



SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN UGANDA: REPORTING MECHANISMS, VICTIM SUPPORT, AND HEALTHCARE ACCESS

Uganda continues to face significant challenges in addressing sexual violence, with reporting mechanisms, judicial outcomes, and victim support services showing both progress and persistent gaps. Sexual abuse, in criminal law, refers to any act of sexual contact that a person suffers, submits to, participates in, or performs as a result of force or violence, threats, fear, or deception, or without having legally consented to the act. The country has established formal procedures for reporting sexual exploitation and abuse through various institutions, yet many survivors continue to face stigma and barriers to accessing justice and healthcare. Recent statistics reveal alarming rates of sexual violence, particularly among vulnerable populations such as children and refugees. The effectiveness of healthcare services in terms of long-term mental health support for survivors varies considerably across regions, if existent at all. This comprehensive analysis explores the reporting procedures, current statistics, case outcomes, and healthcare access for sexual violence survivors in Uganda, highlighting both achievements and areas requiring urgent attention.

Reporting Procedures for Sexual Abuse Cases in Uganda

The Uganda Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Task Force has established Inter-Agency [Standard Operating Procedures for receiving, recording, and processing SEA complaints](#). These procedures, on paper, emphasize a victim-centered approach where the victim's wishes, safety, and well-being remain paramount in all

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