

**THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN THE COVERAGE OF DISABLED
PERSONS IN SOCIETY.
A CASE STUDY: NATIONAL UNION OF DISABLED PERSONS OF UGANDA.**

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DECLARATION

I Emily W. Nyutu declare that this research report is my own initiative done to the best of my knowledge and research and has never been submitted for the award of degree, diploma or their equivalent in any university or institution of higher learning.

Nyutu Emily W.

Signed... 

Date..... 10/09/07

Approval

This project has been submitted with my approval as the University supervisor.

Signed.....*Akanasouero*.....

Date.....*10/9/07*.....

Dedications

This book is dedicated to my parents Mr. and Mrs. Nyutu for the financial support they have always given me and their prayers. My sisters and brother, my niece Kombi, my friends Ben, Lesley my girl Kamami and finally to all my true friends in school. Love you all.

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I give thanks to the people and the organizations that made it possible for me to compile this report.

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List of Acronyms

PWDs:	People with disabilities
UN:	United Nations
ILO:	International Labour Organization
MADE:	Mobility Appliances by Disabled Women Entrepreneur
NUDIPU:	National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda
USDC:	Uganda Society for Disabled Children

Abstract

This research was carried out in National union of Disabled Person of Uganda NUDIPU in Kampala Uganda and other institution dealing with disability within Kampala. The research examined how the media covers the day to day activities of the disabled persons in society and how its integration in their lifestyle.

The major research problem was to examine the impact of the media in highlighting lifestyle of the disabled persons in the society.

The instruments used were self administered questionnaires, interviews and observation methods to get views on relevance of the media in tackling the issue of disability.

Data was collected from different sources which included law material from the field that is primary data and secondary data. It was analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods basing on the research questions and research objectives that were set out in the study.

The research recognized that the media has less benefit to the disabled persons since it concentrates on the lives of the normal persons. The recommendations made at the end hope to offer long-lasting viable solutions towards media and the society at large to fully integrate PWDs in order to end the degradation and stigma associated with disability and uphold the saying disability is not inability.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background of the study

The media over the years have partially covered the lifestyle of the disabled persons socially, economically and politically. They have been neglected and rejected for a long time and have been viewed as outcasts in the society.

Disability is a term used to describe people who have a physical or mental impairment that interfere with their ability to lead a happy and productive life. This is according to World book 2001. According to the International labor Organization (ILO) a disabled person is anybody who is unable to provide to their needs wholly or partially the necessities of a normal person as a result of a deficiency due to impairment or disability.

Disability is associated to having deformities in the following areas: Muscles arms- ranging from no control to normal coordination. Physical disabilities occur widely. It is important to realize that physical disability goes beyond having to use a wheelchair or wear a back brace. There are many conditions, such as multiple sclerosis and chronic fatigue syndrome, which are outwardly invisible but result in physical disability. Generally, however, physical disabilities fall under the following headings: limited control of some or all voluntary legs - ranges from total inability or difficulty in standing or walking. Trunk - difficulty in sitting straight in face and throat - difficulty in eating and speaking and bladder and bowel - may have to adapt toileting procedures. Underdeveloped skeletal structure brings the condition of dwarfism and the effect of thalidomide. (*Physical Disability. A Psychological Problem 1960*)

People with disability seek to provide leadership on national issues relevant to people living with disabilities and this is through the involvement of the media on their activities. In this category PWDs propose to establish a legal center that will provide legal presentations of the poor community of people with disability and more media coverage.

On the World Disabled Day held every 3rd December the media covers issues concerning the disabled population. But considering that this presentations at the peak of the year it is hardly adequate especially that the number of disabled is raising. The World Disability Day was instituted by the United Nations in 1992 usually generates more media coverage only on that particular time and mostly ignored in the most of the year.

The media highly specializes on the coverage on other issues deemed soft according to the traditional hierarchies of news, where the priorities is the hard news areas such as politics, economics, violence of various kinds, gives precedence to events over processes.

Another causes of concern is the fact that when the media go beyond routine coverage of events they tend to focus on individuals who are physically or mentally challenged and to either portray the as victims or heroes. There is little attempt to present and analyze the situation of people with disabilities as citizens who together constitute an integral part of the society, contribute into it and have a legitimate claim on its resources. This issue is also seen primarily in terms of welfare and charity not as question on human rights and dignity.

1.1 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

For a long time in history disability has been viewed negatively in the society. In the past it was associated with witchcraft or curse to the society or the family of the disabled persons. The media has partially covered the views of those living with disability. However, the government has stated the rights of the PWDs in the constitution so as integrate the disabled in the society, bus still the degradation and the stigma still persist. This is because the rights of the PWDs are not fully implemented since they are perceived as non-performers in development activities in the society.

1.2 Objectives

1.2.1 General objectives

To identify how much media covers the lifestyle and activities of PWDs analyze effects and challenges faced by the disabled persons and therefore, come up with possible recommendation for intervention to allow for full integration of PWDs in the society and fully coverage by the media.

1.2.2 Specific objectives

1. To find out activities taken by the media in highlighting the plight of the disabled persons in the society.
2. To find out the problems encountered by persons with disability and how the media advocates and supports PWDs.
3. Investigate how the media has integrated PWDs regarding the aspects of politics, social, economic and in cultural activities.

1.3 Hypothesis

- a) Policies and rights of the plight on disabled persons exist but it is not adequately implemented and upheld especially by the mass media.
- b) PWD's face a number of challenges based on education, mobility, communication gender and especially accessing mass media to air their grievances.
- c) The media in their coverage on issues affecting the society have neglected people faced with disabilities and concentrated their coverage on the 'normal' person.

1.4 Significance of the study

Disability has been an interesting field for many studies therefore, the study of how much the media integrates its coverage on challenges facing the disabled will add to the knowledge gained from the previous studies and fill existing gaps. This study will also raise awareness and discussion among public and private stakeholders particularly the policy makers and planners charged with the responsibility of providing equal treatment to all people with disability. This study will analyze the relevance of media involvement to the people with disability the conditions and infrastructure which hinders their access to these services.

1.5 Scope of the study

In this study the research was carried out in Uganda specifically National Union of Disabled People of Uganda (NUDIPU) and other institutions dealing with disabled persons in Uganda.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents literature relate to this topic under discussion. It focuses on the work that has been previously carried out by different scholars, types and causes of disability and a wide media involvement on the formation of policies for the disabled persons. Media involvement in this case will be put into first consideration.

2.1 Views from different scholars.

The media has covered types and causes of disability from different views expressed in different literature. According to United Nations (UN) 1999 data disability can be categorized in two types: Natural and artificial disability.

Natural disability is a situation in which one is born when any of hers or his body parts are fully developed for instance permanent blindness, leprosy, cerebral paralysis. Artificial disability occurs when a person gets an accident that leads them into losing their body organ i.e. limb, deafness due to convulsion this is according to Barker R.G in the book (*The Social Psychology of the Physically Disabled 1948*). However, the book further categorizes disability as follows:

a. Physical or mortal impairment

This is the most commonly reported disability for instance loss of limbs which causes failure to walk, climb or failure to hold or lift items. This in most cases limits someone the ability to perform self care tasks.

b. Auditoria/visual impairment

This categorized under deafness, blindness dump. Women have a high hearing disability compared to men where 2% of men and 3% of women have a sight and communication disability. This is because of their biological makeup.

c. Psychotic and behavioral illness

This entails learning problems, amnesia, psychosis, paranoid, schizophrenia fall under this category.

d. Multiple disabilities

This is the situation whereby someone has more than one type of disability. The combination of which causes problems that can not be addresses by programmed designed for individual disability condition.

2.2 Causes of disability

The media has highlighted many causes of disability and factors that contribute to the condition. According to World Health Organization (WHO) in 1987 News Release stated that disability can be categorized into three:

i. Genetic/hereditary factors

This is situation an individual acquires disabling condition as results of inheritance from the family lineage.

ii. Biological factors

This occurs on the basis in the body of an individual. There is biological aspect to the condition. Most severe and multiple disabilities fall in this category according to by medical model. The causes could be viruses, bacteria, fungi.

iii. Social, cultural and environmental factors.

The social-cultural and environmental factors are those which originate from outside the individual body. This includes only those causes which stem from social cultural and physical environment but also those causes results from individuals lifestyle and behavioral e.g. drug addiction can cause an impairment

which may be psychological or social dysfunction for instance a person may fail to work because of the weakening of the muscles that is due to drug addiction.

According to World Health Organization (WHO) the following are the major causes of disability

- Malnutrition –in this situation disability occurs due to lack of proper balance diet, for instance night blindness due to lack of vitamin A.
- Accidents –both home and job accidents can lead to disability, instances of hands been chopped off by machines are common in industries or mishandling some objects hence rendering into disability.
- War- both internal and external war can result into disability during riots or demonstrations one may be shot with a bullet and can further lead to imputation of the body organ.
- Hereditary factors- here disability occurs when it runs in the family line therefore genes is passed over the descendants that particular family that is inheritance of the disabling conditions.
- Pre-natal factors- disability occurs here as a result of behavioral characteristic of the pregnant mother for instance smoking taking alcohol can lead to deformity of the new born such as lack of limbs.
- Neo-natal- Disability can occur in this situation, when the new born child is not immunized against diseases such as polio, diphtheria.
- Diseases- like cerebral malaria, cerebral palsy might render on mentally retarded.

2.3 Media point of view

The Daily Monitor, a leading Kampala newspaper, reports that 10% of Ugandans have disability. (*The Monitor, September 22, 1998*). Like other nations in Africa and around the world, Uganda has seen an increase in the number of persons with disabilities because of civil war. Some 200,000 people need wheelchairs, which are scarce and too expensive for most to afford, according to Jenny Kern, an advisor to Whirlwind Women. Kern's group helps local groups such as Mobility Appliances by Disabled Women Entrepreneurs (MADE) develop wheelchair production facilities. The Monitor has reported that 100,000 of those injured or killed by land mines were children (*September 22, 1998*). Also, malnutrition and communicable diseases cause disability, according to International Labor Organization (ILO) report - with polio being the "leading cause of disability amongst Ugandan youths"

People with disabilities in Uganda face a number of daunting problems, according to The Honorable James Mwandha. Chief among these is limited access to health care, education, suitable housing, and good nutrition. "Like disabled people in many other nations, Ugandans with disabilities often are unaware of their rights and potential", says Mr. Mwandha, and sometimes fail "to assert themselves" which can lead to their "being denied most basic rights and services. (*The New Vision Publications 18th March 2002*)

Disabled Ugandans tend to be the poorest citizens due to lack of proper education, and discrimination by employers. In one educational district, a study found that most of the children with disabilities were not in school (*The Monitor, September 8, 1998*), and disabled employees are usually the last hired and the first fired.

The government's priorities are also a problem, says Mr. Mwandha. Life-threatening illnesses such as AIDS and malaria demand the immediate attention of public officials, so disability issues are often given lower priority than more pressing public health concerns.

The MPs have made significant gains in a few short years. Mr. Mwandha stated that they were successful in ensuring that disabled people's concerns were addressed in several major laws, including the Local Government Act 1997, The Children's Statute 1996, Uganda Communications Act 1998, Uganda Traffic and Road Safety Act 1998, Ugandan Institute of Special Education Act 1998, and the Movement Act 1998 - all of which should help improve the lives of disabled people. One recent law proposes that employers be required to recruit disabled people.

Monitor further expresses the gender issue on disability (*Monitor May 22 2007*) women with disability are at high risk to be sexually exploited since they are believed to be free from HIV/AIDS. Men especially sweet talk women with disability for sex at night and abandon them in the morning because they do not want to be associated with them. This leads to victimization and input stigma to PWDs due to their state.

Uganda Local Government Act 1997- Parliament of Uganda 1997 enacted Local Government Act to give full effect to the decentralization, responsibilities and services to all level of local government. Ensures democracy and control of decisions making by people concerned. It provides for two PWDs representatives on the sub-county council and city division council one of who should be a woman. Also provides PWDs representative in the Municipal Council, and Town Council.

Lives of the disabled persons had been transformed after the promulgation of Uganda Constitution which took place on 8th October 1995. (*NUDIPU News Release 1996*). It spells the rights of the disabled on various areas.

- Gender balance and fair presentation of marginalized groups. The State ensures that gender balance on all constitution and other bodies. The women especially with disability should not be left out in the employment sector because of their condition.
- Recognition of the dignity of persons with disability. The state and the society at large shall recognize the rights of PWDs to respect the human dignity.

- Cultural objectives: cultural and customary values which are consistent with fundamental rights and freedom, human dignity, democracy and with constitution to be developed and incorporated in aspects of PWDs in Uganda.

Movies often show “people with disabilities in a negative and unrealistic way, preferring the sensational or pitiful to the everyday and human side of disability.”(*de Balcazar et al. 1988/1990*). In spite of this there have been many positive movies representation of the disabled individuals for instance ‘*City Lights*’, where Charlie Chaplin befriends a blind girl; the 1946 movie ‘*Best Years of Our lives*’ about a sailor, who came back from the war after losing two arms and Mask, ‘*Children of the Lesser God*’ and ‘*My Left Foot*’ are the modern examples of movies which give fairly realistic views of people who are disabled (*Michal-Smith,1987;Nagler 1990*).

2.4 POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

2.4.1 Rights of people with Disability

According to the declaration of the rights of the disabled person proclaimed by the (*General Assembly Resolution (GAR) of 9th December 1975*), member state under the character of the United Nations pledged to make joint and separate action into cooperation with the organization to promote higher standards of living, full employment and the condition of economics and social progress and development of the disabled. Therefore the General Assembly proclaimed the Declaration on the Right of the Disabled Persons and called for international and national action to ensure that it would be used a common basis and these rights included.

(*The United Nation Rehabilitation Act of 1973*) prohibits unfair treatment of the disabled individuals in program or activities that receive government funds. The Act also requires many federally funded businesses to make an effort to hire qualified disabled people.

The education for all the handicapped children Act of 1975 order the state to provide free education for any disabled child who is of school age.

The Act also protects disabled people from discrimination by private employers. It requires the public buildings and mass transportation is accessible to disabled persons.

The Act further states that disabled persons have the right to medical, psychological and functional treatment, including prosthetic and authentic appliances to medical and social rehabilitation, which enables them to develop their capacities and skills to the maximum.

The disabled persons have the right to live with their families or foster parents and to participate in all social, creative or recreation activities. Organizations of the disabled persons may be usefully consulted in all terms regarding the rights of the disabled. (*Analysis of the Situation of Child in India, 2002*).

2.5 ATTITUDES TOWARDS DISABLED PERSONS

According to world Book (D) Volt 5 in ancient times, hardly anyone helped people with disabilities. The welfare of a group depended on the ability of each member to fight and work. Disabled persons, who could fulfill their responsibilities, threatened the safety of all and many were driven away and left to die. Most ancient people believed that evil spirit caused injury or disease and so they felt little compassion for PWDs for example The Spartans let newborn children die of exposure. In Rome, a disfigure infant could be legally drowned by the parents.

During the middle ages, from about the A.D 400s to the late 1400s, people ridiculed disabled persons and regarded them with suspicion. Some nobles used physically disabled persons as court festers many PWDs were burned as witches.

Attitudes towards people with disabilities began to change in the 1800s. Many people began to pity disabled people and treated them special care still people with

disabilities were thought to bring shame on themselves and their families. As a result, many disabled people were kept hidden at homes or institutions. (*Disability, Liberalization and Development Oxfam 1998*).

In the mid 1900s, important advances were made in treatment of disabled people until that time many who become paralyzed below the waist died due to urinary problems. But in the 1940s the discovery of certain antibiotics enabled physicians to keep these patients alive. Modern rehabilitation centers were developed to help such people lead full and productive lives.

During World War 2 (1939-1945) and after the war died, extended, extensive efforts were made to rehabilitate disabled veterans. Military hospitals were also set up these facilities to help PWDs. However according to Saskatchewan, Human rights commission; he says "there is a limited patience that the normal people have for the handicapped. They tend to think that the disabled need not to live because of their being dysfunctional in the society while others over sympathize with the disabled persons. (*World Book (D) Volt 5*)

Individual with disabilities face high possibilities of both sexual abuse and exploitation. It has been estimated that 68% of girls and 30% of boys with mental retardation experience sexual abuse before the age of 18 years. (*The Reoher Institute, 1988*) This shows that the girl child is more exploited compared to the boy child.

Factors that increase disabled individuals' vulnerability to abuse are: being viewed as powerless by the abusers, being taught to be passive, isolation within families or institutions, lack of disabled role models, and lack of personal privacy (*Corbett, Klien and Bregante 1997*).lack of information about abuse and sexual matters is an additional risk factor. A disabled person is more vulnerable to sexual exploitation due to lack of affection or social interaction causes a great need for attention, any kind of attention may be better than none, (*Krents, Schulman and Brenner, 1997*).

Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC)-children with disabilities still are invisible and unheard. (*USDC News release February 2005*) lack of understanding

about child participation by legal and policy implementation including family and the children in the decision making about issues that affect them. Children with disability tend to be deeply affected in competence with others.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

In obtaining the relevant information and collection of data, the researcher used primary and secondary instruments. These included questionnaires, interviews, books, newspapers, magazines and articles written in the internet.

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

Both qualitative and quantitative methodologies were used to authenticate the study and that allowed the collection of detailed information from the respondents affected directly or indirectly by disability.

The study also undertook a descriptive research design that was carried out through the use of interviews, questionnaire and observation.

3.2 Population description

This is the population from which the study was drawn. The study was carried out in NUDIPU Kampala Uganda and also targeted PWDs institutions like Mengo school of disabled, Ntinda School of the Deaf, Salvation Army as well as at home grounds and those indirectly affected. The study respondents constituted both men and female from 15 years and above.

3.3 Sampling strategies

The study being qualitative and quantitative one, random sampling strategy was used since in this every element of the population is given a chance of being brought into the sample. However, under probability sampling multiple stages, cluster sampling was also used because PWDs were at large number and institutions dealing in this field. Different people were able to bring out their own view and the rôle of the media in covering their day to day activities.

3.4 Data collecting methods.

Data was collected using survey and observation methods. The instruments were questionnaires i.e. self administered, interviews i.e. face to face

3.4.1 Instruments

- **Self administered questionnaires**

This was useful for collecting information from disabled person and those affected. These questionnaires were distributed through hand delivery during personal visits. They contained closed and open ended questions. Before being submitted to the respondents the questionnaire were pre-tested by experts in different fields for efficiency and effectiveness.

- **Interviews**

The researcher carried out face to face interviews with PWDs. This consisted of individuals affected as well as group interviews of different age sets. Information was analyzed thoroughly after interviewing the respondents hence this lead to reliable and validity of the instrument.

- **Observation**

This technique was applied concurrently with other techniques for instance during interview. The procedure used in this study were personal visits and hand delivery.

3.5 SOURCES OF DATA

The researcher used two sources of data to collect the information. That is primary and secondary sources

- **Primary Sources**

This is where data was obtained through the mentioned methods (observation, interview and questionnaires) which were manually analyzed.

- **Secondary sources**

This is where data was obtained from documentary reviews or literature review. This included text books, magazines, journals, records and from the internet.

3.6 Data analysis and Processing

Data was analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods basing on the research questions and research objectives that were set out in the study.

3.7 PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE FIELD

In the course of the research, the researcher encountered a number of problems worthy bringing to attention.

Due to the conditions related to the disabled persons, PWDs feared that giving out information will lead to more regret from society and rejection or that they were giving out their right. Some even went to the extent of being hostile physically.

The language barrier was also uncouncted since a large number of the disabled persons are illiterate hence there was need for an interpreter in conducting the research.

CHAPTER FOUR

ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE DATA

4.0 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter describes analysis and presents research findings data collected from the field. It was coded to allow easy interpretation. The data obtained was classified into categories according to responses expressing every unit of attributes.

In presenting the data frequency, the percentages tables were used for summary representation of the data.

4.1 DATA ANALYSIS

Descriptive analysis was used to analyze the data. Interviews were carried out at institution having PWDs and at home levels. Also questioners given to people affected directly and indirectly by disability

A large number of people expressed that media has focused much on the normal person giving less coverage to the disabled persons. The disabled persons are viewed to be less performers in society hence given less involvement by the mass media.

Though a few number of people agreed that media once in a while highlight the plight of disabled persons there was evidence that the gap is much wide when it comes to equality of air space in the media.

4.1.1 TABLE 1: Significance of the media in presentation of disabled persons

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	10	40%
Disagree	15	60%
Total	25	100%

Source: Primary data

In table 1 it was observed that the development of the mass media only presented fewer cases of disabled persons. It was observed that the media gets more involved on coverage of disabled activities at the peak of World Disabled day every 3rd December of every year.

On the other hand a few people agreed that media brings into light disabled activities such as The Special Olympics which creates an active and appealing image of people disabilities. Television has presented some excellent depictions of people with handicaps; Fifth Estate did a sensitive presentation of a girl with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Oprah Winfred has respectfully interviewed individuals with conditions such as Peder-Willi Syndrome. Such portals help eliminate the stigma suffered by PWDs. Though in the general feedback from the field it ruled out the hypothesis on the media less coverage. PWDs' dignity and rights are not promoted by the media.

4.1.2 TABLE TWO: Age presentation of those affected.

Age	Frequency	Percentage
15-25	10	40%
26-35	8	32%
26-45	5	20%
46 +	2	8%

Source: Primary data

From table two it was evident that most people are affected by disability below the age of 15 which is the important stage of human growth mentally. This further hinders access to facilities such as education and social interaction. At this point in life media can highly campaign for free social necessities of the disabled persons but this is not evident because all these are left on the families of those affected.

4.1.3 TABLE 3: Media benefits to the disabled persons

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Beneficiaries	5	20%
Non-beneficiaries	20	80%
Total	25	100%

Source: Primary data

As regard to communication flow, 20% of the respondents reported to have benefit from the media. They were able to be catered for in the television through the sign language, media sponsoring in their well being issuing aid and educative programs. The large percentage reported to have less benefited from the mass media in any way. This further spells out the hypothesis of media advocacy on policies and rights of disabled persons.

4.2 CHALLENGES FACED BY THE DISABLED PERSONS

From the data collected in the field the researcher found out that most of PWDs are faced with a number of problems in their lives such as:

4.2.1 Implication of lack of communication

In the research it was noted that quite a number of disabled persons experience the problem of communication 92% considered this a big challenge while 8 % of the respondents did not. This is because majority of PWDs have multiple impairments. This is illustrated by the table below:

4.2.1 Table 3: Implication of lack of communication

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Affected	23	92%
Not affected	7	8%
Total	25	100%

Source: Primary data

4.2.2 Table 4: Mobility and movement

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Easy accessibility	24	96%
Difficulty in accessibility	1	4%
Total	25	100%

Source: Primary data

A large number of the buildings in Kampala and other parts of the country are built not putting into consideration the plight of the disabled persons in focus. Most buildings are inaccessible by the disabled person since they have stairs, elevators. Exterior doors may be difficult to open. Doors and hallways may not be wide enough for the wheel chair or walker to be maneuvered easily.

Housing options lack proper adaptations for the daily living, many people with disability independently but unfortunately many either can not afford, find such housing.

In the transport sector also does not put into place the right transport means for disabled persons where they can access with ease.

4.3 GENERAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MEDIA AND DISABILITY

The relationship was evaluated through all the data gathered and results were evident that the media has less involvement on matter concerning disability. It was evident that the disabled persons have not been given a high hand by the media to be fully integrated in the society putting into focus that disability is not inability.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This study was carried out in Kampala and aimed at evaluating the involvement of the media in the coverage of the PWDs. This included both in the print and the electronic media. The study is discussed by looking at each hypothesis and conclusion is then drawn and subsequent recommendations for remedial action are made.

5.1 Summary

The overall research aimed at finding out the position of the media in regard to disability. According to the methods used and the results got from the field it was evident that the mass media has neglected the disabled persons. The mass media concentrates on the broadcast of majority normal of persons since the major aim is making profit and this is evident in the society.

5.2 Conclusion

Disability having less coverage by the media has contributed to the regret of the disabled persons and lack integration in the society. People with disability have the same concerns that plague everyone else in society: finances and social acceptance.

People with disability need programs on the mass media on the prevention to “inform them of their rights to trust their feelings, to say ‘no’, to live in safe environment, not to permit any touch or behaviors which frightens confuses or hurts them. *(Cole 1989/1990)*

The media should ensure that the plights of the disabled persons are highlighted for a fully participatory society by ensuring wide and unlimited coverage in concerns of the disabled persons.

5.3 Recommendations

After carrying out the study the following recommendation were brought into focus:

The media should get more involved in the affair of the disabled person by introducing sign languages especially in the television so that more disabled persons are involved and are catered for. This would enhance the affairs of the disabled persons since they will be able to know day to day activities of the countries. Hence everyone in the society will be equally informed politically, socially and economically and will have a base on making the decisions.

Introduction of forum where the disabled persons can air their grievances. It's only the media that can create these grounds. When the media introduces such platform the rights of the disabled persons are certainly highlighted. This would be through media initiating positions of the disabled person in the office who can handle best the issues that concern them since they understand them best.

The media should further advocate and spearhead initiation and enactment of law that will give the disabled persons equal opportunities in the employment sector. This also includes infrastructures like buildings where they can easily access their needs without any limitation whatsoever.

5.3.1 Need for further research

There is need for further research by other researchers in order to look the problem in different angles and come up with more information that will lead to solving the problems affecting disabled persons.

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APPENDICES

Financial Plan (Budget)

Activity	Cost	
	Ksh	Ug Sh
Stationary	2000	50000
Typing	1000	25000
Transport	2000	50000
Meals	800	20000
Photocopy	800	20000
Internet fee	1000	25000
Field accustomisation cost	1000	25000
Miscellaneous	2400	75000
Total	11000	275000

Time Frame

Event	Time
Project Writing	June
Data collecting	July
Chapter one	July
Chapter two	September
Chapter three	September
Chapter four	August
Chapter five	August

QUESTIONNAIRE

INTRODUCTION

I am Emily W. Nyutu a student from K.I.U department of social sciences. I'm conducting an academic research on the role of media in coverage of the disabled persons in society my case study been National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda.

These questions have been planned and structured in order to investigate what the media has done or is doing to ensure that the rights of the disabled person are heard and withheld. The data obtained here will be analyzed alongside other information about disabled persons. This information may be published but your name will not be reserved.

By filling in the questions asked in this form, you are not giving up any of your legal rights and after reading the booklet entirely, please feel comfortable to ask any question as you wish before answering the questions. Fill in where appropriate.

Part A

1. AGE between

- (a) 15-25 (b) 25-35
- (c) 36-45
- (d) 46 and above

PART B

2) For how long have you been disabled?

a) Since birth and below five years b) After five years of birth and above

3) Do you have any disabled persons in your family?

a) Yes b) No

4) Do you think the media covers effectively activities of the disabled people?

Yes

No

b) if yes why

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c) If no why

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5) How can you count for the mobility in accessing services in the society and those provided by the media

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6) Do you know of any activities that the media has done to uplift the standards of the disabled person?

State.....
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7) What steps (if any) do you think the media can take to fully incooperate the disabled persons in their operations socially, politically or economically?

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8)What is you overall opinion about the media and disability.....

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