

**EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE ON THE PUPILS' DISCIPLINE IN
PRIMARY SCHOOLS: A CASE STUDY OF KOBAMA ZONE,
KOBAMA DIVISION, NDHIWA DISTRICT,**

BY

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE
LEARNING IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT
FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
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UNIVERSITY**

DECLARATION

I, Atieno Pius O., affirm that the work restricted to this report is by my hard work, hence it has never been submitted for this award here in or any other institution of higher education.

Any errors/mistakes contained in this dissertation is solely my responsibility, and more so reproducing it without authors consent is illegal and you could be prosecuted in the courts of law.

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APPROVAL

This piece of work has been under my supervision and now it is ready to be submitted to the internal examiners.

Signature:  _____

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Date: 18/12/2010

DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work to my beloved wife Jane for the moral support she always give me, my daughter Betty and son Brovine for their tireless encouragement all the time I was compiling my research findings.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank my almighty God for his continuous support through giving me strength, power, life, wisdom and granting me this favor to be able to accomplish this piece of work.

Secondly I would like to thank my supervisor Mr. Oketcho who always created time and guided me through this work at all stages which has made me complete it successfully.

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May God reward you all abundantly.

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ABSTRACT

This research was about the effects of drug abuse on the pupils' discipline in primary schools. It was guided by three objectives namely; To establish the causes of drug abuse, to find the relationship between discipline and drug abuse and to find the effects of drug abuse on discipline.

Purposive sampling technique was used to select a population of fifty (50) respondents to represent the entire population of Kobama.

Most of the respondents were found to be female who were 35 of the total respondents. Among the causes of drug abuse found were child neglect, peer groups, too many problems, drug testing, mental illness among others and there is a positive relationship between drug abuse and performance of children. Among the recommendations given are; school should provide good reading or learning environment, sensitization, motivation of children, maximum discipline should be attained among others.

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

1.1 Background to the study

Drug abuse has a huge range of definitions related to taking a psychoactive drug or performance enhancing drug for a non-therapeutic or non-medical effect. Other definitions of drug abuse fall into four main categories: public health definitions, mass communication and vernacular usage, medical definitions, and political and criminal justice definitions.

Discipline is defined as the practice of making people obey rules of behaviour and punishing them if they do not obey or is the ability to control your own behaviour.

Smoking leads to the greatest number of problems of any drug in use in the world today. Smoking contributes to more than 400,000 deaths each year in the United States. These deaths are mainly the result of increased numbers of lung cancers as well as increased numbers of cases of atherosclerotic heart disease and emphysema of the lung. Smoking increases the risk for cancers of the bladder, pancreas, kidney, and cervix. There is an increased risk for gastritis and gastric ulceration in persons who smoke. Cataracts of the crystalline lens of the eye occur with increased frequency in smokers.

Young women who are pregnant and who smoke put their fetuses at increased risk for decreased birth weight, premature birth, and perinatal mortality. The risk for spontaneous abortion is increased with maternal smoking. Fetal deaths late in gestation are increased 50% in mothers who smoke more than 3 cigarettes per day.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Throughout history, substance abuse has been the cause of many problems and tragedies, which has led it to be the topic of interest in several research studies such as the ones conducted by Finnell and Picou. More specifically, marijuana and alcohol have been the topic of many studies due to the fact that they are the most commonly used substances. For decades, marijuana use and heavy alcohol use have had negative connotations in society. Naturally, since it is illegal, marijuana has always been perceived more harmful than alcohol.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to investigate the effects of drug abuse on academic performance.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The study will be guided by the following objectives.

- i. To establish the causes of drug abuse in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district
- ii. To establish relationship between discipline and drug abuse in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district.
- iii. To find effects of drug abuse on discipline Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district

1.4 Research Questions

- i. What are the causes of drug abuse in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district?
- ii. What is the relationship between discipline and drug abuse in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district?
- iii. What are effects of drug abuse on discipline in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district?

1.5 Scope of the Study

The research was conducted Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district. The study focused on the effects of drug abuse on discipline. The study was conducted in July, 2010.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study will be helpful to school administrators in inculcating scientific attitude among pupils.

It is envisaged that the study will be useful in curriculum development and in formulating policies that can address the problems of poor performance in science.

The research will help the research to attain a degree in education of Kampala International University

CHAPTER TWO

Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

This chapter shows some related literature to the topic under study and it is grouped as follows:-

2.2 Causes of Drug Abuse

Child neglect

This is where it happens when the parents fail to look after their children whom they are responsible for. If a parent or guardian fails to do what she is responsible for the children end up going for drug abuse (Finnell W.S 1975).

Mental Illness

Mental Disorders, abnormal or unstable behaviour, thoughts, or feelings. People are defined as mentally disordered because they behave, think, or feel differently from most others. However, even the most bizarre and strange behaviour can often make sense, once it is understood why the person is thinking and feeling that way. It is impossible to identify the precise number of people suffering from mental disorders, but it has been suggested that they may affect some 15 per cent of the population in developed countries.

Peer groups

Social relationships among infants involve mutual interest without interaction. This is known as parallel play. Beginning with the years before school, relationships among children the same age and roughly equal status—the peer group—become increasingly sophisticated social systems influencing their values and behaviour. The transition to the adult social world is aided by the organization of peer groups with a leader, members with varying strengths and weaknesses, and recognition of the need for cooperative behaviour. Peer-group conformity reaches a

peak when children are about 12 years of age. Conformity never disappears, but its manifestations among adults are less obvious.

According Hasley (1989), In short, there is a human tendency to be influenced by the values and perceptions of others. However, people are not merely passive machines for estimating the state of their own environment, and the trend throughout the 20th century towards greater individualism may contrast positively with such conformity.

Too much problems

Many people may resort to drug abuse when they have too much problems.

2.3 Relationship between Drug Abuse and Discipline

Prior to conducting the study, the researchers hypothesized that discipline would be negatively correlated with amount of alcohol consumed per month. No relationship between consumption of marijuana and discipline was expected. The hypothesis regarding alcohol consumption was supported by the data, however, a negative correlation was also found between consumption of marijuana and current performance, contrary to expectations. However, multiple regressions revealed an interesting result which was that marijuana use did not account for any additional significant variance in performance, once alcohol use had been accounted for.

It is no surprise that there is such a strong relationship between amount of marijuana consumed and amount of discipline. However, due to the fact that the relationship between alcohol consumption and classes skipped is only slightly weaker, the extent to which this is caused by the motivational syndrome is blurred. Since both marijuana and alcohol are closely related to the amount of classes skipped, it is inconclusive

whether this is due to alcohol usage or marijuana usage, and hence the motivational syndrome.

It is important to take into consideration that there are several limitations to this study such as the fact that all participants were pupils and more specifically the fact that 57% of the participants were freshmen. This limitation has a tremendous effect on the validity of the study because the lifestyle of freshmen is very different than that of upperclassmen since they are in a new environment where they are forced to live on campus and in most cases they are living away from home for the first time. Another limitation is the fact that more than 80% of the persons interviewed were psychology majors. This might have had a negative effect on the results since it is possible that psychology majors may have a stronger or weaker affinity for marijuana and alcohol. These limitations make it virtually impossible to generalize these results to other populations of students especially since the lifestyle of high school students is so different.

2.4 Effects of Drug Abuse on discipline

To add to the negative connotation of marijuana, there have been many studies that imply that marijuana has a negative effect on a person's abilities. For instance, a study conducted by Picou, suggests that marijuana use is positively correlated to the "amotivational syndrome". People with the "amotivational syndrome" are less goal-oriented, and are characterized by a lack of motivation and lower levels of academic achievement (Picou, 1980,529).

Another study found that, "adolescent drug use has been linked to lower indices of extracurricular activity, academic aspirations, and 'attraction to' school" (Evans & Skager, 1992, 354). Hence it is no surprise why many parents and educators are concerned that the academic

performance of their children and students may be affected by the use of marijuana. However, maybe they should be more concerned about the effects of alcohol, as is suggested by Finnell's research in which users of marijuana performed better on an aptitude test than users of alcohol (Finnell & Jones, 1975, 15).

Many drugs can be injected intravenously. The drugs themselves may have the major effect of impairment of mental function, but the route of administration can have serious complications. Injection of drugs with needles that are not sterile leads to the potential for a wide variety of infections. Such infections include: human immunodeficiency virus (the causative agent for AIDS), viral hepatitis (particularly hepatitis B and C), and bacterial infections.

Persons with a history of intravenous drug abuse also are more likely to have tuberculosis of the lungs. The drug heroin can produce a nephropathy in the kidney that resembles focal segmental glomerulosclerosis. In addition, a "talc granulomatosis" can occur because many injected drugs have been adulterated with an inert substance (such as talcum powder) to "cut" or dilute the amount of drug.

Persons with cocaine intoxication (not necessarily related to the drug level) may develop a state of iatrogenic psychosis (cocaine psychosis) with "excited delirium" in which they are markedly agitated and combative and develop hyperthermia, often of a severe degree (to 106 F). Organ damage can accompany this state of excited delirium and may include rhabdomyolysis of muscle, hepatotoxicity, and renal failure. Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), hypotension, and sudden death are additional complications.

Methamphetamine is a stimulant drug with inotropic effects upon the cardiovascular system. Methamphetamine is metabolized to amphetamine, which is also a stimulant. The heart may have such stress placed upon it that there are ischemic changes to the myocardial fibers. The myocardial effects are made worse by concomitant ethanol use.

There are many adverse effects to drug use. In men these include: testicular atrophy, decreased testosterone production, gynecomastia, baldness, hypertension, fluid retention, tendon injuries, nosebleeds, more frequent colds, and sleep disorders. In women, the adverse effects reported include: decreased breast size, fluid retention, hypertension, and sleep disorders. Physical changes such as testicular atrophy and gynecomastia in men, or breast atrophy in women, are often not reversible even after stopping the drugs. Adolescents taking drug may have diminished bone growth and shorter stature. Drug may produce cholestatic jaundice; they reduce the level of HDL cholesterol to promote atherogenesis. The major psychiatric effects of drug use include increased aggression and major mood disorders including depression and mania. Such adverse effects could significantly impact athletic performance negatively and decrease sexual function. In short, anabolic steroids can prevent the very things that they are supposed to enhance.

2.5 Conclusion

All in all drug abuse has a negative impact on the discipline of the children in primary education.

CHAPTER THREE

Research Methodology

3.1 Introduction

This chapter includes various sections that portray how the study was carried out. It presents the methods, techniques and procedures used in order to gather the required data for the study it comprises of several sub sections such as: - research design, research population, sampling methods, data, collection methods, and data collection instruments and data management.

3.1 Research Design

The study was gender based or focused where mainly pupils were studied. The design was basically quantitative. These quantitative methods were used in gathering and analysing data.

This design was used because of its suitability in data collection because it enabled the researcher to study small samples in depth.

3.2 Area and Population of the Study

The study was conducted in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district, Kenya. The study included the sampled population of Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district

3.3 Sample Framework

3.3.1 Sample size

Fifty (50) respondents were interviewed whereby 35 females and 15 males were selected to represent the whole population of Kobama zone, Kobama , division Ndhiwa district

3.3.2 Sample technique

A purposively sampling technique was used in order to increase the precision of estimates. Purposive selection was used among the people

who are to be considered as having key information to contribute and these included; headteachers, teachers, pupils and parents.

3.3.3 Sample Procedures

The researcher first defined the population, lists the elements of the population, determined an appropriate sampling methodology, decided an adequate sample size and selected a representative sample of 50 respondents.

3.4 Methods

3.4.1 Instruments

In order to achieve the objective of this study, the researcher used the following methods of data collection to get information on the effects of drug abuse on discipline.

(i) Questionnaire

The questionnaires were administered to pupils, teachers, parents and head of schools in order to get a clear view about the effects of drug abuse on discipline in Kobama zone, Kobama , division Ndhiwa district. The methods enabled the researcher to generate enough information so as to make conclusions and draw conclusion appropriately to this issue.

(ii) Interview Method

The researcher conducted face-to-face interviews with the headteachers, teacher and pupils.

(iii) Focus Group Discussions

The researcher used this to answer opinion questions like, how is the discipline of pupils? However it is very difficult to organize respondents for a meeting.

3.4.2 Sources of Data

(a) Primary Source

Data was got from the field by use of questionnaires, observation, and focused group discussion.

(b) Secondary Source

Text books and other related work of outstanding scholars either Published or not, Magazines, Newspapers were referred to so as to give more light on issues about the factors for drug abuse and discipline of the children.

3.5 Data Processing

Different data sets were used in analyzing data collected. Data was entered using Epiinfo and analyzing will be done using SPSS. Bar graphs and other graphs were done in Microsoft Excel. Bar graphs were used to give a clearer outlook on the effect of drug abuse on discipline of the pupils in primary schools. Recommendations were made using the outcome of the result of the analysis

3.7 Data Analysis

Qualitative and quantitative techniques were used to analyse data that is bar charts and tables show the discipline of pupils in primary schools and giving recommendations basing on results of the analysis.

3.8 Ethical Procedure

In collecting the data the researcher first got an introductory letter from the University, Department of IODL. This letter was presented to the members interviewed.

3.9 Limitations to the Study

The research study was faced by a number of problems and constraints and hence may not adequately meet the intended objectives to the required level.

Problem of distance between the researcher and his supervisor while in the field impeded proper continuous assessment of research, thus research process could only be dictated when it's already late.

The unwillingness of the respondent's posed a problem to the research study,

However, the researcher tried his level best using various research skills and tactics to avoid the problems or at least to reduce their impact on the study.

There was use of unstructured interviews where questions were administered in form of conversation. This enabled the researcher to gather data without being known by the respondents.

The researcher mobilized funds from various sources that mainly included family members.

CHAPTER FOUR

Data Presentation, Analysis and Discussion of the Findings

4.0 Introduction

In this section, core of the study is presented. Data collected from the respondents is analysed. The discussion is presented in accordance with research questions and objectives of the study

4.1 Socio-Demographic Background of the Respondents

4.1.1 Sex of the Respondents

Table 1: Sex of the respondents

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	15	30.00
Female	35	70.00
Total	40	100.00

Source: Fieldwork 2010

From the study it was established that female were more than males, Females 35 (70.00%) and male 15 (30.00%). The females were many since the area has more females than males.

4.1.2 Age

Table 2: Age of the respondents

Age	Frequency	Percentage
5 - 14	25	50.00
15 - 24	14	28.00
25 - 34	6	12.00
35+	5	10.00
Total	50	100.00

Source: Fieldwork 2010

From table 2, it can be established that most of the respondents fell between 5 – 14 years with 50% followed by 15 – 24, 25 – 34, and 35+ with 28.00%, 12.00% and 10.00% respectively.

4.1.3 Marital Status

Table 3: The marital status of the respondents

Status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	10	20.00
Divorced	2	4.00
Single	7	14.00
Never married	31	62.00
Total	50	100.00

Source: Fieldwork 2010

From table 3, it is shown that most of the respondents have never married with 62.00%, followed by married, single, and divorced with 20.00%, 14.00%, and 4.00% respectively.

4.1.3 Education Background of the respondent

Table 4: The educational background

Education Level	Frequency	Percentage
Primary	38	76.00
Secondary	3	6.00
Tertiary	7	14.00
University	2	4.00
Total	50	100.00

Source: Fieldwork 2010

The study established that more academic background was primary with 38 responses (76.00%), followed by tertiary, secondary and university with 14.00%, 6.00% and 4.00% respectively.

4.1.4 Occupation of the respondent

Table 5: The occupation of the respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Farmer	12	24
Civil Servant	13	26
Others	25	50
Total	50	100

Source: Fieldwork 2010

Most the respondents were in others category and they were 25 with a percentage 50.00% followed by civil servant and farmers with 26.00%, 24.00% respectively. Others were many as this category included children who are still studying.

4.2 Drug Abuse

Table 6: Knowledge of drug abuse

Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	45	90.00
No	5	10.00
Total	50	100.00

Source: Fieldwork 2010

Table 6 shows that most of the respondents knew what drug abuse means and have ever seen someone using it and this constituted 90.00% of the total respondents and the rest 10.00% have never heard of drug abuse and don't what it is.

4.2.1 Causes of Drug Abuse

Table 7: Causes of drug abuse

Causes	Frequency	Percentage
Child neglect	9	18
Peer groups	20	40
Too much Problems	7	14
Drug testing	3	6
Mental Illness	11	22
Total	50	100

Source: Fieldwork 2010

From table 7 it can be established that most of the respondents gave peer groups as the leading cause of drug abuse with 40% followed by mental illness, child neglect, too much problems, and testing with 22%, 18%, 14% and 6% respectively.

4.3 Relationship between Drug Abuse and pupils' discipline

Table 8: Relations between drug abuse and Pupils' discipline

Relationship	Frequency	Percentage
Positive	8	16.00
Negative	42	84.00
Total	50	100.00

Source: Fieldwork 2010

From the study it was discovered that there is a negative relationship between pupils' discipline and drug abuse. 84.00% of the respondents said that there is a negative relationship between drug abuse and pupils' discipline while 16.00% said that there is a positive relationship between the two.

4.4 Effects of Drug Abuse on discipline

Table 9: Effects of Drug Abuse on pupils' discipline

Effects	Frequency	Percentage
Absenteeism	21	42
Violence	4	8
Mental functionality	12	24
Person's ability	3	6
Too much deaths	10	20
Total	50	100

Source: Fieldwork 2010

From table 9, it can be established that drug abuse is associated with absenteeism as it constituted 42% followed by mental functionality, too much deaths, violence and person's ability with 24%, 20%, 8% and 6% respectively.

CHAPTER FIVE

Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the discussions and conclusions of the study

5.2. Discussions

Through the study it was established that most of the respondents fell between 5 – 14 years with 50% followed by 15 – 24, 25 – 34, and 35+ with 28.00%, 12.00% and 10.00% respectively. And most of the respondents have never married with 62.00%, followed by married, single, and divorced with 20.00%, 14.00%, and 4.00% respectively.

The study established that more academic background was primary with 38 responses (76.00%), followed by tertiary, secondary and university with 14.00%, 6.00% and 4.00% respectively who in others category and they were 25 with a percentage 50.00% followed by civil servant and farmers with 26.00%, 24.00% respectively. Others were many as this category included children who are still studying.

5.2.1 Drug Abuse

The study revealed that most of the respondents knew what drug abuse means and have ever seen someone using it and this constituted 90.00% of the total respondents and the rest 10.00% have never heard of drug abuse and didn't know what it is..

Through the study, most of the respondents gave peer groups as the leading cause of drug abuse with 40% followed by mental illness, child neglect, too much problems, and testing with 22%, 18%, 14% and 6% respectively.

5.2.2 Relationship between Drug Abuse and discipline

From the study it was discovered that there is a negative relationship between discipline and drug abuse. 84.00% of the respondents said that

there is a negative relationship between drug abuse and discipline while 16.00% said that there is a positive relationship between the two.

5.2.3 Effects of Drug abuse on Academic Performance

Through the study it was established that drug abuse is associated with absenteeism as it constituted 42% followed by mental functionality, too much deaths, violence and person's ability with 24%, 20%, 8% and 6% respectively.

5.3. Conclusion.

The actual socio-economic, cultural and educational conditions vary from community to community and affect the performance of pupils. Out of school and in school factors have been shown to affect the participation of pupils in academics.

Child neglect, domestic violence, peer groups and mental illness have resulted into youths engaging in drug abuse other than their participation in school.

5.4 Recommendations

In view of the results of the study, the researcher made the following recommendations.

The school administration should mind about creating a good and favouring learning environment for the learners especially in making the time tables by making complicated lessons appear in morning appear in morning hours and then other easiest subjects to be there during afternoon and should also provide extra lessons like afternoon classes and over the weekend

The Ministry of Education and Sports should encourage teachers to teach well willing by increasing on the salaries of the teachers and paying them in time such that they also get motivated.

The ministry of education should emphasize to teachers to encourage pupils, and motivate them by rewarding good performances.

Both government and NGOs of women should employ public campaigns, seminars and workshops to modify or eliminate the aspect of culture that there is equality between boys and girls and both should have equal chances to study and excel especially in sciences.

Health and environment education can be used to increase participation and broaden science education of girls in other words teaching and learning science should be made applicable to everyday lives for the learners.

Teachers should provide continual assistance to weak students so that they are not out competed in class hence reducing drug abuse rate.

School administration should organize and invite resource persons to always talk to girls about their lives that is to say schools should have counselors to help girls in their daily life and career choice.

Teachers should ensure maximum discipline in school and good academic atmosphere in all aspects by instilling seriousness in learners especially girls.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: WORK PLAN

June	1 st week	Development of proposal
	2 nd week	approval
	3 rd & 4 th week	Collection of data
August	1 st & 2 nd week	Presentation, analysis of data collected
	3 rd & 4 th weeks	Submission

APPENDIX B: PROPOSED BUDGET

ITEMS	COST (KShs.)
Stationary	2000/-
Printing / binding	2000/-
Facilitation /meals	2000/-
Transport	3500/-
Miscellaneous	1000/-
Total	10500/-

APPENDIX C: QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear respondent,

I am a student of Kampala International University, in my final year. I am carrying out a research study on the topic; The effects of drug abuse on pupils' discipline in Kobama zone, Kobama division, Ndhiwa district

The purpose of this study is to collect data on the topic. Your response will be treated with confidentiality and the information obtained is strictly for education purposes.

Instruction: This section concerns you, please tick the most appropriate boxes of your choice and fill in the space provided

SECTION A: PERSONAL DATA

1. Sex (a) Male ☐ (b) Female ☐
2. Age of the Respondent (a) 25 – 34 ☐ (b) 35 – 44 ☐
(c) 45+ ☐
3. Marital status (a) Married ☐ (b) Single ☐ (c) Divorced ☐
4. Education background (a) Primary ☐
(b) Secondary ☐
(c) Tertiary ☐
(d) University ☐
5. Occupation of the respondent (a) Civil Servant ☐ (b) farmer ☐
(c) Others Specify

SECTION B: CAUSES OF Drug Abuse

6. Have you ever heard of drug abuse? Yes ☐ No ☐

7. If yes, then how is defined?

.....

.....

8. What are the causes of drug abuse?

SECTION C: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DRUG ABUSE AND

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

9. What is the relationship between academic performance and drug abuse?

.....

.....

.....

SECTION E: EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE ON ACADEMIC

PERFORMANCE

10. Are there effects of drug abuse on academic performance? Yes

No

11. If yes, what are they?

.....

.....

.....

12. What do you recommend the government to stop it or prevent it?

.....

.....

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.....

.....