**INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT**

Interviewer Name: Martin Nankunda

Interview date: 15/11/2019

Name of respondent: Bright

H.H I. D: 3980411

Title status: Drop out

Interview start time: 01:30 pm

Interview stop time: 03:05 pm

Age: 40

Marital status: Married

No. of children: 5

No. of people living in the household:

Occupation: Boda boda cyclist

Highest level of education: P,5

No. of years living in the village: 40

Roofing material: Iron sheets

Housing material: Mud, poles, cement, bricks, painting, solar

Interview Duration: 1:35:25

The interview was conducted in Kampala where the man currently works from. He was engaged and the interview went on without any interruptions. He is a boda boda cyclist and left the village to look for money. He had 3 plots in the village. one was given to him by his father where he has his house and his family leaves there. There other 2 plots, he had bought them himself but has since sold them and he is planning to buy another house in Kampala and shift his family form he village. He dropped out and did not get a title because the land that was selected to get the title, the father refused him to title it saying he had just given him a place to live with his family, but the land is his. His relationship with the father since then stopped and it is the reason why he wants to shift his family and they start a new life in Kampala

He is married and they have 5 children with the wife. They lost their 6th child while the wife was giving birth and she still has pain form the loss of her child and a wound that she has to nurse because she was operated while giving birth. They are not planning to have more children. according to their standard of living they seem to be middle income

**Warm up**

I: Good morning, how did you sleep?

R: I am well.

I: How was yesterday?

R: It had no problem.

I: What were you doing yesterday?

R: I had gone to visit our friend in Kasese, we went and saw him then we came back.

I: I called you the other time and you said that you were in Kasese. You just went to visit there was no issue?

R: There was no issue.

I: How does your day start every day?

R: When I wake up it get my motorcycle and go to work. I drive boda boda for transport.

I: Do you see that it has profits?

R: It is not much profit but I get something.

I: How much do you get has profit per day?

R: I can get 20,000 shillings but it depends because there are days you can find yourself with 10,000 shillings only. You can be having fuel and everything else and your profit ranges there in 20,000 or 15,000 or even 10,000. There are times when I can make 40,000 shillings so it all depends.

I: Tell me about how you came here from the village to work here.

R: The way I came here, I was in the village working but in farming growing crops in our gardens and also I would use my employer’s land. After some time, my employer retired from where he was working and he came back home so my job ended there and after I saw that I couldn’t handle staying in the village. I decided to come to Kampala and try out life like other people try so that I can support my family and my children and that is how I started driving the motorcycle riding people. You had called me so that we meet at the time you gave me, but I failed because of the traffic jam at Wandegeya. This is the job I am doing now, if a chance comes I may change but for now this is what I do.

I: In this business of boda boda, do you have to register anywhere to start riding?

R: It is there, you get a stage where you will be working from and you become identified on that stage. There are other groups like Safe Boda where you go and they give you a motorcycle and the other things to use. We drive different boda bodas, there are some who are apart of Tugende group where they give you a motorcycle and they know where you are

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working from but there is also someone who will want to use their motorcycle the way they want and they don’t have a stage but they keep picking people and get work like that.

I: Do you have a stage?

R: No, I haven’t yet got a stage. When I came here I didn’t have money and the stages demand a lot of money which I didn’t have so I ride around just like that and pick people on the way.

I: How much does the stage ask for?

R: I went to Busega and they asked me for 1 million, I also went to Masanafu and they wanted 500,000 shillings and there in town some ask for 400,000 shillings it all depends on how the stage works. If it gets few customers, then the fee is low and if you find that the stage is in a place where there are many people then they will ask you for 1 million or 800,000 shillings.

I: When you compare riding around picking customers along the way and getting a stage, which one do you think is more profitable?

R: Having a stage helps you charge the customer the money you want but when you are riding along that means you will take the customer who failed to pay the stage money they asked him. They may ask him for 4,000 and then he fails to pay it then he moves and finds you who is just riding and he gives you 3,000 or 2,500 shillings and you take him. This means that your income maybe less from the person on the stage. The second thing, if you are not on the stage, you don’t get known so much, you may be riding your friends whom you stay with but the person at the stage is known that they work there so they can get more money. Now like I am here if I get someone going to Matugga I will go there and if I find someone there that is going ahead I will go because I am looking for money.

I: How have you found life Kampala, now that you are not home in the village?

R: The situations become hard somehow, in Kampala you make little money and you have to spend it meaning that you will save less and yet in the village, you can get your money and it is more because you have food for free and housing for free and the money you save helps you better. Kampala needs people that have many things that are giving them more income. Here you can pay for your house and still you remain with more money to save.

I: Do you hear from the people in the village?

R: Yes, I hear from them, I have just finished talking to my wife. She is not in good health, I left there when she was pregnant and when giving birth time came, they operated here and our child died.

I: Sorry about this.

R: We buried the child and it is now like a month now. My wife has not been well up to now but she will be fine. I think the problem was she even never breast fed and she has thoughts about how she carried the pregnancy for 9 months and now she has a wound of something she never got. I hope she will be fine in the next month because the wound no longer pains her so much.

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I: Do you normally go back home?

R: In a month I can go once or I take 2 to 3 months also because transport is expensive so I can spend 70,000 on transport alone so I count like 100,000 shillings because as a man you are supposed to go with some things in your home. You also find that you have school fees so I tell her that I will go the next month so that I save the little money and pay for other things. We plan together and budget, and she can tell me to leave going there then we pay for the child school fees.

I: How long have you spent here in Kampala?

R: I have spent 5 months. I came on 30th May until now.

**Background information, household structure and land ownership**

I: We are going to talk about your family and how you live and your land. How old are you?

R: I am going to make 40 years.

I: You studied up to what class?

R: I didn’t go to school, I was a child born from outside the marriage, you know the children whose mothers are not the ones in the marriage. When I was born, my mother educated me and later on she died and that is where my education ended. I was in primary 5 when I came to my father, he didn’t take me on, so my education ended there, and I started looking for ways to survive.

I: Is your father alive?

R: He is there, he has no problem.

I: When you finished primary 5, what did you start doing?

R: I started riding a bicycle for transport, I spent some time on this one then later on I went to selling second hand clothes and I left this one after sometime then I went to Nyabushoozi and I worked there and that is where I left marrying my wife and then I got another job where I got money to build my house to live in and I worked on that job for long, I started on it in 2004 and I left it this year. It helped us very much to take care of our children and I left it when I was coming here to work.

I: How many children do you have?

R: I have 5 children 3 boys and 2 girls.

I: How do they study?

R: The boy finished primary 7 and now he is home in holiday, the follower is in primary 5, the one who follows this one is in primary 3 and the next is in primary 1 and the other one is in baby class.

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I: Do you still want to add on more children?

R: In my thoughts, I wanted to end on that child who died because I see the situation,

The school fees we have to pay and how work is hard. If my wife accepts, we should stop giving birth and we take care of the ones we have.

I: Have you talked to her about it?

R: I talked it with her and she told me that she should have told them when they operated her they should have stopped her form giving birth. When I talked to her about this, I saw that it wasn’t new to her.

I: In the village, how many plots of land do you have?

R: I have 3 plots but now I don’t have any because I have sold them in a short time.

I: What reasons made you sell them?

R: There are reasons that are hard because, yes we are selling and the money is there but we are planning something else. Those plots were in the village and we saw that they may not help us much, I didn’t have a job and we need to pay the children’s school fees and I had bought that land to help me in such situations so this is what I am on. When we are planning for land in the village there is only one plot I plan for but the others I have no plan for them.

I: The one you are planning for, is it where you are living?

R: Yes.

I: How big is it?

R: I don’t remember it. There is a lady who came from the world bank called Carol, she came and we measured it but because I got issues in the middle of this process I didn’t put my mind there so I saw that it wouldn’t help me. When I see that something is not going to help me, I leave it. That lady took her time and she toured around the gardens we had planted and we measured them and the gardens and the banana plantation. She wrote them and she went, they would come differently measure and write what they went. At the end, when I couldn’t get the title I also left it. I can’t blame the world bank; they did what they could but at the end I got a problem that stopped us so I didn’t go on. I don’t remember how big that land is but it wasn’t big it is small.

I: If you estimate, how big is it?

R: I think it is one acre and a half.

I: How did you acquire this land?

R: To get this land, my father gave me to build here and he told me to move from down to up and he told me to dig there and build. I planted a banana plantation and married my wife and my family stayed there and at the end they said that to get a title, your neighbor must sign for

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you on the form. I found that my neighbor is my father on all sides from right to left, down and up. I called him and told him how everything was going on, the good chance the world bank people came at the end to finish the process and they said that they want my neighbor to sign for me and I called my father. He came and found them and they explained to him that his son had got a chance to get a title and they would like for him to sign for me and they give me a title. My father explained to them and said that he has not given any of his child land to own, it is still his land. He said that he gave me land to stay there but I don’t have the right to own this land. They told him that that is why they called him to decide for me because I couldn’t make a decision on his land when he wasn’t there. He also said that it is good they called him because had he found them giving me the title without talking to him it would have been a different story. So, the good thing he said is that I waited for him knowing that it is his land. He talked with them on the side and he said that he hasn’t yet decided to give his children. They told him that since he has a big land, why can’t he allow me use this chance and get the title and when he wants to share the land he can add me land or not, if he thinks the share I titled is enough. He refused and told them that I have land I bought so they should come and tour my plots of land and title those ones. There was a woman called Mbabazi who also works with the world bank, she called me on the side and told me that from the way I saw my father talking, what did I think. I told her that I was okay and there is nothing I wanted to talk more or quarrel because I know that it is his land, I am his child and therefore whatever he likes he will do. I told them that I can take them to my plots of land and they measure it and give me a title and she told me that the process was already done so there is no way they would do it to help me get a title on my land that I had bought. She said that she would just write my issues and take it to the office and they will talk about it and see how I can benefit form the chance I has got. We ended there. It has taken a long time until I received phone calls form the world bank again telling me they want to talk to my family and see what we think about on this issue.

I: Thanks for telling me about that. Before you got the chance to get a title, are there people who had received titles in this village?

R: There are people we would hear that got titles but I had never got a chance to see the title with my eyes. There is a man called Kikaramu, he had a title and there is another man called Buregyya who also has a title but they are all of old years not in our years.

I: Where do you think these people passed to get these titles?

R: In my thought I think they would go to an organization which would send surveyors to come and measure the land and their plantations and give you a title. I had never seen land they title but I got a chance in 2017 where I saw it. There is a man called Milton who bought big land worth 400 or 500 million and he brought people to tour his land. Where I was working at was next to his land, so when he came my employer told me to go and be there so that they pass on the real boundaries and they put the stones well in the boundary so that is when is saw the stones but in the years ago I didn’t know about this.

I: What do you think people in your village think about getting titles?

R: In this village, people love titles but where the problem comes from is that the title needs money. Now the everyday person to get a title, they see it doesn’t help because they don’t have the money.

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I: You think they estimate the title to be at how much?

R: They know that at least you will pay 2.5 million shillings going up depending on the land size. This is what they think. We were told that Mbarara is going to be given city status and whoever doesn’t have a title they will lose the land. So we have been conversing that the poor people are going to suffer because the title is expensive and we don’t have money so people will sell their land to those who are able to get titles. They fear them because of money but everyone would have been happy to get a title as proof of their land.

I: Okay, what made them fearful to lose their land when they get city status?

R: They knew that when it is a city, many rich men are going to come and they put their title and you who is their neighbor have no way to report them should something happen. When you go to court, he will have his title to show that he owns land while you have nothing to show that it is your land meaning you don’t have land. You find that most times you have land that your father gave you and he doesn’t write so they will ask that if it is your land what shows that your father gave it to you and also sometimes you find that you have the agreement but you can say that you move from here to there but his won’t help.

I: Let us say that you had got the title, what would this mean to you?

R: It would have meant that my family has their land there, I wouldn’t worry that I am at risk because the parent said it is his land and he hasn’t yet shared. It is upon him to say that a child did well so he gives them land and then for the other child he tells them that he hasn’t liked what they have done so he gives him time like one year to leave his land. You will not tell him that he gave you the land and now he is taking it away because he gave me the land in words so he can take it back. When I had money, working in the village and I hadn’t left the village, I was planning but now after leaving the village, I don’t plan big on this land since I even left my job. I am planning that if I get a chance I look for another place maybe here in Kampala and I start afresh because the picture my father showed me left me with fear in my heart but you can’t show your parent any other bad heart. The people who came here were old people and parents so they told him as parents that he should allow me get a title but he refused and instead told them that maybe they can measure my house alone and give me that title for that house. They didn’t agree together, but this also told me that I only have the right on the houses I built, so I can destroy them but I have no right on his land. This is how I understood this and it stayed in my heart and I kept quiet.

**Baseline awareness of titles**

I: I would like to ask you more about your knowledge of land titles. What good things do you think are there in having a title?

R: I see many things for example now if I have a title it means I have land whether it is small it is mine so no one can take it. The second thing, these days’ people use loans so you can go to the bank and you don’t have to first bring people to your land, they give you the money and if you are a trader you go and trade because they know that you have land somewhere. I see that the title has a big use.

I: If you have the title and you want to get a loan, which bank would you get it from?

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R: If I have it, it depends because in our Uganda today when you want something you have to look for someone who is better than you and you seek advice from them so that you don’t go wrong. You see we have Saccos and banks and they are different, I don’t know the difference but think it is maybe in the profits or when they are failing. Many of the Saccos fail but they don’t give the members all the money, they might give back to the educated ones and us the poor people when you ask they tell you that they will call a meeting and it fails like that and your money gets lost like that. But you see the bigger banks I think they are paid by the government so if anything happens they pay back your money. So I would also go to these banks that have already develop and I get a loan from there.

I: Is there any bank or Sacco where you have an account?

R: I have it?

I: In which bank?

R: I have it in Finca.

**General land**

I: Now I am going to ask you about land in general in your village. How do people come to acquire land in your village?

R: For people to get land, many have been given by their parents. When a parent dies and they are 6 children, they will divide the land in 6 plots and then each child knows that is their land. Others buy land and get an agreement saying that me so and so I have bought land from so and so and it boards the other person’s land and it also puts how much you have paid or if you have given half they also put the money you have given and the buyer and the seller both sign there. The person shows this agreement as their proof of their land. If there is someone who is knowledgeable they will get this agreement and go to the ministry of land and he gets a title and they put stones for him. Even though he has the agreement he also has the title but these are very few people who do this

I: When you are making these agreements, do your wives come and sign?

R: Understanding has come these days and it is depending on the marriage. If I bring my wife and we both sign as we have bought land together, then this woman has the right to have authority on this land tomorrow if I am not around. Sometimes when this land is in her hands, she may go and marry another man and she uses this land to take care of the other man and the children she gives birth there and then she eats the land of the first children that the father has left for them. This issue has become common here and men want to buy land alone so you find that we will write the agreement that me Twesigye Bright I have bought so and so’s land at these millions and I have paid cash and finished. Then the seller and his wife sign and say that him and his wife Jovlet have sold to Bright land this size for this money and he has paid and finished the money so that the family doesn’t deny you tomorrow that you never bought. If the children are old, one of them should sign and it is good for the women to sign.

I: Is it possible to sell land where the woman doesn’t sign?

R: That is very easy because it depends on the trust you have in your marriage. I had some

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pieces of land in the village where I didn’t make any agreement. I would buy that land and re sale it, I would buy it at 500,000 shillings and then when someone comes and they want to buy then I would sell it at 1 million shillings or when I get problems at home, I sell it. I would sell it without the agreement, I would sell to someone and ask for 700,000 shillings and I sell it.

I: How do you buy without making an agreement?

R: The world isn’t totally dead, there are people who trust each other for example people get loans in the village for example, I don’t have land that is mine as a person and now the one that is there it is for my father. If I want a loan from the bank, I can’t give it there as leverage and yet they want the land you have bought and when I go to my father it will be hard so I can come as see you as my neighbor to give me their plantations and I give it there as leverage and they come tour it and give me money. But you pay the loan and finish without the band coming to take the other person’s land. This is what is done in the village though sometimes the person can fail to pay the loan and then you find the plantation owner going to get his land.

I: So, what benefits are there in putting a woman’s name on the title or agreement?

R: Now us who have children when we are discussing with older people about how things have changed we see that there are good things and bad things. Like I told you the woman can get married to another man when you are dead with the land you bought because she has authority over it since her name is included on the agreement which can be bad for your children. There is also when the children also disturb their parent and they want to sell and destroy the land and if the land is in their names and not your wife, she can’t stop them and they are going to sell and eat the money. Your wife in this case has nowhere to start from reporting. When you are not around, it is your wife who is your vice and can argue any case on that land when you are not around. This is when you see that it is good because you bought as a family; man, wife and the children meaning all these people can’t die in one day so it is good.

I: Do you think that the woman can give birth to children and later chase them from that land?

R: I don’t like doing things that have no proof, what I have proof on I say it and if I don’t have the proof I don’t say. There is someone that I don’t want to mention their name, the father died and that person lived with the mother but the mother had given birth to another child from outside and she tried to raise that child in this family of the husband. As the child was growing, people told her that this child is eating away the things that were meant for the other children. So, the boy never agreed with his mother yet he knew that the other children were also her children. So, he told her to take the other children to their father and they give them things instead of them wasting the one here yet the father was dead. She told her son that he wasn’t there when they were buying the things with her husband, what happened is that the son chased away the mother and the mother went to her daughter’s place and they took the case to court. At the end the mother went to the last court and they ruled that the land should be in the mother’s hand, I was there that day the policeman called us to be there and listen to the issues. We sat there and they told us that the family starts from the man and the wife and then children are added on later so the man worked to get this land with the wife and now the child is chasing the mother yet she has the right to divide the land for the children they gave birth to. They told us that they had come to get the things from the son and put them back in the mother’s hands and she will decide whom to give it to. They had about 50 cows, goats and land, it was a bad day. We learnt that day.

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I: Like you have told me that you no longer have land that you own, what about the land where you have your house, do you feel that you own it?

R: The one I say that it is mine is where I have built because my father told me to build there. But only the part of the house, the other part is still my father’s land

I: Now that you have the part of the land where you have your house, do you have any to have proof of ownership for it?

R: Let me give you an example, if I had gotten my title, whether the land is a quarter acre I will be knowing that it is my land because I have this proof that it is mine. But now I can’t lie to you that I have any proof of ownership.

I: But what do you think is the difference between having an agreement and a title?

R: The difference between these two, the agreement you see most of the time it can be kept poorly and it is easy for someone to change the agreement. The power of an agreement is little compared to the title. One time I got a loan and that is when I knew what the difference between the title and the agreement is, the bank asked me for security for that loan and I had the agreement which was written and it had my name and the person that had sold me the land and there was no stamp for the LC chairman. It only had the signatures of the buyer and seller and that was it so they asked me to go with this agreement. When time came I went with my agreements to the bank. They asked me for it and they looked at it and told me that I had written it there myself and then and brought it. They told me that there was no proof to show that the agreement wasn’t written now they said they want the stamp of the chairman to show that it came from home. It showed me how different things are, the title comes when it is stamped and they can’t ask much but when you give the agreement which has the stamp of the chairman they call him to make sure he knows you and the land. But for the title they don’t ask you all of this.

I: In your view, what do you think family land is?

R: It is land bought by the man and his wife, this is the one I know as family land.

I: If you got land from your parent or the parent hasn’t yet shared the land among his children, is that also family land?

R: No, I don’t see it like this. I see from me, even though we are digging, we can’t decide for ourselves. I bought trees sometime and I was going to build a pig sty there and my father told me that he doesn’t want pigs on his land but this was on the land I was using. I failed to decide for myself because he refused the pigs and I didn’t have the chance to. If you are on the family land and you plant and eat it means that it is your land and your family, that is your wife and children.

I: So, if a man wants to sell family land does he need to get approval from the wife?

R: It is good to ask him wife first.

I: Why does he need to get approval from her?

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R: When you are going to buy land, if you sat with your wife and decided what you were going buy why can you sit with her when you are going to sell.

**Intra-household discussions and bargaining**

I: I would love to ask you about your marriage with your wife or what you talked about in the time they were giving you the title. Did you talk to your wife about why you didn’t get the title?

R: We discussed because we planned that from that day, and we grew in our thoughts and what we see, because the picture we saw that day showed us that we are visitors on this land meaning anytime my father can chase us saying he doesn’t want us to be there or he has not given to us that land. So we said that we need to look for a plan for tomorrow. Right now, like I had told you, we haven’t yet found what to do right but we want to have our own land so that tomorrow when am not around my children can build there and use it.

I: Had you discussed about agreeing to get the title with your wife?

R: We had agreed to get the title but we didn’t get it as I had told you and our energy lessened and we went on with the same situations that was there.

I: How long have you lived with your wife?

R: I married my wife in 2003 August 23rd, if I am counting well it is like 17 years in marriage. But I think it is there.

I: Are you wedded?

R: I am wedded with her.

I: As you are here away from your family, don’t you have another wife?

R: No, I don’t have a wife, my wife is in the village so I am here as a worker.

I: What about having given birth to children outside your marriage?

R: I have 5 children that I have given birth to with my wife. I don’t have children outside and I don’t have a wife out there that maybe she is pregnant or not.

I: Do you feel supported by your wide in the things you do?

R: My wife doesn’t have any issue just the bad health that disturbs her, she cares so much to care for our children, to grow for them food. I haven’t seen that she has treated me bad in the years that I have spent with her maybe that she fees pain but she cares much on her family and what she wants. You see the women we have today have issues but mine doesn’t have them.

I: What good things have you met in marriage with your wife?

R: Our marriage was not good because it became a marriage of, me and my wife and children. We give each other advice and talk on how we shall live. Money can be scarce and situations

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can be hard but we are happy and talk with each other and see how we can live. When you went to my home, you saw that the situation is not easy, we would also love to have a good home, beautiful things but we are the way we are living. And now the problem we have is that we have scarcity of money, but we plan for our money well and talk about how to use it.

I: Like what example can you give me that shows how you support your wife.

R: We were married and the time reached and I told her that I am going but don’t look at my going as a bad thing that I have left you or that you are no longer my wife but I have gone for the sake of our children. I want that whatever money I get we educate the children because we didn’t go to school me and her therefore I want my children to study. You see my son has gone beyond where I stopped, I pray that he goes ahead and I pray I get money and pay for the children. This is what I show her that even though we may not have money but we have where to sleep and the money we get I have to make sure that our children go to school.

I: What do you think makes other married people fail to support each other?

R: Most of the time, it happens. You find that you have a wife but in all she does she wants to take to her home and you the man want that your family develop. You plan but your wife is not planning with you. What comes out of this is that you will start hiding your income whereby if the woman harvest 3 sacks of beans and sells them she will tell you that she sold 1 and a half and the other 1 and a half she will send it to her siblings that are in school or. When the man gets to realize this he also starts knowing that their is a problem so when he gets 200,000 shillings he tells her that he made 100,000 and keeps the other balance on the side. The family now has wrangles. When the child comes back home for school fees and tells the father he tells him to go to the mother and when he goes to the mother in the plantation she also tells him to go to the father because he is not an orphan. But if you are one you can sell your goat and get 60,000 and plan on what you will use it for may be pay for one child school fees as you wait for the other one. In this, even if the woman goes and works out there in someone’s garden she will bring the money she makes because she knows that her husband is not leading her wrongly and you as the man when the woman brings this 5,000 and tells you to add it onto some money, you feel encouraged knowing that it is well.

I: In making the major decisions in your home, who does them?

R: Most of the time, I decide with my wife. We put our issue on the table and discuss about it and decide what to do. I don’t have the habit of deciding alone.

I: Supposing you fail to agree, who then make the decision?

R: Most of the time this has not happened where we fail to agree because all that we do is for helping the both of us and our home. So you find us agreeing with each other that we shall do this fist and then end with the other.

I: Do you think that this is the same in other marriages in the way they make their decisions?

R: Other marriages are not like that, others have broken up and they are renting outside their home and the woman left too. If they are 10 marriages, you find that 4 marriages decide together and the 6 are not agreeing together. This is what I see.

1:02:49

**Gender norms around land**

I: Like we know that land has been more of the man than the women. We want to understand certain aspects of about this but we have no truth about it so we want to get your thoughts on this. Are there women in your village who have land that they own?

R: It is there but not so common, the woman can have her parents and when thy die, they share for the boys and they also give the girls. The girls then agree together and sell their land if they are like 4 of them they share the money, the woman then brings her money and buys her land. If she doesn’t like to put it in the name of the man or the family she buys it for herself and puts it in her names as a woman. This can happen and women have land in this way.

I: Do you think that women want to own land with their husbands or they want to own it alone?

R: I think these issues have come about these days. The woman gets married to the man when they agree with and trust each other but later the man gets other women and starts taking the things they have worked hard or and takes them to other woman and when she is going to talk, she has no chance because maybe she brought her inheritance and put the man on it so she doesn’t have any chance to talk. When this mistrust has happened, this is when you find that the woman wants to have her own land. These days even when the man leaves man or send money like 200,000 she uses like 130,000 and uses the 70,000 for her own things or buys like a goat and hides it at the neighbors place and these families are there.

I: Do you think that women should be allowed to own land in this village/

R: In my thoughts as Bright, I think that things that do not have relation to me I don’t like following them. If a woman goes to her home and gets her share and comes then buys land at the neighbor, that is not my land. My land is the one we have worked for together or we have cultivated in a season and got like 2 million shillings that is what we will plan for.

I: How about when a woman has land that she has bought form her share from her parents, how can this help your family?

R: It helps us if we sit and plan and evaluate what the land we have has done and what the one on the side has also done and we plan for our children. That is when we can agree to sell one land that has not done much for the family so that we take care of the family but after agreeing together and not using force.

I; Does your wife have land that you know?

R: No, she doesn’t have it.

I: Do you think that when a woman buys her own land she will tell the husband?

R: She can talk you about it but sometimes they can hide thought it gets known. She can talk about it but after she has already bought the land so that the money is already in something and the man doesn’t ask her for the money that then he fails to repay it to her.

I: The way we have talked about women and men owning land, do you think that if you have family land, it is related to this?

1:08:35

R: What I know and have talked about it with no doubt, if I find myself on the land that I own and your family then I know it is mine. If I want to build no one can stop me or sometimes you don’t have money and you want to build a grass thatched house, then the landowner says that for him he wants iron roofed houses on his land. This means that you have interferences.

I: Do you think that these interferences can come from the woman or?

R: No, the reasons I think you can have these problems is when the man wants to sell the land and the woman doesn’t see the reason you want to sell the land for. Now this brings disagreement, the woman wants the land to keep her children and pay for their school fees but then you don’t have the reason she agrees with so even killing each other can come out of this.

I: Can a widow remain on the land after her husband’s death?

R: She can stay on the land if she has the proof so that the in-laws don’t take the land from her for example if her name is on the agreement

I: What if she doesn’t have any proof?

R: That is, it, they will take the land from her.

I: Has this happened in your village before?

R: Yes, I am talking about it with proof that it has happened.

I: How did it go?

R: Let us say that you they are 6 children that they man has left with the women, when the uncle gives them 200,000 shillings he notes it down and keeps writing all the money he gives then for school fees. Now the land you have is not in writing, so he can say that the land educated the children and now the woman no longer has the chance to refuse because she doesn’t have proof of ownership on the land. The uncle is supposed to pay for the school fees of these children because they are their children but the uncle paid their school fees with the motive of stealing land from them. If he gives them 3 million you find that he wants to take their land worth 13 million. So the woman is now disturbed because she doesn’t have proof on the land.

I: Some people say that proof on the land is when the woman has given birth to children there is when the husband dies she is supposed to stay there because she has children and she will take care of them.

R: Someone may look at this like that but to me it is not important because you can give birth to children when you are not wedded and they be your children. Just because I have given birth to children with a woman doesn’t mean she is the one I trust. I may give birth to 3 children with one woman and then I marry another woman and she gives birth to other 3 children. This means that the one who has the proof of ownership is the one who will claim to be the wife to the man.

I: When a woman hasn’t given birth, can she stay on the land?

1:12:14

R: She will stay there and you can’t ask her anything if the land she is on was left to her by the man. It can happen that a man dies and after like 15 years they didn’t give birth to any child so there is no way the things will be taken from this woman just because she didn’t give birth to a child. It is her land because the husband left her in it.

I: Okay. Do widows sometimes remarry?

R: It happens but most of the time they bring the man on the land.

I: In your view is it right?

R: No, it is not right because now I am driving this motorcycle it doesn’t mean that I don’t want the good car. After my death, the woman brings the man her and then she sells part of the land and buys for the husband a car. If the people are still alive in that family, they become annoyed by that because they saw the man suffer working maybe selling things on bicycle and now this woman has sold the land to please her new man,

I: What do you want to see happen for the woman who wants to get married gain?

R: I don’t mind her getting married again, she can go to the man who marries her but that man should take care of her and not her taking care of the man with the things that her husband left her with. She could be young and she gets the desire to get married again, it is okay but the things I have left behind should take care of my children not taking care of the other man and his family and you find that my children haven’t even gone to school.

I: Who remains with the authority on the land if the woman goes to get married to another man?

R: It is the children.

I: What if they are still young?

R: When they are young, there can be a chance in the uncles or grandfathers to take care of those things until the children grown and take over their land.

I: When you compare the times in the past and the recent ones the way widows are treated, has anything changed?

R: I see that this has changed. Long ago I would not see women go to court and orphans going to court to argue cases of their property that the father has left but I see that this is very common these days and I don’t know whether people have become more manipulative or not. You see us boda boda riders we transport people and they have many issues. Someone can tell you that they are struggling to fight for their children and they tell you that even the 1000 shillings she paid for transport is a miracle because they are trying to stop people from taking their children’s things.

I: In the past times, what would happen when such cases would come up?

R: I think these days the world has become small; the land is more valuable and scarce these days. In the past you find that someone would leave land with someone who they haven’t given birth to and they give them the land like someone who has lived in their home for long. These

1:16:49

days it is no longer the same, the land is scarce.

I: So, you see that the ways these days are ok?

R: Yes.

I: In your view, what would you want to happen when a widow loses her husbands?

R: It depends, the government should run and check this thing and see that now the man has died and the things were for both the man and the woman, whom will they help? They have to help that widow and her children and so that the uncles shouldn’t take the land and use it saying that the widows have no ownership on the land. Like me, if I am not around anymore when I work I do it for my wife and our children and if I am not around, the uncle shouldn’t come to say that they take the land. If I die now, my older siblings shouldn’t come and say that they sell land to buy a cow to feed people at my funeral. They should first ask my wife and see if she allows and if she doesn’t allow saying that the money will pay school fees for my children then they should cook beans because she has the right and she knows our journey, where we come from and where we are so she is the best planner in this.

I: What would you love to see change about what happens women when their husbands die?

R: If they see that the land the man had was given to him by his father, the government should help the widow so that the land is no taken from her by the uncles of the children and other relatives.

I: Do you think that there are laws about this?

R: I think they are there but people are ignorant about them. The widow doesn’t know which office to go to or he doesn’t have money, she may have 50,000 shillings on her and they direct her to offices she should go to but by the time they reach there, the money will be done already and she leaves it and the land is taken just because she wasn’t able.

I: How about when a man separates with his wife, what happens to their land?

R: When a man separates with the wife I say that there should be agreement between them and the village people and the government can also be involved to bring the situation to an agreement. The land should be divided into 3 parts; the man, for the wife and the children because in our fights the children have no input in it.

I: What if it is the man who has the fault?

R: Then I should be guilty because it is me who has faulted therefore the village people should decide as they see. They should reconcile us well so that the family stays well. And if not, we can share the land.

I: If women are able to own land with their husbands, do you see that this can increase or decrease conflicts in the marriage?

R: It is different; there is land that I may have bought with my wife then there is also land that the woman buys after selling her inheritance at her home.

1:21:35

I: I mean the land that you have land together with your wife.

R: We have worked and bought land like 4 plots of land?

I: Yes, do you think that this can increase or decrease conflict in the marriage?

R: This has no problem like I said this land helps the family, the woman gets money and spend it on the children and there are no women who refuses to take care of her children. Actually most of the time, the women love children more than us the men, she can even go to the market and fail to buy for herself a cloth but buy for the children. But to also have peace is when you can manage your land well to see that it doesn’t bring issues for you. Sometimes we men feel like the woman is disrespecting us because she has more money and land than us that even when she is planning for the best we refuse it because she has more than us. Now as a man if you start doing this then your family will have issues. The woman is also a person who can make plans and they work and this does not make you less of a man you will remain a man.

I: Do you think that there can be conflict in marriage even when you have land together?

R: In a marriage, conflict is not related to the land. To see it, the man can marry a woman in a rented house here in Kampala and we both don’t know where we come from but we met here so you can have conflict and you want to share things because I see these people here in my neighborhood. I hear them quarreling, so you see the conflict didn’t come because of land but by themselves.

**Land disputes**

Now, I would like to ask you about disputes on land. What mostly brings about disputes on land?

R: There are many reasons but mostly you find the man has his land that his father gave him, it is big then he produces 7 children. The children grow up and reach the stage where your father gave you land on when you were growing. In the children, there are those that have studied and those that haven’t, now the ones that have not gone to school they want land so that they cultivate and gets money and the income of the village comes from coffee and bananas. The parent says that he doesn’t want to give them land because his father gave it to him so he tells them to wait until his dies that is when they will get land. The children get angered by this and their parent because he has refused to give them land yet he has it. They become poor yet they shouldn’t be poor. You find that some of the children agree with their mother and they see that their father is the problems, also the man now may have another wife there and since he no longer has an income he wants to sell the land. These children and their mother will say that this man refused to give us his land and now he wants to sell so they decide that he will not sell. If the buyer comes, thy refuse to give him the land since he even refused giving it to them. Since the children are with their mother they refuse to sign on the agreement and you the buyer you can buy because the family has issue if the woman and the children can’t sign.

I: So, selling land is the cause of these disputes?

R: Yes, and also refusing to give the children land it can bring fights and they start wanting the parent to die since he has withheld the land from them.

1:27:34

I: What is the recent dispute that has happened in your village?

R: The conflict I know of; the man had two wives and the children of the older wife went to school and they are working to get their own money and they were the ones for the younger wife. The banana plantation for the younger wife was more yielding than for that of the older wife and because the man was then in control he used the plantation of the younger wife to educate the children of the older wife so the children of this older wife finished school but for the younger wife they were still young so they started school later and money was needed. The children were together with their mother so he could not get money from the older wife and bring it to the younger wife and for the younger wife had they saved the money that came from the plantation her children would have studied and finished so they didn’t go ahead with school. The man then said that he will cut off the land and sell then the older children said that he can’t sell the land because it is for the family therefore whoever wants to sell they should share for them all so that each can sell their land and go to school if they want to. He told them that he sold things to educate them had they shared, they told him to sell if he thinks he can sell and when the buyers would come, they would tell the buyer to go away because he would have problems on that land so if you are a buyer you can to put money in such land?

I: How can disputes be resolved within a family?

R: They can end when you the man sits and have family meetings with your family and see what plans the children and the wife have. Most of the time the man comes and wants that his plan should be the one that passes through and then they fight.

I: What level do you bring leaders and authorities in this dispute.

R: When you sit as a man and wife and children and fail to agree then you can call the older people in that family like uncles to the children and also your siblings as the man, if you fail here then you will continue up. But I don’t think that it is right for the woman to run to the sub county after sitting in the family meeting.

I: What if someone has a title when three is a dispute, can it help to end the dispute?

R: Yes, it can help because it shows truly the owner of land. You see these motorcycles are packed here, someone can come and claim the motorcycle that it is theirs then the other person also claims it to be theirs so if you are to reconcile us you will ask us to show you what shows that it is mine. I will tell you that I am the one that wrote this thing there and then the other person will say that they a receipt and a card which shows where they bought. Who do you think of the two of us will take the motorcycle, the one of the card.

I: What do you think should be done to help people get security over their land?

R: I think the government should help people and give them enough security on their land. When someone gets their land the government should help give them proof because a rich man may come and fence off your land but when you go to report the leaders are already bribed because they love money so the rich man will pay 1 million then add 300,000 shillings yet your land is valued to be at 8 million and you walk around and get tired running around but if you have your title it become hard for someone to take your land.

1:33:05

I: Apart from the disagreement you had with your father, have you been in any other disagreement on land?

R: I bought a plantation from a man and after we planted emigorora and the village people signed on the agreement, after some time he uprooted the emigorora and entered in my land making it smaller. When I came to weed, I found that the emigorora were shifted and I called him then he said that is where we are passing. We called our neighbors and they told him that he was in wrong that is not where we were passing and he refused saying that that is how he sold. The village people came back and I told him to mark where he knows that I bought. He marked the land and after a week again he entered my land. He was an old man so I left him and I sold the land to the church. I don’t know how they are now. If it is a title, it goes head to measure the land maybe if they 30 by 60 feet when they come back to measure, they will show what is on the title.

I: You had told me that you have sold your other land.

R: Yes.

I: Who do you think wanted to give you the title?

R: They were the world bank and when this issue came about they told me that they will take it to their head office and get back to me and I am sure that other people who were chose not with me got their titles.

I: Is there any question that you would like to ask me?

R: I would like to ask one thing. The bank has chosen 5 people in very cell to give them a title. If there are people who didn’t get the title because they didn’t have land, is there something you can do to help such a per son even though they got issues but you help them as your member. You we giving appreciation to others so isn’t there any other thing you can give that person so that they know that the world bank gave them something?

I: The world bank first investigates before doing something so that time it had decided to give you titles. But now they haven’t yet decided what to do so I can’t tell you what they will do. Thanks for your time today.

1:35:25