

The Challenges of Socio-Economic Reintegration of the Female Youth in Post- War Northern Uganda

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59 ATENEO L.J. 1229 (2015)

SUBJECTS: REINTEGRATION, POST-WAR NORTHERN UGANDA

KEYWORDS: WAR EXPERIENCES, SOCIO-ECONOMIC

*REINTEGRATION, PEACE, RECOVERY, POST-WAR
NORTHERN UGANDA*

The effects of a series of armed conflict in northern Uganda have been much more salient in the lives of the current generation of young people who endured traumatizing experiences. In particular, the burden of captivity of formerly abducted female youth, enmeshed in armed insurgency throughout their formative years, remains one of the toughest challenges of post-war recovery. Many of them are still in an unhealthy physical and mental state and have lost opportunities for both formal and non-formal education during their formative years.

Indisputably, the continued presence of unemployed, formerly armed, and traumatized people poses a threat to community and national-level security, and can thereby jeopardize all other efforts at economic recovery as well as peace-building. Thus, this Article ultimately attempts to thrust the notion of context-specific reintegration of female youths into the debate about recovery and development of a post-war society in northern Uganda. It underscores the need for the central and local governments, together with the national and international civil society as well as the private sector, to play important roles to rebuild the lives of the war-affected youth.