



Burdens or Benefits: A Critical Analysis of the Nexus between Refugees and Host Communities in Zimbabwe

Mhlanga Johanne¹ and Muchinako George Alex^{2*}

¹*Tongogara Refugee Camp, Tongogara Refugee Camp, P. Box 234, Chipinge*

²*University of Zimbabwe, School of Social Work, Zimbabwe*

Telephone: ¹<+263 024582>, ²<263 4 752965 Ext. 214>, *Cell:* ¹<+263 776 308 483>
²<263 779034610>

E-mail: ¹<johannemhlanga82@gmail.com>, ²<muchinakog@yahoo.com>

KEYWORDS Camp. Genocide. Influx. Poverty. Tongogara

ABSTRACT The paper sought to explore the linkages, relationships and the impact of the presence of refugees on the host communities in Zimbabwe. Qualitative research methodology was used to collect data through participant observations, meetings, transect walks, discussions with refugees and host community members and documentary reviews. Generally the study found that cordial relations, peaceful co-existence and cooperation on issues of mutual concern were found between the refugees in Tongogara Camp and the surrounding host communities. The study recommends the promotion of amicable co-existence between refugees and host communities through finding durable solutions to issues or problems that arise due to the coming of refugees into the area.