

POLITICIZATION OF LAND LAW AND GENDER RELATIONS IN UGANDA: A CASE STUDY OF IBANDA TOWN COUNCIL

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the impact of custom on the right of women to effectively participate in land decision-making processes in Uganda based on a case study of Ibanda Town Council (ITC). It makes an analysis of issues of access, ownership, control and usability of land by both women and men in order to come up with a clear understanding of how each of them is related to custom, which have been politicized. It can thus be asserted that if these issues had not been politicized, their impact on women would have been different. In order to arrive at such a conclusion, this article gives a historical perspective of land law and gender relations in ITC. The history of land law and gender relations in ITC can best be understood by examining the broader history of Ankole Kingdom, in which ITC lies because not much has been written about its history. On the other hand, a lot is known about Ankole Kingdom in broader terms. In order to capture the broader issues of the land question in Ankole Kingdom, however, the article adopts a broader perspective on law and gender relations in Uganda.