

**GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN KIBWEZI DIVISION**

**KIBWEZI DISTRICT**

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## **ABSTRACT OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Gender mainstreaming in the contemporary society is intended to address issues of gender inequality. In Kibwezi Community men are regarded as powerful and superior to women and children. Cultural practices and traditions are still rampant and are a major drawback in addressing gender concerns. For instance even in the contemporary society majority believe that the place of women is in the kitchen. Majority of the people believe that men are the breadwinners while women are tasked with almost all household activities. Interviews and questionnaires were used for data collection. The number of respondents was 60 people and random sampling technique was used. The sample size was obtained from two Locations of Kibwezi Division.

From the research the major social economic activity from Kibwezi community is sub-sistence farming. The dominant role played by women is children bearing and caring for the family while the men's role is breadwinning and youth's role is acting as change agents and participating in development activities. Sensitization and gender awareness campaigns are the key measures advanced to address various gender issues. It is clearly evident that cultural practices and traditions is the major course of gender inequality within the community.

It is recommended that more sensitization forums be organized to address gender issues. Advocacy groups among all stake holders in the community should also be encouraged.