

**THE EFFECT OF DRUG ABUSE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF  
STUDENTS IN MASAKA TOWN SECONDARY SCHOOL,  
MASAKA TOWN**

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## DECLARATION

I, ATUBASIISE DICK (BGC/17548/71/DU) hereby declare that this research report is my own original work and not a duplication of similarly published work of any scholar for academic purpose. It has therefore never been submitted to any other institution of higher learning.



ATUBASIISE DICK

Date. 07.10.2010.

## APPROVAL

I certify that this work submitted by ATUBASIISE DICK was under my supervision and is ready for evaluation for the award of a Degree of Bachelor of Guidance and counseling of Kampala International University.

SIGN

  
.....

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Date:  .....

## **DEDICATION**

This piece of work in its entirety is dedicated to my beloved farther Mr. Zirimenya Henry and my mum Justine Zirimenya. Awesome gratitude also goes to my advisor Mr. Tindyebwa Wilberforce and all my friends for their massive support and encouraging when ever I was loosing hope. Thanks indeed my dear ones and may the almighty God reward you abundantly!

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## TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>DECLARATION</b> .....	1
<b>APPROVAL</b> .....	2
<b>DEDICATION</b> .....	3
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b> .....	4
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT</b> .....	5
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	7
<b>CHAPTER ONE</b> .....	8
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	8
1.0 Introduction.....	8
1.1 Background information .....	8
1.2 Statement of the problem.....	10
1.3 Purpose of the study .....	11
1.4 Objectives of the study.....	11
1.5 Research questions .....	11
1.6 Scope of the study .....	11
1.7 Significance of the study .....	12
<b>CHAPTER TWO</b> .....	13
<b>LITERATURE REVIEW</b> .....	13
2.0 Introduction .....	13
2.1 Evidence drug abuse .....	13
2.2 Sources of the drugs abused.....	14
2.3 Reasons causes of drug abuse .....	15
Etiology of drug abuse reasons of taking .....	16
2.3.1 Mass media .....	16
2.3.2 Role models in parental influence.....	17
2.3.3 Availability of the drugs.....	17
2.3.4 Idleness and peer pressure .....	17
2.3.5 Psychological .....	18
2.3.6 Family structure .....	18
2.3.7 Spiritual hunger .....	18
2.3.8 Ignorance .....	19
2.3.9 Laxity in security personnel .....	19
2.4 Effect of drug abuse to learning .....	20
Retarding maturation process of foetus .....	20
Crimes .....	21
Accidents.....	21
Effects on behaviour.....	21
2.4.5 Physical dependence.....	22
2.4.6 Psychological dependence .....	22
2.4.7 Malnutrition .....	22
Diseases .....	23

<b>CHAPTER THREE</b>	24
<b>RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	24
3.0 Introductions	24
3.1 Research Design	24
3.2. Study area	24
3.3 Target population	24
3.4 Sample size	24
4.5 Data Analysis	24
3.6 Data collection instruments	25
3.7 Data analysis	25
3.8 Research procedure	25
<b>CHAPTER FOUR</b>	26
<b>DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS</b>	26
4.1 Introductions	26
<b>CHAPTER FIVE</b>	35
<b>DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.</b>	35
5. 0 Introduction	35
5.1 Summary	35
5.2 Discussion	35
5.3 Conclusion	37
5.4 Possible Solutions to Drug Abuse	38
5.5 Recommendations	39
<b>REFERENCE</b>	41
<b>APPENDIX I</b>	43
<b>QUESTIONNAIRE</b>	43

## **ABSTRACT**

The study examined the effect of drug abuse on the academic performance of students in Masaka Town senior secondary school Masaka municipality, specifically the study Intended to (i) identify the sources of the drugs in Masaka Municipality, (ii) to examine the level of drug abuse of students in Masaka Town Secondary school and (iii) to establish the relationship between drug abuse and performance of students in Masaka Town Secondary school. This study employed a cross sectional survey design and used a population of all teacher in the study schools out of whom a sample of 18 teacher who were selected using random sampling. Data were collected using researcher questionnaires. The study found out that, there is evidence of drug abuse. Sources were identified as local brews, agents, local kiosk, and within the school. The reasons for drug abuse are peer pressure, poverty, parental influence and medical advice. The study also found out that there is accessibility of guidance services for the students and that drug abuse effect student's academic performance. From these findings appropriate conclusions and recommendations were given. The recommendations include; Parents should be good role models by not taking cigarettes and brews before their children as their children are likely to imitate them. Teachers should keep learners busy with academic activities so they do not engage in drug taking. Parents should fully support their children by providing all their basic needs as this will help keep off drugs and teachers and parents should direct learners to influence one another positively and discourage only learners who try to influence another negatively. The learners should be sensitized. The learners should be sensitized on the bad effects of drug abuse.



# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 Introduction**

This chapter comprises of the background to the study, the problem statement, the purpose of the study, objectives of the study, researcher questions significance of the study, scope limitations of the study, and operational definitions of terms used in the project.

### **1.1 Background information**

Drug abuse is a world wide practice and there has been no nation spared from the divesting problem caused during abuse. The world community has demonstrated intense concern over the problem, the long term effects of chronic drug abuse and its impact on the drug user, the family and the society is intense. The reasons for concern include related increase in crime; drug related automobile accidents, learning disabilities, student indiscipline cases and other mental health problems including interference with the normal reproductive functions and long term damage to the brain, heart and the lungs.

Drug addiction to young people are caused by not receiving or receiving little education on dangers of drug abuse addition by parents who consider that they are safe from drug abuse. Children get involved through drug peddlers who take advantage of them

by misusing them to transport or keep for them the drugs in return the peddlers offer them Marijuana or cigarettes.

According to Okwanyo, (1998) illegal drugs account for & 400 billion world trade transactions. The "Worlds drug report" (1997) noted that there were at least 141 million abusers globally including 8 billion heroin addicts. By 1991 in the United States and Canada there were 360,000 heroin abusers, there are now around 600,000. In Ireland, Denmark and Italy 2% of 16 and 17 years old take heroin *ibid*.

According to Okwanyo (2004) each year because of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, an estimated 3,000 no smoking Americans die of lung cancer and 300,000 children suffer from lower respiratory tract interactions. Particularly alarming is the fact that more than 3 million young people under the age of 18 years. More than a half of them usually continue to tobacco production as adults.

Drug abuse occurs more frequently among young people between (15 - 35 years) than any other age group. The risk factor often occurs before entry in ECD. The drug abuse problems of the community are therefore brought into the school.

In Uganda drug abuse is a menace to both human and National resources for example there are reported cases of catastrophes like accidents, fighting divorce, among other disasters. The schools performance depends on the community set up, and education is designed to meet the needs of the society, therefore what goes on in schools should yield good results for the society. The community and families also should ensure

discipline among the children in addition to what the schools do because this affects the performance of children in school. The failure of the community, families and the schools to inculcate discipline brings about bad practices that are not only catastrophic to community progress but also interfere with students learning. In Masaka this seems to be on an increase and drug abuse is becoming a normal practice among secondary school going children. The problem has become a concern for all stakeholders in the area including academicians.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

Drug abuse has been noticed to be on an increase among students in Masaka municipality. The drugs are taken by many people within the municipality including school going children. Some school children have been found drunk or intoxicated by the drugs. Alcohol which is taken by parents in the region which is readily available makes children copy what their parents are doing. This has led to children taking hard drugs hence affecting their academic performance. The poor academic performance is leading to an increase in school drop out and other serious cases like rape, theft; fighting among problems. If schools in the area and the community in general wish to achieve academic excellence they must ensure that this practice is fought and overcome. While several factors seem to play a role in the declining performance of students in Masaka Town secondary school drug abuse seems to play a key role, hence the need for this study to establish the effect of drug abuse on the academic performance of students in Masaka Town secondary school.

### **1.3 Purpose of the study**

The purpose of the study was to establish the effect of drug abuse on academic performance of students in Masaka Town secondary school.

### **1.4 Objectives of the study**

1. Identify the sources of the drugs in Masaka Municipality
2. To examine the level of drug abuse of students in Masaka Town Secondary school
3. The establish the relationship between drug abuse and performance of students in Masaka Town Secondary school.

### **1.5 Research questions**

1. What are the sources of the drugs in Masaka Municipality?
2. What is the level of drug abuse of students in Masaka Secondary school?
3. What is the establish the relationship between drug abuse and performance of learners?

### **1.6 Scope of the study**

The study was carried out in Masaka Town Secondary School, located in Masaka town municipality in Masaka District in Central Uganda. In content terms the study drug abuse and academic performance, which were conceptualized and operationarised in the context of the study area.

### **1.7 Significance of the study**

The study will be used by different policy makers to find an immediate solution to drug abuse among children

The study will add on already existing literature on drug abuse and academic performance. it will give the methodology and answer the research questions through which it will generate literature for future researchers.

The study will enable the school administrators to come up with ways of counseling children on drug abuse.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents the review of related literature pertaining the variables in the study topic that is, drug abuse and academic performance. Views from different scholars and sources were sought for in the review to give the researcher a basis on which to discuss the finding

#### **2.1 Evidence drug abuse**

Karechio (1996) argues from evidence collected from health organizations which indicated that excessive consumption of tobacco may be responsible for up to 30% of all cases of cancer and about 75% of all cases of chest problems and 25% of myocardiac infarction. Christian religious education for form four (2000) clearly elaborates the effects of cigarettes which include pregnant women experiencing miscarriage or giving birth to small unhealthy babies, chest and respiratory diseases, poor blood circulation among others.

There are also other drugs which are used or are in the market. They include Marijuana/Marihuana, Bhang/Khat/Miraa, cocaine, morphine and heroine among others. Most of these drugs are administered orally or intra-muscular.

According to Karechio (1994) Drug abuse is a real monster and one of the most devastating scourges facing mankind. He reported that in every student in Uganda one has abused drugs. He emphasized that if urgent measures are not taken into account to deal with the menace East Africa may become a major transit point may be transformed into Narcotic state in which drug trade is a way of life.

World Health Organization (2004) has defined drug abuse as a state of periodic or chronic intoxication produced by repeated consumption of drug. Its characteristic include an Overpowering desire (need compulsion) to continue taking the drug and to obtain it by any means identity to increase the dose Bariet S.P (2008) Drug use is a school problem because it undermines the students academic ability and performance.

## **2.2 Sources of the drugs abused**

The drugs being abused vary and they are from different sources. They are either from different sources. They are made from or taken from plants, animals, minerals resources e.g. petroleum, synthetic materials which are used to manufacture large quantity of drugs.

Isralowitz (2004) say that drugs like cocaine are extracted from the cocoa tree grown in the Andes Mountains of South America. When it is processed and converted to "crack" cocaine it may be smoked. Another drug from plants is Bhang (cannabis sativa or

cannabis Indica) from India. Bhang is a hallucinogen that makes the brain see what is not there.

Heroin is a drug made from the sap of poppy grown mainly in South America, China and Turkey. The poppy produces a drug called opium which is used to make the drugs; Heroin and morphine. Heroin is a depressant. It slows down the body and the brain.

Another plant drug is tobacco in which cigarettes are made. Other drugs are manufactured for example mephedrone which is a depressant from the amphetamine family. It is sold as tablets, powder and liquids.

Okwanyo (1998) says some drugs are gotten from animal. Sources like snakes, while others are medicinal tablets and on fakes which are brought from chemists or shops and misused to meet other purposes not intended for. There are other substances such as solvents, glue and petrol which are inhaled through the mouth to make the person dizzy, intoxicated and distort speech. Another source of the drugs abused is the local environment e.g. alcohol which is locally prepared through fermentation.

### **2.3 Reasons causes of drug abuse**

Drug abuse is on the increase due to various reasons given by various people. Most of these causes can be prevented but due to ignorance by the majority of the people the misuse of drugs still spreads from parents and peer groups. This prevents the progress of the learners who are drug abusers or come from families



## **Etiology of drug abuse reasons of taking**

1. To cope with problems
2. To feel good
3. To kill boredom
4. To gain strength and courage
5. To belong
6. Express independence
7. Easily available

### **2.3.1 Mass media**

The words used to advertise drugs in the mass media like radio, television, newspaper and magazines for such products as cigarettes, beer and spirits have powerful imagery for example for example "Pilsner Imara Kama samba" or a lion which is printed on bottles of pilsner makes people to assume that they will get a lot of energy like that they will get a lot of energy like that one of a lion. The people or models who advertise the drugs like cigarettes (Embassy) and Guinness are quite healthy and smart this appears very fashionable to be a partaker. The advertisements has flashy colors like red, pink and others like sportsman packet that have a psychological enticement to the peoples taste hence make people take drugs.

### **2.3.2 Role models in parental influence**

Parental influence plays an important role in influencing children to taking drugs. Children who come from homes where parents take drugs tend to imitate the behavior of their parents thus involve in drug taking. Also children who do not have attachment to good models are prone to drug taking because of lack of direction.

### **2.3.3 Availability of the drugs**

Availability of drugs is a major cause as to why parents and also children take drugs like in this case there are a lot of locally prepared/manufactured brews in Kessup zone like muratina, busaa and changaa among others. Tambach being a growing town and found in Kessup has people from different cultural background you can easily spot people chewing miraa. in Uganda miraa is culturally acceptable and the drug is legal. A lot of curative drugs are sold in shops, kiosks and canteens. This make it easily acquired by whoever wants them.

### **2.3.4 Idleness and peer pressure**

Influence from age mates and friends who motivate others to take drugs so as to identify with. Most young parents have a lot of time for themselves which easily lures them to taking drugs to pass time for pleasure or "feel good" especially those using tobacco and alcohol Cooperman, M. (2003). This is done through curiosity i.e. venturing into smoking or taking drugs.

### **2.3.5 Psychological**

Attitude towards life and values held when there are not achieved make other People indulge in drug taking for instance some people expect a lot in life which they do not see come by. For them to cover what they have not gotten they resort to drug taking. Under achievers the academic work resorts to drugs. This is to compensate for what they have not achieved so that they can settle psychologically.

### **2.3.6 Family structure**

Broken homes lead to drug use in that a person or child from broken home involves in drug taking so as to maintain the psychological state. Overpowering children while they are young. Those who are over protected by their parents while they were young have a tendency of involving in drug taking. These are people who were not corrected while they young hence involve in defiant behavior as drug taking.

### **2.3.7 Spiritual hunger**

Some people indulge in drug taking because of spiritual hunger. When people throw away their godliness there is spiritual hunger, an emptiness which leads to a search for what has not been known which is God. Many spiritually hungry people restart to Drugs to try to fulfill that gap in their hearts. It has been noticed also. That those who have less faith in God tend to have less morals. They tend to be very careless with their bodies and thus involve in drug taking.

### 2.3.8 Ignorance

Isralowitz (2004) argue that when young people are offered drugs -- they are tempted to try them because they think that nothing bad can happen to them and will not harm them. Same people take drugs because of ignorance far **the drugs th~tare nat prescribed far their illness be G luse they do. Noknaw what** are doing, they are also ignorant of the effects of these drugs.

### 2.3.9 Laxity in security personnel

Drugs are also taken because of the laxity of the security personnel. They are Specific villages and kiosks where people stop and take or buy drugs with relative ease. Police saurces said pick the cut from the drug peddlers and look the ather.

The first group is stimulants. These are the ones which cause heightened action of the nervous system. The example of these stimulants is caffeine, nicotine, cocaine and amphetamines.

The second group is hallucinogens. These drugs alter the way we see things. The example of these examples of these drugs is cannabis (marijuana) solvents and certain fungi (magic mushrooms). The third group is the depressants which slow down the body and brain function but do not produce feelings of depression. The examples of these drugs are alcohol, madrax, tranquilizer, Valium, Temazepam, magadon, narcotic, heroin (smack) morphine and cocaine.

These three groups of drugs cause dependence Okwanyo J B (1998) outlines other types of drugs which are being abused as coffee, beer, hashion, opium, wine, medical tablets and injections. The researcher concurs with the write above and she would like to strengthen the point that the drugs abused vary according to the environment. Some drugs are common in other places than others.

## **2.4 Effect of drug abuse to learning**

### **Retarding maturation process of foetus**

Drugs have negative effects on learners and these effects start way back from the time the child is conceived for instance when a mother takes alcohol during pregnancy resulting in the baby having numerous problems as it is stated by Kaskel A, Daniel L and Hummer P J (1988). It can also interrupt nerve formation in the brain and can kill existing neuron therefore interfering with nervous system development Mwenesi (1996). The study argues that the alcohol could affect so many sites in the brain hence it is believed that alcohol is a far worse for developing foetus than any other abused drugs. The same point is supported by Okwanyo J. B. (1998) when he states that drug abuse has negative effects on pregnant women as it leads to foetus alcohol syndrome which destroys the brain of growing child when this happens learning is affected since learning a mental exercise.

## **Crimes**

According to many studies drug abuse is likened to crime, prostitution, suicide, violence (especially in the home) and family breakdown due to fighting and killings. This is because the drugs alter peoples mind making them do bad things. For example it makes them fail to understand because the brain is distorted or impaired.

## **Accidents**

Drugs are also the major cause of accidents like motor accidents, accidents in families and society. They are caused by fighting one another. It has been reported on media of pilots being stopped from flying aeroplanes because they were found drunk. In Kenya there have been several cases of road accidents where the cause was because of taking drugs like alcohol or miraa. There have also been reported cases of people killing one another in drinking Speers over small amount of money. This leads to loses of lives and damages of vehicles.

## **Effects on behaviour**

Drug abuse also makes people to have difficulties with memory, self-awareness, focusing attention, interpreting information, making judgment and carrying out skilled tasks. The regular use of such substances tends to lead to more consistent effects on behavior and personality changes which in turn have an impact on family and other social relationships Clement (2003)

#### **2.4.5 Physical dependence**

The addict must take the drug regularly if not he will suffer from great pain or discomfort symptoms like restlessness, sleeplessness, running nose, abdominal cramps, drowsiness, blue skinned, high blood pressure dizziness, menstrual disturbance in women loss of muscle coordination will occur depending on the drug consumed. Very often the addicts continue to take the drug to avoid these discomforts Furgerson (2006)

#### **2.4.6 Psychological dependence**

Addiction will cause mental craving for drug. The craving will cause the addict to do almost anything just to obtain the drug. A person can be psychologically dependent without being physically dependent. It is more difficult to cure this for addiction.

Addiction can also lead to tolerance of the drugs. This means that a person who abuses a drug regularly for his pleasure has to gradually increase his dosage in order to get the desired effects. If the addicts stop taking the drug for some time he will lose this tolerance and later if he were to take a dose which he formerly did he might die of overdose Daily Nation 29th June 2007}

#### **2.4.7 Malnutrition**

Malnutrition is another negative effect caused by drug abuse. It is a result of the drug user using money on drugs at the expense of food hence causing poor eating habits.

Some drugs lead to poor appetite when a Lerner has malnutrition he will attend to treatment or is generally weak and his or her academic work is affected negatively.

### **Diseases**

Drug abuse cause disease like brain tumors, liver cancer, bronchitis and cardiac arrest which in most case leads to death or high cost of treating ailments. It causes blindness like reported in media where people around Limuru mixed secondary school in Kenya.

Laboratory chemicals with local brew and took it immediately became blind. Death and injury from consumption of illicit drugs are frequent occurrences among the users for example in Mathira Kenya over 200 people died on 16th November 2000 because of drugs in Kabete 200 people had died by August 2000 because of the local brew that was mixed with a laboratory chemical Ferguson (2006).



## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introductions**

This chapter explains how the study was carried out. It focuses on the approach, design and the tools used to collect the data. It also gives account of the procedure, the size of the sample and the selection (sampling) procedure and data analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

This study used a cross sectional survey design. The research drew from both the qualitative and quantitative approaches in order to get a bigger picture both in number and data.

#### **3.2. Study area**

This study was conducted in Masaka Town secondary schools in Masaka municipality, Masaka district, located in central Uganda.

#### **3.3 Target population**

The study population was composed of all the teachers in Masaka Town Secondary, Masaka Municipality

#### **3.4 Sample size**

The study used a sample of 18 teachers selected out of the population of all teachers in the school. Teachers were selected using purposive sampling procedure.

#### **4.5 Data Analysis**

Data were analyzed using descriptive and summary statistics through use of frequency table and percentages. The summary statistics were interpreted using qualitative analysis.

### **3.6 Data collection instruments**

Researcher made questionnaires were used as the main data collection instruments. The questionnaires were composed of questions or items on background variables, independent variables and dependent variables.

There were also documentary reviews which included detailed review of already existing literature. The tool is selected because it gives accurate, correct and historical data, which may be used for future aspects. Both questionnaires and focused group discussions were used to extract information from teachers.

### **3.7 Data analysis**

The Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS) was used for processing and analysis of qualitative data. The researcher generated frequencies tables, charts and cross – tabulations which were interpreted to give meaning using qualitative means.

### **3.8 Research procedure**

After the approval of the research proposal, the researcher acquired an introductory letter from the faculty of social sciences which introduced to the school where the study was carried out and to the respondents. Data were collected in three days, after which processing and analysis were done followed by interpretation and report writing.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

#### 4.1 Introductions

The chapter presents the analysis, and interpretation of findings basing on the study objectives. Data is presented on background variable, independent variable and the dependent variable.

**Table 1 Questionnaires dispatched and received**

Respondents	Actual questionnaires sent	No of questionnaires received	%age
Primary teachers	17	17	100%
Head teacher	1	1	100%
Total	18	18	100%

Table I indicates that all the questionnaires dispatched the respondents (teachers and head teacher) were filled and returned which implies that there were 100 percent response.

Sex of the Respondents

**Table 2 gives the distribution of respondents by sex**

**Table 2** Sex categories of staff

Category	Number	Percentage (%)
<b>Females</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Males</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>61</b>
Total	18	100.0

Table 2 show that among the participants in the study (i.e. teachers and head teacher) males dominated the sample by contributing 61% of the respondents suggesting their large number in the schools that was studied.

### **Qualification of respondents**

**The distribution of respondents by qualification is reported in Table 3**

**Table 3** Respondents by Qualification

Age group	Number	Percentage (%)
<b>Diploma</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Degree</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>67</b>
Total	18	100.0

According to table 3, the majority (67%) of the respondents were degree holders while diploma holders were 33%. The finding suggests that degree holders dominated the sample.

### **Working experience of respondents**

Table 4 gives the distribution of respondents by working experience.

**Table 4** Respondents by Qualification

Working experience	Number	Percentage (%)
0 – 5	6	34
6 - 10	8	44

10 and above	4	22
Total	18	100.0

The study findings in table 4 Suggest that 44% of the respondents had experience of six to ten years followed by those with experience of (five years and less with 22% and those for ten years and above constituted 22% of the teaching staff and head teacher.

**Table 5 Sources of drugs most abused in schools**

	Source of drugs	Frequency	%age
1	Local brews sold within the environment	6	25%
2	Cheap cigarettes and indigenous tobacco	5	20.83%
3	Agents of dealers of drugs from outside school surrounding	4	16.66%
4	Local kiosks	2	8.33%
5	From secondary school children	4	16.66%
6	No response	3	12.5%
	TOTAL	24	100%

It is clear from the table 5 that the most common source of drugs abused in Masaka municipality is the sale of the local brews. This is shown by 25% of the response. This has attributed to the environment set up where people take beer as a leisure activity, a source of income and a way of evading responsibility. Following closely is the sale of cheap cigarettes and availability of indigenous tobacco which contributes to 20.83% source of drugs according to table 5. The children imitate the grown ups and even practice using indigenous tobacco and later on buy cigarettes. Other sources of drugs are agents or dealers from out side school surrounding as well as those bought from by secondary school students from distant schools which amount to 16% each. The least source of drug is local kiosks which are represented by 8.33% there were blank spaces in other questionnaires. This showed that there were less than four sources of drug in some schools

From the table it is evident that there are various sources of drugs abused in the zone

**Fig 1 Sources of drugs most abused in schools**

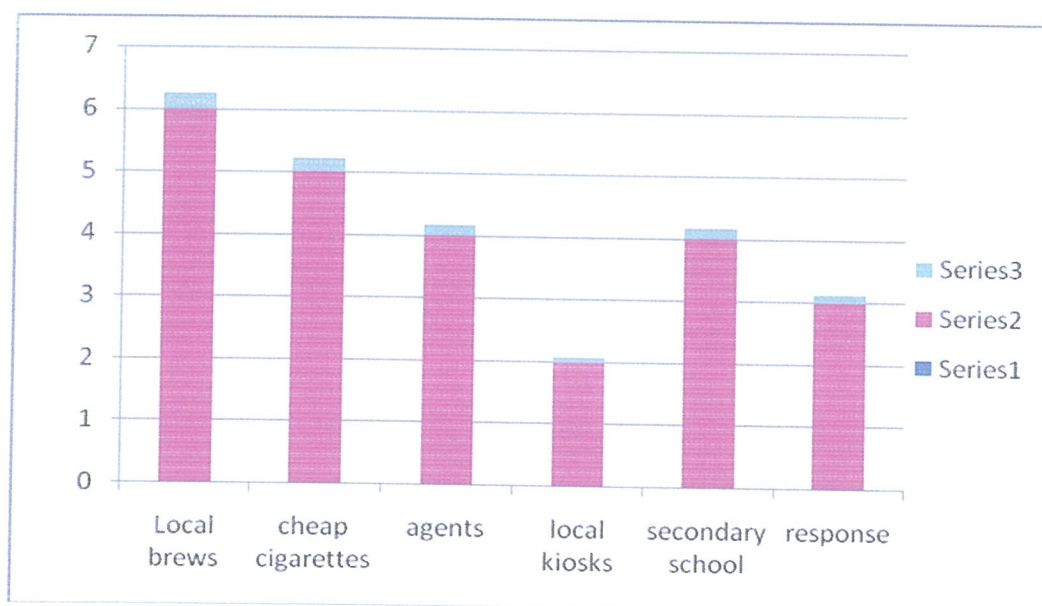


Figure 4.1 clearly shown that the drug mostly abused by learners in an institution is alcohol leading with 56.25% followed by cigarettes with 25% the bhang with 18.75%

**Table 6 Reasons that lead to drug abuse**

Response	frequency	%age
Peer pressure	6	33%
Poverty	4	22%
Parental influence	2	11.5%
Availability with home environment	2	11.5%
Media advertisement	2	11.5%
Idleness	1	6%
Lack of reaction activities	1	6%
<b>Total</b>	18%	100%

Table 6 shows clear evidence that peer pressure is the leading reason for drug abuse in the zone with 33% response. This shows that peers have great influence on each other. The second factor is poverty with 22%. Some parents are so poor that their only source of income is selling of illicit brews when a learner from such a family is offered brew, he/ she will definitely take because he/she is not well catered for. The other reasons that lead to drug abuse are parental influence, media advertisements and availability of

drugs with in the environment which are shown by 11.5% response. Other two factors are idleness and lack of reaction activity.

**Table 7 Presence of drug abuse in town**

Response	Frequency	%age
Yes	18	100%
No	0	0%
Total	18	100%

Table 7 indicates that 100% of respondents say that there is evidence of drug abuse in Masaka Town Secondary schools. It is clear that the school experience the effects of drug abuse. This is attributed to the fact that learners abuse drugs because of reasons known to them. This can be peer pressure or availability of the drug in the local community. The researcher argues that if there is drug abuse in schools then there has to be learners who abuse them.

**Table 8 Accessibility to guidance and counseling services to learners**

Response	Frequency	% age
Yes	18	100%
No	0	0%
Total	24	100%



Table 8 indicates that all the respondents indicated that, there is provision and accessibility of guidance and counseling services to learners which is used as an intervention strategy to uproot the practice.

Other solutions are teaching learners on effects of drug abuse and keeping them busy to avoid idleness. The least used methods are abolition of cigarette smoking, providing vocational training and drug treatment. The researcher agrees to the solutions to drug abuse mentions above all there has to be a follow up on who is to implement the solution for vocational training.

The researcher supports the idea of using guidance and counseling because government has abolished the use of corporal punishment. Guidance and counseling is recommended as a tool to curb indiscipline cases such as drug abuse among others.

Table 8 above shows that there is guidance and counseling services offered to the learners affected by drug abuse in the school. This is supported by 100% of the respondents. The availability of these services is evidence of up to date performance in schools since drug abuse leads to poor performance and indiscipline cases.

**Table 9: Personnel providing guidance and counseling**

Response	frequency	% age
Trained personnel	0	0%
Regular teachers	16	89%
Religious leaders	2	11%
Total	18	100%

Table 9 show that, most personnel offering guidance and counseling service in the at the school are mainly regular teachers. This is shown by 89%. The other body that offers guidance and counseling service is religious leaders with 4.17%. It is clearly shown that there are no trained personal to offer guidance and counseling services. The researcher concurs with the findings because even in the researchers schools regular teachers who lack the professionalism skills to carry out the exercise of guidance and counseling.

**Table 10 Effects of drug abuse on learning**

Response	Frequency	%age
1. Indiscipline	2	12%
2. Drop in learners performance	2	12%
3. Absenteeism in school	3	17%
4. Sickness and poor health	3	17%
5. Violence	1	
6. School dropouts	1	6%
7. Withdrawals	2	
8. Crime e.g. fighting	2	6%
9. Lack of interest and vision	2	12%
		12%
		12%
TOTAL	18	100%

Table 10 shows that the worst effect of drug abuse are absenteeism and sickness with 17% each, followed by indiscipline, drop in learners performance, withdraw, crime, and lack of interest and drop out and violence scored the least. The researcher strongly agrees with the findings in the table because when a learner indulges in drug abuse, the first indicator is a drop in the learners performance since attending of school means learning and achievements is measured in performance. In addition, it is evident that there is no positive effect of drug abuse.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5. 0. Introduction**

This is the last stage of the researchers work. The chapter is the summary of the first and the fourth chapter. It also points out a discussion on the second and the fourth chapters respectively.

#### **5.1 Summary**

The researcher identified the problem of drug abuse and opted to carry out a study on it. The researcher made a proposal citing the problem area of concern how to carry out the research by stating the objectives and stated clearly why the study was conducted and lastly stated the limitations and delimitations of the study.

In chapter two of the study, the researcher cited out the sources of the background information of the problem under investigation. Chapter three explains how the study was carried out systematically and why each particular methods and techniques were employed. Lastly, the results of the study are recorded and analyzed to give meaning to the study.

#### **5.2 Discussion**

The researcher outlined some aspects in chapter four which are subject to discussion. A shown in table 5, the most common source of drugs abused is the sales of local brews.

According to the literature review, it had been cited that the drugs abuse vary, so are their sources according to the environment. The researcher agrees with this point because drugs are obtained from plants and plants grown depending on the climatic conditions of the place. Therefore, the sources of drugs vary accordingly.

Table 6 clearly shows that the main reason leading to drug abuse is peer pressure. Okwagbonye S. O (1998) had showed this when he stated that peer pressure or influence from age mates and friends motivate others to take drugs. The researcher concurs with the citation because among the children taught in schools, peer influence is great. Learners can influence one another for good or for worse.

Table 5 also points out that another reason which leads to drug abuse is the availability of the drug within the home environment. This merges with what Okwagbonye J. O (1998) cited. He said that the drugs are abused because of their availability in places where people are.

From table 7 it is clearly seen that the mostly abused drug is alcohol. In the literature review the most popular drug being abused currently is cannabis (Marijuana) which is smoked worldwide as cited by Karechro B (1996). The researcher points out the drugs vary depending on season or environment.

Table 9 shows that the worst effects of drug abuse are the lowering of learners performances as shown by 20% in the table. Okwanyo 5.0 (1998) concurs with the findings in table 9 where he argues that when a learner indulges in drug abuse he falls a victim delinquency and unruly behavior is noticed in school the learner is send home hence dropping out of school and hence learning is affected. Karechio 8(1996) supports the same point when he said that drugs impede the progress of learners in class.

The researcher concurs with the findings of table 2 and the two writes because when learners indulge in drug abuse they will not be in their "normal state when key will either be speeded up or depressed. Learning needs a sober person with sound mind. If the person is under intoxication leaning cannot take place and thus it is impeded.

From table 10, it is clearly seen that the best method so solve the problems of drug abuse is guidance and counseling.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

In this part, the researcher highlights the major conclusions and some notable recommendations that have been suggested by the respondents. From the findings, there is evidence that drugs are abused in the school. It is also evident that the drug abused is alcohol). There are various reasons which lead learners to drug taking, the most common one being peer pressure,

Learners access guiding and counseling services but it is unfortunate there are not trained professionals in the field as regular teachers carry out the exercise. There are many effects of drug abuse to learning, the worst being lowering of learners performance. There are various solutions to these effects and the best is guiding and counseling.

#### **5.4 Possible Solutions to Drug Abuse**

There are many ways of preventing and correcting drug abuse and its effects Okwayo J O (1998) suggests that there is need to enforce and establish laws to stop transportation of illegal drugs (trafficking).

Another way of curbing the abuse of drugs is by offering public education that is group education. This could be offered to groups such as pregnant women, youth, refugees and street children who are vulnerable to these drugs. A variety of leisure activities should be offered to the youth to avoid idleness. This would help them not to indulge into drug taking.

Treatment through medical services serious addicts can be given medicine to withdraw from taking for example methadone can be given to addicts to make them have the same feeling with different effects in their bodies.

There should be a free outpatient programme where drug addicts visit counseling centres for advice. This could be done from home.

Creation of self help support where former addicts and family members should have confidence in former addicts and offer assistance where possible provision of trained personnel to provide guidance and counseling services effectively.

### **5.5 Recommendations**

To curb the sales of illegal brews, the provincial administration should patrol the places where illegal brews are brewed and impose heavy charges on the culprits. Chiefs should sensitize the local community on the negative effects of drug abuse during barazaa or hold seminars and use trained personnel to train people.

Parents should be good role models by not taking cigarettes and brews before their children as their children are likely to imitate them. The presence of drugs in schools should be controlled by involving the provincial administration to destroy their sources. Trained personnel or their teachers should guide and counsel the learners.

Teachers should keep learners busy with academic activities so they do not engage in drug taking. Parents should fully support their children by providing all their basic needs as this will help keep off drugs.



Teachers and parents should direct learners to influence one another positively and discourage only learners who try to influence another negatively. The learners should be sensitized. The learners should be sensitized on the bad effects of drug abuse. The government should train teachers on guiding and counseling so that they can handle the exercise professionally.

The teachers should teach learners wholly about the effects of drug abuse. The learners should know the negative effects drugs have on health.

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**APPENDIX I**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE**

You are kindly requested to respond to the following questions. The information provided will be treated with a lot of confidentiality

Name \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ school \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ ECD  
centre.....

...

Name \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ pupils \_\_\_\_\_ in  
school.....

**What are the sources of drugs abused in school?. Tick where applicable.**

- i) Local brews sold within the environment ( )
- ii) Cheap Cigarette and indigenous tobacco ( )
- iii) Agents or dealers of drugs from outside school surrounding ( )
- iv) School children ( )
- v) No Response ( )

**Student with educational problems**

- a) Failing to complete homework ( )
- b) Trunant children ( )
- c) Sickly student ( )
- d) Arrested student ( )

e) Absent from school ( )

**Reasons that lead to drug abuse**

a) Peer pressure ( )

b) Poverty ( )

c) Parental influence ( )

d) Availability within home environment ( )

e) Media advertisement ( )

f) Idleness ( )

g) Lack of recreation activities ( )

**Types of drugs abused in schools**

a) Alcohol ( )

b) Cigarette ( )

c) Bhang ( )