

HEGEMONIC MASCULINITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: A CASE STUDY OF THE
TERRITORY OF KALEHE, SOUTH-SIVU

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Abstract: This study examines Hegemonic Masculinity (HM) and socio-economic development in Kalehe territory in the DRC. It aims to (i) identify the manifestations of HM, (ii) assess its impacts and (iii) analyze government efforts to reduce its practice. The sample size calculation was based on the formula of Anderson et al (2001). Six groupings were considered due to inaccessibility and insecurity. 128 respondents were randomly sampled. Interviews and a questionnaire were used to collect data which were analyzed with SPSS (version 21). Firstly, the statistics indicated that women are subordinated (73.5%), they are not involved in development initiatives (79.7%), they have no say in financial management in their households (93.7%), they are not equal partners of men (94.5%), and decisions are made by men (93.8%). Secondly, the statistics indicated that deprivation of land ownership rights (98.5%), poverty (88%), decision making (96.1%), violation of socio-economic rights (94.6%), reproductive rights (95.3%), and low level of education (95.3%) impact the socio-economic sphere in Kalehe. Thirdly, the lack of sponsorship of local efforts to sensitize the population on violence against women (18.8%), the lack of sponsorship of local initiatives including men and women (4.7%), the failure to popularize the law against discrimination against women (0.8%) and the lack of government effort (75.8%) to heighten the HM in Kalehe. The manifestations of HM are a real phenomenon in Kalehe and have effects on the socio-economic development.

Keywords :Subordination, Hegemony, Virility, Masculinity and Patriarchy.

**MASCULINITE HEGEMONIQUE ET DEVELOPPEMENT SOCIO-
ECONOMIQUE EN REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO :
UNE ETUDE DE CAS DU TERRITOIRE DE KALEHE, SUD-KIVU**

Résumé: Cette étude a examiné la Masculinité Hégémonique (MH) et le développement socio-économique dans le territoire de Kalehe en RDC. Elle visait à (i) identifier les manifestations de la MH, (ii) évaluer son impact et (iii) analyser les efforts du gouvernement pour réduire sa pratique. Le calcul de la taille de l'échantillon était basé sur la formule d'Anderson et al (2001). Six groupements ont été considérés en

raison de l'inaccessibilité et de l'insécurité. 128 répondants ont été échantillonnés au hasard. Des entretiens et un questionnaire ont été utilisés pour recueillir des données qui ont été analysées avec SPSS (version 21). Premièrement, les statistiques ont indiqué que les femmes sont subordonnées (73,5 %), elles ne sont pas impliquées dans les initiatives de développement (79,7 %), elles n'ont pas de mot à dire sur la gestion financière dans leurs ménages (93,7 %), elles ne sont pas des partenaires égales des hommes (94,5 %) et les décisions sont prises par les hommes (93,8 %). Deuxièmement, les statistiques ont indiqué que la privation des droits de propriété foncière (98,5%), la pauvreté (88%), la prise de décision (96,1%), la violation des droits socio-économiques (94,6%), les droits reproductifs (95,3%) et le faible niveau d'éducation (95,3%) impactent la sphère socio-économique à Kalehe. Troisièmement, l'absence du parrainage d'efforts locaux de sensibilisation de la population sur la violence à l'égard des femmes (18,8 %), l'absence du parrainage d'initiatives locales incluant les hommes et les femmes (4,7 %), la non vulgarisation de la loi contre la discrimination contre les femmes (0,8%) et l'absence d'effort du gouvernement (75,8%) consacrent la MH à Kalehe. Les manifestations de la MH constituent un phénomène réel à Kalehe et ont des effets sur le développement socio-économique.

Mots clés : Subordination, Hégémonie, Virilité, Masculinité et Patriarcat.

Introduction

The concept of HM originates from Gramsci's theory that seeks to show how women are subordinated by men (Cockburn & Cynthia, 1983). On the African continent, HM is seen as a practice that elevates men and undervalues women. In the field of gender, HM is the art of Cornell's thoughts about the relationship between men and women and about the idea that the practices of HM change across cultures, time and people. His argument seeks to demonstrate how men exercise their power on women and the consequences of that supremacy (Cornell, 2005). HM has taken a devastating toll in Africa in general and in DRC in particular.

The contributions of Congolese women to elevate the gear of development is considered undeniable (GAPS UK, 2009), and women constitute the basic cell of the community which contributes to development in DRC. But the practices of HM disempower them and put them in a position of sub species, and consequently they are not treated as equal partners of men. According to MONUC (2010), in the DRC's socio-cultural contexts, men occupy the culture and make decisions in their relationship to women and consequently benefit from various patriarchal privileges. This study is entitled "Hegemonic Masculinity and Socio-economic Development in the Democratic Republic of Congo: A Case Study of the Territory of Kalehe, South-Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo". Its main goal is to find out the manifestations of HM and their relationship with socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe. Specifically, this research seeks to (i) identify the manifestations of hegemonic masculinity in the territory of Kalehe, (ii) assess the impacts of HM and the relation it has with the socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe, and (iii) analyze the government's efforts to reduce the practice of HM in DRC in general.

The World Organization of Health (2013) says that violence against women and girls is a global phenomenon that threatens the lives of women and girls everywhere. According to MONUC (2010), the DRC is a multicultural country in which more 400 tribes exist. In its socio-cultural contexts, men occupy the culture and make decisions in their relationship to women and consequently benefit from various patriarchal privileges. The current context of the relationship between men and women in DRC heightens the persisting discrimination and domination of women in all sectors of life. For the majority of Congolese, the woman is still a woman, even when she is chief, i.e., a woman is by far inferior to a man regardless of her status. The perception that men have on the role women play in the territory of Kalehe perpetrates male domination and justifies gender gaps that exist between men and women and lead to hegemonic masculinity. Being a man in the territory of Kalehe means dominating women or being powerful or even weighing women rights down (UN WOMEN, 2014).

This study was centered on the following research questions:

- (i) What are the manifestations of HM in the territory of Kalehe?
- (ii) How does the impact of HM relate to the socio-economic sector of development in the territory of Kalehe?
- (i) How has the government intervened to reduce the practice of HM?

The study was set in the territory of Kalehe, South Kivu province in the DRC. The researchers chose this particular territory because many efforts which are made by international organizations and local initiatives to boost development have no impact on the living conditions of the population, especially women. The socio-economic development sector is affected in this territory because of poverty, subordination of women, illiteracy and gender inequality. This study was conducted in the two chiefdoms of the territory, namely: Buhavu and Buloho. But because of inaccessibility and insecurity in some groups of these chiefdoms, this study was conducted in the following six groupings: Buzi, Kalonge, South-Mbinga, Bitale, Karali, and Lubengera. The study is split into three parts. Part one describes the methodology, mentions the study design, gives the target population, sheds light on the sample size, explains the sampling techniques, data collection methods including data collection instruments and how they will be administrated; their reliability and validity, and finally it discusses the data analysis procedure and says a word on ethical consideration. Part two gives the findings of the study and part three gives a summary of the results.

1. Research methodology

1.1. Introduction

This section describes and explains the methodology along the lines of which the researcher carried out the present study. The aim was to find out the manifestations of hegemonic masculinity and assess its effects on the socio-economic development. The research design, the target population, and the sample size including the sampling techniques strategy, methods of data collection and instruments for data collection, administration of data collection instruments are explained.

1.2. Research Design

Saunders, M., Lewis, P. & Thornhill, A. (2012) argue that research design refers to the choice of specific methods of data collection and analysis. In research, research design is a general plan about what the researcher will do to answer the research question. This study used a descriptive survey design because the purpose was to answer the questions about the current situations of hegemonic masculinity in the territory of Kalehe. It allowed him to identify factors and links between hegemonic masculinity and the socio-economic development and generate a qualitative and quantitative description of hegemonic masculinity in the territory of Kalehe in particular. The descriptive survey design was significant in describing the feelings, opinions, practices, thoughts, views, preferences and attitudes of the sampled population.

1.3. Target Population

In order to conduct this study, the target population was the population of Kalehe which is estimated at 815 326 inhabitants (N). It is divided into two sectors- Buhavu and Buloho- which have respectively Buzi, Kalima, Kalonge, North-Mbinga and South-Mbinga, Mubugu and Ziralo, Bagana, Bitale, Bulonge, Karali, Lubengera, Musenyi, Ndando and Munyanjiro) as groupments.

1.4. Sample Design

1.4.1. Sample size

This study focuses on the population of the territory of Kalehe. It is precisely women and men groups. The researchers randomly selected a group of 43 persons (20 men and 23 women) in a pre-survey and used the following formula by Anderson, *et al.*, (2001):

$$n = \frac{(Z_{\alpha/2})^2 y^2}{E^2} \quad (1)$$

Where; E = margin of error, $Z_{\alpha/2}$ is directly derived from the confidence level used to make the interval estimation, n = Sample size, and y^2 is the variance of the distribution.

Although the researchers have the choice, the 95% confidence level is the most frequently chosen value (Bourbonnais, 1998). So, the value of $Z_{\alpha/2}$ is 1.96 in the table Z. y^2 is the variance of the distribution. It is understandable that the value to be sought is the variance of the distribution of the population. Anderson, *et al.*, (2001) propose to choose one of three methods: (i) Use the sample standard deviation obtained with a previous sample with similar characteristics, (ii) Use a pilot study to select a preliminary sample. The standard deviation obtained with this preliminary sample can serve as the initial value of the variance, and (iii) Use personal intuition to evaluate the standard deviation. To do this, we can begin by estimating the largest and the smallest value of the population. The difference between these two values provides an estimate of the extent of the data. The range divided by four is often considered a valid approximation of the standard deviation.

In order to determine the sample size of this study, the researchers used the second method which consisted of a pre-survey out of 43 people; 20 men and 23 women) in the group of Buzi. This pre-survey was doubly helpful: (i) it helped determine the variance of the poverty line in the households of these six groups. The variable of poverty line allowed the researcher to calculate the sample size by applying formula (2) of the variance and (ii) it helped test the questionnaire before launching the survey. However, data from this test or pre-survey were not taken into account in the study.

$$v^2 = \frac{\sum(x_i - \bar{x})^2}{N} \quad (2)$$

When this formula (2) applied to the data of the pre-survey, the variance of the poverty line in households was determined. Applied to the calculation of the sample size in equation (1), with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 5%, a variance of 0.08329863 was obtained and gave the sample size of 128 people.

Knowing that the size of the sample is 128 people, it was judicious to divide them by group respecting the law of proportionality in statistics in accordance with the number of women and men in each group which constitutes the restricted framework of this study. Table 1 gives a summary of the distribution of the population to survey according to gender by group.

Table 1: Distribution of category and group of respondents

	Frequen c	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Administrators	2	1.6	1.6	1.6
Chiefs of groups	6	4.7	4.7	6.3
Buzi group	20	15.6	15.6	21.9
Kalonge group	20	15.6	15.6	37.5
Valid South -Mbinga	20	15.6	15.6	53.1
Bitale group	20	15.6	15.6	68.8
Karali group	20	15.6	15.6	84.4
Lubengera group	20	15.6	15.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher 2023

2.3.2. Sampling Technique

As part of a participatory approach, simple random sampling design involving women and men in data collection was used. This sampling technique was used because it helped produce a sample which gave a logical illustration of the target population in terms the impact of HM and socio-economic development. It was beneficial as it included all categories of persons: males and females, young and old, literates and illiterates.

1.5. Data collection methods

In order to address appropriately the research problem and achieve the objectives, a methodology that combines both qualitative and quantitative approaches was important. In order to analyze the manifestations of hegemonic masculinity, the researcher resorted to qualitative approach, and in order to assess the scope or the extent of its manifestations, quantitative approach was of paramount importance.

1.5.1. Data Collection Instruments

Primary data collection method was used. The questionnaire was administered to the population of 128 participants. These participants included the administrators of the territory, the leaders of the villages, and the population who were interviewed individually in order to collect data. The questionnaire was of two forms containing open-ended and close-ended questions so that participants could say what they thought about the questions. Respondents (men and women) were randomly selected.

A focus group of eight to ten persons was made in order to gather and participate in the discussion about the perceptions about the study in the territory of Kalehe. It was used as a technique because participants needed to interact with, to contradict and to learn from one another. The heads of the groups were not excluded from the discussions. The important of this focus group was that it allowed participants to be a collective on purpose whose objective is to interact and influence each other's presence and participation during the discussion and consideration of ideas.

To administer data collection instruments, the researchers saw the authorities in the territory of Kalehe. In the field, ethics and deontology in social survey was respected. A randomized and representative sample of respondents from the territory of Kalehe in 6 groups was investigated. Questionnaires were administered individually and under similar conditions to make sure each respondent was questioned. Respondents were expected to read through the questionnaire, answer all sections and hand back the questionnaire. They used approximately 10-15 minutes to answer questions. The researcher read for illiterate respondents and explained their relatives how to write the answers.

Reliability and validity were observed. The researchers made and administered the questionnaire with a view to obtain the results which represent the phenomenon under study. In other words, all the items or questions in the questionnaire determined and reflected hegemonic masculinity and their effects of the socio-economic development. In order to maintain internal and external validity, all research instruments were administered to respondents in their settings, it means, respondents were met in their families or occupational places.

Data analysis encompasses a wide range of activities including organizing raw data, preparing it for analysis, processing and managing data, and undertaking statistical analysis. In this section, the researcher describes how he proceeded with data analysis

in the current study. Data preparation dealt with the organization of data into systematic data sets defined variables. During preparation, the researcher recorded data to be analyzed. The analysis and presentation of data were done in percentages, rates, and descriptive statistics in form of tables, and graphs.

The study took into consideration many ethical issues related to research design and the target population to minimize the chance for misleading results. Anonymity, confidentiality, privacy, lack of coercion, and informed consent were addressed during the planning and execution of the study.

2. Presentation of the research findings

This part presents the data which were collected from the field. It is split into three sections. The first section deals with the demographic characteristics of the respondents. The second section presents the research findings, and the last section briefly sums up these findings.

2.1. Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

In this study, the demographic characteristics of the respondents include gender, age, marital status, profession, number of children, and level of education.

2.1.1. Gender of respondents

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents According to Gender

Gender of respondents		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Male	68	53.1	53.1
	Female	60	46.8	46.8
	Total	128	100.0	100.0

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 2 shows an evenly distributed sample population according to gender of which 68 (53.1%) were male and 60 (46.8%) were female.

2.1.2. Age of respondents

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents According to Age

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 18-25	55	43.0	43.0	43.0
26-35	7	5.5	5.5	48.4
36-45	53	41.4	41.4	89.8
Above 46	13	10.2	10.2	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 3 shows an evenly distributed sample population according to age of which 55 (43.1%) were aged between 18-25, 7 (5.5%) were aged between 26-35, 53 (41.4%) were aged between 36-45, and 13 (10.2%) were aged above 46.

2.1.3. Marital status

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents According to Marital status

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Married	107	83.6	83.6	83.6
Unmarried	7	5.5	5.5	89.1
Valid Widowed	12	9.4	9.4	98.4
Divorced	2	1.6	1.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 4 presents an evenly distributed sample population according to marital status of which, 107 (83.6%) were married, 7(5.5%) were unmarried, 12 (9.4%) were widowed, and 2(1.6%) were divorced.

2.1.4. Profession

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents According to profession

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Farmer	87	68.0	68.0	68.0
Housewife	8	6.3	6.3	74.2
Business woman	6	4.7	4.7	78.9
Business man	2	1.6	1.6	80.5
Teacher	3	2.3	2.3	82.8
Valid Nurse	2	1.6	1.6	84.4
Carpenter	5	3.9	3.9	88.3
Motorcyclist	4	3.1	3.1	91.4
Sawyer	2	1.6	1.6	93.0
Administrator	2	1.6	1.6	94.5
Local authority	6	4.7	4.7	99.2
Herbalist	1	.8	.8	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 5 gives the picture of an evenly distributed sample population according to marital status of which, 87 (68%) were farmers, 8 (6.3%) were housewives, 6 (4.7%) were business women, 2(1.6%0 were business men ,3(2.3%) were teachers, 2(1.6%0

were nurses, 5(3.9) were carpenters, 4(3,1%) were motorcyclists, 2(1.6%) were sawyers, 2(1.6) were administrators, 6 (4,7%) were local authorities, and 1(0.78) was a herbalist.

2.1.5. *Number of children*

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents According to Number of children

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid None	9	7.0	7.0	7.0
Less than 5	18	14.1	14.1	21.1
5	61	47.7	47.7	68.8
More than 5	40	31.3	31.3	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 6 shows distributed sample population according to number of children. In the light of results, 9 (7.0%) respondents had no child, 18 (14.1%) had less than 5 children, 61(47.7%) had 5 children, and 40 (31,3%) had more than 5 children.

2.1.6. *Number of schooled children*

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents According to Number of schooled children

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid None	38	29.7	29.7	29.7
Less than 5	53	41.4	41.4	71.1
5	21	16.4	16.4	87.5
More than 5	16	12.5	12.5	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 7 shows distributed sample population according to number of schooled children. Results prove that 38 (29,7%) respondents had no schooled children, 53 (41,4%) had less than 5 children in school , 21(16.4)% had 5 children in school, and 16 (12.5%) had more than 5 children in school.

2.1.7. *Level of education*

Table 8: Distribution of Respondents According to Level of Education

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Illiterate	43	33.6	33.6	33.6
Primary school certificate	69	53.9	53.9	87.5
Secondary school certificate	16	12.5	12.5	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

Table 8 shows the Education level of the respondents. 43 respondents who represent 33.6% of the surveyed population were illiterate, 69 (53.9 %) of the respondents had primary certificates, 16 (12.5%) had secondary certificates, none had a Bachelor's Degree, none had Master's Degree, and none had a Doctorate Degree. The distribution signified a low educated workforce.

2.2. *Presentation of the Findings*

2.2.1. *Objective 1: To identify the manifestations as well as the constructs of Hegemonic Masculinity in the territory of Kalehe*

The interviews the researcher had with respondents and the questionnaire he issued aimed to identify the manifestations as well as the constructs of HM in the territory of Kalehe. The results show that HM is manifested through the subordination of women, the decisions which are taken by men, the lack of involvement of women in community initiatives, the fact that women have no say on the financial management in their households, and women are not treated as equal partners of men.

2.2.1.1. Distribution of Respondents According to the manifestations of HM: women's subordination

As for the subordination of women as one of the manifestation of HM in Kalehe , most of the respondents -87 in total- , either 68% strongly agreed that women's subordination is one of the manifestations of HM .7 (5.5%) supported that women's subordination justifies the precedence that HM takes over gender norms in Kalehe. 9 respondents who represent 7% of the sample population remained undecided in terms of women's subordination as one of the manifestations of HM in the territory of Kalehe. But 5 respondents who represent 3.9 % of the surveyed population answered that women's subordination is not a manifestation of HM in addition to 20 (15.6%) respondents who strongly disagreed.

During the discussion with the focus groups, in group 1 all 10 women (100 %) agreed that women are subordinated in Kalehe, and 8 men (80%) agreed with them whereas 2 men (2%) remained undecided. In the second focus group, 8 women (80%) confirmed that women are subordinated, 2 (20%) disagreed whereas 7 men (70%) agreed and 3 (30%) disagreed. In group 3, all women representing 100% of respondents agreed that women are subordinated and 6 men disagreed whereas 4 (40%) of men strongly disagreed. In group 4, all women agreed that women are subordinated in Kalehe, 9 men (90 %) agreed, but 1 (10%) disagreed. Findings of women subordination according to respondents individually were recorded in Table 9 below.

Table 9: Women subordination

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	87	68.0	68.0	68.0
Agree	7	5.5	5.5	73.4
Undecided	9	7.0	7.0	80.5
Disagree	5	3.9	3.9	84.4
Strongly disagree	20	15.6	15.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.2. Distribution of Respondents According to the manifestations of HM: All decisions are made by men

Considering the results, it is observed that the proportion of the extent to which decision is made in the territory of Kalehe perpetrates HM. Out of 128 respondents, 60.2% strongly agreed that all decisions are taken by men, 33.6 % agreed that HM is manifested by men who make decision without consulting women, 1.6 % of respondents said nothing about the extent to which decisions are made in the territory of Kalehe to perpetrate HM. On the contrary, 3.1 % of respondents refused that all decisions are made not only by men, but also by women. These 3.1% of respondents were supported by 1.6 % of respondents who strongly disagreed on the assertion that all decisions are made by men. In the light of the results, it is visible that a large proportion of the respondents who support that all decisions are taken by men to perpetrate HM in Kalehe remains unquestionable. During the discussion with the focus groups, in group 1, 7 women (70 %) agreed that all decisions are made by men in Kalehe, 3 women (30%) disagreed, and 6 men (60%) agreed with them whereas 4 men (40%) remained undecided. In the second focus group, 9 women (90%) confirmed that all decisions are made by men, 1 (10%) disagreed whereas 8 men (80%) agreed and 2 (20%) disagreed. In group 3, 6 women representing 60% of respondents agreed that all decisions are made by men, 4 women (40%) disagreed and 6 men disagreed whereas 4 (40%) men strongly disagreed. In group 4, 9 women agreed that all decisions are made by men in Kalehe, 1 (10%) disagreed and 8 men (80 %) agreed, but 2 (20%) disagreed. Findings of the level to which decisions are made in Kalehe were recorded in Table 4.9. Findings were recorded in Table 10.

Table 10: All decisions are made by men

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	77	60.2	60.2	60.2
Agree	43	33.6	33.6	93.8
Undecided	2	1.6	1.6	95.3
Disagree	4	3.1	3.1	98.4
Strongly disagree	2	1.6	1.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.3. : Distribution of Respondents According to the manifestations of HM: Women are not involved in community development initiatives

Statistics further revealed that women are not involved in community development initiatives. In our sample population of 128 respondents including 68 men and 60 women, it is shown that 66 respondents strongly supported that women are not involved in community development initiatives and 36 of the respondents agrees on that point. However, 8 respondents remained undecided whereas 6 disagreed and 12 strongly disagreed. During the discussion with the focus groups, in group 1, 8 women (80 %) agreed that Women are not involved in community development initiatives in Kalehe, 2 women (30%) disagreed, and 6 men (60%) agreed with them whereas 4 men (40) remained undecided. In the second focus group, 8 women (80%) confirmed that Women are not involved in community development initiatives, 2 (20%) disagreed whereas 8 men (80%) agreed and 2 (20%) disagreed. In group 3, 6 women representing 60% of respondents agreed that Women are not involved in community development initiatives, 4 women (40%) disagreed and 6 men disagreed whereas 4 (40%) men strongly disagreed. In group 4, 8 women agreed that Women are not involved in community development initiatives in Kalehe, 2 (20%) disagreed and 8 men (80 %) agreed, but 2 (20%) disagreed. Findings of the level to which women are not involved in community development initiatives in Kalehe were recorded in Table 10. These results significantly prove that the rate of not involving women in community development initiatives is higher.

Table 10: Women are not involved in community development initiatives

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	66	51.6	51.6	51.6
Agree	36	28.1	28.1	79.7
Undecided	8	6.3	6.3	85.9
Disagree	6	4.7	4.7	90.6
Strongly disagree	12	9.4	9.4	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.4. Distribution of Respondents According to the manifestations of HM: Women have no say on financial management in their households

Based on the way families manage their financial assets in Kalehe, statistics show that 57.8% and 35.9% of respondents respectively strongly agreed and agreed that women have no say on financial management in their households. This proportion of

agreement heightens the existence of HM in Kalehe regardless of 2.3 % of respondents who remained undecided and 1.6% and 2.3% of respondents who respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed.

During the discussion with the focus groups, in group 1, 7 women (70 %) agreed that Women have so say on financial management in their households in Kalehe,3 women (30%) disagreed, and 5 men (50%) agreed with them whereas 5 men (50%) remained undecided. In the second focus group, 8 women (80%) confirmed that Women have so say on financial management in their households,2 (20%) disagreed whereas 8 men (80%) agreed and 2 (20%) disagreed. In group 3, 6 women representing 60% of respondents agreed that Women have so say on financial management in their households, 4 women (40%) disagreed and 6 men disagreed whereas 4 (40%) men strongly disagreed. In group 4, 8 women agreed that Women have so say on financial management in their households in Kalehe, 2 (20%) disagreed and 7 men (70 %) agreed, but 3 (30%) disagreed in Kalehe. Findings of individual interviews with respondents were recorded in Table 11. These results significantly prove that the rate of not involving women in community development initiatives is higher.

Table 11: Women have no say in financial management in their households

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	74	57.8	57.8	57.8
Agree	46	35.9	35.9	93.8
Undecided	3	2.3	2.3	96.1
Disagree	2	1.6	1.6	97.7
Strongly disagree	3	2.3	2.3	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.5. : Distribution of Respondents According to gender equality

Statistics in the study proves that women are not equal partners of men. 62.5% of respondents strongly agreed on the fact, 32.0% agreed,2.3% were undecided, 0.85 disagreed, and 2.3% of respondents strongly disagreed.

Table 12: Women are not equal partners of men

	Frequenc y	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	80	62.5	62.5	62.5
Agree	41	32.0	32.0	94.5
Undecided	3	2.3	2.3	96.9
Disagree	1	.8	.8	97.7
Strongly disagree	3	2.3	2.3	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.6. Objective 2: To assess the impact of HM and the relation it has
with socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe.

The second objective guiding the study aimed at assessing the impact of HM and its relation with socio economic development. The assessment was based on how women are deprived from land property rights, not being consulted by their husbands for any decision making, lack of freedom of expression, and on how poverty, violations of women's reproductive rights, deprivation of economic rights, lack of decision making, and low level of education justify HM.

2.2.1.7. Level of Agreement with deprivation of land property rights as
one of the impacts of HM on socioeconomic development

Statistics indicates that 60.2% (77) of the respondents strongly agreed that women do not own farm in the territory of Kalehe and therefore explains the impact of HM on socio economic development. 38.3% of respondents (49) agreed on the fact and 0.8 % (1) were undecided in addition to 0.8% (1) of respondents who strongly disagreed.

2.2.1.8. Level of Agreement with lack of consultation/dialogue as one
of the impacts of HM on socio-economic development

Men do not consult their wives in any family project. The lack of consultation impacts the socio-economic sphere of development. As such, among the respondents, 57% strongly agree on the fact, 36.7 agreed, 1.6 were undecided, 0.8% disagreed, and 3.1 strongly disagreed as findings appear in table 12.

Table 12: Men do not consult their wives in any family project

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	74	57.8	57.8	57.8
Agree	47	36.7	36.7	94.5
Undecided	2	1.6	1.6	96.1
Disagree	1	.8	.8	96.9
Strongly disagree	4	3.1	3.1	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.9. Level of Agreement with poverty as one of the impacts of HM on
socioeconomic development

Poverty is an impact of HM on socio economic development in the territory of Kalehe. As to the level of agreement on poverty as one of the impacts of hegemonic masculinity in the territory of Kalehe, statistics prove that 58.6% of respondents strongly agreed that poverty is one of the impact of HM on socio economic development, 39.1% agreed

on the point, and 2.3% of respondents were undecided. The mean of the poverty line was under the mean as classified by the UNDP (2012). Results show that 82% of respondent’s live on less than 2.5 dollars per day per family, 7 % of respondent’s live on 2 dollars per day per family, 7.0% live on between 3-5 dollars per day per family, 1.6 respondents live on 5 dollars per day per family, and 1.6 % of respondents live on more than 5 dollars per day per family.

2.2.1.10. Level of Agreement with Violation of women's reproductive rights as one of the impacts of HM on socio-economic development

The violation of women’s reproductive rights is one of the facts which explain the impact of HM on the socio- economic development in the territory of Kalehe. Table 4.5 shows the distributed sample population according to the number of children with 9 (7.0%) who have no child, 18 (14.1%) who have less than 5 children, 61(47.7%) who have 5 children, and 40 (31,3%) who have more than 5 children. It is also shown in statistics that 54.7% of respondents strongly agreed on the evidence that the violation of women’s rights is one of the impacts of HM on socio-economic development in addition to a portion of 4.6% of respondents who agreed on the point though 0.8% were undecided, 1.6% disagreed, and 2.3% strongly disagreed.

2.2.1.11. Level of Agreement with Deprivation of economic rights as one of the impacts of HM on socioeconomic development

Women in Kalehe are deprived of their economic rights. Further statistics show that 59.4% strongly agreed that men deprive women of economic rights in order to dominate and underpower them. 35.2% of respondents agreed on the point whereas 3.1% of respondents strongly disagreed.

Table 13: Deprivation of economic rights

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	76	59.4	59.4	59.4
Agree	45	35.2	35.2	94.5
Disagree	3	2.3	2.3	96.9
Strongly disagree	4	3.1	3.1	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.12. Level of Agreement with Lack of decision making as one of the impacts of HM on socioeconomic development

Women are discriminated. They are undervalued. They have no voice and nobody helps them have their rights back. Statistics prove that women have been put in a position in which they cannot make any decision. 62.5% of respondents strongly

agreed on the point, 34.4 % of respondents agreed, whereas 2.3% disagree and 1.6% strongly disagreed.

Table 14: Lack of decision making

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	80	62.5	62.5	62.5
Agree	43	33.6	33.6	96.1
Valid undecided	3	2.3	2.3	98.4
Strongly disagree	2	1.6	1.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

2.2.1.13. Level of Agreement with Low level of education as one of the impacts of HM on socio-economic development

Considering the level of education of respondents in Table 15 and the level to which the respondents agree on the point that the level of education is one of the impacts of HM on socio-economic development, statistics shows that 60.9% of respondent strongly share the assertion, 34.4% of respondents agreed that low education is the impact of HM whereas 3.1% were undecided and 1.6% disagreed.

Table 15: Low level of education

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	78	60.9	60.9	60.9
Agree	44	34.4	34.4	95.3
Valid undecided	4	3.1	3.1	98.4
Disagree	2	1.6	1.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

3.2.3. Objective 3: To analyze the government's efforts to reduce the practice of HM in DRC in general.

The third objective which guided the study sought to explore the government and other intervenors' efforts to reduce the practice of HM in the territory of Kalehe. 18.8% of respondents said that the government has sponsored local effort to sensitize the population on violence against women, 4.7% argued that the government sponsored local initiatives that include men and women, 0.8% said that the government has vulgarized the law against the discrimination of women, and 75.8% of respondents stated that there has been no effort made by the government to help reduce the practice of HM in the territory of Kalehe. With these results, it is visible that the government intervention in terms of reducing any harm against women's right is poor and deploring. The findings were recorded in table 16.

Table 16: The government and other intervenors efforts to reduce the practice of HM in DRC in general and in Kalehe in particular.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Sponsor local effort to sensitize the population on violence against women	24	18.8	18.8	18.8
Sponsor local initiatives that include men and women	6	4.7	4.7	23.4
Vulgarize the law against the discrimination of women	1	.8	.8	33.6
No effort has been done	97	75.8	75.8	100.0
Total	128	100.0	100.0	

Source: Primary Data, 2023

3. Summary of the results

This study investigated Hegemonic Masculinity, hence (HM), and the socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe in DRC. It aimed to identify the manifestations of HM, to assess the impact of HM, and to analyze the government’s efforts to reduce the practice of HM in Kalehe

In the study, a sample population of $n = 128$ respondents from 6 groups of the territory of Kalehe was questioned with a view to find out the impact of HM on socio-economic development in Kalehe. The researcher administered a research questionnaire and data were collected in the areas of investigation. Findings of the study were presented and summarized using tables and graphs.

The first objective of this study was to identify the manifestations of HM masculinity in the territory of Kalehe. The findings have resulted in six major manifestations namely the subordination of women, all decisions are taken by men, women are not involved in community initiatives, women have no say in financial management in their households, and women are not treated as equal partners of men. Statistics indicated that women are subordinated (73.5%), all decisions are made by men (93.8%), women are not involved in community development initiatives (79.7%), women have no say on financial management in their households (93.7%), and women are not equal partners of men (94.5%).

The second objective of the research was to assess the impact of HM and the relation it has with socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe. The assessment was mostly based on the level of the impact that HM on socio-economic development. This assessment was focused on such major impacts notably, (i) the deprivation of women to own farms, (ii) the consultation of women in any family project which is nonexistent, (iii) poverty, (iv) the violations of women’s reproductive rights, (v) the

deprivation of economic rights, and (vi) the lack of decision making. Research findings revealed that the deprivation of women from owning farms is an impact of HM on socio economic development in the territory of Kalehe is a reality. As such, statistics indicated that 60.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 38.3% agreed, and 0.8 % were undecided in addition to 0.8% of respondents who strongly disagreed. As far as consultation is concerned, results have showed that Kalehe is a men dominated territory because men do not consult their wives in any family project. Consequently, the lack of consultation has negative effects on the socioeconomic sphere of development. 57% of respondents strongly agreed on the fact, 36.7% agreed, 1.6% were undecided, 0.8% disagreed, and 3.15 strongly disagreed.

Poverty and women's reproductive rights are among other impacts of HM on socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe. Statistics reveals that 58.6% of the surveyed population strongly supported the evidence and 39.1% agree whereas 2.3% remained undecided. The violation of women's reproductive rights is rated higher. Considering Table 4.5, it is shown that the distributed sample population according to number of children with 7.0% who have no child, 14.1% who have less than 5 children, 47.7% who have 5 children, and 31,3% who have more than 5 children is deploring.

Women's rights in general and the economic rights in particular impact socio-economic development in Kalehe. It is also shown that 54.7% of respondents strongly agreed on the evidence that the violation of women's rights is one of the impacts of HM on the socio-economic development, in addition to a portion of 4.6% of respondents who agreed, though 0.8% were undecided, 1.6% disagreed, and 2.3% strongly disagreed. Women are deprived of any advantage that can boost their economic power. The rate of agreement with the deprivation of economic rights as one of the impacts of HM in Kalehe is above 90%.

The lack of decision-making falls into the basket of what explains the impact of HM in Kalehe. The respondents of the research agreed at 96.1% that women do not make any decision in their households.

The level of education is one of the impacts of the socioeconomic sphere in the territory of Kalehe. Evidence can be proved from two perspectives, notably on the level of education of respondents themselves and on the level of agreement of respondents. Regarding the level of education of respondents, 33.6% of respondents were illiterate after being randomly selected. None of the respondents reached the level of university studies. As for the level of agreement with the evidence that low level of education is among the impacts of HM on socio economic development, 60.9% of respondents strongly agreed on the fact, 34.4% agreed, 3.1% were undecided, and 1.6% disagreed.

The third research objective was to analyze the government and other intervenors' efforts to reduce the practice of HM in DRC in general and in the territory of Kalehe in particular. Statistics show that 18.8% of respondents are aware that the government has sponsored local effort to sensitize the population on violence against women. 4.7%

argued that the government sponsored local initiatives that include men and women, 0.8% said that the government has vulgarized the law against the discrimination of women, and 75.8% of respondents stated that there has been no effort made by the government to help reduce the practice of HM in the territory of Kalehe. With these results, it is visible that the government's intervention in terms of reducing any harm against women's right is poor and deploring.

Conclusion

This study has examined Hegemonic Masculinity (HM) and socio-economic development in the territory of Kalehe in the South -Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It derived from the problem that in the DRC socio-cultural contexts, men occupy the culture and make decisions in their relationship to women and consequently benefit from various patriarchal privileges. In addition, the current context of the relationship between men and women in DRC heightens the persisting discrimination and domination of women in all sectors of life. It aimed to (i) identify the manifestations of HM, (ii) assess its impacts, and (iii) analyze government efforts to reduce its practice. The sample size calculation was based on the formula of Anderson et al (2001). Six groupings were considered due to inaccessibility and insecurity. With the sample size of 128 respondents who were randomly selected, interviews and a questionnaire were used to collect data which were analyzed with SPSS (version 21). The results showed that women are subordinated (73.5%), they are not involved in development initiatives (79.7%), they have no say in financial management in their households (93.7%), they are not equal partners of men (94.5%), and decisions are made by men (93.8%). Also, the statistics indicated that deprivation of land ownership rights (98.5%), poverty (88%), decision making (96.1%), violation of the socio-economic rights (94.6%), reproductive rights (95.3%), and low level of education (95.3%) impact the socio-economic sphere in Kalehe. Finally, the lack of sponsorship of local efforts to sensitize the population on violence against women (18.8%), the lack of sponsorship of local initiatives including men and women (4.7%), the failure to popularize the law against discrimination against women (0.8%) and the lack of government effort (75.8%) heighten HM in Kalehe. Considering these results, it is obvious that manifestations of HM are a real phenomenon in Kalehe and have effects on the socio-economic development.

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