## After Rape

Violence, Justice, and Social Harmony in Uganda

Holly Porter

International African Institute, London and



## Contents

	List of figures	<i>page</i> ix
	Acknowledgements	х
	List of abbreviations and acronyms	xii
1	Introduction	1
	The story of two rapes	1
	Social harmony	2
	Rape, wrongdoing, and justice	6
	The northern Uganda war and Acholi realities	8
	Brief chapter overview Concluding reflections: on writing about rape	13 15
	Concluding reneedons. on writing about rape	15
2	Life and participant reflection in northern Uganda	20
	The research project	26
	Inhabiting patriarchal dimensions of social harmony	30
3	Rape, wrongdoing, and justice	44
	Legal definitions and social understandings of rape	45
	Counting rape in Acholi	48
	Rape within the logic of violence in war	52
	Accounting for rape Wrongdoing	55 64
	Iustice	65
	•	
4	Acholi love: sex and social belonging	75
	Sex and meaning	79
	'Meeting' to marriage Sexual education	93
	Conclusion	101 104
		104
5	Consent and rape: when does 'no' mean no?	106
	Distinguishing sexual transgression from acceptable sex	108
	Notions of consent	109
	Notions of rape	119
	Conclusion	128
6	Social harmony and the space between local solutions	
	and judicial systems	130
	The meaning of justice	134

vii

٩

9

	'Embedded' and 'distanced' response to crime	140
	Institutional trust and boundaries of moral jurisdiction	144
	Revenge and forgiveness	149
	Moral community and perceptions of punishment	152
	Conclusion	155
7	Mango trees, offices, and altars: the role of relatives,	
	NGOs, and churches	157
	Relatives	160
	NGOs	169
	Churches	176
	Conclusion	183
8	Comparing the aftermath of civilian and combatant	
	rape	185
	Abduction and rape with intent to marry	188
	Rape by strangers	204
	Conclusion: reflections on implications for transitional justice	210
9	Conclusion: medicine and lightning	213
	Theoretical reflections	214
	The story of the Ogre and the mother of Ayaa	217
	Meaning in context	220
	Final thoughts	<b>2</b> 26
	References	229
	Index	248