

**BIOLOGICAL FACTORS AS DRIVERS OF MEN TO RAPE: A STUDY OF
MALE RAPISTS INCARCERATED AT
KAMITI MAXIMUM PRISON IN NAIROBI, KENYA**

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ABSTRACT

Background: Rape is a global problem with many women and children falling victims on a daily basis. Studies indicate that multiple factors drive men to commit this heinous crime. This is the case in Nairobi, Kenya with KEWOPA report stating that only 30.0% of the cases are reported. Thus, this study sought to assess how biological factors cause rape among convicted male rapists in Kamiti Maximum Prison in Nairobi, Kenya. The study was based on the dynamic theory of factors.

Methodology: The study applied a mixed methodology and thus adopted a concurrent triangulation research design. Qualitative data were analysed thematically along the objectives and presented thematically in narrative forms. Quantitative data were analysed descriptively using frequencies and percentages with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 23) and presented using tables.

Results of the Study: The study established that sex offenders were influenced by an array of biological factors to commit the crime. Sex offenders were found to be genetically predisposed to defile, abuse multiple drugs and other substances and to be stressed.

Recommendations: The study recommends that different stakeholders such as families, churches and government agencies should introduce proactive initiatives that eliminate situations that may drive men to commit sexual offences. These include creation of employment opportunities to reduce poverty levels and alcoholism.

Keywords: *Biological factors, male rapists*

INTRODUCTION

Rape is a form of sexual assault that involves sexual intercourse or other types of sexual penetration done without the victims' consent. According to Strom, Ropero-Miller, Jones, Sikes, Pope and Horstmann (2013), rape can be accomplished through coercion, abuse of authority, and by use of physical force on non-consenting adult or people who are incapable of giving a valid consent (Angelone, Cantor, Marcantonio, & Joppa, 2020). People who are unable to give a valid consent to sex include minors or people below lawful age of consent, the unconscious, incapacitated persons, and the mentally ill. Strom et al (2013) observes that violence against women is a key public health problem and a violation of human rights' against women in the world. According to Tofte (2011), at least 35 percent of women globally have been victims of sexual violation by either an intimate or a non-partner at least once in their lives.

In North America, sexual violence against women has become a common phenomenon with close to 34.5% being victims of rape (Nelson, 2010). A study on crime statistics shows that most rape victims, in the world, are women and that most perpetrators of rape are male. The study also indicates that number of rape cases, against women, that is reported very low and that therefore, the number of female victims of rape is greatly underestimated (Heiskanen, 2010). In 2009, Nelson (2010) asserts that sexual violence, particularly rape, was the most under-reported violent crime in Great Britain.

According to Lonsway and Archambault (2012), the number of rape cases reported is low compared to the incidence and prevalence rates in Great Britain. Despite these statistics, the rates at which rape cases are reported are low. For example, a 2006 National Statistical Institute Survey on sexual violence against women in Italy established that 91.6% of women, who were victims of rape, did not report it to the police. This might be attributed to the 'perception that rape perpetrators rarely get convicted due to the challenge of gathering sufficient evidence to lead to conviction. On the same note, in the UK, there was a 33% conviction rate in 2010, and in 2014, the conviction rate deteriorated to 24% (Lonsway & Archambault, 2012).

Biological factors entail those traits that affect the function and behaviour of men. Internally, this factor can be physical, physiological, chemical, neurological or genetic conditions that causes a psychological effect.

In the context of rape, several biological factors are suspected to influence the behaviour of men who rape. These factors can be either elocutionary, evolutionary, genetic, hormonal or physiological in nature. A study done in Washington DC by National Research Council (2013) found that many rape cases stem from maladaptive behaviour that had been adopted to deal with particular human problem.

Sexual behavior, of both women and men, is largely driven by biological factors. The limbic system, composed of several glands and their related hormones, is associated with sexual fantasies, sexual daydreams, erotic dreams and mental as well as physical sexual arousal (Mutinta, Govender, Goerge, & Gow, 2014). Langton and Sinozich (2014) identify bodily chemicals that influence behavior as including hormones, genes, and neurotransmitters as well as other substances that affect the body's chemical functioning. In a review of biological factors associated with aggressive behaviour, Mendes, Mari, Singer, Barros, and Mello (2009) blamed sexual violence on such biological factors including. This factors include genetic factors, complications experienced during the prenatal period and post natal hypoxia, malnutrition at childhood and dysfunction in the prefrontal cortex that result to impaired executive functioning ability to control ones self and inhibitory of the limbic system. Socialization and culture provides permissible behavioural boundaries on sex and sexuality (Mutinta, Govender, Goerge, & Gow, 2014). Langton and Sinozich (2014) considers rape as an adaptive behavior that can be explained using the Darwinian idea of continuity of species and therefore considers rape to be a product of natural selection and adaption for survival. According to the evolutionists, rape developed as an adaptive behaviour to guarantee paternity of offspring and cater for gender differences. For a behaviour to evolve, natural selection has to occur within the gene-environment, which means that nature and nurture interact to cause a particular phenotypic behaviour (Truman & Morgan, 2015).

Despite the foregoing, the evolutionary concept has not been able to provide an answer to the dilemma why not all men rape even when in a position that would permit rape. In response, evolutionists explain that variation in developmental outcomes, personality and individual differences may be attributed to differences in learning and cultural context. Thus, one's biological constitution determines the possible breadth of behavioural pathway while socialization and culture provides the constraints.

Other studies consider rape as a behavioral quality that provide a solution to environmental challenges. Sorenson, Joshi and Sivitz (2014) consider rape as an adaptive behaviour and a viable alternative to the usual patterns of courtship; however, the National Research Council (2013) asserts that current impact on reproduction is not of central importance, but, by and by, the behaviour is rewarded unconsciously through successful paternity.

A section of studies that argue that gender differences can motivate for rape among men. Sorenson and his colleagues (2014) suggests that gender differences, on the need for successful reproduction and its resultant partner preference, can explain some cases of rape. Research on female-male preferences indicate that women prefer males with symmetrical body features, presumably because such features are a sign of good health. Consequently, males gain access to women by either possessing traits that appeal to females or by defeating other men in some competition, by gaining power, and resources over females and raping them (National Research Council, 2013). Exploring on the male-female sexual asymmetry, the National Research Council (2013) noted that all that is required for a male to successively reproduce is a process that has relatively low in energy costs, whereas women have to sustain a nine-month pregnancy, a painful childbirth, and a period of lactation. Thus, due to the asymmetry in the demands for successful reproduction, males are likely to rape and females resist it. Men rape because differences between males and females allow them to reproduce with ease and avoid taking responsibility. Research also shows that men resort to rape when they feel socially disenfranchised and are unable to gain access to women through looks, wealth and status. The role of genetics as a driver of men to rape cannot be overlooked. A study that was done in Australia by *Koss and Dinero (2013)* established that chromosomal defects, like extra or missing sex gene have a relationship with abnormal behaviour. In their study, two individuals with the XXY abnormality were found to be both homosexuals and psychotics. The authors further found that XXY males as among persistent sexual offenders.

A study that was carried out in Scotland by Mason and Lodrick (2013) revealed that men with XXY defects suffered severe personality disorders, without evidence of psychosis or brain damage. They had long criminal record that tended to commence at unusually early age. Men with XYY chromosomal defects were also characterized by emotional instability. Related to genetic inheritance as a factor for abnormal behaviour, twin studies have led to the conclusion that genes paly a powerful role in the etiology of disorders. Kallman who is cited by Takeshi, Shingo, Yukiko, Akiko, Takashi, Hiroshi, Zaw, Katsuya, Ryoji, Keita and Nobuyuki (2000) found that

monozygotic twins were concordant to about 70% of the time, while dizygotic twins were concordant up to about 15% of the times. A study of the influence of gene environment, and adoption studies have established about 11% of concurrence in monozygotic twins. These findings propose that genetic factors play a role in causing some forms of maladaptive behaviour (Takeshi et al, 2000). It is therefore probable that one may be predisposed to rape if he inherited such a generic makeup, but chances are more if his monozygotic twin brother has been convicted of rape.

A study by Taylor, Jackson, Lynch, Kostyniak and Buck (2006) also revealed that in many animal species, steroid hormones from the gonads (ovaries and testes) control reproduction. Functions that are controlled by reproduction hormones include maturation, the onset of gametogenesis in puberty and acquisition of sex-drive (libido), capacity for sexual intercourse (potency), and other paternity behaviours. For males, sexual behaviour is dependent on androgens, where research has found that reduction of androgens through castration (removal of testes), causes loss of ejaculation, intromission, and the mounting behaviours (Taylor et al, 2006). These behavioural outcomes can be attributed to elimination of the main source of androgens. Taylor cites a study of hypogonadal patients that suggested that there is a relationship between libido and testosterone levels, although, research has not yet established the nature of relationship between the two (Taylor et al, 2006). Other studies propose that physiology and neurophysiology may also play a role causing maladaptive behaviour patterns among men. Biological theorists of behaviour suggest that human behaviour could be influenced by physical, biological and developmental factors. In behavioural learning and development, biological factors determine the limits and possibilities rather than determining outcomes of behaviour (Sorenson et al, 2014). With regard to physical maturity, aggressive sexual behaviour is accomplished by use of force and therefore only possible with physically mature men. Besides biological maturity, one's level of physical growth, development and maturity, which comes with advancement in age, determines whether one's physical stature and strength can be used to intimidate or bully a woman into nonconsensual sex. Available research shows that males aged between 15 to 30 years perpetrate most rape cases. Apart from physical maturity, aggressive sexual behaviour among men is also influenced by trauma, violence and negative life events. Sorenson et al (2014) assert that traumatic life events and violence have an impact on hormones, neurotransmitters, and brain function. The author also cites studies on brain injury and abnormality that validated that trauma and violence can lead to an increase in battering behaviour as well as other violent impulsive acts.

Taylor et al (2006) further concurred that only acute or heavy episodic drinking (5 bottles or more in one sitting for men and 4 bottles for women) is associated with aggressive sexual behaviour. However, it is not clear why alcohol drinking is associated with rape since alcohol is a depressant. Sorenson et al (2014) further assert that alcohol use by both victims and perpetrators is often used to explain or even to excuse sexual assault. The authors further note that the libido-enhancing effects of alcohol are primarily due to social expectation rather than pharmaceutical activity of alcohol.

Drinkers have been found to manifest significant levels of aggression, even after taking non-alcoholic beverages. Taylor et al (2006) further noted that the ratio of higher dose levels: sexual arousal to erotic stimuli, as measured by penile tumescence and vaginal photoplethysmography, is clearly diminished by alcohol. The amount of alcohol consumed is inversely proportional to the amount of time required to masturbate to orgasm for both sexes (Taylor et al, 2006). Sorenson et al (2014) indicate that the evidence that links alcohol to physical aggression indicating that it accounts up to 75% of acquaintance rape.

This implies that alcohol use impairs judgment leading to increased likelihood of misperceiving friendliness as sexual intent a situation that makes a man feel comfortable even as he forces sex. Some researchers have argued that alcohol consumption makes perpetrators more aggressive and the victims less effective at setting personal boundaries and defending themselves. Apart from alcohol, other drugs that are associated with violent behaviour include Phencyclidine (PCP) and to a lesser extent amphetamine; otherwise, violence is rarely associated with pharmacological effects of illicit drugs. In our context, alcohol consumption is common and the availability of amphetamines and Phencyclidine is not deniable (Taylor et al, 2006).

In a number of Sub-Saharan African countries, cases of rape are on the rise. For example, the rate of sexual violence in South Africa is among the highest worldwide (Ritter, 2012). Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), a humanitarian news organization claims that in estimate, 500,000 rapes are committed yearly in South Africa, which was once referred to as 'the world's rape capital' (Artz, Smythe & Leggett, 2012). The statistics as at 2000 depicted more than 67,000 incidences of rape and sexual assaults against children, and according to welfare groups the number of unreported cases could be 10 times more (Artz et al, 2012). According to Seelinger, Silverberg and Mejia (2011), in the Democratic Republic of Congo, moderately progressive and

extensive law against sexual offences was passed in 2006, despite this, the rate of sexual violence is still on the rise with 17,500 cases reported in the year 2009.

In Burundi, cases of sex offence drop off at a high rate along the conviction path regardless of the strong rape criminal penalties of the country (Bond, 2013). In Kenya and Nairobi County in particular, Ajema, Rogena, Muchela, Buluma and Kilonzo (2010) assert that cases of rape are on the rise with many victims of rape being females of between 9 months to 105 years of age. Ajema et al (2010) posit that rape perpetrators are mostly men who are unknown to these women. To corroborate these assertions, among the rape victims of the 1997/1998 post-election violence in Kenya 40 percent of the women were sexually assaulted by men who were unknown to them and 20% were raped by their relatives or men they were intimate with (Ajema et al, 2010). To mitigate these challenges, government agencies have initiated different strategies which are yet to register much remarkable progress. Despite this state of affairs, much is yet to be done to interrogate how biological factors drive men rape, hence, the need for this study.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Cases of rape have been on the rise in different parts of Kenya, especially in Nairobi County. As noted earlier, Ajema et al (2010) assert that cases of rape are on the rise with many victims of rape being females of between 9 months to 105 years of age. The authors further posit that rape perpetrators are mostly men who are unknown to these women. To corroborate these assertions, among the rape victims of the 1997/1998 post-election violence in Kenya 40 percent of the women were sexually assaulted by men who were unknown to them and 20% were raped by their relatives or men they were intimate with (Ajema et al, 2010). Efforts by the government and other stakeholders have not registered much progress in mitigating the soaring cases of rape. However, few empirical studies have interrogated how biological factors drive men to rape, thus, the study.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study sought to address the following objectives:

1. To assess the prevalence of rape cases in Nairobi County, Kenya;
2. To establish how biological factors drive men to rape in Nairobi County, Kenya.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study was guided by theory of planned behaviour (TPB) which was postulated by Ajzen (1991). This theory was premised on a well-established social-cognitive model for predicting a variety of human behaviours. According to Ajzen (1991), TPB is a linear model that discusses attitudes, perceived norms, and perceived control which directly influence behavioural intentions, which, in turn, affect behaviour. In other words, under TPB, norms and attitudes moderate the influence of perceived behavioural control on intentions. This theory assumes that the best predictor of behaviour is behavioural intention, which is guided by two major constructs. In other words, Ajzen (1991) asserts that how strong an attempt the individual makes to engage in the behaviour and how much control that individual has over the behaviour (behavioural control) are influential in whether he or she engages in the behaviour. Behavioural intention is produced from a combination of attitude toward the behaviour, subjective norm, and perceived behavioural control. In the context of this study, this theory is particularly relevant because it attempts to underscore the fact the behaviour of men to rape largely contributed to by a set of factors, in this case, biological, which strongly influence their decisions make about their sexual behaviour.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study applied quantitative methodology and thus adopted descriptive survey research design. The study targeted 869 respondents comprising 826 male convicts with cases related to rape and 43 Prison Welfare Officers from which a sample size of 40 male convicts and 11 Prison Welfare Officers was determined convenient sampling technique. Questionnaires were used to collect data from the male convicts whereas interviews were conducted among the Prison Welfare Officers. Quantitative data were analyzed descriptively using frequencies and percentages with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 23) and presented using tables.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This section presents the findings of the study based on the objective. It also outlines the methods of presentation of the study findings and discussions.

Response Rates

In this study, 40 questionnaires were administered to convicted male rapists in Kamiti Maximum Prison. However, 39 questionnaires were filled and returned. The researcher also conducted

interviews among nine (9) Prison Welfare Officers. This yielded a questionnaire return rate of 97.5% for male convicts and a response rate of 81.8% for Prison Welfare Officers, which is consistent with the assertions of Creswell (2014) that a response rate above 75.0% is adequate. This information was important since it allowed the researcher to generalize the study outcomes to the target population.

Prevalence of Rape Cases in Nairobi County

The first objective of the study sought to assess the prevalence of rape cases in Nairobi County.

The findings were presented in Table 1:

Table 1: Levels of Rape Cases in Nairobi County

Victims of Rape	Percentage (%)
Women	38.9
Children	41.4

Table 1 shows that 38.9% of women and 41.1% of children have been victims of rape cases in Nairobi County. These results validate the assertions of Nelson (2010) that, in North America, sexual violence amongst women has become a common phenomenon with close to 34.5% being victims of rape.

During the interviews, the Prison Welfare Officers were also in agreement with the view that cases of rape among women and children have a very common phenomenon. On further probing, one Prison Welfare Officer, PWO1, noted;

“Last year alone, we witnessed a 16.9% increase in reported cases of rape among children, especially in the slum areas and their neighborhoods. The number could be high since many victims shy away from reporting such cases given some of the perpetrators are close relatives”

These mixed findings corroborate the assertions of International Crime on Statistics and Justice by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) that majority of the victims of sexual abuse are women and perpetrators are mostly males globally. Nelson (2010) further notes that rapes against women are rarely reported to the police and the number of female rape victims is greatly underrated due to under reporting. These findings also lend credence to the assertions of Ajema et al (2010) that, in Kenya, particularly in Nairobi County, rape cases are on the rise with many victims of rape being females of various ages and some toddlers. According to Ajema et al (2010), among females who alleged to have been sexually violated during the post-election

violence 40% indicated to have been raped by male persons unknown to them while 20% were violated by relatives or males who they had previous intimate relationships with. Thus, these findings indicate that, despite the enactment of progressive sexual laws with severe penalties meant to deter would be offenders, the rate of rape and defilement incidents among women and children remain high and much concerted efforts need to be initiated to curb the menace.

Biological Factors as Drivers of Men to Rape

The second objective of the study sought to examine how biological factors drive men to rape. The study assessed the prevalence of conduct and antisocial personality disorder within the family tree, level of stress and the role of drugs and other substances of abuse on the respondents. The study further established the relevance of biological maturity (secondary sexual development) to the respondents' behaviour and the role of genetics in sexual offences. Descriptive data were collected from the respondents and results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Abnormal Behaviour in the Family based on Age and Stress Levels of Respondents

Abnormal behaviour within the family tree	True	Age of the first sexual contact	%	Stress Levels	%
Having uncles who have been accused of antisocial tendencies like substance abuse and fighting	42.1	Below 15	57.9	Below 150 units (chances of stress related reaction are below 30%)	21.1
Fathers sometimes beat mothers	44.7	15-20	31.6	151-225 units (50% chances of stress related reaction)	47.4
Twin brothers fight people	13.2	21-25	5.3	226-300 units (70% chances of stress related reaction)	21.1
Brothers are daring and trouble shooters	50.0	26-30	5.3	Over 300 units (over 80% chances of stress related reaction)	10.5
Cousins are involved in antisocial activities like fighting and substance abuse	52.6				

Table 2 shows that 42.1% of the respondents reported cases of alcoholism, drug abuse and other related abnormal behaviours among uncles. Another 44.7% indicated that their fathers had abnormal behaviours that included battering their mother, 50.0% of the respondents admitted to having brothers who are pushy while 52.6% talked of troublesome cousins. Despite the challenge of self-reporting among the respondents, the findings indicated prevalence of abnormal behaviours along family lines touching not only the nuclear family but also the extended family members (uncles & cousins). These views were supported by the Prison Welfare Officers who stated that cases of abnormal behaviours among family members have become a common phenomenon. PWO2, stated;

Instances of close relatives having sex has become commonplace in many families. For example, there are many cases of uncles having been accused of antisocial tendencies like raping nieces, substance abuse and fighting, which have eventually landed them in prisons.

When the respondents were asked about the age at which they had their first sexual experience. The study found that 57.9 % of the respondents had their first sexual experience while below 15 years, 31.6 % had it around 15-20 years, and the remaining 10.6% had their first sex experience at between ages 21-30. The Prison Welfare Officers concurred with the male convicts that most of the sex offenders were exposed to sexual encounters are a tender age. In order to assess the amount of stress that respondents had at the time of the offence, the study used the Holmes and Rahe Stress Test (Holmes & Ralie, 1967) which established that 21.1% of the respondents had 30% chances of stress-related reaction, 47.4% of the respondents had 50% chances, 21.1% of the respondents had 70% chances whereas 10.5% had 80% chances of stress-related reaction. These findings lend credence to the assertions of Spiker (2006) that subjecting men to stressful life situation such as poverty drive them to commit sexual offence due to stress and depression. To cope with their stresses most of respondents presented with alcohol and substance abuse. Data were further collected on drugs and substance abuse and results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Drugs and Substance Abuse

Drug/Substance Inhalants	Tobacco	Cannabis	Alcohol	Amphetamines	Cocaine	Sedatives
Yes	60.0%	51.7%	52.8%	50.0%	50.0%	8.3%
No	33.3%	48.3%	42.5%	50.0%	50.0%	91.7%

Table 3 shows that two-thirds (66.7%) of the respondents were taking tobacco products (cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and cigar), 51.7% were abusing cannabis, and 52.8% were abusing alcohol. Other drugs that were reported include amphetamine by 50% cocaine and abuse of inhalants was reported by 8.3% and abuse of sedatives was reported by 2.8% of the respondents.

Table 4: Level of Drugs and Substance Abuse

Drug/Substance Inhalants	Tobacco	Cannabis	Alcohol	Amphetamines	Cocaine	Sedatives
Almost Never	30.6%	48.3%	44.5%	58.3%	83.3%	97.2%
Bi-monthly	2.8%	5.6%	19.4%	11.1%	5.6%	0.0%
Weekly	5.6%	5.6%	8.3%	2.8%	8.3%	2.8%
Almost Daily	61.1%	30.6%	27.8%	27.8%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 4 shows that tobacco was the most consumed drug, with 66.7% of the respondents consuming on a daily basis. Other drugs that were abused on a biweekly or on a daily basis include cannabis 36.2% alcohol 36.1%, amphetamines 30.6% inhalants 5.6%, sedatives 2.8% and cocaine 2.8%.

Table 5: Association of Education Level and Drug Abuse

Educational Levels	Alcohol True	Cocaine True	Cannabis True	Amphetamines True	Inhalants True	Sedatives True
Not schooled at all	2	0	2	2	0	0
Lower Primary (1-4)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Upper Primary (5-8)	14	0	10	12	0	1
Secondary	3	1	3	0	3	0
Total	19	1	15	14	3	1

Table 5 also indicates that there is an association between drug abuse, the level of education and family position. These findings suggest that people with little [or without any] formal education tend not to abuse or to abuse few drugs while people with more formal education tended to abuse a wider variety of drugs.

Table 6: Association of Family Position and Drug Abuse

Family Position	Alcohol Yes	Tobacco Yes	Cannabis Yes	Cocaine Yes	Amphetamines Yes	Total Yes
1	3	5	3	0	0	7
2	2	2	0	0	0	6
3	3	2	1	0	0	5
4	2	2	1	1	1	2
5	4	4	4	1	1	4
6	1	0	2	0	0	2
7	1	1	1	0	0	1
Last born	3	8	6	1	1	9
Total	19	24	18	3	3	36

Table 6 further shows that one's family position might have influence on drugs abuse. They indicated that lastborn sampled the widest variety of drugs, and were followed by the first and second-born. These findings corroborate the findings of a study carried out by Wallace (2005) which attributed alcohol-induced transformation in behaviour to cultural modeling and reinforcement. The study suggested that drugs act on the central nervous reward system by reinforcing the activity that is associated with the immediate satisfaction resulting into impulsive behaviour (rape). These findings further support the assertions of Taylor et al (2006) that the ratio of higher dose levels: sexual arousal to erotic stimuli (as measured by penile tumescence and vaginal photoplethysmography) is clearly diminished by alcohol. In other words, the amount of alcohol consumed is inversely proportional to the amount of time required to masturbate to orgasm for both sexes. Sorenson et al (2014) also indicated that there is a link between alcohol and physical aggression indicating that it accounts up to 75% of acquaintance rape. On their part, the Prison Welfare Officers noted that the major driver of men towards committing sexual offences is alcoholism and substance abuse. These mixed findings point to the fact that drug abuse as well as chronic alcoholism are key biological factors that drive men to rape.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

From the study findings, it is evident that rape cases among women is high in Nairobi County. From the study findings, rapes cases among women stood at 56.9% and among children at 87.9%. This indicates that sexual violence against women and children has become a common phenomenon. It is apparent from the research findings that many rape cases among women and children are seldom reported to the police and the figures of female victims of rape are greatly underrated due to under reporting. This implies that despite the enactment of progressive sexual laws with severe penalties meant to deter would be offenders, the rate of rape and defilement incidents among women and children remain high. The study also established that biological factors are one of the major drivers of men to rape. These include men's genetics, hormones, drug abuse, physiology and alcohol consumption among others.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study recommends that different stakeholders such as families, churches and government agencies should introduce proactive initiatives which eliminate situations which may drive men to commit sexual offences. These include creation of employment opportunities to reduce poverty levels and alcoholism.

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