**INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT**

Interviewer Name: Fiona Atukunda

Interview date: 19/09/2019

Name of respondent: Flavia

H.H I.D: 5810092

Gender: Female

Interview start time: 10:07 am

Interview stop time: 11:40 am

Age: 51

Marital status: Married

No. of children: 5

No. of people living in the household: 6

Occupation: Farmer

Second source of income: None

Highest level of education: 0

No. of years completed in school: 0

No. of years living in the village: 51 years

Roofing material: Iron sheets

Housing material: Mud

Interview Duration: 1:33:19

The interview was conducted in the respondent’s house; it is built out of mud and covered with iron sheets on the roofing. She was a bit held back and shy in some sections as you will find answers where she would reply me that she doesn’t know. In this case, I would try to draw an example for her through what she told me before or in general terms as regards other people in order to get her thought or opinion. She would at times relax in the conversation but when it came to the part of the conversation especially on the titling questions, she said she had nothing much to say because she didn’t have any information on what titles are. She also kept reminding me that her husband refused the title because they have very small land which according to them no one can think of grabbing or taking away from them unlike the rich people who she said have big farms and are scared that their land could be taken or intruded into, most likely they are the ones that need titles. She later on disclosed to me that the people who visited them in 2015 promised to help them buy more land or at least help them build a better house since they had refused the land title and whatever her husband refuses, she cannot accept or like. They are still waiting, even when we were leaving, they said they will wait for what next. There were no interruptions, the grand son just kept coming in to her lap and giggling which wasn’t distractive all.

The respondent lives with the husband and children, and grandchildren. They look to be poor because they had no furniture apart from the stools that Martin and I took sat on plus their living room and whole house is made of mud and covered by a polythene paper where she sat with her grandchild. She also kept mentioning that they didn’t have the money compared to the rich people she knew. She disclosed to me that her husband has another wife who lives on the other small plot with her children. The bigger plot of land that they had and would have considered for titling was sold off piece by piece for the 9 years in the past when she had a chronic illness of her stomach swelling. This to me came out in her reactions to some of the questions, I felt that she is indebted and submitted to her husband’s opinions and it doesn’t matter what she may have to say about a particular topic apart from selling land. seems to have an impact on how she runs her family dependent on a yes to whatever the husband says because she feels kind of indebted to him for that time he sold his land to take care of her.

I: Thank you for giving me your time, waiting for us today to have this conversation. How did your day begin today?

R: It has been a good morning; we were waiting for you with my husband as the other man (Steven the mobiliser) told us that you would come this morning.

I: You didn’t go to the garden today?

R: We lost a lady at the trading centre so we are going for burial after this conversation. When someone dies in this village, no one goes to the farms especially on the day of burial. We all go to grieve with the family until the deceased is buried.

I: How are the children?

R: They are okay and have no issue. They have gone to school, the ones that stay here.

I: How about your husband?

R: He is okay too

I: And you, how are you generally?

R: I am not fine as you can see my legs, (draws skirt up the legs and I see peeled and pale skin on her legs) they have started peeling again.

I: Have you gone to the hospital?

R: I went there back then when they had just started and I was given injections and some tablets which helped me get better and it stopped but now it has begun again as you can see.

I: What disease did they tell you it is?

R: It is *Ekiho* (a disease that brings patches on the legs and leads to the skin peeling off).

I: After how long are you supposed to go back for medication?

R: I would have gone back but I haven’t yet found the 60, 000 shillings to help me acquire medicine

I: So sorry to hear this, let’s hope something comes up and you get medication

R: Yes, I hope so too. Otherwise as long as the day ends well, you have lunch and dinner, you count it joy. There is much sunshine that is affecting our beans these days. It has been over 2 weeks since it rained but we hope they come out and it rains again.

I: How old are you?

R: I don’t know and I can’t remember

I: Sometimes some people find out their age in relation to which regime of leadership it was, then they start counting according to the events they remember happening.

I: Which one do you remember?

R: I don’t remember these things of leadership for sure; my parents did not tell me either. My mother is already

an old woman and she can’t even know now.

**00:03:52**

I: In your own point of view, what would you estimate it to be?

R: When I see, I think I am in my 51st birthday this year

I: What activity do you get from money like 1000 or 2000 shillings which you might use to buy somethings at home?

R: When I rent other people’s land and plant beans, maize, cassava, millet and sell them after harvesting. But when the harvest is not good, I sell this produce and use the money to pay the landowner and book for the next season so that he may not give it away to someone else.

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

R: I have 5 children, only one stays here. The others are my grandchildren, my other children got married.

I: How about going to school, did you?

R: No, my father did not take me there (Respondent laughs)

I: How long have you spent in this village?

R: I am a born of this village. I was born to my parents at the house where you passed while coming then I met my husband around because he also was born in this parish then I got married here because he bought this plot from someone who was shifting.

I: You mean, for all your 51 years you have lived here?

R: Yes, my brother also stays near us.

I: Very pleased to know this, it is quite rare. How many people live in your household altogether?

R: We are 5, my husband, myself, my last born girl and 3 grandchildren. But we gave some part of the land to my son he lives up there with his wife and children. My other children left home, and some are married with their own families. My son up there and his family prepare their own food and sleep in their house.

I: There are no other people that stay with you, sometimes people live with their workers or nieces and nephews.

R: I used to take care of my brother’s son but after getting a tailoring job he left. He got married and lives in the centre but he still comes and spends a night here then goes back to his family.

I: Well done for taking care of him, it is very good.

R: He even came the other day and slept here and then left the next day and went back to his family

I: Your grandchildren go to school?

R: Yes, they go to nursery school.

I: How many years have you lived in this house?

R: Do I remember them, but let us see, like for 20 years I have been married here.

I: You told me your parents’ home was just down there.

R: Yes, and I moved up here when I got married so am still close to home

**00:07:59**

I: Almost all your life, you have been here?

R: I was born here, got married here and I will be buried here.

I: Do you have your own land, like how you see women buy a plot and keep on the side for their children in the future or should anything happen to their marriages?

R: Yes, I have one that my mother gave me when our father died. Before our father died, he decided to divide his land into some shares to the girls and the rest to the boys. Every one of us got a share.

I: This plot that you have from your parents, do you share it with your husband or it is yours alone? Meaning you are the only one with control.

R: It is mine alone; the man doesn’t have any right to it.

I: How about the land that you own with your husband?

R: They are three. There is a banana plantation he bought across this village and this land where we are. And the one that he gave to the other woman he married and her children. There is also another one but we sold it long time ago, when I was sick for 9 years, he used to sell off piece by piece to pay for my medication and injections until it was finished.

I: Tell me about how you acquired this land?

R: We bought it with my husband. I added some money to him when he was going to buy it from the person who was here before. The seller wanted to shift to elsewhere with his family.

I: Was there any form of proof given to you and your husband after buying this land?

R: I don’t know if the seller had a title or agreement before selling but I think they with my husband signed an agreement though I did not sign on it. My husband is the one who took the money to make the payment.

I: How about the banana plantation you told me that is across, how did you get it?

R: We worked together and joined our money and bought it.

I: Your husband didn’t inherit or get a share of from his parents just like you got a share from your parents? Some parents prefer the sons first when giving away land, wasn’t your husband given some?

R: He was given a share which is the one I told you that we sold off when I was sick and I nearly died until it was finished. There is nothing else he inherited from the parents.

I: Sorry and welcome back from recovery from this disease.

R: Yes, it wasn’t easy at all, my stomach would swell up to those ends.

I: This land and the banana plantation belongs to you and your husband and no one else has ownership over them?

R: They belong to both of us, we just gave this part next to us to our son. It is his share with the wife and our other son we gave him part of the banana plantation I told you about. They own their parts that the father and I gave them.

I: Who works on your land?

**00:13:00**

R: It is only me and my husband because the land is already small. We only cut off a small piece that we gave to our sons.

I: Do you rent it out at times?

R: Most of our land is banana plantation, so we have nothing to give to another person to farm or dig. Our land is also small in size and not enough for us too.

I: How big are these 2 plots of land?

R: Here where we live is like 1.5 acres and the banana plantation across is about 1.5 – 2 acres

I: Who makes decisions on the land, like now that it is planting season, who decides on what to grow, where to grow it and when?

R: I do the decisions on what to plant like now I decided that we should plant beans and he allowed. When the season comes, I tell him that I think we should plant this and that is it. It is a woman’s area mostly.

I: How about other decision like selling or giving or renting land?

R: Land is scarce for some of us, so we plant food on our small land meaning that we don’t have any more to rent out to others. When giving away land, he consults me and we decide on how much to give for example the one we gave our sons. We sat down and made the decision together. But he decides finally and we go with that.

I: Thank you for answering my questions and now we are going to pick your thoughts on land generally, yours and for others inclusive. Remember no answer is wrong or right.

How do people in this village come to acquire and own land?

R: When someone has money they can buy land and own it. The buyer and seller can call the chairman to help sign the agreement.

I: So in what other ways do they own land aside from buying?

R: When a father passes on and the mother passes on too, they can leave a will behind which shows the shares they have left for their children. Some do it before they are dead but you as the parent keep it in writing that can stay even when you are no longer alive.

I: How can someone access land they do not own?

R: The ones that own big chunks of land can rent it out but the ones with a small piece of land cannot rent it out. You find out who has free land in the village and go talk with them.

I: Do people normally rent out land in your village?

R: The ones that have big farms do. Others can get workers to keep their land but not pay rent, or relatives.

I: For those who rent land, how do they go about it, do they need to talk to someone first?

R: Like those rich people with big land when they want to rent, they announce through other people and ask them to tell or find for them any one that wants to rent land or looking for space to farm from.

I: They don’t need to consult with any one?

**00:20:10**

R: I have even never heard of it or seen where they consult with any on not even with LC 1 chairman. The land belongs to them so they can rent it out as they wish. When these farmers who rent dig for a season, after they remove their harvest they go away they can never claim that it is their land because they don’t own it.

I: What of the one who want to sell their land, how do they go about it?

R: Let us say I want to sell land, I see which part I want to sell then I sit with my husband and children and we discuss the way forward like how much we will get and what we shall use that money for.

I: Okay, I see that you have to consult with your family first. How about someone else outside your family, how would they go about it?

R: They have to call the chairman who puts his signature on the agreement between the seller and buyer

I: Thank you for explaining this to me. When someone says this is family land, what does it mean to you?

R: It is for me and my husband and children. It can also be used by the children of the family

do farming if they want to or if it is a son and he has a wife, you can give them a place on the land where they can plant bananas and all, if you want you can later transfer it to them as their share of the land.

I: Let us say you have given him this land, do you put it into writing or you take it away once he has developed himself?

R: Yes, you can add him to your will and whenever you decide to give the rest shares too, you leave him with his and you can choose to add him a small piece. I can also allow my other children to bring their goats if they want to rare.

I: Have or your husband rented land?

R: Yes, because we have a small plot that we cannot use for all the farming we would love to do, we rented land from the church and planted in millet.

I: Oh, you went to the church for land

R: You give them some money and they give you some land.

I: At how much do you rent it?

R: We pay 85,000 for about less than an acre. (Here the son came to the house and was in the bedroom and when he had this, he answered that it is not an acre which the mother agreed to. He later left the house)

I: What if someone has land here in *Kitookye* (the respondents village where we are now) but stays far away and not on this land, does he maintain control over it? What if someone came and wants to use it, what do they do?

R: Such a land owner can fence the land with barbed wire and it will stay there. It is his whether he is there or away and everyone else in the village knows it.

I: If someone comes and wants to use this land because it is free, what do they do?

R: They find a way to contact the owner and pay money then rent the land for whatever reason they want it for.

I: Is there any other place you rent from land apart from the church?

**00:25:31**

R: We used to rent at some rich man’s place but we failed to get the money to use their land. So now we only rent from the church. And when some of these rich people get animals to graze like cattle they chase you away to create a farm for their animals.

I: Have you bought land?

R: Maybe this one where we are now. It has been a long time since we bought it.

I: What ways did you go through to buy it?

R: There was a man who was living here and decided to sell off so that he could shift to a better place. He told people around and my husband heard since his family lived near, he decided that we could buy the piece of land. He had some money that wasn’t enough so I added the one I had and we paid for the land.

I: Did you happen to be a part of this?

R: They sat down and called the chairman and some other witness who my husband chose and they wrote an agreement. I did not witness, my husband got someone else to witness for him and the seller used his wife as the witness.

I: How about selling land, have you?

R: No, we have a small piece of land so if we sold what would we remain with. The only land we sold as I told you earlier is the one that paid for my treatment and that was a longtime ago too.

I: Mama (respectful way to address an older lady), I want you tell me how you understand ownership? To own land.

R: It means that someone bought that place or it was given to them and now it fully belongs to them. You can use it to dig and plant food for eating and selling to get money.

I: What ways can show that someone owns land?

R: These days for example, a man cannot sell land without the consent and signature of the wife. If the wife refuses to sign the agreement, the seller can’t buy that land. An agreement can only be got when both man and woman sign to give away the land and that proves that they received payment.

I: Tell me about what else can show that so and so has ownership over land

R: When I give my son a piece of my land, it now belongs to him. I can add it in the will that I gave it to him and people can tell when am not around that that piece belongs to him. Others I hear use land titles which are included in the will to show how the land was sold or given to other people whose names are written in.

But I do not understand how these titles work because I have never seen them and I don’t have them.

I: Have you heard about people that have land title?

R: Yes, I hear them but I don’t want a title and I have never seen it

I: Why wouldn’t you want a title?

R: Is there anyone who will ever come here to grab this land? No, because we are not rich and have no big land, our land is so small that we have to rent other’s land to farm. I don’t think I need a title, only the rich

**00:34:20**

people with big farms get titles and they put stones to mark their land because they fear that intruders or neighbors may steal their land or enter slowly into their demarcations.

I: How about the other land that has plantation, wouldn’t you want to get a title for it?

R: It is also small, more like this one in size. I don’t think I need a title for it because no rich man would come to even steal or any intruder to come and think of entering our land and taking away a piece.

I: Are there any good things that arise from including a woman’s name on any land transaction document?

R: I don’t understand this

I: Let us say, you and you husband buy land and your name is added on the document used for example an agreement? Is there an advantage of your name as a wife being on it?

R: Everyone has their own way of thinking

I: Which one is your way of thinking mama. (Respondent laughs)

R: Maybe I can say that in the old culture, men used to work with their wives in everything but these days it is not so. These days when a man marries your daughter, tomorrow when he sees someone more beautiful he leaves the first one and goes with the new one. But for me, my husband can’t sell land without me accepting. Like I told you, in this village no one can buy land from a man when the woman has not agreed and witnessed with her signature.

I: How about when your name isn’t included, what problems could arise?

R: Some men leave their wives for new women but the village people can know which of the wives has lived with the man longest and the children they have with the first wife. Even the chairman knows about how long they have stayed together on the land. Should anything arise, they can go to court and then the court will cut in two the land and the wife and husband both get a share equally.

I: Have you inherited land?

R: Yes, the one that my parents gave me. It is like half an acre

I: Is here anything to show that it is yours and not for your siblings?

R: We wrote an agreement, and the chairman has this will of transfer which shows what the shares are in size for each child.

I: Okay, are these documents an agreement or a will?

R: There is a will my father left behind and an agreement we signed on as siblings that made sure we all have the same size of share.

I: Do you hope to inherit more land?

R: From where now, may be if my mother dies, then we share what she has left as her share.

I: How big is it?

R: They are like close to 2 acres. Every one of us the children will take whatever small piece we can

I: Is your mother still able to farm?

**00:42:03**

R: No, she is too old. she spends her days sitting in the compound. We cook and share food with her.

I: In your view, do people in this village fear losing land?

R: May be the rich people with big farm lands, they fear that people or neighbors will shift the demarcation trees *(emigoroora)* and move slowly inside their land or steal some of their land if they are away and not living on the land.

I: I have seen roads being dug as we came here, they are many through to people’s homes, why are they being dug?

R: Us the villagers are digging them to enable us have clear roads to people’s homes. Should someone fall sick, this will be easier to bring a car and take them to hospital. We have been told to make space for roads even in our plantations for better access.

I: Is any authority aware of this?

R: Yes, our chairman and the sub county office is aware and they are working with us.

I: Aren’t people scared to lose their land in this way?

R: No, even if the road passes in your plantation, it will still be your land. We are happy to do this because it will help us have better access to our trading centre should a problem like having a sick person arise, the car can reach your home easily.

I: Mama, if you have access to get more land, how would you go about it?

R: I don’t have money so I can’t buy more land. If I have the money or for example if I have cattle or goats to sell, I can look for who is announcing to sell then I go and buy it.

I: Do you yourself have family land? You had said this is family land, do you have approved shares of this land?

R: This is where we all gather as a family for big days like Christmas and this is where they will bury me should I die. This is our family land. It belongs to me and my husband, and if my husband dies, we can cut it and I remain with a share, and when I die it goes to my children.

I: Is your share approved?

R: We bought it with my husband and the children know, the chairman also knows. My husband’s other wife also has her place where she lives with her children, that is her share with her children. The fact that we worked together to buy it means it belongs to me and all the people know it.

I: What activities do you do on this land?

R: We have banana plantations only, if we want to farm we rent elsewhere.

I: Who makes the decisions on this land?

R: I decide on what to plant, then I ask for my husband for money to go and rent land elsewhere, after him giving it to me, I plant crops. He decides on whether we should rent this land or the other but I decide on what crops to grow and he goes with whatever I have chosen.

I: Thanks for explaining to about all the above that we have talked about. Now, we would love to know your thoughts about titling and land titles.

**00:48:40**

Please remember there is no right or wrong answer. What does it mean to have a land title and what is its purpose?

R: Me I don’t know about that

I: You may not know it personally like you told me in the start but you also said that you have heard of people who get them or have them. What do you think this means and for what use is a title to such people in your opinion?

R: Me, it doesn’t help our household in any way. I told you our banana plantation is almost all the size of our plot, why would I put this plot in title yet it is small, no one is interested to come and steal it.

I: So the title is of no use. (Respondent laughs)

R: (Respondent continues to laugh). We were told that if we didn’t want a title me and my husband, we would be given something else.

I: What is this thing you were promised?

R: That the team that asked us questions when they came back, they would buy for us more land to add on our small plot. But also getting a title or not is largely dependent on my husband, if he likes we both go with that seeing that I don’t understand it well.

I: This seems like you don’t want to know anything about titles, why is this?

R: Because we have small land, this is why my husband refused it in the first place. We are not scared that anyone can come to steal this small piece of land. I don’t think we will sell this land, may be if our children decide to sell it in the future.

I: So who gets titles and how do they benefit them?

R: Those with big chunks of land who want to secure their land so that no one tries to intrude in their boundaries. It helps them keep their land secure.

I: Do you think women would love to be on a title with their husbands?

R: I don’t be with these other women to know what they prefer, so I don’t know.

I: But tell me about your side opinion, how you see things generally. Let us say a woman got married and worked with their husband to achieve all they have and buy some good acres of land, do you think when he decides to get a title, she would want to be included on it too or not?

R: Women just don’t love their men marrying other women beside them. And even if the woman’s name is on the land title or not, a man can’t be stopped from marrying another woman if he wants to even if women don’t love it.

I: You think that a woman’s name being on the title doesn’t benefit her in any way?

R: Me I don’t understand these things of titles, you are the people who know them and can teach me more to understand why a woman should be on a title in the first place or what good comes out if she is on the title.

I: Like you had told me, the people who have big land can be helped by a title against intruders or land stealing because for example a title shows the boundaries of your land and how it is shaped and it is legally recognized.

**00:56:58**

I suggest that you to get in touch with the LC1 chairman to help you understand more about titles. Would you love to be on a title with your husband?

R: If my husband likes it then I like it too, me as a woman, I can only agree with what my husband agrees to.

I: Let us talk regardless of whether your husband likes it or not, on the inside of you, do you desire to be on a land title with him?

R: I would love to but again I can only agree to what my husband agrees to. If he doesn’t want a title then I don’t want it too, if he loves to have it then I love to have it too.

I: Are there any benefits of having both husband and wife on title?

R: I go with whatever my husband decides, if he likes the title then I am good with it too. You have to be in agreement with whichever he decides.

I: What do you think would cause a man not to include a woman on the title?

R: I don’t know because I don’t understand these things of titles and all. But I told you that a man can’t sell land if a woman doesn’t sign for him, the buyer can’t take such land. Some men may want the land for themselves to sell as they like to in secret because the wife may refuse to sign sometimes to sell and this may not make him happy.

I: Before you encountered the team that was talking about titles when they visited your village, how have people been getting titles in this community?

R: Those titling people came and asked us if we wanted a title and we refused. And they said that if we didn’t want the title they would help renovate our house or buy for us more land to add on our small plot. They came and asked me questions.

I: Why do you think your husband refused the title?

R: I don’t know the reason he told them

I: Did you sit down to talk with him after meeting the titling people?

R: Yes, but my husband said that our land is small therefore we shouldn’t get a title

I: Before these people, how were people getting titles, for example those rich people you told me that have big farms?

R: They have the money so they can go and register for the titles and get them since they can afford them.

I: In general, what do people in your community think about titles?

R: I think they would love them because no one can grab their land tomorrow. I see the rich people have stones in their land that are brought to mark their land by those titling people that come.

I: Okay, thank you for telling me this. When the titling people came, did they sit with both you and your husband?

R: They would first talk to the man and then after they call the woman and they talk to her.

**1:03:30**

They promised to bring something for us like help us renovate our house or buy for us land but they did not say when exactly they would come back.

I: How long have you lived with your husband here?

R: It should be about 20 years

I: Do feel supported by your husband?

R: Yes, he gives me money to rent land and I plant my crops and provides for the family too.

I: Do you feel that you too give support and encourage your husband?

R: I cook for him food and serve him, I wash clothes for him, I fetch water and give him soap to bathe, what else is there for me to do for him.

I: Who makes decisions on your land in other situations like if you wanted to sell?

R: The man sits with me and our children and tells us what he wants to sell and for how much and what we might use this money for. But as a wife, if I want to go somewhere to visit, I have to first ask my husband for permission.

I: Which is the last major decision you made for your household?

R: At the beginning of this season I wanted land for farming, I talked to my husband about it and asked him for the money that they asked me for and he gave it to me.

I: After meeting separately with titling people, you and your husband, did you have any conversation about this?

R: He just told me that he didn’t think he needs a title and doesn’t love it and so he refused and told this to the team that was asking him questions. Then he told me that the people who were asking him questions said that the computer had chosen him but he didn’t want the title, they gave him a choice that they would bring a small token of appreciation when they come back.

I: What was your response to this?

R: I said that since he was promised a token of appreciation, whenever they would bring it to us, we would receive it. But me, I was told that they would either renovate our house or buy more land for us.

I: How did you react after knowing that he refused the offer to title?

R: I agreed with my husband’s decision and kept hoping for the token we were promised but after seeing that a long while had passed without them coming back in the last 2 years, we gave up. But the other day, one man came to me and said you had returned to talk to us again the titles. I asked him what it is but he read my names and for my husband and asked me to confirm if we were the ones. After he told me that we should be available on Thursday morning and explain further why they have come. He asked me if my husband has a phone and I gave him the phone number. My husband picked and agreed for the appointment, he did not go to work today because he waited for you just in case you brought something for us. My husband first insisted on the man that he already told said he didn’t want the title but the man asked him to meet with the team that was coming.

I: Thank you for explaining this to me *Mama* (this is a respectful way to address and older woman).

We know that land is owned mostly by men and we would love to understand some things about this especially in concern to the women also. We want to know your thoughts on this, we don’t have the right answers but

**1:10:55**

we would like to hear your opinions on the following. Are there women that own land in this village?

R: If a woman has her mother and father and they die, they can give you land

I: So there are women in this village who have land through this way?

R: Yes

I: What are the other ways women can acquire land that they own?

R: Some women buy land but they can buy it with their husbands not alone as individuals.

I: How about the one given to a woman by her parents, does she own it with the man?

R: No, it is hers alone but she can decide to share with the husband or not or choose to share it with her children

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

R: They can own it but with their husbands. They can grow beans this season and sell after harvesting and after getting the money, they should sit and discuss with their husbands on what to buy if it is land or something else.

I: For such land bought, do you think the women should be allowed to own it individually?

R: Women should own land with their husbands but in the case that men can marry other women in the course of the marriage, women can easily come out of the marriage with nothing. In this case, they should be able to buy their own land on the side and take care of their children should things go wrong with their husband.

I: In your own opinion as you see, do you think women want to own land separately or they want to own it with their husbands?

R: I don’t know what the other women like or think but me I think that if a woman owns land on the side, she should add her children’s name in the agreement. And the women can also own land with the man.

I: Let us say you want to sell land, is it your husband that decides or?

R: We all sit down, with our children and decide together to sell off a small piece of land and the money we get from it we shall use it for this and that. We all come out as one in the family. And if the man wants to sell but the wife doesn’t want, the buyer can never take such land and pay for it.

I: As you understand family land, do you think the wife is included or not?

R: The wife has ownership too and the children, it is one family and we all live here together.

I: In marriage, if a man wants to sell land, does he seek approval first from his wife?

R: Yes, and if the wife doesn’t want he can’t sell it. He has to first sit and ask the wife about his decision to sell.

I: Are widows allowed to stay on family land if the husband dies?

R: she can stay on the land with her children and grows them from there unless it is a foolish widow who decides to sell the land off or gives it to her new found men who sell it off to drink alcohol. If she is a good widow, she stays on the land with her children until they grow up.

**1:18:05**

I: When the woman dies too, what then happens to the land, who owns it now?

R: She will have left it for the children. The children own it.

I: What if these children are very young to own the land?

R: If the children are young, they have aunties and uncles from the father’s relatives who take care of the land until the children are old enough like at the time they are they are getting married. When they are getting married, the uncles and aunties can now divide the land amongst the children.

I: Don’t you think the uncles and aunties might grab some of this land since the children are still young and may not know how big the land is?

R: They take care of the land with the approval of the government through people like the LC1 chairman. The closest neighbors always know the details of how big the land is.

I: Does it make a difference if this land was got before they were married or if they got in the course of the marriage or if there are children involved?

R: When children are involved, most times it is hard to take away their land. The children own the land and have all the right.

I: Do widows remarry after their spouses die?

R: Those that marry are the foolish ones, if a man has left me with children, why should I remarry?

I: You personally wouldn’t want to remarry but do other widows remarry?

R: Yes, I wouldn’t remarry other widows do it.

I: So let us say those other widows remarry, can they bring their new husband on this piece of land where their former husband left them?

R: There are some who bring them and even give birth to other children in the presence of the deceased’s children but there are also some that don’t like it.

I: Have you seen or heard about it in this village that after a man dies, his male relatives come to grab the land from the widow?

R: No, it is not here and I haven’t heard about it yet. May be these could be other villages. But even when the children today grow old like this, the uncle gets scared if he tried to grab a piece of the land because the child can report him to the chairman.

I: Has the way widows are treated after losing their husbands changed in recent times?

R: The widow is in their home, she has land for her children, who would come to disturb her. If anyone tries to disturb her, she can report them to the government and they will be arrested.

I: How is a widow normally treated after the death of her husband?

R: We visit her, help her with some food and any other thing she needs. She is our neighbor therefore we have to help her.

**1:21:27**

I: The way widows are treated in this village after their husbands are dead, do you like it or there is something you would like to see changed?

R: There is something I explained to your earlier, there is a foolish bad widow and there is a good one. There is a widow who after the husband dies stays with her children and takes care of them and there is a widow who when her husband dies, she goes out to look for other men; this is the bad widow. You find that even the land she has is eaten off by the men she has got but the good widow is the one that keeps and takes care of her children and guards the land that the husband left for them. This good widow educates her children knowing that even though the husband died, he left some property that she can use to pay school fees and in turn these children will help her in future. Widows are treated well just that some turn out to be bad.

I: Is there any specific way this bad widow is treated?

R: You join your friends in the village to laugh at her and talk about her.

I: What of the woman who divorces or separates with the man, what happens to them on the issue of land? Can she stay on that land or she has to go elsewhere?

R: When a woman separates, the man can go and pick her and bring her back into the home to be with the children and they reconcile whatever brought about the separation.

I: What if they have separated or divorced for good?

R: That means the wife and husband have to share the land and each goes with their own share and separate ways.

I: How about the children, whom do they stay with?

R: This man has to build for the wife a new house elsewhere or he leaves her in the marital house they once shared together. If he has another wife, he goes elsewhere but lets the first wife stay in the marital house and he also has makes sure he pays the school fees of the children. In culture, a woman can decide to stay in the house with her children then the man definitely goes to live with his new wife or alone elsewhere on the plot or on another plot.

I: Can’t he say that he will take his children to be with the new wife in his new home?

R: You can’t take away children from their mother to live with some other woman who did not give birth to them. The children can’t accept to go.

I: Whatever happens to the women who divorce or separate from their husbands, would you like to see anything change about it or its okay for the current way?

R: Some men can go and pick their wives after some time of being separated and bring them back home which is okay.

I: Have you heard of villages where some women try to marry into because in that village widows are allowed to inherit the land of their deceased husband?

R: Everyone has their heart and their own way of thinking and, now what should I tell you. I think they are there. There is a lady who lives down below there where you came from, the husband died and left her with children who happened to turn out bad and jumpy. The husband had left cattle and plots of land for this woman but she has sold almost all of them and eaten the money with her new men.

**1:25:32**

I: You mean she hasn’t considered her children all through this?

R: The children are like their mother; they do not care just like their mother. They also eat some of the money the mother sells from this land with her. They are all the same.

I: In your way of thinking, why do husbands generally want or not want to add their wives’ names on titles?

R: I don’t know because my husband has never got a title and tries to put me there or refuse to add me and I see what happens. I don’t know this one.

I: Yes, Mama, you may have not seen a title or received with your husband but think about the other people out there. What do you think makes the men out there want to or not want to do this?

R: Those who don’t want to may be have plans of marrying other women aside from the one they have at home at the moment.

I: And what of those who add them on the title?

R: I think they have genuine love for each other.

I: If a woman was able to own land together with her husband, do you think this owning land as a husband and wife will increase or decrease conflict in their marriage?

R: When you work and agree together as husband and wife, you can enjoy the results of your work and there will not be conflict. Conflict only comes in when one of the couple is not faithful to the other which may cause them to fight physically.

I: Is there a way in which such conflict can be ended?

R: The husband and wife have to first go home and sit together and talk through it and then if they fail they will call the other family members to help them work through whatever issue it is.

I: Now, we are entering our last part of the conversation. In your view, what mostly causes land disputes?

R: The failure of those who portion the land to give equal pieces to all the people involved.

I: Okay, you mean when one takes a bigger share than the other.

R: Yes, and parents do this sometimes by giving one child a bigger share than the other. But if you give all your children equal shares then such disputes of fighting each other don’t come out.

I: How can such disputes for example siblings fighting against each other get resolved within a family?

R: The family sits down and talks through the issue and makes sure there is oneness.

I: What if the family fails to reconcile them?

R: When the family fails, they go to the court and it resolves the dispute?

I: When do the community members get involved in such disputes?

R: When they know the demarcations and boundaries of the land, it can help resolve the dispute.

**1:31:27**

I: Lets us say one of the people involved in a dispute has a land title, does it help in any way so as to end the dispute?

R: Even though there is a title, if a dispute comes up, the involved people can decide to call on the government, the people who make titles to come and clear where the boundaries pass and what demarcations were put originally.

I: What do you advise to be done for people who have issues with land security?

R: The government should be involved through the people that have these issues. They should come and listen and solve these issues.

I: Who do you think we are or where do you think we come from?

R: I think you are from Kampala because the man who came the other day told me you were coming from there. I have forgotten the organization where you come from because the years have passed by and the name has skipped my memory.

I: Okay, it is alright. Thank you Mama for talking to me, it was a great time. We appreciate your thoughts and opinions and now we have to leave and go meet with other people in other villages. Here is your gift we told you about as a token of appreciation for your time.

R: Thank you, go well, we are also going for the burial now with my husband.

**1:33:19**