



**HEROES FOR GENDER  
TRANSFORMATIVE  
ACTION**

Supporting Community Solutions for  
Sustainable Health Outcomes

**TRAC** *fm*

Transparency • Accountability

# NO MORE SILENCE

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

**Interactive Radio Campaign**

**MAY 2025**



**MIFUMI**



Embassy of the  
Kingdom of the Netherlands



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This report presents findings from the No More Silence interactive radio campaign undertaken by TRAC FM International (TRAC FM)

Additional information may be obtained from TRAC FM International;  
Email: [info@tracfm.org](mailto:info@tracfm.org); Website: [www.tracfm.org](http://www.tracfm.org)



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## KEY FINDINGS

### 1 Strict Law Enforcement is Critical to Ending SGBV

A majority of poll respondents (39%) identified stricter enforcement of GBV laws as the most important action for duty bearers. This underscores growing frustration with impunity and weak legal responses. Women were especially clear: nearly half (43%) prioritized legal action over community dialogue, highlighting a pressing need for justice-based solutions over informal settlements.



### 2 Informal Responses Dominate but Offer Limited Protection

Most respondents (64%) who witnessed SGBV said they responded through informal channels like warning the abuser or alerting community members. While such actions show initiative, they often lack legal backing and can expose victims to further harm. Formal systems must be made more trusted, accessible, and survivor-centered to reduce dependence on informal mediation.



### 3 Economic Dependence Traps Women in Abusive Marriages

Nearly half (44%) of respondents cited financial dependence and children as the main reason women stay in abusive marriages. This was especially true among women (47%). Other barriers like stigma, brideprice, and religion play a role, but the data confirms that without financial independence and family support, many women have no viable path to safety.





*ii.*

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>SGBV</b>	(Sexual and) Gender-Based Violence
<b>LC1</b>	Local Council One
<b>AMREF</b>	African Medical and Research Foundation
<b>CORDAID</b>	Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid
<b>UBOS</b>	Uganda Bureau of Statistics

Partner Radio  
Stations

Radio  
Buddu



Baba  
FM



Eastern  
Voice





*iii.*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We begin by expressing our deep appreciation to the thousands of Ugandan citizens who participated in the No More Silence campaign. Their active engagement in the three radio polls and surveys provided valuable community-driven insights into the realities of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Although the campaign operated on a smaller geographical scale compared to our nationwide initiatives, it achieved remarkable reach—garnering 13,311 citizen responses across just three radio stations within a period of three months. These contributions reflect the power of local voices and underscore the importance of citizen perspectives in shaping more inclusive, grounded, and informed national conversations on SGBV.

This report was prepared by TRAC FM in collaboration with AMREF Health Africa in Uganda under the Heroes Programme. The core TRAC FM team included Innocent Amanyire, Mohazzab Abdullah, Wouter Dijkstra, Eunice Namirembe and Winnie Efcia. AMREF Uganda's contributing staff consisted of Michael Muyonga, Lilian Kamanzi Mugisha, and Dr Patrick Kagurusi. Over the years and through previous campaigns, TRAC FM has developed significant internal expertise on running various data driven campaigns including in Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Uganda. However, we make a practice of seeking external, and in particular, local expertise including the use of data. Topical expertise, policy perspectives, and insights from the field were provided by the broader AMREF team

We also gratefully acknowledge the support of our radio partners Baba FM, Eastern Voice, and Radio Buddu. These radio stations aired our poll questions as well as our talk show debates that communicated poll result data back to the public: a total of 9 talk shows in three months. Special thanks go to the talk show panelists, one of whom was invited by the host radio partner and the other by AMREF, respectively, for each talk show. These guests contributed their knowledge of local contexts and their experience with communities to lively radio debates: Bisiki Paul, Wabaire Harriet, Kituyi Rachael, Namukose Jaliat, Habene Betty, Babirye Jane, Anyango Zaituna, Achom Grace, Namuli Teddy, Namukose Jaliat, Shakirah Ahmed, Nkumbi Willy, Betty Mubiita, Rose Namwanje, Namuli Esther, Namugwe Harriet, Shifah Nalufuvu.

For interviewing 500 randomly selected poll respondents from the No More Silence campaign, we thank Efcia Winnie, Bonitah Katushabe, Favourite Tweheyo, Nambi Gillian and Polycarp Waimaga Zachary. TRAC FM's telephone surveys provide valuable demographic data and allow us to conduct follow-up interviews with poll respondents that are more in-depth than our multiple-choice polls. All survey staffers are current and former students at the International University of East Africa.

Finally, we would like to thank Amref Health Africa in Uganda, Cordaid, MIFUMI, and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda for financial and programmatic support through the 'Heroes For Gender Transformative Action' Program.



# 1.0

## FOREWORD

At Amref Health Africa in Uganda, we believe that the health and dignity of every girl and woman are fundamental to a just and equitable society. This belief is at the heart of the “No More Silence” campaign, now in its second phase under the broader Heroes for Gender Transformative Action (H4GTA) program. This initiative boldly confronts one of Uganda’s most entrenched challenges: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and the cultural silence that has long enabled it.

Our partnership with TRAC FM in this phase represents a unique synergy of data, dialogue, and dignity. By listening to the voices of over 14,500 Ugandans, many of them young people, women, and rural citizens, we are not only amplifying their lived experiences but also translating them into action. The evidence in this report paints a compelling picture: while SGBV remains alarmingly common, the current response systems both formal and informal are often inadequate, stigmatizing, or complicit.

As national statistics<sup>1</sup> show, 95% of women have experienced physical or sexual violence since the age of 15, yet formal reporting remains abysmally low at just 12%. The silence is not accidental; it is sustained by fear, shame, and deeply rooted cultural norms. Through our campaign titled “No more Silence”, we aim to challenge these norms by restoring the idea that survivors can find safety and acceptance within their communities and families.

In Uganda, tackling SGBV demands an integrated approach one that combines survivor-centered legal reforms, economic empowerment, and a shift in harmful gender norms to protect vulnerable populations and break the cycle of violence and silence.

Amref is grateful for the continued support of our partners, including the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, The Iceland Embassy and our implementing partners Mifumi and Cordaid Uganda and other collaborators. Together, we are shifting the narrative from silence and stigma to dignity and justice. We call upon community leaders, policymakers, and every Ugandan to join us in this movement. Let us create a Uganda where no girl or woman is forced to suffer in silence and where her voice, her safety, and her future truly matter.



**Dr. Patrick Kagurusi**

COUNTRY MANAGER  
AMREF HEALTH AFRICA IN UGANDA



2.0

## TRAC FM'S APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

### Objectives

#### ① Strengthening Public Debate:

TRAC FM enhances civic space by enabling citizens to engage in informed, transparent, and evidence-based dialogue on public issues. Through carefully framed questions and accessible formats, we spark critical debate, simplify complex topics, and empower communities with the confidence and data needed to hold leaders, and one another, accountable.



#### ② Amplifying Citizen Voices in Policy Development:

TRAC FM, in collaboration with its civil society partners, transforms citizen feedback into powerful tools for advocacy, ranging from data-driven infographics to compelling campaign reports and strategic policy briefs. By capturing and visualizing public opinion, this approach ensures that citizen perspectives are elevated at key moments and platforms, influencing policy development at both national and local levels and among NGOs, academics, and the media.

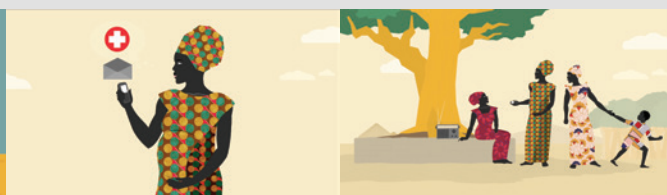
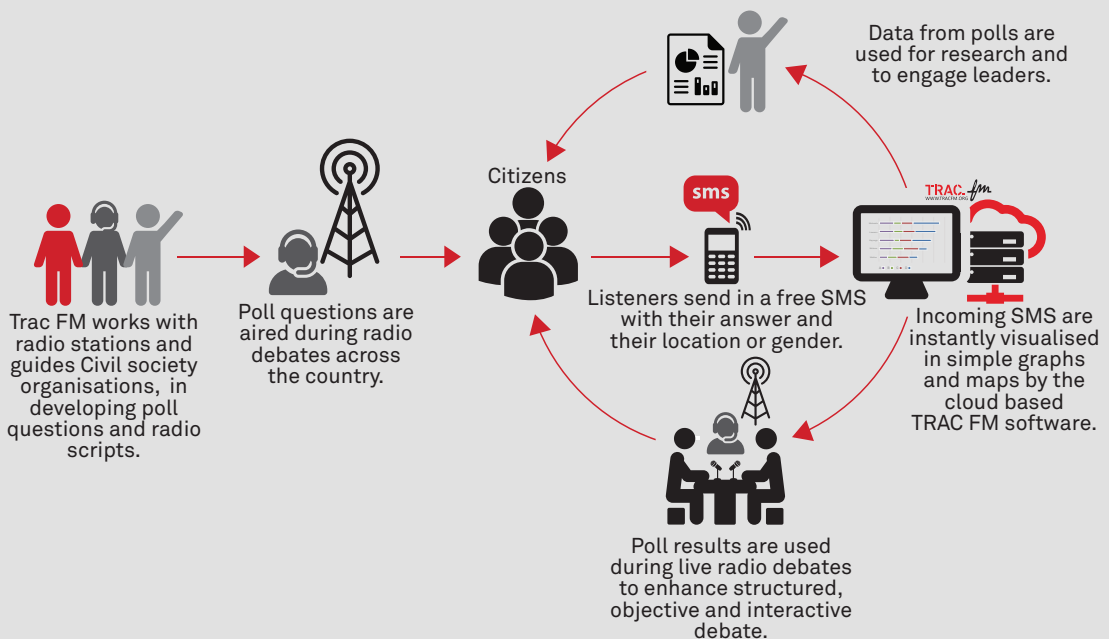




## Methodology

Organizing large-scale public dialogues in Uganda is both costly and complex, which makes comprehensive opinion data rare. As a result, critical gaps remain in understanding public perspectives, undermining accountability systems that depend on broad citizen input. TRAC FM addresses this challenge through a unique mix of traditional and digital tools, using radio and mobile phones to connect citizens and leaders in real-time, data-driven dialogue.

With 78% of Ugandans regularly tuning in to radio and 74% owning a basic mobile phone, TRAC FM reaches the majority, especially in rural areas where internet access is limited and online platforms like X, Facebook, and WhatsApp reflect only a narrow, urban view. A rights-based society depends on inclusive participation, and TRAC FM ensures that even the most remote voices are heard. (See Chapter 6: Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning for more on our data and methodology.)





# 3.0

## BACKGROUND

The Heroes for Gender Transformative Action (H4GTA) program was launched to confront the deeply entrenched issues of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and poor Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) outcomes in some of Uganda's most high-burden districts. SGBV is both a cause and a consequence of gender inequality, and it directly undermines the health, safety, and potential of women and girls. The program's design is rooted in evidence and a commitment to transform harmful social norms while expanding access to rights-based, survivor-centered services.

The districts of Mayuge, Namayingo, Iganga, and Kalangala, among others in the East Central region, record some of the highest rates of intimate partner violence and teenage pregnancies. According to the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS, 2024)<sup>2</sup>, the prevalence of physical and sexual violence among women aged 15–49 is alarmingly high in these areas:

**Mayuge – 63%, Namayingo – 61%, Iganga – 58%, and Kalangala – 60%.**

These statistics reveal not only the widespread nature of SGBV but also the urgent need to address it as a structural barrier to development. The objective of the H4GTA campaign is to empower adolescent girls and young women through access to accurate SRHR information, strengthen community accountability, and challenge harmful gender norms that perpetuate violence and silence.



Current interventions are not enough. A transformative approach is required, one that integrates legal accountability, community engagement, and economic empowerment to dismantle the systems that allow violence to persist. Through the work with TRAC FM it also targets dutybearers by gathering citizen perspectives to inform programming, policy, and implementation of the National Plan of Action for SGBV and Violence Against Children (2019–2030).







4.0

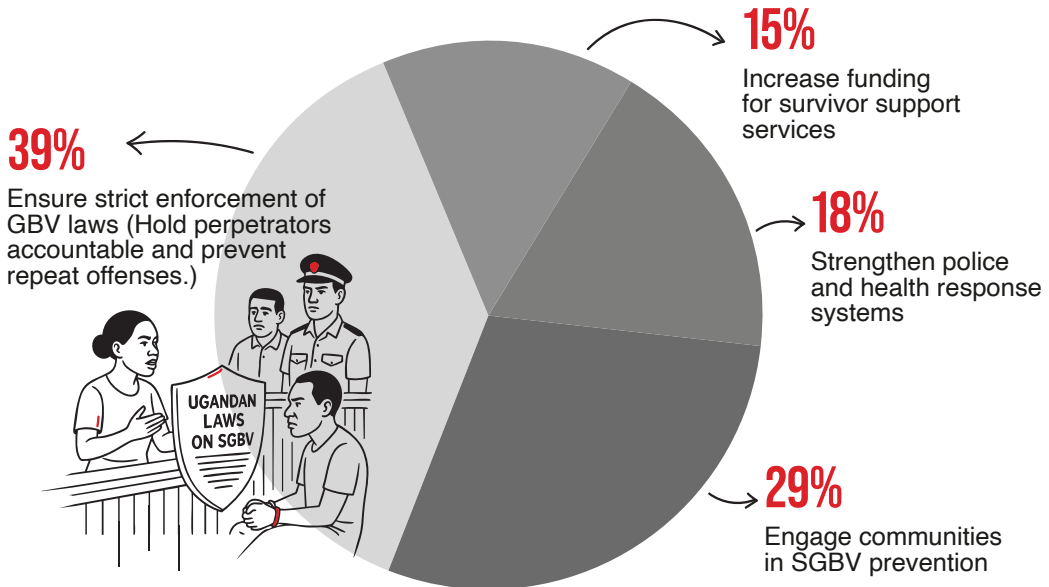
## POLL FINDINGS

4.1

### Poll One Responsibility of Duty Bearers in stopping SGBV

Combating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against women is a serious problem in Uganda. Almost all Ugandan women and girls (95%) had experienced physical or sexual violence, or both, by partners or non-partners since the age of 15.<sup>1</sup>

## What more should duty bearers do to effectively stop SGBV in communities?



TOTAL NUMBER OF  
RESPONDENTS:

**4,036**

This poll question ran on 3 radio stations: BABA FM in Jinja, Buddu FM in Masaka & Eastern Voice in Bugiri from 17 March to 4 April 2025

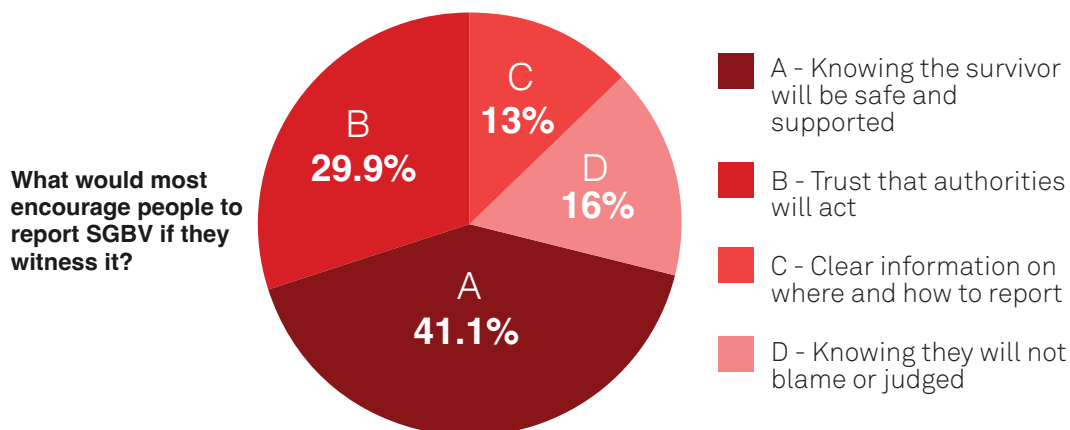


## Analysis

A strong majority (38%) of respondents emphasized the enforcement of GBV laws, especially women, indicating widespread frustration with impunity and a clear demand for justice and accountability. This aligns with Uganda's reality, where 95% of women have experienced some form of violence, yet only 12% report formally.<sup>3</sup> The gap between experience and reporting highlights an urgent need for stronger, more effective and victim-centered legal enforcement, as underscored by the National GBV Policy (2019)<sup>4</sup>, which prioritizes ending impunity.

Following the gap in formal reporting of SGBV cases, TRAC FM surveyed 500 respondents to find out what would encourage them to report SGBV cases. The results indicate:

- Fear of reprisal when publicly or formally reporting.
- Lack of confidence in law enforcement

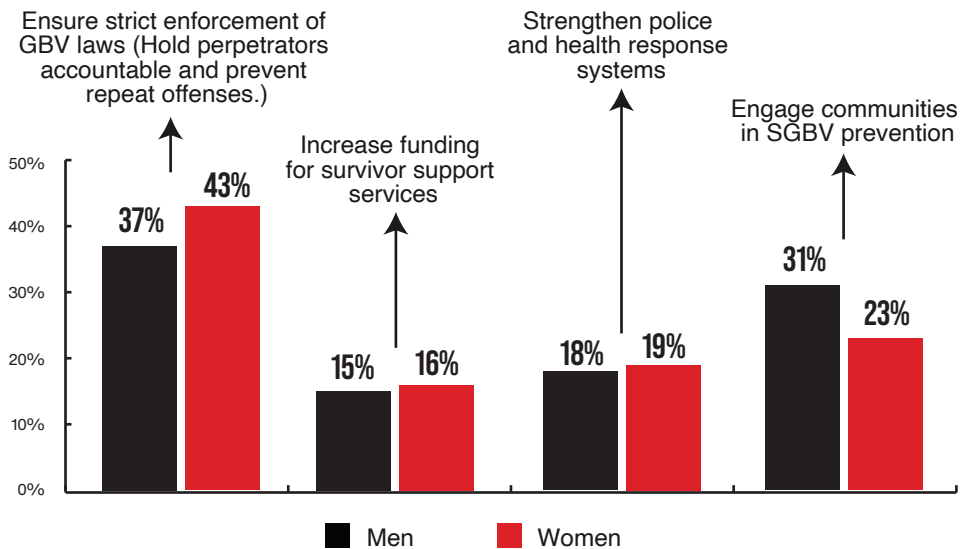


This significant difference indicates male preference to informal approaches to SGBV and their resistance to formal interventions. Such approaches are also explicitly encouraged by Uganda's GBV policy, which promotes community-led dialogues and emphasizes male involvement in addressing violence. As one of our informants note, informal, community led solutions do not always lead to the best outcome for the women involved.

*Parents of [SGBV] victims connive with suspects and take money... Police let people negotiate when such acts happen, yet they're supposed to use the law."*

Mulindwa Andrew (Bukomansimbi)





**Differing Perspectives among Women and Men: Legal Enforcement vs. Community Solutions**

Women place a greater emphasis on legal enforcement compared to men (43% vs. 37%), likely reflecting their direct experiences with insufficient legal protection and widespread impunity in cases of violence. Conversely, men tend to favor community-based solutions (31% vs. 23%).

**Conclusion**

The poll results paint a complex picture. While men still show strong faith in community-based solutions, many women appear to have lost trust in local structures to protect them from violence. Only 23% of women support community engagement as a primary response, compared to 43% who prioritize strict legal enforcement. This may reflect lived experiences with ineffective or even harmful community-led responses, such as pressure to settle GBV cases informally or remain silent to avoid shame. Meanwhile, men’s preference for community solutions may stem from their traditional roles as local leaders and mediators. These diverging views suggest that while community structures can be part of the solution, they must first confront their own complicity in maintaining silence, stigma, and impunity. True progress will require both stronger formal justice systems and a transformation in how communities address and respond to violence.







## 4.2

### Poll Two Role of the community in stopping SGBV

Understanding how individuals respond to witnessed violence is crucial, as informal community action often fills the gap left by underperforming formal systems. Examining these responses helps assess the availability, effectiveness, and risks of informal support structures, offering a fuller picture of how SGBV is confronted in practice.

## In your community, have you ever taken action after witnessing someone facing SGBV?



**19%**

I have never witnessed such cases



**19%**

Yes – I alerted their family or community members



**17%**

Yes – I reported it to the LC or police



**13%**

No – I did nothing

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS :

**3,741**

This poll question ran on 3 radio stations: BABA FM in Jinja, Buddu FM in Masaka & Eastern Voice in Bugiri from 8th to 20th April 2025

*There is a time some man used to overbeat the wife, and as neighbors, we helped and warned him. He feared being reported to police and eventually stopped.*

Female, Businesswoman



## Analysis

### Dependency on Informal and community Interventions to solve SGBV conflicts

The most commonly reported intervention, selected by 32% of respondents across genders, was “Tried to convince the abuser to stop.” This immediate and personal response reflects a community led approach to SGBV conflict resolution, prevalent in many Ugandan communities.

According to the UBOS Violence Against Women and Girls Survey<sup>1</sup>, “negotiation and persuasion are often the first line of response in households and communities where formal justice systems are perceived as distant or ineffective.” While such action may stem from a sense of responsibility or urgency, it exposes the intervener and the victim to potential harm and lacks legal or structural follow-up to ensure the survivor’s protection.

The second most common action, reported by 19% of respondents, was “Alerted family or community members.” This approach leverages existing cultural structures, such as elders, religious leaders, or extended family, who are traditionally viewed as appropriate authorities in domestic matters. However, this practice often reinforces the belief that SGBV is a private issue. The Afrobarometer Survey<sup>5</sup> found that 62% of Ugandans believe domestic violence should be resolved within the family, a perception that can significantly undermine access to justice and survivor-centered care. This tendency to handle such matters internally may prevent escalation but also perpetuates silence and impunity.

A significant insight is that 19% of both men and women claim to have never witnessed SGBV. While this could reflect a genuine lack of exposure, it is more likely influenced by the normalization of violence, cultural beliefs that normalise SGBV or the hidden nature of many abusive incidents. As Afrobarometer<sup>5</sup> reports, although 49% of Ugandans believe GBV is common in their community, 62% still regard domestic violence as a private issue. This tension between awareness and action illustrates a social landscape where silence is often safer than intervention.

*I come from a family of 9 children. Our father used to beat our mother, so we gathered and talked to him about it. Eventually, he stopped after realizing we were serious.*

Male, Student



## Conclusion

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The survey shows that men and women respond in similar ways when witnessing SGBV, with 64% relying on informal approaches such as confronting the abuser, alerting others, or doing nothing. This pattern reflects a broad lack of trust in formal systems, which are often seen as ineffective or out of reach. This particularly disadvantages women, who, according to earlier poll results, are more likely to seek formal avenues for reporting but are met with limited and unreliable state support.

The overwhelming reliance on informal interventions like persuasion and family mediation reveals a deep mistrust in formal justice systems and reflects Uganda's entrenched socio-cultural norms. While such actions are immediate and personal, they lack the safety and structural follow-up survivors need. The low formal reporting rates, only 17%, underline the urgent need for reform. Bridging the gap between informal responses and formal systems is crucial. Equipping local leaders with rights-based tools and creating safer, trusted reporting pathways must be prioritized.





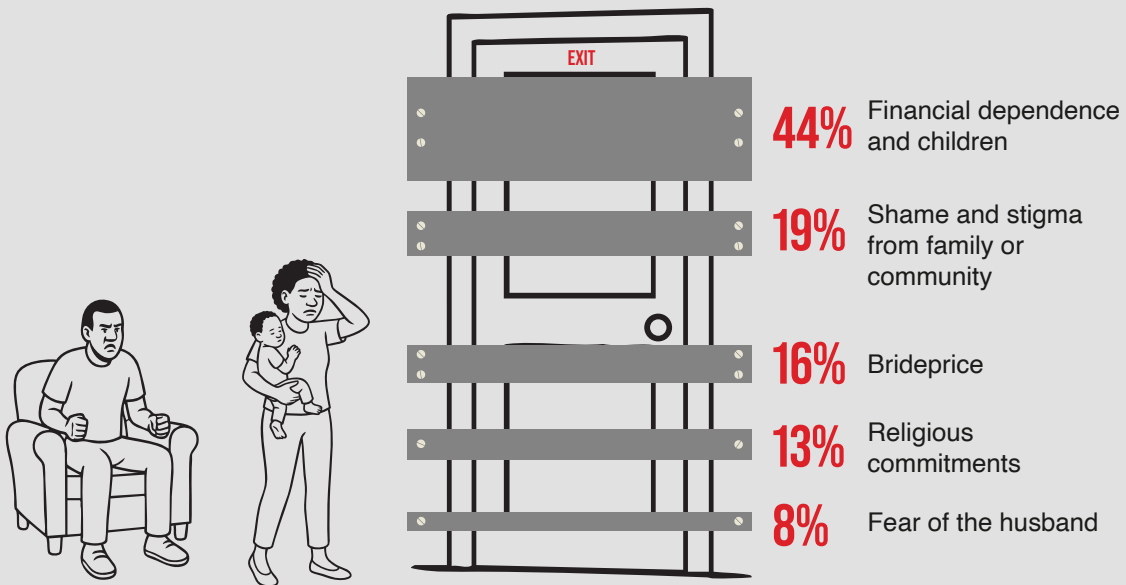


## 4.3

### Poll Three **leaving an abusive husband.**

Many women in Uganda remain trapped in abusive relationships, enduring sexual, psychological, and financial violence with no safe path to escape. Dependency, entrenched cultural norms, and social pressure often leave them isolated, impoverished, and unjustly blamed for their suffering. These experiences are largely invisible, underreported and borne in silence. With formal systems overstretched and solutions like women's shelters proving unsustainable and inaccessible, it is time to acknowledge that both state institutions and traditional structures have failed to protect young women seeking to escape SGBV. To break this deadlock, we must begin by systematically identifying the barriers that prevent women from leaving.

### In your opinion, what is the main reason why many women are unable to leave an abusive husband?



#### Analysis

By far the largest proportion of respondents (44%) selected option A: "Financial dependence and children." Economic dependence is widely recognized as one of the greatest barriers to escaping abusive relationships, particularly in rural and low-income communities. Many women fear that leaving would jeopardize their children's well-being, and worry they would lack shelter, income, or the necessary support to survive independently. Women participating in this poll were even more clear about this barrier with 47% saying this was their main reason not to leave an abusive husband.

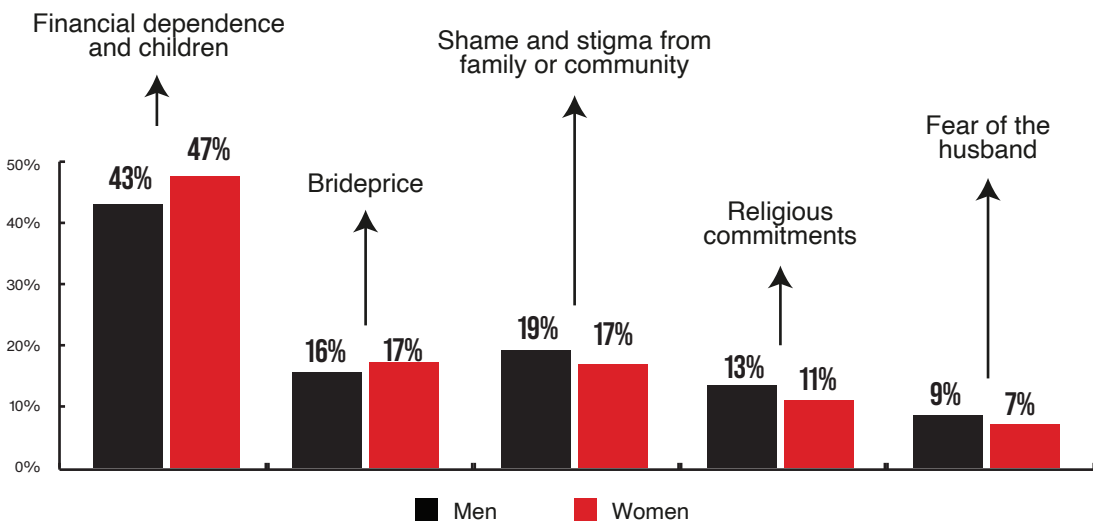


We also see that Brideprice (16%) may reinforce ownership dynamics and discourage leaving an abusive relationship, as families may resist separation to avoid refunding payments; Shame and stigma (19%) reflect deep-rooted social expectations for women to endure abuse, while religious commitments (13%) often frame endurance as a moral or spiritual duty. Interestingly, only 8% cited fear of the husband.

The data affirms that economic dependency, especially when children are involved, is the primary barrier for women attempting to leave abusive relationships. However, the strongest perceived solution—community and family support—underscores the importance of reintegration over isolation. Efforts to support survivors must go beyond shelters and microloans. Programs must invest in changing societal norms, especially the belief that a married daughter cannot return home, and foster a culture where reintegration is embraced as a path to safety and dignity.

### Understanding Gendered Perspectives on Barriers to Leaving Abuse

Gender-disaggregated data reveals nuanced differences in how men and women perceive the barriers to leaving an abusive relationship. Women (47%) are more likely than men (43%) to cite financial dependence as the primary reason, highlighting their direct experience with economic constraints that limit mobility and decision-making. In contrast, men tend to slightly overestimate the impact of shame, fear, and religious pressure, likely due to their outsider perspective on these deeply personal and internalized barriers.



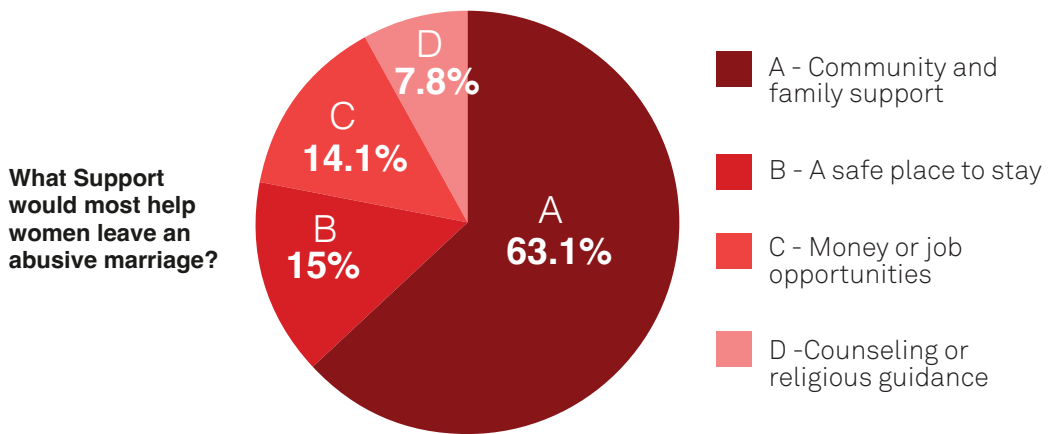
### What support would women need to leave abusive marriages?

Survey findings show that the vast majority of respondents (63.2%) believe that family support is the most critical form of assistance that would help women leave abusive



marriages. This highlights the essential role of social acceptance, encouragement, and moral backing from immediate networks in empowering women to escape structural abuse by their spouse.

Only 15.0% cited a safe place to stay as the most helpful support, echoing the low percentage (7%) of women citing fear of the husband being their main barrier. 14.0% identified money or job opportunities, pointing to economic empowerment as another factor in achieving independence. Finally, only 7.8% mentioned counseling or religious guidance, suggesting that while emotional and spiritual support is valued, it is not perceived as sufficient on its own.



### Conclusion

The findings clearly highlight the central role that family support plays in addressing SGBV—often outweighing more formal interventions. This raises important questions about how development and government resources are currently allocated. How much of the limited funding to combat SGBV is invested in reintegration of survivors into their family homes or challenging the social norms that prevent them from returning home? And how much is directed toward shelters, counselling, or economic empowerment?

“If we do what we’ve always done, we’ll get what we’ve always got.” Addressing SGBV in a meaningful way calls for bold, evidence-based thinking that is rooted in the lived realities of those most affected. This includes confronting cultural barriers—such as the widespread belief in some communities that a woman, once married, is no longer welcome back to her family. To create lasting change, we must rethink and challenge these norms and open new pathways that offer women enduring and dignified solutions.

*Our parents tell us that once you leave your parental home and join your husband, we ‘burn your bed’*

Agnes, Student



5.0

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Poll 1** – Prioritizing Justice and Legal Reform

#### *Strengthen Survivor-Centered Justice Pathways*

Women overwhelmingly called for stricter enforcement of GBV laws, reflecting frustration with impunity and weak institutional response. It is crucial to invest in accessible, survivor-friendly legal mechanisms including better-trained police, anonymous reporting, and stronger protections to rebuild trust in the justice system and ensure real accountability.

### **Poll 2** – Bridging Informal and Formal Response Systems

#### *Reform Informal Structures with Progressive Tools*

Since most communities respond to SGBV through informal means, efforts must focus on modernizing traditional interventions. This includes addressing harmful norms (like brideprice or “burning the bed”), and equipping informal actors with a rights-based framework to safely and effectively support survivors.

### **Poll 3** – Economic and Social Barriers

#### *Support Women’s Independence and Family Reintegration*

Financial dependence is the main barrier to leaving abuse, but follow-up surveys show women most need family and community support. Programs should combine local economic empowerment with efforts to encourage families to welcome back abused daughters, challenging harmful norms and making reintegration a respected path to safety. This provides a community based and scalable solution based on evidence of TRAC FM’s research.



# 6.0

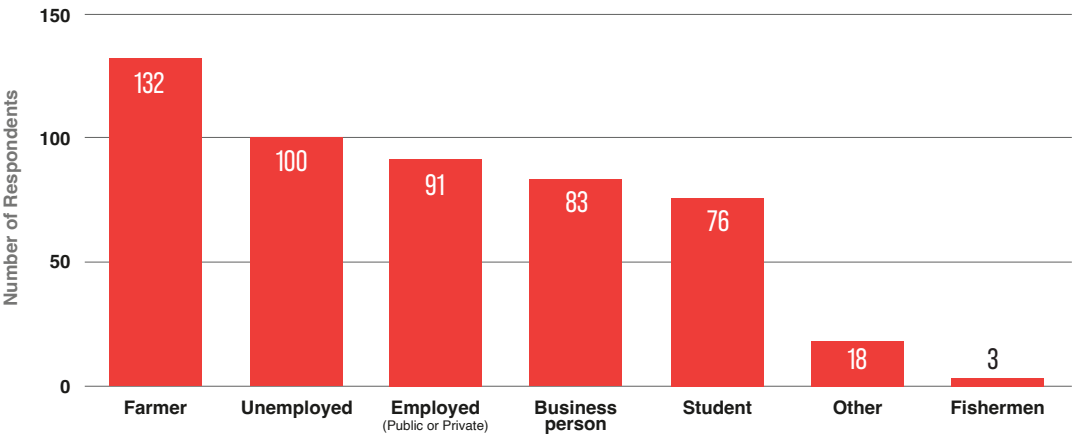
## RESPONDENT PROFILES

The survey report is based on a community survey conducted to explore public perceptions, barriers, and support systems related to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Uganda. The survey engaged over 500 respondents, with a strong representation from rural and semi-urban communities. The majority of participants were farmers (27%) and the Age distribution was heavily concentrated among the youth, with respondents aged 18–34 making up over 80% of the sample. Gender representation was balanced across most age groups, allowing for a nuanced analysis of how both men and women perceive and respond to SGBV.

### RESPONDENTS BY OCCUPATION

The chart shows that the largest proportion of respondents in the survey are farmers (approximately 135), followed closely by unemployed individuals (about 100), employed in the public or private sector (about 91). Other significant groups include business persons (around 83), and students (roughly 76).

According to the Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) 2019/2020<sup>6</sup>, agriculture remains the dominant sector, employing over 60% of the working population, particularly in rural areas. This aligns with the high representation of farmers in the survey. Fishermen are a niche occupational group nationally and are proportionally represented here as well



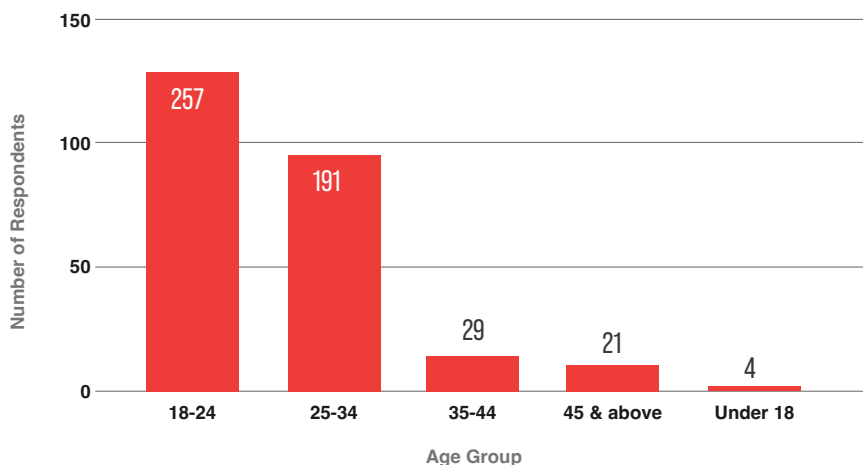


## RESPONDENTS BY AGE GROUP AND GENDER

The majority of survey respondents fall within the 18–34 age range, with the 25–34 age group slightly exceeding 18–24 in total number. There is a relatively balanced gender distribution within these age categories, though females slightly outnumber males in both groups. Very few respondents fall into the 35–44 and 45+ categories, indicating limited participation among older demographics.

### Comparison with Uganda's national age structure:

According to the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) 2024<sup>7</sup> projections, over 75% of Uganda's population is below the age of 35, making Uganda one of the youngest populations globally. The dominance of the 18–34 age group in the survey is therefore consistent with national demographics. Gender distribution appears consistent with national trends, where women make up about 51% of the total population (UBOS 2020), and typically have higher participation in community-based surveys.





7.0

## MONITORING, EVALUATION, & LEARNING (MEL)

The TRAC FM methodology uniquely integrates social scientific methods and therefore requires a tailored approach to Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) to ensure data quality and assess the impact of our campaigns. We invest considerable effort in collecting additional data from our target populations to understand who they are and how our programming influences their lives and behaviors. Below is a description of some MEL tools used by TRAC FM and the considerations made to evaluate the success of our work.

### Telephone Surveys

We conduct large telephone surveys as part of each campaign to:

1. Assess representativeness by collecting demographic profiles of respondents
2. Collect additional qualitative data on respondent perspectives



With 500 total responses per campaign, these surveys provide valuable qualitative insight into who our respondents are and the spectrum of impact that participation in our methodology entails for our respondents.

### Ensuring Data Quality and Inclusivity

TRAC FM actively works to enhance the robustness and inclusivity of its datasets by comparing respondents' demographic profiles with national statistics from UBOS. This helps us understand how our target population aligns with the broader Ugandan demographic landscape. To further strengthen our approach, we regularly review our methodology in collaboration with academics and statisticians. These reviews ensure continuous refinement of our data collection processes and a rigorous assessment of its representativeness and significance, helping us better serve diverse communities across Uganda.



## Enhancing Question Design

TRAC FM informs question design and poll results data analysis through strategic partnerships with CSO partners, who play a crucial role in developing relevant poll questions. Collaboration with subject matter experts (see acknowledgements) further aids in interpreting and contextualising the data. To enrich the dataset, TRAC FM employs a multi-method approach encompassing telephone surveys, ethnographic fieldwork, and social scientific as



well as policy-level desk research. Additionally, culturally sensitive and context-relevant translations of poll questions are informed by full-day content workshops involving radio stations, journalists, and representatives from each sub-region where TRAC FM operates.

## Methodological Considerations

TRAC FM leverages scalable technology to open up public debate for hundreds of thousands of Ugandans, including those often excluded from traditional discussions. By using radio and simple mobile phones—accessible to a majority of Ugandans—we ensure that voices from grassroots communities contribute to the national discourse. However, we recognize that even our approach cannot include everyone. The most marginalized populations, who may lack access to radios or mobile phones, remain underrepresented. While our data provides valuable insights, we acknowledge it is not fully representative of Uganda's entire population. This awareness drives us to continuously innovate and seek ways to include even the most excluded voices in our efforts.

## Ethical considerations of respondent data

TRAC FM places a high priority on the responsible handling of respondent data. Participation in poll questions is entirely voluntary, prompted by radio announcements, and poll responses are never solicited directly. Personal data, including telephone numbers used for contributions, are securely stored and never shared with third parties, partners, or any other institutions. Only aggregated and anonymized data sets, which display overall poll results, are made publicly available.

For participants involved in additional Vox Pops, telephone interviews, or fieldwork interviews, informed consent is obtained by local-language interpreters for the use of their comments in reports. To ensure their privacy, participants' names are anonymized. TRAC FM is registered with the Uganda Data Protection Office (DPDO), ensuring full compliance with data protection legislation.



8.0

## CSO PARTNERS

### About Amref Health Africa in Uganda



Amref Health Africa, founded in 1957 and headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, envisions lasting health change in Africa. Since the mid-1980s, we've partnered with Ugandan communities and set up a Kampala office in 1987. Collaborating with various ministries and organizations, we work to improve health services across 45 districts through our four program areas: WASH, RMNCAH, Disease Control, and Human Resources for Health. We focus on training health workers, creating healthy environments, and enhancing access to essential health services in remote, marginalized communities. These communities face multiple challenges, including limited education, gender disparities, and climate change impacts, which hinder quality healthcare delivery. Our mission is to catalyze and drive community-led, people-centered health systems while addressing social determinants of health.

### About Heroes4GTA



The 'Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights Programme in High Burden Districts of Uganda' (ISPHD) programme now known as the Heroes for Gender Transformation Action Program (H4GTA) is an integrated intervention that has been established to address Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) which is one of the most severe forms of gender inequality and discrimination in Uganda. SGBV remains a critical Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) problem where national GBV indicators show that 56% of people in Uganda aged 15 – 49 have experienced Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), of which the far majority are girls and women. SGBV is an issue that affects women disproportionately, as it is directly connected with the unequal distribution of power between women and men.

The programme is targeting young girls and boys (age 10-24) and women of reproductive age (age 25-49) including underserved groups, in the districts of East Central: Kalangala, Bugiri, Mayuge, Iganga and Namayingo; and the East: Mbale, Budaka, Bukwo, and Kween, to address the root causes of SGBV and unfavourable SRHR outcomes.



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## ABOUT TRAC FM

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TRAC FM transforms radio audiences from passive listeners into active participants. Through SMS polls and radio talk shows, citizens of Uganda and other East African countries engage in inclusive and well-informed public debates on social development, public policy, and governance. Leveraging its network of partner stations, TRAC FM reaches the most remote and excluded citizens using basic mobile phones, free SMS, and interactive FM radio talk shows, all broadcasted in local languages.

TRAC FM International is an NGO registered in the Netherlands and Uganda, with programs across East Africa. Are you looking to efficiently and effectively engage with the local communities you serve?

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 [www.tracfm.org](http://www.tracfm.org)  [info@tracfm.org](mailto:info@tracfm.org)

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TRAC FM collects valuable data from citizens and enables organisations, researchers and government institutions to reach out to remote communities in a direct and cost effective way. Contact [info@tracfm.org](mailto:info@tracfm.org) for more information.