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Civil Wars in Africa: A Gender Perspective of the Cost on Women

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ABSTRACT This paper analyses civil wars as the greatest threat to peace in Africa. It specifically looks at these wars/conflicts from a gender perspective so as to examine its impact on women in relation to experiences such as sexual assaults (rape), plight as displaced/refugees, feminization of poverty e.t.c. Finally, the paper recommends that women and girls must become central to national security policies or deliberations to ensure an end to impunity for crimes committed against them in these civil wars and as a key to lasting peace.