

The Tanzanian Case – Opportunities & challenges to harmonize legislative frameworks on women's

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Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA)

This case is mainly focused on Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA) by singling out a case study which has demonstrated an impressive capacity in policy advocacy in Tanzania. Its policy advocacy strategy has focused on women and children rights in social, economic, political and cultural aspects of Tanzania's societal public.

The study demonstrates the extent to which TAMWA has interacted with government to promote good governance and shed light on organizational capacity of Tanzania's civil society organizations in general and women organizations in particular in promoting public awareness on critical societal issues and in advocating and lobbying for policy changes and thus contributing to good governance.

The case has analyzed on how the organizational activities of TAMWA are inverted in gaining a clear perspective of its lobbying and advocating techniques and evidences on its interacts with the government to effect policy changes.

The issues of TAMWA /state relations in a wider social, economic, political and cultural context is extrapolated and in detail the relations between TAMWA and the state, focusing attention on TAMWA's campaign against sexual harassment of women and children is examined.

The case specifically examines the impact of TAMWA's organizational activities in terms of influencing policy changes and creating awareness of people's human rights among the members of the public. It also examines changes that have occurred as a result of these activities and how these have had impact in a wider social, political, economic and legal environment.

Furthermore the case reflects on what TAMWA has maintained a harmonious working relationship with the government and how it has managed to register full support from the government and its organs.

TAMWA has been able to win the support of not only the public, by creating awareness among them on problems related to violence against women, but also of other stakeholders within civil society by building coalitions and networking in policy advocacy.

The main question in this analysis and interpretation should be; what has contributed to this pattern of behaviour on the part of the government? Theoretically, the answer to this question can be found in the nature of activities, the campaign and the strategies adopted by TAMWA. The campaign to safeguard the rights of women and children has been part of government policy and it has taken several steps towards that end. The only problem has been effecting implementation of its own commitment to safeguard the rights of women

Finally, it is concluded that for CSOs to be effective in influencing policy changes for good governance, they don't necessarily have to confront the government. Indeed a well- calculated strategy of "partnership" with the government can yield good results.

Thank You –Asante sana!