



UNIVERSITY of
RWANDA

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

CENTER FOR GENDER STUDIES

MASTER'S PROGRAM IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

**“GAYS AND LESBIANS IN SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT: COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS
AND ATTITUDES”. A Case Study of Nyarugenge District in the City of Kigali /Rwanda**

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA IN PARTIAL
FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER'S DEGREE OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT**

STUDENT: GASANA JOSEPHINE

REGISTRATION NUMBER:219014244

SUPERVISOR: Dr. JOSEPHINE MUKABERA

OCTOBER, 2020

DECLARATION

I declare that this this dissertation entitled GAYS AND LESBIANS IN SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT: COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES. A case study of NYARUGENGE DISTRICT, in the City of KIGALI, RWANDA contains my own work except where specifically acknowledged, and it has been passed through the anti-plagiarism system and found to be complaint and that this is the approved final version of the dissertation.

Student: Josephine GASANA

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CERTIFICATION AND COPYRIGHT

This is to certify that Ms. GASANA Josephine, at the Centre of Gender Studies-University of Rwanda, was working under my supervision and guidance for her thesis work entitled GAYS AND LESBIANS IN SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT: COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES. A case study of NYARUGENGE DISTRICT, in the City of KIGALI, RWANDA which she is submitting. It is her genuine and original work.

Place:

Name: Dr. Josephine MUKABERA

Signature: _____

Copyright by GASANA Josephine, 2020.

All rights reserved. Compliance with copyright restrictions dictates that no part of this dissertation may be reproduced or transmitted by any means including but not limited to photocopying, recording or any information storage without author's permission except for citations relating to succeeding studies.

DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my husband,
To my children and other family members in general
Who gave me various supports and
Encouragement to take up this course.

AKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am much grateful to our Heavenly Father who gave me a life worth living and I thank him for the strength to accomplish my master's studies.

I am also thankful to the University of Rwanda, College of Arts and Social Sciences, for having admitted me to the Masters' program of Gender and Development.

My deep appreciation goes to administrative staff and lecturers of University of Rwanda College of art and social science in gender development for their commitment and services that supported me to complete my study.

I particularly thank my supervisor **Dr. Josephine Mukabera** for additional professional skills in this thesis.

My sincere gratitude also goes to **Karthryn M Anastos**, Professor of Medicine at Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, Ny, USA who financially support my master of Social Sciences in Gender and Development (Msc in Gender and Development).

I would like to extend my gratitude to the Einstein-Rwanda Research and Capacity Building Program (ER-RCBP) at Rwanda Military Hospital for facilitating this work, without their various supports, this work would not be accomplished.

I also appreciate various field work leaders for their acceptance to get the study findings as well as respondents of the study for their provisional of findings.

I also thank classmates for collaboration in learning activities within the period of masters' degree.

Finally, my special thanks go to my husband and children for accepting the opportunity costs of my absence at home while doing this Msc in Gender and Development.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

EU	:European Union
LGB	:Lesbian Gay and Bisexual
LGBT	:Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender
LGBTI	:Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Intersex
NISR	:National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda
SPSS	:Statistical Package for Social Science
UDHR	:Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UK	:United Kingdom
UN	:United Nations
WHO	:World Health Organization

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	i
CERTIFICATE AND COPYRIGHT	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURE	xi
CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Background of the Study	1
1.3 Problem Statement	4
1.4. Objectives of the Study	6
1.4.1 General Objective	6
1.4.2 Specific Objectives	6
1.5. Research Questions	6
1.6. Significance of the Study	7
1.6.1 Significance of the study	7
1.6.2 Personal interest	7
1.6.3 Social interest	7
1.6.4 Scientific and academic interest	7
1.7 Scope of the Study	7
1.7.1 Theoretical Scope	7

1.7.2 Geographical scope.....	8
1.7.3 Time scope.....	8
1.8. Organization of the study.....	8
1.9. Conclusion of the chapter	8
CHAP TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	9
2.1 Introduction.....	9
2.2 Definition of Key Concepts	9
2.3 Theoretical Framework.....	11
2.3.1 Queer theory in sexual studies: Describe the aspect of queer theory	11
2.3.2 Holland’s theory.....	12
2.3.3 Social cultural theory	12
2.4 Review of the Literature	13
2.4.1 Human rights and sexual identity	13
2.4.2 Postmodern Transformation of Sexuality	15
2.4.3 Radical Feminism and Queer Rights	16
2.4.4 Sexual identity in societal relation: Community attitudes to LGBTI	17
2.4.5 LGBT community and development	19
2.4.6 Challenges in life experience of gays and lesbians.....	21
2.4.7 Factors influencing social development.....	23
2.4.8 Measures to facilitated gays and lesbians in Society	24
2.5. Empirical review	26
2.6 Conceptual Framework.....	29
2.7 Conclusion of the chapter	30
CHAPTER THREE:RESAERCH METHODOLOGY	31
3.1 Introduction.....	31

3.2 Research design	31
3.3. Study setting.....	32
3.4 Research population.....	32
3.5 Sampling size and techniques	32
3.5.1 Sample size	32
3.6 Data Collection Techniques.....	33
3.6.1 Self-administered questionnaire.....	34
3.6.2 Participant observation.....	34
3.6.3 Focus group discussion	34
3.6.4 Interview guide	35
3.7 Data Analysis Procedures	35
3.8 Validity and Reliability.....	35
3.8.1 Validity	35
3.8.2 Reliability.....	36
3.9 Ethical issues.....	36
3.10 Limitation of the study.....	37
3.11 Conclusion of the Chapter	37
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION	38
4.0 Introduction.....	38
4.1 Research Instruments Return Rate.....	38
4.2. Identification of respondents.....	40
4.2.1 Sex of community members	40
4.2.2 Age group of respondents	40
4.2.4 Gays and lesbians employment status.....	43
4.3 Results related to the study	43

4.3.1 Community perceptions related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians ..	44
4.3.2 Experiences of gays and lesbians on community’s attitudes	50
4.3.3 Societal development towards gays and lesbians	54
4.3.4 Challenges faced by gays and lesbians in societal development	56
4.3.5 Measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to participate in societal development	58
4.4 Conclusion of the Chapter	61
CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	62
5.0 Introduction.....	62
5.1.1 Community perceptions on gays and lesbians.....	63
5.1.2 Views of gays and lesbians on community’s attitudes towards them.....	63
5.1.3 Participation of Gays and Lesbians in societal development.....	64
5.1.4 Challenges faced by gays and lesbians in societal development	65
5.3 Conclusion of the Study.....	67
5.4 Recommendations.....	68
5.4.2 Recommendations for Further Research.....	69
5.6 Strengthens of the study.....	69
REFERENCES	70
APPENDICES	76
APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE TO COMMUNITY.....	77
APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE TO GAYS AND LESBIANS.....	81
APPENDIX III: INTERVIEW GUIDELINES TO KEY INFORMANTS	84
APPENDIX IV: MAP OF NYARUGENGE DISTRICT.....	86

LIST OF TABLES

Table N° 1: Target population and sample size	33
Table N° 2: Research instruments return rate	39
Table N° 3: Sex of community members.....	40
Table N° 4: Age group of community members, gays and lesbians.....	41
Table N° 5: Level of education.....	42
Table N° 6: Gay and lesbians employment status	43
Table N° 7: Presence of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District.....	44
Table N° 8: Community perceptions on gays and lesbians	45
Table N° 9: Community members that involve gays and lesbian in social events	46
Table N° 10: Participation of gays and lesbians in community development	47
Table N° 11: Enjoyment of human rights by Gays and lesbians	48
Table N° 12: Key informants views to community perceptions of gays and lesbians	49
Table N° 13: Views of gays and lesbians	50
Table N° 14: Experiences of gays and lesbians on community's attitudes	51
Table N° 15: Societal development discrimination towards gays and lesbians.....	52
Table N° 16: Key informants views to community attitudes of gays and lesbians	53
Table N° 17: Gays and lesbians implications on societal development	54
Table N° 18: Good relationship between community members and gays and lesbians	55
Table N° 19: Challenges faced by gays and lesbians in society	56
Table N° 20: Measures to facilitate gays and lesbians in society	59

LIST OF FIGURE

Figure 2.1: Conceptual framework 29

ABSTRACT

This study was established to investigate the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in Rwanda. It was guided by four specific objectives: to explore the perceptions of community related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda, to describe the experience of gays and lesbians linked with community attitudes towards them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda, to identify challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in the societal development in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda and to suggest measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District. This study also employed descriptive survey research design and four research instruments such as interview guide, questionnaire, focus group discussions and observation schedule. The quantitative findings were analyzed using SPSS software while qualitative findings were analyzed using thematic approach. The results revealed that 50% of Leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians stated that gays and lesbians are perceived as abnormal people in community and 42.8% of religious indicated community perceive gays and lesbians as they are anti-God' commandments while 33.3% of leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians indicated that gays and lesbians are perceived as mental disordered people. The findings also showed that there is a lack of tolerance and socialization of community members towards gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District. The findings revealed that the participation of gays and lesbians in societal development is still in dark place due to the fact that 63.6% of gays and lesbians stated that they are discriminated in their jobs regardless their knowledge and experience when known that they are homosexuals which lead them to having low socio-economic status and development. Gays and lesbians indicated that they get mostly challenges based on being excluded in various services and wherever they are like being excluded from church services, school opportunities and health insurance. Regarding the measures that could be put in place to facilitate gays and lesbians in societal development, the study recommends that local community should stop discrimination towards gays and lesbians and enhance respect towards each other. Community sensitization to human rights and sexual orientation should be strengthened. The study also suggests that further study can be conducted to explore the role family management in development of society in Rwanda.

Key words: Community, Perception, Attitude, Gays and Lesbians.

CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The common understanding based on societal beliefs and norms, is the one which reaches to the effective development. The developed collaboration between community members is the one which makes social cohesion and security which lead to economic standard of living. With the increasing varieties of sexual identities including homosexuality, societal norms and values that influence social development also change. Therefore, this study tells about community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in societal development due to the fact that gays and lesbians as well as other homosexuals are not treated equally like heterosexual and it may affect the effective development of local society.

1.2 Background of the Study

Since 1990s, the term LGBTI stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities, and refers to a broad coalition of group that are diverse with respect to gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic status (Gamson& Moon 2004). Worldwide, LGBTI communities are increasingly known and are visible in many societies (Weber, 2010). However, members of the LGBTI communities face legal challenges and are highly stigmatized and socially isolated as they don't effectively take part in societal development around the world compared to other people (Karkazis, 2008). Sexual orientation, as an often-enduring pattern of emotional, romantic or sexual attraction between individuals is not the same thing as gender identity but they do both reflect differing forms of gender norm transgression (Weber, 2010). As more states in the world strike down laws restricting marriage to one man and one woman, same-sex relationships are becoming more socially accepted; nevertheless many couples still experience significant stress because of their same-sex status (Chatterjee, 2014).

According to Clarence and Rachel (2006), LGBT people as members of a social minority group, are suffering from various forms of socioeconomic and cultural injustice, because the lack of social recognition has an effect on the capacity of LGBT people to fully access and enjoy their rights as citizen:

Sexual desire and sexual orientation, as much as there may be a natural component to it, seem to be socially, culturally and historically constructed. Homosexual practices have always existed in different historical, geographical and social contexts, but what differs is the social place accorded to them in the cultures of different countries (Karkazis, 2008).

LGBTI are more likely to experience intolerance, discrimination, harassment, and threats of violence due to their sexual orientation (Chatterjee, 2014). In every life context, family, work, neighborhood, religious communities, and in social and legal contexts, same-sex couples have to make decisions about disclosure, how to respond to prejudice, and how to cope with negative feelings about themselves and their experiences (Rostosky, 2019).

Basing on global perspective, Gill and Wood (2009) established that lesbians, gays and bisexual (LGB) people in United Kingdom (UK) were given a legal modification and changes which led to extending the human rights and giving them new protection. However, they also added that LGB people' attitudes to the minority groups do not always meet with the statement of legislative framework. Valentine et al. (2009) also revealed that, individual sexual orientation, is very essential in normal society as it leads to effective individual association.

According to Walter and Frank (2014), all people regardless of their sexual orientation have the right to be equal under the law and the right to exercise their full range of human rights without exception. Subsequently, the denial of equal recognition of same-sex relationships can lead to discrimination and other human rights abuses such as right to housing, social security, health insurance based on their sexual orientation.

According to Amartya (2010), societal development is indicated by individual well-being and volunteerism as well as equal opportunity for community members so as to determine their own needs and to influence decisions that affect them. However, societal development incorporates public participation in developing social policy and economic initiatives. Bilance (2007) also added that effective societal development should enhance the promotion of a sustainable society that is worth of human dignity by empowering marginalized groups as used to undertake their own development to improve their social and economic position and also to acquire their rightful place in society.

The creation and strengthening the inclusive identity shared by a society of diversity should result to sharing the sense of belonging which is seen as the very core societal development (Koenig, 2006).

Despite, the societal disintegration leads to conflict that affect the development of society (Mercy, 2007). Therefore, the local community should have equal opportunity based on active participation in societal development.

In Africa, LGBTI communities are believed to have existed in Africa for centuries (Luirink, 2000). According to Murray (1998), a public gay subculture was identified in Cape Town, South Africa since the 1950's. During the 1980's blacker homosexual became more visible. Regardless of this fact, homosexuality is still shunned by the majority of South Africans across race, gender and culture (Luirink, 2000).

Dunton and Palmberg (1996) conducted the study related to human rights and homosexuality in South Africa, where they established that South Africa introduced a new policy that protects human right in general instead of gays and lesbians' rights. Therefore, abuse and any kind of discrimination are unacceptable; however lead to heterosexual women, children, gays and lesbians which should be based on the societal ethics (Dunton&Palmberg, 1996). Nevertheless, the government of Zimbabwe (1994) indicated the exclusion of gays and lesbians so as to protect the development of human right and family rights which discourage the existence of homosexuality.

In East Africa, the moral and legal and legal systems regulating and restricting the homosexual's establishment, were mentioned in Kenya in the colonial period and remained in place after political independence. According to the Kenyan civil society (2010), the government of Kenya established the criminalization of homosexuality like harassment by policies and state officials, torture, invasion of privacy and denial employment, violation of housing rights which discourage family extension, having poor access to health care that affect the development of conducive social environment and also interference with the right to education which may also reduce the socio-economic development.

Therefore, in Kenya homosexuality is still considered a taboo subject and there is no significant public debate on this issue, which is the main source of various challenges for LGBT people as also becomes the challenge to development of society as a whole especially local community.

In Uganda, the government of Uganda (2014) signed the anti-homosexuality act and dramatical increasing the criminal consequences for the consensual sexual activity between adults of the same sex, which can also lead to the life imprisonment. Despite, Nthungi (2013) indicated that the promotion of homosexuality, creates a high risk related to the development of society that also affect the health care workers and human rights defenders as workers with Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual, Transgender and intersex (LGBTI) population of the same environment.

In Rwanda, there is no special legislative protection for LGBT communities and same-sex marriages are not recognized by the State, as only monogamous civil marriage between a man and a woman is recognized (Rwandan constitution 2003), even though, homosexuality is not criminalized but remains a taboo subject that most people simply never discuss or think about for fear that coming out to profess this same-sex relation would only attract more homophobia. It is presented as a threat to truly African history, culture, and traditional African femininity (Kerstin, 2013). With these aforementioned knowledge gaps, our study will be aiming to investigate the community perceptions and attitudes towards to gays and lesbians (neutral morality, job discrimination, intolerance, neutral contact and torture) in societal development (economic standard of living, social cohesion, social safety and security, social culture and identity and protected human rights) in Rwanda.

1.3 Problem Statement

Worldwide, in some societies, homosexuality is classified as a deviation from societal norms and beliefs (Kelly, 2012). Such societal beliefs and misconceptions about sexuality are noted in, and internalized by many. In societies where homosexuality is not yet accepted, these individuals tend to change their identities to conform to the societal norm or to save their way of life, which means that, they often find it difficult to effectively integrate their two social identities. For this reason, they use several strategies to manage their gender identities or sexual orientation and their conflicting roles (Gilder, 2019).

Homosexual individuals have internalized these negative perceptions about their sexual identity and thus are afraid to live openly as homosexuals. However, this may also lead to poor development of society. Therefore, these misconceptions also make up many people's core beliefs such that it becomes difficult to uproot them (Yorburg, 1974).

In a society where people's objectivity is obscured by societal norms and beliefs against homosexuality, it becomes difficult to be developed due to the fact that, social and economic development as well as human rights are not maintained effectively unless community indicate negative perceptions and attitudes towards to homosexuals like developing neutral morality and contact, torture and job discrimination and lack of tolerance in community (Blasius, 1997). Subsequently, such societal beliefs, negative attitudes and perceptions about sexuality can affect the physical and mental health of gays and lesbians and can lead to rejection by friends and families, discriminatory acts and violence, laws and policies with negative consequences (Adamczyk, 2017).

The feminist theory on LGBT revealed that the question about gay and lesbian is bound to the critique of marriage in various societies. This critique originates in the theoretical and practical indictment of all societies, built for longtime ago upon inequality and exclusion, functioning as tools of male dominance. Therefore, the feminist perspective for gays and lesbians is to acquire the same rights that heterosexual people enjoy in societal development (Warner, 2000).

According to Richard (2008), the Rwandan society still view gays and lesbians in a negative light and thus treat homosexual individuals in a discriminatory manner such as intolerance at workplace if identified, discrimination, harassment, and threats of violence due to their sexual orientation due to the fact that, such homosexuals do not meet societal norms and beliefs as well as various challenges of participating in societal development.

Richard (2014) also indicated that Gasabo District of Kigali city experienced people of the same sex and revealed that gays and lesbians were heartbroken and in need of social support that lead to being unbalanced media coverage which also may weaken the local society. Haste and Gatete (2015) revealed that Nyarugenge District experiences a high rate of gays and lesbians as they don't respect the societal beliefs and norms which caused families, religions and societies in general to complain about a wide range of gays and lesbians' cases that challenge the effective

development of society. This study therefore needed to explore the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in the societal development of Nyarugenge District, the City of KIGALI, Rwanda.

1.4. Objectives of the Study

1.4.1 General Objective

The overall objective was to investigate the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in Rwandan society.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

- To explore the perceptions of community related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda.
- To describe the experience of gays and lesbians linked with the attitudes of the community towards them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda.
- To identify challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in societal development in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda.
- To suggest measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda.

1.5. Research Questions

- What are the perceptions of community on gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda?
- What are the experiences of gays and lesbians linked with the attitudes of the community towards to them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda?
- What are the challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in societal development in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda?
- What are the measures that could be used to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda?

1.6. Significance of the Study

1.6.1 Significance of the study

Through this research, researcher hoped that it will add to the existing literature and be useful to the world. The significance of this study is divided into personal, social scientific and academic interest.

1.6.2 Personal interest

Humans have different needs and interests in society, some may influence their community or the community may also influence the behavior of some individuals, so as a student in the field of gender development who has been working with gays for a long time, we wanted to assess how Rwandan society perceive sexual orientation of gay and lesbians, especially in Nyarugenge district for the facts described in geographic scope of the study. Once again, the study will help the researcher gain more knowledge and experience on how to conduct research, collect, analyze data, and interpret results.

1.6.3 Social interest

We think there would be a misunderstanding about sexual orientation within a society, but we know that individual needs and interests are different. With this study, we intend to explore the Rwandan society's perception of gays and lesbians and highlight the existing differences in sexual orientation.

1.6.4 Scientific and academic interest

Academically, the study will enable the researcher to meet the requirements of the University of Rwanda for a Master's degree in Gender and Development Studies. Furthermore, this study will be a source of reliable information for future researchers and will serve as a rich reference for other actors involved in same-sex practices and will prepare the researcher for publication.

1.7 Scope of the Study

1.7.1 Theoretical Scope

This study, focused on the community perceptions and attitudes on gays and lesbians in societal development. As a result, this study is limited to the content as mentioned.

1.7.2 Geographical scope

The study was conducted in Nyarugenge District in the city of Kigali which has a larger number of LGBTI associations than other parts of the country and many people with multicultural aspects. Therefore, other gays and lesbians beyond Nyarugenge District will not be involved in this study as this also helped the researcher to easily find potential study participants.

1.7.3 Time scope

This study was done due to the schedule of research activities which were done basing on university academic calendar. This study covered the period from October 2019 up to October 2020. This period was chosen because of the university calendar, as this research is being conducted to meet the requirements of the Master's degree program in Gender Development Studies at the National University of Rwanda.

1.8. Organization of the study

This study covers three chapters. The first chapter describes the general introduction of the study, the context of the study, the problem statement, the objectives with respective research questions, the justification of the choice and interest of the study and the study's delimitation and conclusion of the chapter. The second chapter presents the key concepts and a detailed view of the literature of various scientific papers, the empirical literature, theoretical framework as well as conceptual framework and conclusion of the chapter. The third chapter describes the methods and techniques that will be used for data collection and analysis. The fourth chapter dealt with the results presentation. Finally, the fifth chapter was concerned with a summary, conclusion and recommendations.

1.9. Conclusion of the chapter

The study has introduced the reader with the background of the study. It also outlined the main and specific objectives together with the research questions. The chapter has highlighted the significance of the study as well as its scope and limitation. The chapter has also tackled on the architectural organization of the chapter so that the reader is able to follow the sequence and organization of the thesis. Finally, this first chapter is closed with the partial conclusion. The second chapter covers the literature review and the definition of the key concepts.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

In this chapter, important key concepts are defined to have unambiguous understanding of the general used terms for the present study. Different literatures put into exergue various arguments and definitions about homosexuality orientation among partners. The categories of sexual orientation typically have included attraction to members of one's own sex such as men who have sex with other men (gays) or lesbians as women who have sex with other women; the attraction to members of the other sex known as heterosexual orientation and the attraction to members of both sexes known as bisexual attraction. The literatures also tackle on definitions of people whose gender identity or self-identification doesn't match one's assigned sex at birth known as Transgender persons (Stryker & Whittle, 2006); on the category of people that have both male and female sex organs or other sexual characteristics known as Intersex people (Kessler, 1990) and the category of people who have no sexual feelings or desires known as asexual individuals (Lorber, 1994). As described in the introduction section, the study has a focus on the terms of our topic which is societal perception and attitudes about homosexuals and lesbians. We will give a common definition to the words related to sexual orientation to give a common understanding:

2.2 Definition of Key Concepts

Perception: Refers to the ability of seeing, hearing or being aware of something through the senses. Perceptions also are the ways through which something are regarded or interpreted (Kendra, 2010). Perception in this study refers to ways that gays and lesbians are perceived by the community members.

Attitudes: Refer to a settled way of thinking or feeling about something happened. The attitudes can be defined as the way of feeling or acting towards to an individual, thing or situation performed and can be indicated cognitively, emotionally and behaviorally. Attitudes in this study, deals with the ways that gays and lesbians are treated in the community (Nick & Hank, 2014).

Community: Is defined as a shared attribute of people in it by the strength of connection established between them as living in one particular and become considered as a unit because of common interests, social group or nationality. Community can also be defined as a social unity or group of living things with commonality such as norms, religion, values, customs and identity (Laran, 2016).

Development: Refers to the result of society' capacity to organize resources to meet challenges and opportunities which is considered to be the results of formation and transformation of social life and customs (Mercy, 2007).

Gays: A gay is a homosexual man, that is to say who has an attraction in love or sexual exclusively for men, from the point of view of sex or gender. It is understood as “two men who love each other or a homosexual man (Bayer,1987).

Lesbians: The term “lesbian” is defined as “a homosexual woman”, women in relation to their sexual identity or sexual behavior, regardless of their sexual orientation, with nouns like female homosexuality or same sex attraction (Bayer, 1987). However, lesbian in terms of gender basis is “Woman who is attracted physically, emotionally or sexually to another woman” If a woman is attracted to another woman, she can be a lesbian, a bisexual. In this study, a lesbian denotes a homosexual woman.

Society: Refers to the relational capacities of citizens in community (Koenig, 2006). Therefore, societal can be described as understanding of someone's own human dignity and implicit the recognition the human rights and dignity of others.

Societal development: Refers to how people develop social and emotional skills across the life span with particular attention from childhood to adult with moral and economic support (Mercy, 2007). However, healthy social development, allows people to form positive relationship with family friends as well as other people in society (Karnataka, 2010). On another hand, social development experience improvement related to well-being of every individual in society. Therefore, it requires the removal of barriers so that all citizens can journey toward their dreams with confidence and dignity.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This study was developed basing on the three theories such as queer theory, Holland's theory and social culture theory in order to indicate their relationship with the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians on societal development.

2.3.1 Queer theory in sexual studies: Describe the aspect of queer theory

Queer can be described as a derogatory term for homosexuality or effeminacy that indicates something done which is out of the ordinary or not quite right and was taken by activists concerned with gender and sexual freedom (Gamson, 1995). This study therefore, will be based on queer theory which seemed an obvious theoretical basis related to gays and lesbians or literatures related to bisexuality (Callis, 2009). Although, queer theory, is dedicated to the deconstruction of the naturalized binary of heterosexual and homosexual, bisexuality as they may lead to poor perceptions of normal society which may also result to poor social development. This theory, presents the perceptions indicated by other scholars who show how the inclusions of bisexual identity and homosexuals would have reinforced to understand the construction of sexuality and gender within community.

Queer theory also is used in this study as it is a segment of academic thought that focuses on the contractedness of gendered and sexual identities and categorizations (Seidman, 2006). However, studying the homosexual or heterosexual individual, the queer theorist studies the webs of power and discourse that create and uphold the idea that such individuals exist, and that defining individuals by sexual object choice is somehow natural (Henderson, 2003).

According to Epstein (1994), the Homosexuality is analyzed in part to expose the deeper contours of the whole society and the mechanisms of its functioning. Heterosexuality is therefore queered through the branch of thought, as it loses its status as the original or default sexuality and becomes rather one half of a binary in which each side is intelligible only in relation to the other (Stein & Plummer, 1996). Identities, sexual or not, become tools of social order and control which can affect the development of society and constantly re-created and report rayed by the individual (Slagle, 2006).

Despite, Drescher (2007) also revealed that queer theory also destabilizes and denaturalizes genders (masculine/feminine) and biological sex (male/female), questioning the assumed connectivity between sex and gender, or the legitimacy of presumed scientific classification.

2.3.2 Holland's theory

This study will also be guided by Holland's theory as it is relatively based on lesbian women and gay men. Holland's focus on individual personality type and work environment type that strength working environment and individual development (Robert, 1996). Therefore, this study will be used Holland's theory as it deals with how lesbians and gays can be challenges in working environment as also make a challenge to the development of normal society.

According to Karnataka (2010), lesbian and gay teenagers are overwhelmingly similar to their non-lesbian and gay peers. However, because of societal stigma or potential rejection, these adolescents may face various challenges during their adolescent years which make them to difficult adaptation in current normal society as well as getting greater risk for substance abuse, depression, suicide, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) than their peers who are heterosexual.

Holland's theory established that, the time an individual is aged 20 years, as a young men and young women had at least one homosexual experience that can affect their development related to the normal society due to being opposed with the societal norms and beliefs (Kinsey, 2012). Thus, this study will need to investigate the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians on societal development as it is challenge to normal society.

2.3.3 Social cultural theory

Social cultural theory was developed by a Russian educational psychologist Vygotsky. This theory shows the individual's social interaction which is done step by step due to the changes of thoughts and behaviors from culture to culture as also based on their biological change (Woolfolk, 1998).

Vygotsky suggested that development of children's behavior depends on the interaction with people and tools where people can imitate other to the culture related to homosexuality due to having interaction with gays and lesbians and start changing their normal sexual orientation, sexual attraction and behavior. This also implies that frequent development of homosexuality may reduce the effective development of normal society as the homosexuals may result to being rejected by the working environment.

2.4 Review of the Literature

This literature indicates various studies that were developed by other scholars as related to the phenomena of gays and lesbians and could be presented from global to local perspective. However, the study also indicates how gays and lesbians can affect the societal development of the local community as well as their perceptions.

2.4.1 Human rights and sexual identity

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings alive in the country or outside of the country (World Bank, 2015). This implies that all people all over the world are supposed to be treated and managed equally and also enjoy their human right without any kind of discrimination regardless individual nationality, place of residence, sex, color, religion or any other status like age, disability, health status, sexual orientation or gender identity (UN, 2016).

According to United Nations of human rights (2016), it was found that there should be a positive treatment and equal right to life and before law as well as the freedom to express the individual willingness. However, the economic, social and cultural right should be managed in same way like having the same right at work place, social security and educational opportunity that could also be interpedently strengthened (Robinson, 2013). Therefore, government should work in a certain way that each citizen should be promoted healthy and be protected to human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups effectively in their communities.

Gibson (2009) highlighted that Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) indicates that the right to individual based on life, privacy, health and equality before law as well as the right related to expression of personal freedom and freedom from discrimination and violence and also torture need to be strengthened. Gibson (2009), also added that people have right to enjoy human rights regardless sexual orientation and gender identity without any kind of discrimination.

According to World Health Organization (WHO, 2010), the state governments can be obliged to hold back all citizens to enjoy their human rights regardless sexual identity or any physical appearance. Despite, the obligations towards to such protections towards to human rights require states to protect individuals and groups in society against human violence, abuse, job discrimination and social exclusion or any kind of torture in community (Savin-Williams, 2006). This implies governments enhance positive activities that lead to making positive environment in order to facilitated people in community to full enjoying their basic human rights.

Marker and Gordon (2017) revealed that governments are engaged to strengthen the domestic measures and obligation compatible with their treaty obligations and duties. However, some domestic legal proceedings fail to address the human right abuses, mechanisms and strategies for personal concern as well as communication that could be managed in community and outside so as to promote the standard of living and respect. According to UN (2016), there should be a legal framework related to discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender as well as intersex people due to the fact that there should be the right that promotes the equality and non-discrimination in society as also the principles of human rights where the all people in local community are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Therefore, the equality and non-discrimination should be promoted to all human beings regardless sex, sex orientation and gender identity. Marker and Gordon (2017) indicated that no hidden exemption clause related to the treatments of human rights that might be guaranteed but hold all people to purely enjoying their basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The various treaties based on United Nations have confirmed that sexual orientation and gender identity are established to be prohibited grounds of discrimination under laws regarding to rights of human beings (WHO, 2010).

Therefore, this implies that any lack of respect related to laws protecting human rights based on the fact that they are lesbians, gays, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) just as it is unlawful to do that based on the skin color, race, sex, religion as well as any other individual belief. According to the United Nations (UN, 2015), the development of economic, social and cultural rights should fight against torture and any kind of discrimination.

2.4.2 Postmodern Transformation of Sexuality

According to Bauman (2008), sex and love or sexual excitement and practices are indicated to be different.

However, Bauman (2008) also added that they can hardly be the same without each other and yet their existence is happened in the ongoing daily activities which should have some boundaries. According to Theodore (2004), sex is experienced to be natural instead of being cultural product. This is because sex is shared within a large part of non-human species which is in natural form that is not contaminated by the cultural sex that could also be similar and develop progressively.

Theodore (2004) revealed that the history based on sexual practices experience the history related to various cultures based on manipulation of sex among people. Nevertheless, this was begun at the period of birth that indicates the sexual excitement based on various cultural aspects and tricks of separated sexual practices and experience as well as human pleasure associated with experience based on reproduction as the crucial function of sex and also the purpose of having such type sex.

According to Maureen (2007) having sex is not an except to an individual but sexuality that tends to the reproduction of species are considered to an obligation with quantities of sexual energy and capacity related to being sexual encounters far in excess of what reproduction proper would be established functionally and effectively. The sexual excitement is not experienced as purely cultural rare or difficulty to accomplish and no way of perceiving any kind of violence in nature or in local environment (Michel, 2010). This was therefore indicated that, having sexuality requires the volume of sexual energy and desire.

According to Taylor and Saarinen (2004) postmodern sexual excitement and desires appear unprecedentedly. This is because there is no sexual reproduction or love claiming to be independent. Bauman (2008) also added that self-sufficiency related to sexual orientation and excitement and also freedom to seek the sexual pleasure and desires that can be established and based on cultural norms and beliefs. However, Taylor and Saarinen (2004) also revealed that the sexual orientation and excitement in the postmodern transformation of sexuality can be cut free from the reproduction. However, sex which is free of reproductive consequences and stubborn, staying in love attachment can be automatically enclosed (Stephen, 2012). Therefore, the relationship of parents and children should not only be the one which is continuously in investigation and being assessed or negotiated in the postmodern erotic revolution.

2.4.3 Radical Feminism and Queer Rights

According to Julie and Robert (2014), feminism is indicated to be one of concerns related to gender equality. Therefore, the perception roots of feminists are based on the norms related to gender established in a social construction as based on the indicated sex that was inborn (Julie & Robert, 2014). However, Lorber (2009) suggested that gender is experienced to be familiar participation of the individual daily life which always holds a management that can be related to disruption of individual expectations of how women and men are supposed to perform for the purpose of strengthening the social environment.

Butler (2006) revealed that the feminism disrupt the adherence towards to the use of categories that put in place the management of gender which is supposed to be normal, natural and neutral which is male and indicates a certain level of competition towards to one gender which is oppositional , subjected , showing the variety and inferior of female. Therefore, the feminists and queers bring a challenge of being attracted by a man as in natural category as also a woman exists only in the relation to a man but that woman decides to be in relation woman (Butler, 2006).

According to Kimmel (2004), there is factors that lead to the determination of gender and reproduction as gendered order such as the production of gender division structured due to societal norms and beliefs rooted from organizational practices that establish gender patterns related to job allocation, payment and individual subordinates in community, building the images related to reproduction, suggestion and reinforcement based on division of gender as well as individual interaction based on the respect between men and women that enhance individual power and domination that make up sentences of completions and point of conversations, patterns of speech, dressing style and personal interpretation and presentation which is based on gender expectation appropriate to norms and beliefs and also logic framework based on organizational life study which indicated to seemingly neutral based on gender.

Feminism and queer are strictly based on enhancing equality and justice toward to all women regardless sexual attraction of opposite sex for the purpose of searching the elimination systems regarded to inequality and justice based on all women' living style (Shaw & Lee, 2004). According to Shaw and Lee (2004), feminism and Queer focus on all women in their embrace that need to enjoy their achievement and struggles managed by women. Ruth (2010), added that the radical feminism and queer rights indicate various tack, that lead to deep of psychological factors based the relationship between women and men for interpretations. Ruth (2010) also suggested that society built upon masculinity values in a given society experiences as hopeless to feminism and queer in order to prevent against violence.

2.4.4 Sexual identity in societal relation: Community attitudes to LGBTI

The social life indicates a wide variety of sexual identities (Marke& Gordon, 2017). The four sexual identities mostly commonly in social relation describe in the psychological change such as heterosexual, gay or lesbian, bisexual and asexual. Though, most of people in society like heterosexual are exclusively attracted to the other sex (Bailey et al., 2016). However, gays and lesbians, bisexuals and asexual comprise a small proportion of population in various African countries and are also considered to be the minorities (Marke& Gordon, 2017). The heterosexual is used to indicate sexual identity, attraction and behavior while homosexual is not typically used to indicate sexual identity (Marke& Gordon, 2017).

On another hand, the sexual identity presents sexual attraction to both men and women where a bisexual person may have the same level of attraction to both men and women equally as well as being attracted more strongly to one sex than the other while an asexual identity indicates a lack of sexual attraction (Marker & Gordon, 2017). Despite, asexual may perceive sexual arousal and typically do not have physiological difficulties in sexual functioning, asexual does not experience attractions aimed at any potential sexual target (Bogaet, 2012).

According to Mabokela (2015) lesbians and gay men experience various cases related to being the victim of discriminatory laws and prejudices in various Sub-Saharan African Countries (SSAC). Recently, the state governments did not support the basic human right which discouraged them to having effective social relations and development. Therefore, the asexual identity performed by gays and lesbians affected them to social stigma (Reichert & Lambiase, 2003). Despite, gender differentiation reflects the belief that nature of women and men require them to hold different social roles (Greene & Croom, 2000). On another hand, heterosexuality reflects the belief that heterosexual relationship is necessary for a complete and happy life mostly for men (Green & Croom, 2000).

The Cross-cultural variability indicated in local society related to sexual identity the existence if the same sex attractions that most western cultures would describe as homosexuals (gays and lesbians) are experienced to be nearly universal cross-cultures (Bailey, et al., 2016). Despite, Bartlett and Vasey (2006) also added that most cultures have either the presence of gays and lesbians' identities or induction of more than two gender identities, although gay and lesbian identities may co-exist with the third genders in some cultures. According to Bailey et al. (2016), the variety of culturally constructed sets of sexual identities and gender identities with each culture may not be generalized to other cultures.

According to Alderson (2003), the community attitudes based on experiencing sexual attractions and desires but not publicly identifying as a sexual minority which can lead to intrapsychic conflict. Halpin and Allen (2004) added that homosexuals in social relation experience negative physical and mental health outcomes associated with not adopting gays and lesbians like depression, isolation and having low self-esteem.

The highest levels of stress and negative mental outcomes are commonly experienced during the initial formation sexual minority identity (Halpin& Allen, 2004). Though Alderson (2003) also added that environment is intolerant mostly towards to gays and lesbians.

Furthermore, Greene and Croom (2000) revealed that individual gender role and belief system perspective, where men undertake a high risk related to negative attitudes towards lesbians and particularly gay men as they should place high value based on female dependence, while gender differentiation and heterosexuality. Despite, Alderson (2003) added that homosexuality is seen as rejection of traditional gender roles that could mostly focus on the current strong threat based on self-concept of individuals who are highly invested in traditional gender roles.

2.4.5 LGBT community and development

According to Subhrajit (2014), Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people in India most of the time experience the negative attitudes by the community members and also impact the effective social development of LGBT. Subhrajit (2014) also revealed that LGBT people as members of community and the social minority group are suffering from various forms of socio-economic and cultural injustice. However, the lack of social recognition to LGBT has an effect to having full access and enjoy their right as the community members and citizens in general (Subhrajit, 2014).

According to Kost and Sara (2010), the community members indicate various negative attitudes towards to lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender like lack of tolerance in society, discrimination and harassment by community as well as threat of violence due to their sexual orientation. Kost and Sara (2010) also added that LGBT right struggle to find universal acceptance and experience a high level of life imprisonment that results to being excluded to social development. Majd (2009) indicated that LGBT people face tremendous difficulties related to the development of society where heterosexuality is only the one considered to be acceptable by the community as having right sexual orientation and homosexuality is considered as a deviant.

The Indian government (2013) stated that the negative attitudes or feeling towards to homosexual behaviors, identity relationship and community can lead LGBT people to being excluded in social participation and development as they experience low self-esteem and being isolated in community. Therefore, suppressing homosexuality involves denying an important part of personal identity and effective participation in societal development where the homosexuals are most of time experience social discrimination by the family members, friends as well as society in general, violence of human right towards to them, having unstandardized living condition which in all lead to being excluded on social development (Subhrajit, 2014).

According to Mayock et al (2009), the discrimination of LGBT leads them to poverty increase and being a significant factor that affect the socio-economic status for LGBT people. The social discrimination to LGBT and violence of human rights directly cause job instability and high turnover resulting in greater unemployment and poverty rates for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people (King & McKeown, 2003). Therefore, this affects LGBT to having an experience based on a lower level of income status and having a gap in societal development as they may earn less compared to heterosexuals. According to Clarence and Rachel (2004) LGBT communities indicate a high level of stake related to legal injustice issues. Despite, LGBT community is disproportionately impacted by discrimination and violence by community members as some times are the hands of law enforcement officials. Ryan (2009), revealed that individuals who are LGBT are not legally protected from abusive and discriminatory actions accordingly like others who are Anti-LGBT due to social norms and beliefs as laws in some countries restrict LGBT identified individuals from sharing the same basic human rights and privileges as those who are not identified as LGBT.

Wilbur, Ryan and Marksamer (2006) indicated that protecting LGBT from violence and discrimination do not require the creation of a new set of LGBT , having specific social rights or indicating a new international human right as well as social cohesion that lead to effective participation in societal development.

Sarah (2002) indicated that having effective participation in societal development to LGBT could be attained once there is safe guard of expression, association and peaceful assembly to all LGBT people, effective collaboration with Anti-LGBT and on cross-issue work that includes LGBT issue affecting low-income. Sarah (2002) also added that changing the societal attitudes media has to play a responsible role by reporting on LGBT issues and promoting a culture of tolerance and freedom for the minorities.

2.4.6 Challenges in life experience of gays and lesbians

There are various social challenges experienced by gays and lesbians in local community in their daily lives (Sithole, 2015). A large portion of social activities in community gays and lesbians belong from the minorities (Robert, 2002). According to Kiekel (2012), the minority category of gays and lesbians tend to experience the life of being neglected and rejected by community members more than others though they are one of people considered to be the members of the entire society as well as improving the societal development.

Sithole (2015) revealed that social treatment of gays and lesbians is perceived low and gays and lesbians are considered to live without social power. Kuh (2009) added that the perceptions of community towards gays and lesbians impact them negatively as they don't get aware of living in local environment in conducive ways and having effective participation in societal development. Sithole (2015) also added that gays and lesbians bisexuals and transgender are highly deal with challenges based on their sexual orientation. However, Thio (2004) stated that gays and lesbians could be termed bisexual due to the fact that they are inhibited to express their true sexual orientation.

According to Hurst (2010), labeling often indicates a very subtle form and may extend to micro-aggression. Hurst (2010) also added that the micro-aggression are subtle, non-verbal or even preconscious daily activities that may marginalize members of underrepresented groups. Kiekel (2012) also stated that over time, persistence of micro-aggression contributes to the constant subtext of threat and stress for members of underrepresented groups. Therefore, it is indeed difficult or rather impossible to indicate the real sexual orientation of an individual by merely observing his or her outward appearance. Mafumo (2011) indicated that knowing the real status of an individual is considered to be a task of a particular person or individual informing you.

Therefore, gays and lesbians are insulted several times by inaccurate labeling of their real sexual orientation as well as by derogatory labels that go with misunderstanding (Benokraitis, 2005).

The negative labeling and stigmatization, gays and lesbians would invariably find out come out (Mafumo, 2011). Gays and lesbians in community are considered to be seen by somehow as a foreign body in a dominant culture or to heterosexuals. Therefore, this was revealed by Sithole (2015) that some gays and lesbians can be threatened with physical evidence and being harassed emotionally.

According to Leskosek (2009), some gays and lesbians indicate some experience of sexual abuse. This kind of sexual abuse in this regard would include corrective rape in various countries all over the world. Leskosek (2009) also added that perpetrators based on corrective rape believe that forcing themselves on lesbians that would result in the latter becoming straight and therefore, rehabilitated or cured from abnormality of homosexuality. Waghid (2014) also stated that the members of gays and lesbians community are subjected to personal abuse ranging from insult and derogatory remarks to actual physical and sexual abuse. Thio (2004) added that gays and lesbians are also exposed to sexual harassment by local community that also includes any kind of behavior which makes one uncomfortable.

According to Tikly (2010), gays and lesbians community, raised to be marginalized by the local community. They perceived that they feel being deliberately isolated by their community. Marginalization, according to Tikly (2010), gays and lesbians complained that they could not get aware of participating in societal development as they are most of time excluded from social activities. Nevertheless, gays and lesbians also stated that their ideas toward to social development looked to be ignored by community due to their sexual orientation on where their local community indicated that men who behave like females are not men and females who behave like men are not females and this leads to human beings to suffer (Zevallos, 2011).

Soudien (2014) indicated that gays and lesbians also experience a challenge related to unequal treatment based on provision health facilities to citizens by government. Gays and lesbians do not get aware of communicating with government to get such facilities (Soudien, 2014).

According to Wilson (2012), gays and lesbians are always scared that they may come out community in societal development unintentionally due to less or non-favorable treatment.

2.4.7 Factors influencing social development

According to Mercy (2007), the societal development can be determined by interaction between a numbers of symmetrical forces of community members that lead to economic, social and institutional as well as political development. However, the level of societal development should be based on the initial condition that reflects on the historical legacy of the region and complementarity, geographical and social realities, the level of economic development attained and efficiency in utilization of available resources as well as family extension that enhance members force of community (Caulier et al., 2010).

Dobele (2015) revealed that all social problems are complicated and dependent to across boundary. Despite, an individual or organization alone cannot solve the social problems effectively as the community members do not have the common understanding and working together, to solve the presented problems (Doi, 2007). The well-structured family members participation develops, the social innovation in community that may experience the climate change, social exclusion, material issues, poverty, health and wealth inequalities or homosexuality which is disagreed with various societal norms and beliefs as establish by government polices (Khutrakum, 2013).

According to Marray et al. (2010), the social development can be affected by various social illnesses such as hunger, poverty, diseases, lack of education and social discipline and social exclusion happened to homosexuals as well as homelessness. Lurtz (2012) revealed that social innovation may create and improve value to the whole community. Thus, people included in social innovation act do not lead to taking advantages for their own.

However, Phills et al. (2008) also added that achieving the social problems, is more effective, sustainable as improve value to members of society.

2.4.8 Measures to facilitated gays and lesbians in Society

According to European Union (EU, 2010), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) indicates that the right to individual based on life, privacy, health and equality before law as well as the right related to expression of personal freedom and freedom from discrimination and violence and also torture. Gibson (2009) revealed that LGBT people experience a high risk related to persecution and gross violation based on their foundation related to human rights among other citizens in the country. Gibson (2009), also added that lack of enjoying human rights like other anti-LGBT makes the homosexuals to have fear or face imprisonment, torture, abuse due to the lack of tolerance by local community caused by sexual orientation and gender identity and expression.

Harris et al. (2013) revealed that the legal norms and standard should be strengthened due to human rights structures and be applied equally to Gays and lesbians as well as other homosexuals and also government should be responsible to account for observation and enjoying such human rights. Despite, the rights to participation by gays and lesbians is crucially and inextricably associated with basic democratic principles. According to Harris et al. (2013), the participation of gays and lesbians in various community activities due to the realization of several human rights is essential. Therefore, gays and lesbians should enjoy effectively freedom of expression and also indicate effective access to relevant facts based on right to information.

Gays and lesbians' people and their human rights are strictly to being silence, having fear of persecution as well as fear related to job opportunity exclusion and verbal and physical violence or being isolated in community. Therefore, Goode and Jones (2004) indicated that the discrimination and inequality that can be developed from legal inequalities in status or from social values that shape relationships with communities should be managed effectively. Despite, the principle of non-discrimination that can lead to looking the effect rather than intentions has to be respected. According to Goode and Jones (2004), the policy makers should intentionally focus on human rights principles. The antidiscrimination legislation should be improved for the purpose of protecting the lives of gays and lesbians at working place, labor market, health care and schooling opportunities.

Raggi, Patrick and Ziefert (2006) added that there should be legal protection from sexual, verbal and physical violence and harassment that can be done to gays and lesbians due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

According to Gibson (2009), due to gays and lesbians poverty which can be caused by the lack of resources and power in local community, should be managed effectively so as to facilitate gays and lesbians to enjoy full fundamental human rights and individual security in society. Gibson (2009), also added that adequate assessment based on community at all levels of lives should be enhanced to find out needs, barriers, challenges, strengths and readiness and also to develop a welcoming environment and providing adequate services for gays and lesbians.

Raggi, Patrick and Ziefert (2006) suggested that effective development related to the mission and vision statements that establish the commitments of community to address various needs of people who are gays and lesbians and their families. However, effective development plan based on creating various resources infrastructures that includes policies, structures, practices and various services that lead to the needs and selections of youths who are gays and lesbians (Harris et al., 2013). Ensuring the staff members at workplace that all employees have the necessary knowledge and skills as well as positive attitudes and behaviors that indicate the quality of services provided and supports. Goode and Jones (2004) also added that the high level of awareness to gays and lesbians to identified issues; improve the ability to improve the required services. Provision of opportunities to gays and lesbians help them to discuss and share various experiences and ideas within confidential, nurturing, safe and supportive environment.

The promotion of positive attitudes in working with youths who are gays and lesbians among staff members need to be periodically updated regarding to gays and lesbians issues. However, Harris et al. (2013) also added that adequate provision of resources, information as well as training based on challenges and issues faced by gays and lesbians should strengthened.

Harris et al. (2013) revealed that advocacy towards gays and lesbians needs to be ensured in order to be aware of being more sensitive in community. Despite, protection towards sexual orientation and gender identity of youth need to be enhanced with no discrimination.

Gibson (2009) also added that maintaining confidentiality and privacy of all youth self-disclosures in order to protect them from victimization, stigma, abuse and discrimination.

2.5. Empirical review

Williams (2016) conducted the study in Europe which was related to the global perception of societies about gays and lesbians and revealed that societal perception about anything shows the ways to recognize and interpret information detected and gathered through our natural senses. Natural senses allow people to process the information and discover the emotions, stereotypes to react to the situation that people in society is seeing, which is perception (Williams, 2016). As the psychology is the study of behavior and mental process, different theorist agree that societal perception relates to psychology because as discussed above, perception is how people react to detected behaviors (Milnes, 2016). This theory also indicates that some common misconceptions and prejudices that are derived from traditional views of masculinity which reinforce strength in terms of sexual dominance and heterosexuality (Davies, Pollard & Archer, 2001). However, societal perception about gay and lesbian is often influenced or even biased by society's expectations, experiences and cultural norms. This is where the mind comes in to sustain that the societal perceptual set is the one of the psychological factors that determines how people perceive the homosexuality environment (Jenkins, 2014).

Natasha (2016) established a study which was related to stereotypes towards gays and lesbians community in Africa and found that, before the 1970s, most stereotypes on gay and lesbian people seemed to be extremely negative and for much of the 19th and 20th centuries, a great majority of societies believed and perceived that generally gay and lesbian community suffered from mental disorders. Still, the gay and lesbian people have been subjected to stereotyping. In order to shed on the truth, researcher reposes on some of the most common gays and lesbians' stereotypes described by previous studies.

According to Williams (2011), the non-heterosexual people in South Africa, are irreligious because some religions believe that homosexuality goes against the very pillars established in their holy texts. Generally, people attribute can't perform being both queer and religious as the same time and due to opinions indicated by gays and lesbians.

However, in recent decades, more religious denominations like Reform Judaism and the Episcopal church have been supportive of the LGBTQ community.

According to Natasha (2016), the “All lesbians are masculine” stereotype was attributed to gays and lesbians by the society they lived in. This assumption was further examined and revealed that some women who identify as lesbians are more masculine in appearance and disposition, but the truth is that every lesbian is different and the outdated stereotype produced is incorrect in its originality (Natasha, 2016).

Quadlin (2017) revealed that over the years, gay men are perceived more flamboyant and effeminate than straight men by the community in which they stay. People may think that lesbians don't need straight men in their lives, reason why the attribute “Lesbians hate men” is given (Quadlin, 2017). However, the most of lesbians maintain relationships with plenty of men, whether friends, colleagues, or family members. Just because a lesbian dates other woman, that doesn't mean she despises men.

According to Davis (2007) the anti-gay protesters in Kenya, have asserted that gay men pose a great danger to society, citing that all gay men are sexual predators and pedophiles; however, none of danger cases was identified.

None can become gay because one is gay or lesbian. One is a gay or lesbian because he or she either is attracted to people of the same sex. This means that being a gay or lesbian community can't play a role to bring others aboard.

HOCA (2010), conducted a survey in Rwanda that was related to the life experience of gays and lesbians and indicated that, gays and lesbians are found in Rwandan society with fear to be revealed or identified as homosexuals.

Even though, there is no anti-homosexuals' law in Rwanda, the same source shows that most of gays and lesbians were rejected from their families, were disrespected and harassed by their neighbors.

Consequently, the relationship between social inclusion and economic development was deteriorated, thus gays and lesbians' socio-economic participation is limited in their human rights and that creates economic harms, such as lost labor, lost productivity, underinvestment in human capital, and the inefficient allocation of human resources (Forde & Duvury, 2017).

This was due to education limitations, health discrimination, and labor market stigmatization of gay and lesbian people which decreased feelings of works and increased life dissatisfaction as a function of perceived discriminations (Alden & Parker 2005). Studies helped to better understand how the fuller enjoyment of human rights can contribute to a country's economic development (Herek, 1992).

2.6 Conceptual Framework

According to Orodho (2008), a conceptual framework, is a model of presentation where the researcher represents the correlation between variables in the study.

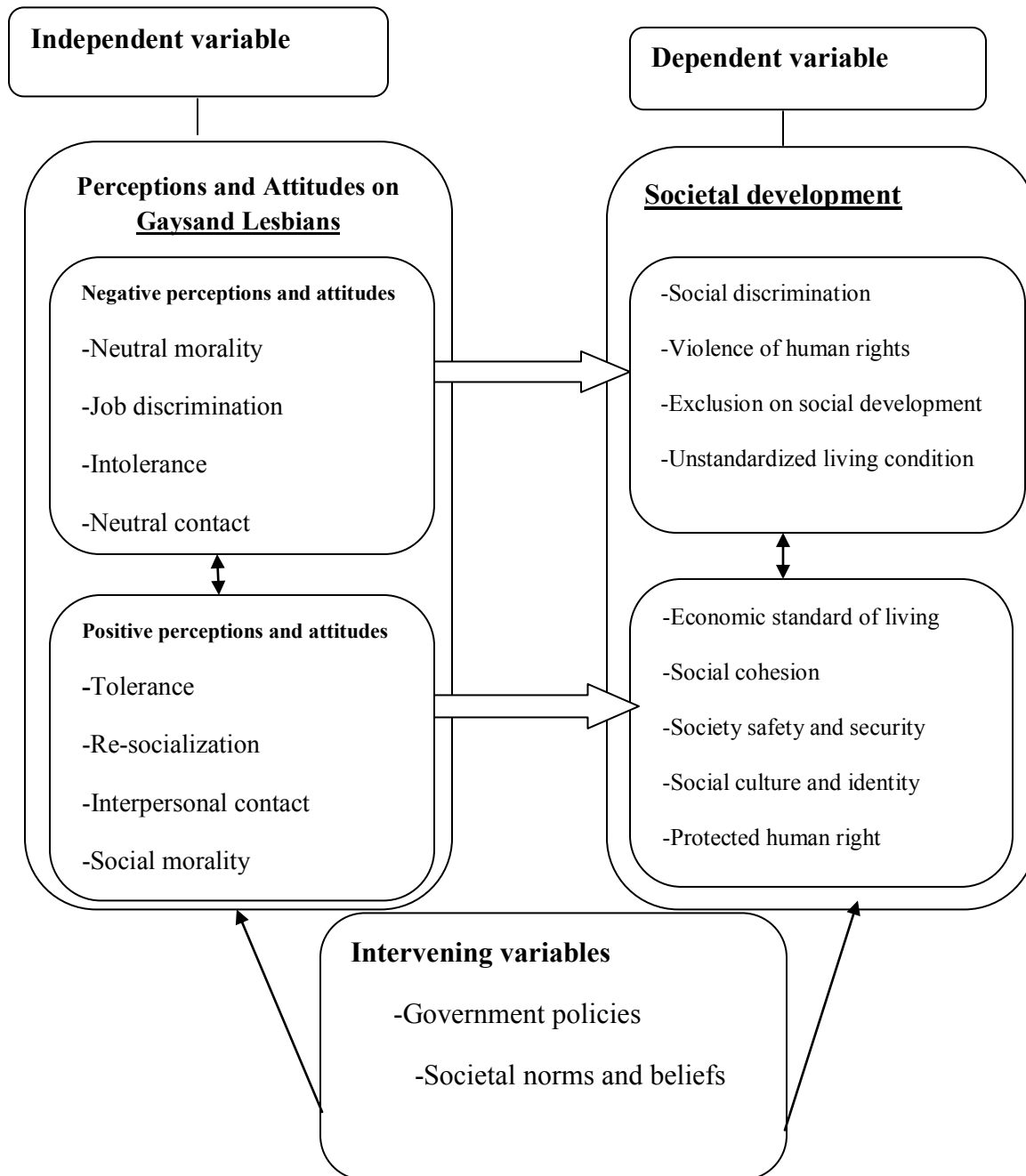


Figure 2.1: Conceptual framework

The Key variables in this study are composed by independent variable, dependent variable and intervening variable. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2008), independent variable predicts the variation that may change other variables while dependent variable is also called criterion variable and defined as that variable that can be affected by another variable. Therefore, independent variable in this study will be community perceptions and attitudes on gays and lesbians and were measured by the indicators like Neutral morality, job discrimination, intolerance, neutral contact and torture while dependent variable of this study, was societal development and was also be measured the indicators like economic standard of living, social cohesion, society safety and security as well as social culture and identity and protected human rights.

2.7 Conclusion of the chapter

This chapter reviewed the literature related to live experiences of gays and lesbians and the different factors that affect them. It also highlighted the definition of key terms presented in this chapter so that the reader is familiarized with important terms and concepts around the main topic of the research. The next chapter presents the methodology used to collect and analyze the pertinent data to the study.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The third chapter presents the research design, the study setting and the population as well as the sampling strategies and the sample size. It also focused on the data collection techniques and data analysis procedures. Finally, the chapter explores the position of the researcher, the validity and reliability as well as ethical issues before ending with a conclusion of the chapter.

3.2 Research design

This study aims to explore the understanding of respondents' perceptions about the effect of gays and lesbians on societal development in Nyarugenge District as well as analyze the perception of the society towards gays and lesbians and the perception of gays and lesbians vis-à-vis the society.

According to Creswell (2014), research design indicates the systematic planning of the study that decides to collect data that could be used to solve the research questions. Furthermore, the descriptive survey research design in this study was employed to get primary data from respondents of the study.

Creswell (2014), a qualitative approach is a method for exploring and understanding the meaning of individuals or groups ascribe to social or human problem; whereas, a quantitative approach is a method for examining the relationships among variables or for indicating the magnitude of the variation. In this research, researcher used a mixed method approach to collect both quantitative and qualitative data to provide a more complete understanding of the research problem than either one approach alone.

Therefore, qualitative findings related to community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in societal development of Nyarugenge District were established while the quantitative findings will also be established to indicate the numerical data related to the extent to which respondents perceive gays and lesbians in societal development.

3.3. Study setting

This study was conducted in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda as the geographical scope because Nyarugenge District is considered to be one of the Districts of Rwanda that have the majority of homosexuals and get various challenges based on the development of local community.

The study was conducted in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda as the geographical scope. The District of Nyarugenge is located in Kigali city in Rwanda and shares borders with Gasabo District, Kicukiro District, Kamonyi District, Bugesera District as well as Rulindo District. The administrative map of Nyarugenge District also comprises ten (10) sectors such as Kanyinya sector, Muhima sector, Kimisagara sector, Nyamirambo sector, Rwezamenyo sector, Nyarugenge sector, Nyakabanda sector, Kigali sector, Mageragere sector and Gitega sector.

3.4 Research population

According to Fricker (2006), research population refers to the set of elements which the research tended to make inference. Alvi (2016) also added that it is all members of the study, that meet the particular criteria for the study to be investigated. In this case, the population will be that of Nyarugenge District comprising 284,561 people as presented in population census done by National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR, 2014) as the community members that were sampled. The community members were sampled so as to get the population that researcher was able to manage due to the research time, scope and budget.

3.5 Sampling size and techniques

3.5.1 Sample size

According to Kumar (2011), sampling technique refers to the strategy established by the researcher to get respondents of the study used during data collection so as to get relevance and significance findings. Therefore, this study employed stratified sampling techniques to get respondents of the study such as community members, gays and lesbians as well as the key informants as they have the resourceful information related to this study.

On the other hand, sample is the segment of the population that is selected for investigation; it is a subset of the population (Bryman, 2012). Therefore, the sample size of this study was

determined by employing Solvin’s formula where $n = N / [1 + N (e)^2]$. Thus, **N**: Target population, **n**: Sample size and **e**: Marginal error of 0.05 (Yamane, 1976).

$$n = 284,561 [1+284,561 \times (0.05)^2]$$

$$n = 284,561/[1+ (284,561 \times 0.0025)]$$

$$n = 284,561/ (1+ 711.4025), n = 284,561/712.4025 = 399.43 \approx 400 \text{ people}$$

Table N° 1: Target population and sample size

No	Participants	Target population	Sample size
1	Community members	284,511	350
2	Gays	24	24
3	Lesbians	12	12
4	Leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians	6	6
5	Religious leaders	7	7
6	District gender promotion officer	1	1
7	Total	284,561	400

Source: Researcher data (2020)

3.6 Data Collection Techniques

According to Tan (2013), data collection instruments refer to the research instruments used by the researcher during data collection so as to solve the research questions. A self-administered questionnaire was used to collect information related to the perceptions and attitudes of community on gays and lesbians in societal development. To supplement the interviews, the researcher used observation skills to assess the community perceptions and attitudes on gays and lesbians in societal development of Nyarugenge District.

3.6.1 Self-administered questionnaire

Questionnaire as a research instrument was administered to community members of Nyarugenge District as well as gays and lesbians to indicate the magnitude of variation on the study subject. According to Oso and Onen (2016), a questionnaire used during data collection as a research instrument, measures the likelihood of straight and also the blunt answer. This study established closed and open questions to capture data from respondents as the community members of Nyarugenge District so as to get their perceptions towards gays and lesbians in societal development and strategies that should be established. This research instrument of questionnaire was employed in this study to get quantitative data that helped the study to achieve the research objectives where the respondents were given set questions respond personally according to their understanding.

3.6.2 Participant observation

As the name suggests, observation is a pretty simple and straightforward method of collecting qualitative data where the researcher has a naturalistic observation approach that needs keen observation skills (Alvi, 2016). Therefore, observation schedules that will be established this study during data collection, will observe how gays and lesbians behave themselves and how they socialize with local community. Therefore, the observation schedule established in this study during data collection helped researcher to observe how gays and lesbians behave themselves and how they socialize with local community in order to get the qualitative data based on community perceptions and attitudes based on gays and lesbians in societal development which was very needful in this study.

3.6.3 Focus group discussion

According to Kumar (2011), focus group discussion, is a form of strategy used in data collection in which attitudes, opinions or perceptions towards to an issue, product, service or program are explored through a free and an open discussion between members of a group and a researcher. Therefore, this research instrument was conducted to the respondents of this study during data collection such as gays and lesbians so as to make group discussions related to the community attitudes towards to them, challenges that they face out in societal development and strategies that can be established to help them to inclusion of societal development of Nyarugenge District.

This research instrument was used to gays and lesbians so as to let them be open in discussions and provide the accurate information to enrich this study.

3.6.4 Interview guide

An interview guide is known as the set of questions prepared by an interviewer and to be asked by the respondents of the study during data collection (Orodho, 2012). Interviews are justifiable in research due to the fact that they can be personalized specifically to knowledge and understanding of an interviewee as the respondents of the study. It was presented that, interviews allow an in-depth insight into how individuals or research participants understand and relate the various aspects of the study (Turner, 2010). Therefore, face to face conversation was done to the key informants that were comprised by religious leaders, district gender promotion officer and organization committees of gays and lesbians in order to get the qualitative data that were used to support the quantitative findings.

3.7 Data Analysis Procedures

The research findings that will be collected in this study, will be analyzed by using the software of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) to analyze quantitative findings so as to present the study findings in terms of frequencies and percentages in order to establish the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in the societal development in Nyarugenge District.

The researcher also analyzed qualitative data that was collected from interview schedule, by using thematic approach. According to Kumar (2011), thematic approach is of the strategies that can be used to analyze qualitative findings where the collected data could be grouped into categories. Therefore, the respondents' perceptions were grouped due the respective themes.

3.8 Validity and Reliability

3.8.1 Validity

Validity of an instrument means that it measures what it is designed to measure (Spector, 2009). The instruments of the study, become valid, they tend to measure what is supposed to be measured and also the research findings should present the actual area of the study (Ghaura&Grohaug, 2005).

Therefore, the research instruments that were developed, were presented basing the specific research objectives and were given to the right individuals at a right time.

3.8.2 Reliability

Reliability refers to the consistence of the measurement device (Spector, 2009). In other words, reliability can be defined as the level by which the methods used in data collection provides the unchanging results so longer as they have been used by the same researcher (Polit & Hungler, 1995). To maintain the reliability of the data collection instrument, the findings from the research instruments were gathered in the process of conducting pilot study of 25 respondents that were sampled in this study. The research instrument is considered to be reliable, if it indicates the reliability percentage above 70 percent by using Cronbach's Alpha (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2008). The reliability statistics of the research instruments provided 70.3 percent which is indicated to be reliable.

3.9 Ethical issues

Some precautions have been taken in this study. A letter from the University of Rwanda introducing the researcher together with an authorization letter to conduct the research in the District of Nyarugenge so as to have access to involve respondents in the study. During data collection, research participants were informed the purpose of the study. The verbal consent of the respondents to participate in the study is obtained before the conduct of the study. The possibility to withdraw from the study, if they wish so, at any time of the research is reserved to the participants. The anonymity of the respondents as well as of their responses is safeguarded. Here, the confidentiality of the respondents as well as their responses is well kept. Furthermore, the questionnaire and the interviews were conducted in a quiet and comfortable environment. However, the researcher was not in the position to cover a large area and a large period of time due to certain constraints such as lack of time and resources. This resulted in some difficulties related to data collection.

3.10 Limitation of the study

The researcher also met some limitations during data collection. This study collected data related to community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in societal development in Nyarugenge District. Therefore, researcher faced a lack of sufficient time, lack of financial capacity which negatively affected the related data collection of the study.

3.11 Conclusion of the Chapter

This third chapter reviewed the methods and techniques used to collect and analyze data relevant to the study. It presented the research design, the study setting, the population as well as the sampling strategies and the sample size as methods to collect data. It also explained the data analysis procedures. Finally, the chapter explored the position of the researcher, the validity and reliability as well as ethical issues. The fourth chapter is dealing with the presentation, the analysis and the interpretation of the findings.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION

4.0 Introduction

The chapter four of this study presents the research findings and their analysis as well as the related discussions. This chapter also introduces the rate return of the research instruments that were distributed to the respondents such as community members of Nyarugenge District, gays and lesbians located in Nyarugenge District as well as their representative committees, religious leaders and District gender promotion officer of Nyarugenge District. The demographic characteristics of respondents include the respondents' gender, age group, level of education and employment status to gays and lesbians.

The data presentation in this study is based on the specific research objectives and research questions. Therefore, this seeks to achieve the study objectives such as to explore the perceptions of community related to individual with sexual identity of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda, to describe the experience of gays and lesbians linked with attitudes of the community towards them in Nyarugenge district of Rwanda, to identify challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in societal development in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda and finally to suggest measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda.

4.1 Research Instruments Return Rate

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2008), research instruments return rate refers to the proportion of the research instruments that have been submitted after they have been distributed to the respondents of the study.

Table N° 2: Research instruments return rate

Types of instruments	Number administered	Number returned	% of returned rate
Community members' instruments	350	284	81.14%
Gays' instruments	24	22	91.67%
Lesbians instruments	12	10	83.33%
Leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians/ Guided interview	6	6	100%
Religious leaders' guided interview	7	7	100%
District gender promotion officers' guided interview	1	1	100%
Total	400	330	82.5%

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented on N° 2 shows the return rate of the research instruments. It was indicated that guided interviews that were done to leaders of organization of gays and lesbians, religious leaders and District gender promotion officer were returned 100 %. The study was also conducted to gays and lesbians of Nyarugenge District where they were given both guided interview and questionnaire and 91.67% of questionnaires given to gays were returned while 83.33 % of questionnaire that were given to lesbians were also returned to the researcher. This also indicates that gays were ready to provide information needed in the study than lesbians. The questionnaires that were distributed to community members of Nyarugenge District were returned at the rate of 81.14%. This implies that the remaining 18.86 % of community members have not actively participated in the study and did not return the distributed questionnaires.

Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) also indicated that any research instrument above 80 % is considered to be representative enough in the study. The percentage of the instrument return rate in this study was at the level of 82.5 % and they were considered to be representative in this study as they were above 80%.

4.2. Identification of respondents

This part of the study describes the data collection instruments that were distributed to the respondents to indicate their demographic characteristics such as sex, age group and education level as well as employment status of gays and lesbians.

4.2.1 Sex of community members

The following table shows that 284 people have participated in this study

Table N° 3: Sex of community members

Gender	Frequency	Valid Percent
Male	146	51.4
Female	138	48.6
Total	284	100.0

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented on N° 3, sex of respondents as members of community found in Nyarugenge District was represented by 51.4 % of male respondents and by 48.6 % of the female respondents. This shows that the study respected the involvement of both men and women to participate in study for considering their views and experiences.

4.2.2 Age group of respondents

This study comprises 316 respondents that were given questionnaires to indicate their age group for the purpose of capturing their biographic information.

Table N° 4: Age group of community members, gays and lesbians

Age group		Frequency	Valid percent
Community members	Below 30 years	79	27.8
	30-40 years	117	41.0
	41-50 years	64	22.6
	51 years and above	24	8.5
Gays	Below 30 years	11	55.0
	30-40 years	9	40.9
	41-50 years	2	9.1
Lesbians	Below 30 years	8	80.0
	30-40 years	2	20.0
Total		316	100.0

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented on N° 4 indicates the demographic characteristics of community members' age group. It showed that the majority of respondents as community members of Nyarugenge District aged between 30 to 40 years old was 41.0 %. The respondents aged below 30 years were about 27.8 %. Concerning the respondents aged between 41 and 50 years old, this table demonstrated the rate of 22.6 % while the remaining respondents of 8.5 % were aged from 51years old and above. This is implies that the community members of various age group participated in this study and also provided accurate and needed information.

The same Table indicates also the demographic characteristic of gays and lesbians by their age group. It revealed that the majority of them were aged below 30 years old where 55.0 % were gays and 80 % were lesbians. The range of gays and lesbians aged between 30 to 40 years old were 40.9 percent for gays and 20 % for lesbians. Only 22.6 % of gays were aged between 41 to 50 years old. This shows that sexual identity could start to be manifested at an earlier step of individual development.

4.2.3 Level of education of respondents

The respondents of this study were asked to indicate the demographic information like education level for the purpose of identifying the accuracy level of provided responses.

Table N° 5: Level of education

Level of education		Frequency	Valid percent
Community members	No education level	13	4.7
	Primary	19	6.6
	Secondary	70	24.5
	TVET	37	13.2
	University	145	50.9
Gays	Primary level	11	50.0
	Secondary level	7	31.8
	TVET	3	13.7
	University	1	4.5
Lesbians	Secondary level	4	40.0
	University	6	60.0
Total		316	100.0

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N°5 presents the demographic characteristics of respondents basing on their levels of education. The findings indicated that the majority of community members of 50.9 % completed university while 24.5 % completed secondary level of education followed by 13.2 % of community members that attended TVET schools. However, 6.6 % of participants completed only primary school as their level of education. The minority of 4.7% community members did not complete any level of education. This implies that, the majority of community members were highly educated which means that they provided accurate information as it was needed in the study.

Basing on the Table N°5, it was found that the majority of gays completed only primary level of education while the majority of lesbians completed university level of education as they were at 50.0 % and 60.0 % respectively. This was also followed by gays and lesbians that completed primary level of education as they were at 31.8 % for gays and 40.8 % for lesbians and the remaining 13.7 % of gays attended in TVET and 4.5 % completed university. This implies that the majority of gays do not get opportunity of schooling beyond primary level while the majority of lesbians are those who are educated as they got some ways of completing university level of education. As researcher, lesbians came to complete University level of education because they don't like to show their sexual orientation as gays usually do.

4.2.4 Gays and lesbians employment status

The following table shows the demographic characteristics of gays and lesbians in terms of employment status.

Table N° 6: Gay and lesbians employment status

Gays employment status	Frequency	Valid Percent
Not Employed	21	95.5
Employed	1	4.5
Total	22	100.0
Lesbians employment status		
Not Employed	2	80.0
Employed	8	20.0
Total	10	100.0

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N° 6 presents the employment status of gays and lesbians as one of their demographic characteristics. The findings indicated that the majority of gays lesbians were not employed due to various circumstances as the findings indicated that only 95.5 % of gays and 80.0% of lesbians participated in this study were not employed while the 20 % of lesbians and 4.5% of gays were employed.

This implies that gays and lesbians don't get employed due to their sexual orientation especially those easily identifiable as homosexuals which leads to discrimination in the society.

4.3 Results related to the study

The presentation of the study results were analyzed based to the specific research objectives. The quantitative findings were analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) software version 21 and presented in form of tables while thematic approach was used to analyze qualitative data and presented in respective themes.

4.3.1 Community perceptions related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians

The respondents of study such as community members, gays and lesbians representatives, religious leaders and District promotion officer participated in findings on community perceptions related to the individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians.

➤ Views of respondents on gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District

The community members of Nyarugenge District were 284 members who returned back the distributed questionnaires to know if gays are there or not.

Table N° 7: Presence of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District

Responses	Frequency	Valid Percent
Gays and lesbians are in Nyarugenge district	254	89.4
Gays and lesbians are not in Nyarugenge district	30	10.6
Total	284	100

Source: *Primary data (2020)*

From the table N°7, the majority of community members know that gays and lesbians are available in Nyarugenge District as they are 89.4% of community members while those who don't know them are 10.6%. This implies that gays and lesbians are found in community of Nyarugenge District as known by the majority.

➤ Community perceptions on gays and lesbians

The community members located in Nyarugenge District was 284 who indicated their perceptions related to the sexual identity of gays and lesbians in the following table.

Table N° 8: Community perceptions on gays and lesbians

Statements	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly agree	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Gays and lesbians destroy societal sustainability	40	14.2	11	3.8	31	10.8	95	33.5	107	37.7
Lack of family extension involvement by gays and lesbians	15	5.2	11	3.8	15	5.2	79	27.8	164	58.0
Gays and lesbians indicate specific sexual orientation	17	6.1	11	3.8	48	17.0	103	36.3	105	36.8
Gays and lesbians develop different sexual behavior	8	2.8	16	5.7	64	22.6	102	35.8	94	33.0
Gays and lesbians aren't attracted by people of opposite sex	28	9.9	9	3.3	40	14.2	118	41.5	89	31.1
There is abnormal biological change to gays and lesbians	18	6.1	9	3.3	70	24.5	80	28.3	107	37.7

Source: Primary source (2020)

From the table presented N° 8, the study findings related to the perception of community members located in Nyarugenge District about gays and lesbians. It was found that 85.8% of community members indicated that there is a lack of family extension involvement to gays and lesbians while 73.1% of community members agreed that gays and lesbians indicate a specific sexual orientation different from heterosexuals. The community members also revealed that gays and lesbians are not attracted by people of opposite sex due to that they agreed to this statement at 71.6%. The results also indicated that 71.2% of community members agreed that gays and lesbians destroy the sustainability of society while. However, they also indicated that gays and lesbians have different sexual behavior as they agreed this statement at 68.8%.

The Table No8 also shows that community members perceived at 66% indicating that gays and lesbians have abnormal biological change. This implies that the majority of community members perceive negatively the fact of being a gay or lesbian as it was revealed to various statements that were established in this study.

➤ **Involved in social events to gays and lesbians**

The community members (n= 284) were asked if they involve gays and lesbians in their social events and their views are presented in the table below:

Table N° 9: Community members that involve gays and lesbian in social events

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Gays and lesbians are not involved in social event	149	52.5%
Gays and lesbians are involved in social event	135	47.5%
Total	284	100%

Source: Primary source (2020)

From the table presented N° 9, the community members of Nyarugenge District were interviewed if they can involve gays and lesbians in their various social events. The majority of 52.5% revealed that they could not invite gays and lesbians in their events due to appearing as indiscipline and being against Rwandan culture. However, the remaining of 47.5% indicated that they can involve them in their events because gays and lesbians have talent of warming such events like dancing and making good poems. This also implies that some community members feel excluding gays and lesbians in community while others feel free of including them.

➤ **Participating in community development**

The community members as they were 284 were asked if gays and lesbians participate in activities that lead to community development and indicated the perceptions presented below:

Table N° 10: Participation of gays and lesbians in community development

Activities	Gays and lesbians participate		Gays and lesbians do not participate		Total	%
Local meeting	210	73.9%	74	26.1%	284	100
Community work (umuganda)	155	54.6%	129	45.4%	284	100
Helping vulnerable people	269	94.7%	15	5.3%	284	100

Source: Primary source (2020)

From the table presented N°10, the community members of Nyarugenge District indicated their perceptions on participation of gays and lesbians in community development. The majority of community members of 73.9% indicated that gays and lesbians don't participate in various local meetings due to being hidden themselves in the society while 26.1% stated that gays and lesbians attend the local meetings. Despite, 54.6% added that gays and lesbians could not even participate in local community work (Umuganda) while 45.5% participate in community work. On the other hand 94.7% of community members revealed that gays and lesbians are not aware of helping vulnerable found in community while only 5.3% stated that they give help. Therefore, this also indicates that the majority of gays and lesbians are self-discriminated to various opportunity that help them to participate in community development effectively like other society members regarding to the ways that they are perceived and treated in community.

➤ **Gays and lesbians enjoy their human rights**

The community members ($n=284$) indicate whether gays and lesbians enjoy the human rights like heterosexuals in community.

Table N° 11: Enjoyment of human rights by Gays and lesbians

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Gays and lesbians do not enjoy human rights	260	72.5%
Gays and lesbian enjoy human rights	78	27.5%
Total	284	100%

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N°11, the majority of the community members as 72.5% indicated that gays and lesbians do not enjoy their rights like heterosexuals to being discriminated to various activities performed in community while 27.5% agreed that they enjoy like other members because it is very easy to identify them from others meaning that they served the same. The inequality between homosexuals and heterosexuals may reduce the level of equal enjoying human rights.

➤ **Key informants views to community perceptions of gays and lesbians**

Key informants ($n=14$) defined a gay as man who is loved by another man in view of making sex while a lesbian is a woman who makes sexual practices with another woman and also they provided their views related to community perception of gays and lesbians in the following table:

Table N° 12: Key informants views to community perceptions of gays and lesbians

Respondents	Responses	Frequency	percentage
Leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians	Abnormal people	3	50%
	Mental disordered people	2	33.3%
	Not accepted by community	1	16.7%
	Total	6	100%
Religious leaders	Anti-God's commandments	3	42.8%
	Misconduct people	2	28.6%
	Working with Satan	2	28.6%
	Total	7	100%
District gender promotion officer	Against Rwandan culture	1	100%
	Sex workers		

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N° 12, the key informants' views to community perceptions of gays and lesbians where 50% of leaders of organizations revealed that gays and lesbians are perceived as abnormal people, 42.8% of religious leaders stated that community members perceive gays and lesbians as anti-God' commandments, 33.3% stated that they are considered as mental disordered people, the rate of 16.7% said that gays and lesbians are not accepted by community while 8.6% of the community members stated that gays and lesbians are considered as misconduct people and working with Satan The District gender promotion officer stated that the community members perceive gays and lesbians as people who are against Rwandan culture and stated that they are sex workers.

4.3.2 Experiences of gays and lesbians on community's attitudes

The respondents of the study such as gays and lesbians as well as their representative committee, religious leader and District gender promotion officer participated and provided their qualitative and quantitative views related to describing the experiences of gays and lesbians linked with the attitudes of the community towards them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda.

➤ Views of Gays and Lesbians

Gays and lesbians ($n=32$) were involved in this study to indicate various community attitudes towards them in local community.

Table N° 13: Views of gays and lesbians

Community attitudes	Frequency	Percentage
Considered as they are against Rwandan culture	12	37.5%
Considered as mental disordered	8	25%
Sex workers	7	21.9%
Considered as abnormal	5	15.6%
Total	32	100%

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N°13 indicates the community attitudes towards gays and lesbians in society. Gays and lesbians provided their perceptions in the following ways:

- **Considered as abnormal:** Gays and lesbians as they are 15.6% stated that community members consider y them as abnormal people due to treating them as people of critical sexual orientation and identity but forget that a man can mostly develop the women hormone and feel like a woman and the same as a woman can mostly develop men' hormone and feel like men.
- **Sex workers:** Gays and lesbians as they are 21.9% revealed that they are considered in community as sex workers. Gays and lesbians stated that doing sex and enjoying the normal life are totally different. Some also added that being a gay or a lesbian is not a choice, it is inborn due the developed hormones which make them to love people of the same sex.

- **Considered as mental disordered:** Gays and lesbians as 25% presented that community members consider them as people whose mental disorders.

This is because, the community members treat them as people who don't behave like other heterosexuals or don't respect the societal norms and beliefs. This also implies that the local community treats gays and lesbians as people whose disorganized mindset.

- **Considered as they are against Rwanda culture:** The majority of gays and lesbians as 37.5% indicated that community treats them as they are against the Rwanda culture. This is because gays and lesbians are taken that develop day to day the culture a broad the country because they look like people who do not maintain Rwandan culture which is not accepted in Rwanda.

Experience of gays and lesbians on community attitudes

Gays and lesbians stated the life experience they meet due to community attitudes towards them in the local community and presented in the table below:

Table N° 14: Experiences of gays and lesbians on community's attitudes

Statements	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly agree	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Neutral recognition towards gays and lesbians	1	3.1	1	3.1	3	9.4	15	46.9	12	37.5
Lack of tolerance by community members	5	15.6	1	3.1	2	6.3	19	59.4	5	15.6
Social discrimination towards gays and lesbians	1	3.1	2	6.3	5	15.6	10	31.3	14	43.8
Gays and lesbians are tortured by community	5	15.6	0	0	3	9.4	14	43.8	10	31.3
Neutral contact towards gays and lesbians	7	21.9	1	3.1	4	12.5	9	28.1	11	34.4
Community improves re-socialization to gays and lesbians	8	25.0	10	31.3	5	15.6	6	18.8	3	9.3
Social respects between gays and lesbians and community	17	53.1	6	18.8	3	9.4	4	12.5	2	6.3

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the Table presented N°14 presents various community attitudes towards gays and lesbians the research instrument which is questionnaire given to them in order to explore such attitudes of community towards to them. The results revealed that 84.4 % of gays and lesbians agreed that community members indicate a high level based on neutral recognition towards to them as homosexuals as they also take them as invaluable people in community. The results also revealed that 75.1% of gays and lesbians agreed that there is a high level of social discrimination towards them in local community.

The findings also revealed that 75.1 % of gays and lesbians agreed that they are tortured by their local community members as they don't have rights protecting them. This was also supported by a lack of tolerance by community members towards them as they agreed at 75%. This was support by the neutral contact between gays and lesbians and community members as gays and lesbians agreed this statement at 62.5 %. The results in this Table also showed the perception related to how community keep improving re-socialization to gays and lesbians where only 28.1 % agreed with this statement and others disagreed as well as only 18.8 % of gays and lesbians agreed that there is a social respect between gays and lesbians and community members of Nyarugenge District. This also implies that the majority of gays and lesbians experience negative community attitudes in their daily lives as it is represented in the findings of the study.

➤ **Views of Gays and Lesbians**

Discrimination of gays and lesbians in development of society is one of community attitudes highlighted by gays and lesbians and presented in the following table:

Table N° 15: Societal development discrimination towards gays and lesbians

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Discriminated	30	93.8%
Not discriminated	2	6.2%
Total	32	100%

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N°15 it is clear that the majority of gays and lesbians are discriminated in development of society as 93.8% revealed they are discriminated in community. This is because gays and lesbians could not even be trusted to any responsibilities. However, they can have skills to perform various productive activities. Though, they can't get opportunity of implementing due to being discriminated and isolated as they are found to be homosexuals. Nevertheless, the remaining 6.2% indicated that they don't have a problem based on societal development because they hide their sexual orientation and identities so as to keep their lives and security in community and also their employment status.

➤ **Key informants views on community attitudes towards gays and lesbians**

Key informants ($n=14$) provided their views related community perception of gays and lesbians

Table N° 16: Key informants views to community attitudes of gays and lesbians

Respondents	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians	Neutral communication	3	50%
	Harassed	2	16.7%
	Lack of respect	1	13.3%
	Total	6	100%
Religious leaders	Against societal norms and beliefs	4	57.1%
	Develop prostitution attitudes	3	42.9%
	Total	7	100%
District gender promotion officer	Discriminated	1	100%
	Tortured		

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N° 16 it is clear that there is a negative attitude towards gays and lesbians as 50% indicated that there is neutral communication between community and gays and lesbians while 16.7% of leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians revealed that they are harassed. Though, 13.3% added that there is no respect towards gays and lesbians. Religious leaders of 57.1% indicated that gays and lesbians are against societal norms and beliefs while 42.9% stated that gays and lesbians develop prostitution attitudes in the community. On the other hand, District gender promotion officer stated that gays and lesbians are discriminated and sometimes tortured by the society members.

4.3.3 Societal development towards gays and lesbians

The community members ($n=284$) located in Nyarugenge District were involved in this study to indicate the extent to which gays and lesbians participate in development of society.

Table N° 17: Gays and lesbians implications on societal development

Statements	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly agree	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Having good socio-economic status to gays and lesbians	78	27.8	98	34.4	62	12.7	23	8.0	23	8.0
Gays and lesbians are accepted by community members	134	47.2	107	37.7	24	8.5	8	2.8	11	3.8
Gays and lesbians enjoy personal safety and security	96	34.0	126	44.3	36	12.7	15	5.2	11	3.8
Gays and lesbians get right to express their cultural values and practices	98	34.4	130	45.8	23	8.0	25	8.0	8	2.8
Gays and lesbians are discriminated in societal development	36	2.7	40	4.2	52	8.4	86	40.2	70	44.5

Source: Primary source (2020)

From the Table N° 17 presents the perceptions of community members to gays and lesbians on the societal development in Nyarugenge District. The results show that 84.9% disagreed that gays and lesbians are accepted by community members of Nyarugenge District. However, 84.7% of community members located in Nyarugenge District agreed that gays and lesbians are discriminated to societal development of the local community while 80.2% of community members revealed that gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District do not get rights to express their cultural values and practices. The results in Table N° 17 also indicate that 78.3% of community members disagreed that gays and lesbians enjoy personal safety and security in their local community. 62.2% of community members in Nyarugenge District disagreed that there is a good socio-economic status to gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District. Therefore, this indicates that the majority of gays and lesbians do not get access related to effective participation in societal development as it was revealed by the majority of respondents.

➤ **Having good relationship with community members by gays and lesbians**

The community members (n=284) were requested to indicate whether they have good relationship with gays and lesbians in local community as the way of development of society.

Table N° 18: Good relationship between community members and gays and lesbians

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
No relationship	208	73.2%
Good relationship	76	26.8%
Total	284	100%

Source: Primary data (2020)

From the table presented N°18, it is apparent that gays and lesbians don't have good relationship with local community as the majority of 73.2% revealed they could not maintain communication with gays and lesbians while 26.8% agreed that they have good relationship with gays and lesbians because they are human being like other.

This shows that the majority of community members of Nyarugenge District don't accept gays and lesbians in community as they don't like to socialize with them.

4.3.4 Challenges faced by gays and lesbians in societal development

The respondents of the study were given guided interview related to *the challenges faced by gays and lesbians in societal development* given to gays and lesbians organizations leaders, religious leaders and District gender promotion officer and indicated the following views:

Table N° 19: Challenges faced by gays and lesbians in society

Respondents	Challenges	Frequencies	Percentages
Gays	School completion and job discrimination	14	63.6%
	Rejected by family	10	45.5%
	Being homeless	6	45.5%
Lesbians	Unequal human rights	5	50%
	Harassment	3	30%
	Difficult to get job	2	20%
Representative committee of gays and lesbians	Discrimination and torture	5	83.3%
	Lack of lifelong confidence	4	66.7%
	Difficult to get services	2	33.3%
Religious leaders	Difficult to be integrated in community	7	100%
District gender promotion officer	Lack of love and respect	1	100%

Source: primary data (2020)

- **School completion and job discrimination:** The majority of gays as 63.6% revealed that they meet challenges related to school completion and job recruitment because they don't get aware of completing school where the majority of them completed only primary level of education as they don't get financial education support. However, those who have skills can't be recruited.
- **Rejected by family:** Gays respondents as 45.5% were rejected by families and seen as abnormal person and could not even be trusted to any responsibilities and can't get share (umunani) as children from their families. However, they have skills to perform various productive activities, but can't get opportunity of implementing due to being discriminated and isolated.
- **Being homeless:** 27.3% of gays meet challenges of being stable in community especially those who are renting because land lord or land lady chase them out once found that they rented someone who is homosexual and become homeless.
- **Unequal human rights:** The majority of lesbians as 50% stated that do not get equal right like heterosexuals and this makes them to be hidden themselves so as to fit in community and also added Rwandan society doesn't understand why they are different from other heterosexuals in terms of gender management and behavior.
- **Harassment:** 30% of lesbians indicated that their family members do not allow them to enjoy their lives as they get challenges of being associated with heterosexuals and also face challenge related to getting poor health care while going to hospitals or other health centers.
- **Difficult to get job:** Lesbians located in Nyarugenge District that were 20% raised that they get challenge of getting job as qualified individuals however if there is any lesbian open own business, she decides to hide her sexual identity for the safety of business and herself or once found, the business get off.

- **Discrimination and torture:** The majority of representative committee of gays and gays as were 85.3% revealed that gays and lesbians experience a high level of discrimination and torture by local community which hinder the socio-economic and living standard of gays and lesbians in community.
- **Lack of life long confidence:** This challenge was the second raised by 66.7% of leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians that gays and lesbians are always scared about their security and life management which lead them to the lack of lifelong confidence.
- **Difficulty to get services:** Lastly, 33.3% of representative committee of gays and lesbians revealed that gays and lesbians are excluded in various services such as church services, school opportunities, excluded from families which leads them to lack health insurance due to lack of ubudehe category.
- **Difficulty to be integrated in community:** The religious leaders as were 100% indicated that the Rwandan culture does not accept homosexuals in community and this makes homosexuals to being not socially integrated in the local community due to being hated by local community members because society does not accept what causes their sexual practices.
- **Lack of love and respect:** 100%district gender promotion officer agreed that there is a lack of love and respect towards gays and lesbians which reduce the individual life confidence and participation in various activities of the development of society and the country in general.

4.3.5 Measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to participate in societal development

The respondents of the study were given guided interview related to *the measures that can facilitate gays and lesbians to participate in societal development*, given to community members, gays and lesbians, leaders of organizations of gays and lesbians, religious leaders and District gender promotion officer and indicated the following views presented in the table below:

Table N° 20: Measures to facilitate gays and lesbians in society

Respondents	Measures	Frequencies	percentages
Community members	Community sensitization	148	52.1%
	Strengthen human rights	94	33.1%
	Avoid to be hidden	42	14.8%
Gays	Positive treatment	15	68.2%
	Having regular counselors	7	31.8%
Lesbians	Establish laws that guide homosexuals	6	60%
	To be represented in local government	4	40%
Leaders of organization of gays and lesbians	Promote gender equality	4	33.3%
	Avoid self-stigma and self-discrimination	2	66.7%
Religious leaders	Finding spiritual solution	4	57.1%
	Having self-respect	2	28.6%
	Being integrated in cooperatives	1	14.3%
District gender promotion officer	To be registered as homosexuals	1	100%
	To be trained in ITORERO RY' IGIHUGU	1	100%

Source: primary data (2020)

- **Community sensitization:** Community members of 52.1% suggested that local community should be sensitized about equal participation of each community members in development of the country.

- **Strengthen human rights:** 33.1% of community members in Nyarugenge District revealed that local government as well as community members in general should strengthen gays and lesbians to enjoy human rights like other heterosexuals so as to live in normal ways and be able of participating in development of society.
- **Avoid to be hidden:** Finally, 14.8% of community members suggested that gays and lesbians should also avoid to be hidden in order to be safe in their local environment.
- **Positive treatment:** The majority of gays as were 68.2% suggested that they should be treated as normal and able Rwandese to perform various activities that lead to development of society and given specific advocacy from local community to local government.
- **Having regular counselors:** The remaining 31.8% of gays revealed they should be given regular counselors to give them orientation of their lives and preventing them to be traumatized and isolated in community.
- **Establish laws that guide homosexuals:** Lesbians located in Nyarugenge District, 60% revealed that there should be a law that guides homosexuals in the country.
- **To be represented in local government:** The remaining 40% of lesbians suggested that gays and lesbians should be represented in local government and in community in order to have advocacy and laws that punish that people that harass or torture homosexuals in community.
- **Promote gender equality:** The majority that were 66.7% of gays and lesbians representatives committee stated that government should promote gender equality and fight against job discrimination based on sexual orientation and sexual abuse.
- **Avoid self-stigma and self-discrimination:** The remaining 33.3% of gays and lesbians representatives committee suggested that gays and lesbians should avoid any kind of misrepresentation related to self-stigma or self- discrimination and accept who they are. This could strengthen them to have self-confidence and feel like other human beings in the community.

- **Finding spiritual solution:** The majority of religious leaders that were 57.1% suggested that gays and lesbians should faithfully adhere churches to find spiritual solutions to help them to live effectively in society, therefore to return back to the normal life.
- **Having self-respect:** 28.6% of similar religious leaders revealed that gays and lesbians should have a high level of personal respect and confidence in their daily lives and make cooperatives that perform economic activities leading to development.
- **Being integrated in cooperatives:** The remaining 14.3% of religious leaders suggested that gays and lesbians should join cooperatives that help them to perform economic activities lead to development.
- **To be registered as homosexuals and trained in ITORERO RY' IGIHUGU:** 100% district gender promotion officer suggested that gays and lesbians should be registered as homosexuals and present positive discipline in community and have government support to implement their desires that lead to community development . Though, gays and lesbians should also be trained in ITORERO RY'IGIHUGU about the Rwandan culture, values and taboos.

4.4 Conclusion of the Chapter

The chapter of this study indicates analysis, presentation and interpretation of study findings that were collected as well as discussions so as to solve the research questions. The study was done basing on each specific research objective such as to explore the perceptions of community related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda; to describe the experiences of gays and lesbians linked with the attitudes of the community towards them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda; to identify challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in societal development in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda and to suggest measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda. The obtained findings were presented using tables and thematic approach.

CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

The chapter five of this study presents the summary of the research findings that were collected, analyzed and presented and also interpreted in chapter four. Conclusions and recommendations and also suggestions for further study were also established.

5.1 Discussion of the Findings

This study was guided by the general objective which was to investigate the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in Rwandan society. The research findings in this study were done basing on each specific research objective of the study such as to explore the perceptions of community related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda; to describe the experiences of gays and lesbians linked with the attitudes of the community towards them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda; to identify challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in societal development in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda and to suggest measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda where the respondents of the study were requested to provide their views therefore.

The sample size of this study was 400 respondents that were sampled from 284581 people located in Nyarugenge District. Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) indicated that any research instrument above 80 percent is considered to be representative enough in the study. The percentage of the instrument return rate in this study was at the level of 82.5 percent and they were considered to be representative in this study as they were above 80 percent. The respondents' responses that were collected were valid and reliable as were confidentially used to achieve the research objectives.

The respondents of this study like community members stated that gays and lesbians present specific sexual orientation as well as developing different sexual behavior. According to Theodore (2004), revealed that the history based on sexual practices experience the history related to various cultures based on manipulation of sex among people.

This implies that any kind of sexual behavior and orientation developed depend on the extent to sex manipulation between people as supported by sexual desire. Maureen (2007) also added that having sex is not an except to an individual but sexuality that tends to the reproduction of species are considered to an obligation with quantities of sexual energy and capacity related to being sexual encounters far in excess of what reproduction proper would be established functionally and effectively as also perceived by respondents as community members that there is abnormal biological change towards gays and lesbians.

5.1.1 Community perceptions on gays and lesbians

The findings in Table N° 9 showed that 72.92 percent agreed to present the negative perceptions related to gays and lesbians in local community. Specifically, the guided interview to the respondents of the study showed that gays and lesbians appear as indiscipline people in community and live against Rwandan culture. The findings of this study also revealed that gays and lesbians seem to be people with mental disorder due to their appearance as people who do not have security and vision of life. However, the community members consider homosexuals like abnormal people and they cannot even perform anything effectively. According to Kuh (2009), heterosexuals find gays and lesbians as abnormal in society due to developing their own sexual identity. As a researcher, I realized that developing sexual identity different from what agreed by society can be perceived in negative way where the Rwandan culture agrees woman should be married with a man not a woman marry with another woman.

5.1.2 Views of gays and lesbians on community's attitudes towards them

Gays and lesbians located in Nyarugenge District were given questionnaires related to their experiences on the community' attitudes and the findings presented in Table N° 10 revealed that 71.47 percent agreed to establish the negative attitudes of the community towards gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District. According to Halpin and Allen (2004), added that homosexuals in social relation experience negative attitudes such recognition and contact that stuck the collaboration in community. The findings from guided interview also revealed that gays and lesbians experience a high level of being harassed, tortured and discriminated by the local community members and showed that there is a lack of tolerance and socialization of community members in Nyarugenge District.

Ryan (2009) revealed that individuals who are LGBT are not legally protected from abusive and discriminatory actions accordingly like others who are Anti-LGBT due to social norms and beliefs. This implies that gays and lesbians are not treated like heterosexuals due to the societal norms and beliefs and also lead them to being treated negatively by community members. Though Alderson (2003) also added that environment is intolerant mostly towards to gays and lesbians. As a researcher, it can be better when gays and lesbians become treated like other heterosexuals as the ways of enhancing equality of human rights.

5.1.3 Participation of Gays and Lesbians in societal development

The finding got from respondents presented in the Table N° 11 showed that 78.06 percent of respondents agreed that gays and lesbians do not get opportunity of participating in development of society. The findings from guided interview of this study revealed that the participation of gays and lesbians in societal development is still in dark place due to the fact that they are discriminated in their jobs regardless their knowledge and experiences when known that they are homosexuals which lead them to having low socio-economic status and development. Caulier et al. (2010), revealed that the level of societal development should be based on the initial condition that reflects on the historical legacy of the region and complementarity, geographical and social realities. However, Caulier et al. (2010) also suggested that the level of economic development attained and efficiency in utilization of available resources as well as family extension that enhance members force of community. The findings also indicated that gays and lesbians are also tortured by their parents and other family members who affect their individual development which implies that they become isolated in their daily lives instead of thinking what can improve their development and community in general. The above results match with the idea of Marray et al. (2010) who pointed that social development can be affected by the social exclusion happening to homosexuals and homelessness. Refer to my point of view, being a gay or lesbian is a source of exclusion of gays and lesbians by heterosexuals to participate in various activities that may lead to societal development.

5.1.4 Challenges faced by gays and lesbians in societal development

The findings showed that 83.3% of representative committee of gays and lesbians stated that gays and lesbians feel discriminated and tortured by society because the Rwandan society does not understand why they are different from heterosexuals in terms of gender management and behaviors. According to King and McKeown (2003), the social discrimination to LGBT and violence of human rights directly cause job instability and high turnover resulting in greater unemployment and poverty rates for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people. 50% of lesbians don't have equal rights as heterosexual people do and this makes them to hide themselves so as to fit in the community. The majority of them were excluded by the families as indicated by 45.5% of gays and don't have ubudehe category. According to Doi (2007), individual or organization alone, cannot solve the social problems effectively as the community members do not have the common understanding and working together, to solve the presented problems. 33.3% of representative committee of gays and lesbians revealed that gays and lesbians mostly get challenges based on being excluded to various services such as church services, school opportunities, getting health insurance where 27.3% of gays meet a challenge based on being stable in community especially those who are renting because land lords or land ladies chase them out once found that they rented someone who is homosexual. Sithole (2015) revealed that gays and lesbians bisexuals and transgender are highly deal with challenges based on their sexual orientation due their family exclusion and torture. This implies that LGBT are treated negatively in the local community.

5.1.5 Measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to participate in societal development

The findings showed that it could be better if they get equal rights and a high level of advocacy in the government to treat them as other human beings to help them to participate in development of society as noted by 68.2% of gays, 52.1% of community members in Nyarugenge District suggested that local community should be sensitized about the participation of each community members in development of the country, 33.1% indicated that local government as well as community members in general should strengthen gays and lesbians to enjoy human rights like heterosexuals so as to live in normal ways and be participating in development of the society.

According to European Union (EU, 2010), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) indicates that the right to individual might be based on life, privacy, health and equality before law as well as the right related to expression of personal freedom. 31.8% of gays revealed that gays and lesbians should be given counselors that help them to manage their lives; however 14.8% of community members indicated that gays and lesbians should also avoid being hidden in order to be safe in their local environment. Harris et al. (2013) revealed that the legal norms and standard should be strengthened due to human rights structures and be applied equally to gays and lesbians as well as other homosexuals and also government should be responsible to account for observation and enjoying such human rights. This also implies that people in community should their human rights equality and everywhere.

5.2. Summary of the results

The summary of results in this study were established in the with specific research objective. The first objective was to explore the perceptions of community related to individuals with sexual identity of gays and lesbians in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda and results revealed 50% of committee representatives stated that gays and lesbians are perceived as abnormal people in community and 42.8% of religious indicated community perceive gays and lesbians as they are anti-God' commandments while 33.3% of representatives committee of gays and lesbians indicated gays and lesbians are perceived as mental disordered. The second objective was to describe the experience of gays and lesbians linked with the attitudes of the community towards them in Nyarugenge District of Rwanda and the results showed that 84.4% of gays and lesbians stated that there is no recognition and respect towards to them by community while 75% indicated there is a lack of tolerance while 62.5% of gays and lesbians noted there is a neutral contact towards to them by community. The third objective was to identify challenges faced by gays and lesbians in participating in societal development in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda. The results revealed that gays and lesbians meet various challenges such as homelessness, school completion and job discrimination, being harassed in society and difficult to get services. The fourth objective was to suggest measures to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge District in Rwanda.

The results revealed that promotion of gender equality, community sensitization about gays and lesbians, having counselor to gays and lesbians as well as having laws that guide homosexuals and also being trained in ITORERO RY' IGIHUGU can be one of the measures that can facilitate gays to be more productive in community.

5.3 Conclusion of the Study.

This chapter presents the summary of the study findings in terms of recommendations to various groups of people, suggestion of the area for further research got during data collection and finally, the strengths and limitations. Findings related to the perceptions on gays and lesbians indicated that 72.92 percent were agreed to perceive gays and lesbians in local community negatively. The research question related to the community attitudes towards gays and lesbians and it was revealed that 71.47 percent of gays and lesbians were indicated to be treated by the local communities negatively due to being harassed, tortured and discriminated by the local community members. However, 78.06 percent of community located in Nyarugenge District agreed that gays and lesbians don't get full opportunity to participate in the societal development. Gays and lesbians indicated that they are excluded by community and make challenges based on various services related to schooling, church and health. Marker and Gordon (2017) stated that social life indicates a wide variety of sexual identities which could be based on sexual orientations. The study also stated the measures like having counselors to gays and lesbians, community sensitization related to human rights and making advocacy towards the lives of gays and lesbians can facilitate them to participate in societal development. According to Theodore (2004), sexual practices experience various cultures based on manipulation of sex among people. This implies that any kind of sexual behavior and orientation developed depend on the sex manipulation supported by sexual desire among people. Nevertheless, the researcher got some lessons related to what laws in Rwanda present about homosexuals, Rwandan culture, societal beliefs and norms. Based on those arguments, it is practically difficult or impossible to change one's culture as it automatically brings out negative implications. This is why police-makers should emphasize on cultural norms education and social integration eye to avoid social discrimination in society.

5.4 Recommendations

5.4.1 Recommendations related to the community perception and attitudes on gays and lesbians

The recommendations of this study were given to law and policy makers, local leaders, development practitioners and community members of Nyarugenge District as well as gays and lesbians as well as the as follows:

➤ Recommendation to law and policy makers

The local leaders should strengthen sensitization related to equal human rights, sexual orientation and identity in order to fight against job discrimination.

➤ Recommendation to local leaders

The local leaders should strengthen sensitization related to equal human rights, sexual orientation and identity in order to fight against job discrimination.

➤ Recommendation to development practitioners

The development practitioners were recommended that should develop positive discipline related to respect and positive treatment towards gays and lesbians in society.

➤ Recommendation to community members of Nyarugenge District

The community members of Nyarugenge District were recommended to avoid discrimination and negative treatments towards gays and lesbians and also live the standard respect towards to each individual in the community.

➤ Recommendation to gays and lesbians

Gays and lesbians were recommended that they should stop being hidden in the community by developing the individual respect, confidence and by being integrated in different co-operatives that lead to the socio-economic standard lives.

5.4.2 Recommendations for Further Research

This study was conducted on the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians on societal development in Nyarugenge District. During the data collection of this study, it was realized that the management of families in local community can influence the development of the society. Therefore, this study suggests that further research can be conducted to explore the role of family management in the socio-economic development of gays and lesbians in Rwandan society.

5.5 Lesson learnt and practical implication

Basing on findings got during data collection from gays and lesbians as well as community members, I realized that people develop different social backgrounds. I also learnt that the heterosexuals don't have the real information about gays and lesbians as some heterosexuals think that gays and lesbians are abnormal. On practical implication that could be established, the findings indicated that gays and lesbians are discriminated to all activities and services that lead to development of society and I can suggest that there should be equal job opportunity based on individual skills and experience not on sexual identity and effective provision of services. Basing on how gays and lesbians raised they are treated negatively; I can suggest that the community members should be helped to understand more about the lives of gays and lesbians in order to them in normal ways.

5.6 Strengthens of the study

The strengths of this study in both quantitative and qualitative findings got during data collection were established accordingly. The qualitative findings were collected from guided interview that was given to gays and lesbians, community members and also key informants while quantitative findings were collected from questionnaire that was distributed to gays and lesbians as well as the community members located in Nyarugenge District.

REFERENCES

- Allen, A. (2004). *Gender role ideology, homophobia, and hate crime: Linking attitudes to macro-level anti-gay and lesbian hate crimes. Deviant Behavior.*;26:321–343.
- Alvi, M. (2016). *A Manual for Selecting Sampling Techniques in Research.*University of Karachi, Iqra University.
- Amartya, J. (2010). *Paradoxes of Gender. New haven and London ; Yale University Press West and Zimmerman.*
- Baileg et al. (2016). *Manual book Repair Procedures, Michigan, USA*
- Bauman, A. (2008). *Attitudes toward lesbian, gay and bisexual college students: The contribution of pluralistic ignorance, dynamic social impact, and contact theories. Journal of American College Health, 50(2), 91-96.*
- Bayer, A.S.(1987). *Relationship characteristics of American gay and lesbian couples: Findings from a national survey. Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Service 1(2): 101–117.*
- Bilance, R. (2007). *Cohort Differences in Tolerance of Homosexuals: Attitudes Changes in Canada and the United States, 1981-2000. Public Opinion Quarterly, 72 (2) 311-330.*
- Bogaert, M.V. (2012). *Income Inflation: The Myth of Affluence Among Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Americans, The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute and the Institute for Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies.*
- Chatterjee, S. (2014): *Cross-national public opinion about homosexuality: Examining attitudes across the globe. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.*
- Clarence, M. & Rachel, A. (2006). *Psychological Heterosexism and anti-gay Violence: The social psychology of bigotry and bashing. Hate crimes: Confronting violence against lesbians and gay men.*Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
- Creswell, R. (2014). *Research design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches. USA: SAGE Publication.*
- Drescher, J. (2007). *From bisexuality to intersexuality: Rethinking gender categories. Contemporary Psychoanalysis, 43(1): 204–228.*

- Dunton, C. & Pulmberg, M. (1996). *Human rights and Homosexuality in South Africa*. Second Edition. ISSN: 0280-2171.
- Epstein, S. (1994). *A queer encounter: Sociology and the study of sexuality*. *Sociological Theory*, 12(2): 188–202
- European Union (2010). *Discrimination in EU 2010. Discrimination in local environment* http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_317_fact_pt_pt1.pdf
- Gamson, J. (1995). *Must identity movements self-destruct? A queer dilemma*. *Social Problems*, 42(2): 390–407.
- Gibson, R. (2009). *Homosexuality and American psychiatry*. *New York Times books review*
- Gamson, M. & Moon, N. (2004). *Comprehensive Theory of Social development*. World Bank, Washington. DC.
- Gill, D. & Wood, T. (2009). *Experiences of minority stress among lesbians and bisexual women in Rwanda, International Perspective in Psychology, Research, Practice, and Consultation*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- Goode, T. & Jones, W. (2004). *National Center for Cultural Competence. Linguistic Competence Definition*. <http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/nccc>.
- Haste, P. & Gatete, T.K. (2015). *Sexuality, poverty and politics in Rwanda*. Kigali, Kigali Press.
- Harris et al. (2013). *Men as Women, Women as Men: Changing gender in native American cultures*. University of Texas press, Austin.
- Henderson, L. (2003). *Queer theory, new millennium*. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 45(2/3/4): 375–379.
- HOCA (2010). *Report on sexual minorities, including legislation, treatment by society and authorities*, *Journal of Gender*, 23(8), 125-129.
- Hoffarth, M. R., & Hodson, G. (2017). *Sexual Identity*. In V. Ziegler-Hill & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences*. Springer: New York.
- Hurst, C.E. (2010). *Social inequality: Forms, Causes and Consequences*, 7th edn. New York: Pearson's Publishers.
- Julie, F. J., & Robert, T. S. (2002). *Sexual orientation identity formation among gay, lesbian, and bisexual youths: Multiple patterns of milestone experiences*. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*. 12, 167-191.

- Karkazis, K. (2008): *Fixing sex*. Durham and London: Duke University Press.
- Karnataka, G. M. (2010). *Gender Gaps in Public Opinion about Lesbians and Gay Men*. *The Public Opinion Quarterly*, 66, 40-66.
- Kelly, T. (2012). *It gets better: coming out, overcoming bullying, and creating a life worth living*, *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine. Journal of Medicine*. 166(2), 195-198.
- Kendra, N. (2010). *Social contexts as mediator of risk behaviors in Rwandan men who have sex with men (MSM): Implications for HIV and STI transmission*. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 20(12), 14-48.
- Kenyan Civil Society (2010). *Court Allows Kenyan Trans gender right group to officially register*. Human Right Campaign. Kenya, Nairobi Press.
- Kerstin, B. (2013) : *Do ask, do tell : where is the protection against sexual orientation in international human rights law*, *Am.U.Int'l.L.Rev*, 29,871
- Kiekel, K. (2012). *Problems Faced by LGBT People in the Mainstream Society: Some Recommendations*. *International Journal of Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Studies (IJIMS)*, ISSN: 2348 – 0343. Vol 1, No.5, 317-331.
- King, D. & Mckeown, N. (2003). *Homophobia, History, and Homosexuality: Trends for Sexual Minorities*, p.3 in *Sexual Minorities: Discrimination, Challenges, and Development in American*, PhD, editor
- Kinsey, J. (2000). *Understanding Human Sexuality*. (7th ed.). McGraw Hill Companies Inc.
- Koenig, S.J (1990) : *The medical construction of gender : Case Management of Intersexes Infants*. *Signs*, 16(1), 3-29 p.
- Kost, T. & Sara, M. (2010). *Everything Psychology Book: Introductory guide to the science of human behavior*. 2nd edition, Holy book, MA, United States.
- Kothari, C.R. (2004) : *Research methodology. Methods and Techniques*, 2nd edition, Delhi, Weley Easter Limited.
- Kuh, K. (2009). *Sensation & Perception*, Perf. Hank Green
- Laran, K.O.(2016). *The attitudes of undergraduate college students toward gay parenting*. *Journal of homosexuality*, 30(4), 63-77
- Leskosek, M. (2009). *The experiences of lesbian, gay and bisexual youths in university communities*. *Lesbian, gay, and bisexual identities and youth: Psychological perspectives* (pp. 181-198). New York: Oxford University Press.

- Lorber Judith (2009). *Gender Inequality: Feminist Theories and Politics*, Oxford University Press (1824)
- Luirink, H. (1967): *Studies in ethnomethodology*. London : Prentice Hall.
- Mafumo, J. (2011). *Questioning gender: A sociological exploration*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.
- Mabokela, A. (2015). *Sexual violence, masculinity, and the journey of recovery*. *Psychology Men Masculinity*. 18(4):301.
- Mayock, P. et al. (2009). *Supporting LGBT Lives: A Study of the Mental Health and Well-Being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People*. Dublin: GLEN and BeLonG To.
- Marker, A. & Gordon, S. (2017). *Sexual reference: Its development in men and women*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press. 358,394.
- Mercy, I.H. (2007). *Prejudice, social stress, and mental health in lesbian, gay and bisexual populations: Conceptual issues and research evidence*, *Psychological Bulletin*. *Journal of Psychology*. 129:674-684
- Mihel, M. (2010). *Le questionnaire dans l'enquête psycho-sociale*, Paris, ETSF.
- Mugenda & Mugenda. (2008). *Research Method: Quantitative, Qualitative and Mixed Method Approaches*. Nairobi: African Centre for Technology Studies.
- Nick, G. M. & Hank, A.D. (2014). *Confronting sexual stigma and prejudice: Theory and practice*. *Journal of Social Issues*, 63(4), 905-925.
- Nthungi, S. (2013). *The transgender studies: a Reader*. New York :Routledge.
- Phills et al. (2008). *Reading people: How to understand people and predict their behavior anytime, anyplace*. Rondon House, USA.
- Reichert, R.C. & Lambiase, A. (2003). *Memories of childhood and early adolescent sexual feelings among gay and bisexual boys: A narrative approach*. *The lives of lesbians, gays, and bisexuals: Children to adults* (pp. 94–109). Fort Worth, TX: Harcourt Brace.
- Richard A. (2008). *Theory Building in Applied Disciplines*. San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler Publishers.
- Richard, F. R. (2014). *African sexual minorities and gender variant resources*, University of Calgary. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 24(1), 235-240.

- Robert, G. V. (1996). *Intergroup affect and social judgment: Feelings as inadmissible information. Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, 4(1), 21-29.
- Robinson, S. (2013). *Sexual orientation and identity. The international journal of interdisciplinary and Multi-disciplinary Studies*, 1(5), p.317-331
- Roggi, S., Patrick, A. & Ziefert, D. (2006). *Happy Together: Thriving as a same-sex couple in your family, workplace, and community*, p 318, USA,
- Rostosky, M. (2019). *Lexique des sciences sociales, Paris, Dalloz.*
- Ryan, C. (2009). *Supportive families, healthy children: Helping families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender children. San Francisco, CA: Marian Wright Edelman Institute, San Francisco State University.*
- Sarah, R. (2002). *Seeking a Safe Place*, *New York Blade*. See also Paul Schindler, *Homelessness and Hope: Building Safe Housing Alternates for Queer Youth*, *Gay City News*, Vol. 2, Issue 49, 4-10.
- Seidman, S. (2006). *Foreword. Journal of Homosexuality*, 52(1/2):25-28.
- Sithole, S. (2015). *Challenges Faced by Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans gender (GLBT) Students a South Africa University. Journal for Trans disciplinary Research in South Africa*. 11(4), 193-209.
- Slagle, R. A. (2006). *Ferment in LGBT studies and queer theory: Personal ruminations on contested terrain. Journal of Homosexuality*, 52(1/2): 309–328.
- Stein, N & Plummer, E. A. (2006). *Sex difference in social behavior: A social-role interpretation. Hillsdale: Lawrence Erlbaum Ass.*
- Stephen, M. (2006). *The influence of victim gender and sexual orientation on judgments of the victim in a depicted stranger rape. Violence Vict.* 16(6):607-610.
- Soudien, C. 2014. *Inclusion, innovation and excellence: Higher Education in South Africa and its role in social development. South African Journal of Higher Education*, 28(3): 907-922.
- United Nations (2016). *Human Right and Development 2016. Oxford University Press, New York, 2016.*
- Theodore, P. (2004). *Confronting sexual stigma and prejudice: Theory and practice. Journal of Social Issues*. 63(4), 905-925.

- Thio, N. K. (2004). *The invention of heterosexuality*, *New York Times books review*.
- Tikly, B. (2010). *Intergroup affect and social judgment: Feelings as inadmissible information*. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, 4(1), 21-29.
- Valentine et al. (2009). *The Experience of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Trans staff and students in Higher education*. London: www. Valentine. Org.uk/ Document of school report.
- Walter, K. & Frank, C. (1995). *Changing Communities. A practical guide for Rural peopled community leaders, Rural health Project, Uniting church of Australia Melboure*.
- Weber, M. (2010). *The Nature of Prejudice*: Cambridge, MA: Addison-Wesly.
- Wilbur, S., Ryan, C., & Marksamer, J. (2006). *Best practices guidelines: Serving LGBT youth in out-of-home care*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America (CWLA).
- Wilson, J. (2012). *Heterosexual university students' perceptions of homosexual behavior*. *Annals of Sex Research*, 5, 171- 179.
- Williams, Y. (2016). *What is the Societal Perception Towards gays and Lesbians?* Rondon House, USA.
- Woolfolk, M.A. (1998). *Gay people, sex, and the media*. New York: Harrington Park Press
- Zevallos, Z. (2011). *What is Otherness? The Other Sociologist: Analysis of Difference*. <http://othersociologist.com/otherness-resources>.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE TO COMMUNITY

Dear respondents,

I, GASANA Josephine, a student at the university of Rwanda Faculty of Gender and Development. For the purpose of effective completion based on the requirement for the degree of masters in Gender Studies, I am conducting a study with the general objective of *investigating the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in Rwandan society with a case study of Nyarugenge District of Rwanda*. The provision of these findings will be significance as they may enhance the community respect towards to human rights and effective development of society. Therefore, I am expecting you as the respondents to provide your support by answering the following stated questions so as achieve the research objectives and your contribution to this research will highly appreciated as I also assure you with maximum confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

1. Gender

- a. Male
- b. Female

2. Age group

- a. Below 30 years
- b. 30-40years
- c. 41-50 years
- d. 51 years and above

3. Level of education

- a. No educational level
- b. Primary
-

- c. secondary
- d. TVET
- e. University

SECTION B: :Questions related to community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians

1. Do you find any gay or lesbian in this community of Nyarugenge district?

a. If yes, how do you perceive them?

.....

.....

.....

b. If no, what do you know about them?

.....

.....

.....

2. Tick in the box provided to meet the statement and level of occurrence on the statements related to community perceptions on gays and lesbians where SD: Strongly Disagree, D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree and SA: Strongly agree.

No	community perceptions on gays and lesbians	SD	D	N	A	SA
A	Gays and lesbians destroy the sustainability of the society					
B	There is a lack of desires related to family extension by gays and lesbians					
C	Gays and lesbians have specific sexual orientation					
D	Gays and lesbians develop difference sexual behaviors					
E	Gays and lesbians are not attracted by opposite sex					
F	There is abnormality of biological change to gays and lesbians.					

3. How are gays and lesbians involved in social events like various ceremonies performed in this community?

.....

4. How do gays and lesbians participate in development of this community like local meeting or community work?

.....

5. According to your perceptions, do gays and lesbians enjoy their human rights effectively? if yes or no, explain your perception

.....

6. Tick in the box provided to meet the statement and the level of occurrence on the statements related to societal development where SD: Strongly Disagree, D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree and SA: Strongly agree.

No	Societal development	SD	D	N	A	SA
A	Gays and lesbians have a good socio-economic status					
B	Gays and lesbians are accepted by their communities					
C	Gays and lesbians enjoy personal safety and security like other society members					

D	Gay and lesbian people get rights to express different cultural values and practices					
F	Gays and lesbians are discriminated in social development					

7.As a community member, do gays and lesbians have good relationship with other society members?If yes or no, indicate your perceptions?

.....
.....
.....
.....

8.What are the needed strategies to facilitate gays and lesbians to participate in societal development in Nyarugenge district?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE TO GAYS AND LESBIANS

Dear respondents,

I, GASANA Josephine, a student at the university of Rwanda Faculty of Gender and Development. For the purpose of effective completion based on the requirement for the degree of masters in Gender Studies, I am conducting a study with the general objective of *investigating the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in Rwandan society with a case study of Nyarugenge District of Rwanda*. The provision of these findings will be significance as they may enhance the community respect towards to human rights and effective development of society .Therefore, I am expecting you as the respondents to provide your support by answering the following stated questions so as achieve the research objectives and your contribution to this research will highly appreciated as I also assure you with maximum confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

1. Gay/lesbian

a. Gay

b. Lesbian

2.Age group

a. Below 30 years

b.30-40years

c.41-50 years

3. 51 years and above

4. Level of education

a. No educational level

b. Primary

c. secondary

d. TVET

e. University

5. Employment status

a. employed

b. Not employed

SECTION B: Questions related to community attitudes on gays and lesbians in societal development

1. As a gay or lesbian, how does the community perceive you?

.....
.....
.....

2. Tick in the box provided to meet the statement and the level of occurrence on the statements related to societal development where SD: Strongly Disagree, D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree and SA: Strongly agree

No	Community attitudes towards gays and lesbians	SD	D	N	A	SA
A	There is a neutral recognition to gays and lesbians by community members					
B	There is a lack of tolerance by community members					
C	There is social discrimination towards gays and lesbians by community members					
D	Gays and lesbians are tortured by community members					
E	There is a neutral contact created by community members towards to gays and lesbians					
F	Nowadays community members improve re-socialization towards gays lesbians					

G	There is a social respect which is being developed between gays and lesbians with other community members.					
---	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

3. Are gays or lesbians discriminated in social development of this community? Yes or no.

a. If yes, explain,

.....

b. If no, explain,

.....

4. What are the challenges faced by gays and lesbians to participate in societal development?

.....

5. Suggest the strategies that could be improved to facilitate gays and lesbians to be more productive in their society in Nyarugenge district.

.....

APPENDIX III: INTERVIEW GUIDELINES TO KEY INFORMANTS

Dear respondents,

I, GASANA Josephine, a student at the university of Rwanda Faculty of Gender and Development. For the purpose of effective completion based on the requirement for the degree of masters in Gender Studies, I am conducting a study with the general objective of *investigating the community perceptions and attitudes towards gays and lesbians in Rwandan society with a case study of Nyarugenge District of Rwanda*. The provision of these findings will be significance as they may enhance the community respect towards to human rights and effective development of society. Therefore, I am expecting you as the respondents to provide your support by answering the following stated questions so as achieve the research objectives and your contribution to this research will highly appreciated as I also assure you with maximum confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

1. What do you understand by the terms “Gay and Lesbian”?

a. Gay:

.....
.....

b. Lesbian:

.....
.....

2. Indicate the common perceptions and attitudes of community on gays and lesbians.

.....
.....
.....

3. As....., how do gays and lesbians are given opportunity of participating in societal development compared to people who are anti-gays and lesbians?

.....
.....
.....
.....

4. Basing on your own perceptions and understanding indicate the factors that lead to societal development.

.....
.....
.....

5. According to your perceptions, do gays and lesbians participate equally with anti-gays and lesbians in societal development?

If yes, to what extent do gays and lesbians participate in societal development

Low extent [], Moderate [] and high extent []

If no, what is your reason?

.....
.....
.....

6. Indicate the life experience of gays and lesbians due to the community attitudes towards them

.....
.....
.....
.....

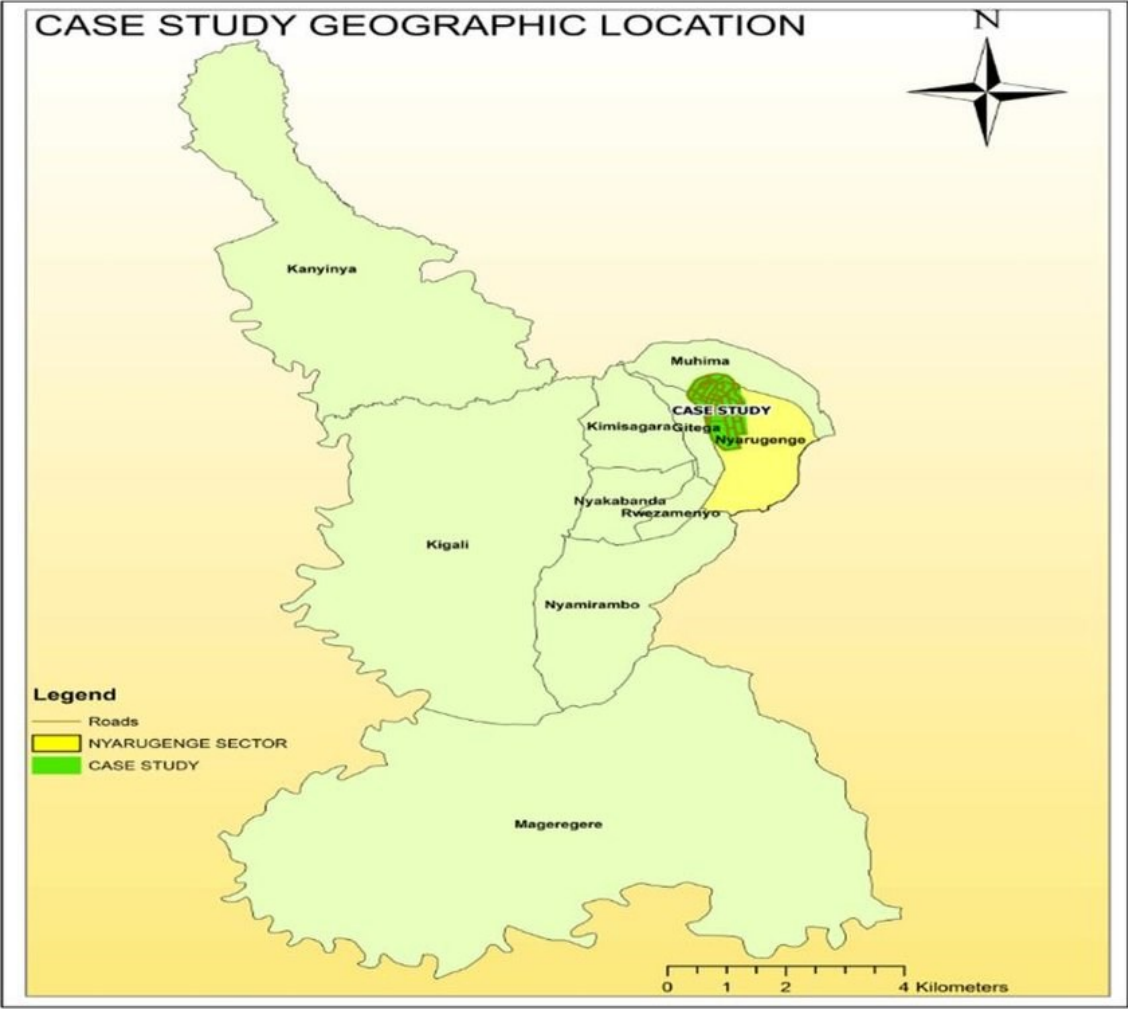
7. What can be the challenges of gays and lesbians in societal development of the local community?

.....
.....
.....

8. Basing on your own understanding and perceptions, what measures that could be established to facilitate gays and lesbians to become productive in societal development?

.....
.....

MAP OF NYARUGENGE DISTRICT



Case study location within Nyarugenge District, Source: Map Drawn by Authors