7.8 Spouse under Influence of Alcohol Drugs and other Substances and PV ...................... 69

4.8 Relationship between Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women and Physical Violence

4.8.1 Running Away from Marital Home and Physical Violence .............................................. 71
4.8.2 Seeking Help from Church and Physical Violence ....................................................... 71
4.8.3 Sharing with Friends of the Married Women and Physical Violence .............................. 73
4.8.4 Sharing with Spouse’s Friends and Physical Violence ................................................. 73
4.8.5 Sharing with Relatives of Married Women and Physical Violence ............................... 74
4.8.6 Sharing with Spouse’s Relatives and Physical Violence .............................................. 75
4.8.7 Reporting to the Police and Physical Violence ............................................................. 76
4.8.8 Seeking Help from Hospital and Physical Violence ..................................................... 77
4.8.9 Self Defense and Physical Violence .............................................................................. 77

CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS ......................................................... 79

5.0 Introduction ......................................................................................................................... 79
5.1 Socio- Demographic Characteristics of Married Women .................................................. 79
5.2 Social-Demographic Characteristics of Spouses as Reported by Married Women ............. 81
5.3 Socio-cultural Factors of Physical Violence on Married Women ...................................... 82
5.4 Forms of Physical Violence Experienced by Married Women ........................................ 84
5.5 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women ............................................................... 87

CHAPTER SIX: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ......................... 90

6.1 Introduction ......................................................................................................................... 90
6.2 Summary of the Main Findings .......................................................................................... 90
6.3 Conclusions ........................................................................................................... 92
6.4 Recommendations ............................................................................................... 92

6.4.1 Recommendations for practice ........................................................................ 93
6.4.2 Recommendations for policy ........................................................................... 94
6.4.3 Recommendations for further research ....................................................... 95

REFERENCES ............................................................................................................ 96

Appendix A: Informed consent form ....................................................................... 104
Appendix B: An interview guide for the married women experiencing
Physical Violence ........................................................................................................ 106
Appendix C: Key informant interview guide (For the Chief, Police Officers, and
Religious Leaders) ...................................................................................................... 111
Appendix D: Kandara Sub County Map showing the wards from which The
Research was Done. .................................................................................................... 112
Appendix E: Kenyatta University Graduate School Approval Letter ...................... 113
Appendix F: Kenyatta University Ethics Review Committee Approval Letter .......... 114
Appendix G: NACOSTI approval letter .................................................................... 115
LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure ........................................................................... 30
Table 4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Married Women Experiencing Physical Violence ................................................................................................................................. 37
Table 4.2 Socio- Demographic Characteristics of Spouses as Reported by Married Women ........................................................................................................................................... 39
Table 4.3 Socio-Cultural Factors of Physical Violence on Married Women in Kandara Sub County ........................................................................................................................................... 40
Table 4.4 Forms of Physical Violence ............................................................................................. 45
Table 4.5 Prevalence Of Physical Violence on Married Women................................................... 50
Table 4.6 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women in Kandara Sub County ....... 51
Table 4.7 Relationship between Age of Married Women and Physical Violence ............ 55
Table 4.8 Relationship between Level of Formal Education for the Married Women and Physical Violence ...................................................................................................................................... 57
Table 4.9 Relationship between Duration Of Marriage and Physical Violence ................. 58
Table 4.10 Relationship between Number of Children and Physical Violence ................ 59
Table 4.11 Relationship between Occupation of Married Women and Physical Violence ........................................................................................................................................... 60
Table 4.12 Relationship between Age of Spouse and Physical Violence................................ 61
Table 4.13 Relationship between Education Level of Spouse and Physical Violence ....... 62
Table 4.14 Relationship between Spouse Occupation and Physical Violence ..................... 63
Table 4.15 Relationship between lack of children and Physical Violence .........................
Table 4.16 Relationship between Living With In-laws and Physical Violence ................. 65
Table 4.17 Relationship between spouse Marrying A Second Wife and Physical Violence ........................................................................................................................................... 65
Table 4.18 Relationship between Dowry Payment By Spouse and Physical Violence ....... 65
Table 4.19 Relationship between Witnessing Inter-Parental Violence and Physical Violence ........................................................................................................................................... 66
Table 4.20 Relationship between Giving Birth to Girls Only and Physical Violence ........ 68
Table 4.21 Relationship between Cycle of Violence and Physical Violence ..................... 68
Table 4.22 Retrogressive Traditional Norms and Beliefs and Physical Violence ........... 69
Table 4.23 Relationship between Alcohol, drugs and substance use by spouse and Physical Violence

Table 4.24 Running Away from Marital Home and Physical Violence

Table 4.25 Seeking Help from Church and Physical Violence

Table 4.26 Sharing with Married Women’s Friends and Physical Violence

Table 4.27 Sharing with Spouse’s Friends and Physical Violence

Table 4.28 Sharing with Married Women’s Relatives and Physical Violence

Table 4.29 Sharing with Spouse’s Relatives and Physical Violence

Table 4.30 Reporting to Police and Physical Violence

Table 4.31 Seeking Help from Hospital and Physical Violence

Table 4.32 Self Defense and Physical Violence
LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework indicating the relationship between underlying factors, Intervening Variables, Dependent Variable and Physical Violence. 10
# LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACK</td>
<td>Anglican Church of Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADSU</td>
<td>Alcohol Drugs and Substance Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSAT</td>
<td>Center for Substance Abuse Treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIDA-K</td>
<td>Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBV</td>
<td>Gender Based Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KDHS</td>
<td>Kenya Demographic and Health Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUERC</td>
<td>Kenyatta University Ethics Review Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NACOSTI</td>
<td>National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSD</td>
<td>Post traumatic Stress Disorder</td>
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<tr>
<td>PV</td>
<td>Physical Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT</td>
<td>Radical Feminist Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIFEM</td>
<td>United Nations Development Fund for Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Population Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAW</td>
<td>Violence against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFT</td>
<td>Radical Feminist Theory</td>
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OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS.

**Cycle of violence:** A persistent existence of Physical Violence on a married woman

**Determinants:** These are factors that significantly contribute to Physical Violence on married women by spouses.

**Domestic Violence:** Any abusive, violent, coercive, forceful or threatening act or word inflicted by a husband to the wife with intent to cause harm and bodily injury.

**Inter-parental Violence:** A consistent level of conflict between parents that erupts into domestic violence.

**Intimate Partner:** It’s a person whom one is in an intimate relationship with.

**Marriage:** This is a union between two people of the opposite sex and have consented to live together as a husband and wife.

**Married Woman:** One who has been living with a man, considers herself married to the man and identifies herself by the man’s name.

**Physical Violence:** This is the act of inflicting pain to the body using physical force by a spouse with an intent to cause harm, injury, bruise or maim a certain part of the body.

**Retrogressive Traditional Norms and Beliefs:** These are myths that the society adheres to against women which make them vulnerable to Physical Violence.

**Socio-Cultural Factors:** This is what the society adheres to and is done consciously or unconsciously but leads to Physical Violence against married women.

**Spouse:** A male partner who lives with a woman as his wife.
ABSTRACT

Despite the many efforts put in place globally, regionally and at national level to reduce and eliminate Physical Violence against married women, this violence is still prevalent. It is one of the major forms of oppression against women. The aim of this study was to investigate the determinants of Physical Violence on married women by their spouses within the age of 18-45 years and above in Kandara Sub County, Murang’a County, Kenya. The study objectives were to determine the socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence, to establish the socio-cultural factors influencing experience of Physical Violence on married women by spouses, to identify forms of Physical Violence perpetrated against married women by spouses and to identify the coping strategies adopted by married women experiencing Physical Violence. The Radical Feminist Theory by Hollace Graff, (2012) guided the study which was used to conceptualize the underlying factors that aggravate Physical Violence on married women by spouses. The study applied cross-sectional survey research approach to gather data from 111 married women experiencing Physical Violence and 11 state and non-state actors. Data collection tools included an interview schedule for married women experiencing Physical Violence and key informant interview for the chiefs, selected religious leaders from Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) and Catholic churches, and law enforcers who included the police officers within the area of study. Secondary data was obtained from the records kept in the chief’s office and police abstracts from the police station in the area of study. Qualitative data was sorted and analyzed thematically based on the objectives while quantitative data was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) using both descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings from descriptive statistics revealed that slightly more than a third (34.2 %) of the married women aged between 25-31 years were the most physically violated by their spouses. Findings from inferential statistics showed that the determinants of Physical Violence were; married women’s level of education (p=0.029), number of children (p=0.027), age of the spouse (p=0.043) and occupation of the spouse (p=0.048). The socio-cultural determinants of Physical Violence were: witnessing inter-parental violence by the married women (p=0.032), dowry related violence (p=0.036), spouse’s use of alcohol, drugs and other substances (p= 0.045) and retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs (p= 0.001). Significant coping strategies adopted by married women: were running away from marital home (p= 0.039), reporting to the chief (p=0.002), sharing with married women’s friends (p=0.028) and seeking help from hospital (p=0.038). The study concluded that PV against married women is a grave social and economic vice that requires a practical role of state, non-state actors, community members and active participation of both the married women and their spouses so as to address it. The study recommends the need to intensify awareness and sensitize people on Physical Violence against married women by spouses through seminars, workshops, group counselling, mass media, print media and social media networks by state and non-state actors, religious leaders and the community. In addition arms of government dealing with Gender Based Violence should strengthen their practice on the existing policies. The result of this would be elimination of Physical Violence on married women by spouses.
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Gender based violence (GBV) is a pervasive human rights problem with adverse effects on both Men and women worldwide (World Health Organization, 2015). Perpetrators of violence against women are most often their intimate partners (Gender Based Violence Centre, 2016). Women are abused physically and sexually by intimate partners at different rates throughout the world with such abuse occurring in all countries or regions without exception. Women aged between 25 and 34 years of age are reportedly the most vulnerable to Physical Violence according to Fenske, (2015) on his study on African polygamy. Since the consequences of such violence last a lifetime it has a severely adverse impact on women’s family and social life (United Nations Women, (UN) 2012). Although there are many intervention programs Janet, (2014) set in place to address the practice it is still on the rise. It further affects the community development, retards personal growth and affects the welfare of the children within the family where it is being perpetrated. The most common form of GBV perpetrated against women is Physical Violence (WHO, 2015) which is the easiest to perpetrate.

A recent study reveals that, 35% of married women globally experience Physical Violence perpetrated by their husbands (United Nations,(UN) 2015). In addition in every 9 seconds in the United States of America (USA) a woman is physically violated and at least 1 in every 3 women is beaten to death on a daily basis Postmus,(2014). Other studies reveal that Physical Violence occurs in the private space either during the night with (41%) reported cases and (22%) during daytime. According to United Nations Department of Justice Crime in US (2010) the study observed that (13-28%) of married
women experienced PV perpetrated by their spouses leaving them with serious body injuries, bruises in various parts of their bodies and death in severe cases of attack.

PV is manifested in a variety of violent acts such as slapping, kicking, beating, throwing objects, twisting the arm, pushing, denial of food, locking someone in an isolated place, pulling hair, denying shelter and burning Stuart, (2015). PV on married women is persistent despite the efforts to stop it through GBV programs and the United Nations WHO, (2015). This is attributed to the attitude of the women towards it, low education level by both partners, growing up in a violent home, alcohol, drugs and substance use by the perpetrators, low socio-economic status of the married woman, personality and psychiatric problems, societal norms, a weak legal framework and influence by in-laws (UNFPA, 2015).

Furthermore international studies (UNICEF, 2013) on monitoring the situation of women and children, Afghanistan show that women living within societies dominated by patriarchal institutions, unequal power relations between the genders and male’s control of resources have increased vulnerability to PV (Fenske, 2015). Awareness of PV globally has greatly increased as a result of the growing number of Non-Governmental Organizations providing health, legal and psychological services for all physically violated women as well as advocacy to improve laws with regard to Physical Violence (WHO, 2015). Reported incidences of PV have considerably increased although it is still unknown whether this reflects an actual increase or improved reporting in the absence of population – based data. Generally, Physically Violated women may continue to stay with their abusive partners for a variety of reasons, including fear of more violence, financial insecurity and social support from family and friends, concerns about their
children identity and fear of stigmatization (United Nations Women [UN-Women], 2011). In addition married women who undergo PV adopt some coping strategies which may be formal or informal (Garcia-Moreno et al., 2005) to alleviate further attack from their intimate partners.

A nation-wide survey done in Kenya on violence against women revealed that (41%) of women have experienced both Sexual and Physical Violence (Kenya Demographic Health Survey, 2014). Furthermore the study reported that the worst regions where Physical Violence was prevalent were, Western and Nyanza regions with (51.6% and 49.5%) respectively. This was closely followed by Nairobi (46.1%), Eastern (40.6%), Central (32.8%), Rift valley (32.4%) Coast (27.4%) and the lowest was North Eastern (12.1%). In addition recent statistics from Gender Based Violence Centre [GBVC] (2016) reveals that 45% of women aged from 15 and 49 years of age have experienced PV with 90% of reported perpetrators being men. Murang’a County which is in central region is revealed to have slightly more than a third of the cases of PV. According to an annual report on (National Gender and Equality Commission, [NGEC] 2014), 33.1% of women in Murang’a County have been experiencing Physical Violence perpetrated by their spouses. It is out of this concern that the study sought to establish the determinants of PV on married women by spouses in Kandara Sub County.

1.2 Problem Statement

According to GBVC, (2016) Physical Violence against married women is one of the major public health and human rights issue in the world today recognized as a significant barrier to women empowerment. The vulnerability of married women to Physical Violence has been attributed to socio-cultural beliefs and practices as well as non-
supportive institutional structures within the society Kabaria - Muriithi (2014). The vice has profound health effects that consumes women’s energy affects their physical and mental health as well as eroding their self-esteem Syeda, (2014). As a result, efforts have been made globally, regionally and nationally to reduce and eliminate this practice through Gender Based Violence programs (UNIFEM, 2015). However the problem of Physical Violence is still on the rise (GBVC,2016) demonstrating the inability of these efforts to effectively address the practice. In addition the determinants of Physical Violence are still not well understood or documented especially because most forms of Physical Violence occur in the private space, (Kabaria – Muriithi, 2014).

There is a dearth of knowledge on this area focusing on the urban areas. However the rural areas have been left out and are characterized with limited resources to assist the survivors. Moreover lack of a strong legal framework and limited shelter homes for the victims to address the practice worsens the situation hence the issue is left insufficiently unaddressed (Fida, 2012). Therefore the current study was necessitated by the need to establish determinants of Physical Violence on married women by spouses in a rural area where there are limited services to address it (GBVC, 2016) and the married women are vulnerable to PV so as to form an intervention program with a focus to adequately address the practice and eliminate it from the society.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to establish the determinants of Physical Violence on married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County, Murang’a County – Kenya.
1.4 Objectives of the Study

1. To determine the socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

2. To identify forms of Physical Violence perpetrated against married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

3. To establish the socio-cultural factors influencing experience of Physical Violence on married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

4. To assess the coping strategies adopted by married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

1.5 Null Hypotheses

H_0_1 There is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics of married women and spouses and Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County.

H_0_2 There is no significant relationship between socio-cultural factors influencing Physical Violence and frequency of Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County.

H_0_3 There is no significant relationship between coping strategies adopted by married women and Physical Violence in Kandara Sub County.

1.6 Significance of the Study

Information generated from this study will be helpful to the government and non-governmental organizations, policy makers and community researchers to give a better understanding on the determinants of Physical Violence on married women by their spouses. This will be of help in coming up with viable solutions of addressing the
practice from the grass root levels before it gains ground. The results may help community workers to identify causes of Physical Violence and in devising intervention programs. Recommendations from the study by the researcher may also help support the design and development of evidence based interventions that suit the community members in Kandara Sub County taking into account their cultural background. The results may also be used in the development of Behavior Change Communication (BCC) materials by the social development workers in the community that may be used to sensitize the women and men in Kandara community, to demystify myths that lead to perpetration of GBV and how to protect either gender against GBV. It may also help educate community members on gender rights, advocacy for peace and avoid all triggers of conflict as well as educate them on actions to follow if one becomes a victim of GBV. It is also envisaged that it may contribute to the body of knowledge and literature on GBV.

1.7 Delimitations of the Study

The study focused on selected married women experiencing Physical Violence, aged 18 to 45 and above who had been married for at least one year prior to the study. The study did not include men to establish their attitude towards PV and the violence against men by their wives.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

This study was based on self-reporting hence there might have been recall and social desirability bias due to its’ sensitive nature and cultural barrier for disclosure. In addition,
the married women thought that their responses might damage their family reputation or lead to further abuse.

1.9 Assumptions

The underlying assumption was that, Physical Violence is caused by socio-demographic characteristics of both married women and their spouses as well as socio-cultural and socio-economic factors evident in the society.

1.10 Theoretical Framework

The Radical Feminist theory was used to guide the study. The theory guided in the understanding and explaining of socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing PV, socio-cultural and socio-economic factors that lead to Physical Violence against married women by their spouses. The theory argues that PV begins from male oppression of women within a patriarchal system in which men are the key perpetrators of violence and women are the key survivors (Hollace Graff, 2012). Therefore spouse violence within a marriage relationship is conceived from a long time and present power differences that keep women at a lower level than men. This is manifested through physical violation which is expressed in several way like beating, kicking, throwing objects slapping, choking, pushing or burning on purpose. The theory argues that the dominating nature of men in the society and the violence used to sustain it makes women inferior to men and unable to stand for themselves.

The Radical Feminist Theory therefore rejects in the strongest terms the notion created by this male patriarchy. The theory calls for public solutions including use of targeted program and services for women survivors of PV and the involvement of criminal justice
system to hold the male perpetrators accountable for their violence. The Radical Feminist theory upholds that most of the problems that are faced by women including PV are caused by socio-demographic, socio-cultural and socio-economic factors. This means that the solution of PV practice requires action at the policy level. However the theory recognizes the strength, resilience and agency of women and their effort to cope with PV.

The theory guided the study in identifying the socio-demographic characteristics of married women, socio-cultural and socio-economic factors associated with PV among women and spouses as reported by married women. The strength of the theory in the study was in explaining the determinants of PV and the frequency of occurrence of PV on married women. It further helped in the establishment of the coping strategies adopted by survivors of PV and means of eliminating it.

1.11 Conceptual Framework
The conceptual framework used in this study was borrowed from the theoretical framework and was also informed by the literature reviewed. Figure 1.1 presents a summary of the argument and demonstrates on the relationship between the independent variables, intervening variables and the dependent variables of PV. The figure shows that the married women socio-demographic characteristics such as age, level of formal education, number of children, duration of marriage define the frequency at which they can be physically violated by their spouses. These characteristics are further escalated by the spouse’s socio-demographic characteristics such as age, level of education and level of income, the socio-cultural factors and socio-economic factors such as lack of children, ADSU, witnessing inter-parental violence, cycle of violence within marriage, giving birth to girls only and dowry payment by spouse. Therefore, these attributes are important
components of the gender power relations in a marriage setup and they also determine the level of empowerment accorded to the woman and the level of self-esteem for the spouses as either high or low.

It was anticipated that the coping strategies adopted by married women intervene to determine the extent of the combined attributes on the frequency of PV. The coping strategies adopted are often applied in combination rather than in isolation.

Frequency of PV refers to the rate at which married women are physically violated by their spouses depending on how she reported to the chief and the coping strategy she adopted. Therefore based on these scores PV was measured as either very frequent, frequent or occasional. It was hoped that the frequency of PV would vary by the selected underlying factors amongst married women who had reported to the chief which in turn would give an establishment of the determinants of PV on married women by spouses.
Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Adapted from theoretical framework by (Hollace Graff, 2012) Oakton community college and systems theory by Liang Goodman Tmmala-Narra & Weintraub, (2005)
CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a review of the studies carried out on Physical Violence globally, regionally and in Kenya. The review is organized under the following sub-topics: prevalence of Physical Violence on married women globally, socio-demographic characteristics of married women who experience Physical Violence, factors that trigger Physical Violence against married women, forms of Physical Violence and coping strategies adopted by married women who experience PV.

2.2 Prevalence of Physical Violence on Married Women by their Spouses Worldwide

Women across the world are subjected to PV regardless of their income, age, level of education, religion or occupation (UN, 2015). It is the commonest form of violence against women as it is easy to perpetuate. Prevalence remains unacceptably high with 10-69 % of women worldwide being physically assaulted by a spouse at some point in their life (WHO, 2013). According to (UN, 2014) global review reports on violence against women more than 35% of women worldwide have experienced physical violence by a spouse. Globally, between 15% -17% of women have reported experiencing PV by an intimate partner (WHO, 2014). Furthermore Alam, (2014) reveals that between 16 – 50 % of ever-partnered women report having been physically assaulted by their spouses. A National study (GBVC, 2016) further show that up to 70% of women have experienced PV from an intimate partner in their lifetime. The prevalence estimates range from 23.2% in high income countries and 24.6% in the Western pacific region to 37% in the WHO
Eastern Mediterranean region and 37.7% in the south East Asia region. As many as 38% murders on married women are committed by spouses globally (WHO, 2015).

In Sub-Saharan Africa the prevalence of PV varies greatly within the countries. Results from Demographic Health Survey from African countries (2010) on Gender Based Violence indicate that the percentage of women who had experienced PV ranged from 30% in Malawi, Rwanda and Zimbabwe to 50% in Cameroon, Kenya, and Zambia and as high as 60% in Uganda. Further a recent study indicate that 33.6% of ever married women have ever experienced PV from their spouses and 35% of married women always undergo PV on a daily basis in Ghana Owusu, Adjah and Agbemafle, (2016). Women who have been physically assaulted by their spouses are twice likely to have an abortion, experience depression and in some regions 1.5 times more likely to acquire HIV/AIDS (WHO, 2015).

According to a recent research in Kenya (KDHS, 2014) 43% of women aged between 15-49 years have experienced some form of PV from their intimate partners in their lifetime, 29% have experienced PV in the previous year prior to the survey while 13% have experienced PV during the last twelve months immediately preceding the survey. In addition a report by (UNICEF, 2015) reveals that 83% of women and girls report one incidence or more episodes of PV in childhood which presumably is manifested in their marriage later. In addition the GBVC, (2016) in its recent findings indicated 422 cases of physical violence against women in Kenya have been reported from various parts of the country. It further reveals that 45% of married women aged between 18-45 years have experienced PV perpetrated by spouses in Western region of Kenya. Results of GBV status in Murang’a County from the National Gender and Equality commission, (2014)
indicate that 33.1% of women have reported cases of physical violence reflecting a very high prevalence.

2.3 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Married Women that Influence Physical Violence.

Reviewed literature indicates that among the socio demographic characteristics of married women that influence PV are age of the married woman, number of children the woman has, level of her formal education and duration in marriage while for the spouse are: age, occupation and the level of formal education. Age is believed to be a causal factor to PV against married women. In view of this a certain level of age in women (between 25-34 years) are reportedly the most vulnerable to PV (World Women Report, 2010) as compared to older ones since they are mostly in a reproductive age which is quite demanding hence easily escalates PV. Literature further reveals that, having children is also a risk factor that escalate PV (UNICEF, 2013). Population based studies established that PV is common in families with many children due to the increased demand of resources (KDHS, 2014) hence the inability of a spouse to cater for the needs of the family triggers emotional distress which leads to PV.

Other studies established that PV on married women was (48%) less likely to occur for women whose spouses had higher education as compared to those whose spouses did not have any formal education Koenig, Ahemed, Hossain and Mozumder,(2014). Consistent with this is a study by Bonnie, (2010) who established that low academic achievement in married women makes them vulnerable to PV as they are perceived to be less informed, less aggressive and more likely to withstand violence without complaining since they are less exposed. Contrary to this, some studies established that being educated up to
secondary or higher levels may not ensure women’s opportunities to be employed gainfully, therefore regardless of being educated they may be vulnerable to PV (Koenig, Ahemed, Hossain and Mozumder, 2014). The study also observes that female education alone may not be a strong indicator of empowerment. For example, Robert, (2014) found that, education was most important only to women who were employed in formal paid jobs. It was not perceived as important by the rest who were employed in the informal work or engaged in market works inside the homes hence being educated may not prevent PV from being meted on married women.

Furthermore Janet, (2013) in her study on Violence Patterns Against Married Women in California observes that, women who had been in marriage for a longer period of time approximately 5 years and above are less likely to undergo PV due to their high level of adaptation to their spouses unlike those who had been in marriage for less than 5 years. Hamby, (2009) further observed that, between 14-24% of married women who had stayed longer in marriage were less likely to be physically violated as they had a high tenacity of handling matters in marriage.

On the other hand a study by Warshaw, Brashler and Gil, (2009) reveals that the higher the age of a spouse in comparison to that of the wife the lower the chances of Physical Violence and vice versa. He attributes this to the respect that exists culturally when one is older than others as they are likely to be treated as wiser and more experienced. Furthermore studies reveal that, spouses who have a higher level of education are less likely to violate their wives since they understand the aspect of human rights (Flurry, 2010). Education is also a powerful tool that guides the society in attaining desirable
behavioral patterns. On the other hand lower academic achievement creates a favorable environment for a spouse to perpetuate their wives (UNFPA, 2012).

2. 4 Forms of Physical Violence

PV is a quiet epidemic Jeyaseelan, (2014) meted on married women using hands, legs or weapons such as knives, a gun, firewood or clubs. Literature reviewed indicates that most of the perpetrators target the face, neck or hands in order to subdue their wives.

Revealed literature shows that, PV takes various forms. Women report being slapped, their arms twisted, hair pulled, pushed, harmful thing’s thrown to them, choked or struggled, punched with a fist, kicked, threatened or attacked using a knife or any other weapon Jaffe, (2017). Furthermore, other studies indicate that at least 68% of women experience Physical Violence from their spouses in their lifetime and 38% of male spouses admitted physically violating their wives Mayo, (2014). In most cases the victims of PV sustain injuries, ranging from cuts and bruises to permanent disability and death. Population-based studies suggest that 40–72% of all women who have been physically violated by a spouse are injured at some point in their life (Kimani et al; 2010).

In Canada, 43% of women injured in this way received medical care and 50% of those injured had to take time off from work. Injury, however, is not the most common physical outcome of PV. More common are functional disorders defined as a host of ailments that frequently have no identifiable medical cause, such as irritable bowel syndrome, fibromyalgia, gastrointestinal disorders and various chronic pain syndromes. Studies consistently link such disorders with a history of Physical Violence Piispa, (2012). Women who have been abused also experience reduced physical functioning, more
physical symptoms and a greater number of days in bed than non-abused women WHO, (2014). Hence all forms of PV are accompanied by negative effects on the married women.

2.5 Socio-cultural Factors that Influence Experience of Physical Violence on Married Women

Reviewed literature indicates that socio-cultural factors and socio-economic status of married women are key to escalating PV (WHO, 2013).

2.5.1 Socio- Cultural Factors

Reviewed literature indicates that among the socio-cultural factors that escalate PV against married women by spouses are; witnessing inter-parental violence between parents, existing cycle of violence in a marriage setup, dowry payment by the spouse, influence by in-laws from the married woman’s side, alcohol, drugs and substance use by the spouse and retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs existing in any community setup (FIDA (k), 2012).

Studies from India by (Sinha, Malik, Sanyal, Dasguta, Pal and Murkhejee), on Domestic violence among ever married group shows that, children who witness violence between their parents frequently exhibit many of the same behavioral and psychological disturbances as children who are themselves abused. In addition children of women who were physically abused by a partner were six times more likely to die before the age of 5 years than children of women who had not been abused. This is due to early exposure to a violent environment which affects their growth and development and is likely to make them accept PV later in life when they grow up Shrivastava, (2013).
Furthermore, in a study done in Kenya by KDHS, (2014), 41% of women whose spouses had a background of domestic violence underwent PV. On the other side women who had a background of inter-parental violence were 3 times more likely to experience PV as compared to women who were not exposed to it Jaffe,(2017). Another research shows that due to great exposure of children to corporal punishments and patriarchal gender norms, women in rural areas have higher odds of justifying wife beating Hamby, (2009).

In a survey done by Cava, (2010) 3 in every 4 women reported being physically assaulted by their spouses due to negative reports given by their in-laws. He further observes that living with in-laws creates a conducive environment to affect the nuclear family due to constant interaction, limited resources, sharing of chores and emotional outbursts between the members. In addition, the feeling that the married woman is a stranger to the home makes her not to be easily accepted hence the husband proximity to his own family members escalates the PV Syeda, (2014). Furthermore, women living in the rural setup with in-laws in the same compound are vulnerable to PV as likelihood of their life’s being interfered by in-laws is high.

Alcohol, drugs and substance use is a perceived situational cause of PV against married women, literature reveals that, married women whose husbands drink alcohol were 2.5 times more likely to experience PV as compared to those who did not Mayo, (2012). Failure to deal with the drug and substance use problems of female domestic violence victims leads to increased risks of further victimization after they leave treatment (Center for Substance Abuse Treatment [CSAT] 1994; Fazzone, Holton, and Reed, 1997). Most of the substance use treatment and rehabilitation programs don’t have formal ways to address PV issues and most of them ignore the issue altogether Parish,(2015) leading to
its rise. Furthermore alcohol consumption increases the likelihood of PV by reducing inhibitions, clouding judgment and impairing an individual’s ability to interpret cues (Akter & Begum, 2012). The same study further reveals that regular consumption of alcohol and drug and substance causes lack of basic needs as some of the spouses use all the finances needed at home thus escalating PV.

Literature indicates that PV is endemic yet as a society we often close our eyes to it. “Amy sanchez director of Break the cycle” an organization on the NO MORE steering committee reveals that an existence of a cycle of violence makes married women vulnerable to PV. Kabaria, (2014) further established that, a cycle of violence is like a veil to the married woman to an extent that she may condone the violence thus leading to more perpetration. The pattern of behavior attained by men of feeling guilty and remorseful after they get used to violating their wives makes PV a complex matter.

Breiding (2011) in her study emphasized the influence of retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs to the perpetuation of physical violence, with those holding violence-supportive attitudes being more likely to become offenders themselves. According to her, Retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs influence how victims and the community respond to violence. “They tend to affect the ability of women to disclose violence and seek help, the decision of bystanders to intervene and the willingness of the community to hold men accountable. “According to an Australian and international studies on difference in gender gap attitudes, they revealed that men and women tend to differ significantly in their beliefs and values on Physical Violence. These studies reveal that men are more likely than women to hold fast to common myths about violence against women, men also believe in a smaller range of behaviors as violent, and usually
downplay the harm caused by violence and its seriousness Hamby, (2010). Such retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs established in the literature review are forced and early marriages, various taboos which prevent women from controlling their own fertility, traditional birth practices, men regarded as natural leaders, superior and born to rule over women, the issue of son preference which disadvantages the girl child and women considered to be weaker vessels - extensions of men and secondary human being Muyanga, (2011).

Similarly the value attached to dowry payment plays a major role in PV occurrence. Report by (WHO, 2014) reveals that majority of men who pay their dowry attain a high level of ownership over their wives hence perpetrating PV against them does not make them feel guilty. Studies indicate that at least 41% of married women experience dowry related violence (UNIFEM, 2010). In addition the image created by the society which portrays a man being viewed as stronger than a woman after paying her dowry escalates PV at home.

2.5.2 Socio-Economic Status of Married Women

Studies reveal that PV is more likely to occur in families of lower socio-economic background Parish, (2015) due to the frustration of lacking enough resources to support the family. Furthermore financial insecurity, where a man cannot establish his authority economically contributes to physical violation on his wife (UNFPA, 2015). In addition (World women Report, 2010) reveals that women’s dependency on their spouses leads to PV because the status of women has for a long time been seen as unequal to the status of men in terms of authority, opportunity and independence. Reed, (2012) further observed
that a woman’s financial instability is a challenge to her spouse and the only way to communicate his frustrations is to mete PV on them.

2.6 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women Experiencing Physical Violence

Although little data is available, 40% of married women who experience PV attempt to seek help of any sort. According to Kabaria – Muriithi (2014) most of the women seek refuge from family and friends while less than 10% look to formal institutions like the hospital and legal framework such as reporting to the police. Therefore married women experiencing physical violence adopt certain coping strategies which may be formal or informal Hamby, (2013). In addition, some of the informal ways include hitting back with any weapon within reach, protecting children, sharing with the family members or friends, teaching children to make non-violent choices in their own relationships or getting engaged in a secret affair Kabaria – Muriithi (2014).

Among the formal ways include going to a shelter home and reaching out for Social Support, spiritual assistance and application for divorce Kabaria – Muriithi (2014) and others end up terminating the relationship for the sake of their safety (UNPF A, 2015).

Furthermore they may also choose to open secret bank accounts and start saving money, file for divorce, contest custody to secure living arrangements, go back to school to enhance their job skills and acquire all other benefits of an education Nelson,(2014). They also tend to protect their children by filing for their custody, seek supervised visits for them when they visit their father, some relocate to get away from the perpetrator and some train their children on how to escape during a violent episode World Women Report, (2012). Others successfully work with their partners, with or without the
assistance of lawyers or counselors, to make their relationship safe Postmus, Severson, Berry, & Yoo, (2014).

Eliminating PV may need multiple strategies at the individual, community and National levels (UN Women, 2013). Janet, 2013 suggests that enhancement in individuals’ education or socio-economic status may help to decrease the risk of physical violence toward women. According to Koenig (2006), he recommends the need to improve the attitudes for both men and women. His findings reveal that, interventions for both men and women that challenge and attenuate the normative underpinnings overlooking PV may represent significant steps towards reducing levels of within-marriage physical violence. Women who have been physically abused need to assume several roles so as to eliminate this form of violence which include, taking action against the perpetrator and reporting the matter to relevant authorities, being alert on Violence Against Women Programs, volunteering to support abused women and supporting violence prevention programs right away from the primary level (WHO, 2014).

The community also has a role to play which includes; pursuing a socio-cultural framework that is rooted in equality and justice of women and will hold the perpetrators into account, advocating for a change in the constitution so that the rights of women are fully embraced and stopping any political and legal action that contributes to further oppression of women (FIDA, (k) 2012). The community should break the silence and speak out against the vice which is seen as a taboo subject GBVC, (2016).

The Government has a role to play in making budgetary allocations to initiatives that seek to address PV. It should improve National and County level PV delivery systems and
policy implementation (FIDA, 2012). Furthermore lobbying for gender response and mainstreaming women’s rights as well as gender equality to change the national and county legislation agenda should be implemented. Reviewed literature further indicates that there should be provision of adequate facilitation of survivors of PV to police stations, trained staff for comprehensive data collection and corruption be fought so as to improve on the legal framework in addressing GBV against women Mayo, (2010). In addition there is need for the judiciary to effectively enforce penalties against perpetrators of PV.

Nelson, (2014) further recommends that there is need for partnership to prevent conflict both at home and within the community to ensure sustainable peace. He further recommends that the public should advocate for peace and avoid all triggers of violence. Furthermore counties should ensure that, they start gender units within their structures to deal with PV issues affecting people on each Sub County Akter, (2012). In line with this there is need for separate special spaces for survivors of PV with facilities to allow for the confidential collection of testimonies and evidence within all police stations which should come with specialized staff to support survivors. He further recommends that survivors of PV should be linked with support groups and organizations that provide psycho-social support and help seek justice.

In addition creating awareness through radio talk, social media platform like WhatsApp, twitter handles and face book Asling, (2014) provides a channel of communication and plays a significant role in spreading information, promoting dialogue and debate on issues of PV as well as providing a platform to express needs, opinions and aspirations. This allows interactive talk and allows the public to call in and send text via short
message service to get insight on PV. It also educates the public and makes them make informed choices/decisions (FIDA (k), 2012). The youth also have a responsibility to prevent all forms of PV by helping the victims to seek help from different service providers in the event that they are affected. In conclusion reduction of PV against women can only be attained if there is peace inside and outside our homes Postmus, (2014).

2.7 Summary of the Literature Review

Reviewed literature illustrates that PV is an important health and social problem on women population which compromises their health, security, dignity and autonomy and it is still prevalent globally despite the effort to stop it. It has serious negative effects especially on the women, children, the family and the community as a whole. The reviewed literature indicates that socio-demographic characteristics of married women like age, level of formal education, duration of marriage and the number of children the women have, has great influence to PV so is the age of spouse, occupation and his level of formal education. In addition factors like socio-cultural and Socio-economic status of married women have an upper hand in escalating PV since they determine the wealth index of the family.

Reviewed literature further indicates that the women who are physically violated adopt some coping mechanisms which can either be informal or formal in order to deal with the vice. However despite the existence of numerous laws in support of elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and much effort put in place to fight the vice through the Gender Based Violence programs, married women continue to face PV. This is because of the existence of a predominantly patriarchal society, a cultural order which
continues to put women at a disadvantageous position in the effect towards ending violence against women. However most of the studies have focused on violence against women in general without necessarily narrowing down to PV. Furthermore the studies have also been focusing more on the urban set-ups where there are shelter homes and available psychosocial support programs leaving out the rural areas where psychosocial support programs are very minimal or not even there and no shelter homes available for the victims of physical violence and therefore the obvious gap that the study sought to fill was the determinants of physical violence on married women by spouses in a rural set-up. It is envisaged that the knowledge obtained will help in creating awareness and sensitization against physical violence on women and intervention measures be put in place.
CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Research Design

The study employed a cross-sectional research approach because it was a one-time study. According to Robinson (2014) cross-sectional studies are able to make comparisons at a single point in time allowing the researcher to compare many different variables at the same time. Hence this design was deemed suitable for the study to compare the independent variables of the study in relation to the dependent variable.

3.1 Study Variables

3.1.1 Independent Variable and dependent variables

a) Independent Variable

Independent variables for the study comprised of (a) socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence. To measure this, each married woman was asked questions as follows: - How old are you? What is level of formal education have you attained? How many children do you have? How long have you been in this marriage? What do you do to earn a living? (b) The socio-demographic characteristics of spouses were reported by the married women who were asked questions as follows: How old is your spouse? What level of formal education has your spouse attained? and what does your spouse do to earn a living? (c) To measure the influence of socio-cultural factors influencing Physical Violence the following questions were asked: Have you ever witnessed your parents fight? Has your spouse paid the dowry? Do you live in the same compound with your in-laws? Does your spouse have another wife? What is the gender of your children? Are you used to physical violence from your spouse? Does your
spouse, use of alcohol, drugs and other substances? What are some of the retrogressive traditional norms and believes that escalate physical violence in your community? Answers to these questions were collected by means of a short guided questionnaire comprising of a set of dichotomous questions of Yes or No. These were then ranked in order of their frequency of influence to PV from the highest to the lowest.

The intervening variable for the study was tolerance of Physical Violence reflected by the existing coping strategies adopted by married women which will determine the occurrence of Physical Violence. These were also measured by a set of dichotomous questions of Yes or No and ranked according to their frequency of occurrence from the highest to the lowest.

(b) Dependent Variable

The dependent variable was the experience of Physical Violence perpetrated by spouses which was measured in three levels: very frequently, frequently and occasionally. In this case, very frequent meant the rate of occurrence of PV on the married woman by her spouse every day, frequently once in a month and occasionally once in three months or more. The married women were asked to report on current experiences of physical violence. Current experience of violence was defined as that occurring within the last 12 months. The study defined physical violence as the intentional use of physical force with the potential for causing injury or death and consisted of questions about the experience of physical violence taken from the Conflict Tactics Scale (Straus et al. 1996). In this regard married women were asked: 1) Has your spouse ever slapped you? (2) Has he ever pushed you? (3) Has he ever thrown something that could hurt you? (4) Has he ever hit
you with his fist? (5) Has he ever kicked you (6) Has your spouse ever beat you with a blunt object, rope, belt of a stick? 7) Has he ever pulled your hair? (8) Did your spouse ever tried to choke you? (8) Has your spouse ever burned you on purpose? (9) Have you ever been threatened with a knife? (10) Has your spouse ever stabbed you? 11) Is there something else that has been done with an intend to injure you?

3.2 Study Area

The study was done in Kandara Sub County in Murang’a County, central region of Kenya. The Sub County is 61km from the capital city of Kenya and 22 Kms from Thika Town. It has 6 wards: Ng’araria, Muruka, Kangunduini, Gaichanjiru, Ithiru and Ruchu. Kandara Sub County has a land coverage of 236 Sq. Km as shown on the map in (Appendix D) but with the highest population density of 664.08 persons per Km as compared to Kigumo which has a land coverage of 242 Sq. Km and a population density of 511.28 per Km, Kangema has 174 Sq. Km and 443.40 persons per Km, Kiharu has 410 Sq. Km with 441.88 persons per Km, Maragwa has 547 Sq. Km with 278.29 persons per Km, Gatanga has 599 Sq. Km with 273.12 persons per Km and Mathioya which has 351Sq Km with 251.15 persons per Km (Kenya National Bureau of statistics, 2013).

According to a report by the County Development Planning Office, Murang’a (2013), 36.3% of the county population lives in absolute poverty with women being the hardest hit. Kandara Sub County was chosen for the study as the population is densely populated, has low income earners engaged in casual jobs and low education level at (66.7%) for females and (73.9%) for males (County development planning office-Murang’a 2012) hence poverty increases the risk of marital conflict and consequently PV due to its accompanying frustrations such as overcrowding or hopelessness (GBVC, 2016).
According to a strategic plan report done by Murang’a County Integrated Development Plan (2013-2017) committee the prevalence of GBV in Murang’a is high (47.7%) and under-reported which is a causal factor of PV in the area of study.

### 3.3 Target Population

This comprised of all married women in the six wards, experiencing Physical Violence who also gave information about their spouses. The key informants included in the study were six chiefs randomly selected from all the wards, three randomly selected religious leaders from the ACK and Catholic church from which two were selected from the ACK church as they were easily available for the congregation and one from the Catholic church, Two law enforcers from the police posts in the area of study were randomly selected from the six police posts in the area of study. The study included review of records from the chief’s offices which had 300 married women who had already reported having gone through PV by spouses between July 2015 and July 2016.

#### 3.3.1 Inclusion Criteria

Married women who had experienced Physical Violence from spouses and had reported to the chief’s office.

#### 3.3.2 Exclusion Criteria

Married women in the area of study who declined to participate in the study were excluded and those who were unable to participate due to the fear of further perpetuation from their spouses. In addition provision was made for natural attrition which was calculated as follows:

$$\text{5/100 of the sample size plus 5 respondents: } \frac{5}{100} \times 121 + 5 \text{ respondents} = 11.05$$
3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Technique

For the study to be carried out, 300 married women experiencing physical violence from the six wards who had reported to the chief’s office were as follows: Ng’araria 68, Ruchu 61, Gaichanjiru 56, Muruka 44, Ithiru 36 and Kangunduini 35. The sample size for the study was determined using Glen, (1992) formula for a population below 500.

\[ n = \frac{Z^2 p (1-p)}{d^2} \]

Where;

- \( n \)- Sample size
- \( Z \)- Statistic for a level of confidence (95% level of confidence, \( Z \) value is 1.962)
- \( p \)- Expected proportion in the target population. (Assuming 50%, \( p = 0.05 \))
- \( d \)- Precision level of statistical significance (7%, \( d = 0.07 \))

\[ 300 = (1.962)^2 \times 0.5 \times (1-0.5) \]
\[ (0.07)^2 \]
\[ n = 121 \]

Therefore, from this equation a total of one hundred and twenty one 121 married women experiencing PV from their spouses were selected as respondents for this study. Proportionate sampling of married women undergoing PV by their spouses in the various wards was done, twenty seven (27) married women being sampled from Ng’araria ward, eighteen (18) married women were sampled from Muruka ward, fourteen (14) married women were sampled from Kangunduini ward, twenty three (23) married women were sampled from Gaichanjiru ward, fifteen (15) married women were sampled from Ithiru ward and twenty four (24) married women were sampled from Ruchu ward. A list of all
married women experiencing PV was written down according to the ward from the chief’s office in various wards. The researcher with the assistance of one research assistant was able to get the specific numbers for all married women in each ward by picking the 5th name of the participants was picked until the required number of the married women experiencing physical violence to be interviewed was obtained.

Table 3.1 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>No. of Women who reported to the chief</th>
<th>Proportionate sampling</th>
<th>No. of women to be interviewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ng’araria</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68/300 ×121</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muruka</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44/300 ×121</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kangunduini</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35/300 ×121</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaichanjiru</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>56/300 ×121</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ithiru</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36/300 ×121</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruchu</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>61/300 ×121</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
<td><strong>-</strong></td>
<td><strong>121</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.5 Research Instruments

The instruments used in the study included an interview guide for married women experiencing PV. The interview guide was administered to the sampled married women experiencing PV. It was used as it allowed the researcher to give a better justification of the responses, it was free from external influence and it also created a rapport. A key informant interview guide for six chiefs, three selected religious leaders and two law enforcers was used. The interview guide obtained information on socio-economic situation of married women experiencing PV, challenges faced, opportunities available to married women for accessing Gender Based Violence services by State and Non-State actors.
3.5.1 Pre-Testing of Research Instruments

Before the study begun, pre-testing of the study instruments was conducted. The aim of pre-testing was to assist in determining accuracy, clarity and suitability of the research instruments and to check their validity and reliability (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2012). The pre-testing study was conducted at Kigumo Sub County which is the immediate neighbouring sub-county and has almost similar socio-cultural and socio-economic activities (Murang’a County Development Plan 2013-2017). This involved a total of ten married women experiencing PV who were randomly selected from those who had reported to the chief’s office. The ten married women were not residents in Kandara Sub County hence could not be duplicated in the main study. One chief, one selected religious leader from ACK church and one police officer were also involved in the pre-testing from the same Sub County. Adjustments were made in order to make the research instruments more appropriate before the actual field work begun. The responses derived from the pretest were analyzed, anomalies corrected and ambiguities’ and gaps in the tool were clarified. This was then revised with permission sought from the supervisors for use in the study.

3. 6 Validity of Instruments

Validity refers to the extent to which an instrument measures what it is intended to measure based on objectives (Kothari, 2004). To enhance validity of the research instruments, peer review was done where the study proposal was presented twice at the department. Consistent consultations were done by the researcher together with her supervisors. Other experts in the field were consulted and more informed obtained from reviewed literature enhanced validity. This helped in establishing ambiguous questions
and missing gaps in the questionnaire, and corrections were made on research items that were not clear before being used in the actual study.

3.6.1 Reliability of Instruments

Reliability test was conducted for the likert scale items using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) where internal consistencies were analysed using Cronbachs coefficient alpha. The results of Cronbachs Coefficient Alpha yielded a value of 0.78 which was acceptable. According to Streiner and Norman (1989), a Cronbach Alpha Value of 0.70 or higher is considered good enough. Thus it indicated that the items selected for measurement of variables were reliable measures.

3.7 Data Collection Tools

3.7.1 Interview schedule

One research assistant was trained by the researcher to aid in data collection on study objectives, purpose of the study and the data collection tools and procedures before embarking on the study. Married women experiencing physical violence were identified, the researcher made arrangement with the married women to meet at a certain time and place of their convenience for the interview. For the married women who were not able to get a convenient place, the researcher liaised with the chief to secure a separate room within his or her camp so as to enhance confidentiality during the interview. Prior to the interview, main objectives of the study were explained to the married women and consent sought to participate in the study. In instances where it was not possible to get in touch with the married women sampled for the study, a return visit was made to them.
3.7.2 Key Informant Interviews
This was done by conducting a face to face interview with the chiefs, religious leaders and law enforcers within the area of study. These were interviewed in their work place after an appointment had been placed prior to the interview.

3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation
This study generated both qualitative and quantitative data. The qualitative data obtained from the open ended questions in the married women’s questionnaire was manually explored, to check for emerging themes. The data was then clustered in a patterned order so as to identify variables that depicted general concepts that occurred repeatedly. Qualitative data from the Key informants was presented in narrative form highlighting respondents’ voices to compliment some of the quantitative findings. Quantitative data collected was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Descriptive statistics of means, frequencies and percentages were used to describe and summarize data in line with the study objectives. Inferential statistics used included chi-square to test relationship among variables. Data presentation was done through tables. Chi-square test of significance at a significance level of P<0.05 was used to establish the relationship between the dependent and independent variables. The chi-square test was preferred since both the dependent and independent variables used in the study were categorical.

3.9 Logistical and Ethical Considerations
Clearance to conduct the research was obtained from Kenyatta University Graduate School which gave an ethical approval to conduct the study and Kenyatta University Ethical Review committee since the study was focusing on the participant’s personal life.
A research permit was obtained from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). To obtain data from the married women, permission was sought from the local administrators in Kandara Sub County who included the chiefs and the sub-county director. Voluntary participation was sought from the married women undergoing physical violence and had already reported to the chiefs and signed. Anonymity and confidentiality was maintained through conducting the interviews in a private setting within the confines of the chiefs’ compound or at convenient places as agreed with the study participants. The names of the married women who were participating were not recorded.
CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings and analysis on the determinants of Physical Violence perpetrated against married women by spouses in Kandara Sub County and related discussions. The presentation is guided by the study objectives which were; to determine the socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses in Kandara Sub County; to establish the socio-cultural factors influencing Physical Violence on married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County; to identify forms of Physical Violence perpetrated against married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County and to assess the coping strategies adopted by married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

As part of the findings the following null hypothesis were tested;

**Ho₁** There is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County.

**Ho₂** There is no significant relationship between socio-cultural factors influencing experience of Physical Violence and Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County.

**Ho₃** There is no significant relationship between coping strategies adopted by married women and Physical Violence in Kandara Sub County.

The targeted sample size for this study was 121 respondents. However, the study successfully reached a total of 111 married women experiencing Physical Violence. This is because, some of the married women declined to consent to the study while others
were afraid of further perpetration of PV. The response rate was therefore 91.7% which is considered adequate according to Timothy and Wislar, (2012) who indicated that responses obtained from such a percentage are adequate for analysis of a study sample.

4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Married Women Experiencing Physical Violence.
This section focuses on the first objective of the study and presents the socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses. The variables presented are; age, level of formal education, occupation, number of children and duration in marriage as shown in Table 4.1.

a) Age
Results in Table 4.1 reveal that the age of married women experiencing Physical Violence from their spouses ranged from 18 years to 45 years and above. The youngest interviewed married woman was 18 years. Most of the married women were aged between 25-31 with a mean age of 28 years meaning that majority were still youth and in their reproductive age.

b) Duration in Marriage
Results in Table 4.1 reveal that the highest proportion of married women undergoing PV had been married for a period of 5 years and below at 61.2%. The distribution in duration of marriage reveals a concentration between 2-5 years with a mean of 3.5. This shows that most of the married women had been in their marriage for a period of less than three years.
Table 4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Married Women Experiencing Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic variable (N = 111)</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-31</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>34.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32-38</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39-44</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 years and above</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duration of marriage</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year and below</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-5 years</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>47.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-9 years</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 years and above</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Children</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No children</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3 children</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6 children</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>30.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 6 children</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No formal education</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete primary</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>complete primary</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete secondary</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Occupation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self employed</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual jobs</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>46.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c) Number of Children

Results in Table 4.1 shows that a large proportion 41.4 % of the married women experiencing PV from their spouses had between 1- 3 children. The distribution in the
number of children reveals a concentration in the category of 1-3 children with a mean of 2.

d) Level of Formal Education

Findings in Table 4.1 show that a third (32.4%) of the married women experiencing PV had completed tertiary education while the least 10.8% had no formal education. The study established that study participants had attained secondary education and above in four wards. However this was contrary to two wards where most of the married women had not completed their secondary education as well as primary education.

e) Occupation

Results in Table 4.1 reveal that 46.9% of the married women who had casual jobs were the highest violated while 25.2% of those who were employed were not physically violated. Most of the married women were from two wards which were characterized by high self-reported poverty levels that affect the socio-economic lives of the women unlike married women from three wards whose socio-economic lives were higher due to their fertile land and chicken rearing projects.

4.2 Social Demographic Characteristics of Spouses as Reported by Married Women

This section presents the socio-demographic characteristics of the spouses as reported by married women. The variables presented are; age, level of formal education and occupation as shown in Table 4.2

Results in Table 4.2 reveal that a third of the spouses who were violating their wives were between 26-35 years of age as reported by the study participants.
Table 4.2 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Spouses as Reported by Married Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic Variable (N=111)</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and below</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35 years</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>34.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45 years</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 years and above</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In complete primary</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete primary</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Secondary</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>29.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>44.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self employed</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual job</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b) Level of Formal Education

Findings in Table 4.2 further indicate that, the highest proportion of men perpetrating PV had attained tertiary level of education at 29.7% where else those with incomplete primary education at 9.9% did not violate their wives. This was evident in two wards were most of the population consisted of people who had attained secondary education and above as confirmed by one married woman who attested,

*My spouse is more learned than me hence he intimidates me anytime we differ in opinion showing me how unproductive my thoughts were.....”* (Respondent, SR 36).
c) Occupation

Table 4.2 findings reveal that most of the spouses who were perpetrators of PV were employed at a proportion of 44.1%, while the least were in casual jobs at 22.5%. This was highly reflected in four wards where most of the spouses had formal employment contrary to what was happening in two wards where majority were engaged in casual jobs and in small business enterprises.

4.3 Socio-cultural Factors Influencing Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County.

In response to objective two of the study, the study endeavored to establish the factors that made married women vulnerable to PV. These were analyzed in two categories: socio-cultural factors and socio-economic factors as shown in Table 4.3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4.3 Socio-cultural Factors Influencing Physical Violence on Married Women in Kandara Sub County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Socio-cultural factors (N= 111)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol drugs and substance use by spouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witnessing inter-parental violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse marrying a second wife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence by in-laws from the spouse’s side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle of violence within the marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giving birth to girls only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowry payment by spouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrogressive traditional norms and believes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Economic Status</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic dependency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**multiple responses allowed......**
4.3.1 Socio-Cultural Factors

a) Lack of children
The study established that the inability of a married women to conceive was the highest in proportion at 73.9% as a socio-cultural factor that aggravates PV against married women as shown in Table 4.3. This was evident across all the six wards from which some of the respondents were living in desperation due to the intimidation they were going through. This was confirmed by one study participant who attested,

“My spouse has been very arrogant to me. We have lived together for five years without a child and he often beats me up telling me to go back to my natal home. What hurts me most is that he has never accepted to go for any medical tests to confirm where the problem is. He is also a perpetual drug abuser and he has been blaming me for this condition.......” (Respondent, SR 101)

b) Alcohol, Drugs and Substance use by Spouse
Alcohol Drugs and Substance use by spouses as revealed in Table 4.3 was also among the highest socio-cultural factor determining PV at 70.3% as reported by the married women. The commonly used drugs by spouses as reported by the married women were cocaine, miraa and tobacco and alcohol ranging from the local brews to the best brewed in the known companies. Most of the spouses in across the six wards were reported to be perpetual drug users which easily escalated PV.

c) Witnessing Inter-Parental Violence
Table 4.3 results further reveal that witnessing inter-parental violence was the third highest reported socio-cultural factor escalating PV at 63.9%. This indicates that a violent
environment negatively influences children and are likely to grow up accepting violation. This was further confirmed by one study participant who ascertained that,

‘My parents used to fight almost every evening after a slight disagreement which made us believe that violence is a normal practice which can be meted anytime’

(Respondent, SR 30)

d) Spouse Marrying a Second Wife

Results in Table 4.3 indicate that, the presence of a second wife was rated at 63.1% as a socio-cultural factor escalating PV as reported by the study participants. The study established that, this was common among spouses who were wealthy and those influenced by their parents to remarry due family culture. This was common in three wards were some of the spouses had large pieces of land and tea farms contrary to the other three were most of the spouses were squeezed in small pieces of land and ranging low economically. This was confirmed by one study participant who said,

“...The day my spouse married another woman, everything in the home changed. I could not get support from my spouse hence was left to struggle on my own. Any attempt to request for support resulted in thorough beatings”...

(Respondent, SR 20)

e) Living with in-laws

The study further found that living with in-laws was rated at 61.3% as shown in Table 4.3 This was reflected in two wards were most of the respondents were living in the same compound with their in-laws due to scarcity of land. As a result of differently socialized patterns of the married women chances of PV were high.
f) Cycle of Violence within Marriage

Results in Table 4.3 reveal that cycle of violence took a proportion of 57.7% as a socio-cultural factor causing PV against married women. This was evident in three wards and was further confirmed by one study participant who said,

“Ever since my spouse started beating me, I have always thought he would change because he would became so remorseful, extremely good and responsible afterwards. However he has been violating me on several occasions and I am contemplating leaving this marriage....” (Respondent, SR 49)

g) Giving Birth to Girls Only

Results in Table 4.3 reveal that giving birth to girls only took a proportion of 57.7% as a socio-cultural factor influencing PV. This is due to the perception held by the society that, girls have a low value. This was confirmed by one study participant who attested that,

“I suffered many beatings from my spouse because I was unable to give birth to a boy child. At this time I have seven girls and my spouse keeps blaming me .......

(Respondent, SR, 111)

h) Dowry payment by spouse

Results in Table 4.3 further revealed that dowry payment by spouse was also considered as a socio-cultural factor influencing PV against married women at 57.6%. This emerged across the six wards as a result of the value attached to it as it makes spouses become possessive to their wives. It was further confirmed by one respondent who in an interview said that,
“Trouble began the night after my spouse paid the entire dowry to my parents. He started making very heavy demands and was expecting no mistakes from me. Anytime I delayed to take an order, he could beat me up...” (Respondent, SR 13)

i) Retrogressive Traditional Norms and Beliefs

Findings in Table 4.3 indicate that retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs held by the community took a proportion of 43.2% as a socio-cultural factor influencing PV. It emerged in the study that, forced and early marriages, men superior attitude to women, women perceived as not to be aggressive, various taboos that hinder women from controlling their own fertility and men leading in decision making were key in escalating PV against married women. Hence an attempt of married women to fight for their rights would precipitate PV. This was confirmed by one respondent who said,

“My spouse strongly believes that a woman's place is in the kitchen and her major role is giving birth. He beats me severally when he realizes that am trying to do something that can help me gain extra knowledge.........”(Respondent ,SR 40)

4.3.2 Socio-Economic Status of Married Women

The Socio-economic status of the married women discussed in the study included the level of income of the married woman and her dependency on the spouse for upkeep which dictates a family’s livelihood. This was analyzed in the study as shown in Table 4.3.
a) Level of Income

Findings in Table 4.3 revealed that level of income for married women was rated at 54.1% as a socio-cultural factor influencing PV against married women. This was reported by married women from three wards which were characterized by a high population density, scarcity of land and lack of job opportunities among the learned women leading to low-socio-economic lives.

b) Economic Dependency by the Married Women on the Spouses

Table 4.3 findings show that economic dependency of the married women on the spouses was rated at 34.2% as a socio-cultural factor influencing experience of PV. This was evident across four wards which were characterized by a high population of employed married women who rarely depended on their spouses for upkeep. This made their spouses feel inferior as they could not command their wives income a factor which escalated PV.

4.4 Forms of Physical Violence Experienced by Married Women

In response to objective three of the study, the study sought to investigate the various forms of PV perpetrated on married women by spouses as shown in Table 4.4.

a) Slapping

The study findings reveal that, slapping was the highest experienced form of PV at 100% as shown in Table 4.4. This was reported across the six wards in the area of study. Its high percentage is attributed to the fact that it was the easiest to perpetrate especially for those spouses who were short tempered as reported by the respondents. This occurred in the event of a conflict, delayed response to a request or when the spouse was under the
influence of alcohol, drugs and other substances. This was confirmed by one married woman who attested that:

“That morning I forgot to put enough sugar in tea for my spouse and left for other duties, However I was called by my daughter aged four years only to be slapped severally on arrival at the sitting room by my spouse with bitter utterances that I had become disrespectful……..(Respondent, SR 98)

Table 4.4 Forms of Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Physical violence</th>
<th>Frequency (N=111)</th>
<th>Percentage %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slapping</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beating</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>97.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushing</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>88.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kicking</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>48.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulling of hair</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocking</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twisting of arms</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened with a knife</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burning</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stabbing</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>8.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Multiple Responses allowed**

b) Beating

The study findings reveal that, beating was the second highest (97.3%) reported form of PV experienced by married women as shown in Table 4.4. Most of the married women in the six wards reported that their spouses beat them to avert their anger in the event of a conflict, delayed response to the spouses demand, denying the spouse sex, delaying to prepare food in time and delaying to serve the spouses’ visitors with food. It was easily perpetrated by the spouses without minding who was present or not. This was confirmed by one married woman who said that,
“My spouse has been beating me even in front of his friends in the event of serving him food with something amiss like salt, sugar or if it burns accidentally…..” (Respondent, SR 16)

c) Pushing

Study findings as indicated in Table 4.4 show that pushing took a percentage of 88.3% as a form of PV meted on married women. Most of the married women reported being pushed against the wall to a point of falling down and getting hurt in the event of a conflict or difference in opinion. This was done by use of hands or fists. This is confirmed by one study participant who said;

“We differed with my spouse on which school to take our daughter for repeating class eight. When I insisted on the school I felt was good for her, my spouse pushed me so hard until I lost control hurling insults due to my assertiveness in what I thought was right for her…..” (Respondent, SR 87)

d) Kicking

Study findings in Table 4.4 further reveal that, kicking took a proportion of 48.6% on the forms of PV as reported by the married women. The spouses would kick their wives in the event of anger, difference in opinion, presence of unwanted friends to the wife or failure to comply with an order. Most of the study participants reported being kicked any part of the body. This was confirmed by one married woman who said;

‘I didn’t detect my spouse’s anger at the moment I insisted that we were to attend a function at one of my friend’s home whom he did not like. He rose up from his
chair and kicked me several times all at the back making me fall down and sustain serious injuries on my face………” (Respondent, SR 52)

e) Pulling of hair

This form of PV took a proportion of 41.4% as revealed in the study findings in Table 4.4. It was reported by married women from two wards. It was attributed to disagreement between the couples and low self-esteem on spouses. Most of the study participants who attested to this had either braided their hair or had long hair naturally. This was confirmed by one study participant who said;

“My spouse started to pull my hair when I refused to respond to him. He further knocked my head against the wall which left me unconscious……” (Respondent SR, 27)

f) Chocking

The study further established that, chocking was not a commonly practiced form of PV as it took a proportion of 18.9% on the forms of PV as indicated in Table 4.4. It occurred in the event of extreme disagreement or when suspected of infidelity. The minimal percentage could be attested to the fear of the consequences it has on the survivor of PV as it could easily lead to death as confirmed by one married woman that;

“My spouse held me by my neck and started choking me demanding to know what deals I had with his workmate. I tried to explain to him but he vehemently kept telling me he will kill me if he suspects anything between us…” (Respondent, SR 14)
g) Twisting of Arms

Results in Table 4.4 reveal that, closely following on the forms of PV was twisting of arms which took a proportion of 16.2% on the forms of PV. It was reported in four wards which were characterized by married women involved in casual jobs. The study established that twisting of arms was done when a spouse was under influence of ADSU, wanted to stop self-defense or to limit the married women from doing their own income generating activities. This was confirmed by one married woman from who said,

“My spouse is a perpetual drug abuser hence anytime he found me picking tea leaves from a neighboring farm, he would shout at me, twist my right arm leaving me in pain…….”(Respondent SR, 104)

h) Threatening with a Knife

Findings in Table 4.4 reveal that, threatening with a knife by a spouse was rated at 10.8% on the forms of PV. It emerged from the study that, this was a rare form of PV perpetrated by spouses who were short tempered, had kept a grudge for a long time with their wives or were mentally unstable.

e) Burning

Study findings in Table 4.4 further reveal that, burning was also a rare form of PV which took a proportion of 8.8% on the forms of PV in two wards. Spouses who perpetrated this form of abuse as reported by the married women threw hot liquids on them like water, tea, milk or porridge or used hot objects like hot charcoal, pieces of firewood or metal
bars. Most of the married women attested that, their spouses were hesitant to burn their wives as it led to evident physical injuries which could attract a legal action.

f) Stabbing

Results in Table 4.4 further reveal that stabbing was reported as the least 8.8% form of PV. This happened when the spouses were under the influence of some drugs like alcohol and tobacco or in the event of extreme anger caused by a sharp disagreement emanating from ownership of property, presence of a second wife, infidelity, change of bank accounts or demand for money. This was confirmed by one married woman from who in an interview said that,

“My spouse suddenly grabbed a knife and stabbed me between my shoulders demanding to know why I had withdrawn money from our family account without his notice. He further accused me of mistreating his second wife…….”

(Respondent, SR 44)

Table 4.5 Prevalence of Physical Violence on Married Women by Spouses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency of PV</th>
<th>n=111</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequent</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occasional</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.5 shows that, more than half of the married women (52.3%) in the area of study were very frequently violated occurring on a daily basis , (33.3%) of the married women reported to be frequently violated that is; at least once per month while (14.4%) of the
married women were occasionally violated that is; once in three months. Therefore, the study established that PV is an evident practice in Kandara sub-county.

### 4.6 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women Experiencing Physical Violence.

In response to the fourth study objective, the study further endeavored to identify coping strategies adopted by married women after being physically violated by their spouses. This is presented in Table 4.6.

**Table 4.6 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women in Kandara Sub County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coping strategy</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ran away from marital home</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>64.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sought help from hospital</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>57.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared with the married women’s relatives</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>55.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared with the married women’s friends</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>46.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self defense</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sought help from church</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared with spouse’s relatives</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>29.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared with spouse’s friends of the married women</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported to the police</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**multiple responses allowed**

**a) Running away from the Marital Home as a Coping Strategy.**

Findings in Table 4.6 reveal that, the highest coping strategy adopted by married women as reported was running away from their spouses to their maternal homes at 64.9%. They either ran to a nearby bush, a friend’s house or a relative’s home at the time of the perpetration or a few hours after. This was seen as a viable solution in order to recover from the PV experienced and it helped them stay away from further perpetration. This was common across all the six wards as confirmed by one married woman in an interview said,
“I took off immediately my spouse started beating me up to my friend’s home to get comfort ……” (Respondent, SR 93)

b) Seeking Help from the Hospital as a Coping Strategy

Findings from Table 4.6 show that seeking help from the hospital took a proportion of 57.7% as reported by married women. This was adopted so as to seek medical attention in cases of body injuries like cuts, broken limbs, twisted arms, trauma and swollen faces. It was reported in three wards that, most of the married women went to Thika level five hospital as it offers free support services for any form of violence. One married woman confirmed this,

‘My husband injured my left eye and twisted my arm such that I could not perform any duty in the home forcing me to seek medical assistance…..”
(Respondent, SR 57)

c) Sharing With the Relatives of the Married Women as a Coping Strategy

Results in Table 4.6 further reveal that sharing with relatives of the married women was rated at 55.9% of coping strategies used cutting across the six wards. Most of the married women would make a call to their parents, their uncles, aunts, cousins, sisters and brothers for assistance. This is attributed to the trust they had towards their own relatives due to blood ties.

d) Sharing with the Friends of Married Women as a Coping Strategy.

Findings from Table 4.6 indicate that the above coping strategy was rated at 46.8% as reported by the married women. This was done at the friend’s premises or any other place away from the perpetrator. This finding reveal that friends gave comfort in case of
problems hence the reason why most of them adopted it. This was confirmed by one married woman who said that,

“I knocked at my friend’s house at 2am that day with a torn night dress and shared my woes with my friend……..” (Respondent, SR 31)

e) Self Defense as a Coping Strategy

Findings from Table 4.6 reveal that self-defense took a proportion of 33.3% as a coping strategy. It emerged in the study that the married women fought back by, throwing water on the faces of their perpetrators, sand, objects or stones with an effort to help themselves. In addition others chose to have another relationship with a different man without the knowledge of the spouse. Self-defense helped reduce the rate of PV or stop it completely as attested by one married woman that,

“I could not just stay and allow my spouse beat me up. Instead I fought back with anything that was nearby…….. (Respondent, SR 71).

f) Seeking Help from Church as a Coping Strategy

The study further established that seeking help from church was reported at 32.4% as a coping strategy by married women as shown in Table 4.6. The study found that married women talked to pastors, lay leaders, priests or church elders away from their perpetrators. This could be attributed to the trust they had in religious leaders. It was reported in three wards which had married women who were active church attendants. This was ascertained by one respondent that,
“I always ran to my pastor’s wife who was about 5 km from my marital home in the event of my spouse turning violent as I could find solace……” (Respondent, SR 45)

g) Sharing with Spouse’s Relatives as a Coping Strategy.

The study revealed that, sharing with spouse’s relatives was at 29.7% as a coping strategy adopted by the married women. This was evident in two wards which could be attributed to lack of trust the married women had in their in-laws and felt that they may not be assisted as much. It was confirmed by one married woman who through an interview said that,

“After multiple attacks from my spouse which left me with a broken arm I resolved to share the matter with his parents who unfortunately turned against me leaving me heartbroken…. ” (Respondent, SR 13).

h) Sharing with Spouse’s Friends as a Coping Strategy

Results in Table 4.6 reveal that, sharing with spouse’s friends took a lower proportion of 26.1% of the coping strategies adopted as compared to others. The study further established that it was not a common coping strategy as reported by married women from three wards. It could be attributed to the fear of being reported to their spouses by their friends after the sharing which could escalate more PV. This was confirmed by one married woman who in an interview said that,

“After several times of being pushed and kicked by my spouse, I decided to share his violent behavior with his closest friend who unfortunately told my spouse and led to more violation …. ” (Respondent, SR 23).
i) **Reporting to the Police as a Coping Strategy**

Results in Table 4.6 further reveal that reporting to the police equally took a similar lower proportion of the coping strategies adopted at 26.1%. This was due to the fear of complicated law enforcement which takes a long time before justice is passed.

**HYPOTHESIS TESTING**

4.7 **Relationship between Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Physical Violence on Married Women in Kandara Sub County.**

The following section presents the relationship between socio-demographic characteristics of married women and their spouses and Physical Violence as shown in Table 4.7. This was in response to objective one which sought to *identify the socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence by spouses in Kandara Sub County and* was based on the study's first null hypothesis that: *There is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County.*

**a) Age of Married Women**

Findings in Table 4.7 show that the highest proportion of the married women who were very frequently violated were in the age bracket of 18-24 years at 58.1%. On the other hand, married women who experienced occasional PV were at a proportion of 33.3% and aged 44 years and above. This trend indicates that married women were being physically violated by their spouses regardless of their age.

Chi square results ($\chi^2=4.923; \ df=8; \ p=0.056$) indicate that there is no significant relationship between the age of married women and PV at 0.05 level of significance. Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic
characteristics of married women experiencing PV and Physical Violence was retained for age of married women.

**Table 4.7 Relationship between Age of Married Women and Physical Violence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Married women’s Age</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>58.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-31</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32-38</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39-44</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 44 years</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=4.923; \text{ df}=8; p=0.056$

**b) Level of Formal Education of Married Women and PV**

As revealed in Table 4.8 the level of formal education is related to PV. The highest proportion of married women who were very frequently violated were those who had no formal education at 66.6% followed by those who had attained tertiary level of education at 61.1% and those with complete secondary education at 59.1%. On the other hand the study reveals that the highest occasionally violated married women had not completed secondary education at 22.7%. This trend shows that regardless of the level of education attained by married women PV was still prevalent.
Table 4.8 Relationship between Level of Formal Education for Married Women and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Women's Level of Education</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No formal education</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete primary</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete primary</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36.8%</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete secondary</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59.1%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=22.908; \text{df}=12; p=0.029$

Chi square results ($\chi^2=22.908; \text{df}=12; p=0.029$) also indicate that there is a significant relationship between married women’s level of education and PV at 0.05 confidence level. Thus the null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and Physical Violence was rejected for level of education of the married women.

c) Duration of Marriage

The study further sought to find out if the number of years in marriage had any relationship with the occurrence of PV. Results in Table 4.9 show that the highest proportion of very frequently violated women had been married for 6-9 years at 55.2%. 
while the least physically violated had been in the marriage for 10 years and above at a proportion of 42.9%. Furthermore the highest occasionally violated married women were those who had been married for 1 year and below at a proportion of 33.3%.

Table 4.9 Relationship between Duration of Marriage and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration in Marriage</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year and below</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-5 years</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-9 years</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 years and above</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=10.502; \ df=6; \ p=0.083$

The Chi square results ($\chi^2=10.502; \ df=6; \ p=0.083$) show that there was no significant relationship between duration of marriage and PV at 0.05 significance level. Thus null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and PV was retained for the married women’s duration of marriage.

d) Number of Children

Number of children was found to increase the chances of a married woman experiencing PV. Study findings in Table 4.10 show that a higher proportion of married women with more than 6 children were very frequently at 66.7%. This could be triggered by conflict in household resource allocation among many children. On the other hand, those who had no children were very frequently violated at a proportion of 53.8%.
Chi square results test for significance ($\chi^2=7.572; \ df=6; \ p=0.027$) revealed that there is a significant relationship between the number of children a married woman has and physical violence at 0.05 level of significance. Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and PV was rejected for the married women’s number of children.

e) Occupation of Married Women.

Results in Table 4.11 indicate that employed married women were very frequently violated at a proportion of 60.7%, followed by those who were self-employed at a proportion of 51.6% and those who were casually employed at a proportion of 48.1%.
Table 4.11 Relationship between Occupation of Married Women and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Married Women’s Occupation</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60.7%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self employed</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51.6%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>40.4%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=2.914; \ df=4; \ p=0.572$

Chi square results ($\chi^2=2.914; \ df=4; \ p=0.572$) indicate that there is no significant relationship between married women’s occupation and PV at 0.05 level of significance. Therefore the null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and PV was retained for married women’s occupation.

f) Age of Spouse

The relationship between age of spouse and PV was analyzed. Findings in Table 4.12 show that spouses who were aged 45 years and above were very frequent perpetrators of PV at 58.3%, followed by those aged 25 years and below at a 53.3%. In addition the highest proportion of those who occasionally violated their wives were aged between 26-35 years at 21.1% while the least were aged between 36-45 years at 9.5%. Therefore whether the spouses were aged or not, they were still perpetrators.

Chi square results ($\chi^2=6.803; \ df=8; \ p=0.043$) show that there was a significant relationship between age of spouse and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null
hypothesis there was no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristic and Physical Violence was confirmed for age of the spouse.

Table 4.12 Relationship between Age of Spouse and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of spouse</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Below 25 years</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35 years</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>47.0%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45 years</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 years and above</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>58.3%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

χ²=6.803; df=8; p=0.043

**g) Spouse’s Level of Formal Education**

Spouse’s level of education as shown in Table 4.13 influenced PV. The study established that very frequent perpetrators of PV had attained tertiary level of education at 57.6% while the least had completed secondary education at a proportion of 45.5%.

Chi square results indicate (χ²=11.006; df=12; p=0.528) that there is no significant relationship between spouse level of education and Physical Violence at 0.05 level of significance. Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and Physical Violence was confirmed for the spouse level of education.
Table 4.13 Relationship between Education Level of Spouse and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husbands Education level</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.5%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete primary</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete primary</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete secondary</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>56.2%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Secondary</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=11.006; df=12; p=0.528$

h) Spouse’s Occupation

A spouse’s occupation in relation to PV was analyzed. Results in Table 4.14 established that, very frequent perpetrators of PV were the spouses who were employed at a proportion of 59.2% while the least were in self-employment at a proportion of 40.5%. Furthermore the highest occasional perpetrators were self-employed at a proportion of 19.0% and the least were casual workers at a proportion of 8.0%.

Chi square results ($\chi^2=5.434; df=6; p=0.048$) showed that there is a significant relationship between occupation of the spouse and Physical Violence at 0.05 level of confidence. Therefore the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and PV was rejected for the spouse’s occupation.
Table 4.14 Relationship between Spouse Occupation and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spouse Occupation</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59.2%</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self employed</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>56.0%</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

χ²=5.434; df=6; p=0.048

4.8 Relationship between Socio-cultural factors Influencing experience of Physical Violence and Physical Violence on Married Women.

Results presented in the subsequent section are in the hypothesis which stated that: There is no significant relationship between socio-cultural factors and physical violence on married women in Kandara Sub County as shown in Table 4.15.

4.8.1 Lack of Children

Results in Table 4.15 reveal that the proportion of married women who were very frequently violated due to lack of children was at 50.0%. This was established in all the six wards where most of the women were living under constant fear due to their inability to conceive a situation which puts the African woman at a low position in the society. Chi square results (χ²=3.260; df=2; p=0.023) indicate that there is a significant relationship between lack of children and the occurrence of PV on married women by spouses. Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between socio-cultural factors and occurrence of PV was rejected for lack of children.
Table 4.15 Relationship between Lack of Children and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lack of Children</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>37.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>58.60%</td>
<td>20.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2$ 3.260; df=2; p=0.023

4.8.2 Living with In-Laws and Physical Violence

Table 4.16 findings show that married women who lived with in-laws were very frequently violated by their spouses at a proportion of 54.4% compared to those who were not living with them rated at 48.8%. On the other hand those who were frequently violated were living with their in-laws at a proportion of 33.8% while those not living with in-laws at 32.6%.

Chi square results ($\chi^2=1.024; \text{df}=2; \text{p}=0.559$) revealed that there was no significant relationship between influence of in-laws and PV at 0.05 level of confidence. Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between causal factors and PV was confirmed for the influence of in-laws.
Table 4.16 Relationship between Living with In-laws and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Influence of In-laws</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( \chi^2=1.024; \, df=2; \, p=0.559 \)

4.8.3 Spouse Marrying a Second Wife

The study analyzed the influence of marrying a second wife as an experience of PV by married women as shown in Table 4.17. Results reveal that a higher proportion of married women who were very frequently violated had co-wives at 69.2% while a lower percentage did not have at 37.2%.

Table 4.17 Relationship between Spouse Marrying a Second Wife and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marrying a second wife</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>69.2%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( \chi^2=12.996; \, df=2; \, p=0.002 \)

The chi square results \( \chi^2=12.996; \, df=2; \, p=0.002 \) revealed that there was a significant relationship between spouse marrying a second wife and PV at 0.05 level of confidence.
Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between causal factors and PV was rejected for spouses marrying a second wife.

**4.8.4 Dowry Payment by Spouse and Physical Violence**

Results in Table 4.18 reveal that most of the married women who were very frequently violated had been paid for their dowry by their spouses at 57.2% while those whose dowry had not been paid at a proportion of 44.8%.

**Table 4.18 Relationship between Payment of Dowry by Spouse and Physical Violence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dowry Payment By spouse</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>Occasionally</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=6.549; \text{df}=2; p=0.036$

Chi square results ($\chi^2=6.549; \text{df}=2; p=0.036$) show that there was a significant relationship between dowry payment and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between causal factors and physical violence was rejected for dowry payment.

**4.8.5 Witnessing Inter-Parental Violence by the Married Woman**

Results in Table 4.19 further indicate that married women who had witnessed Inter-parental violence were very frequently physically violated at a proportion of 54.1% while those married women who had not witnessed inter-parental violence rated at 50.0%.
Table 4.19 Relationship between Witnessing Inter-Parental Violence by the Married Women and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Witnessing inter-parental violence by married women</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

χ²=2.245; df=2; p=0.032

Chi square results (χ²=2.245; df=2; p=0.032) reveal that there is a significant relationship between witnessing inter-parental violence by married women and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus the null hypothesis there is no significant relationship between causal factors and physical violence was rejected for witnessing inter-parental violence.

4.8.6 Giving Birth to Girls Only

The study further analyzed the relationship between giving birth to girls only and PV as shown in Table 4.20. Results show that a higher percentage of married women who had given birth to girls only were the highest frequently violated at a proportion of 54.7% while 48.9 % were not.

Chi square results (χ²=2.208; df=2; p=0.038) show that there was a significant relationship between giving birth to girls only and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between causal factors has no significant relationship with PV was rejected for married women giving birth to girls only.
Table 4.20 Relationship between giving Birth to Girls only and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Giving birth to girls only</th>
<th>Very Frequently</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>40.4%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=2.208; \ df=2; \ P=0.038$

4.8.7 Cycle of Violence within Marriage

Results in Table 4.21 indicate that of the very frequently violated married women had been trapped in a cycle of violence at a proportion of 55.9% while only 47.9% were not. In addition 12.5% of married women who were occasionally violated had also been trapped in a cycle of violence.

Table 4.21 Relationship between Cycle of Violence in Marriage and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle of violence</th>
<th>Very Frequently</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>56.30%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.80%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>15.80%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.30%</td>
<td>33.30%</td>
<td>14.40%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=2.770; \ df=2; \ p=0.250$

Chi-square results ($\chi^2=2.770; \ df=2; \ p=0.250$) show there was no significant relationship between cycle of violence within marriage and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus,
the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between causal factors and PV was confirmed for cycle of violence within marriage.

4.8.8 Retrogressive Traditional Norms and Beliefs

Table 4.22 findings reveal a slight difference between the very frequently violated married women due to retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs at a proportion of 52.4% and those who were not being physically violated at 52.2%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retrogressive Traditional norms and beliefs</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(6\chi^2=1.834; df=2; p=0.001\)

Chi square results \((\chi^2=1.834; df=2; p=0.001)\) show that there is a significant relationship between retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between socio-cultural factors influencing PV and PV was rejected for retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs.

4.8.9 Spouse under Influence of Alcohol Drugs and other Substances and PV

Findings from Table 4.23 indicate that 53.9% of the women who were very frequently violated had spouses who were users of alcohol, drugs and other substances while those
who were frequently violated, most of their spouses were not under the influence of ADSU at 30.3%.

Table 4.23 Relationship between Alcohol, drugs and substance use by spouse and physical violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spouse under influence of ADSU</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=3.017; \ df=2; p=0.045$

Chi-square results ($\chi^2=3.017; \ df=2; p=0.045$) show there was no significant relationship between spouse use of alcohol, drugs and substances and at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between socio-cultural factors and Physical Violence was rejected for spouse’s use of alcohol, drugs and other substances.

4.9 Relationship between Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women and Physical Violence.

In response to the study's third hypothesis the study further analyzed the relationship between coping strategies adopted by married women and experiencing PV as shown in Table 4.24.
4.9.1 Relationship between Running away from Marital Home and Physical Violence

Results in Table 4.24 show that running away from the marital home by married women was the highest rated coping strategy adopted by married women at a proportion of 56.9%.

Table 4.24 Running Away from Marital Home and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Running away</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>56.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

χ²=1.859; df=2; p=0.039

Chi square results (χ²=1.859; df=2; p=0.039) show that there was a significant relationship between running away from the marital home and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis stating there was no significant relationship between coping strategies and PV was rejected for women running away from their marital homes.

4.9.2 Seeking Help from Church and Physical Violence

Study findings in Table 4.25 reveal that married women who were very frequently violated sought help from the church at a proportion of 47.2% while a higher number did not at 54.7%. On the other hand 10.7% of those who were occasionally violated declined
seeking help from the church. Married women who sought help from church went to the pastors, pastors wife’s, lay leaders or priests out of the trust they had in them. However the study finding also revealed that most of them were not comfortable to seek help from the church since some of them were already serving in high positions and would fear their marital issues to be discovered and get embarrassed. In addition not all married women were church members hence would rather choose to report elsewhere rather than the church.

Table 4.25 Relationship between Seeking Help from Church and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seek help from Church</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47.2%</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td></td>
<td>41</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(\chi^2 = 2.573; \ df = 2; p = 0.342\)

Chi-square results (\(\chi^2 = 2.573; \ df = 2; p = 0.342\)) show there was no significant relationship between seeking help from church and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis that there was no significant relationship between coping strategies and experiencing PV was retained for married women seeking help from church.
4.9.3 Sharing with Friends of the Married Women and Physical Violence

Results in Table 4.26 reveal that sharing with the married women’s friends took a high proportion of 54.2% for married women who were very frequently violated while a lower proportion did not share with friends at 50.4%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sharing with my Friends</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.2%</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

χ²=2.928; df=2; p=0.028

Chi-square results (χ²=2.928; df=2; p=0.028) show there was a significant relationship between sharing with married women’s’ friends and experiencing PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between coping strategies and experiencing PV was rejected for married women sharing with their friends.

4.9.5 Sharing with Spouse’s Friends and Physical Violence

Results in Table 4.27 indicate that, sharing with spouse’s friends’ took a lower proportion of 51.7% for the married women who were very frequently violated while a slightly large proportion did not at 52.4%.

Chi square results (χ²=1.986; df=2; p=0.629) show that there was no significant relationship between married women sharing with spouse’s friends and PV at a
significance level of 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between coping strategies has no significant relationship with experiencing PV was retained for married women sharing with their spouse’s friends.

**Table 4.27 Relationship between Sharing with Spouse’s Friends and Physical Violence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discuss with spouses</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \chi^2=1.986; \ df=2; \ p=0.629 \]

**4.9.6 Sharing with Relatives of Married Women and Physical Violence**

The study established that, sharing with the married women’s relatives took a higher proportion for those who were very frequently violated at 53.2% while a lower proportion of the married women did not adopt this coping strategy at 51.0% as shown in Table 4.28.

Chi-square results \(\chi^2=1.884; \ df=2; \ p=0.390\) show there was no significant relationship between sharing with married women’s relatives and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between coping strategies has no significant relationship with experiencing PV was confirmed for married women sharing with their own relatives.
Table 4.28 Relationship between Sharing with Relatives of Married Women and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Share with my family members</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51.0%</td>
<td>38.8%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( \chi^2 = 1.884; \text{df}=2; \ p=0.390 \)

4.9.7 Sharing with Spouse Relatives and Physical Violence

Results in Table 4.29 show that a higher percentage of married women who were experiencing PV very frequently did not share with their spouse’s relatives at 57.1 whereas a lower proportion at 42.5% did.

Table 4.29 Relationship between Sharing with Spouse’s Relatives and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sharing with my In-laws</th>
<th>Very Frequent</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( \chi^2 = 4.318; \text{df}=2; \ p=0.365 \)

Chi-square results (\( \chi^2=4.318; \text{df}=2; \ p=0.365 \)) show there was no significant relationship between sharing with relatives of spouses and experiencing PV at a significance level of 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between
coping strategies and experiencing PV was retained for married women sharing with the relatives of their spouses.

4.9.8 Reporting to the Police and Physical Violence

The study established that a higher proportion of married women experiencing PV very frequently as shown in Table 4.30 did not report to the police at 53.7% while a lower proportion did at 48.3%. This is confirmed by one married woman who said that,

“My spouse had been beating me frequently when I failed in some responsibilities. At some point I decided to report him to the nearest police post for assistance but unfortunately when he discovered, I was given thorough beatings which mounted to severe injuries……” (Respondent SR, 49)

Table 4.30 Relationship between Reporting to Police and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report to the police</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=12.828; df=2; p=0.378$

Chi-square results ($\chi^2=12.828; df=2; p=0.378$) show there was no significant relationship between reporting to the police and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between coping strategies has no significant relationship with experiencing PV was retained for married women reporting to the police.
4.9.9 Seeking Help from Hospital and Physical Violence

Results in Table 4.31 show that seeking help from the hospital as a coping strategy adopted by married women took a proportion of 54.7% for the very frequently violated married women while those who did not adopt it took a lower proportion of 48.9%.

Table 4.31 Relationship between Seeking Help from Hospital and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seek help from Hospital</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>40.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\chi^2=2.208; \ df=2; \ P=0.038$

Chi square results ($\chi^2=2.208; \ df=2; \ p=0.038$) show that there was a significant relationship between seeking help from the hospital and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis there was no significant relationship between coping strategies adopted and experiencing PV was rejected for married women seeking help from the hospitals.

4.8.10 Self Defense and Physical Violence

Results in Table 4.32 below reveal that, self-defense took a higher proportion on the coping strategies adopted by married women at 54.1% while a lower proportion of the married women did not adopt it at 48.6%.

Chi-square results ($\chi^2=2.317; \ df=2; \ p=0.317$) show there was no significant relationship between self-defense and PV at a significance level of 0.05. Thus, the null hypothesis
there was no significant relationship between coping strategies has no significant relationship with experiencing PV was retained for married women taking self-defense.

Table 4.32 Self Defense and Physical Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self defense</th>
<th>Frequency of Physical Violence</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very Frequent</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>Occasionally</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48.6%</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54.1%</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

χ²=2.317; df=2; p=0.317
CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents discussion of the main research findings as guided by the research objectives of the study stated earlier in chapter one.

5.1 Socio- Demographic Characteristics of Married Women.

Results of this study established that, the highest proportion of married women who were very frequently violated were aged between 18- 24 years of age at 58.1% which reveals a high prevalence of PV in central region. According to a report given by GBVC, (2016) more than half of women experience Physical Violence from their intimate partners at 56.7%. The study found that most of the married women were at a crucial age of reproduction and coping with marriage challenges. However the study findings indicate that the age of the married women did not influence PV hence whether the married women were old or young, PV was still meted on them. This is in line with a study done by White, (2010) on a safe place for women in America who established that younger married people had a higher likelihood of experiencing PV since the first years of marriage are full of turbulence. In congruence with this is a study by KDHS, (2014) on Trends of Violence against Women in Kenya which pointed out that married women aged 44 years and above had a lower level of experiencing PV due to their ability to cope in marriage.

The study established that, married women who had been married for a period of 6-9 years were the most frequently violated by their spouses at (55.2 %). It emerged that, they
were often beaten, kicked, pushed or had their hair pulled in the event of conflicts triggered by, failure to attend to the children well, serving food late, denying their spouses sex or going out without their spouses knowledge. However this finding was not significant to PV which contradicts a study done by Linos, (2010) who established that, marriage in the early year’s needs a lot of adjustment as each partner gets into it with a preset mind. In addition another study done by Susan, (2013) on challenging Global violence reveals that, most marriages go through phases of growth that correspond to the ability of the partners to adjust to each other hence PV is almost inevitable.

The study further established that, married women who had more than six children were the very frequently violated at a proportion of 66.7%. There was a significant relationship between number of children and experiencing PV at p=0.027. This is attributed to the increased demands that children come with like extra attention and extra budget allocation. Hence the inability to adjust to these demands by both partners quickly precipitates PV. This finding is similar to that of a study done by Tjadden, (2013) on Extent, nature and consequences of IPV in Washington DC which established that family growth triggers PV in the event of the couple’s inability to adjust to it.

The study further established that married women who had not attained any formal education were the very frequently violated by their spouses at a proportion of 66.6% while the least being those who had not completed secondary education at a proportion of 22.2%. Level of the respondents education was found significant to experiencing PV at p=0.029. Education is believed to bring light in a community and reduces chances of domestic violence according to a study done by Mayo, (2012). The study established that those who had not attained any the level of education were not empowered enough to
fight for their rights hence were easily violated. This concurs with a recent study by GBVC, (2016) that education brings exposure, reduces traditional norms and beliefs and creates awareness on day to day living hence its absence escalates PV on women.

5.2 Social-Demographic Characteristics of Spouses as Reported by Married Women.

The study established that spouses who were 45 years of age and above were the highest perpetrators of PV at a proportion of 53.3% followed by those who were below 25 years at 53.3%. Age of the spouse was found significant to PV at p=0.043. This age distribution reveals that most of the spouses were still in their late years of marriage which is characterized by many responsibilities that easily trigger PV if not well managed. At the same time most of the spouses were also in their youth according to KDHS, (2014) which defines a youth as someone aged between 25-35 years of age. This is also an age of highly reproductive men with heavy demands on their shoulders by their families, the society and the government. A study by Mayo,(2014) on Domestic violence against men revealed that, the inability of a couple to balance between the demands of an individual to achieve personal goals, meet family needs, get a stable income and the society easily triggers violence.

It was further established that, spouses who very frequently violate their wives were employed at a proportion of 59.2% while the least were self-employed at a proportion of 40.5%. This indicates that spouses’ economic stability did not help aggravate PV on married women because their level of assertiveness in the home was high hence could make decisions without necessarily engaging their wives. This finding was found to influence PV at p=0.048. It concurs with a report given by World Women, (2015) which
established that the wealth index of a family determines the extent to which domestic violence will take place.

5.3 Socio-cultural Factors Influencing Experience of Physical Violence on Married Women

The study endeavored to establish the socio-cultural factors that led to PV against married women by their spouses. The study established that more than half of the spouses who very frequently violated their wives took ADSU at a proportion of 53.4%. This had a significant influence to PV at p=0.045. This could be attributed to the negative effect ADSU have on the abuser which in most cases leads to poor judgment emanating to violence. This concurs with a similar study by WHO, (2015) which established that ADSU inhibits an individual’s way of perceiving things hence they are likely to make wrong judgments in any form of conflict leading to PV. In addition ADSU also leads to wastage of finances at home leaving the family’s needs unattended to thus triggering PV.

The study further found that, most of the married women who had witnessed inter-parental violence at their early age were vulnerable to PV at 54.1%. This results indicate that, growing up in a violent environment made them grow believing violence is a normal practice and that chances of accepting the violence are high. This finding was found to significant to experiencing PV at p=0.032 and is similar to a study done by Shrivastava, (2013) who established that witnessing inter-parental violence contributes to children growing up as abusers and accepting the abuse.
It was further established that, more than a third of the married women who were very frequently violated had co-wives at a proportion of 69.2%. This could be attributed to the negative influence that a second wife brings into a marriage as she tries to win the favor of the spouse. The study found that, the desire of the first wife to protect her love for her spouse and regain his confidence triggers PV since she can give a negative report about the co-wife. This finding was found significant at p=0.002 and it concurs with a study by (UNIFEM, 2013) which established that a polygamous marriage is engrossed by mixed feelings and triggers domestic violence.

It was further established that, most of the married women who were very frequently violated had given birth to girls only at a proportion of 54.7%. This is attributed to the traditional belief of the son preference as they are perceived to be key inheritors in a family hence treated important for the continuation of the family’s generation. This finding was found significant to experiencing PV at p=0.038 and concurs with a study done by Susan, (2013) who established that a lot of value is placed on boys in the African culture as they are perceived as inheritors, leaders and a source of security for the family.

In addition the study established, that payment of dowry by spouse triggered PV against married women at 57.2%. This could be attributed to the high level of ownership that spouses assume over their wives once they pay dowry. This finding is found significant to PV at p=0.036. This is consistent with a study by Chan, (2014) who established that African men attach a lot of value to dowry and once they pay, they assume full ownership of their wives which makes married women vulnerable to PV.
The study further established that, retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs contributed to experience of PV by married women at 52.4% among which are; men being treated as superior to women, forced and early marriages, female genital mutilation, the place of a woman seen as the kitchen and women viewed as a weaker sex in the society. All these work in combination exposing married women to physical violation. This finding was found significant to PV at p=0.001 and is similar to a study done by Helse & Garcia-Moreno (2012) who established that a patriarchal society influences its way of treating the women. In addition, as revealed in a study by Michael, (2016) on harmful cultural practices against women, witnessing bull fighting, Female Genital mutilation, forced and early marriages and being remorseful to the man when physically violated further contributes to PV on married women.

5.4 Forms of Physical Violence Experienced by Married Women

The various forms of PV meted on married women by their spouses were further investigated in the study. Notably 19% of Physical violence involves use of a weapon by the perpetrators according to National Coalition against Domestic violence, (2013). The study established that, most of the perpetrators used their hands and feet to violate their wives while just a few used weapons like a knife to inflict injury on their wives body.

The study established that, the highest reported form of PV was slapping at a 100%. This was done by use of hands. It was reported that slapping was coupled with other ways of physical violation including pushing against surfaces, pulling of hair and kicking. It further emerged that, conflicts, uncontrolled responses to the spouse, failure to attend to house chores, denying their spouses sex, denying their spouses money, leaving the home without permission, attending functions without the consent of the spouse and failing to
cook in time were the key causes of the married women being slapped. Most of the married women had evident marks of violation like torn clothes, swollen eyes, blood spotted eyes, swollen faces, scars on their faces and plucked hair. These findings reveal that slapping was the easiest to perpetuate. (UNFPA, 2010) in a similar study on Intimate partner violence also found that most 88% women reported being slapped by an intimate partner at one point in their life’s.

The study established that beating as a form of PV closely followed at a proportion of 97.3%. It was meted by use of objects like blunt sticks or clubs in cases where there was evident disagreements or disrespect to the spouse. It was done in combination of other forms of PV like twisting of arms. Consistent with this is a study by Joan, (2014) who confirmed that PV was manifested through beating the survivors.

The study further established that, chocking was a rare form of PV at 18.9%. This was done by use of hands or a piece of cloth. It occurred when there was an attempt to take self-defense through screaming so as to limit her from raising alarm. This happened when the spouses were suspected of infidelity, intoxicated, denied access to money and not sexually satisfied. This finding is similar to that of a study by (UNIFEM, 2014) which established that spouses chocked their wives when there was an extreme disagreement. In addition (WHO, 2015) found that most spouses were afraid of chocking their wives as they could easily pass out.

Closely following on the forms of PV was twisting of arms which took a proportion of 16.2%. The study established that twisting of arms was done when a spouse was under influence of ADSU, wanted to stop self-defense or to limit the married women from
doing their own income generating activities like picking tea at a wage or washing clothes. A study by (UNFPA, 2015) established that most of the spouses would twist their wives hands so as to immobilize them and take advantage of them as they leash out violence.

It further emerged in the study that, threatening with a knife took a lower percentage of 10.8%. However this could have been a rare form of PV because of the negative implications associated with it. As reported by married women this happened in the event of suspected infidelity of the woman, sale of family property without consent or failure to give out money to the spouse. It inflicted extreme fear to the woman forcing her to comply with the demands of the spouse in order to save her life. In line with this is a study by (UNFPA, 2013) which established that men threatened their wives to instill fear so that they can easily subdue them and have their demands met. It was an extreme way of controlling the wife.

The study established that, burning as a form of PV was lowest reported at 9.1% on the forms of PV by married women. This was done by use of hot liquids like water, tea, porridge, milk or hot objects like pieces of metal in case of disputes at home, extreme arguments on money expenditure in the house, sell of family property without consent, a girl child getting pregnant and misuse of the spouse’s car. In this case evident marks of burns could be seen on the bodies of the affected women. This is consistent with a study by Piispa, (2012) on Women experiences on Physical Violence in Bujumbura which established that, married women would be burned by their spouses with hot liquids or objects leaving evident marks on their bodies in extreme cases of unresolved conflicts.
The study also established that stabbing was reported as the lowest on the forms of PV at 8.8%. This could happen when the spouses where under influence of some drugs like alcohol and tobacco and after major disagreements like selling of family property without consent, giving birth to a child outside marriage, or disclosing of HIV and AIDS infection. This concurs with a study by Compton, (2010) that stabbing was one of the severe forms of PV meted on married women in extreme cases of disagreement or when the spouse was mentally unstable.

5.5 Coping Strategies Adopted by Married Women.

The study further established that married women are not passive recipients of PV meted on them hence they adopt some coping strategies so as to prevent further attack and injuries. Following were the significant coping strategies adopted by married women undergoing PV.

The study revealed that, running away from the marital home was the highest coping strategy as reported by married women at a proportion of 56.7%. This took place immediately or a few hours after the violation. It emerged that they ran to their maternal home, a friend’s place, a relative’s home or to a neglected building. This helped them to temporarily separate from their spouses and allow the situation to calm down. However it did not bring a complete solution since the issue of PV needs to be properly addressed. This coping strategy was found significant to experiencing PV at p=0.039. This is consistent with a similar study done by Susan, (2013) on Challenging Global Violence that women sought refuge in their natal homes during times of attack from their spouses.
The study further established that, seeking help from hospital was seen as a viable coping strategy to PV at 54.7%. This was reported by married women who had sustained deep injuries in the course of the violation like burns, twisted arms, swollen faces or trauma. Seeking assistance from hospitals enabled them to get physical and psychological healing at the same time. This finding was significant to experiencing PV at p=0.038. A study done by Nelson, (2014) on Household survey on Domestic violence reveal that, (34%) of women who are physically assaulted by their Intimate Partners receive medical care. In congruence with this is a report by (FIDA (k), 2012) which established that victims of Physical Violence went to hospital after severe domestic violence attacks for treatment.

It was further established that, married women also shared with their own friends as a coping strategy at 55.9%. It emerged from the study findings that this was done the same day or days after the attack in cases where the attack was not very severe. This finding was found significant at p=0.028. As reported by married women this strategy was workable as it guaranteed psychosocial support. Sharing with friends also brought a new dimension of the problem as established by (UN, 2015) which advocates for voicing out against any form of Physical Violence to discourage its re-occurrence.

The study also found that reporting to the village elders as a coping strategy was at a proportion of 69.2%. This could be attributed to the trust that the married women had on the village elders. Most of them reported that the village elders had a good background information concerning the spouses. It is out of this trust that they choose to report. This was found viable as the village elders would discuss the problem without extra expenses. This study finding was found significant to experiencing PV at p=0.038. Consistent with
this is a study by (Kimani et al; 2010) who established that women share their problems at the grass root levels since they are well known.

In conclusion, most married women in Kandara Sub County undergoing PV confirmed that, they had talked about the violence to their chiefs before; hence their reporting of the PV during the interview was not the first disclosure. When physically violated married women in Kandara disclose PV to their natal family or their friends or to the village elders or to the hospital.
CHAPTER SIX:
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary of the study findings on determinants of physical violence on married women by spouses in Kandara Sub County, related conclusions and recommendations.

The study was guided by four main objectives including:-

To determine socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing PV by their spouses in Kandara Sub County, to establish socio-cultural factors influencing experience of PV on married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County, to identify forms of PV perpetrated against married women by their spouses in Kandara Sub County and to assess the coping strategies adopted by married women experiencing PV by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

6.2 Summary of the Main Findings

Objective 1: To determine socio-demographic characteristics of married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses in Kandara Sub County

The study established that, some of the socio-demographic characteristics significantly related to PV were; married women’s level of education (p= 0.029), number of children (p=0.027), age of the spouse (p=0.043) and occupation of the spouse (p=0.048). This confirms that, the aforementioned socio-demographic characteristics were core in influencing PV on married women.
Objective 2: To establish the socio-cultural factors Influencing Experience of Physical Violence on married women in Kandara Sub County

Results reveal that, witnessing inter-parental violence by the married women (p=0.032), dowry payment by spouse (p=0.036), spouse’s use of alcohol, drugs and other substances (p= 0.045) and retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs (p= 0.001) were significantly related to PV. Hence, it was established that, these factors were significant determinants of PV against married women in Kandara Sub County. There is need to create awareness and sensitize the community on PV against married women through the relevant bodies to reduce the vice.

Objective 3: To identify forms of Physical Violence perpetrated against married women by spouses in Kandara Sub County

The study established that PV is meted on married women in various forms. Some of them however were perpetrated in combination. The highest form of PV perpetrated on married women was slapping at 100%, followed by beating at (97.3%), pushing at (88.8%), kicking at 48.5%), pulling of hair at (41.4%), chocking at (18.9%) twisting of arm at (16.2%), threatening with a knife at (10.8%), burning at (9.1%) and the least was stabbing at (8.82%).The study therefore established that, most of the married women experienced PV in form of slapping. Therefore awareness should be created to empower married women and spouses to avoid incidences that trigger Physical Violence.

Objective 4: To identify coping strategies adopted by married women experiencing Physical Violence by their spouses in Kandara Sub County.

The study established that, married women experiencing PV engaged some coping strategies to reduce or do away with all vices associated with PV. Results reveal that, the
following coping strategies were significantly related to PV; running away from the marital home (p= 0.039), reporting to village elders (p=0.002), sharing with friends of the married women (p=0.028) and seeking help from hospital (p=0.038). Thus the above coping strategies were applied by most married women to reduce the rate of PV against them.

6.3 Conclusions

Married women experienced various forms of Physical Violence which were spread across all the six wards in Kandara Sub County. The highest manifested form of PV in this study was slapping which was closely followed by beating, pushing and kicking. The various forms of Physical Violence were interrelated since they were meted on the married women at more or less the same time rather than in seclusion. Chi square results revealed that the key determinants of PV against married women in this study were:- level of education of the married women, number of children, age of spouse, spouse occupation, witnessing inter-parental violence, payment of dowry by spouse, spouse use of alcohol, drugs and other substances and retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs. Furthermore, married women adopted different coping strategies to reduce the experience of PV meted on them. The significant coping strategies revealed in the study were running away from their marital home, reporting to the village elders, sharing with the married women’s friends and seeking help from the hospital. It was established that, the coping strategies were applied in combination and helped reduce further violation.

6.4 Recommendations

In view of the findings of this study, the following recommendations are made with regard to: practice, policy and research.
6.4.1 Recommendations for Practice

Physical Violence against married women in Kandara Sub County is significantly high. The study hereby recommends the following:-

1. Based on objective one which sought to determine the socio-demographic characteristics of married women undergoing PV from their spouses there is need for men and women who intend to get married to be keen on the age of their prospective partners, level of education, and their occupation which should match. Difference in the aforementioned socio-demographic characteristics can precipitate PV. For those already in marriage, there is need for them to capitalize on dialogue in solving marital problems rather than violence which leads to separation, divorce and death.

2. Based on objective two which sought to identify forms of PV perpetrated on married women, there is need to create awareness and sensitization on the various forms of PV and their negative consequences through electronic media and social media so that those practicing them should not be left free by the laws enforcers.

3. Based on objective three which sought to establish the socio-cultural factors influencing experience of PV, the county government of Murang’a needs to create awareness and strongly condemn socio-cultural practices that lead to PV namely alcohol, drugs and substance use, dowry payment, giving birth to girls only, spouse marrying a second wife and retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs.

According to the survivors of PV in Kandara Sub-county there is need to discourage PV through education, women advocacy channels right away from early childhood and emphasize done on the same continuously.
4. Based on the fourth objective which sought to assess the coping strategies adopted by married women undergoing PV, there is need to sensitize women not to condone PV from the moment they experience it from their spouses by reporting to the relevant law enforcers. According to the respondents, married women should be conscious of their rights and fight for them regardless of how remorseful their spouses become and the level of family growth. Through this spouses will not mete violence on them but instead will embrace dialogue as key to solving marital conflicts.

6.4.2 Recommendations for Policy

The policy framework plays an important role in the community and individual change process.

1. It is important for the county government of Murang’a to be proactive in ensuring that Gender Based violence policy that informs women of their rights and available services in case of violation is reachable especially in Kandara constituency. There is need of constructing shelter homes in the county that will cater for the survivors of PV since currently there isn’t any and employ qualified personnel to address the matter diligently.

2. The county government of Murang’a should intensify its monitoring and evaluation manual for all Gender Based Violence programs within the constituency to ensure that they are effective and efficient in handling all domestic violence matters.
6.4.3 Recommendations for Further Research

Based on the findings of this research, the following studies are recommended for further research.

1. A similar study could be replicated in other counties to establish the determinants of Physical Violence on married women by their spouses.

2. A comparative study could be carried out between married women in the rural setup and those living in the urban set up to establish whether there are differences in the determinants of Physical Violence against married women.
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Nelson E, Zimmerman C: (2014) Household survey on domestic violence in Cambodia. Phnom Penh, Cambodia: Ministry of Women’s Affairs and the Project against Domestic Violence;


UN Women (2010) Get the Facts: Violence against Young Women


Appendix A:

Informed consent form

Consent to participate in research

My name is Redempta Ngina a master’s student undertaking my M.Sc in Community Resource Management and Extension at Kenyatta University. I am conducting a study entitled “Determinants of physical violence on married women by spouses in Kandara Sub-County, Murang’a County. For the purpose of this study, I wish to interview married women who have been reporting to the chiefs in order to create awareness so as to develop a community based intervention program. Your opinion and experiences are important in developing this study.

Procedure to be followed

Participation in this study will require you answer questions in the questionnaire that you will be given. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. Please read the information below and ask questions about anything you do not understand, before deciding whether or not to participate.

Discomforts and risks

Some of the questions you will be asked are on intimate subject and maybe embarrassing or make you uncomfortable. If this happens you may choose not to answer specific questions or stop participating at any time without penalty. The interview will take 30 to 35 minutes of your time.

Benefits

If you participate in this study you will help us to learn how to provide effective intervention program that will help reduce or eliminate physical violence on married women by their spouses in this constituency. You will also benefit by knowing more about causes of physical violence and how to reduce chances of their occurrence.

Reward

If you agree to participate in this study, we will appreciate you orally with a word of “Thank you” as no financial reward is anticipated.
Confidentiality

Your name will not be recorded in the questionnaire. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission or as required by law.

Contact information

If you have any questions you may contact Professor Elishiba Kimani on kimani.elishiba@ku.ac.ke or Dr. Joan Murithi on murithi.joan@ku.ac.ke or the Kenyatta University Ethical Review committee Secretariat on kuerc@ku.ac.ke

Participant’s statement

The above information regarding my participation in the study is clear to me. I have been given a chance to ask questions and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. My participation in this study is entirely voluntary. I understand that my records will be kept private and that I can leave the study at any time without any penalty.

____________________  ______________________
Signature of participant  Date

Interviewer’s statement

I, the undersigned have explained to the volunteer in a language s/he understands, the procedures to be followed in this study and the risks and benefits involved.

Signature of the researcher………………………………………………………………………………

Name of researcher  Date…………………………
Appendix B:

Interview guide for the married women experiencing Physical Violence.

The following aspects concern the socio-demographic characteristics of the married women and the spouse as (reported by the married women). For each aspect please tick one where applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>RESPONSE OPTIONS</th>
<th>Please tick one</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. (age)</td>
<td>a) What is your age?</td>
<td>18 -24 years 25-31 years 32-38 years 39-44 years Above 45 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) What is the age of your spouse?</td>
<td>25 years and below 26-35 years 36-45 years 45 years and above</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Level of formal education)</td>
<td>c) What is your highest level of formal education?</td>
<td>-No formal education -Incomplete primary -Complete Primary -Incomplete secondary -Complete Secondary -Tertiary -Other (specify)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) What is your spouse’s highest level of formal education?</td>
<td>-No formal education -Incomplete primary -Complete Primary -Incomplete secondary -Complete Secondary -Tertiary -Other (specify)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. The following aspects concern the various forms of physical violence that have been operationalised for this study. For each statement please tell me how often your spouse physically assaulted you; Very frequently (VF) Frequently (F) Occasionally (O)

| (duration of marriage) | e) How long have you been in this marriage | - 1 year  
- 2-5 years  
- 6-9 years  
- Above 10 years |
| (Number of children) | f) How many children do you have with your spouse? | - No children  
- 1-3 children  
- 4-6 children  
- More than 6 children |
| (Occupation) | g) do you earn an income | -Yes  
-No |
|  | h) What kind of occupation do you have? | - Formal employment  
- Self-employed (e.g runs a business, sell farm produce)  
- Casual job |
|  | i) If yes is your income more than your spouse’s? | -Yes  
- No  
- I don’t know |
|  | j) What kind of occupation does your spouse have? | - formal employment  
- self-employed (runs a business etc.)  
- casual job |
a) Slapped you?

b) Pushed you?

c) Hit you with his fist or with something else that could hurt you?

d) Beat you up with any object or with bare hands?

e) Kicked you?

f) Choked you?

g) Burnt you on purpose?

h) Threatened you with a knife or other weapon?

i) Pulled your hair?

j) Stabbed you with a knife?

k) Did anything else to injure you? (please specify)

3. The following aspects concern the socio-cultural factors that influence the experience of physical violence. For each statement please tell me to what extent do you Agree, (A), Disagree (D) or (SD) strongly disagree.

I believe that physical violence…………………………………………………………

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>NS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) takes place because I have never been able to conceive

b) happens because my spouse has paid the dowry

c) takes place because I am already used to it

d) happens because I also witnessed my parents involved in physical
violence before
e) happens due to retrogressive traditional norms and beliefs that women are perceived to be inferior to men, forced and early marriages, taboos that limit women’s control over their fertility, are not supposed to participate in decision making at home (any other, specify)
f) happens because of my co-wife
g) happens when my spouse is under influence of alcohol, drugs and other substances
h) happens because I have given birth to girls only
i) happens because of living with my in-laws
j) happens because I rely on my spouse for financial support

4. The following aspects concern the coping strategies that you could have adopted after being physically violated. Please tell me with each statement whether you Agree (A), Strongly Agree (A), Disagree (D), or Strongly Disagree (SD). After the violence, I…………………………………………………………………………………………………

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A (4)</th>
<th>SA (3)</th>
<th>D (2)</th>
<th>SD (1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>ran away from my marital home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td>sought help from church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c)</td>
<td>shared with my friends</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d)</td>
<td>reported to the chief</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e)</td>
<td>shared with my spouse’s friend’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f)</td>
<td>shared with my family members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g)</td>
<td>reported to the police in nearest police post</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h)</td>
<td>sought help from hospital</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i)</td>
<td>shared with my spouse’s relatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j)</td>
<td>defended myself (please specify how you did it)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. In your opinion suggest ways which can be used to end or reduce physical violence in this community.

Time interview ended……………………

Thank You.
Appendix C:

Key Informant Interview Guide (For Chief, Police Officers, and Religious Leaders)

DATE OF INTERVIEW …………………… Name of informant…………

Position …………………

Gender Male [ ] female [ ]

1. Do you receive cases of Physical Violence? (Ask in details whether the cases are received from men or women or both).
2. What in your opinion would you say about the prevalence of Physical Violence in this area? (How much is it spread and who are the most vulnerable)? Is it a serious problem?
3. Which cases of Physical Violence have you handled? (Insist to get the various forms of PV)
4. How do you identify the married women to assist? (Find out if there are any conditions tied before they are assisted?)
5. What kind of assistance do you give to the victims of Physical Violence? (Find out in detail for health, economic, Guidance and counseling, housing/shelter, legal and explain)
6. What do you think are the major causes of Physical Violence in this region?
7. What would you say about the community's access to the justice system?
8. Do you have any referral mechanism for the victims of Physical Violence? (If yes probe for details)
9. Do you experience any challenges when handling married women experiencing Physical Violence?
10. In your view what do you think needs to be done to reduce or eliminate Physical Violence in this area? (Ask for the community’s opinions if any)

Time interview ended: …………………

Thank You.
Appendix D: Kandara Sub County Map showing the wards from which The Research was done.

Source: Google maps, 2017
Appendix E: Kenyatta University Graduate School Approval Letter

KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL

FROM: Dean, Graduate School
TO: Redempta Ngina Jonathan
     C/o Community Resource Mgt
     & Extension Department.

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

We acknowledge receipt of your revised Research Proposal as per our recommendations raised by the Graduate School Board of 13th April 2016 entitled "Determinants of Physical Violence on Married Women by Spouses: A Case of Kandara Constituency, Murang’a County-Kenya".

You may now proceed with your Data collection, subject to clearance with the Director General, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation.

As you embark on your data collection, please note that you will be required to submit to Graduate School completed Supervision Tracking Forms per semester. The form has been developed to replace the Progress Report Forms. The Supervision Tracking Forms are available at the University’s Website under Graduate School webpage downloads.

Thank you.

HARNEET ISABOK
FOR: DEAN, GRADUATE SCHOOL

CC: Chairman, Community Resource Management & Extension Department

Supervisors:

1. Prof. Elishiba Kimani
   C/o Gender & Development Studies Department
   Kenyatta University

2. Dr. Joan Muriithi
   C/o Community Resource Management & Extension Department
   Kenyatta University
Appendix F: Kenyatta University Ethics Review Committee Approval Letter

Kenyatta University
Ethics Review Committee

Email: chairman.kuerc@ku.ac.ke
secretary.kuerc@ku.ac.ke
Website: www.ku.ac.ke

P. O. Box 43844 - 00100 Nairobi
Tel: 8710901/12
Fax: 8711242/8711575

Our Ref: KU/R/COMM/51/769

Date: 26th August, 2016

Redempta Ngina Jonathan
Kenyatta University
P.O. Box 43844 – 00100
NAIROBI

Dear Ngina

APPLICATION NUMBER PKU/531/623 – “DETERMINANTS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ON MARRIED WOMEN BY SPOUSES: A CASE OF KANDARA CONSTITUENCY, MURANG’A COUNTY – KENYA” VERSION 2

1. IDENTIFICATION OF PROTOCOL
The application before the committee is with a research topic, “Determinants of Physical Violence on Married Women by Spouses: A Case of Kandara Constituency, Murang’a County – Kenya” - Version 2.

2. APPLICANT
Redempta Ngina Jonathan

3. SITE
Kandara Constituency Murang’a County, Kenya

4. DECISION
The committee has considered the research protocol in accordance with the Kenyatta University Research Policy (section 7.2.1.3) and the Kenyatta University Ethics Review Committee Guidelines AND APPROVED that the research may proceed for a period of ONE year from 26th August, 2016.

5. ADVICE/CONDITIONS
i. Progress reports are submitted to the KU-ERC every six months and a full report is submitted at the end of the study.
ii. Serious and unexpected adverse events related to the conduct of the study are reported to this board immediately they occur.
iii. Notify the Kenyatta University Ethics Committee of any amendments to the protocol.
iv. Submit an electronic copy of the protocol to KUERC.

When replying, kindly quote the application number above.

If you accept the decision reached and advice and conditions given please sign in the space provided below and return to KU-ERC a copy of the letter.

DR. TITUS KAHIGA
CHAIRMAN

26 AUG 2016

Signature………………………….. Dated this day of………………………….. 2016.
cc. Vice-Chancellor
Appendix G: NACOSTI approval letter

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Telephone: +254-20-2213471,
2213489,3330977,2219420
Fax: +254-20-318249,318249
Email: dg@nacosti.go.ke
Website: www.nacosti.go.ke
when replying please quote

Ref: No.

NACOSTI/P/16/40086/13701

26th October, 2016

Redempta Ngina Jonathan
Kenyatta University
P.O. Box 43844-00100
NAIROBI.

RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

Following your application for authority to carry out research on “Determinants of physical violence on married women by spouses: A case of Kandara Constituency, Murang’a County-Kenya,” I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in Murang’a County for the period ending 24th October, 2017.

You are advised to report to the County Commissioner and the County Director of Education, Murang’a County before embarking on the research project.

On completion of the research, you are expected to submit two hard copies and one soft copy in pdf of the research report/thesis to our office.

BONIFACE WANYAMA
FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO

Copy to:

The County Commissioner
Murang’a County.

The County Director of Education
Murang’a County.