**INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT**

Interviewer Name: Fiona Atukunda

Interview date: 01/15/2019

Name of respondent: Jenifer

H.H I. D: 5390201

Title status: Joint

Interview start time: 12:15 pm

Interview stop time: 1:49 pm

Age: 50

Marital status: Married

No. of children: 4

No. of people living in the household: 8

Occupation: Farmer

Highest level of education:

No. of years living in the village: 20

Roofing material: Iron sheets

Housing material: Mud, poles, cement, painted and solar

Interview Duration: 1:34:36

The interview happened in the house, in their sitting room. We had no interruptions, she was coming from hospital to receive medication. She said she was hospitalized for high blood pressure and brusella that had given her a high fever. I asked her if she had the energy to sit in for the interview and she said she could but she was weak. Their house is made of cement, mud and poles, painted on the outside and inside, they have solar for lighting. She knows about titling and said that she signed on the title and on the agreement of their land.

She lives with her son, daughter in law and 4 grandchildren, her husband comes over the weekend because he works in Sembabule, another district. She was laid back, looked weak think because of the illness. She has a strong support system in her husband according to how she would talk about him or the marriage questions and how she kept on saying that they agree together. They shifted form Bushenyi where the husband sold his share to acquire this land where they are. She told me that she doesn’t know the real size but she estimated it to be about 7 acres. She said that they have only one plot; and she has never rented land outside for cultivation because their land is enough. When they got their grandchildren that her late daughter had left behind, the husband decided to go and do business elsewhere because they now had young children to take care of and the gardens alone were not enough to sustain them. He come back every weekend to see her and the family.

**Warm up**

I: How are you Mama, how was your yesterday?

R: It ended like that.

I: When did you leave the hospital?

R: I left in the week, I had spent four days there.

I: How has the day started?

R: It has started well; I am trying to drink water.

I: It is good for the medication you are taking.

R: Yes, I drink.

I: You have gone to the hospital today morning?

R: Yes

I: Sorry about this, we hope for your quick recovery.

R: I haven’t yet finished the injections.

I: We were talking to your husband before and we were asking him why he didn’t take you to Sembabule.

R: No, I am the one and we have gardens and things to look after, so I remained here.

I: So does he come back?

R: Every weekend he comes back here.

I: How long do you think it takes him to come from Sembabule to here?

R: No this son of ours has a motorcycle and he brings here, it is quite a distance.

I: Mama, have you been able to go to your gardens?

R: I would go there with the little energy I had, I planted beans.

I: Do you have workers who help you?

R: No, I work by myself, only when I feel over powered then I employ a casual laborer to help me.

I: Do they stay here or they are the ones that dig in shifts?

R: The ones that work in shifts and go away.

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I: There is a woman we found here, how are you related to her?

R: She is my daughter in law.

I: She lives with you here too?

R: Yes, she is a wife to my other son and they stay here together with me.

**Background, household structure and land ownership**

I: Thanks Mama for telling me about that, in our first part of the conversation, we shall talk about your family. How many people live with you in this household?

R: I have 4 grandchildren, 2 have gone to school, then my son and his wife, me and my husband.

I: You no longer have any other children that live with you here apart from your son?

R: No, they all have their homes, one lives with my husband.

I: You last born is how old?

R: He is a grown youth already; I no longer have young children. The young ones are my grandchildren. I had my daughter and she was the only girl I gave birth to, she died in the past year, she left me with her daughter and son.

I: What happened to her Mama?

R: She was married, they came here and called us saying that she has died. We don’t know what caused her death.

I: Where was she married?

R: In Isingiro (a neighboring district to Mbarara)

I: And they told you that nothing had happened to her, she just passed on?

R: Nothing. They told us like today evening that she is badly off, we told them to take her to the hospital as we also travel to go there. As they were on their way to the hospital, they called us and told us that she had died.

I: Sorry about this.

R: We also went there and picked our child’s body and buried her here. After 3 days, her husband came and brought for me their 2 children.

I: Wasn’t he able to take care of them?

R: No, his mother is old. Their daughter had just started learning to stand, she wasn’t talking. I also asked them to give me the child because I had given birth to my daughter as the only girl.

I: How many boys do you have?

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R: 4 boys. So I told them to bring the boy also we put him into school.

I: Sorry about this, it was a hard one.

R: Yes.

I: Bringing your daughter here, weren’t they able to bury her the other side?

R: I refused, my daughter died, she wasn’t sick and I didn’t know what had killed her. We decided with my husband to transport her body here and bury her at our home.

I: May you have long life to take care of the grandchildren.

R: They will grow.

I: How long have you lived here?

R: I got married in 1980, they are now 39 years. But her we came in 1999.

I: Okay, this is great to hear.

R: Yes, and I have never left my home maybe to separate and spend a week or month, no. The way I entered my marriage is how I have remained in it.

I: So your first born is around what age?

R: Like in the 30’s

I: Before you came here, where is your birth home?

R: Those ends of Kashare in Omububare that is where I was born. (The husband told us originally she is from Kabale but her family shifted to this side). So I got married in Bushenyi to my husband then we shifted from there to here.

I: Okay, you shifted from Bushenyi to come here. What caused you to leave?

R: We wanted to come here and find a bigger space of land. Their parents gave them their shares of land and told them that they are free to go and look for more land elsewhere to add on what they were given.

I: How big was the land he was given?

R: It was a big piece.

I: We shall talk about this later. Do you often go back home?

R: I go there to see my brothers. I can go in the morning and come back in the evening.

I: They got their share there and stayed?

R: Yes. The remained on that land and settled there

00:08:14

I: After how long do you go there?

R: Like after month I go there to see them. It is near.

I: When you go there to visit, do you sleep there?

R: Yes, I sleep there, if I have taken a while I go and sleeps there, spend the next with them and then I leave in the evening.

I: How many people are you at home?

R: We are only 4 as of now, we were 3 girls and the other two died. I am the only surviving girl.

I: A year can’t go by without you going back home?

R: No, it can’t end.

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

R: I don’t have apart from the one I own with my husband.

I: Just to know, weren’t you given a share at your home?

R: They had small land so we decided to leave it for our brothers.

I: Are you the ones that decided or your parents did?

R: It is us the girls who decided. We had been given our share but we agreed and gave it to the boys.

I: How big was the piece you were given as girls.

R: It was quarter an acre. The boys were given theirs so this remaining piece had remained with my father and when he died he said that his remaining piece of land should go to his girls. After his death, our brothers told us that here is your land, we gave it to them.

I: The land that you own you have it with your husband.

R: Yes, it here only.

I: Here where you have with your husband, how big is it?

R: I think he understands it better, me I don’t mind.

I: You may not know it exactly but when you estimate it, how big do you think it is?

R: Me I count 6 or 7 acres.

I: Is it all together?

00:11:28

R: Yes, it is. It is all one piece.

I: Mama, have you given some off to your sons?

R: No, we haven’t given them yet, we live with them like that.

I: The other sons have also married?

R: They live in the towns there, they work there.

I: Where your husband lives, is the land his or?

R: He just rented a house and put there his business. He operates a grocery shop there,

I: Wherever you find money, that is where you go.

R: He decided to go there maybe he could find business better and earn more money there.

I: How did you acquire this land here?

R: We bought it.

I: You have documents to show proof from the person you bought from?

R: Yes, we have an agreement.

I: In Bushenyi, his share that he sold, how big was it?

R: They were about 6 acres.

I: How was the land there?

R: Their father gave them all shares together and later the land became small for them to live on and do their activities so they decided to sell. Only of his brothers remained there, 3 of them including him all came and bought land this side.

I: On the agreement for this land, were you able to sign on it?

R: Yes.

I: Is there anyone else who works on your land?

R: We are the only ones that cultivate it.

I: What activities do you carry out on it?

R: We have a banana plantation and coffee and grow other crops like beans, cassava, millet, maize and ground nuts.

I: I have seen your mango and avocado trees too.

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R: When it is the season, you find mangoes full here.

I: Mama, have you rented land outside?

R: No, I cultivate in my land only.

I: Some people normally look rent land when theirs is no longer fertile.

R: Mine gives is fertile.

**General land**

I: I see you do agriculture. In this next part we will talk about land in general, and we would love to get your thoughts on it. In this village, how do people acquire land?

R: They also bought like we bought our land.

I: Are there any other ways people have acquired land apart from buying it?

R: Other have it as a share form their parents.

I: Do you think someone can use land that thy don’t own?

R: It is in two ways. You can come and ask me for a piece of land and I tell you to dig there and plant your crops to give you food. When they harvest, by themselves they can decide to thank you with some of the harvest, let us say they are beans and she got 2 cups, she brings for you one cup as a token of thanks. The other way is renting land and you pay the land owner for the piece they give you.

I: For the one who you give land without rent, do you ask them for part of their harvest?

R: No, you don’t ask them, they just give you to thank you.

I: So, do you still have this thing where one can use land but not pay rent?

R: Some of these are there. Someone can come and tell you that they have failed to find a place to dig their garden, so they ask if you have some free place. You give them if you have.

I: If there is a person who owns land in this village but doesn’t live there, does he remain with the control over this land?

R: Yes, it his land. It will remain there. People will keep mentioning, that land is for the other person but he is not there, he left. But even though the owner left, he comes back and keeps checking on his land.

I: Do many people leave the land like that or they leave someone to oversee it?

R: One can leave someone and tell them to keep taking care of their land while others leave it there with no one.

I: If someone comes and they would like to use this land, what can they do to access it?

00:18:12

R: He will see the person the land owner left in charge of it.

I: Let us say that he didn’t leave any one with it?

R: It will just stay there; they can’t use it.

I: Is there a way he can reach the land owner to use it?

R: Unless they find the land owner and he comes to give him a piece, he can’t use it without getting it from the owner.

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

R: He can talk to the village people that are near him.

I: Let us suppose you want to sell land, do you ask anyone or you just go ahead and sell?

R: I can go ahead and sell it?

I: Without the knowledge of your family.

R: No, in the family we have to first agree. If it is a man, he has to come and tell you that he was thinking about selling that piece of land, you first discuss about it. If you don’t agree, you tell him no and you don’t sell it.

I: Ever since you shifted to here, have you sold land before?

R: No we haven’t sold.

I: Okay. Mama, if someone says that this is family land, what do you understand by that?

R: I think it is for the family. The man, wife and children.

I: Now that it is family land, does every one of the people you have mentioned do whatever they want on the land?

R: The children must first ask their parents to allow them for what they want to do.

I: On this family land, is there anyone who has authority over it?

R: The parents have authority over family land?

I: What if it happens and tomorrow the parents are not around, does it still stay as family land?

R: By the time the parent is leaving, they divide it among the children. But they also know that it is their land, because it is their father’s land.

I: Has it ever happened that you find family land staying there without being divided?

R: I haven’t seen this and I think it comes from the parents not agreeing with each other. I think they can divide it for their children.

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I: You told me that you won this land with your husband and that you signed on the agreement. What does this mean to you?

R: This means that no one either the man or woman can turn around on the other or the man selling land without the wife knowing about it, the man gets money and uses it for his own things that the wife doesn’t know about. He can’t go this because I own the land with him.

I: What do people have to show proof of ownership of their land in your view?

R: They have agreements that show you bought the land. Some people have wills showing the that they receive land form their parents.

I: For you, do you have documents showing your ownership of land apart form an agreement?

R: Yes, they came and marked for us stones in our land and we received a land title.

I: You had told me that you signed on the agreement, how about on the land title?

R: I signed on it with my husband.

I: Okay. In your view, what good things would come out of having a woman included on these land documents?

R: Yes.

I: Tell me about them Mama.

R: The man can’t go behind your back and sell land without you knowing.

I: Is there any other good thing?

R: If you have title like this one, this means that it is your land both and you have the same authority and control over it. No one can come and claim your land to be theirs if it is in a title.

I: As woman, now that you have authority over this land, can you also wake tomorrow and sell it?

R: No, it is not allowed we have to first agree together here.

I: Do you think there would be disadvantages in including a woman on these land documents?

R: I don’t see any problem with it.

I: Okay, do you hope to inherit land in the days to come?

R: No, I already have this one. This is my only share, there is no other.

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

R: People are okay; I don’t see anyone afraid.

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I: There is no fearing or worrying in any way?

R: No, if everyone has their agreement of their land and they plant for them *omugorora* that is how it will remain. I haven’t heard of land issues ever since I came here.

I: In your view, if you are able to access more land, how would you go about it?

R: Maybe if I get money and I buy more land and add on what we have. No one can refuse this but just that you be poor and have no money.

I: allow me to take you back a little bit Mama. How old are you?

R: 50 years

I: If you went to school, what class di you stop in?

R: No, my mother died and we remained with our father when were young, he didn’t do much for us, we grew up by ourselves.

I: Your father didn’t remarry?

R: No, he stayed alone, we grew up.

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

R: I sell, bananas, coffee and beans when I harvest and other crops

I: Okay.

R: My husband was here but he left after our daughter’s death. He told me that he is going to look for money since we have young children that my daughter left and we are paying for them school fees and take care of them. I also told him to go because we can all sit together at home because sometimes we have to wait for another season to harvest and sell and get money.

I: This means he has just shifted, and before he was living here.

R: Yes, we would work together. He would work on the coffee and help in the banana plantation.

I: You are the one taking care of the coffee garden and the plantation now.

R: Yes

I: So you also sell coffee when it is ready.

R: Yes, but now it is not the season.

I: In your view Mama, would you consider this to be your family land?

R: Yes, our children will get a share from this.

00:31:30

I: About your land, if you want to plant this and put it here, who makes these decisions?

R: It is me and my husband, we sit and discuss on what to do. I can tell him that we put this and he says that he thinks we should put millet there and then we agree.

I: Thanks for telling me about this.

**Baseline awareness of titles**

I: In our next section, it is about titles, and we want to know your thoughts about titles. What does a title mean to you?

R: It keeps your land so that tomorrow no one can come and try to claim it that it belongs to them.

I: What are its uses?

R: To protect your land like I had told you.

I: Okay. What have you like about titling?

R: I have loved it and I haven’t found any problem with it. People came here and talked to us like you have come and they picked 5 people form this village but later I heard that others had refused and dropped out.

I: In your view, why do you think that they refused?

R: They just said that they refused because they didn’t understand it. There is a man across there, I heard that he also refused because he also didn’t understand this thing.

I: I would like to know why you also didn’t refuse.

R: I think we loved it according to how the people who came talked with us, we understood and liked it.

I: In general, do you think women prefer to be on a title with their husband?

R: Yes, they do.

I: For what reasons do you think that they love it?

R: It brings agreement and togetherness of a family. You find that whatever the other person loves to do, this other person is engaged in it too.

I: You mean if they are not on the title then there is no agreement?

R: They disagree. If they agree together then they will be one in whatever they do but if they don’t agree then you find one telling the other something and they just turn around and go.

I: How about you, do you love it being on a title?

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R: Yes, I have loved, do you think if I didn’t I would have gone there, I wouldn’t.

I: What benefits would be there in having both a husband and wife listed on the title?

R: It helps their children tomorrow, if the parents are not alive, no one can come to take it away from them.

I: Why do you think some women may not be listed on the title?

R: Some men are still chasing worldly things like seeing other women so he decided not to list the wife. They think that if they put the woman, she may disturb them tomorrow if they want to marry another woman and give them on the land with their other children. I think this is why.

I: Before you encountered these people who were telling you about and giving you titles, how were people in your village getting titles?

R: I used to hear that they would find difficulty in getting it and that you can’t buy it because it is expensive. Only the ones that had money would be able to get it, if you don’t have money then you can’t get it.

I: From where do you think they get them from?

R: From there where they buy them from, I don’t know where it is. I just heard from people talking that money for the title can’t be handled.

I: So they didn’t mention the price?

R: No, they would say that it is a lot.

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

R: They like them because you can hear someone who has the title saying that now since their land in a title they are well. But those who have them are very few.

I: This means many are still using the agreements.

R: Yes.

**Intra household discussion and bargaining**

I: We would love to talk about the conversations you had with your husband according to what you remember from the time they visited you about titles. After they visited you the first time, what did you talk about with your husband after they left?

R: He told that for a person to have their title, it is a very good thing because if you want money, you can go to the bank and they give you a loan.

I: Okay, so in the bank they make it hard for people without titles to get loans?

R: Yes, they do.

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I: Have you got a loan from the bank before?

R: We were still waiting for the people who gave us the titles to come and tell us where we should go and get loans from.

I: Haven’t you been getting loans before the title?

R: We are in these savings groups of ours here.

I: Don’t they give you loans there?

R: We get money from there but you get little.

I: What do you take there as leverage?

R: I am part of the group. We don’t take leverages.

I: Okay, the titling people came back to measure your land. What conversation did you have with your husband here?

R: They told us they were coming and we also said that we will wait for them and see. When we were there, they called us saying they want to come and put stones, they came and put them and after they left. We waited for the title and they came and brought it and they left after.

I: When he was going to add you on the title, did they first ask you?

R: No, they came and talked to us together, we loved it and accepted it.

I: You didn’t talk about anything before allowing to be on the title?

R; They told us that they need a man and woman both on the title and gave there our names. That was it.

I: You then go the title; what conversation did you have about this.

R: The brought it and we got our title and kept it.

I: Even after giving you the title, you didn’t talk about anything else.

R: We just kept it and that was it.

I: Okay Mama. What has changed for you in the time ever since you got the title.

R: Nothing has changed; I haven’t seen anything. We are still moving on like before.

I: How has it been for you these 39 years in your marriage?

R: It has been good, I am here and I still have a breath. It has been but grace, the way I came is the way I have been here, I have never left this home. I am here, I have my peace.

I: Mama, other people out there give up but you haven’t, what has kept you going?

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R: I think it is in the way you agree with your spouse, and you do one thing. Whatever we do here, we agree together. When I fell sick, I called him on phone and told him that I was feeling pain and he sent me money on the phone and I went to hospital and got medication.

I: Do you feel that your husband supports you in the things that you do as a woman?

R: Taking care of me and providing for his family. Now like these grandchildren I have here, he is the one providing and taking care of them.

I: In what other ways or what things does he do that show you his support.

R: On top of providing for me, my children, when he is coming here he brings for me *kitengi* (African fabric material used to make dresses), he buys for me a necklace.

I: All these things you have told that he does for you, how do you compare it to other marriages out there?

R: Everyone you find has their own heart and how they do their things. You may find that in every couple there is one who will be patient with their spouse while for others you find that there is no patience.

I: And you, in what ways do you support your husband in the things that he does?

R: You see this far we have come in our journey, he may say that he wants me in the bedroom then you find me saying no or that am old and I give him my back and my heart changes. For me, when he comes I take care of him all ways, whether I have energy or not. This is how I support him by doing what he wants. I cook for him and wash for him and all those other things.

I: How do you think this compares to other marriages out there?

R: I think for the woman who isn’t doing the same, you may find that she left her marriage long ago.

I: In your family, who makes the major decisions?

R: It is my husband then me I go beside him in support of whatever we are doing and what he has decided.

I: What if it is not right and you don’t agree with it?

R: Of course it has to be beneficial to my family, I agree with him but I know he chooses what is best for us.

I: What is the last major decision that has been done in your household?

R: He has been renovating this house and recently he told me that we built a big sitting room which might be big for us to handle, I told him that we should start with it putting the floor to avoid the dust. He allowed and bought cement and put the floor. After this, he came and told me that our bedroom also is dusty so he told me that we get cement and make our bedroom better. We are remaining with 1 room and that corridor.

00:53:04

When we get money we will also renovate there.

I: In your view, do you think that this is similar in other households?

R: You have to agree together, if it is only one person making decisions then these are the marriages that fail.

I: For these families where only one person makes decisions, what do you think causes them to do this?

R: I think it is about disagreement with each other. You have to agree with each other in the journey that you started and you know each other. You find one doesn’t trust the other even when they get money, they don’t trust that they will deliver it or use it well.

I: Okay. Thanks for telling me about this. I want to understand, you said that there is no other conversation you had with your husband but you may remember something that you talked about.

R: I don’t remember them

**Gender norms around land**

I: In this next part, we have known most of the time that land is a man thing more than it is for a woman. There are some aspects we would like to understand about land and women. We don’t have any truth but we want to pick your thoughts on this. There is no right or wrong answer, your thought is your truth.

R: Yes

I: In this village, are there women who own land?

R: May be they are there but I know that many own land with their husband.

I: Apart from the ones that have it with their husband, is there anyone else you could be knowing that owns land alone?

R: There is a widow down there where you passed coming here who just lost her husband, she remained on the land. I don’t know about the rest.

I: These ones that own it with their husbands, how do you think thy acquired?

R: Some I think they found their husband with their shares from the father and others may have bought it together.

I: In your view, do you think that women in this village should be allowed to own land?

R: It is still not right.

I: Tell me why you think so Mama.

R: This brings issues between the man and woman and the woman will say she will go home,

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and leave the husband because she has her own land. She will not be firm in her marriage.

I: So you don’t allow it?

R: I don’t, I want if a woman has land then they should have it both with her husband and not her alone so that none of them is doing things away from the other.

I: You mean when a woman has land she starts thinking of herself alone.

R: Yes, she starts doing things on the side and the man will think that the woman I not listening to whatever he is saying because she has her land.

I: In general, do you think that women would want to own land alone or with their husbands?

R: It is on someone’s heart.

I: What would you want?

R: To have it with and I know that it is our land the both of us. If I have money or if I sell my goats I can tell him that I heard that someone is selling land, I would ask him to go and check it out and see if we can get it for us. We go and buy it together and sign for it together. This is what men like. But now because you have your money, you go and buy in private and they make for you your agreement then you keep quiet. The day the man will find this out, then your marriage will be over.

I: So in your view, do they think they want it alone or with their husband?

R: It depends on the way you have lived with your spouse and how you agree together in the things that you do, he doesn’t hide anything from you and you also don’t hide anything from him. But when you disagree then each one will have theirs.

I: What if they disagree, do you support the woman to have her own land or?

R: In between there when you don’t agree with each other, you can call two or three people to talk to you and help your resolve what is there.

I: Okay. We have talked about men owning land and women owning land, basing on what you told me about family land, do you think women are included and they have shares?

R: Yes, she has a share. She is included.

I: If a man wants to sell this family land, does he need to get approval from his wife first?

R: No

I: He can go ahead and sell?

R: Why would he be selling it. I wouldn’t allow him to sell it.

I: Do you think he needs to first ask the wife?

1:00:45

R: Yes, because it our land together. You discuss about it together.

I: The way you explained to me about family land, suppose the land is not titled the parents maintain authority over it?

R: Yes, if she also put her signature on the agreement they made for them.

I: What if she didn’t sign on the agreement?

R: This is not there maybe it was there in other days. Now, if you are going to make an agreement, your wife must sign on it. And your husband can never go behind your back and out someone else without your knowledge.

I: Okay. What if there is another woman out there with children? Maybe the man mentioned him to you or he didn’t, do they also qualify to get shares from this family land?

R: No, by the time he got her, he has to go and look for money with his woman and they buy their own land or he buys for them their own land. They can’t come to my land.

I: Not even the children can come?

R: No, they can’t.

I: I want understand; that if a man has children and another woman out there whether he told you about them or not, they can’t share on his land here.

R: By the time he gets them he trusts his pocket, he can go and look for them land and buys it for them and he builds for her there with her family.

I: Okay. Mama, are widows allowed to stay on land after their husband’s death?

R: Yes, she can stay.

I: What if he didn’t leave it in writing or she is not on any land documents to show that she has a hand, can she stay?

R: People know that that is her land and the husband, and now her husband has left her with the children. She stays there.

I: Is there a difference if she found the land with her husband or if they worked for it together?

R: There is no difference.

I: Let us imagine there are other children of another woman, do they also come and get a share?

R: No, he must have prepared for them before wherever they are.

I: What if he died before he bought for them land?

R: The main widow can decide to give them something if the father left a will or a share off their father’s land as she sees and this is if he told her about them. If not, then she can’t.

1:05:11

I: If he didn’t tell you about them then they go with nothing.

R: They can’t get anything.

I: Supposing this widow didn’t give birth to children in that home, can she still stay on the land?

R: Yes, she can.

I: So there is no difference if there are children or not.

R: Yes

I: When the widow dies, who owns the land?

R: Her children and if there are no children that widow has her people where she came from and the man too was not born alone. Their siblings can take this land.

I: What if the children she left are young?

R: She has siblings who can come and take care of the children.

I: In your view, do these relatives usually take care of these children?

R: It is not easy, it depends on the person and their ways. There are some who take the children’s land, tomorrow you find the child suffering.

I: Do widows remarry?

R: What are you looking for, you got married and saw life, no he has died and left you with land, what will you looking for.

I: You don’t like it personally but do you think that they remarry?

R: Yes, they do.

I: Can she bring her new husband here on the land or she has to go away?

R: She is not allowed to bring him here, but because no one may tell her not to bring him so she is the one deciding for herself and she can do what she wants. Across here she was there, her husband died and left her in a house where it would rain on them. She got a new man who came and found them there, he took care of her and the children, he paid school fees for the. He wedded her in church and built for her a new house. When the children grew up they tried chasing away this man, he had given birth to other children with their mother. They told him to go away with his children to his own land; they went to police and to authorities and they even reached in FIDA Uganda, they called the children and their mother and the man. They asked them how long the man had spent with the wife and how many children he found her with. He said that he found her with 3 children, they asked him how old they were. He said that he was the one who educated them; one is a reverend in church, the other is a carpenter. They asked him how many children he had given birth to and he said they were 5.

1:10:15

They asked the wife what her opinion was, she said that the man should go away. They told her that how can the man go yet he built for her a house and educated her children, she said that he found her on her land. They told her to go and divide the land into two, and give the man that piece with his children then she can stay with the other half with her children whom he found her with. They just left the man to come back home, the woman died and left there the man. The children he found there had been given their shares from their mother, they sold them off and went away. The man is now there with his children.

I: In your view, who do you think was in wrong?

R: It was the woman, she allowed it to happen. He found the children very young, he built for her house because she had none, they cultivated the land and the children went to school and then at the end they wanted to chase him away.

I: How big was the land they were chasing him from?

R: It was big and they were telling him to go with his children he got with their mother. The man went with his marriage certificate so they told them they could do nothing but share the land. They failed and let it be.

I: In your view, you wouldn’t want a widow to remarry?

R: No, she should stay there and take care of her children.

I: For these widows that remarry, why do you think that they choose to?

R: It is the condition of their life and their heart.

I: What do you mean by condition of their life?

R: When someone can’t persevere and they are always looking out so they are not content with what they have. They have given birth to children, they have things because it is hard to find someone very badly off so I think they are not content.

I: Has it ever been the case or have you heard about where after a widow lost her husband, the male relatives cam and tried grabbing land from her?

R: I haven’t heard about it anywhere.

I: In your view, has the way widows are treated changed in the recent years from what it was in the past?

R: The widow of old after losing her husband, the in laws would forcefully remarry her but these days it is not the case.

I: She would say nothing or try to refuse?

R: The family would decide for her and she would stay or leave, she had no say. If she refused, they would chase her away to leave the land and the children behind.

1:14:32

I: Okay. What has changed now?

R: These things are no longer there where someone I forced to re marry.

I: In your view, what do you think about the things that happen to women after losing their husbands?

R: They remain widow, if the husband was taking care of her now he can no longer take care of her, she will have to take care of herself. Some can handle it while other become burdened and they bring in another man.

I: The way you treat widows in this village, is it okay or?

R: She just has to be patient because she is not the only one going through it after losing her husband. People don’t treat her badly.

I: How about the women that separate or divorce from their husbands, are they allowed to stay on the land or?

R: She has to go; the man can’t allow her to remain on the land.

I: What if the main cause of the separation is on the man?

R: You think a man wants to know that it is his fault and he accepts. They keep blaming the woman.

I: When they send her away, can she go with her children or?

R: She can take them but her family will tell her to take back the man’s children. When they send you away, you shouldn’t go with the children.

I: Supposing it is land like this one, she owns it with her husband and they have a title. If they separate, do they share the land?

R: She gets her share for her and the children, she has even given birth on that land.

I: Let us imagine that she is not on document of the land, they have separated, do they give her a share?

R: They will not give it to her.

I: Have you see this example of a woman who has separated with her husband?

R: No, I haven’t seen it here. It is not there here that people separate.

I: The way these women who separate with their husbands are treated, is it okay or you would love to see something change?

R: It is not okay. I would love them to get back together and the woman goes back to her home and they get back to their table.

1:19:29

I: How about the issues that caused their separation?

R: They can call some people to come, there are leaders also that bring families back together.

I: Aren’t there issues that people have that are irreconcilable?

R: They are there but they will call the family, and the woman will talk out her issues and the man will also say his. They then tell each of them where they went wrong, and they bring them back together.

I: What are some of the examples of these irreconcilable issues that may lead to a separation?

R: As a woman, you go and spend the whole day moving around and the man eats his food very late or he loves to drink boiled water and now it is a month since you last boiled it. You don’t have the time to cook it, you shower and go away then you come back in the night. These are the issues.

I: This woman you mean just goes in the morning leaving the children behind.

R: Yes, she leaves her children sometimes they are young. These are the fights, you find him beating her and she leaves the home.

I: Do you have these fights here?

R: No, I would hear about this sometime back.

I: You told me that even when the fault is for the man, the woman is sent away unless she has proof of ownership of the land. Is there a way she can report about this?

R: The woman can go and report and they call them both and ask each their own questions about their issues. The leader who is talking to them will be the one to decide that this one is guilty; if it is the woman, they will ask the man if he allows her to come back to her home and he tells them only if she is going to change her ways.

I: Okay. In your view, why do you think some men decide to or decide not to add their wife’s name on the title?

R: For some it is because they agree together with their spouse and they know their heart. For the ones who don’t, you find the man having 2 hearts, he has another woman whom you don’t know about, he has his other children, I think this confuses him.

I: If a woman is able to own land with her husband, will this decrease conflict in their family?

R: Sometimes you had conflict before and you were not agreeing with each other and even though you have land together it will not go away. The way you started your marriage is what matters, if you don’t agree you will not have that land together, the man will not put the wife on there.

I: Do you think it will increase the conflict, the woman and man having land together?

1:25:49

R: It is right from the start that they already have the conflict, everyone will be doing their thing already and they don’t know the other. So it won’t increase or decrease anything if from the start they don’t agree with each other.

**Land disputes**

I: Mama, thanks for that. In our last part we will talk about the causes of disputes on land. In your view, what is the most common cause of disputes on land?

R: People trying to claim land of others, they look at someone and say that he has a lot of land so they put there *omugorara* and extend in that person’s land. Now also you when find that he did this, you run and go to the lawyers or chairman and report. They can come and try to look for the boundaries, sometimes they know where the *omugorora* was for this person and they out it back where it was originally.

I: Has this happened in your village?

R: No, we don’t have disputes here.

I: Have you heard about it in another place?

R: No, me I know that people do these things. Someone moves into another person’s land and thot her person will report and people will come and try to look for the former boundaries and reconcile them.

I: Is there a way such a dispute can be resolved in the family?

R: No, the person who has tried to enter another’s land can’t accept to hear anyone, he just wants to steal your land.

I: When do you think that people in the village are involved?

R: These people can’t handle it; It can be only handled by people up there. They will involve leaders to help resolve it.

I: If one side of the people in this dispute has a land title, will this help in resolving this dispute?

R: Yes, you will take it and show it to them and they see who is neighboring your land and who is not and then that is evidence and the dispute ends.

I: In general, people that have land security problems and issues, what would you advise be done for them?

R: They should get titles because it will show whose land they boarder, and that maybe there was a tree there, all these thing will be shown by the title.

I: You had told me that some people say that the title is expensive, they are in a dispute and they don’t have money to get it, how can they be helped?

R: That is what you about that someone lost their things.

1:30:43

I told you that some refused by themselves to get the title saying that they were going to take their land.

I: How about the ones that didn’t refuse but they don’t have the money?

R: Sometimes these are the issues that fail. Only a writing can resolve it.

I: Okay Mama, thanks for welcoming me today even though you were not that strong, you patiently talked with me. Thank you. My last question for you as we close, where do you think we come from?

R: Maybe you come from Kampala, I don’t know you well but I have forgotten the name of the organization.

I: Depending on what we have discussed about today; do you have any question for me?

R: I am asking, they gave us the title, what is the end goal of giving us the title?

I: The people that visited, you didn’t they tell you about why they were giving them to you?

R: No, they told us that in the computer, that organization picked some names and that is how they came looking for those people. Thy came and they told us that the families that were picked in this village, we are going to give them titles.

I: Yes, I think that is it how they told you, they picked people randomly like you said and they gave them the titles. Whoever refused, it was okay, they have their reasons. These people came to help and give you titles, your leaders and the government are aware of them and that is it. Do you have any other question Mama?

R: No.

I: Okay, thank you very much.

1:34:36