**INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT**

Interviewer Name: Fiona Atukunda

Interview date: 15/10/2019

Name of respondent: Mackline

H.H I. D: 4680221

Title status: Solo title

Interview start time: 9:00 am

Interview stop time: 10:53 am

Age: 43 but not sure

Marital status: Married

No. of children:8

No. of people living in the household: 6

Occupation: Farmer

Second source of income: sells coffee when it is in season and mushrooms

Highest level of education: Primary 2

No. of years living in the village: 31

Roofing material: Iron sheets

Housing material: Mud, cement, poles and a rammed earth floor

Interview Duration: 1:53:28

The interview happened in the respondent’s compound. Their house is made of mud, poles, with cement on the outer part and they have iron sheets for the roofing. Asked about titling, she told me that her husband had a group of bad influence who told him that he shouldn’t add her on the title because a woman shouldn’t be added on the land title. They had issues earlier this year whereby the man got a loan and used the title and he disappeared for a while then he returned home mad. He has been sick since April and has just started regaining his senses, he brought back the title and the woman paid the loan but she took the title from him and hid it because she can’t allow to see their land go away like that. The man has been having a habit of getting loans and using their land as leverage since he is on the title alone yet that money wouldn’t benefit them as a family. She has been the bread winner for this whole year taking care of the husband and paying the school fees for their children. They look to be poor and struggling even though they have some land. She said that she can’t quantify it because she doesn’t know but it is about 5 acres. They do farming but she hasn’t done it in a while because all the money she would get, she would take care of the husband’s medication and had no time to employ workers or dig for herself so she just cultivated small gardens and picked their coffee. She was conversant, open and warm. She received us well, we had no interruptions whatsoever.

She lives with her husband, 3 children and 1 grandchild. The other children are boarding school while others moved on with their lives currently. The land they are on was given to the husband as a share from his father after he died. She sells mushrooms and crops like beans, groundnuts and millet when harvested as a source of income. The husband would travel and work in people’s farms in other districts as his source of income. Her marriage doesn’t look stable as she kept on telling me about cases of witchcraft from the husband’s brother against her family and children but she decided to go into prayer for her husband to be well. She doesn’t look happy, she seems to be burdened with her children who are now mostly in high school, and all this responsibility falls on her alone as of now.

**Warm up**

I: How was yesterday?

R: It ended but the rain has been so much it rained the whole day yesterday so if you are not wise and store food you will spend the day hungry. You can’t go to the banana plantation during the rain or go to the garden to get cassava, you must have planned earlier and got them before.

I: Oh yes. You can’t go anywhere.

R: These days the banana plantations got uprooted because of some pest. If you don’t have millet or cassava or if you have bought maize flour you will go hungry. So the way God does his things, it stopped raining.

I: At what time?

R: At 2:30 pm, I didn’t go to the garden after but before it rained I had planted some sweet potatoes. We had some millet flour so I made porridge and we ate. I stayed here and cleaned up in the sides of the house clearing the grass.

I: How about this morning, how has it started?

R: It started well, I just have one problem, they are sending back my child from school. It is disturbing me.

I: Where does she study from?

R: One is in Rwera and the other is Nyarukika. One is boarding and the other comes back home. I have been calling my uncle to help me but he is also telling me that he has no money. If they send her back, it is far to get here, that is transport doubled which is 10,000 shillings. To look for other money to take her back plus the fees is costly, I asked him to at least send me 20,000 shillings and he talks to the headmaster telling him that these days it is me doing everything for the home since my husband got sick so that they allow her do the exams.

I: Is your uncle your helper these days or there is a special relationship you have with him?

R: My husband fell sick so I have to look all sides to make ends meet.

I: What is he sick of?

R: He ran mad.

I: How did this happen?

R: We were there, then he wanted to get a loan so he took the title form the house and carried it as leverage. When I was there sleeping, I prayed because ever since I got married to him, he has never given me a cloth or something and now if they take this land, that means me and my children will be chased away. I prayed for 3 days and fasted, as I was there I saw the person he had the title to get a loan. I told my daughter whom I gave my phone that your father got a loan,

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from Able Sacco and now he took the title it is not in the house and he wants to get another loan to pay the other so we shall fail. We just prayed and said let us wait and see what happens. On 1st April, we were there and my son was chopping firewood, he cut his toe so I took him to the centre to get it dressed and we came back later. He later told me that his father had returned but was looking terrible. I went and looked for him inside the house but I couldn’t find him. I came back and asked him if he was sure because I didn’t find him in the house, he told me he is there but he is smelling like he spent 2 weeks sleeping in a bush. I went back in the house and called him but no one was answering me. I told the children to serve food, later at about 8:30 pm, he came out of the house and I realized later that he was under the bed all the while. He came holding his stomach saying we should close the house because people were coming to hurt us, I got a rope and tied him to the bed, we prayed and slept. In the morning I asked him, he told me people are coming to kill him because of a loan and other things that were not making sense then he would speak sense again. I called my children and the 2 children he had before we got married, but none of them came here to see their father or send me some money.

I: Where do these children stay?

R: One is in Kampala and the other is in Masaka. The older son has 3 children and the daughter has 6 children. I used to tie him in the house and close all the doors then I go to work. The loan people would come and I would tell them that he has never come back yet he was here. I went to the chairman to report myself one day, when we came the house was wide open, he had gone. I went back to the chairman and he told people in the village to look for him. My husband had gone to the chairman so he tied him in a house and when I came, I called our marriage god father and a person from the charismatic. When they opened for him, he had excreted on himself and I cleaned him, put him on a motorcycle and we went for prayers. I went to the witch doctor but he didn’t tell me anything that made sense so I went back into prayers at Mirama and he got better. I got people to give me money so that I pay his debts but I was told that I would need my husband’s approval on a letter and the title which I was advised to photocopy and give there a duplicate copy and keep the original. The people told my husband that he was sick, he didn’t have any animals to sell and yet the wife was struggling to get money for him and the children; he told us who had the title and he went and got it after 3 days and gave it to me. But the time had passed for me to get money but I went and met someone who gave me 2 million shillings without the title, we had an agreement and I repaid all his debts. I stole the title and hid it away, where I had put it, he found it and also picked it from there. I also found it again and stole it again and hid it away, when he asked me I told him that I had kept it at my sister’s place in Kamwengye and if he wanted it, I told him to give me transport to go there and I pick it. He called my children and they also called me abusing me, but I told them that if they knew that I was their mother then let them leave me and trust me or go ask whoever they think is their mother about this title. I decided to keep it away until I die, that is when they will find it.

I: When he got sick and you went to seek for medication, did they tell you what the problem was?

R: Yes, his brother sold his land and finished it, he has done witch craft to kill his brother my husband. The day they brought stones to mark this land, he came and told me that though I had not gone to school I was wise and I had finished him. They are two brothers only that their father gave birth to.

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Even my children not coming or sending me money to look after their father, he is the one doing all that because they work and get money. I just pray for long life and work over them. They say that suffering doesn’t mean death, I know that all this will end one day. When you keep praying and God doesn’t find you in any revenge plans then he fights for you. Had not it been for God, this man wouldn’t be alive as of now.

I: That was a real battle, welcome back from it. It wasn’t easy I see.

R: And to tell you the truth, I will never leave my children and my husband even if he is to excrete on himself every day, I will take care of him. I decided to stay in marriage with one heart to make it work, I last got a cloth form my husband when I had just got married, only my children help me and send me clothes. My older son finished senior 6 but I couldn’t move him ahead he stopped there, the next one also stopped in senior 4 and stopped there as well.

I: How many children do you have with your husband?

R: We have 5 girls and 3 boys. 3 other children passed away. I thank God for my children because many people are there crying to give birth but me I was blessed with all these children. For example, my older sister, she has 4 children, she wasn’t lucky as me who had 11 children.

I: They are all old?

R: Yes, but not all are married, there are some that I live with here.

I: How many are they that you live with here?

R: There is a mother of this grandchild who went to get married and she failed so she came back and after 1 week, the wife to my husband’s brother said somewhere that if I see that whenever my daughter is going to get married and the men want to do a party it doesn’t happen then why do I think it is like that. I told whoever she told to go and tell her that her children are free to get married, God will remember me too. We were born 18 of us at my home but currently we are only 4 of us living and there is nothing we have given God to live and there is nothing my siblings that passed away did to deserve death.

I: In total, how many people are you that live in this household?

R: We are 6 of us, 3 children, 1 grandchild, my husband and I.

I: What class did you study up to?

R: Primary 2

I: How old are you?

R: I have 43 years but people of old used to take long to baptize children and they would also take long to pick the baptism card for the sub county office. When they were going to baptize me, that is when they gave me age and yet I was already old, so I count using that age.

I: You think you are older than that?

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R: I am older than that age but I don’t know how many years.

I: What activities do you do that give you money?

R: I cultivate and grow crops. No like these mushrooms when I get them, I dry them and sell them. For a black polythene bag, they give me 30, 000 shillings but now it is 25,000 shillings. Of recent, I had given my daughter to go and sell and they were giving her 15,000 shillings but I refused and told her to bring them back. I will get a gracious person maybe from Kampala who will give me more money and I pay for my children’s school fees.

I: It thought that mushrooms grow by themselves, is there a way you take care of yours so that they keep growing?

R: Not really, they grow by themselves in different places in our land. They had sent my daughter form school and the next day I found a whole anthill full of mushrooms. I sold for 30,000 shillings, she used 10,000 for transport and paid the 20,000 as school fees out of the 200,000 shillings that they pay for a term.

I: This is a blessing. So today you have seen them.

R: I saw them yesterday, I had gone to visit my mother to check on and she was asking how my husband is doing and we are having thanksgiving on Friday. I left her home on Sunday, in the morning on Monday, I went there at the gardens at about mid-day and found the mushrooms there.

I: What other things do you grown that you sell?

R: I grow beans and ground nuts and get money but this season because my husband has been sick, I don’t have many gardens.

I: You haven’t planted anything?

R: I have been spending my days running around with him, I just planted some little beans and millet.

I: Thanks for telling me about this. How long have you lived here?

R: I have spent here 31 years in marriage

I: Before you came here, where were you living?

R: My birth home is in Ibanda.

I: How often do you go back home?

R: I go to see my mother.

I: After how long do you go there?

R: After my husband got sick, I spend about 4 to 5 months. Sometimes I spend a year.

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I just call her on phone, I have my sister whose marriage failed so she lives there with her and visits me and tells me how our mother is. If she is sick, I go with her to the hospital.

I: The longest period you take is a year, otherwise you talk to her on phone.

R: Yes.

I: As a woman, do you have land that you own?

R: No, the one I was given home, my brothers misused it and ate it away.

I: Your father divided the land when he was still alive.

R: No, they gave us shares after his death.

I: How many boys did you have?

R: They were 4 and one was murdered by someone, so most of the land we sold it away trying to argue his case. They had taken the person who murdered him to prison. And you know cases need money yet our father had passed on.

I: Why did they murder him?

R: When you have someone’s debt and they decide to take you out. Now if someone has my husband’s money and because his head is not stable, he can murder you. That is how the other person was also. But after taking him to prison and checking his brain later, they found out that he wasn’t mad, he did what he did with intent to kill. He was in prison for 7 years so when Museveni came into power that is when he also left prison.

I: They had given both boys and girls their share of land.

R: Yes. After, they gave me my brother’s land who had given me away into marriage, he had eft me with two orphans. They boy died and the girl remained, so I left the land for this girl since am married now.

I: How big was it?

R: It was an acre and they kept selling it off without my knowledge and now it has remained only a quarter acre and the daughter of my late brother is on it with her child. I can’t begin to take this land away from her because it was my share. Being an orphan, I left it for her.

I: Is there land that you have with your husband?

R: They put it in the title. It is really big land I don’t know the exact measure. I can estimate about 5 acres.

I: Is it all together as one piece?

R: There is someone in the middle here but they moved and they out it in the title.

I: for this piece of land, do you have a writing to show ownership?

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R: We got it from our father in law

I: He divided for his sons.

R: They are 2 boys and he gave them the same share but he sold his land and finished it. They also gave their girls.

I: Do you have approved shares on this land?

R: It is for my husband; I don’t have a signature on it. The title he out into his name and added his child our third born.

I: So do they all have signatures there or it is him alone?

R: He is the only one who put a signature, but he added my grandchildren and my children there even though he has his older children that were for another wife before I came into the home.

I: He put how many children on there?

R: My 8 children and our two grandchildren.

I: He added all these children and grand children but didn’t add you his wife, why do think he did this?

R: I didn’t sign, he put his name alone.

I: The land that they received, was it before their father’s death or?

R: They divided for them after their father had died. He left a will.

I: So this land belongs to your husband.

R: Yes.

I: A part from you and your husband, is there any other person that works on this land?

R: No, it is only us that cultivate it.

**General land**

I: In this part Mama, we are going to talk about land in general, yours and for others inclusive. In general, how do people acquire land in this village?

R: They get it from their parents, uncles, aunties or mother in a will left by their father. Others buy land. My father in law had bought his land and he had his agreement, when he was about to die he gave it to his children and wife.

I: Are there people in this village who own land but they didn’t buy it or got in a will?

R: No, most of them bought it or got it as a share.

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I: Okay. Can someone access land to use for example to cultivate?

R: You can rent and have an agreement with the land owner.

I: Can someone use land but not pay rent for it?

R: They don’t give land here for free. You have to pay money, you make an agreement on the amount and the period someone will spend on the land.

I: If someone wants to sell land, can they sell it or they have to fist consult with someone else?

R: You have to agree with your family and then talk to the chairman and some village people about the land you are selling so that if you go and spend your money badly, you don’t come back tomorrow and disturb the person who bought the land. The wife and husband sign, their oldest child signs and the chairman too signs on the agreement then you go to the sub county and get their stamp also.

I: What if someone has land on this village but they don’t live on it, do they remain with the authority and control over it?

R: When that person is buying land, people know that this land belongs to so and so, no one can go and claim it.

I: Supposing someone bought land here but they stay in Mbarara or Kampala, do they maintain control over it?

R: The owner normally gets someone to leave it with, he can call some people nearby in the village, he may have a house that he built on there. Sometimes you may find that I am not having enough land here to grow my crops, I go to the chairman and to the sub county and they write for me an agreement and I write there the person I have left on my land, the property I have left behind and the land that I have left behind then I go to look for better land elsehwere. He also tells them his family members and that should anything ever happen to him while he is away then his family should take over. If he has left there someone who is not a relative or family, he can clarify that he just helped that person with where to stay and work until they get money to get their own land.

I: There is no land here that doesn’t have someone taking care of it?

R: No, there is none.

I: Let us say someone comes and they want to us this land, what do they do?

R: They will reach out to the owner or the person he left on the land and ask to use the farmland for a year which they pay 2 million shillings for and when the years end then the owner can get back his land.

I: Mama, what do you understand when someone says that this is family land?

R: It is land for the man, wife and children.

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I: Can all these people do what they like on the land and even sell if they want to?

R: No one can sell family land; it stays there for a long while. If you want to be independent, you leave that land and go to buy yours. Family land has to remain there.

I: Do you mean that even when the husband and wife pass on, this land remains there undivided?

R: It remains there for the family. They don’t share this land.

I: Have you rented land before?

R: Yes, I rent others people’s land. And I grow crops and leave after the time.

I: Have you rented land in this season?

R: No, my husband has been sick so it wouldn’t be wise for me to go and rent a quarter acre and pay 80,000 shillings of rent yet I wouldn’t have grown anything there.

I: What is on your land mostly?

R: We have coffee, a banana plantation mainly and some mango and avocado trees. I also planted some beans and millet on this side of the land.

I: This land is not enough for you to cultivate?

R: It is enough but when I rent I want to get a bigger harvest out of a season so that I get money to educate the children. There is land that is no longer fertile while there is land that is fertile. We rent land out there so that we can get more produce like here where I get form 50 kilograms of beans, when I get another piece of land same size out there, you find that I am getting n 200 kilograms of beans. When I get 200 kilograms which is 2 sacks of beans, I sell one sack then I balance the second sack between what we shall eat and what is hall use as seeds to plant the next season.

I: I understand it, sometimes your land is no longer fifing you good produce in harvest.

R: Yes, you leave it for a while to rest so that it can regain its fertility as you look for land to use elsewhere through renting.

I: How much land do you normally rent?

R: I do half or 3 quarters of an acre and it all depends on the money I have. I plant beans, ground nuts and millet.

I: Thanks for telling me about this. I would love to know; when you are renting land, do you make agreements or you just use word of mouth?

R: We do make an agreement and each of us takes their copy.

I: Okay, everyone signs and you all have a copy then you make the payment.

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R: Yes. We normally pay 80,000 shillings for a season

I: And if you want to get another round of a season you pay more money.

R: If this season you planted millet and after you want to put beans then you pay the land owner 160,000 shillings at once.

I: I have seen come people use land then they grow crops on the land, at the end they share the harvest with the owner.

R: Those ones used to be here but they stopped it because people no longer speak the truth. You give someone land and they grow their beans, after during the harvest they take to their homes and they tell you how they harvested only 50 kilograms yet truthfully they got 200 kilograms or more. At the end, you the land owner feel sorry for the person thinking they are poor and now that they have harvested little they will have to pay for their children school fees so you can’t take it away from them so you leave it for them and go with nothing.

I: This is not good at all to lie about this indeed the land owners stopped it.

R: Yes.

I: For you to have land that you own, what would it mean to you?

R: It means that whatever plan I am doing is for me to take care of my children. If you have more income and you buy your own land, tomorrow id the man chases you away from his land then you can go and settle on the land that you bought for yourself and you have proof of ownership over it. And if you become lazy to work hard then you remain on the man’s land and with time as God does his plans, one of you will rest and the other will own the land.

I: What other documents can show proof of ownership a part form the will you mentioned?

R: If I sell to you land we will involve the government. I will sign, my son also signs and the chairman also puts his signature and we go to the sub county they put a stamp and we get an agreement. There is also the title you gave us.

I: In your view are there any advantages of adding a woman’s name to these land documents?

R: It is the love that the man and his wife share. This era is a good one where Museveni has given us peace and talking platforms as women. You can talk about your thing the way you want but in the era of Obote and Amin (both are former Ugandan presidents), someone would come like now and tell you that this tarpaulin is theirs, if you hesitate to say that it is not they kill you and go away.

I: What other good things are there when you find that a woman was included on these land documents?

R: It helps women to have a voice but in the past we used not to talk. These days men even go to the parliament and represent people.

I: Do you think there will be any disadvantages in having a woman including on these

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and documents?

R: No, me I don’t see any problem but just that they say when someone has gone to school, is always better than you and they can eat your things. If there is one who is more educated between man and woman, they can cheat the other who doesn’t know much.

I: Help me elaborate more on this education point with an example.

R: Whether man or woman, for example in a savings group someone can say they will give 500% and the other says they will give you 200% on the money kept and as a group you agree to get 500%. The treasurer instead of putting 500% on the money, she keeps putting for you 200% and by the time you come to count you find that the percentage wasn’t enough. When you ask around why this was done they tell you that you were cheated and I think this is because you didn’t acquire an education to understand these things. This is the same with land between two people, you may find that the learned one can use it for anything that the other is not knowledgeable about and they get cheated.

I: Mama, do you hope to inherit more land in the future?

R: The land that I might get would be through buying and then I add onto what we have now.

I: What if your husband passes on, won’t you inherit this land?

R: No, it shall be inherited by children. The children will now take on their father’s shoes and take care of me, I just be there as an over seer over them. If he dies, I just control the land and when I am about to die I look for one child who is wiser and has more sense than the rest and I make them an over seer of the property and takes care of the will.

I: I am inquisitive to know Mama whether you have given your sons shares already.

R: We have divided for them all both boys and girls.

I: Did you give them equal shares all?

R: No, you can’t give the girl and equal share with the boy yet she is going to get married and get more land at her husband’s home. We gave them their shares in the will but haven’t given them yet.

I: Do people in this village fear losing their land?

R: Many of them. People tell us who got the titles our land will be taken. They say that you people who gave us titles gave us duplicates and you will come and take away the land with an original title. When they also hear on the radio what is happening to peoples land out there, we fear the more.

I: Is there any other fear other than this one.

R: No, but us who got the title and other people fear that the organization will come and take away the land. But even then, how can someone come and take land yet the owner has an agreement or will that shows that it is their land even though the title is not right.

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For example, those people you see across, my father in law sols to them and gave then their agreement. Can we just wake up now and send them away, no because they have their agreement.

I: Have you tried to consult your chairmen because they must have known about this titling process?

R: The chairman told us that they have no issues, the titles are okay. Our chairman was there when they were marking the stones, bringing the title.

I: Even after knowing this people still fear losing their land?

R: They say that where good things are also bad things happen. I think some people who didn’t get titles were not happy and they are spreading these rumors around. But when you hear on the radio where they have stolen peoples land that was in a tile you also fear for the rumors to be true.

I: Have you sold land before?

R: We sold long time ago before putting the land in a title. We sold some small plots that don’t make half an acre of land.

I: At how much did you sell them?

R: We sold in foolishness because we had children being sent back from school for money so we would sell at 1 or 2 million shillings.

I: Okay. You have agreements with the people you sold to?

R: Yes

I: In your view, you said if you are able to get more land you will have to buy it. I would love to know if you have family land.

R: Yes, here where we are.

I: You had told me that you have divide for the children.

R: You can’t divide the land and finish it all, you have to leave some for you and your spouse. So we left some for me and my husband also this house as family land. It will stay here for our grandchildren.

I: Oh I see, this will be for more generations to come and will not be divided.

R: Yes, even this house, they can’t take it away. We want it to stay so that if there is any grandchild who fails in life, they can come and live here or if any daughter fails in marriage she can come and live here too.

I: I see avocado and mango trees, what else do you cultivate here on this land that is near home?

R: I normally put peas there but this season I haven’t because my husband was not well.

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I put some beans down there as you are going to the road side and some little millet.

**Baseline awareness of titles**

I: In this next part, we want to get your thoughts on titles in general, remember there is no right or wrong answer it will all be your opinion personally. What does a title mean to you?

R: It means that this is my land.

I: Of what use is it?

R: If you are not around and someone takes your land, you can take the title and they tell the other person that this land is not theirs and that the person with a title is the land owner.

I: Is there any other use it has other than not taking your land?

R: It helps me see the measurements of my land like you had out them on the title. No one can come and get into my land yet my title says that there are these acres and someone is claiming that it is their land.

I: Has it been helpful to you as a family in any other way?

R: It has helped as a woman that my husband can no longer just decide to sell or go and get a loan. People told us that they went there to get loans and they refused to give them the money saying that whoever gave them the titles will be the ones to tell them where they will be getting the loans from.

I: I only know that when you want to get money from the bank, you can take your title and they give you money. You mean to say that these people refused to give you people loans?

R: I heard from other people who got the titles. They said that they were told to bring other people and agreements because for the title in case they fail to pay the money, they might turn around and refuse to pay the money since the title is in their names.

I: I am glad to know about this. So the money lenders fear that when they go to report the title will still say that it is the name of the other person and so they refuse to pay the money regardless.

R: Yes. So I don’t know how we shall keep getting loans to educate our children.

I: I have heard from other people that their titles are helping them get loans much easier because it real evidence that the land belongs to them. This is great to learn about. So Mama, who makes decisions on your land like what to plant or when to plant it?

R: It is me.

I: There is sitting and agreeing with your husband.

R: Every one of us has plan on what they will grow on the land to take care of the family. Now that he fell sick, I am the one who takes care of everything,

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I can’t depend on him because then my children will suffer.

I: Before he fell sick, were you still the one making these decisions?

R: We used to sit down and agree on how to make money and use it but when he feel sick, it is me who plans alone. When he gains back his senses he contributes on what can take us forward.

I: What have you liked about this titling process?

R: The title has kept this land form my husband selling it in pieces after the other. The other thing the title has kept me from getting loans to pay school fees for my children. May be you can advise me on how to use it to get a loan and I educate my children.

I: Have you found any concern in this process of getting titles that you would want to let us know about?

R: Yes, this issue of going to the bank and they refuse to give us money saying that the people who gave us the titles should direct us to where we should go and get loans from. The other issue is the one of rumor going around that we who received the titles will be chased away from the land.

I: Thanks for telling me about this, it has been recorded and they will know about this and find a way to handle it. When you were going to get the title, did you talk with your husband in any way about it?

R: He added my names there and we decided together.

I: But you had told me earlier that you didn’t sign on it, it is only your husband on it and his signature.

R: Yes, it is his name on it. But he had his group of friends who made him do the wrong decision and told him to put his name alone, and the woman shouldn’t put her name there. They told him that if he put the woman, she will chase him from the land and because I have my children with him, the chairman both at LC1 and sub county levels and they can’t allow him to sell the land.

I: So he put his name alone and he didn’t consult you in any way.

R: Yes

I: Tell me, how did you come to know that you are not on the title?

R: I read on the title and saw only his names. He used to also tell me that the land is his when I had hidden the title, he would say that it will not help because only his names ate on the title and belongs to him.

I: Do you think women love it to be on titles with their husbands?

R: Some are on them with their husband while others are not there at all.

1:01:31

I: For those who love it, why do you think they love it?

R: Those ones haven’t experienced hatred yet.

I: What do you mean when you say hatred. Tell me more about it.

R: When a man married you and along the way his heart hates you.

I: For those that are bot on the title, do you think it is their decision?

R: The man is the one who decides whether to add them or not.

I: would you have loved it to be on the title?

R: I would have loved it but he decided on what he wanted it to be and he didn’t put me there. I left it also and decide to be at peace with his decision because there is nothing I could do about it and you never know God gave him that plan and if He didn’t then He will fight for me tomorrow.

I: In your view, what benefits would have been their if you were added on the title and both of your names were on it?

R: I would have gone and got a loan, now I can’t go and get it because the title is in his names. If I am to go and get it, I will need his permission and signature on the letter and if he doesn’t give me the permission then I can’t get it.

I: For what reason do some men refuse to list a woman on the title with them?

R: He knows that the woman might take away the land tomorrow.

I: How does this happen?

R: She goes away with the children. Many chase away their husbands from the land.

I: Have you heard about this in your village?

R: They are there.

I: What other reason would cause a man not to put a woman on the title?

R: But also he wasn’t given birth to with her. If he knows that both the wife and husband are one hand, why would he be refusing to add you there. Sometimes women have bad manners.

I: Bad manners like which ones Mama?

R: If you as the woman you are always in the bar and you don’t plan for the family then how will a man put you on his title. He knows that you might get married to other men out there tomorrow.

I: Okay. Such women, they be there when they have already shown their men that they

1:04:39

are seeing other men out there?

R: Some have done it while others haven’t. But for men, when they see it happen outside to some woman they start thinking that their wives may also o the same one day so they refuse to put her on the title.

I: Oh I see, because this is what is happening elsewhere so they think that it can happen to their women as well.

R: Yes, you see when a girl gets pregnant in a village, people start telling their daughters that they will also get pregnant like so and so’s daughter.

I: Okay. Before you encountered these titling people, how were people in this village getting title?

R: They used to give money

I: Where did you hear about that they give this money to?

R: They would go to the sub county and they pay this money and they take them where they get titles from.

I: Do you know how much this money is that they would take there?

R: I hear them saying that it is either 200,000 or 500,000 shillings.

I: And they get the title.

R: Yes.

I: Many people in your village got these titles that are form the sub county offices.

R: Yes, some people have titles in this village.

I: In general, what do they think about titles?

R: You out titles we got or those for those who got theirs from the sub county?

I: All together, what do people think about titles in general?

R: Those who got their titles from the sub county think that theirs are the right ones and ours are wrong. So I don’t know what will happen tomorrow, you can lose or gain. This is what is happening here.

I: Thanks Mama for telling me about this.

**Intra household discussion and bargaining**

In this part we would love to know about the conversations you had with your husband about the title from when the visited you and all through. Mama, when they came at first, did they talk to you with your husband or they spoke to everyone separately?

1:07:20

R: They would speak to us separately.

I: After speaking with them, would you sit down and discuss together?

R: We did sit and talk, he told me that we accept the title, I also said that I accept the title.

I: Did he tell you that he was going to get the title alone or?

R: He didn’t yet I was told that the title is for both the man and the woman. At the time of bringing it for signing, he is the only one who signed on it.

I: After this, they came back again, what conversation did you have after?

R: They came back when they had brought the stones to plant them and mark the land, my husband wasn’t around, I called him on phone and he came. They walked around, measured and put the stones. They called us back when it was time to bring the title.

I: What did you talk about in between these visits with your husband?

R: The title was to be received by both husband and wife. When they put the stones, we asked ourselves why they had not brought the real title like the ones I had seen put on the road side meaning that someone’s land was titled. When they came back they brought for us this one of a paper not the one that they put at the road side.

I: Tell me, there is another type of title that is there apart from the paper one?

R: Yes, there is a title that is planted like a stone on the road showing that Kafunesi’s land is in a title.

I: Okay. They brought the title for you here or?

R: Yes.

I: After reading it, and finding that it was just your husband’s name on there, what conversation did you have about it?

R: I just let it be after that. Whatever he decided to do is what he had wanted to do all along. When I asked him, he told me that he wanted his name on it alone.

I: Here, you knew that you were going to get a title with your name but you didn’t.

R: Yes, I want there.

I: Mama, what can you say about this whole journey of titling?

R: It was well but after him getting sick, that was my hardest moment all through.

I: You have told me that you have spent 31 years in marriage with your husband, tell me how this journey has been for you.

R: What can I say about it, I just hope for God’s protection and help.

1:11:19

Sometimes it is bad and other times it is okay.

I: Now that you are still here, it means you have endured. Have you ever separated?

R: I separated twice. The first time I went and spent a full year away. He was drinking alcohol, he would come back and beat me.

I: Would you leave the children behind?

R: I don’t go with children, I left them behind and only went with one. Just that he has fallen sick but he was powerful so he could beat me.

I: Is there a way you solved it as a family, sometimes you find that there are elders in a family.

R: He came and we talked about it, when we were done, I came back home. If it didn’t end, I wouldn’t have come back.

I: Throughout this year that you were gone, did he try to come and pick you?

R: He used to come and I refuse, I wanted him to first stop what he was doing drinking alcohol. When he stopped, I came back home.

I: You said you had not gone with the children.

R: I went with 1 and left the other three here. The others are old and they don’t live here.

I: Let us talk about the second time you had gone, what was the reason for the separation?

R: I left for 4 days then I came back. He sold my harvest without asking me.

I: He didn’t even show you the money?

R: Yes, he bought meat but I refused to eat, it was a festive season. I would cook for myself other sauce and eat it but I didn’t eat the meat.

I: Again, you went and talked to the elders.

R: This time they came and told him that since he doesn’t give me anything, he should leave my produce alone.

I: Did you involve any authorities?

R: No, I don’t report marriage issue to authorities because when you are getting married they are not the ones that tell you to go there. You love a man, go talk to your parents, negotiate with your husband to be, and when the parents accept you go. I can’t take such marriage issues to the authorities, they were not there when we were getting married. I would rather go to the church where we were wedded and I tell them that the man they gave me has failed me and I can’t allow my life to end like that. The priest will then counsel us and if it fails he tells us to make things better our way instead of having one of us die.

1:14:45

I: You had told me about the woman who was here before you, did she leave or?

R: He wasn’t wedded and didn’t settle here at all. She got married elsewhere. She gave birth to both of them when she was still home.

I: Okay. In the things that you do as a wife, do you feel supported by your husband? In what ways?

R: If I leave this home now, even if the children cook food he can’t eat it. He can’t sleep in the bedroom; the whole night he will keep looking for me. He is not able to help me because he is not able to do so now.

I: Before he fell sick, in what ways was he supporting you?

R: The school fees for the children was paid by him. He would go and work and give there money.

I: What kind of work was he doing?

R: He would cultivate or go to Nyabushozi and work in people’s farms. But now he can’t go, and if someone came to take him away I would report them because my husband no longer has the energy to go and work in those farms.

I: How would you compare this to other marriages out there, do you think it is the same or?

R: It depends on how a person was brought up or what thoughts you have. There is a person who can decide to get married to someone so that they get money to send their parents. Another person may decide to get married to someone and if they give them money then they will look more beautiful. There is also someone who will get married to her husband for the long-term until death does them part and they burry each other. For those who get married for money, when it is finished, they leave him there and go away.

I: How about the men, do they do the same or they do otherwise as regards their marriage and home?

R: Few men take care of their homes, even these rich ones that you see, it is not easy for them to take care of their families. I think it is the way they are, you find that in 100 men there are only 6 women that are being taken care of by their husbands while others take care of themselves and they know what their husband is.

I: In what ways do you support your husband, what would he say about you in this regard?

R: I wash for him his clothes, I cook for him food and he eats. When someone comes to stress him, I comfort him.

I: How do you compare this to other marriages?

R: It depends on how everyone is in their marriage. Women have failed, we have a woman here who left her husband, she started a bar in the centre and is sleeping around with other men.

1:18:26

I: Why do you think she left her husband?

R: She said that her husband is not enough for her, he doesn’t have money to take care of her.

I: She left her home and children and now lives here.

R: Yes, she actually got another man who has married her in the bar there.

I: Did she leave children behind this side?

R: She even has daughters in law.

I: This means she is old and has just realized that her husband can’t take care of her.

R: Yes

I: Who makes the major decisions in your household?

R: It is me who makes the decisions ever since my husband fell sick. Though I tell him about it and see how his senses are reacting, then I go ahead do what I will.

I: Supposing you wanted to sell land, would you talk to him?

R: We first agree together with the family

I: Do you think that this decision making is similar in other marriages?

R: I think that land for example cannot be sold when my husband and children don’t know about it.

I: How about the other aspects of family like issues concerning children and school and other things in the family?

R: There are families that have failed like the one I have just told you about. Do you think they agree together; I don’t think because they even separated. It is different everywhere.

I: I am curious to know more about what a land title means to you.

R: It means that I have a stand in my home knowing that I am also part of that land. If he puts you on a title it means that you also have a part on the land and you can get a share of it as him. Now that am not on the title or the agreement it means that he got land form his father and I am not part of it.

I: You still feel it that you are not part of his land.

R: Yes, I still feel it and this when I have decided to just hide the title form him as the chairman also advised me so that my children can have something tomorrow. If I had that evidence, we both would have stayed with our copies.

**Gender norms around land**

1:21:56

I: Thanks Mama. Let us continue into our next part. We know that land has been more of a men thing and when you hear about land, you think of men, there are some aspects that we want to understand about this and women, we don’t have the truth but we would love to get your opinions and thoughts on this. In this village, are there women who own land?

R: There are those who have bought their own land.

I: Do their husbands know about it or not?

R: Some know about it while others don’t.

I: Okay.

R: They agree together, because for those that bought land in secret it brought about their separation from their husbands. If I am to buy land I buy it in my names and make an agreement and my husband signs as a witness even though it is not his land.

I: Are there others who own land but have acquired it in a different way?

R: Yes, there are those who receive it as a share from their parents.

I: For these ones who have this kind of land, do their husbands know about it or?

R: They know about it but they don’t have any authority over land that was given to you by your father. It is you who decides if you see that you and your husband do things as one, you can go and sell your land there and you bring the money this side and use some to help your husband and children and if it is much you buy another piece of land. There are also women who own land after their husband’s death.

I: Thanks for telling me about this. Are there women that own it with their husbands?

R: Yes, those who have a title together.

I: In your view, do you allow it for women to own land in your village?

R: Yes

I: Tell me why you think women should be allowed.

R: Men come and turn their back on us. He picks you from your father’s house and brings you here, you work hard and establish yourself. He later on tells you how he no longer wants you to stay on his land that you should go away. If they write that the land is for both the man and the woman then there is no issue that would come in to disturb them and separate them or women start owning secret plots.

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

R: For me if I am to own land, I would love to have it with my husband. I can’t have it alone because I am not married alone.

1:24:56

I: Does this mean that they would want to own it with their husbands?

R: Yes.

I: Is it possible for them to won it with their husband but still also want to own land on the side?

R: If I get my money for example if I sell my mushrooms and get more money I can buy it and it helps me and my husband. I can’t leave him behind.

I: Are there women that will only put their names and own it alone?

R: Yes, but these are the one that never came to get married. They just came to get money and be there and when their husband dies then that is it.

I: We find that men woman land and women also own land, do you think family land is also owned by them both or?

R: Family land is for both the man and woman.

I: In your view, is there family land that is owned by men alone?

R: No, women are also on this land too.

I: Do you think if a man wants to sell this family land, does he need to get approval for his wife first?

R: Yes, if a woman doesn’t sign then no one will buy it.

I: Is this a law or people just know it to be like this?

R: They know it like that even the sub county office knows it. Because tomorrow they will ask the man if the woman signed on the agreement and if she didn’t sign, the man will find a way to get back the money and pay the other person he sold too because he has to leave that land.

I: Are the widows allowed to stay on the land after the husband’s death?

R: Yes

I: Is there any difference in your view let us say that she found the man with the land or they worked together to attain or because there are children?

R: There is no difference. The widow also can’t be allowed to sell if the children don’t want to shift from the land because it was their father’s land and they want to remain there.

I: For the woman to stay on the land does it matter if the land was got before the marriage or if she worked for it with the husband?

R: She has to stay there because for the land she found the man with it was given to them both by her father in-law. If they worked to attain the land together she can still stay and if there are children too.

1:28:03

I: Supposing she didn’t give birth to children?

R: Even if she doesn’t have children she can go and report that family and they leave her to remain on that land.

I: What if she has no proof of ownership?

R: Even though she doesn’t own the land but if she has lived with you for 5 years, she has to get a share on the land.

I: Is this a law or?

R: If it wasn’t her land how did she live there. Let us say I have lived with him for 5 years, then he passes on and now my in-laws start chasing me away They don’t have the right to chase me away, I can go to the sub county and report them.

I: Does this mean that if she has lives there for less than 5 years then she can’t stay on the land?

R: All the same, she can stay on the land. But for the woman who hasn’t given birth, she can leave the land alone because she hasn’t given birth, she may get tired and just decide to go away and leave the land behind or sell her share if she had proof.

I: Meaning if a woman is married in that family, she can’t be sent away from the land?

R: Yes

I: Let us say that the man had another woman out there, maybe the wife at home didn’t give birth so he went and got another woman who gave birth to children. Do these children and their mother get some on the land?

R: They give the children land but they can’t give the woman, she can live with her children on their share.

I: When the widow also passes on, who owns the land then?

R: It is now for her children.

I: Imagine the children are still young and they don’t know about the land, who will take care of it?

R: Their uncles and aunties from the father’s side will take care of them.

I: Is it usual for the man’s family to take care of such children?

R: Yes, they do. If they decide to mi use the land, the government is there, the children will go there and report them when they grow up. Sometimes they may live with their mother’s siblings but when they grow up they will come to their land.

I: Okay. Are these widows allowed to remarry?

R: How can a widow be allowed to remarry; she has to stay on her land. The one who has not

1:30:46

given birth may go and get married again but the one who has given birth can’t get married again. She may decide to get married and gives birth to her children but these children can’t stay on this land they have to go and find their father’s share because this is not their land.

I: She can remarry but she can’t bring her new husband here on the land?

R: Yes, if another man gets a child with me, I will give him his child because he can’t take the land for these children.

I: Is she therefore allowed to give birth to other children from that land and bring her new husband there?

R: Me I think it is not right but there are women who do it.

I: Does the husband’s family allow her to do it?

R: If she has children there is not much say they have. She might just tell them to marry her. It is not right to do but she can do it, there is no law stopping her.

I: In this village, have many of your widows remarried?

R: They are very few who have. Mostly the ones that have not yet given birth are the ones that get married but the ones that already have children don’t remarry.

I: What pushes them to get married again in your view?

R: They want to get married and have children.

I: How about for those who have already given birth but they decided to get married again?

R: This one is just being adulterous. She just wants to sleep with men because her body is not yet satisfied.

I: Is there any other reason why you think these widows get married again?

R: Some may be poor and they are looking for a way to raise their child o they get married and the man takes care of the child. These men help them but I can’t do this myself.

I: When your husband dies you just move on with life.

R: Yes, because I have also rested from him telling me to cook for him hot water to bathe and other things like that.

I: Okay. So Mama, have you heard about it in this village whereby after the widow losing he husband, the male relatives come and try grabbing land from her?

R: I have heard about it in other far places but not in this village.

I: Tell me about what you heard from these other places?

R: I just hear them on the letter they read on some program over the radio.

1:33:59

I: Has the way widows are treated change recently from what it was like in the past?

R: These days they treat them better.

I: How were they treated in the past?

R: They used to remain in their things but their father in law would want to take land back form them that if they gave birth to two children only, they divide for them their shares and then the father in law takes the remaining piece of the land.

I: And how has this changed recently?

R: These days when they involve the government it refuses. If you have given the land to your son, you can’t take it back after he is dead this means you wanted him to die and then you take back the land. So they let the widow keep the whole land.

I: These days’ widows can go and report.

R: Yes, they go to the chairmen and to the sub county and these people listen to them and if it doesn’t end they continue up and even go to FIDA and get lawyers.

I: Is there any other change that has happened from the way they were treated then and how they are treated now?

R: These days’ no one can play with your land.

I: Mama, what things happen to women when they lose their husbands.

R: There are very many trials.

I: Tell me about them?

R: There are men that come and start to mock you that now after your husband has died, they give you money to buy salt or soap for your children and sleep with you. Some can come and try to get into your house by force to rape you so you get scared. If you have older children with you they can help you tell them off and threaten to beat them these men. Some can come to even rob you. For our mother, my uncle came to try and rape her because she refused to sleep with him.

I: They did not know that you were there in the house?

R: No, they thought we had slept already. We heard them so we woke up and beat our uncle. We asked him why he had never bought for our mother knickers or salt before our father’s death and now after that is when he remembered to bring salt, we told him to take it back. We chased him away, beat him and he threw away the salt he had carried. We told him and the others to leave us and we die because our father was the one providing for us and now that he is dead, if we fail to get them then we will also die and find him but not for them coming to sleep with our mother by force.

I: This means that there are some relatives that marry these widows by force.

1:37:01

R: Yes, if the woman also is adulterous then she will allow them but if she is not then she can go and report them.

I: A part from marrying them forcefully or raping them what other things happen to them?

R: When you don’t have any one to comfort you or help you then life becomes hard for you. When they come to rob or rape you and you don’t have anyone to help you or comfort you.

I: In general, is she able to take care of her children even when the husband is not around now?

R: Yes, she can take care of them because our mother took care of us single handedly and we grew up. Now I am in my home.

I: In the way these widows are treated, would you love to see any change or it is it okay how it is.

R: I don’t like how people come to help the widows here and instead they ask them to first pay money whether 1000 or 5000 shillings to teach them how tailoring or bring for them clothes material. After paying this money, these people have never come back to deliver. What kind of help is this?

I: What would you love to see being done to change such things?

R: Now you may find a widow has children and some pay school fees of 200,000 shillings like me. The government should come in and help them pay like half of the school fees. They say that you see who will burry you when you are still alive. If I am sick and you are my relative and you don’t even give me money to buy medicine to help me get better, why should you come after I am dead and you start buying meat for the funeral. Even their relatives should help them out in such things when they are still alive.

I: For these women that divorce or separate with their husbands, do they stay on the land or?

R: If you have separated from your husband, and he stays suffering trying to take care of the children, I think wherever you have gone to is where you will count your share of land.

I: Supposing the reason of the separation was because of the man, does the woman leave the land and they take away her children from her.

R: If it is a man’s problem then you can ask for a share of the land for you and the children.

I: Let us imagine that a man has a tile of the land in his name and the agreement too is in his name, does the woman get a share of the land still?

R: He can’t fail to give it to her.

I: When they share the land, does she stay on that land or she has to go elsewhere?

R: When they separate, she gives the land to the children if she wants to go or she can stay there and look after her children but she doesn’t have anything to do with the man.

1:40:26

I: Is she able to stay in the same house as the man and children?

R: No, she can go to her children if they are old and they have built their own homes. She can go and live in their homes with them and leave the house for the husband.

I: What if the children are still young?

R: She can’t stay on the land because these are the cases where you hear that a man has killed the woman. She has to go.

I: Most if the times, is the woman allowed to go with the children?

R: Are they yours, did you come with them when getting married. If it is me, I’d leave them behind, I can’t go with them.

I: Are there women who take them?

R: Yes, some women do take them because of the reason the man can’t take care of children. As a woman you see leaving your children behind and yet they might die and you don’t know if you might have children tomorrow. You decide to go with them and go through life hardly with them.

I: You mean to say that for a woman to get land after her separation rom the husband is when it the man’s fault?

R: Yes, and if she leaves on her own she can’t get it because she is the one that left the land and the family behind.

I: What if she is on the land documents like the agreement or title?

R: Even if she is on them, and then she wakes up and decides to leave and get married elsewhere and get other children there or not, then you come at the end and try asking your husband for land it is not right. I think where you have decided to go to is where you hoped to get your share of land.

I: Have you heard of any recent example of a separation in your village?

R: I have heard about it and up to now the case has never ended. They have spent 15 years now in court.

I: What happened?

R: The woman wants the land and the man says he is not giving it to her.

I: What led to their separation?

R: They have their reason that led to their separation. The woman said that she no longer wants to be married to the man and she went and rented another place and did her own things. The man stayed and also did his own things and the children are all grown up now. She came back and started asking for land and that she wants to come back now.

1:42:42

They have spent 15 years now trying to argue this case on court.

I: All their children grew and they have their families now?

R: Yes, though they haven’t built on the father’s land because he hasn’t given them

shares of the land yet.

I: You don’t have people that divorce or separate on this village?

R: I don’t hear them except for the lady who started a bar that I told you about but she hasn’t even spent a month after leaving her husband. The husband has been trying to go there and reconcile but the woman would chase him away saying that if she left him then why is he looking out for her. The man still loves his wife but the wife wants to sleep around with other men which she finds pleasure in more than her marriage.

I: The things that happen to these women who have separated with their husbands in the way they are treated, is it okay or you would love to see something change about it.

R: They should give the woman land because she can’t go back to her father and get land

I: Just to get this well, even when the fault is for the man, they take away the children from her and send her away from the land?

R: Yes, because the man will ask her if the children are hers or if she came with them to his home. The land is his so he will tell her to go the way she came with nothing.

I: So you would love for them to be given land because they no longer have shares at their parent’s homes.

R: Yes

I: Mama, what causes men and women to separate most of the time in your view?

R: When the things start accumulating in a home like now there are more cattle, the man then starts mistreating the wife so that he can marry another woman and he starts hating you. As a woman, you can also see that the man is no longer doing things well so you decide to go back to your home and sit.

I: What do you mean by the statement that he no longer does things well?

R: There is when he can decide to beat you every day, is that okay. Even cows are no longer beaten, you find that you have cooked food for him but he beats you. You can’t stay even if it is you. You decide to go home and get some peace.

I: Mama, do you think that if it was possible for women to have land together with their husbands it would decrease conflict in your home or it would increase it?

R: It will increase it.

I: Tell me how.

1:46:09

R: The man will say that he wants to sell land and the woman refuses, then the man will ask you how you can stop him from selling land that is his. This will lead them into fighting, the man beating the woman because she has stopped him for selling the land and if he succeeds and sells it then the woman might kill the man for it.

I: And now that they have land together will this will not decrease.

R: Now for me as I grew up in my family, I can’t go back and tell my brother’s daughter that her uncles sold away my land and now she should give me the remaining piece, no. The things of this world are nothing. When I die, I need a little piece of the land to be buried on why should I fight over land when am alive yet I will die one day. But we all don’t have the same hearts, someone will fight over this.

I: Supposing there were misunderstandings before in the marriage and now you have land together, will this decrease the misunderstanding that you had?

R: They can’t end; this is how they will increase when you have land together.

I: Why is this?

R: A man will still want to sell land and he has selfish desire to buy a car or motorcycle, yet you as a woman see that if he sells the land it will be gone and will never come back again meaning that it is a loss so you refuse him to sell. The man will then kill you.

I: This means that having land together will only increase conflict in a marriage.

R: Yes

I: Which other conflicts will increase when you get land together?

R: Men have different priorities from women. He wants to sell land and buy a car yet for me I want to educate our children and they finish school, he starts telling you that whether your children go to school or not for him he wants to buy a car and then you start fighting.

I: Is there a way such conflict can be resolved?

R: It can end when people keep educating you along the way. When you came to give us title, you taught people on land use and the importance of titles. People that go to church have great marriages and they understand better than those who don’t go there. Those who don’t go there, you find a man waking up early to go to the bar now when will he understand what the bible tells him about his family.

I: Thanks a lot Mama.

**Land disputes.**

So Mama, this is our last part of the conversation and it is about land disputes. In your view, what is the most common cause of disputes on land?

R: Between a man and a woman?

1:49:32

I: All through, generally what is the most common cause of these land disputes?

R: It is people trying to stela their neighbor’s land.

I: Tell me more how this happens.

R: You find that my land passes here and that is where my boundary is, but you come and dig up to here in my land. They start fighting with everyone claiming that their land passes there.

I: Has this happened in your village?

R: It had started coming in but our local council chairmen came in and sorted the issues.

I: How had it began coming in?

R: Someone kept cultivating their land while entering in to the other person’s land to the extent of cutting the neighbors *omugorora* The offended person went to report at the sub county, the leaders came and sorted the problem.

I: They came and solved the dispute.

R: Yes

I: Is there a way this dispute can be solved within the family?

R: These people for example first sat in the family and they couldn’t resolve it because one of them refused to accept their mistake.

I: When do they involve the community people in such a dispute?

R: They called the people who knew where each one’s boundary was passing but one insisted that their land was passing elsewhere so this also failed and they went ahead to the sub county. When the sub county leader came, the community people said what they knew and the leader shared the land depending on what the community people had said. They knew it.

I: Let us say one of these people has a title, would this influence in ending the dispute?

R: Yes, because they would have called the titling people or they look at the title and see how many acres are on the title of the land and see where the land passes and where it ends.

I: So for such people who have land security problems, how can they be helped in your view?

R: They should get titles in my view because the title shows where the land stops and should any one disturb you then you call these titling people and they come and help solve the issue that is there because they know where the land passes anywhere it ends.

I: Remember there are people that are not able to afford the title, what shall be done for these ones? What can be done to help them in these issues of land?

R: The government is there to help them solve the land dispute, if someone goes beyond your boundary then you go to the LC chairman and report them and they solve your problem.

1:52:07

I: Okay Mama, thanks for giving me your time, and talking to me today. Thanks for welcoming me us in your home too

R: I am also happy to receive you

I: Lastly, is there any question you have for me regards what we have talked about today?

R: My question is about the title, how am I going to benefit in using it to get school fees for my children?

I: Okay, I have also noted this and I will deliver it to them. We had not got such a complaint that people were not being given loans because the people who gave them the title didn’t tell them where to get loans from. They will find a way to address it.

R: The other question is that for us who are poor and not able to educate our children, can you help us educate our children?

I: No, we don’t educate children. But for the loan case, we will ask about it too. Other people didn’t have this issue instead they said that now if you don’t have a title you can’t get money in their saccos, and in the bank it is much easier for them.

R: Yes, taking your title and you give it there as leverage.

I: Yes.

1:53:28