

# Women As Agents And Promoters Of Unity, Peace And Reconciliation In Kenya

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## **Abstract:**

One of the major challenges we continue to face at the close of the twentieth century is the achievement of genuine lasting world peace. In the past, the effects of war were limited, but today our potential to destroy is beyond imagination. In many parts of the world, local and regional conflicts are causing misery in millions, and have potentially far reaching global consequences. Kenya, especially during the political crisis has not been an exception to the above phenomenon. The paper starts from the notion that there has not been enough integration of gender perspectives into peace process and conflict resolutions. The paper therefore, attempts to analyze the gender specific effects of the post election crisis on women and girls, who are both victims and perpetrators of violence. It also gives recommendations on how the status of ordinary women in this country can be enhanced, especially by the church when dealing with peace, unity and security. In doing so, the paper emphasizes the pro-active roles women can play as peace builders and how governmental and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), the politicians, church leaders and the general population can take advantage of this and pay greater attention upon building women's capacities in order to better participate in peace building process.