

P r o p o s i t i o n s

Attached to the thesis

**Understanding the Complex Inter-Connections of Civil war and Communal Violence: the Case of Uganda**

Getrude Isimon

International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University  
Rotterdam

1. Most conceptualizations of civil war and communal violence are too rigid to capture the underlying dynamics of these two kinds of violent conflicts. These two conflict categories are not static, but evolve across different conflict typologies. *This thesis*
2. A qualitative research strategy is very useful in studying complex subject matters that require understanding of occurrences or events that are innately complex to relate, and require reflection on the issues and processes. *This thesis*
3. The simultaneous occurrence of multiple regional and intra-state conflicts can generate unexpected effects in the course of each conflict. *This thesis*
4. Direct and indirect external intervention can fuel intra-state conflicts. *This thesis*
5. Communal violence does not only involve communal groups as there are pronounced levels of state involvement. *This thesis*
6. A series of intra-state violent conflicts can be set off and perpetuated by the same structural conditions.
7. Although protracted violent conflicts cause enormous destruction and human insecurity, amidst the chaos, war economies often flourish.
8. Naturalization of conflicts leads to selective or biased intervention which can bring about their protraction.
9. The politics of classification used in coding and categorizing by conflict databases plays a great role in casting blame and responsibility, and is instrumental in understanding the role of both significant local and external actors in civil war and communal violence.
10. Highlighting the role of the state in conflicts can be very useful in comparing intra-state conflict categories. Insights into micro-meso level issues may be important in disclosing wider patterns of state processes at the macro level.
11. Amidst the social-cultural and academic challenges faced by international students, it takes enormous socioemotional support, especially for a mother without her daughter, to successfully complete a PhD abroad.