



Reducing Pre-Trial Detention in Uganda's Criminal Justice System: A Policy Proposal

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Abstract

Pre-trial detention remains a significant issue in Uganda's criminal justice system, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with stakeholders and quantitative data analysis of court records. Findings indicate that approximately 40% of detainees are held for over two months before trial, with a higher proportion among low-income groups. Current detention practices are inefficient and unjust, necessitating systemic reforms to ensure fair justice delivery. - Implement mandatory legal aid services for pre-trial detainees. - Establish clear timelines for pre-trial proceedings. - Increase judicial resources to expedite case management.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan Africa, Pre-Trial Detention, Community Justice, Restorative Practices, Critical Race Theory, Empirical Research, Sentencing Reform*

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