FACTORS INFLUENCING INTRA FAMILY CONFLICTS:

A CASE OF KIKUYU SUB COUNTY, KIAMBU COUNTY, KENYA

by

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DECLARATION

This research project report is my original work and has not been presented in any other university or institution of higher learning for an award of a degree.

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This research project report has been submitted with my approval as University Supervisor.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my loving husband, Simon M Kinyatti, our children Alex, David, Francis, Anthony and Diana Joy who were supportive throughout my academic period.

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May the Almighty God bless you all.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
APA	American Psychological Association
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
UNDHR	United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights
ACHPR	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

ABSTRACT

Today's families experience problems like unfaithfulness, violence, child molestation, divorce and separation. These problems experienced in families affect the intra family members. The purpose of the study is to analyse the factors influencing intra family conflicts and therefore it's carried out in Kikuyu Sub-county. Intra family conflict is prevalent in both developed and developing countries. It is a major constraint to development in many parts of the world. In Kenya, surveys on intra family conflict have been done in areas such as Nairobi and Machakos. In effect, there is need to study this vice in other parts of the country. This study employed the descriptive survey research design to determine factors influencing intra family conflicts under the study. The study sought to understand the factors influencing intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub County. The objectives include: to determine the extent of access to resources and intra family conflict; to establish the relationship between the level of education and intra family conflict; to establish the exposure to conflict resolutions skills. Stratified and random sampling techniques were used to get the sample frame of the respondents. The research instruments used open and closed ended questionnaires and personal interviews. Data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences [SPSS]. It is presented by using frequencies, percentages and cross tabulation because the data was descriptive. The study is expected to elicit useful data on the factors influencing intra family conflicts in Kikuyu Sub County Kiambu County. The study findings revealed that the income per year is too low since majority had a total income per annum of between 0 – 100,000 shillings. This low income may be causing intra conflict in the family. The findings also indicated that the families had many children and this may contribute to intra family conflict in the families. Majority of the respondents lacked conflict resolution skills and this therefore must be enhancing the occurrence on intra conflict among the family members in the study area. From the study findings and conclusions the following recommendations were made; the local administration and reconciliation bodies should underpin resource conflicts that exist in the families. They should also create empowerment forums so as to enlighten members of the society on equitable distribution of family wealth thus, reducing recurrence of intra family conflict owing to access to resources. Also the local churches and other stakeholders like the area chief should organize peaceful coexistence forums so as to enlighten the society on conflict resolution skills. The study suggested that study to be established on whether intra family conflict influences children's deviant behaviour.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Functional family structure is needed in order to fulfil the tasks of family in supporting individuation while providing a sense of belonging and togetherness (Kiernan, 2003). Demographic and social changes in the last few decades have brought about a transformation in family fabric function, formations and structures. Currently, marriage rates have fallen steadily while divorce rates have remained relatively high (Matejevic, Jovanovic, & Lazarevic, 2014). These changes can therefore lead to conflict in the family.

In any family, conflict situation is whereby the smooth interaction and relation among members of a family is disrupted because of one thing or another. It can be between the two parents or between parents and their children (Lewis, 2001). Malek (2013) states that no matter how loving a family is, all families go through conflict. Family conflict is different from other types of conflict for several reasons. Family members are already highly emotionally attached. These emotions can quickly intensify conflict. Therefore, family members are involved in long-term relationships and often are required to interact with each other daily.

Families' intra conflict can lead to long, tangled, painful conflicts that leads to things like divorce or domestic violence. Intra family conflict manifests itself when violence is used to resolve disputes. Violence in any form is a serious problem that transcends in racial, economic, social and religious lines (Kiernan, 2003). Conflict in a family can be as a result of lack of trust, drunkenness, lack of dialogue, lack of respect, joblessness and idleness. It manifests itself in the form of fights, quarrels, spouse battering, child abuses and child molestation. It can result to a bad atmosphere in the home, separation or even divorce.

The World Health Organisation (1996) documented that, among women aged 15-44 years, gender violence often leads to death and disability. In addition, studies in India, Bangladesh, the USA, Papua, New Guinea and Peru indicate a high correlation between intra family conflict and suicide rates (WHO, 1997). Statistics published in 1997 by the World Health Organization on

studies conducted in 24 countries in America, Europe and Asia revealed that between 20 percent and 50 percent of the women interviewed reported that they suffered physical abuse from their male partners (Neft & Levine, 1997).

For many countries, the economic cost of intra family conflict is substantial. For example, in Canada, a 1995 study estimated that violence against women costed the country 1.5 billion Canadian dollars lost in reduced labour productivity, and increased medical and community support services (UNICEF, 1997). Often, those who experience physical abuse end up using more medical services due to later complications. Such increased demand for health care services and loss in terms of productivity has become a big milestone to economic development especially among the developing countries (UNPFA, 1999).

Besides, a study done in South Africa showed that one adult woman out of every six is assaulted regularly by her mate. In at least 46 percent of these cases, the men involved also abuse the women's children (Russell, 1991). According to Walker (1999), studies carried out have shown that when one form of violence will be found in the family, other forms are more likely to also occur and that violence in the family has a direct relationship to community violence and other forms of aggression and gender based violence. Law enforcement in many countries will not intervene in what is often called a “domestic quarrel” even though psychological research indicates that without such intervention, abusers are unlikely to seek help to stop their battering behaviour.

The problem is wide spread in sub-Saharan Africa. Surveys conducted in the region show that 40 percent in Zambia, 46 percent in Uganda and 60 percent in Tanzania women reported regular physical abuse (Heisse, 1996). In Rwanda, family conflicts are becoming a major problem to security and threaten welfare of Rwandan families. In the last two decades following the 1994 genocide against Tutsi, the Rwandan society witnessed family members that have quarrelled to the extent of killing one another despite efforts to promote family.

The Rwandan constitution set up appropriate legislation and institutions for the protection of the family, especially the child and the mother. In this regards, the National Policy for Family

Protection outlines a framework for the implementation and monitoring of programmes to ensure the protection and support of the family in order to enable it to play efficiently its vital role in the country development. The Policy aims at ensuring Peace, Democracy and Security within Family by promoting the culture of peace and an atmosphere of good harmony in the family (IRDP, 2013).

Intra family conflict in Kenya may exceed the 42 percent if other forms of violence such as psychological and economical abuse are included in these surveys. According to FIDA, 2001, intra family conflict is one of the reasons why many families remain poor despite working hard towards their well-being for example if one is battered in a family, the amount of time and money lost in search for medical attention is very high (Juma, 2002).

The FIDA (2001) annual report reveals that intra family conflict was the most common human rights violation of the year out a total of 62 murders reported between Jan and Sept 2000, FIDA estimated that 29 cases involved a man killing his wife. This accounted for 47% of all murders nationwide are as a result of intra family conflict and included broken limbs and fractures, amputations, physical marks, missing teeth and hair. Between January and November 2000, the Kenyan media reported some 50 deaths and 59 cases of severe injuries from intra family conflict (Juma, 2002). In addition, according to Kwamboka (2002), intra family conflict is becoming common among the affluent in Kenya with a strong socio-cultural link. Thus, women who are either too dependent or too independent are more likely to face intra family conflict than their peers who fall under neither of the extremists.

Ingolo (2002) observed that the tradition in Kenya forbids men from crying or speaking about any abuse administered to them especially by women. Battered men have now set up a body to protect them from their spouses. The organization, Men for Gender Equality Change Now (MGEN), was set up but has not picked up great publicity (Mbekar, 2003). Incidents of husband abuse have recently been reported in the media. Exposure to destructive marital conflict is thought to teach children that aggression is an efficient tool to achieving interpersonal goals. Moreover, frequent and intense early parental conflict may set an aversive, hostile

family climate. Destructive marital conflicts have shown marital discord to be related to a range of later child behavior problem. Inter-parental relationships characterized by overt and hostile conflict has been positively associated with increased use of aggression. The range of behavioral outcomes associated with inter-parental conflict suggests that it may have a diffuse, general effect on children's conflict style that is exhibited in many different relationships. It was thus against this background that the current study sought to establish the factors that influence intra family conflict.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Family structure functionality is needed in order to fulfil the people's tasks that provide a sense of belonging and togetherness. However, conflict situation is whereby the smooth interaction and relation among members of a family is disrupted because of one thing or anothIn Kenya today, hardly a week goes by before it is reported in the media that a child or its parents or both have been hospitalized or killed as a result of intra family conflicts. There have also been cases of suicidal killings, where the head of the family kills his wife and children before killing himself. Poor family relationships have been linked to juvenile delinquency. Early theories viewed the broken home as a cause of member misconduct, but subsequent research found that divorce and separation play a similar role. The quality of family life has a great influence on member's behaviour. Families in conflict produce more delinquents than those that function harmoniously (Kwamboka, 2002).

Concern over the relationship between family life and delinquency has been heightened by reports of widespread abuse and fatality. Cases of abuse and neglect have been found in every social class and racial group and are bound to recur to individual who suffered or witnessed family conflict. Parents who themselves suffered abuse as children tend to abuse their own children (Matejevic, Jovanovic, & Lazarevic, 2014). Thus, isolated and alienated families tend to become abusive. This study, therefore, sought to establish the factors influencing intra family conflicts.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to investigate the factors influencing intra family conflicts in Kikuyu Sub-County, Kiambu County, Kenya.

1.4 Research Objectives

The study is guided by the following objectives:

(i) To determine the extent to which access to resources influences intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County Kiambu County, Kenya.

(ii) To establish the influence of level of education on intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County Kiambu County, Kenya.

(iii) To establish the extent to which exposure to conflict resolutions skills influences intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County Kiambu County, Kenya.

1.5 Research Questions

The study is guided by the following questions:

(i) What is the influence of access to resources on intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County Kiambu County, Kenya?

(ii) How does level of education influence intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County Kiambu County, Kenya?

(iii) To what extent does exposure to conflict resolution skills influence intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County Kiambu County, Kenya?

1.6 Significance of the Study

The findings of this study may add knowledge to the body of literature on family conflict. The study may be of help to parents and especially those who experience problems in their families. They may understand how problems in a family can affect their children short-term life and to some extent, their future. This may encourage such parents to embrace dialogue and

understanding in an effort of trying to solve their problems. In instances where the problems are severe, they can engage the services of a counsellor so that harmony prevails.

It may also be of benefit to counsellors, especially those who specialize in intra-family conflict. They can be able to offer intervention measures to family members who come from families that experience conflict in an effort to help them build good relationships with each other.

1.7 Delimitation of the Study

The study delimited itself on the factors influencing intra family conflict leaving out other influences that form of conflicts that a family can face. The study only focused on three variables as factors influencing intra family conflict that include; access to resources, level of education and exposure to conflict resolution. Many other determinants like personality differences and societal factors that may bear considerable effect on the independent variables were not included. The study involved parents, area chief, church counsellors and therapists. The study was done in Kikuyu Sub-County, Kiambu County which is a cosmopolitan region with families located geographical in both formal and informal arrangements.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

It was hectic for the researcher to visit all families in the study area. The busy schedule of parents, counsellors, therapists and administrative representatives also slowed down the data collection process. The study subject was also a sensitive matter and respondents tended to shy away from participating in the study. To mitigate this, the research created rapport with the respondents and assured them that information given in this study was confidential and used only for academic purposes.

1.9 Assumptions of the study

The study was based on the following assumptions: there existed intra family conflict that hindered effective functioning of the family structure. The local churches had enough information on intra family conflicts in the area. Area administrative representatives played a vital role in exposing society to conflict resolution skills.

1.10 Definition of operational terms

The following are the significant terms of the study:

Access to resources: the ability of a parent to harness economic freedom to provide the basic needs and ensure his/her family has a comfortable life.

Exposure to conflict resolution skills: Importance of conflict resolution in maintaining harmony within the family.

Intra Family Conflict: This refers to problems, oppositions or differences that occur within the family set up. Therefore, it refers to problems, oppositions or differences that intra family faces within their home.

Level of education: This show the level of education achieved by respondents and includes no formal education, primary, secondary and post-secondary education.

1.11 Organization of the study

This research study is organized in five chapters.

Chapter One covers the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives and research questions. It also covered the significance of the study, delimitation, limitations of the study, assumptions of the study, definitions of the significant terms as well as the organization of the study.

Chapter Two covers the literature review explaining the factors influencing intra family conflicts in kikuyu Sub County Kiambu County. Theoretical framework and conceptual framework, the relationship between the factors on the conceptual framework, the literature review as well as the summary of the literature review.

Chapter Three outlines the research methodology which includes research design, target population, sample size, sampling technique, research instruments reliability and validity and procedures for data collection and analysis techniques.

Chapter Four contains the data analysis, presentation, interpretation of the research findings.

Chapter Five contains the summary of research findings, discussions, conclusion, recommendations and suggestion for future studies.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter reviewed relevant literature on factors influencing intra family conflict from global, regional and local perspectives. The chapter also offered both theoretical and conceptual frameworks on which the study was based on.

2.2 Concept of intra Family Conflict

When qualities of the parent-child relationship have been examined in relation to child adjustment in school, the results support the idea that parent-child conflict might also have direct as well as moderating effects on both teacher-child and child-peer relationships. It is reasonable to expect that children may exhibit a similar style of interaction with their parent and teacher, as both are characterized as hierarchical relationships in which the adult is instrumental in assisting the child in developing emotional and behavioral regulatory strategies (Pianta, 1997).

Research has found a strong relationship between violence in the home and violence in the community. Golden (2000) reports that it has been found that prior history of abuse can increase the likelihood of abusive behaviour. According to Steinberg (1996), parental conflict and aggression or a conflict atmosphere in the home is related to offspring's personal or violent crimes. Murphy and O'Farrell (1994) highlighted the view that parents play a central role in shaping the child's development through their influence. Thus if parents keep having conflicts in their homes, families are bound to be affected as they grow up. They also asserted that families learn through imitating and identification with the parents and other significant adults. If the children grow up in a family where violence is a common phenomenon, they may end up doing the same in their families, unless intervention is carried out.

The first important influence on children is the family but when children interact with other members of a large system of social institutions, such as the homes, the workplace and

community you expect them to learn different family values. Parental involvement and education improve both family and child functioning not forgetting that family is one of the most important socialization agent.

It has been found out that parental involvement in a child might have lasting effects on its behaviour. Steinberg (1996) assets that conflict is a critical aspect of family functioning that often outweighs the influence of family structure on the child's development. He also reports that studies carried out have found that children healthy and social development is most effectively promoted by love and at least some moderate parental control. According to

Seifert and Hoffnung (1997), children who have lived for years in situations of neglect or abuse suffer severe stress. They also state that students often receive long term support from parents or other adults at home as well as strong support from parents at home before they strengthen their self-esteem. Involving parents in learning activities with their children at home is one kind of parental involvement that many educators believe is an important aspect of the child's learning. If the family is undergoing conflict; parents will not have time for their families. Men, who more often use violence, do so in order to obtain and maintain power and control over others. The APA task force on violence and the family defined intra family conflict as a pattern of abusive behaviours including a wide range of physical, sexual and psychological maltreatment used by one person in an intimate relationship against another to gain power unfairly or maintain that person's misuse of power, control and authority.

Berk (1999) asserts that problematic school performance is among the more common problems associated with child abuse and neglect. Such children often experience difficulties with social relationship, problem solving and the ability to cope with new or stressful situations. According to studies carried out, some abused or neglected children develop aggressive behaviour patterns, others become withdrawn while others even get PTSD or major depression. Kiura (1999) asserts that a healthy relationship between husband and wife depends on self-understanding, understanding spouse, balance between individuality, mutual relationship, proper management of conflicts, sexual harmony and sound skills in mutual dialogue and communication.

Parents need to assume responsibility for their children eternal destiny, educate them, prepare them for life and guide them towards the right way. If parents are not in harmony; it follows that their children will suffer too. They not only suffer at school but also when they go to other homes or visit friends they carrying the burden of their parents with them.

2.3Influence of access to resources on intra family conflict

Women in many parts of the world continue to face discrimination in access to land, housing, property and other productive resources and have limited access to technologies and services that could alleviate their work burdens. Unequal access to resources limits women's capacity to ensure agricultural productivity, security of livelihoods and food security and is increasingly linked to poverty, migration, urbanization and increased risk of violence. Population growth, climate change, the spread of markets and urbanization have created new opportunities and new challenges in women's access to land, housing and other productive resources (World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, 2009).

Economic resources, the term resources are introduced by (Blood & Wolfe 1960) had he opined that the spouse who provides the most valued resources to a marriage will have power and control in the family. The original formulation emphasized economically important resources such as economic resources referring to the direct factors of production such as "immoveable" assets, including land, housing, common pool resources and infrastructure, as well as "moveable" assets, such as productive equipment, technology and livestock. Financial resources refer to money-based resources, including government expenditures, private financial flows and official development assistance, as well as income, credit, savings and remittances. Both economic and financial resources have important implications for women's economic roles in sustaining household livelihoods, in labour markets and in the wider economy.

Labour is the primary resource available to the vast majority of people, particularly those from low-income households, and labour markets are the means through which many women and men meet their own needs and those of their dependants and invest in the future. Financial strain or economic pressure is frequently implicated in family conflict and causes considerable

marital instability; which refers to a couple's potential for separation or divorce (Gudmunson, Beutler, Israelsen, McCoy & Hill, 2007). While it is hoped that couples will be happy in a lasting marriage, the reality is that sometimes marriages do not work out and the spouses choose to separate or divorce.

Separation according to (Wolfe 1997) is a situation where a husband and wife stay away from each other for a given period either because they have agreed (Separation by Agreement) or because the court has ordered the separation (Judicial Separation). Separation does not end a marriage, but only suspends certain rights of the husband and the wife. The husband and wife are still considered to be married. Neither can marry another person during the separation however, it cannot go beyond some years. Divorce (Wolfe 1997) is the permanent ending of a marriage. It only applies to legally recognized marriages. The procedure for divorce depends on the type of marriage the parties had. The proper legal procedures have to be followed for a divorce to be valid and for the marriage to be permanently dissolved. Leaving or chasing away a spouse does not amount to divorce or put a legal end to a marriage. According to Section 65 of Matrimonial Properties Act of Laws of Kenya the following provision for grounds of apply for a divorce petition i.e. adultery by either spouse; cruelty by either spouse; exceptional depravity by the other spouse; desertion for at least three years; or irretrievable breakdown of the marriage e.g. (insanity, imprisonment for life or 7+ years).

Gudmunson, (2007) found that their demographically representative American sample of almost five thousand couples indicated that disagreement about money tended to surface under conditions of economic strain. Three other variables contributed to these disagreements; reduced time together, marital hostility and emotional distress. Financial strain contributed strongly to both partner's emotional distress and increased incidences of couple disagreements and potential for divorce or separation. Money is quoted as the foremost cause of divorce within the first seven years of marriage in America (Klontz, Kahler & Klontz, 2002; Trachtman, 1999). Money was cited as the number one stressor by 73% of respondents in a survey commissioned by the American Psychological Association, ahead of issues such as work, physical health and

children (2004). In Kenya Ackerman (2004) states that the absolute number of divorces for the entire population has been steadily increasing since 1999 and that a macro level reason for this is financial. Women are becoming part of the formal labour force giving more women access to money as a result of an ideological shift which has entrenched the values of gender equality in law (Ackerman, 2004).

Money is also a source or interpersonal reason for divorce and becomes the central focus of any divorce proceedings. Money, is according to Haugen (2005), a fundamental issue in family life before, during and even after divorce. Divorce usually happens after a long period of 'heightened' conflict between parents and a significant aspect of divorced parents' conflict centres on child support or maintenance money. Simpson (1997) suggests that this is because the breakdown of the marital relationship makes it necessary to expose and put a value on the transactions that take place within a marriage. Things like childcare, time and various household tasks that do not usually have a market value; Simpson (1997) includes love in these transactions. Patterns of parental interaction are important predictors of child parent interactions and conflict in one may result in conflict in the other (Sillars, 2003; Barber, 1994). Marital adjustment connotes the submerging of spousal interests for the common good of the marriage. Spouses can manage conflict so that they feel satisfied with one another and with their marriage (Scanzoni & Scanzoni, 1988). Marital adjustment assumes that marital couples complement one another and ignore gender inequalities (Strong et. al, 1983).

2.4 Influence of level of education on intra family conflict.

According to Day and Peterson (1998), parents with higher levels of education tend to utilize non-physical means of discipline. These parents tend to have more money and a larger social network that offers them support and hence do not have a lot of stress which contributes negatively to the home environment. Education is an empowering tool for both women and men (WHO, 1999). The level of education may impact positively or negatively on the rate of abuse among intimate partners. Studies done in Colombia on the relationship between partner violence and unintended pregnancy showed that almost half (48%) of the victims had secondary

education but only 9% had been educated at a higher level (World Bank, 1993). However, in another study contacted in India results showed that intra family conflict rises with the level of education (WHO, 1999). In India, the study found out that a woman's risk of being beaten, kicked or hit rose along with her level of education and in effect, this correlation points to the imperative need for attitudinal change among men and women in the society in general.

Kephart and Jedlika (1998) also analyzed crime records relating to intra family conflict and found a correlation between the level of education and intra family conflict. The relationship between the two differs from one place to another, and depending on other personal characteristics, such as gender, ethnicity, mental health and the level of income (WHO, 1999). Research shows that parents with a personal, educated background have a much easier time preparing their children for school compared to parents lacking this background. The education that children receive is very much dependent on the education that their parents received when they were children. Research shows that the literacy of their parents strongly affects the education of their children. Teale found in his studies that "children experience literacy primarily as a social process during their preschool years." (Teale 1992) Parents strongly affect this social learning process because they are the biggest influence at this early stage in their children's lives. One of the reasons why it strongly affects their children's education is because "parents who have gone beyond a high school education are found to be more involved with their infants and children than those who did not finish high school…many less educated parents simply have more unmanaged stress in their lives, and this stress interferes with ability and opportunity to interact with their child" (Sclafani 88). Typically, parents who have finished high school and gone on to receive additional schooling understand the pressures and stresses of school and are more equipped to handle them with their children when they go through school.

Parents who have obtained further educational opportunities also have less stress in their lives because they most likely making more money while spending less time making that money than those who, unfortunately, have not been able to finish high school for one reason or another. It is unfortunate that less educated parents are less likely to be involved in their children's

education process because “research repeatedly demonstrates that schools and school districts do better when parents are engaged as equal partners in the decision making that affects their children and their schools…Only through this richer level of engagement will parents and the public at large better understand their vital connection to quality public education” (Glickman 229). Parents with less education do not participate as often in their children’s education to some effect because they do not realize the importance of their interaction with schools and they are probably intimidated, just like they were in high school. Even though parents of low-income families participate less in their children’s education, according to Neuman, “most parents – even low-income and culturally and linguistically diverse parents – possess the attitudes and at least the sufficient early literacy skills and knowledge to help their children get on the road to literacy” (Neuman 221).

Additional literature that shows that uniquely the mother’s education has a significant impact on her children’s learning process. Benjamin Ann says, “The mother’s education if one of the most important factors influencing children’s reading levels and other school achievements…Generally, traditional research has revealed that more highly educated mothers have greater success in providing their children with the cognitive and language skills that contribute to early success in school.” (Ann 1986) This is because stereotypically, the mother in more involved in her children’s education, and therefore has more influence on it. Another good point that Ann makes is that “children of mothers with high levels of education stay in school longer than children of mothers with low levels of education.” Again, this conclusion was reinforced by all the other research that convincingly shows that parents who have completed levels of higher education with be more involved in their children’s education.

2.5Influence of exposure to conflict resolution skills on intra family conflict

Conflict is a normal, and even healthy, part of relationships. After all, two people can’t be expected to agree on everything at all times. Since relationship conflicts are inevitable, learning to deal with them in a healthy way is crucial. When conflict is mismanaged, it can harm the relationship. But when handled in a respectful and positive way, conflict provides

an opportunity for growth, ultimately strengthening the bond between two people. Conflicts are a fact of life to be dealt with, not a sign of failure. (Greenfield & Yan, 2006) They can provide an opportunity for new learning and an improved relationship. Here are some ways conflict can have positive effects: Confrontation in a conflict can lead to change; Being aware of conflicts can increase your motivation to do well; Conflicts increase awareness of problems that need to be solved; Disagreement often causes a decision to be thought through more carefully; Conflicts help you understand what you are like under pressure; Minor conflicts can defuse potentially large ones; and Conflicts can be fun if they're not taken too seriously. When two people have different values and beliefs, they may choose different goals or different methods to achieve the same goals. Since each goal requires an investment of *time*, *effort*, and some *sacrifice*, one goal cannot be pursued without sacrificing the other to some extent. When one person perceives a block to achieving his or her goal, conflict occurs. Recognizing differences in values can bring about an understanding of why certain areas or issues create conflict.

Successfully manoeuvring through life requires attaining a set of skills, for example the ability to communicate with others and work through conflicts that are acquired through different avenues during a person's developmental journey (Sproull & Kiesler, 1991). They go on further to state the criteria for Healthy and unhealthy ways of managing and resolving conflict. Conflict triggers strong emotions and can lead to hurt feelings, disappointment, and discomfort. When handled in an unhealthy manner, it can cause irreparable rifts, resentments, and breakups. But when conflict is resolved in a healthy way, it increases our understanding of one another, builds trust, and strengthens our relationship bonds.

Unhealthy responses to conflict are characterized by: An inability to recognize and respond to matters of great importance to the other person, Explosive, angry, hurtful, and resentful or reactions. The withdrawal of love, resulting in rejection, isolation, shaming, and fear of abandonment. The expectation of bad outcomes. The fear and avoidance of conflict Healthy responses to conflict are characterized by: The capacity to recognize and respond to important

matters, readiness to forgive and forget, the ability to seek compromise and avoid punishing. A belief that resolution can support the interests and needs of both parties**.**

Managing and resolving conflict requires emotional maturity, self-control, and empathy. It can be tricky, frustrating, and even frightening. (Greenfield & Yan, 2006) One can ensure that the process is as positive as possible by sticking to the following conflict resolution guidelines: Make the relationship one's priority. Maintaining and strengthening the relationship, rather than "winning" the argument, should always be ones first priority. Be respectful of the other person and his or her viewpoint. (Greenfield & Yan, 2006) Focus on the present. If one is holding on to old hurts and resentments, one's ability to see the reality of the current situation will be impaired. Rather than looking to the past and assigning blame, focus on what one can do in the here and now to solve the problem. Pick one's battles. Conflicts can be draining, so it's important to consider whether the issue is really worthy of one's time and energy. Be willing to forgive. Resolving conflict is impossible if one is unwilling or unable to forgive. Resolution lies in releasing the urge to punish, which can never compensate for our losses and only adds to our injury by further depleting and draining our lives.

2.6 Theoretical Framework

This study was guided by the following theories: Social learning theory, Feminist Theory and an Ecological Model of factors associated with partner abuse by Heisse, 1898.

Social Learning Theory

According to the Social Learning Theory, (Bandura, 1986), everything we do has been learned. Much learning in humans, results from observing the behavior of others and from imagining the consequences of our own actions. Often children copy the behavior they have observed from others. Social learning Theory therefore, explains violence as a coping mechanism learned through observation or experience. Modelling is a contributory factor to learning violent behaviour as well (Gentlewarrier, 1991).

This theory maintains that the likelihood of repeated abusive behaviour is contingent upon reinforcement. Intergenerational transmission of violence is one component of social learning theory (Coleman, 1994). This aspect maintains that children who witness or experience violence in their family of origin are more likely to integrate violence into their behavioural repertoire. Research has been done linking exposure to violence during childhood and the experience of violence as an adult in an intimate relationship.

Lie and Gentlewarrier (1991) conducted a correlational study that examines the relationship between witnessing or experiencing violence in the family of origin and violence in a marriage relationship. Results suggested that participants who witnessed aggression between members of their family of origin were more likely to have been a victim of aggression with a current intimate partner. In this study, the principles of observational learning, imitation, and intergenerational transmission of violence have been used as a guide in understanding the factors influencing intra family conflict.

Feminist Theory

Feminist Theory developed out of a Social American Women's' movement whose roots can be traced in the early 18th century. Mary Wollstone Crofts' vindication of the Rights of Women in 1972 is considered as the first manifesto of a conscious political Feminism. Thus in the 19th century, the movement had begun to look at women's' status and to seek legal protection in case of oppression. Up to 1970's, research and explanations for intra family conflict typically blamed the victim (Merrill, 1996). With the growth of the feminists' movement in the United States, feminists have focused on helping women raise their awareness of ascribed gender roles and oppressive social status through social action. According to this theory, intra family conflict is a manifestation of gender-based oppression, which promotes rigid family and societal roles, thereby limiting economic opportunity for women. This gender-based theory has been a guide in explaining intra family conflict in this study.

Ecological model

According to the model, the source of intra family conflict is demonstrated into four major co-existing factors, namely the individual perpetrator, relationship, community and society.

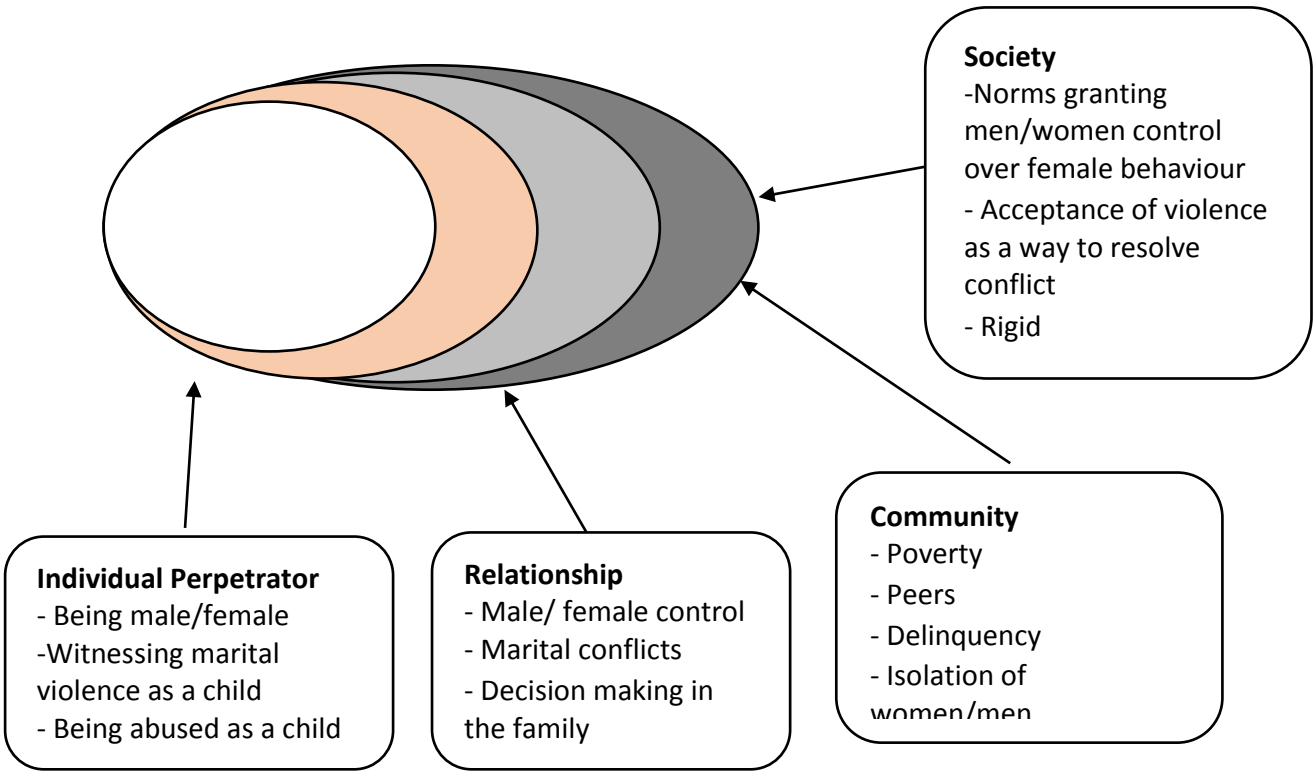

Figure 1 Ecological model (Source: Hopkins, 2013)

Ecological Model of Factors Associated with Partner Abuse. Source: Adapted from Heisse, 1998. Population Report Centre Page 8. The model is visualized as four concentric circles. The innermost circle represents the biological and personal history that each individual brings to his or her behaviour in relationships. The second circle represents the immediate context in which abuse takes place, frequently the family or other intimate or acquaintance relationship. The third cycle represents the institutions and social structures, both formal and informal in which relationships are embedded. The fourth circle is the society that reflects economic and social environment, including cultural norms. There is evidence of some bias in this model where men are viewed to perpetrate intra family conflict, but in this study the researcher will treat both

genders equally so as to establish unbiased information. Therefore, in this study, an eclectic approach is adopted where the ideas from the above theories and model were amalgamated in conceptualising intra family conflict. Thus intra family conflict may be caused by learning violence from observation and experiences in childhood. Rigid family and societal roles that may be oppressive may limit males or females in accessing opportunities that may lead to economic development.

2.7Conceptual Framework

A conceptual framework is a brief explanation of the relationships between the variables identified for study in the statement of the problem, objectives and research questions (Mugenda, 2008). The conceptual frame work of this study appears as Fig.2.

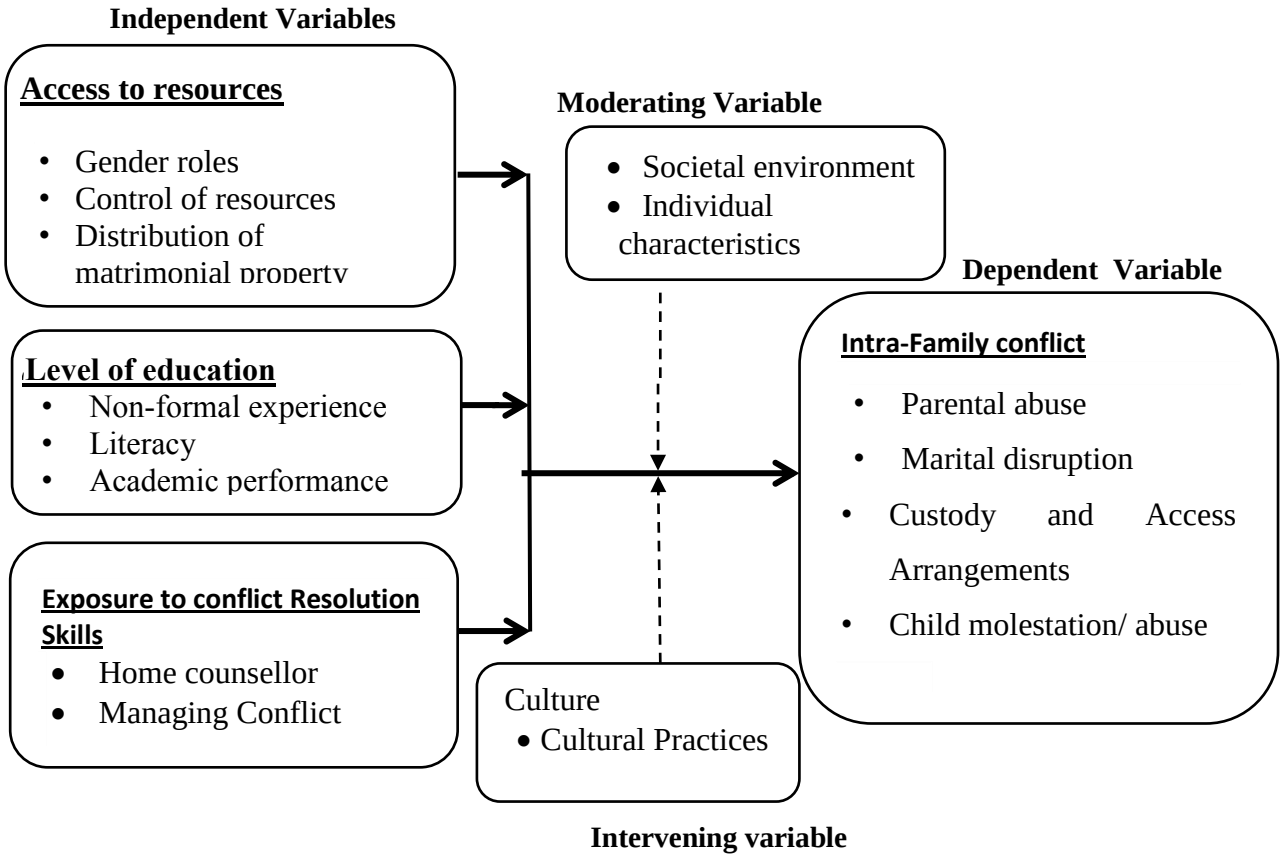

Figure 2: Conceptual framework of the study

Figure 2 presents the diagrammatical framework for the study on the factors influencing of intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub County, Kiambu County, Kenya. The framework showed that

intra family conflicts influenced by factors related to families' characteristics such as, access to resources and parental level of education while as intervention measures that expose family members to conflict resolution skills. These are the independent variables of the study. These factors, according to the conceptual framework have a direct influence on the existence of intra family conflict. All these factors if addressed well facilitate peaceful coexistence among family members. Therefore, marital violence, divorce, sexual assault parental absence among others was reduced.

2.8 Summary

Different scholars have highlighted different aspects that contribute to intra family conflict. For instance, Gudmunson, Beutler, Israelsen, McCoy and Hill (2007) states that financial strain or economic pressure is frequently implicated in family conflict and causes considerable marital instability; which refers to a couple's potential for separation or divorce. Further others like Klontz, Kahler & Klontz, 2002; Trachtman, 1999; and Ackerman (2004) states that money is the foremost cause of divorce within the first seven years of marriage. According to Day and Peterson (1998), parents with higher levels of education tend to utilize non-physical means of discipline. These parents tend to have more money and a larger social network that offers them support and hence do not have a lot of stress which contributes negatively to the home environment. Kephart and Jedlika (1998) also analyzed crime records relating to intra family conflict and found a correlation between the level of education and intra family conflict.

However, Greenfield and Yan, (2006) states that conflicts are a fact of life to be dealt with, not a sign of failure therefore, the significance of coping mechanisms. They can provide an opportunity for new learning and an improved relationship. Successfully manoeuvring through life requires attaining a set of skills, for example the ability to communicate with others and work through conflicts that are acquired through different avenues during a person's developmental journey (Sproull & Kiesler, 1991). Thus the current study sought to use the three variables to establish the influence of intra family conflict.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter sets out various stages and phases that were followed in carrying out the study. Specifically, the following subsections are included; research design, target population, sampling procedure, methods of data collection, validity and reliability, operational definition of variables.

3.2 Research design

Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) define descriptive research as a process of collecting data in order to answer questions concerning the current status of the study subject. Descriptive research designs are used in preliminary and exploratory studies to allow researchers to gather information, summarize, present and interpret it for the purpose of clarification. The steps involved in descriptive research are: formulating the objectives of the study, designing the method of data collection, selecting the sample, data collection and analyzing the results. This study employed descriptive survey research design. It was fit within the provisions of descriptive research design because the researcher followed all the steps of descriptive research in her study on the factors influencing intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County.

3.3 Target Population

A population is the entire group of individuals, events or objects that have a common observable characteristic (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). According to the 2009 census the population in Kikuyu Sub-County was194,521; with the urban population being 3,724. The primary target population for this study was all married men and women who were approximately 1356 married couples. Only married men and women were used in the study because the scope of the study was limited to intra family conflict in a marriage relationship. The study also targeted key informants who included local churches counsellors, family

therapists and area administrative representatives to give important information about conflict resolution strategies.

3.4 Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

A sample size is a subset of the population to which researcher intends to generalize the results. Any statements made about the sample should also be true of the population (Orodho, 2002). The study used stratified sampling to select families based on their category to participate in the study. In urban set-up, the families were divided into strata based on the residential zones to ensure equal representation. Five families were picked randomly from each zone to add up to 15 sample families. In the rural set-up, 15 families were sampled randomly due to their topographical distribution. Census sampling was used to select all the men and women in the sampled families. Simple random sampling was used to sample five local churches counsellors as key informants on family therapy information due to intra family conflict in the sub county. Therefore, the total sample of the study will comprise of 30 males, 30 females, 5 local churches counsellors, two therapists, the area chief and a police officer. This sampling was as presented in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

Category	Population	Sample size	Procedure
Families	1356	30	Stratified
Men	678	30	Purposive
Women	678	30	Purposive
Area chief	1	1	Census
Police officers	-	2	Purposive
Church counsellors	25	5	Simple random

3.5 Research instruments

Data in the study was collected using questionnaires and an interview guide. A questionnaire gathers data over a large sample, saves time, confidentiality is upheld and there is no opportunity for interview bias (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). The questionnaires helped in collecting information over a short period of time. The questionnaire collected data from the male and females in the selected families that was in form of open ended questions or unstructured. This method gave the respondents complete freedom of responses. An interview guide was used to collect data from the key informants.

3.6 Instrument validity

To establish the validity of the instrument, this study used content validity which measured the degree to which the sample of tests item represents the content that the tests were designed to measure. Kothari (2004) states that to demonstrate the content validity of a set of test scores, one show that the behaviors demonstrated in testing constitute a representative sample of behaviors to be exhibited in a desired performance domain. Validity was also established by use of expert judgment, where the supervisor assessed the validity of the instrument (Best &Khan, 2006). Based on the supervisors' advice the researcher made the necessary adjustments on the research tools.

3.7 Instrument reliability

Reliability is the proportion of variance attributable to be the true measurement of a variable and estimates the consistency of such measurement overtime, in other words it is a measure of the degree to which research instruments would yield the same results after repeated trials (Best and Kahn, 2006). The procedure for extracting an estimate of reliability was obtained from the administration of test-retest method which involved administering the same instrument twice to the same group of subject with a 2 weeks' time lapse between the first and second administration. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) a coefficient of 0.80 or more

simply showed that there was high reliability of data. In case if the coefficient was less than 0.8, the instruments were reviewed to ensure that they were reliable to give viable data for the study.

3.8 Methods of data collection

The researcher sought a research permit from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). The researcher then proceeded to report to the Sub-County Commissioner, Kikuyu Sub County, for security purposes, and thereafter wrote letters to the key informants to be allowed to do the study in their respective jurisdictions. The researcher visited the selected families, create rapport with the respondents and explain the purpose of the study before administering the questionnaire to the respondents. The respondents were assured that strict confidentiality was maintained in dealing with their identities. The completed questionnaires were collected once filled out.

3.9 Data analysis technique

According to Mugenda (2008), data analysis is the process of bringing order and meaning to raw data collected. After the questionnaires were returned the researcher then checked for completeness, accuracy of information and uniformity. Descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution and percentages was used to analyse the data collected. Tables were used to present responses for each item that was used. Qualitative data from open ended questions was organized into sub topics and discussed in-line with the research questions.

3.10 Ethical considerations

Ethics has become a cornerstone for conducting effective and meaningful research (Best & Khan, 2006). The researcher had a responsibility to protect the participants in an investigation. The first ethical consideration was to ensure that the respondents consent to the study. Consent involves the procedure by which an individual may choose whether or not to participate in a study. In this study, the researcher reassured the respondents' confidentiality of their responses and therefore encouraged them to answer the questionnaire confidently and positively.

3.11 Operational Definitions of Variables

The chapter also presents operational definition of variables which were measured using nominal and ordinal scale. The operationalization for this study was as shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Operationalization of Variables

Objectives	**Independent Variable**	**Dependent variable**	**Indicators**	**Scale of measurement**	**Data Collecting methods**	**Statistical tests**
Determine access to resources	• Scarcity of Resources • Gender roles • Control of resources Women lead homesteads	Intra family Conflict	•Power struggles •Distribution of matrimonial property	Ordinal and nominal	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics
Establish the level of education	• Personal experience • Economic Background • Academic performance	Intra family Conflict	•Academic Performance and Interpersonal Relationships • poor grades • poor concentration • low self-esteem.	Ordinal and nominal	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics
Establish exposure to conflict resolution skills	• Home counsellor • Managing conflict	Intra family Conflict	•Peace •Unity •Harmony •Co-operation	Ordinal and nominal	Questionnaire	Descriptive statistics

CHAPTER FOUR
DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter dealt with data analysis and interpretation of the findings based on the research objectives. Collected data was analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively. It was then presented by use of frequency distribution tables.

4.2 Questionnaire Return Rate

The sample population for the study was 30 males and 30 females, 5 local church counselors/therapists, the area chief and police officers. Thus, a total of 60 questionnaires were administered to the respondents and 8 interview schedules conducted. After data collection, 26 questionnaires, 86.7 percent, from female respondents and 19 questionnaires, 63.3 percent, from male respondents were returned. From the interview, 80.0 percent, 4 of the church counselors, the area chief and two police officers availed themselves for the interview session. The total response rate for this study was 76.7 percent. This response rate was sufficient and far higher than the 70% rate that Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) say is excellent for analysis and statistical reporting.

4.3 Demographic information of the respondents

This study first sought to establish an insight on the study respondents' characteristics that included the gender, age, marital status, courtship duration, period in marriage and type of relationship.

The study also sought to establish the respondents' gender. The respondents were to indicate their gender and the findings are presented as shown in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Gender of respondents

Gender	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Male	19	42.2
Female	26	57.8
Total	**45**	**100.0**

The study had targeted equal representation across both genders. As shown in Table 4.1, a larger number of females than males responded to the questionnaire. The findings could mean that female respondents were more available to participate in the study since they were at home longer than their spouse. These findings implied that majority of females were willing to respond to the study. These findings were an indication that females were more willing to talk of their social aspects than males. This meant that female respondents were freer to give information on prevalent of intra family conflict than men.

The study further sought to establish the respondents' age bracket. Their responses are shown in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Age of respondents

Age in years	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
18-30yrs	8	17.8
31- 40 yrs	12	26.6
41-50 yrs	18	40.0
51 and above	7	15.6
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.2 shows that the respondents were mature people with 82% of them being over 30 years of age. This implies that most of the respondents were in a position to give credible information on the prevalent trends on intra family conflict.

The study sought to establish respondents' marital status and presented the findings in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Respondents' marital status

Marital status	**Frequency (n)**	**Percent (%)**
Married	28	62.2
Widowed	6	13.3
Separated	3	6.7
Living with a partner	8	17.8
Total	**45**	**100.0**

As information presented in Table 4.3 shows, and also as expected, all the respondents have been married or were living with a partner. As such, they could give credible situation on intra family conflict.

The study also sought to find out the duration spouses were in in the study area to establish prevalence of intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County. The responses were presented in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4 Duration families had lived in the study area

Length in years	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Below 1 yr	4	8.9
1yrs to 2yrs	15	33.3
2yrs to 3yrs	8	17.8
Above 3yrs	18	40.0
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.4 showed that 40 percent of the respondents indicated that they had been in the study area with their spouses for over two year. This meant that the respondents were well placed to be determine likelihood of prevalent of intra family conflict in the area.

To establish respondents' length of marriage, they were requested to indicate their marriage duration in years. Their responses were shown in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 Duration of marriage

Length in years	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Below 1 yr	1	2.2
1yrs to 5yrs	6	13.3
6yrs to 10yrs	16	35.6
Above 10 yrs	22	48.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Data contained in Table 4.5 showed that over 80% of the respondents had lived together for more than 6 years and even longer. It would thus be expected that most of the respondents were able to give credible information on factors influencing intra family conflict due to their marital experience.

Further, the respondents were requested to rate the type of relationship that was between them and their spouses. Their responses were presented in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Type of relationship with spouse

Type of relationship	**Frequency (n)**	**Percent (%)**
Very Friendly	6	13.3
Friendly	15	33.3
Not Friendly	24	53.4
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.6 revealed that majority at 53.4 percent of the respondents indicated that their relationship with their partners was not friendly while 33.3 percent rated it to be friendly. A few 13.3 percent indicated that the relationship was very friendly.

4.4 Existence of intra family conflict

The study also sought to establish the frequency of conflict between spouses. The findings were as shown in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7 Frequency of conflict between spouses

Frequency of conflict	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Always	23	51.1
Often	12	26.7
Rarely	6	13.3
Never	4	8.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.7, showed that over 77 percent of the respondents indicated that conflict between them was real. The study then sought to find out whether conflict in the family results into violence and the responses were as shown in Table 4.8

Table 4.8 Frequency of conflict resulting into violence

Rate	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Always	28	62.2
Often	8	17.8
Rarely	5	11.1
Never	4	8.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**

As shown in Table 4.8, some 80% of the respondents admitted that conflict with their spouses resulted into violence. The study sought to find out the duration families had suffered conflict. The results are as presented in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9 Responses on duration of suffered conflict

Length in years	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
One year	3	6.7
Two to five years	8	17.8
Over five years	34	75.5
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Data presented in Table 4.9 showed that 75.5 percent of the respondents indicated that they had suffered conflict in their families for over 5 years. This was an indication that intra family conflict in Kikuyu sub-county was a perennial phenomenon.

The study further sought to establish whether conflict lead to injury and presented the findings as shown in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10 Conflict leads to injury

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Yes	37	82.2
No	8	17.8
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Table 4.10 showed that 82.2 percent of the intra family cases lead to injury. This was to mean that intra family conflict was very rampant in the study area and was in advance stages that could harm peaceful coexistence.

4.5 Influence of access to resources on intra family conflict

The first study objective examined how access to resources influence intra family conflict by investigating the spouses source of income, total income per annum of

the families, the person who is in custody of the matrimonial property documents and the sharing of property in case of separation. Information of husbands and wives sources of income are presented in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11 Source of family income

Source of income	**Husband's income**		**Wife's income**	
	Frequency (n)	**Percent (%)**	**Frequency (n)**	**Percent (%)**
Business	24	53.3	12	26.7
Profession	13	28.9	4	8.9
Farming	8	17.8	2	4.4
Not working	0	0.0	27	60.0
Total	**45**	**100.0**	**45**	**100.0**

As Table 4.11 shows, most of the income in the study area was from husbands. In fact, 60% of the women had no income. As completion for scarce resources is normally a major cause of conflict, it is no wonder that conflict is common in the study area.

The respondents were requested to give information on the average income per year and the responses presented in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12 Families' total income per annum

Income in Kshs	Frequency 2(n)	Percent (%)
0 – 100,000	32	71.1
100,000 – 500,000	7	15.6
500,000 – 1,000,000	4	8.9
Over 1,000,000	2	4.4
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information presented in Table 4.12 showed that majority of the respondents, at 71.1 percent, indicated that they had a total income per annum of between 0 – 100,000 shillings. Competition for such a low amount of income could easily lead to conflict. The study also sought to establish whether families owned matrimonial property. The findings are as shown in Table 4.13.

Table 4.13 Respondents' response on whether they own matrimonial property

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Yes	41	91.1
No	4	8.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**

According to data presented in Table 4.13, majority, 91.1 percent of the respondents indicated that they owned matrimonial property. This meant that owned properties with spouses were bound to upraise intra family conflict. This implied that

availability and access of property as a form of investment was likely to contribute to intra family conflicts in households in Kikuyu Sub-County.

Respondents were then requested to indicate how their matrimonial property was registered. Table 4.14 presented the research findings.

Table 4.14 Responses on matrimonial property registration

Responses	**Frequency (n)**	**Percent (%)**
Husband	38	84.4
Wife	4	8.9
Co-owned	3	6.7
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Table 4.14 showed that majority, 84.4 percent, of the respondents indicated that their matrimonial properties were registered under the husbands' name. This was an indication that under the patriarchal society in Kikuyu Sub-County. This was because even the respondents who owned property jointly had the husband as under whose name the matrimonial property is registered. This was because the husband is viewed as the head of the family and the final decision maker.

The study sought to establish who the custodian of matrimonial property's documents was. The responses were shown in Table 4.15.

Table 4.15 Custodian of the matrimonial property documents

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Husband	41	91.1
Wife	1	2.2
Credit institution i.e. Bank	3	6.7
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.15 showed that 91.1 percent of the respondents indicated that husbands were in custody of matrimonial property documents. This was an indication that women were not empowered enough to be entrusted with family property documents. This implied that due to the patriarchal setup of the families in the study area, conflict would arise when this cultural order was overlooked. The findings are therefore in agreement with Drimie (2002) who contends that women are often excluded from traditional institutions where key decisions about land rights are taken.

The study also sought to establish whether during marital dissolution spouses would share out matrimonial property equally. Respondents' responses were shown in Table 4.16.

Table 4.16 Respondents' responses on equitable share in matrimonial property during dissolution

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Yes	6	13.3
No	39	86.7
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Data captured in Table 4.16 showed that 86.7 percent of the respondents indicated that matrimonial property would not be shared equally during dissolution. This was an indication that majority of the respondents were for the view that family property was not bound to be shared equitably among spouses. This information was in consistence with the area's chief's interview responses that indicated that many times they are amidst cases when husbands refuse to share their matrimonial with their wives especially when no children are involved in a family set-up. The chief further stated that women are more oppressed in access to family resources a factor that was considered to cause high incidences of intra family conflict.

The respondents were asked to give probable reasons that contribute to none-equal sharing of family property. The responses were presented in Table 4.17.

Table 4.17 Reasons for none equal share of property

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Earned by husband	36	80.0
No entitlement to ownership	9	20.0
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Table 4.17 showed that majority of the respondents, 80 percent, indicated that family property was not shared equitably between spouses because it was mainly earned by the husband. This implied that women were derived off their right to property ownership due to the societal stereotypes that discriminate them. The study therefore sought to find out the frequency families engage in conflict due to property ownership. The responses were presented in Table 4.18.

Table 4.18 Frequency of engaging into conflict due to property ownership

Responses	**Frequency (n)**	**Percent (%)**
Severely	33	73.3
Often	8	17.8
Rarely	3	6.7
Never	1	2.2
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.18 showed that 90 percent of the respondents indicated that families engage in conflict due to property ownership. The findings implied that majority of the families suffered intra family conflict over access to property/resources.

The findings were in agreement with results from the interview with the church counsellors who stated that, intra family conflict manifest its self into many households owing to financial constraints and access to resources. Three of the counsellors indicated that there were rising cases of family disintegration over matrimonial property ownership. This was mainly due to recent empowerment of

women in the society enabling them to access resources, due to their liberation from patriarchal oppression intra family conflict was on the rise.

4.6 Influence of level of education on intra family conflict

The second study objective was to establish the influence of parental level of education on intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County, Kenya. The study sought to establish the level of education attained by the husbands and the wives of the respondents. Respondents' responses were presented in Table 4.19.

Table 4.19 Respondents level of education

Level of education	Husband		Wife	
	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Primary	2	4.4	15	33.3
Secondary	12	26.7	18	40.0
Tertiary	27	60.0	8	17.8
University	4	8.9	4	8.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**	**45**	**100.0**

According to information contained in Table 4.19, 60 percent of the husbands indicated that they had attained tertiary education with only 4.4 percent were primary school dropouts. On the other hand, 40 percent of wives had attained secondary school education while 33.3 percent were primary school dropouts. These findings clearly showed gender gap in educational attainment between men and women. The findings implied that more men than women were empowered causing possible intra family conflict owing to exposure levels. These findings were also highlighten by the area chief who stated that in the informal settlement found in the

cosmopolitan Kikuyu Sub-County, education level of men and women contributed to the frequency of engaging into conflict.

The study sought to establish the frequency of intra family conflict owing to parental level of education. Respondents' responses were shown in Table 4.20.

Table 4.20 Frequency of intra family conflict due to level of education

Responses	**Frequency (n)**	**Percent (%)**
Always	33	73.3
Rarely	8	17.8
Never	4	8.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**

The study findings in Table 4.20 showed that 73.3 percent of the respondents indicated that indeed intra family conflict was always contributed by parental level of education. These findings meant that to a large extent the level of education contributed to peaceful coexistence among family members due to the level of exposure that was faced by persons of different levels of education. The findings were highlighted by the church counselors who indicated that education exposed individuals differently and also gave individuals different conflict resolution skills. This was to imply that education level exposed parents differently thus, contributing to intra family conflict levels based on their educational exposure.

The respondents were requested to indicate why they perceived that level of education contributed to intra family conflict. Table 4.21 presents responses on the aspects highlighted by the respondents.

Table 4.21 Contribution of level of education to intra family conflict

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Lack of exposure	35	77.8
Understanding ability	6	13.3
Perseverance strength	4	8.9
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.16 showed that education level contributed to intra family conflict in a great way. For instance, 77.8 percent of respondents indicated that lack of exposure due to education level contributed to intra family conflict while 13.3 percent indicated that level of education contributed to understanding abilities of spouses owing to existence of intra family conflict also, education levels socialized members of a family differently giving them perseverance ability. This was an indication that intra family conflict was not affected by parental level of education. These findings meant that level of education contribute to chances of engaging in intra family conflict.

This information is consisted with the Family Advancement in Development Agency (FAIDA) report in 2002.

4.7 Influence of exposure to conflict resolution skills on intra family conflict

The third study objective was to establish whether exposure to conflict resolution skills influence intra family conflict in Kikuyu sub-County. The study sought to find out the frequency intra family conflict were reported. Respondents' responses were presented in Table 4.19

Table 4.22 Frequency of reporting violent intra family conflict

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Sometimes	18	40.0
Often	4	8.9
Rarely	12	26.7
Never	11	24.4
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information presented in Table 4.17 showed that 40 percent of the respondents indicated that violent intra family conflicts were sometimes reported. Also 24.4 percent of the respondents indicated that violent intra family conflicts were never reported. This was an indication that majority of intra family conflict incidences resulted into violence and only a few of the cases were put into records. These findings were also stated by the police officers during an interview who stated that though many cases on domestic violence were reported in recent times, most cases were never reported at all. This was an indication that many families suffered intra family conflict in silence without seeking redress.

The respondents were requested to indicate measures taken to address intra family conflict. Table 4.23 presents the study findings.

Table 4.23 Measures taken in case of intra family conflict

Responses	Frequency (n)	Percent (%)
Report to the police	7	15.6
Seeking redress from friends	18	40.0
Seek intervention from parents	12	26.7
Persevere situations	8	17.8
Total	**45**	**100.0**

Information contained in Table 4.23 showed that **m**ost victims of violence report to friends (40 %) and relatives (26.7 %) because they want to confidentially share the problem with someone they trust, which is very therapeutic. Others will not want to report their partners to police or elders because they will be punished and they may in turn retaliate with more violence. 79 percent responded by reporting to friends and relatives and only 6 percent reported to the police, despite the fact that most women live within walking distance to a police station. It is also evident from this study that reporting to community leaders, police and psychological counsellors is not a common practice. The low percentage (8.75%) of victims who visit psychological counsellors is due to unavailability of these services in the division. Further the poor response in this manner may be attributed to lack of awareness in the community about the purpose of psychological counselling. In this study 2.5 % of the respondents had sought help from a witchdoctor. This is explained by the fact that witchdoctors play a major role in traditional healing and treatment in this community. The low percentage of 2.5 is due to the fact that contacting witchdoctors is done

secretively and very few people disclose it due to fear of being stigmatised since nowadays it is considered to be uncivilized to visit the traditional doctors.

In order to find out if there are people or institutions offering any support services, the respondents were requested to indicate agency organization that help support in cases of intra family conflict. Table 4.24 presented the results.

Table 4.24 Agencies offering intra family conflict support services

Agency	Frequency	Percentage
Hospitals	31	76.3
Police/Courts	4	5
Nongovernmental Organizations	2	2.5
Women Organizations	0	0
Community elders	4	17.5

It is evident from Table 4.24 that most victims (76.3 %) of violence prefer to seek medical assistance but very few (5%) report to police. There is a general fear that reporting a partner to police can trigger more violence. In addition, domestic violence cases are usually handed over to community elders who in turn do not maintain confidentiality. It is also clear from the results that there are no women organizations that support victims of violence in this area. The low percentage (2.5 %) given to Non-governmental organizations can be explained by the fact that there is only one organization, Family Adjustment in Development Agency (FAIDA) which handles cases of partner abuse and is based at the District headquarters town but not at the Divisional level where many victims of intra family conflict in the study area can access it.

The respondents indicated that the root cause of the intra conflict in the family was the irresponsible husbands. They indicated that their husbands are alcoholics making them not meet their duties as heads of the family. Some indicated that the land inheritance played a bigger role in fuelling intra family conflicts. The family are usually disturbed by relatives whenever the husband dies. The brothers usually fight for his property which the family usually tries to resist. These findings are consistent with the UNPFA (1999) report that many people suffer intra family conflict silently or persevere while others tell friends and close relatives. According to FIDA (2002) report on intra family conflict among women in Nairobi, 79 percent responded by reporting to friends and relatives and only 6 percent reported to the police, despite the fact that most women live within walking distance to a police station. It is also evident from this study that reporting to community leaders, police and psychological counsellors is not a common practice. The low percentage (8.75%) of victims who visit psychological counsellors is due to unavailability of these services in the division. Further the poor response in this manner may be attributed to lack of awareness in the community about the purpose of psychological counselling.

Table 4.25 Exposure to conflict resolutions skills that influence intra family conflict

Statements	Mean	Standard deviation
We can openly discuss our differences.	1.23	1.02
When we have an argument, we usually come to a resolution.	1.83	1.72
When we have an argument we usually work it out.	2.12	1.63
We can effectively communicate about issues.	1.54	1.98
When we have a disagreement, we usually come to a mutually agreeable solution.	1.32	1.12
We tend to resolve/solve our problems in a mutually satisfying way when we have a disagreement.	1.36	1.32
We can identify issues on which we differ.	3.42	1.56
We usually can accept each other's differences.	2.13	1.90
We can agree to disagree.	3.98	1.47
We tend to avoid each other when we have a disagreement.	3.45	1.31
Even after we stop arguing, we stay mad at each other.	2.16	1.58
We tend to excessively yell, argue, and fight with each other when we have a disagreement.	1.98	1.62
When we argue we usually make up right away.	1.21	1.49
There is a counsellor in my home from whom I can seek assistance.	1.11	2.19

The findings in Table 4.25 indicates that majority of respondents disagree that they would openly discuss their differences as indicated by a mean of 1.23 and a standard

deviation of 1.02. Majority disagreed that when they have an argument, they usually come to a resolution as revealed by a mean of 1.83 and a standard deviation of 1.72. Majority disagreed that when they have an argument they usually work it out as shown by a mean of 2.12 and a standard deviation of 1.63. Majority disagreed that they would effectively communicate about issues as indicated by a mean of 1.54 and a standard deviation of 1.98. A large number of respondents disagreed that when they have a disagreement, they usually come to a mutually agreeable solution as revealed by a mean of 1.32 and a standard deviation of 1.12. Majority disagreed that they tend to resolve/solve their problems in a mutually satisfying way when we have a disagreement as indicated by a mean of 1.36 and a standard deviation of 1.32. Majority of respondents disagreed that they could identify issues on which we differ as revealed by a mean of 3.42 and a standard deviation of 1.56. Majority of respondents disagreed that they usually accept each other's differences as indicated by a mean of 2.13 and a standard deviation of 1.90. Majority agreed that they could agree to disagree as indicated by a mean of 3.98 and a standard deviation of 1.47. Majority of the respondents agreed that they tend to avoid each other when we have a disagreement as revealed by a mean of 3.45 and a standard deviation of 1.31. Majority disagreed that they stay mad at each other even after stop arguing as shown by a mean of 2.16 and a standard deviation of 1.58. Majority disagreed that they tended to excessively yell, argue, and fight with each other when they have a disagreement as indicated by a mean of 1.98 and a standard deviation of 1.62. Majority disagreed that when they argue they usually make up right away as revealed by a mean of 1.21 and a standard deviation of 1.49. Majority disagreed that there was a counsellor in my home from whom they seek assistance from as indicated by a mean of 1.11 and a standard deviation of 2.19

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this study was to establish the causes, consequences and management strategies of intra family conflict resolutions skills. This chapter therefore presents the summary of findings, conclusions and the recommendations for further research.

5.2 Summary of findings

The main objective of the study was to examine the factors influencing intra family conflicts in Kikuyu Sub-County. The following is the summary of the study findings;

The findings indicated that majority of the husbands source of their income was from self-employment while most of them indicated it to be from professionalism. Majority of the wife respondents got their source of income from self-employment while just a few of them were employed. This means that the husbands had more sources of income than their wives although the wives are also economically empowered. This might be causing intra family conflict within the family. Majority of the respondents indicated that they had a total income per annum of between 0 – 100,000 shillings while some had an annual income of 100,000 – 500,000 shillings. A few had an annual income of between 500,000 – 1,000,000 shillings while only a small number had over 1,000,000 shillings annual income. Majority of the respondents indicated that they had good relationship with other siblings while 40 percent did not have a good relationship. This means that some families were experiencing family intra conflict among the members. Majority of the male respondents indicated that they had owned matrimonial property with their spouses

while most of the females did not own any property with their spouses. This means who owned properties with spouses were bound to face intra family conflict. The ones who owned property jointly had the husband as under whose name the matrimonial property is registered. This was because the husband is viewed as the head of the family and the final decision maker. Majority of the respondents indicated that the division of the matrimonial property in case of separation was done equally among the spouses while most of them indicated that there was spouse re-instatement to their original status before marriage. A few of the respondents indicated that the buyer of the property takes the matrimonial property in case of separation.

The findings indicated that many of the male respondents had tertiary level of education, some of the females had secondary level education, and a few of them had primary education. It is clear from the study analysis that most of the respondents had acquired tertiary education while the least were those having university education. Majority of the respondents indicated that it was the husband who had custody of the matrimonial property documents while 10 percent revealed that it was the wife. Majority of the respondents indicated that they had between 4 to 10 children while 35 percent had between 1 to 4 children. This indicates that the families have many children and this might be contributing to intra family conflict in the families. Majority of the respondents indicated that they frequently pay their children school fees while 11 percent always paid their children school fees. Majority of the respondents indicated that the parents were always interested in their children well-being and academic performance while 33 percent were frequently interested. This might indicate that parents are busy with their work that they can't follow their children academic progress. This might be causing intra family conflict

since the children are left on their own.

It was found out that majority of the respondents were of personality type-A while 43 percent were of personality type-B. A personality type - A person, tends to be more aggressive than type B. Therefore type A-people are more likely to engage in intra family conflict. There are more respondents with personality type-A than personality type B which may lead to increased cases of intra family conflict in the study area. Majority of the respondents indicated that they have never tried to overpower opponents by forcing them to accept ones solution to the conflict while only a few had tried. This means that the respondents lacked conflict resolution skills that can aid in reducing intra family conflict. Majority of the respondents indicated that they used conflict resolutions to achieve goals in case of disagreements while most of them did not use any conflict resolution skills. This means that the respondents lacked conflict resolution skills and hence might be facing intra family conflict. Majority of respondents disagree that they would openly discuss their differences as indicated by a mean of 1.23 and a standard deviation of 1.02. Majority disagreed that when they have an argument, they usually come to a resolution as revealed by a mean of 1.83 and a standard deviation of 1.72. Majority disagreed that when they have an argument they usually work it out as shown by a mean of 2.12 and a standard deviation of 1.63. Majority disagreed that they would effectively communicate about issues as indicated by a mean of 1.54 and a standard deviation of 1.98. A large number of respondents disagreed that when they have a disagreement, they usually come to a mutually agreeable solution as revealed by a mean of 1.32 and a standard deviation of 1.12. Majority disagreed that they tend to resolve/solve their problems in a mutually satisfying way when we have a disagreement as indicated by a mean of 1.36 and a standard deviation of 1.32.

Majority of respondents disagreed that they could identify issues on which we differ as revealed by a mean of 3.42 and a standard deviation of 1.56. Majority of respondents disagreed that they usually accept each other's differences as indicated by a mean of 2.13 and a standard deviation of 1.90. Majority agreed that they could agree to disagree as indicated by a mean of 3.98 and a standard deviation of 1.47. Majority of the respondents agreed that they tend to avoid each other when we have a disagreement as revealed by a mean of 3.45 and a standard deviation of 1.31. Majority disagreed that they stay mad at each other even after stop arguing as shown by a mean of 2.16 and a standard deviation of 1.58. Majority disagreed that they tended to excessively yell, argue, and fight with each other when they have a disagreement as indicated by a mean of 1.98 and a standard deviation of 1.62. Majority disagreed that when they argue they usually make up right away as revealed by a mean of 1.21 and a standard deviation of 1.49. Majority disagreed that there was a counsellor in my home from whom they seek assistance from as indicated by a mean of 1.11 and a standard deviation of 2.19.

5.3 Discussion of the findings

The first study objective examined how access to resources influence intra family conflict by investigating the spouses source of income, total income per annum of the families, the person who is in custody of the matrimonial property documents and the sharing of property in case of separation. The study findings were in consistence financial strain or economic pressure is frequently implicated in family conflict and causes considerable marital instability; which refers to a couple's potential for separation or divorce (Gudmunson, Beutler, Israelsen, McCoy & Hill, 2007). The Second study objective was to establish whether parental level of education influence intra family conflict in Kikuyu Sub-County, Kenya. The study

sought to establish the level of education attained by the husbands and the wives of the respondents. The study findings were in agreement with WHO report (1999) who stated that education is an empowering tool for both women and men. The level of education may impact positively or negatively on the rate of abuse among intimate partners.

The third study objective was to establish whether exposure to conflict resolution skills influence intra family conflict in Kikuyu sub-County. The study findings were in line with managing and resolving conflict requires emotional maturity, self-control, and empathy. One can ensure that the process is as positive as possible by sticking to the following conflict resolution guidelines (Greenfield & Yan, 2006).

These findings are consistent with the UNPFA (1999) report that many people suffer intra family conflict silently or persevere while others tell friends and close relatives. According to FIDA (2002) report on intra family conflict among women in Nairobi, 79 percent responded by reporting to friends and relatives and only 6 percent reported to the police, despite the fact that most women live within walking distance to a police station. It is also evident from this study that reporting to community leaders, police and psychological counsellors is not a common practice. The low percentage (8.75%) of victims who visit psychological counsellors is due to unavailability of these services in the division. Further the poor response in this manner may be attributed to lack of awareness in the community about the purpose of psychological counselling. In this study 2.5 % of the respondents had sought help from a witchdoctor. This is explained by the fact that witchdoctors play a major role in traditional healing and treatment in this community. The low percentage of 2.5 is due to the fact that contacting witchdoctors is done secretively and very few people disclose it

due to fear of being stigmatised since nowadays it is considered to be uncivilized to visit the traditional doctors.

5.4 Conclusion of the study

The main objective of the study was to determine the factors influencing intra family conflicts in Kikuyu Sub-County. From the findings, it can be concluded that access to resources influences intra family conflict. Husbands source their income more from self-employment than the wives. This means that the husbands had more sources of income than their wives although the wives were also economically empowered. This might be causing intra family conflict within the family. The income per year is too low since majority had a total income per annum of between 0 – 100,000 shillings. This low income might be causing intra conflict in the family. The ownership of matrimonial property tends to favour the husband making the family susceptible to intra family conflict. The matrimonial property in case of separation is not done equally among the spouses and this tends to fuel the intra family conflict among the members.

It can be concluded from the findings that the level of education influences intra family conflict. It was clear from the study analysis that most of the respondents had acquired tertiary education while the least were those having university education. The findings indicated that the families had many children and this might be contributing to intra family conflict in the families. Some parents were not always interested in their children well-being and academic performance. This might indicate that parents are busy with their work that they can't follow their children academic progress. This might be causing intra family conflict since the children are left on their own.

It was found that exposure to conflict resolutions skills influenced intra family conflict. Majority of the family members were of personality type-A while 43 percent were of personality type-B. A personality type - A person, tends to be more aggressive than type B. Therefore type A-people are more likely to engage in intra family conflict. This means that the respondents lacked conflict resolution skills and this therefore must be enhancing the occurrence on intra conflict among the family members in the study area.

5.5 Recommendations of the study

From the study findings and conclusions the following recommendations were made;

i. The local administration and reconciliation bodies should reinforce hereditary conflicts that exist in the families. They should also create empowerment forums so as to enlighten members of the society on equitable distribution of family wealth thus, reducing recurrence of intra family conflict owing to access to resources.

ii. Family therapists and church counselors should organize seminars and workshops to enlighten members of the community of adaptable coexistence with other persons especially spouses. Local administration should team up with relevant ministries like the Ministry of social and cultural affairs to organize adult and long-life learning so as to continuously elevate education levels of the society.

iii. Local churches and other stakeholders like the area chief should organize peaceful coexistence forums so as to enlighten the society on conflict resolution skills. Holding chief's barazaas to \inform on matters to deal with reduction of intra family conflict and holding seminars in churches where

therapists educated congregation on positive measures to resolve intra family conflict. This would go a long way to ensuring that conflict cases are reduced categorically and peaceful coexistence of families.

5.6 Suggestions for further research.

Based on the major findings of the study the study suggested further research as follows;

i) A study to be done on the factors influencing intra-family conflict in other regions in Kenya besides Kikuyu Sub-County.

ii) A study to be established on whether intra family conflict influences children's deviant behaviour.

iii) A study to be done on the influence of intra family conflict on disintegration of family structures and functionality.

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APPENDIX II: Questionnaire for parents

Dear respondent,

This questionnaire aims at collecting information on the factors that influence intra family conflict. The information you give will be of benefit to the researcher in accomplishing her academic goal. Please respond to the items to the best of your knowledge and as truthful as possible.

Section A: Demographic Information

1. Kindly indicate your age bracket:

   □ 18-30yrs □ 31- 40 yrs □ 41-50 yrs □ 51 and above

2. Kindly indicate your gender:

   □ Male □ female

3. What is your marital status?

   □ Married

   □ Widowed

   □ Separated

   □ Living with a partner

4. How long did your courtship last?

   □ 1Month-1 yr

   □ 1yrs- 2yrs

   □ 2yrs 3yrs

   □ above

5. How long have you been married?

   □ 1Month-1 yr

   □ 1yrs- 2yrs

- 3yrs -10yrs
- Above ten years

6. How do you rate your relationship with your spouse?
   - Very Friendly
   - Friendly
   - Not Friendly

Section B: Intra family conflict

7. How often have you had conflict with your spouse?
   - Daily
   - Weekly
   - Monthly
   - Never
8. How often has the conflict resulted in violence?
   - Daily
   - Weekly
   - Monthly
   - Never
9. Were you injured?
   - Yes
   - No
10. If Yes, how was the injury?
    - Mild
    - Serious
    - Severe

11. Were you hospitalized?

- Yes
- No

12. Do you fear for your life?

- All the time
- Sometimes
- No

13. If yes, have you reported your fears to the police?

- Yes
- No

14. If no, what action have you taken?

- Ignored
- Relocated
- Given up
- Ran away

15. How long have you suffered this conflict?

- One year
- Two to five years
- Over five years

Section C: Access to resources and intra family conflict

16. What is the source of the family income?

Husband's income

- Self-employment
- Profession

- employed

Wife's income

- Self-employment
- Profession
- employed

17. What is the total income per annum in your family in the course of the last one year in (KSH)?
    - 0 – 100,000
    - 100,000 – 500,000
    - 500,000 – 1,000,000
    - Over 1,000,000
18. I have a good relationship with my other siblings.
    - Yes
    - No
19. Do you own matrimonial property with your spouse?
    - Yes
    - No

If yes, whose name is the matrimonial property registered in?

Explain……

……

20. How has custody of the matrimonial property documents?

- Husband
- Wife
- Credit institution i.e. Bank

If yes, did you acquire equal share?

- Yes
- No

If no, what is the reason?

Explain……

……

21. In case of separation how can the matrimonial property be divided?

- 50/50
- The buyer of the property
- Spouse re-instated to their original status before marriage.

Section D: Level of education and intra family conflict

22. What is your highest level of education?

- Primary
- secondary
- Tertiary
- University

23. What is your partner's Highest level of educational qualification?

- Primary
- secondary
- Tertiary
- University

24. Number of children

- none
- 1-4
- 4-10

25. I pay my children fee.

    - Always
    - Frequently
    - Rarely
    - Never

26. I am interested in my child or children well-being and academic performance.

    - Always
    - Frequently
    - Rarely
    - Never

Section E: Exposure to conflict resolution skills and intra family conflict

27. The following are characteristics of personality. Tick the box that you feel that it correctly describes your personality type.

Personality type A

- Aggressive
- Independent
- Ambitious
- Competitive
- Preoccupied with achievement
- Impatient

Personality type

- Relaxed
- Patient
- Dependent
- Speaks slowly
- Decisions carefully
- Made
- Easy to convince

28. Do you Try to overpower opponents by forcing them to accept your solution to the conflict?

    - Yes
    - No

29. When we disagree on issues, we can come to a resolution/solution that achieves both our goals and the goals of the other person?

    - Yes
    - No

30. What is at the root of all conflict?

    ……

    ……

    ……

31. In a scale of 1 to 4 where 4 is strongly agree and 1 is strongly disagree, indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements

Key 4 – Strongly agree; 3 Agree; 2 Disagree; 1 strongly disagree

Statements	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
1.We can openly discuss our differences. 2.When we have an argument, we usually come to a resolution. 3.When we have an argument we usually work it out. 4.We can effectively communicate about issues. 5.When we disagree about something, we usually come up with a solution.				

6.When we have a disagreement, we usually come to a mutually agreeable solution. 7.We tend to resolve/solve our problems in a mutually satisfying way when we have a disagreement. 8.We can identify issues on which we differ. 9.We usually can accept each other's differences. 10. We can agree to disagree. 11. We still act mean after we have had an argument. 12. We tend to avoid each other when we have a disagreement. 13. Even after we stop arguing, we stay mad at each other. 14. After we stop arguing, we are friendly toward each other. 15. We tend to excessively yell, argue, and fight with each other when we have a disagreement. 16. When we argue we usually make up right away. 17. There is a counsellor in my home from whom I can seek assistance.				

Thank you for your participation.

APPENDIX III

INTERVIEW GUIDE WITH KEY INFORMANTS

This guide will be for the key informants in the sampled churches within Kikuyu Sub-County. They are knowledgeable about the intra family conflicts situation in the area.

1. How would you explain the situation of intra family conflict cases in Kikuyu Sub-County?
2. How does access to resources influence the frequency of intra family conflict in the Sub-County?
3. What are asset acquisition measures that mainly lead to intra family conflict?
4. How does household loss of income affect the peaceful coexistence among family members?
5. Do you think that the level of education influences the cases of intra family conflict?
6. What do you consider as the main challenges causing intra family conflict?
7. Do you think parents gender influence their level of education? If so how rampant is their engagement in intra family conflict due to education qualification?
8. As a counsellor, do you families faced with intra family conflict issues and also sensitize against the vice?
9. Are there strategies put in place for conflict resolution skills to reduce the rising cases of intra family conflict in your local churches?
10. Does the community engage in intra family conflict resolution measures and do you think it's important? Explain.
11. Can you describe the current situation of intra family conflict cases within your church?
12. What recommendations would you give towards reducing intra family conflict in the area?

Thank you for your participation.