

**APPRAISING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN ADDIS ABABA CITY
ADMINISTRATION: FROM GROUND RULE AND REGULATION PERSPECTIVES**

Gebre Miruts Beyene (Ph.D.)

Assistant Professor of Public Management

Ethiopian Civil Service University

College of Leadership and Governance

Department of Policy Studies, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

lewama10@gmail.com, ORCID ID [0000-0003-1783-2981](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1783-2981)

ABSTRACT

This article focuses on appraising the root causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa city administration. Hence, descriptive and explanatory research types, 517 sample size and both primary and secondary data were used. The article conclude that, even though different conventions and declaration, homegrown policies, rules and regulations were in place, the practice against women and children violence in Addis Ababa is poor. The involvement of government bodies, civil society, professional and humanitarian association, and NGO was recapped inadequate. Regardless of the types and causes of violence, violence against women and children has become an urban epidemic that has taken a toll on women and children's physical, psychological, sexual, and economic lives. Lawlessness and implementation gap; negligence and lack of sense of belongingness; economic problem/poverty; increase of migrants to Addis Ababa; harmful customs and disobedience; proliferation of sex films and the problem of using social media; proliferation of hookah and alcohol shops, proliferation of drug users, lack of coordinated civil society organizations and political instability were cited. Of which, urban poverty, unemployment, slum habitation, lawlessness, social structure, political turmoil, emigration, acculturation, wrong perception, youth addiction, psycho-problems, negative discrimination, poor infrastructure, poor media platforms and leadership failure were identified as root causes of violence against women and children. Therefore, the city administration should work on building a multi-sectoral and multi-level policy climate; building urban leadership and policy execution capacity; building women and child-sensitive social protection; creating comprehensive legislation landscape and developing victim compensation platform.

Key Words: *Urban violence, multi-level policy climate, urban leadership, social protection, legislation landscape and victim compensation platform*

1. Introduction

The Ethiopian urban policy shares the vision “Cities for All”. The policy refers to the equitable use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements. It aims to promote inclusivity and ensure that all current and future generations can inhabit and produce just as safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, resilient, and sustainable cities and human settlements to foster prosperity and quality of life for all. Hence, to satisfy the affirmation urban capitals, urban leaders and professionals need

to know what urban societies really need (Ministry Urban and Infrastructure, 2013).

However, today than ever, violence in cities has reached record levels in many nations and is having a devastating impact on people's health and livelihoods and on the economic prospects of many cities including Addis Ababa. Fear of violence isolates the poor in their homes and the rich in their segregated spaces (World Vision, 2002). Violence, the use of physical force which causes hurt to others, can also be defined to include psychological hurt and material deprivation. Different categories of violence can be identified although they frequently overlap like political violence: driven by the will to hold or retain political power; economic violence: motivated by material gain; social violence: much of it gender-based and institutional violence: including community vigilantism (EPPI-Centre, 2018).

On the other hand, gender-based violence, like all forms of violence is a matter of power dynamics. It is founded on a sense of superiority and the desire to assert that superiority in the family, school, work, community or society as a whole. As has been said, urban violence against women and children is a serious public health issue with societal ramifications. Although urban violence is a threat to everyone, women and children are especially vulnerable to victimization of inadequate protection (Agumasie and Bezatu, 2015). According to World Health Organization (2010), up to 36% of women in Namibia, 56% in Tanzania and 72% in Ethiopia are sexually assaulted by their lifetime partners.

Urban violence against children is still a widespread but largely unreported problem in many parts of the world, particularly in Africa. This is certainly the case in Ethiopia and Addis Ababa as well, where children face humiliating physical punishment and psychological abuse on a regular basis at home, school and in the community at large (Nardos, Virginia, Pankhurst and Pells, 2019). Literature shows that, children in developing countries including Ethiopia are subjected to painful and harmful acts perpetrated by those closest to them: parents, family members, neighbors, school teachers and peers. Rape, beatings, bullying, sexual harassment, verbal abuse, abduction, early marriage, female genital cutting, committing children to abusive and exploitative labor, trafficking and the use of children as weapons and targets of war are all forms of violence (UNICEF, 2016).

The Ethiopian Women Lawyers' Association (2022) reported that, 47 cases of murder/attempted murder, 32 cases of rape and 158 cases of assault were handled by the Association in one year. In Addis Ababa, Solomon (2021) stated that, a report from Bole sub city police department shows that, gender-based violence increased from 26.6% cases in 2016 to 46.2% cases in 2020. It is noteworthy that, the reported violence increased by 19.4% and was the second next to Gulelle sub city. Chala (2017) also mentioned that, 26.5% of married women have experienced some type of sexual violence one year in Arada Sub city. Similarly, despite many obstacles, women in Kolfe Keranyo sub city are harassed by violent husbands. Divorce is one of the active coping strategies for abused women; however, after divorce they face a lot of social and economic problem (Sosena, 2007).

Surprisingly, in 2023, a 31-year-old religious teacher living in Addis Ababa married a 12-year-old girl from Gojam, Amhara Region, which is inhumane and is a violation of human rights and a

crime according to international agreements and the Ethiopian Criminal Code (Ethiopian Women Lawyers' Association, 2023). The researcher realized the rationale behind the study emphasizes on, while Ethiopia has adopted different international conventions and in house laws against violence, why this all are practiced and where is the source of these failures needs further critical investigation. Therefore, this study was aimed at appraising the root causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa city administration from ground rule and regulation perspective. To appraise the rootcauses of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa city administration the following research questions were applied.

1. What efforts have been made against women and children violence by the Addis Ababacity administration?
2. What are the causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa city administration?
3. What are the root causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa city administration?

2. Literature Review

Urbanization is a relentless trend, and as cities grow and expand, armed conflict and violence are urbanizing as well. Since the last two decades, academics and practitioners have viewed urban violence, with its dynamics of poverty and inequality as a critical constraint on development in Global South cities. Violence in cities has reached record levels in many nations and is having a devastating impact on people's health and livelihoods and on the economic prospects of many cities. Fear of violence isolates the poor in their homes and the rich in their segregated spaces. Violence, the use of physical force which causes hurt to others, can also be defined to include psychological hurt and material deprivation (Patel and Burkle, 2012). Similarly, urban violence can be identified: political violence driven by the will to hold or retain political power; economic violence motivated by material gain; social violence much of it gender-based and institutional violence including community vigilantism (Delaney and Holst, 2017).

It is important to distinguish between structural causes of violence generally related to unequal powerrelations and trigger risk factors circumstances that exacerbate the likelihood of violence occurring. The extent to which it is poverty or inequality that contributes to crime and violence is debated although, in reality, they frequently overlap. In other contexts, the politicization of crime is the predominant cause, with urbanization of warfare a particular concern in regional conflict zones (Evoy and Gergely, 2018). The spatial causes of violence are particularly important in cities and theirperipheries, which often contain unsafe spaces where rape, robbery and violent crime are more likely to occur. Urban space is increasingly being reorganized in response to crime and violence and to the lack of confidence in the state's provision of security. The rich retreat to fortified enclaves, or use sophisticated transport networks and privatized security systems to isolate themselves from the poor, who are seen as the perpetrators of violence (Patel and Burkle, 2012).

A nascent, but growing, body of evidence now links urban violence to social, economic, and political exclusion. While this evidence is still relatively under researched, patterns are starting to emerge that link an increase in violence and crime with a wide range of social factors. These

include income and social inequality, concentrated poverty, high levels of impunity for misbehaving officials, high unemployment and disenfranchisement, particularly among young men. A focus on the aspects of inclusion and exclusion offers a promising perspective on those who are marginalized and alienated from the benefits of the city. This approach encompasses both the material challenges that exclude individuals from full membership in urban society, and the intangible normative issues that delineate and demarcate physical, social, and political spaces (Kennedy, 2015).

The city in all its social and structural forms contributes to, creates space for, and amplifies or dampens violence, in ways that do not happen in rural areas. The inevitable dynamics of new urbanization, such as large scale in-migration and informal settlements create conflict and violence and sometimes in unexpected or unpredictable ways, which require to expand the ideas of urban violence. A number of states are faced with the challenge of ensuring the harmonious development of rapidly expanding cities and of offering growing population public services worthy of the name in the fields of security, health, and education. That challenge is even more difficult and more pressing because violence may erupt hunger riots, clashes between territorial gangs or ethnic communities, acts of xenophobic violence directed against migrants, violence that does not generally escalate to the point of becoming an armed conflict but that is murderous (Evoy and Gergely, 2018).

In 2016, at least 560,000 people were killed violently, which corresponds to about 7.50 violent deaths per 100,000 populations. Cities often present significant risk factors encourage violence. These include mass unemployment, gang violence, weakened security institutions, organized crime, firearms proliferation, limited government capacity and rising inequality. Seventy-five per cent of the world's cities have higher levels of income inequalities than two decades ago, and research shows that urban violence generally concentrates in areas of strong disadvantage, social exclusion, and poverty. In addition, the size of cities concentrates perpetrators and victims of violence in confined spaces (Evoy and Gergely, 2018). Having said that, cities also offer protective factors that can help to prevent violent criminality and reduce its impact such as more policing, street lighting, services, infrastructure, medical facilities, and prevention programs.

3. Research Methodology

To examine violence against women and children, the article employed both descriptive and explanatory research design, concurrent mixed methods of both quantitative and qualitative, both primary and secondary data sources, Women and Children's Affairs, Police Commission, Justice Office, City Council, and Education Bureau were considered purposively to check the mandate vested to them on violence against women and children protection. The lower tiers of each city level structure were considered at sub city and Woreda level. Using Yamane's table of sample size determination 517 sample of which 150 victims were participated. Therefore, quantitative data were analyzed using percentages, means, standard deviations, correlations and regressions. Besides, data collected from qualitative data were coded and transcribed into texts and analyzed by using content analysis and narration. Subsequently, results obtained both from qualitative and quantitative data was mixed to compare results. By interpreting declarations and document

analysis, a relationship between data and variables was identified, and all necessary data was synthesized, analyzed, discussed, and narrated.

4. Data Analysis and Interpretation

4.1. Effort to Reduce Physical Violence

Ethiopia and Addis Ababa have developed national and city-level plans to address gender-based violence as an important policy that establishes priorities for ongoing action and investment. It reflects a shared commitment at all levels of government to issues such as prevention, early intervention, responses to victims, survivors, and perpetrators, and recovery and healing. However, such plans are not fully executed. When evaluated from the respondent's point of view and perceptions, the efforts made against women and children violence in Addis Ababa are inadequate as significant number of the respondents believed that the effort made to reduce rape and sexual harassment (43.2%), acts of lasciviousness (53.1%), treating women and children as sex objects (52.1%), and making demeaning comments about disability or death (46.1%) is poor. Nonetheless, the other side of the coin agrees that reducing rape and sexual harassment (48%), lasciviousness (36.2%), treating women and children as sex objects (35.9%), and making demeaning comments about disability or death (39.2%) is a progressive practice.

Table-1: Effort made to Reduce Physical Violence

Effort made to Reduce Physical Violence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rape and sexual harassment	80(15.5%)	85(16.5%)	58(11.2%)	27(5.2%)	119(37%)	47(9.1%)	10(1.9%)
Acts of lasciviousness	99(19.2%)	112(21.7%)	63(12.2%)	37(7.2%)	138(26.7%)	36(7%)	13(2.5%)
Treating woman/child as sex object	95(18.4%)	98(19%)	76(14.7%)	40(7.8%)	130(25.2%)	47(9.1%)	8(1.6%)
Making demeaning/disability/death	67(13%)	107(20.7%)	64(12.4%)	54(10.5%)	134(26%)	55(10.7%)	13(2.5%)
Sexually suggestive remarks	103(20%)	118(22.9%)	69(13.4%)	56(10.9%)	93(18%)	45(8.7%)	8(1.6%)
Attack sexual parts of victim's body	57(11%)	111(21.1%)	80(15.5%)	41(7.9%)	137(26.6%)	51(9.9%)	10(1.9%)
Force to watch obscene publications	72(14%)	97(18.8%)	70(13.6%)	61(11.8%)	128(24.8%)	46(8.9%)	18(3.5%)
Indecent shows/forcing to do indecent acts & make films thereof	83(16.1%)	82(15.9%)	88(17.1%)	51(9.9%)	130(25.2%)	45(8.7%)	10(1.9%)
Forcing to live in conjugal home	66(12.8%)	74(14.3%)	63(12.2%)	65(12.6%)	139(26.9%)	66(12.8%)	23(4.5%)
Sleep together in same room with abuser	76(14.7%)	90(17.4%)	76(14.7%)	41(7.9%)	146(28.3%)	55(10.7%)	9(1.7%)

1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Moderately Disagree 3 = Slightly Disagree 4 = Neither disagree nor agree 5 = Slightly Agree 6 = Moderately Agree 7 = Strongly Agree Source, Field Survey, 2023

The mainstream media always announces two controversial issues in Addis Ababa. The first is the government's emphasis on multi-sector approaches and workforce development to support the campaign against women and children; and the second is the rapid increase in violence. In this regard, Table 1 indicates significant number of the respondents opposed the effort made to reduce sexually suggestive remarks (56.3%), attack sexual parts of the victim's body (47.6%), and force them to watch obscene publications (46.4%) because of poor practices. Similarly, despite the fact that it is a common problem in most developing countries, the effort made in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to reduce indecent shows or forcing to do indecent (49.1%), forcing to live in a conjugal home (39.3%), and sleeping together in the same room with the abuser (46.8%), appears to have escalated because it was rejected by respondents due to poor practice against women and child violence.

Data obtained from interviews described the assault as follows: *"The assault was physical. When my husband hit me with a belt, he hit me in the left eye (X-1). My boyfriend asked me for sex, but I was sick and was not willing. Due to this, he burned my sex organ with a hot iron (X-2). I have many scars on my body because my husband hit me when he drinks (X-3)"*. Another one added that, my friend once told me to spit on him. "What do you mean?" I asked. I saw a sex film. I thought he was joking, but he was serious about doing that. When I refused, he bound my hands and feet. He said I could have it right away. I didn't think he was cruel, but he took a knife and threatened to suck it out of my mouth. Later, he used his tongue to touch my sex organ. He also attempted to put on my anal. I begged and cried, but he did it anyway. I am now a fistula patient.

4.2. Effort to Reduce Sexual Violence

Even though government efforts were made to reduce sexual violence, people are dissatisfied with the progress made. This is because, as shown in Table-2, the majority of respondents (54%) rejected the government's efforts to unwanted sexual comments or sexual touching in Addis Ababa, despite the fact that 32% of participants supported the government's effort to unwanted sexual comments or sexual touching. Gender-based violence includes sexualized violence. It can range from verbal harassment to unwanted touching to rape. Forced marriage, so-called domestic violence, and female genital cutting are examples of gender-based violence.

Table-2: Effort made to Reduce Sexual Violence

Effort made to Reduce Sexual Violence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Unwanted sexual comments/sexual touching	106(20.5%)	105(20.3%)	69(13.4%)	49(9.5%)	114(22.1%)	40(7.8%)	13(2.5%)
Engage in forced sex and threat of force	78(15.1%)	110(21.3%)	60(11.6%)	53(10.3%)	133(25.8%)	49(9.5%)	14(2.7%)
Engage in sexual activity by force	80(15.5%)	97(18.8%)	64(12.4%)	66(12.8%)	114(22.1%)	57(11%)	19(3.7%)

1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Moderately Disagree 3 = Slightly Disagree 4 = Neither disagree nor agree 5 = Slightly Agree 6 = Moderately Agree 7 = Strongly Agree Source, Field Survey, 2023

Similarly, contrary to media reports, the city administration's efforts to reduce the use of forced sex and the threat of force were not implemented. This is because, as shown in table-2, the majority of participants (48%) rejected the city government's positive effort to reduce forced sex and the threat of force. Despite the fact that, 38.2% of respondents supported the city administration's positive effort made to reduce forced sex and the threat of force. Besides, the city administration's effort to reduce the use of force in sexual activity is also denied by 46.7% of the respondents. However, 36.8% of the respondents accepted the effort made to reduce the use of force to engage in sexual activity by the Addis Ababa city administration.

4.3. Effort to Reduce Psychological Violence

As in different literature, psychological violence describes actions that lead to emotional and mental injuries for those affected. Of course, the effect is clear, but when asked about the effort made to reduce psychological violence in Addis Ababa city administration in terms of the threat to reduce the threats of force and coercion, mental or emotional suffering, and public ridicule or humiliation, 48.1%, 51.1%, and 54.7% of the respondents, respectively, disagreed about the effort made in the city. Nevertheless, 39.2%, 36.9%, and 31.4% of the respondents agreed about the positive effort made by the city administration to reduce the threat of force and coercion, mental or emotional suffering, and public ridicule or humiliation, respectively.

Table-3: Effort made to Reduce Psychological Violence

Effort made to Reduce Psychological Violence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Threat of force and coercion	86(16.7%)	79(15.3%)	83(16.1%)	47(9.1%)	132(25.6%)	54(10.5%)	16(3.1%)
Mental or emotional suffering	88(17.1%)	111(21.5%)	63(12.2%)	44(8.5%)	143(27.7%)	39(7.8%)	7(1.4%)
Public ridicule or humiliation	71(13.8%)	129(25%)	82(15.9%)	50(9.7%)	119(23.1%)	34(6.6%)	9(1.7%)
Repeated verbal abuse and mental infidelity	84(16.3%)	109(21.1%)	70(13.6%)	65(12.6%)	119(23.1%)	39(7.6%)	8(1.6%)
Defamation and Disrespect	79(15.3%)	108(20.9%)	70(13.6%)	53(10.3%)	132(25.6%)	41(7.9%)	9(1.9%)
Adultery and neglect	93(18%)	116(22.5%)	67(13%)	52(10.1%)	117(22.7%)	40(7.8%)	9(1.7%)
Discrimination and separation	82(15.9%)	112(21.7%)	63(12.2%)	38(7.4%)	131(25.4%)	52(10.1%)	16(3.1%)

1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Moderately Disagree 3 = Slightly Disagree 4 = Neither disagree nor agree 5 = Slightly Agree 6 = Moderately Agree 7 = Strongly Agree Source, Field Survey, 2023

Likewise, the city administration's effort made to reduce psychological violence when measured in terms of repeated verbal abuse and mental infidelity (51%); defamation and disrespect (49.8%); adultery and neglect (53.5%); and discrimination and separation (49.8%) of the participant were rejected as poor practice. However, 32.3%, 35.6%, 32.2%, and 38.6% of respondents agreed that the city administration had made a positive effort to reduce repeated verbal abuse and mental infidelity; defamation and disrespect; adultery and neglect; and discrimination and separation, respectively. Despite the positive contributions however, the effort to reduce psychological violence remains inadequate, and the implication is danger.

4.4.Effort to Reduce Economic Violence

Ethiopia's new urban agenda aims to ensure sustainable and inclusive urban economies by capitalizing on the agglomeration benefits of well-planned urbanization. Nonetheless, despite declarations, conventions, urban policies, and strategies in place, the Ethiopian government and the Addis Ababa city administration efforts to reduce economic violence have been inadequate. This is because, as shown in Table-4, a significant number of the respondents (48.3%, 44.9%, and 40.7%, respectively) rejected the effort made to reduce negligence that results in damage to family property, the right of women and children to property ownership, and the opportunity to earn income. Other significant numbers of respondents (34.5%, 39.4%, and 44.6%, respectively) however agreed on the Addis Ababa city administration's efforts made to reduce negligence that results in damage to family property, the right of women and children to property ownership, and the opportunity to earn income.

Table-4: Effort made to Reduce Economic Violence

Effort made to Reduce Economic Violence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Negligence that result damage on family property	86(16.7%)	91(17.6%)	72(14%)	62(12%)	123(23.8%)	46(8.6%)	11(2.1%)
Right to property ownership of women & children	64(12.4%)	94(18.2%)	74(14.3%)	55(10.7%)	130(25.2%)	56(10.9%)	17(3.3%)
Damaging the opportunity to earn income	59(11.4%)	80(15.5%)	71(13.8%)	47(9.1%)	162(31.4%)	54(10.5%)	14(2.7%)
On benefit destruction & burning house	63(12.2%)	79(15.3%)	79(15.3%)	53(10.3%)	153(29.7%)	53(10.3%)	12(2.3%)
Property destruction, hiding; illegal possession, transfer and use	76(14.7%)	84(16.3%)	60(11.6%)	86(16.7%)	123(23.8%)	49(9.5%)	9(1.7%)
Right to property or money division	59(11.4%)	77(14.9%)	72(14%)	62(12%)	151(29.3%)	58(11.2%)	15(1.9%)
Preventing women and children	57(11%)	78(15.1%)	61(11.8%)	41(7.9%)	164(31.8%)	75(14.5%)	14(3.3%)

PERSPECTIVES

Urban policy & strategies(I)	Pearson	-.75**	.74*	.69*	.73**	.61*	.57*	.81
	Correlation							
International declarations(I)	Pearson	-.71**	.67**	.71**	.63**	.72**	.64*	.92
	Correlation							
International conventions(I)	Pearson	-.70**	.71**	.69*	.59**	.72**	.73**	.83
	Correlation							
Urban rules & regulation(I)	Pearson	-.79**	.73**	.72*	.64*	.62*	.71**	.85
	Correlation							

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). * . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Reliability coefficient in Bold and “I” refers to Implementation.

As indicated in Table 5 above, the correlations between predictor and criterion variables were revealed a significant negative association between women and children violence and professional engagement ($r = -.56^{**}$, $p < 0.01$), women and children violence and humanitarian engagement ($r = -.69^{**}$, $p < 0.01$), women and children violence and NGO engagement ($r = -.73^{**}$, $p < 0.01$), women and children violence and urban policy and strategies execution ($r = -.75^{**}$, $p < 0.01$), women and children violence and international declarations execution ($r = -.71^{**}$, $p < 0.01$), women and children violence and international conventions execution ($r = -.70^{**}$, $p < 0.01$) and women and children violence and urban rules and regulation ($r = -.79^{**}$, $p < 0.01$). As a result, when measured in terms of women and children violence, the predictor variables have a significant negative association. Mean that, any effort has a positive contribution on reducing violence against women and children and capitalizing effect of women and children protection.

On the other hand, when the inverted version of women and children violence is checked in the regression, the following regression test result shows rejection of the null hypothesis. As we can see from the regression table below, the R-squared is estimated to be .876. This implies that 87.6% of the variation in women and children protection is determined jointly by variations in the elements of government engagement, civic society engagement, professional and humanitarian association engagement, NGO engagement, the execution of urban policy and strategies, international declarations and conventions and urban rules and regulation. The remaining 12.4% of the variation in women and children protection is explained by variations in other variables that are not included in the model.

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.898a	.876	.875	.136

a. Predictors: (Constant), government full engagement, civic engagement, professional engagement, humanitarian engagement, NGO engagement, urban policies and strategies, international declarations, international conventions and urban rules and regulation.

The ANOVA table below also indicates that, the assumption for the null and alternative hypotheses are H_0 : all coefficients are jointly insignificant and H_A : At least one of the coefficients is

significantly different from zero. The result shows that, Sig=0.000 which is less than 0.05 or even <0.01 and therefor, the H_0 was Rejected. The rejection of the H_0 implies the adequacy of the model or its fitness.

ANOVA^a

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	281.373	8	35.172	1915.582	.000 ^b
Residual	7.032	383	.018		
Total	288.406	391			

a. Dependent Variable: Women and children protection

b. Predictors: (Constant), government full engagement, civic engagement, professional engagement, humanitarian engagement, NGO engagement, urban policy and strategies, international declarations, international conventions and urban rules and regulation.

As can be seen from the coefficients table below, the researchers tried to check, are the coefficients statistically significant? In such a case, all are statistically significantly different from zero. That is, the elements of government's full engagement, civic society engagement, professional and humanitarian association engagement, NGO engagement, the execution of national and urban policy and strategies, international declarations and conventions and, national and urban rules and regulation have significant effect on women and children protection.

Coefficients^a

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	1.172	.068		17.149	.000
Government Engagement	.414	.025	.540	16.449	.001
Civic society Engagement	.613	.034	.000	.000	.000
Professional Engagement	.886	.021	.653	41.918	.006
Humanitarian Engagement	.778	.072	1.572	56.571	.000
NGO Engagement	.635	.018	1.805	91.405	.000
International Declarations(I)	.407	.040	.440	10.300	.000
International Conventions (I)	.973	.034	.875	33.873	.021
National Policy & Strategies (I)	.776	.031	.643	31.918	.025
National Rules & Regulation(I)	.058	.042	.074	1.372	.002

Urban Policy & Strategies (I)	.921	.025	.983	36.316	.000
Urban Rules & Regulation(I)	.614	.045	.640	26.449	.000

a. Dependent Variable: women and children protection, “I” stands for Implementation.

The data obtained from questionnaire, focus group discussion and key informant interview, especially data from the victims shows that, the common causes of violence against women and children comes from unsafe spaces of city side and periphery; dark lanes and isolated bus stops; public latrines where rape, robbery and violent crime take place; unequal or imbalance power relations–masculinity; restricted participation especially of children; structural causes of violence and lawlessness and implementation gap; negligence and lack of sense of belonging; proliferation of hookah and alcohol shops in the city, the proliferation of drug users, increase of migrants to Addis Ababa and false reports; harmful customs and disobedience; touching children in inappropriate places and illegal human trafficking; NGO project interruption; proliferation of sex films and the problem of using social media, as well as failure to monitor the films broadcasted on television.

6. Root Causes of Violence against Women and Children

The analysis and evidence obtained from the qualitative data confirmed causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa are multifaceted and deeply rooted. Hence, from the total analysis and interpretation, the root causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa are identified like urban leadership failure, poverty, unemployment, slum habitation, lawlessness, emigration, wrong perception, addiction, psycho-problems, poor media platforms and corruption.

7. Conclusion

The analysis shows that, though several homegrown legislations and rules that serves as a reinforcing mechanism to the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence, the Vienna Declaration on Human Rights, the Beijing Platform on Prevention of Violence against Women, the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights, UN Women Ethiopia, etc., were adopted by the Ethiopian government. Nevertheless, the effort made to reduce violence against women and children is poor. Therefore, the root causes of violence against women and children in Addis Ababa are identified like urban poverty, unemployment, slum habitation, lawlessness, emigration, acculturation, wrong perception, addiction, psycho-problems, poor infrastructure, poor media platforms and leadership failure.

8. Recommendation

8.1. Building a Multi-Sectoral and Multi-Level Policy Climate

The study has shed some light on factors that inhibit women and child life. Hence, to make the city safe for women and children, the Addis Ababa city government has to build a multi-sectoral and multi-level approach to bring the city council, executive and judiciary, community, civic society, professional and humanitarian associations, and NGOs together on the campaign against women and child violence. Developing feasible city level action plan to prevent women and child violence

should also be discussed and applied with collaborators and existing committees.

8.2. Building Urban Leadership and Policy Implementation Capacity

The city administration should also enable the direct and meaningful participation of civil society and other stakeholders; the establishment of effective and accountable governance structures; city level action plans on violence against women and children should provide for structures that ensure leadership, oversight, support and engagement at the highest political levels and across all levels of government in all aspects of the plan. The new urban leaders faced a number of challenges as their organizations age and they must think of retiring from center stage. It is important that stakeholders involvement: civic leaders, business leaders, educators, labor unions, faith-based institutions, nonprofits, foundations, philanthropists and residents invest in long term, incremental and durable change initiated by urban leaders.

8.3. Building Women and Child-Sensitive Social Protection

The city administration focuses on the proper implementation of existing policy and strategies on violence reduction. Policies and programs on violence prevention should be sensitive to poverty and structural factors that often underpin violence towards women and children. In Addis Ababa, greater attention needs to be given to protecting vulnerable and very poor households through better programs to support families affected by economic shocks, for example by linking social protection to child protection, and emphasizing these issues in the implementation of the Social Protection Policy and Strategy of the city if any.

8.4. Creating Comprehensive Legislation Landscape

To combat violence against women and children, law enforcement and the proper application of ground rules and regulations are required. To protect the rights and legitimate interests of women and children, and their dignity, the city administration should revise and develop critical laws that define the principles, rules, and measures for preventing and combating urban violence against women and children through prevention, protection, assistance to victims of urban violence, and handling of such urban violence. The city government should create conducive socio-cultural, economic and political environment to enable women and children enjoy de-jure and de-facto fundamental rights and realize their full potential. If it is not absolutely elimination, there should be reduction of all forms of urban violence against women and children through strengthening of policies, legislations, programs, institution and community engagement.

8.5. Developing Victim Compensation Platform

The crime prevention and criminal justice departments in Addis Ababa should collaborate to create a victim compensation platform. The city administration should think and rethink in order to develop a practical compensation package for the women and children who were victims. Taking abusers and harassers to court and punishing them is no longer sufficient in today's world. Victims who are women or children should be compensated for their physical, sexual, psychological, and economic harm. The city council, executive and judiciary, community, civic society, professional and humanitarian associations, and NGOs should also support this kind of initiative as a protective instrument for women and child violence in Addis Ababa.

REFERENCE

- Agumasie S and Bezatu Mengistie (2015). Domestic violence against women and associated factors Delaney and Holst (2017), Intimate partner violence prevention: an evidence gap map, 3ie Evidence Gap Map Report 8. International Initiative for Impact Evaluation.
- EPPI-Centre (2018), Urbanization, Insecurity and Violence: A Systematic Review, EPPI-Centre, Department of Social Science, UCL Institute of Education, UK.
- Ethiopian Women Lawyers' Association (2022), Report on violence against women and girls in Ethiopia.
- Ethiopian Women Lawyers' Association (2023), Report on under age violence and violation of human rights.
- Evoy and Gergely (2018), Urban Violence or Urban Peace: Why Are Some Cities Safer than Others?
- Kennedy, B. K. (2015). Global structural violence, social injustice, and inequality of women and children: Confronting 21 century slavery, BRK Healthcare Publications.
- Kothary, C. (2004). Research Methodology- Methods and Techniques second revised edition. New Age International (P) Limited, Publishers New Delhi.
- Ministry Urban and Infrastructure (2013), Sustainable, green and accessible urban development policy, Urban development policy.
- Nardos Chuta, Virginia Morrow, Alula Pankhurst and Kirrily Pells (2019), Young Lives, Understanding Violence Affecting Children in Ethiopia: a Qualitative Study
- Patel and Burkle (2012), Rapid urbanization and the growing threat of violence and conflict: a 21st century crisis. Prehospital and disaster medicine, 27(2), pp.194-197.
- Solomon Dawit (2021), Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Against Women In Addis Ababa: The Case Of Bole Sub-Cit. MA thesis, ST. Mary University.
- Sosena Mulatu (2007), Domestic Violence against Women: The Case Study of Kolfe Keranyo Sub-City, Addis Ababa University School of Graduate Studies.
- UNICEF (2016), Understanding Children's Experiences of Violence in Ethiopia: Evidence from Young Lives.
- WHO (2010). Violence against women: A priority health issue. Geneva, World Health Organization.
- World Vision (2002), "Faces of violence in Latin America and the Caribbean", World Vision.
- Yamane (1967). Statistics, an Introductory Analysis, 2nd Ed., New York: Harper and Row.
- UN. (1993). UN declaration on the elimination of violence against women proclaimed by general assembly resolution 48/104.
- UN. (1995). The Beijing declaration and the platform for action, world conference on women, pp. 1-23. Beijing: UN/DPI.
- UN Women (2022). UN Women Strategic Plan 2022-2025 Building a Gender-Equal World.

