Interviewer Name: Martin Nankunda

Interview date: 22/10/2019

Name of respondent: Abel

Household ID: 4610181

Title status: Joint title

Age: 49

Marital status: Married

No. of children: 6

No. of people living in the household: 6

Occupation: Farmer

Highest level of education: None

No. of years living in the village: 49

Roofing material: Iron sheets

Housing material: Mud and poles

Interview start time: 02:50 pm

Interview stop time: 04:24 pm

Interview Duration: 1:33:46

The interview took place outside the respondent’s home under the mango tree. He was welcoming and it went on well without any interruptions. They have a mud and poles house with iron sheets. Judging from the structure of their house and their source of income, they seem to be in between poor and middle income. They have one plot of land which the man inherited from his father and it is about 2 acres and was titled. They have a joint title because he was told that the land is for the family and he should have another person on the title. He suggested the son, but they insisted that he puts the wife. He wanted to refuse the title at some point, but the wife made him to accept the title

He is married and stays with the wife and their children and a relative to the wife. They have 6 children together but 3 stay in the house other are at school. They seem to have a happy marriage according to the man and they are cooperative and work together even the wife contributes to the school fees of their children. He believes that the joint title can reduce conflicts in the marriage because the land cannot he easily sold, and they must first agree about it with the wife. The husband got an accident and does not stand and walk properly.

**Warm-up**

I: Let me start by thanking you for your time today and you will forgive us for taking you from the work you were doing. So, how has been your day today?

R: The day has been ok; we are working as usual

I: How about yesterday?

R: Yesterday, was also ok

I: And the normal day what do you do?

R: I wake up and go to dig that my job

I: Do you dig the whole day?

R: No, like now it is time for weeding, if I weed in the millet, after like in the afternoon, I go to the beans and also weed there

I: Tell me about your village, what are the bad and good things about your village?

R: I do not see any good things except poverty that we have, our earning is very low, and it has taken us back very much so that what I know about this village

I: What are doing to fight this poverty?

R: It is basically trying and planting these crops like bean and coffee that is helping us much but otherwise the situation is not good. For example, I have a child that has gone to university and money is hard to get sometimes we have to take loans, there is even children that still in lower classes and they also need school fees so generally we are struggling

I: Which university is this child?

R: He is in Mbarara, have forgotten the name of the university

I: I see, it must be difficult for you

R: It is very difficult and as we speak, I might be working so hard like this because I already have a bank loan. That’s am working this hard so that every season I can pay their interest so that the bank does not arrest me

I: Have used the title to acquire such a loan?

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R: No

I: It has no problem because the title is now yours you can used any way you want

R: (respondent laughs) now if you have a title like this one it can help you get some money because if you want to get money from the bank without a land tile, it very difficult. Because the process of filling the forms then looking for signature, you might end up not getting the money but if you don’t be serious and default the money, they can take your land because they have your title and it is their money. it is not that you take a loan to just eat the money, you take a loan to pay like school fees and keep working hard to make sure that you pay the loan

I: So, where did you get the loan from?

R: I got it from Kashongi

I: Is it a Sacco?

R: Yes, for the farmers

I: So, how did it go to get this loan and how did you get?

R: It was not a lot of money, I only got 400,000 shilling and I do not want to lie to you, let me tell you the true because I did not use that title to get this loan. I went in another way and got the loan, but I said to myself that is my children are still studying, if I’m going to use the title to get a loan, it should not be in these small banks of ours. It need that you take it to well know bank and they give money that can help you, that’s why I decided to first use the alternative way of getting a loan. Good enough the children are still studying, and I will see what to do I the future

I: Which bank would you go to if you wanted to use your title?

R: What I don’t know if there are individual bank and government banks?

I: Yes, there individual banks and government bank but which ones do know that you take your title and get a loan?

R: I know rubindi and Kashongi, these are the only bank that I know

I: But rubindi and kashongi are also Saccos?

R: I don’t know they are the ones that I know

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R: So, do you have an account in any of these banks? I mean like having your name registered there and you save and borrow money from there?

R: Those one I do have an account there, I have it where I got the loan

**Background household structure and land ownership**

I: I would now like to ask you a few questions about your household and your land but first, how old are you?

R: I’m 49 years

I: Where did you study up to?

R: Me, I never went to school

I: Ok, how many people do you live with in this house?

R: You see some of the children are not here they are at school so do you want those that are here now? And we also have my wife’s relative

I: Ok, how many children all together do you have?

R: I have 6 children

I: Of the 6 children how many stays in this house?

R: There are 3 children

I: So, here it you, your wife and 3 children?

R: Yes

I: So, of the 3 that do not stay here, are they children who are already married and have their own families?

R: Among those children I have one girl and all the other children are boys, so the girl is in *Rubindi* and she is studying saloon work, the other one in Nakasongola district studying vocational studies and the first born is the one in Mbarara at the university

I: Ok, how long have you been living in this village?

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R: To tell you the truth I can know the years because they are many years from when I started understanding to when my father died, I have been in this village

I: So, you were born in this village?

R: Yes, all us are born in this village including my father, my grandfather has been in this village, they had land up there even it’s where they were buried is in this village up there although that place was bought by other people

I: When we were coming, they told that’s your brothers house

R: Yes, that is my younger brother’s house and the one next to it is my mother’s house, but the husband died so we only have our mother and she stays alone there

I: What about in this house, how long have you been leaving here?

R: I have been building houses and this is like the 3rd house but I have been living here for only 10 years

I: Where else have you been building and living?

R: No, I have been here only that, when the house gets old, I build another one for example, there, I had a kitchen but it got old and it was grass thatched so I have demolished it and build up there another one, even the houses, that is how I have been doing, the last one was down here and it go old and I built up here so I have been moving around in the same place but not shifting from one place to another

I: So, you build you own houses by yourself?

R: Yes

I: Ok, how many plots of land do you have then?

R: I only have one plot

R: So, how did you acquire this plot?

I: You see, we give birth to children and when we give birth of the child does not have not have a job in the government he can buy himself a quarter of land so most of us who have land in this village, it is inheritance from your parents. Before you father dies, he gives you land or if you marry, he gives you land that is how must of us have land in this village, so I got this land from my father

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I: Can you tell me how it all went to inherit this land from your father?

R: To get this land, I can explain it to you, we were 8 children, but we were only 3 boys. The 3 girls got married and I also wanted to marry and our father was still a live so when I married my wife, they showed my share and gave it to me and when my younger brother also married, he was also given his land and the other like that. But the girls got married and went to their families but also on the share of the land my father had left with, he gave them a share. they are in their families but they have their share of the land

I: How big is this plot?

R: It is like 1 and a half acres, and it where they gave the title

I: Was it all titled?

R: Yes, the whole if was titled

I: So, what activities do you do on this land?

R: What I do on this land, you see it is not very big but I have coffee where I get most of my income but the banana plantation as you see it you cannot get a bunch of matooke and you sell it the important thing is to get what to eat but the banana plantation does gives any income. We have surviving on cassava, but it has also not been going well recently maybe the millet that we are weeding

I: During the coffee season, how much coffee can you get?

R: It also not much because I get like 2 sacks of dry coffee

I: the 100kg sacks?

R: Yes, and dry coffee

I: And how big is the coffee plantation

R: It form here to down there and then stretches the other side and back and I think it is just quarter an acre because I have there like 100 coffee trees. I would plant more coffee but where will get land to plant millet and beans to feed the children

I: Do you have like workers on your land?

R: No, now workers to do what? Workers also work for you when you have things for them to do

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on your land for example if you have like cows and they look after them or if you have money to pay them but for you we work on our land ourselves

**General land**

I: Thank you for explaining this so far, I would like to ask you about land in general. How do people come to own land in this village?

R: like I had told you most people inherit land from their fathers in this village and there are other who buy land for example, if you fail to raise school fees you can decide to sell your land but if you have a land title like me you cannot sell land according to what they taught us, that even when you want to give a small piece of the land to your children you must first go to *Kamukuzi* in lands otherwise if you buy land with a title, you have bought nothing but those without land titles they can sell the land whenever they want

I: Who taught that land with the title cannot be sold?

R: Those ones that visited us to give us the land titles, we asked them that now that you have give us the title, it is like people fear the land title, what if you are poor or you have a problem and you want to sell like quarter an acre, what can you do? They told us that it has no problem, you can go to *kamukuzi* and they come and change the stones and remove the part that you want to sell

I: You have told me that you cannot plant more coffee because you will have nowhere to plant other crops, but can you get land that you do not own elsewhere in this village and plant there

R: Yes, it can happen, you can rent land elsewhere and dig

I: Tell about the process of renting land in this village?

R: If you want to rent land in this village, they can charge you 60,000 shillings for one season and if you harvest your crops after that season and you want to plant again you pay another 60,000 shilling and after like 2 seasons the owner of the land can stop renting the land and you go elsewhere

I: So, do you make agreements for renting land?

R: No, we do not make agreements

I: But is it common in this village for people to rent land elsewhere?

R: Most people in this village almost all of us rent land elsewhere and plant their crops there for

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example, those gardens that you see up there, it was someone’s farm but the stays in *Rubindi* so he came and rented out all that land to other people at 60,000 shillings each. If he wants them to plant there for one season, they will leave at the end of the season because there is not enough land that you can plant in only your land

I: What about land for rent is it available?

R: Yes, if you have money, you cannot fail to get land for rent

I: Can a person use land that he does not own but don’t pay rent?

R: A person that can give you land for free is maybe your relative if he feels pity for you

I: Is it common that a relative can give land?

R: No, it is not common because that also is done by someone who have big land but a person like me with the small land that I have, I’m also renting, I cannot give land to somebody else

I: So, did you rent land this season?

R: Yes, where I have the millet, I have rented that land

I: does your wife also rent land elsewhere and cultivate

R: Yes, she also rent land elsewhere

I: Do you rent separate plots of land?

R: No, we rent together

I: Do you need to consult anyone to sell your land?

R: Yes, because if your neighboring people and you want to sell land to consult them because it is then that makes the agreement and put emigorora for the person that is buying land to avoid problems in the future. They have to sign for you on the agreement and the buyer can know his boundaries to the land and they seller get his money and the people who sign the agreement also get money

I: When making agreement the people who sign get paid?

R: Yes, they give them some money but not a lot just like 5000 shillings

I: Who pays this money.

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R: The buyer and the seller and the seller contributed and pay this money. if they are like ten people who were present in making the agreement, you give them money for putting the emigorora on the boundaries of the land and for signing the agreement just to appreciate them and I case there is a problem in the future on the land, you can call them and they help you to identify the boundaries of your land

I: like the other person who stays in Rubindi you told me about how does he maintain control of his land?

R: If you do not stay on the land you can have there your relatives to keep an eye on the land for example, if I wanted to go somewhere from here, will my brother also go? I can leave the land with him and go and if come back I can have my land again or my mother can be there but when I have gone to work elsewhere

I: So, what happens when a person wants to use this land?

R: You see these days there are phones are everywhere they can call you and see if you can allow them to rent the land to other people and get some money, if you say no, he can not rent the land but if you say yes in the morning you can have people to rent your land

I: what does family land mean to you?

R: family land is land for the whole family for example you see that I have a wife and children, if I want to do my own things and be there and I bring buyers to this land without but my wife does not agree, I cannot sell this land, and is the buyer insists and buys the land without the wife’s signature, he will have bought air because the land is for the family especially if someone has a land title then that land is family land because if the man dies, it is the woman that has authority over this land and if she also dies, it is the children that take over the land according to how they taught us. If the older child is there, he is the one that can have authority on behalf of all the children

I: What if the older child was a girl can she have authority over this land?

R: Yes, she can have authority because they are all children

I: Before you had a title, did you have anything to show that you own this land?

R: No, I did not have maybe because it was given to us by our father and he put for us the emigorora and I have been living here for long that is what showed that I own this land

I: What ways can show ownership of the land?

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R: The real proof of ownership is the title or if after buying the land you can have an agreement with the seller and if you ask me that proof of ownership I have I can give the agreement with the signature of the people

I: What is the difference between a title and an agreement?

R: The difference is like this; the agreements were for the old people and for back in the days but now you go with the “system” that is there because if you see like these rich people like my neighbor here, he can go to lands and pays money and get his land title and a person who does not have money does not have proof ownership of the land because I want to explain to you the truth as it is, for example, like us who got land from our fathers, they do not gives any document they just measure for you your land and give you

I: There any other difference between a title and an agreement?

R: The difference is there because the agreements can be duplicated but the title is original, and it is from higher offices because the agreements are written using the pen, but the title is printed by a machine

I: In this village, do people fear losing their land?

R: You see, you are not the first person to come here. these things had come before, and I think their “system” failed and people knew that these people want to steal people’s land. But later after some years, other people came, and we asked them if they were the same people that came before and they said they we back and they had worked on their “system” and they told us there was no problem, they did not want to steal our land. They told us that it is the world bank that is looking for poor people to help them and give them land titles and teach about the agriculture and how to use the land and in the end we agree with them and signed and those who refused had their right. When they told us that we would get titles we asked them that for us who do not have money to even buy more land and add on the land that we have, how will we afford bring “surveyors” to brings us stones? They told us that we are lucky and will get free titles and each village 5 people were chosen and if you did not want, they did not force you only the those who agreed were visited. But whenever they would come, you could see people worried and our wives were also worried and those that were not visited kept saying that our land would be stolen because there can be a free land title. and they gave us bars of soap every time they came and told us it was help from the world bank and they want to give titles so that our land is not stolen and to reduce conflicts in the families. So, when we there after a few months the surveyors came with stone in the car and I even sat in their car and took them to Posiano’s place. They had these big cars that I had never seen, and they got their machines and looked through them and started putting stones. And people got scared that even their land would be stolen but for me I thought

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that the government cannot steal from a poor man like yet there are other rich people with land and without titles. but people said that they are looking for where to start from and steal everyone’s land and they almost killed us, that why did we accept? That those machines that they are seeing through, will capture the whole village and land will be stolen. But we said that if it is a government program, why can’t we be involved, because when they came, they came with the subcounty chiefs and other leaders in the community and we wondered how can people steal land using government leaders unless if it was the government that wanted to steal from it’s people

I: But are people now afraid of losing their land?

R: Me I’m not afraid because I ask other people that are educated and they told me that I got an opportunity of a life time but now what has scared me is that you have separated us and we cannot know what the others are saying (respondent laughs)

I: You should not afraid. But before the titling people came, were people afraid of losing their land

R: I had not finished for you, after they had finished putting stones for us, people kept saying that it was like selling you land and they give you an agreement but the titles will never come as we were still there, the phone rang that they wanted to come and bring us the title. there came two men and they were also different, and you are also new because I have never seen you. They did not ask me much, they told that they have my title. they gave us the title and we both signed and they took our photo and told us that they had done their part and we should keep our title safe and in case of anything, we should go to *kamukuzi* when they people new that we had gotten the titles because I was the first one to get and even Posiano has not yet gotten his, people said that the titles are fake and they will still take land

I: I would like to know if people where afraid of losing the land before the that titling people came or even now

R: Yes, people were afraid because every time you listened to the radio, you could hear that people are being chased out of their land in Buganda but they got it long, the people that were being chanced out of the land were people who shifted from here and bought land in Buganda where there is milo land. Because most people sold land here and went to buy bigger land in Buganda but bought milo land

I: What does milo land mean?

R: Milo land means land with a title that was there long time ago or when there was still Ankole

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kingdom so the land with a title is milo land for example if a person comes and buy my land now not knowing that I have a land title maybe when am dead and my son sell it to him. another son can remove this person from the land because it is milo land it has a title

**Baseline awareness of titles**

I: Thank you for explaining this to me, I get the picture, but I still want to ask more about titles. what does it mean to have a title?

R: A title mean security for you land and it does not mean that if you have a small piece of land you cannot get a land title. If you have like 3 quarters of an acre of land, and you get a title it can help if you have like 8 children and you are hardworking, it can help you get money to educate you children as you can work and pay back but if you do not have a title, that land cannot give school fees for children because you cannot plant there beans and get money to pay school fees

I: You have told that when they brought the title you and your wife both signed?

R: Yes, we both signed because both our names were put on the title

I: So, was a condition that you should put her name on the title?

R: they told that this land is family land and if you die you should have a person you can leave this land with and be put on the title and I told them that I have my son and he was even present that day and they said no, that you son can not go on the title when you have a wife that you marriage and is yours and later your title will go like this, whoever dies first the other person has authority over that land so you should put your wife because the children, it is you and your that look after them and control them

I: So, what has changed in your life since you got this title?

R: There is nothing much that has changed but there is something that I think will change in the future with this title because like I had told you, I could not get this title and put it in small banks without first understanding the rules of a title and I fail to pay the money and you find that this are bad. So, I decided that let me first you the other way and see if I can handle and now, I know I can handle, and my son has just begun university it is not even a year. So that how am going to get helped because my land cannot educate a child at university and he completes, it will already be finished now what about these in lower classes and thy said this title has to be kept well because you see our house, if some one steals it then you would have lost you land so even if you do not want to borrow from the bank, should take it there and they keep for your

I: So, where have you kept your title?

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R: I have kept it the bank and if I wants to get a loan in that bank it would be easy

I: Is where you got the loan from?

R: No, that is a small bank

I: So, you have kept it in a bigger bank?

R: Yes

I: Do you have an account in that bank?

R: No,

I: Which bank is that?

R: We I just went to a bank I do not know

I: Or you think I want to there and get it?

R: No, (respondent laughs)

I: I cannot get from there; they cannot even give it to me if am not the owner

R: No, I have forgotten the name of the back

I: It ok, but why do you think other me chose not to include their wives on the title?

R: I depends but why wouldn’t you include a woman that have been for 30 years, you have children, so why shouldn’t you include her yet you all have authority on that land maybe if you refuse to include her out of the anger that the woman has not given birth to children but still in that laws if the woman has not given birth to children and she takes you court, you pay her for the time she has been with you. That is how I hear them on radio but like my wife that now we are married and have children, I know that I can die faster than her and she “takes over” and keep in the children so that why I should include her name. That’s why I have told you that for example, I got this land from my father but she has authority on this land because, if I want to sell his land without her signature the government can listen, the buyer would have bought air

I: Even when you did not have a title, she must sign for you to sell this land?

R: Yes, because she has authority on this land even when she is not on the title

I: when did these laws start that when a woman does not sign you do not sell the land?

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R: These things started when Museven came into power that is when they started because before he came into power, the woman would never share on the husband’s land. But now, you separate with your wife and she stands on her 2 legs and you must share this land because they ask you how many hears you have been with her and the children you have and they ask you she has been cooking, washing and taking care of you for nothing

I: But do think that women should share on their husbands’ land after separation?

R: It is not good but if it a law there is nothing you can do about it, but a woman should not take your father’s land

I: But she has also been working on that land like you have said, cooking, washing etc.

R: Yes, she is also working and it is what I have told you since this “system” came, we all had receive it because the women you see, the president loves so much because they vote him and that is why he has been winning and even me I can’t say anything again the president. She will say he gave them freedom and she can even beat you for example, if you become and drunkard and you do not pay school for children, she can report you and they give some canes

I: Has this happened in this village?

R: Yes, we hear about them (respondent laughs)

I: So, where do women report such cases?

R: To the police or the LC

I: Ok, before you met the titling people, are there people who had land titles?

R: In this village, to know that there land that has a title, there was a man called Rwebishaka he is the treasure to the LC, he brought surveyors and they put stones in the land but up now he has never got his title, there is another man there, he also brought them but he died before getting the title and also my older cousin he is the head master in *Rubindi* he also brought them and they put stones but still years have passed and they are paying money but they have never seen a land title. This rich neighbor of mine also has stones in his land but I don’t if he has a title

I: What ways can a person go through to get a land title?

R: you get in contact with the lands people that work on the titles, you bring them after paying them and they put for the stones and you wait for the title

I: What do you think people in this village think about land titles

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R: All people want the titles, but they know that a land title requires a lot of money and they do not have the money

I: How much do they think that they need to get a land title?

R: I don’t know but I think it is a lot of money like 1 million

**Intra-household discussions and bargaining**

I: Thank you for explaining this so far. In the next topic, I would like to ask you about your marriage and the discussions you could have had with your wife. How long have you been living with your wife?

R: We are now in 30 years of marriage

I: Tell me about your 30 years of marriage, what are the good and bad?

R: The good thing about this marriage that I see is having been able to have children and raising them together and being able to work together for our family because I see that when I do not have enough money for school fees, she can also bring the money and we put it together and pay school fees. She does not leave everything to me, and I also do not leave everything to her, so we work together for our family because the children are both ours

I: Are you officially married?

R: Yes

I: Do you feel that you support and encourage your wife?

R: I encourage her and work with her in everything that we do

I: Can you give me an example of how you support your wife?

R: If I was not supporting her would not have found me here in the garden with her working. You would have asked the children and they tell that he is at the bar in the trading center or you would have found we here sleeping and she is alone in the garden weeding but for me, in good or bad were are together and I support her and that how I love her so that she does not over work

I: Do you feel supported by your wife? How?

R: Yes, I have told you about school fees that she also contributes and as you see me here I have a problem because I was knocked by a car and my wife took care of me until I got better, if she

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was not supporting me, she would not have done it.

I: So, why do you think other couples do not feel supported by their partners?

R: What causes this is when your wife sees that you are a drunkard and you do not work and her children are at home without school fees yet other people’s children are at school studying or if she plants her beans and you steal them and sell and take the money to the bar she cannot support you but if you don’t steal her things and you work for her she keeps loving you as the husband and you also love her as the husband even when you are poor, you can agree together and work together

I: What are some of the things that women do that show that they do not support their husbands?

R: There is where you find the man is hard working and when you marry a woman you want her to help but there is when you marry a woman and she knows that she is the wife and you are the husband and she thinks that everything must be done by the man and she forgets that she should help the man most women help their husbands and a few do other things

I: You have told me that you work together with your wife but who makes major decisions for your household?

R: There a proverb that says that the shoulder is never each to the head so for me, even if my wife supports me but am the head of the house if I say that I do not want something they should know that they should not do it but the woman should not say that you man, I do not want this thing because, it is not that I’m blaming women but women see things that are near but men see things that are far. For example, like now am poor but if I get some money the woman might start jumping around that am now rich yet the money is not there after sometime because I can that the money is fading yet for her she might think the money is coming.

I: But why is she allowed to say that she does not want something?

R: She can say she does not want something, but she cannot decide that is should not be done that’s what I meant

I: So, what happens if she tells you she does not want something?

R: We discuss it and if it does not help that family then it can stop

I: Talking of discussions, did you did discuss with you wife about the names to be included on the title

R: Yes

01:01:17

I: How did it start and how did it go?

R: I thought that these things would fail because of my wife because when people talked against it process, she did not mind about, she was very ok with it, but me I had wanted to refuse but what made accept, there is when they came and I was not around and when I can back she told me that the titling people had come. I asked what they wanted, and she told me that it was ok they wanted to come and put stones on the land and there is nothing to worry because someone told her that they will not steal the land, and she signed and that we they come back they need to find both of us. So, I said that since she had already signed and they need husband and wife, and I refuse and something happens in the future, should she blame me for it? I decided to join my wife

I: So, what do you think this title means to you and your marriage?

R: It means security for our land for your children

I: But what does is change about your marriage since her name is included on the title?

R: the title, it is to accept like we have both our names on it and it protects our land because it is just and I thinks it needs people who agree together and if you don’t agree with your family and one of them can steals it for example your child or your wife, so that title can reduce conflicts in the marriage and among children

I: How does it reduce conflicts in the marriage?

R: Because you have to know that the children of today are “dot com” children, he will drink his alcohol and come and ask you for his share of the land because you were also given the land by your father, I can kill you and all that, and you do not have a land title, you will be forced to get quarter an acre and git it to him and he sell its and goes away. Now, what the title helps me is that even if I give that quarter an acre, you will not be able to sell it because the land is for the family so that what is important to include her name on the title

I: Are there any bad thing about including the woman’s name on the title?

R: The problem is like this, we have a title and the woman put on the title, you are going to wake up and have disagreements in that home and have fights and women are hot tempered and after the fight she can get title and hide and that’s where other problems will start from but other wise it would not be a problem to have the title in both names

I: What can she do anything with it if she takes away?

01:06:17

R: That title has it’s rules she can use it alone but again, when I think about it, even when I dies she will have that title, even the children know she has the title because it was given to us when they are old and it is for land for your children and a mother cannot steal from her children so even when am not there the children will ask her for their title

**Gender norms around land**

I: In the next topic I would like to ask you about land especially the norms around land and we understand that most land is owned by men in Uganda, there are some aspects to this system that we’d like to understand especially concerning women. We do not have an opinion on the them but we would like to know what you think about this subject and there are no right or wrong answers. Do women own land in this village?

R: No, there are is no woman that has land in this village to be truthful

I: What about women you have lost their husbands and they own the land now?

R: Yes, those ones are there for example my mother there

I: What about woman who but land together with their husbands?

R: Yes, they work together sell their harvest and they buy quarter an acre of land, but they are also very few because most people in this village have inherited land from their parents

I: What about women who have inherited land from their parents?

R: No, I do not see any of them because they sell the land and buy near their husband

I: Are there woman who have sold their inheritance and bought land in this village?

R: No, there are not there in this village because I have not seen any woman who has bought land in this village

I: But do you think women should be allowed to have there their own land in this village?

R: Let me first ask you, if she has her own money why can she buy her own land? If she has money she can buy land and you find that and have her agreement in her names and you do not have authority over her land for example, my wife is on my land but if she gets her own money and buy her own land and know it is her and even this one is also her land

I: So, does your wife have her own land?

01:10:31

R: no, she does not have

I: didn’t she get land from her parents?

R: No, her parents are still alive

I: Are widows allowed to stay on the land after their husbands die?

R: Yes, they stay on the land because I have an example of my mother. If the husbands die the widows stay on that land and there are there in this village and have all stayed on their land

I: Can a widow stay on the land even when they do have children?

R: That one can depend because if the family of the husband is there and they accept that the woman can stay on the land even if she did not have our children but if the family decide that she did not have our child and she cannot stay on the land then she can go

I: What if they are officially married and before they have children the man dies, can she stay on the land?

R: The family can want to enter her because she did not have their child but if she is married, she has authority to stay on that land

I: Let’s say that you bought land before marriage, does it make a difference where the woman can stay on that land if the husband dies?

R: If you bought land before marriage and marry and have children, if you die the land becomes for you wife and the children even if you have your brothers, they cannot chase her away from that land

I: Has happened in this village that relatives of the husband chase away the widow from the land?

R: They are there and we hear about them but in this village it is not there but is common where families are not united for example if the man dies had his property, the brother might want to forcefully remarry the widow and when the widow refuses, he starts telling lies about her that she brings other men to the brother land so that she gets frustrated and leave the land and they take the land

I: I thought forced marriages within the family was for long time ago?

R: Even now it’s there but most women refuse. And a wise woman if she already has her

01:14:20

children and the husband left her with things you cannot force to remarry a brother to the husband these days, she is busy looking after her children she is not into that. But if the woman is not wise, she can do that, and you find that the things that she made with husband are being eaten by other people

I: But do widows remarry sometimes?

R: widows do not get married but instead they are one that can marry men for example, it the man family is no big, the widow can look for a man and she marries his if she has the property that the husband left her but if she has the husband’s family, it can chase the man away from that land and sometimes they can even chase that woman because she is not supposed to bring another man on that land. For example, I married my wife, we are wedded, but if we separate, she can go to her father’s place and I can not go there to get the dowry that I paid but I can wait and she gets another man to marry her, that man can give back the things that I paid as dowry to my wife

I: I did not know about that

R: Yes that how it is, if she stays at her father’s place without getting married, even if she has affairs you cannot get your thing back but she gets a man like and you marry her, that man can pay the dowry that I paid

I: Is that if you are officially married only?

R: Yes, if you are officially married to your wife

I: What are some of the reasons why widows remarry?

R: There are women whose husbands die when they are still young that is why she might still want a man

I: In this village is there a widow who has remarried or married herself?

R: No, that has not happened in this village

I: But has the treatment of widows changed if you compare it with the past?

R: Yes, it has changed

I: How has it changed?

R: Now the widow, you can not enter her land or business like in the past because widows now

01:19:16

have authority, it is the widows in the past that they used to disturb but today, even if she has one child, she can stay on her land without any problem because if you disturb her and the authorities come, she can win you and there is nothing you can do about it

I: So, what do you think has caused this change?

R: what has caused this change is this governance that we have because like my wife I can joke about her and she also feels proud about it, you hear them saying that what can you do about me the Museven woman? They say it all the time. Even at the mans burial the chairpersons of the LCs are always there and the speeches that they give, they talk about these things, that the land is for the widow she should left alone to take care of her children and the relative are not allowed to disturb her and everyone knows that the widow has authority

I: You told that if a woman separates with the husband, they can share the land?

R: What happens is that the government and come into this issue and it is the one that can divide that land for these people if they had children

I: but in your view, what do you think should happen to the widow if they separate with husband?

R: What I would want, but it also depends, you might do something, and I get angry and I do not want you to have anything of mine like if I found you with another man

I: What if it is you who’s in wrong?

R: you see our understanding is different, you can marry a wife who has more understanding that you or you have more than her but if I make a mistake and we separate, she can have a share of the thing that we have worked for together

I: Can she have the children for example?

R: If we separate, it does not mean that you take away my children the problem all the old people that would advise us have all died but if you disagreed with your wife and she went back to her home, you can not spend 3 days without going to get her. So, you get some people and go to her father’s place and everyone gives their story. It is the old people that will determine who is in wrong. If you go to you father in-law and the wife wins, you must pay a fine after paying that fine you get back you wife and everyone knows that you lost but that how it used to be only that we are all youth and no one can settle things

**Land disputes**

01:25:30

I: I would like to ask you about land disputes in this next topic. What is the common cause of land disputes?

R; It is one thing, selling land when you are a man without agreeing with you wife in the family and also with the neighbor for example if you have *omugorora* like here and he removes and puts it there, it can also cause land disputes.

I: what was the last time there was a land dispute in this village?

R: I have not seen any land dispute in this village

I: Not even someone removing someone’s *omugorora*?

R: Recently, I have not seen but they used to happen long time ago like 5 or 10 years back but today everyone knows their boundaries

I: What is that people have done to make sure that they do not have land disputes?

R: Like I have told you most people that have land in this village, it was their fathers land, and they know where everyone’s boundary is, and we have not had people trying to enter other people’s land

I: What about having like cows and they destroy someone’s crops?

R: There owner of the cows pays for the crops but there are no disputes

I: What do you think should be done to help people who have problems with land security?

R: They can help them to also get land titles

I: So, what happens when there is a land dispute?

R: like I have told you about *emigorora*, the chairman LC 1 comes and they resolve the issue the this one should pays here and they put there omugorora and mark properly the boundaries of that land and if you disagree you continue to the paris and the subcounty like that

I: Have you ever have any disagreements on land?

R: I have never had any disagreements because the neighbors that I have all grow up from this place and have stayed on this land with our fathers and most of them are my relatives the only problem would be this rich man here but he is also never there

I: So, whom do you were are?

01:30:34

R: I don’t know where you’re from I see different people all the time

I: whom do you think gave you the title?

R: I don’t know but I think it is a program for the government, but the world bank is the one giving this help

I: do you have any questions?

R: Make me understand, because our hearts are not stable because every day you came, we see different people with your computers, and we worry for our land

I: I can tell you that the land title is yours, the land is yours and nobody will take your land

R; Are you sure?

I: Yes, am very sure

R: So, should we continue and vote for the man

I: I don’t much about politics

R: Something that has come from the government and the world bank what else do we want?

I: Anyway, thank you for your time.

01:33:46