

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Suicide exists in all countries of the world and there are records of suicides dating back to the earliest historical records of humankind. According to recent reports, the World health organization (WHO) estimated that globally, about 1 million people died in the year 2000 by suicide. It was observed that men kill themselves more than women in all countries except China.

Main Objective: The study was out to establish factors influencing the occurrence of suicide tendencies among repatriated population of Koro sub-county, Gulu District. The specific objective that directed this study involved assessing the individual factors that were influencing occurrence of suicidal tendencies, determining the psychological factors influencing occurrence, finding out the socio economic factors, and analyzing the environmental factors influencing occurrence of suicidal tendencies among the repatriated population of Koro sub-county, Gulu district.

Methodology: The study employed a cross sectional study design using both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The study population constituted residents of Koro sub-county which is a community made up of repatriated people in Gulu district and respondents were selected using systematic random sampling method.

Results: The results revealed that family discords due to war, loss of family members and property have led to hopeless feeling that ultimately make people depressed and therefore vulnerable to suicide.

The results also revealed that there were those who were diagnosed with psychiatric problems that ultimately influenced them to suicidal tendencies. Alcoholism and abuse of other substances like marijuana don't lead to suicide but increase the risk of suicide among the residents of Koro.

Impulsive behavior where one does something lethal abruptly and then become sad about their actions is another factor that has led to suicide in Koro sub county.

There were those who became hopeless and felt helpless in their situations, started worrying how their futures would be like.

Family disagreement, conflict, loss of jobs, poverty, loss of self-esteem, broken marriages, hatred and bitterness toward each other, helplessness, interpersonal violence, difficult living conditions and the breakdown of primary family structure have also contributed to suicide in Koro sub-county

The experience of devastating life events, home environment not being conducive due to tension and conflict, over resources like land, loneliness and having gone through oppression, intimidation and mistreatment physically and emotionally, including sexual harassment led to suicidal tendencies.

Recommendations: The followings are the recommendations; Government should establish, a more sustainable psychosocial community structure to facilitate counseling for the community of Koro to manage the different conditions that may cause depressions before it leads to suicide ideation, Equally, there is need for the Government of Uganda to enforce the law against substance abuse Involvement of different stakeholders including the religious and cultural leaders to sensitize the community about mending broken relationship with their neighbors.