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This report examines the use of sexual violence in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and demonstrates how women and girls in the DRC have been exploited as producers and reproducers both in order to maintain fighters and ensure their day-to-day survival as well as to provide them with sexual services. The authors conclude that rape in conflict in the DRC was a coordinated tool used to degrade enemies and rip apart societies, and that it has had lasting social, physical, and public health repercussions. The paper concludes with recommendations to the UN, to the international community, to the government of the DRC, and to the South Kivu Civil Society Co-ordination Office on how to deal with victims, perpetrators, and the lasting legacy of this violence.

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