

**ECONOMICS STATUS OF PARENTS AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE  
OF LEARNERS IN SELECTED SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN  
LUWERO DISTRICT KAMIRA SUB-COUNTY  
MAZZI PARISH**

**BY  
KUGONZA ANNET  
BED/ 16702/71/DU**

**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE INSTITUTION OF OPEN  
AND DISTANCE LEARNING IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A BACHELOR'S  
DEGREE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION OF KAMPALA  
INTERNATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY**

**NOV 2009**

## DECLARATION

I, **Kugonza Annet**, hereby declare that this is an original research report I have produced with my acknowledgment and appreciation directed to other authors whose ideas I have borrowed as in the references I have indicated.


Signed : .....  .....

Name : **Kugonza Annet**

Date : ..... 31.08.2009 .....

## APPROVAL

This research report has been conducted under my supervision as a university supervisor.

Sign :  .....

Name : **Mr Semugenyi Fred**

Date : 31.08.09. .....

## **DEDICATION**

With much honor and respect, I wish to dedicate this research work to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Kwolekya Simon Muggi, Family friends , and colleagues as well as my fellow students.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The researcher is very much grateful to a number of people whose efforts have contributed so much to this academic attainment. First to Mr. and Mrs. Mwijakubi Godfrey who have paid my tuition at the University.

To my teacher and lecturers, I so much appreciate them due to their contribution from childhood to the university level.

They have really fought hard to make me what I am now.

I am glad to my beloved sister Kyokuhair Rosette who has encouraged and supported permitted me both spiritually and domestically by taking care of my beloved daughter Nsemirirwe Melisha Mellan while I am at the University.

I am also grateful to my boss at place of work Rev Kamulegeya Israel who has always permitted me to go and meet my research supervisor during working days, may God bless you.

I wish in Special way, to accord my sincere thanks to my beloved lecturer and supervisor of this work, Mr. Semugenyi Fred for his tireless parental guidance and encouragement to come up with this research work. May god bless the works of his hands.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>DECLARATION.....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>APPROVAL.....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>DEDICATION .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>ABSTRACT.....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.0 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1 Back ground of the Study.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2 Statement of the problem. ....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.3 Purpose of the study.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.4 Objectives of the study.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.5 Significance of the Study.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.6 Limitation of the study.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1.7 Definition of terms. ....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CHAPTER TWO.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.1 How economic status of parents affects the academic performance of learners. ....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.2 The social- economic Status and students' performance. ...</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2.3 Parents level of education and students performance.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2.4 The school environment and students performance. ....</b>	<b>9</b>

<b>CHAPTER THREE.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3.2 Research Instruments. ....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3.3 Data analysis and interpretations: .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>3.4 The scope/Delimitation.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CHAPTER FOUR.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DATA ANALYSIS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.1Presentation and Interpretation of data. ....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.1.1 The ways how economic status of parents affect academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish. ....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>4.1.2 Factors influencing performance besides economic status. ...</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>4.1.3 The effects of poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>4.1.4 The means that can be taken to improve on academic performance of learners. ....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>CHAPTER FIVE.....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>5.0 Introduction .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>5.1 Discussion .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>5.2 Conclusion .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>5.2 Recommendations.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>5.2.1 Recommendation to the government.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>5.2.2 To parents.....</b>	<b>32</b>

<b>5.2.3 To teachers.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>5.2.4 To learners.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>APPENDIX A .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>APPENDIX B .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>APPENDIX C .....</b>	<b>39</b>

## **ABSTRACT**

The research was conducted in Mazzi Parish found in Kamira sub – county in Luwero District. This was due to the fact that the researcher has served in area since 2006 as a teacher, and observed that fact that academic performance of learners was a result of economic status of a parents being poor

The purpose of the research study therefore was to remind parents to work hard and provide their children with school needs.

The research is also to challenge the learners of their responsibility and task a head of them as leaders of tomorrow for the country Uganda thus requires them to work hard academically and be successful in nature.

In the interaction with the community the researcher was able to obtain data through both interview and questionnaire method on the topic of study observation was also used I collecting the data.

The researcher is very grateful to all those who co-operated with him to come with the research findings as to be seen a head in this book.

In chapter one the following sub – topics were treated: Purpose of the study objectives justification of the study.

In chapter two, the researcher put his intention on the related literature review such as demographic and family background characteristics such as socio- economic status of parental education and social have traditionally been related to students achievements in examination. In addition references in end notes were given at the end of the chapter.

Chapter three provides a look at the area of the study, research design, research instruments and data analysis and interpretations, scope of the study.

In chapter four, there is concern on writing of the findings on the topic after data collection and interpretation.

In chapter five, conclusion was considered focusing on approval of the hypothesis and recommendation to the various categories of people and bodies how to deal with the problem.

However, the researcher stands to be corrected where she could have gone wrong, believing that no man is an island, relevant observation and critiques are highly welcomed for improvement of this work and betterment of our society.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter outlines the back ground of the study statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research hypothesis of study and the significance of the study.

### **1.1 Back ground of the Study.**

The people in the area the commonly Baganda in culture and mainly use Luganda Language to speak although the place is a mixture of various tribes of Uganda like Baluli, Baganda, Basoga, Banyonkole, Banyarwada, Iteso among others.

The people in the place basically grow crops and originally depended on coffee and bananas but have currently disappeared due to coffee wilt and changes in climate because of these people have resolved to charcoal burning whereas others seem to have no future, some people now are concentrating on cattle rearing on a small scale for economic dependence.

The educational level of most people (over 65%) is very low thus below primary seven. This is due to the civil that occurred in the area between 1980 -1998 and left many people dead, a lot of property destroyed and looted other people decided to migrate to other places all this yielding to the problem, of the study.

The area has a number of religious denominations such as Christianity (Catholics, Anglican or Born again, Seventh day Adventists and the Pentecostal) and Moslems.

Traditionalist and witchcraft also exist in the place and due to the differences in faith there is lack of team work for economic development of the area, which would have up lifted the academic performance of the learners in Mazzi Parish.

In conclusion, a mixture of tribes, decline in economic base, low levels of education and various religious affiliations have effect n academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish rooted from poor economic status of parents of Mazzi Parish.

### **1.2 Statement of the problem.**

The poor economic status of parents of Mazzi Parish has an effect on the academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish Kamira sub – county in Luwero District. This is because parents are not educated so they lack Permanente or good jobs where they can generate money to finance their children with good scholastic materials and in time.

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

The researcher is intending to find out a significant relationship between economic status of parents academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish.

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

- 1.4.1 To find out how economic status of parents affect the academic performance of learners in secondary schools.
- 1.4.2 To Suggest other factors that affected the academic performance of learners in secondary schools rather than economic status of parents
- 1.4.3 To propose possible solutions to problems of poor academic performance of learners so as to prove on academic performance of learners so as to prove on academic performance.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study.**

This research work has a number of benefits as observed below:-

- 1.5.1 It should a waken parents on their roles as parents by providing scholastic materials to learners/children in time.
- 1.5.2 To remind those in authority to encourage and educate parents work hard economically so as to support their children academically and sufficiently.
- 1.5.3 To set ground for other scholars as to research into topic come up with more constructive ideas on how poor academic performance of learners in secondary school is as a result of poor economic status of parents.

## **1.6 Limitation of the study.**

The following are the problems that the research is likely to encounter during the study of the topic.

- 1.6.1 Some information may tend to hide some information due to suspicions.
- 1.6.2 Finance may not be enough to enable the researcher approach a very bigger number of informants.
- 1.6.3 Some informants may hardly interpreter the questions and hence require more time for clarification of the questions hence they may end up giving irrelevant information.
- 1.6.4 Some respondents may need the money to release the data which may not be available

## **1.7 Definition of terms.**

- 1.7.1 **Parent:** Is a person who is in charge of a learner interms of school fees and scholastic materials such as mother , father among others.
- 1.7.2 **Academic performance:** This is the results or outcome of the learners after a certain period of time after being examined formally.
- 1.7.3 **Learners :** these are students/ Children who study in schools in different levels.
- 1.7.4 **Economic Status:** The finance stand/ or welfare of the people.
- 1.7.5 **Teachers:** These are trained people who give lessons in schools and also guide and counsel learners.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE**

#### **2.0 Introduction.**

The economic Status of parents and academic performance of learners is not completely a new phenomenon. Some scholars have carried out similar studies though not directly in Luwero. Not much information available on the study. Its on this reason that scholarly work of other researcher in Uganda and outside Uganda are reviewed to show how relevant are to the study.

#### **2.1 How economic status of parents affects the academic performance of learners.**

Demographic and family background characteristics such as a socio – economic status parental education and social have traditionally been related to students achievement in examination. (Omona, 1998; William 1971) have specifically and unequivocally linked socio- economic status, war and academic performance.

The war made Luwero district one of the poorest district in central measured by house hold expenditure. (The national Bureau of Statistics, 1997). The investigator agrees with the above facts in qualitative terms by concepts such as powerlessness and vulnerability is unequalled in any other parts of ministry of finance, planning and economic development, a sense of powerlessness characterizes many people's experience of poverty particularly long term poverty, economic and socio-isolations.

Achievement varies directly with social economic status level with higher socio – economic status students generally having higher achievements than lower socio – economic status students, (Daro, 1988; Rassman and Marley, 1996)

Traditionally, socio- economic status appears to continue to exert strong influence throughout the educational process. In other words lower socio- economic status students do not only have lower achievement scores but also shows less growth in achievement over time, status, students by the time they reach higher level.

Additional research conducted by (Ezewu, 1986) on human environment has shown that children brought up in poor homes, losses their Brightness while a dull child brought up in rich environment becomes brighter. The researcher believes that education seems to have a double relation with socio class. Poor families are unable to provide financial requirements such as school fees on time, English is unheard of in such homes, and adequate food is scholastically regarded.

The implication of the above findings is that poorly fed under nourished students are less prepared for teachers expectations. The teacher therefore becomes frustrated with the learners and loses interests in teaching. Teachers are equally affected by poverty forcing them to seek alternative income generating activity consequently reducing teaching time, achieving late and leaving earlier. The results of the Uganda National Examination Board have always indicated that where incomes are higher, performs better than where income is lower (UNEB, 2005).

Scholarly studies of (Dennis, 1995) have indicated that financial retardation occurs in every poor house holds, where food is inadequate ,

early stimulation is lacking and intellectual guidance is inadequate, (Dennis 1995) conducted a study among orphans in an orphanage in the United States intended to find if a relationship exist between an impoverished environment, IQ points and academic achievements. The results was convincing; 25 children from an orphanage who were taken into a rich environment had again of 29 and 58 in their remained in an orphanage lost an average of 26 IQ points. The researcher contends that children affected by occurrences such as loss of parents may develop disabilities and problems with attention and memory. They may have trouble concentrating in class work thus affecting their academic performance.

## **2.2 The social- economic Status and students' performance.**

According to Bruner, social – economic status of a family is usually aligned with the family's income parents ' education level, parents' occupation and the social – culture status of the family. It is believed that families with high social- economic status levels often have more success in preparing their children from school as they have a wider range of resources, (Ongwu 2004)

Farrant (1980) says that schools supported by Parents and guardians of low economic status normally have fewer professional trained teachers and the performance of the students is low.

Combs (1974) stresses that families with low social and economic background Provide inadequate resources to their children and this provides poor learning environment leading to poor performance.

Goyeette and Xie (1999) Stressed that the position of the family in the social – economic status has a close relationship to the education attainment of a child. Middle class parents and parental care, influence a student's aspiration and academic achievement.

Magoon (1972) says that a family not only transmits languages partners to the children, it transmits attitudes and values. It is the social climate of the family that aspirations and motivation for the academic achievement are developed.

Haney (1061) in his study about educational problems in schools found that rural schools perform poorly. He pointed out those students form low social – economic status perform poorer than those form the well off families.

### **2.3 Parents level of education and students performance.**

The parent's level of education influence the academic achievement of a student.

The more educated a parent is the more he/ she is willing to pay for the education of his/her child (Powell 1991).

Children whose parents have a greater degree of education are more likely to have a drive that fosters education advancement. Even if parents are not regularly communicating to their children about the

importance of education, they can see from their surrounding that education is important and so they feel like succeeding in class. (Myra 2003).

#### **2.4 The school environment and students performance.**

Centerwall (1995) says that the school environment may be related to the contextual factors of school such as age of the school, size experience of teachers and others which effect the academic performance and are not under control of the school administrators, but they have the authority to plan and implement suitable policies which can reduce on the negative affects of the school contextual factors.

Leagans (1961), to realize the good performance from learners, an effective learning situation should prevail i.e learners, teachers' subject matter teaching materials and physical facilitates to a learning situation should be present. He added that learners to perform well they should;

- ❖ Be capable of learning
- ❖ Have interest in the subject
- ❖ Have a need in the information offered to them
- ❖ Be able to apply the information when added.

In a study entitled "the implements of effective performance of teachers in schools in kabarole district, Kisembo (1995) found out that there were several factors which contributed to academic achievement of students.

These included social- economic status, study time, class size and availability of teaching and learning aids.

The study carried out by Vicks (1999) which targeted four research questions based on people's popular beliefs about achievement; under investigation was the relationship between academic achievement and language spoken at home, academic attainment of the parents, class size and attendance at day versus boarding. The study revealed that the language spoke at home displays a significant role in students' academic performance. It also revealed that the higher the parents' education attainment, the better their children performance in school. Vicks (1999) study serves as a caution that the teachers' contribution goes hand in hand with several factors.

Barunku (1983) shares a similar position when he observed that some teachers joined the profession against their own free will especially the recently trained. They find the profession unattractive which leads no commitment to the profession. He attributes poor students' performance in any subject too low morals of the teachers and consequently lack of commitment at the job.

However, Ngongah (1991) reports that the teachers must have knowledge that pertains to his subject, first he must know his subject and exercise over it for masterly. This is in recognition of the important role teachers play in determining students' performance.

Taba (1986) shared the same view when he states that for a proper teaching and learning process, to be achieved , teachers need to be properly trained and maintain their professional skills. The teacher

should have a scheme of work, lesson plan and maintain a motivating situation. It should be kept in mind of the teacher that teaching without the scheme of work and lesson plan, is like driving a vehicle without lights in darkness and on a wrong side of the road.

Peterson (1981) states that; nothing can replace the teacher in the matter of individual help and encouragement; however , no mechanical aid can pick up an interest which is showing itself in a group of children and make suggestion for its furthering.

Ezewu (1981) observed that; the training for teaching is such a vigorous one that teachers are expected not only to learn the various subjects but also most importantly to behave in a way benefiting the people who are to bring out the young ones. He further stresses the importance of acquiring not only the professional ethics and code of conduct as basis to bring up children but most importantly how they learn he emphasize specialization in training as one of the characteristics of a good professional.

We note however that that there are large numbers of untrained teachers who are called “teachers” the contribution of teachers qualification to students’ performance is therefore a crucial factor which this study will seek to investigate.

The ministry of education and sports in the basic requirements and minimum standards indicators for secondary schools (1999) stipulate that the schools should have qualified teachers registered by ministry of education and sports.

A trained teacher for every subject is required.

The above Basic requirements indicate that the ministry of education and sports is concerned about the qualification of teachers.

Lindgren (1976) considers the view that although a teacher's qualification has a lot to bear with competence, his personal qualification has an effect on students' achievement. He further writes that teachers have an effect on students' achievement and teachers differ in their ability to the results .

The teachers' personal qualities have a great deal to do with the kind of climate he creates.

Newel (1983) also notes that it is believed that learning takes place because the teacher sets out to provide learning situations in which a student will learn because of his natural reactions to the material provided. The teachers are the first learning models to the students and perform a great effect on them.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction.**

This is an outline of methodology, the introduction, Research Design, Sample, Research instruments, Data analysis and interpretations and the scope.

#### **3.1 Research Design.**

This research will be more of descriptive research, where a survey design and research documents will be used in study in order to analyze the data collected..

#### **3.2 Research Instruments.**

The researcher is basically to use four methods in collecting the information as listed and highlighted below:-

**(a) Interviews:** The researcher is to interview various people: Students, parents and teachers and a sample interview questionnaire is shown in the appendices

- (i) These will help to obtain unobservable information which is directly hard to attain.
- (ii) Both open – ended and closed – ended questions are to be interviewed thus in open ended questions informants will be allowed freely formulate answers and not to choose from the predetermined answers as the case is in close – ended questions which will also be used.

**(b) Questionnaire;** In this type of questions are to be set on papers and distributed to informants to respond.

- (i) They are to be used together as primary source of information
- (ii) Both open – ended and close questionnaire are set and respondents are to be asked to enable both precise and detailed answers

**(c) Personnel observation;** In this method the researcher will use his necked eyes to notice what is exactly on ground.

It will help to attach meaning into data/ findings acquired by other methods.

**(d) Recording of information;** Here all the data that will be obtained will be recorded down in relation to the topic of study , which will help in:

- (i) Analysis and interpretation of the findings
- (ii) Comparing and constructing data that will be obtained
- (iii) Making concussions to form up desirable recommendations.

### **3.3 Data analysis and interpretations:**

The data shall be analyzed using simple descriptive statistics.

The data shall be tabulated and percentages determined.

### **3.4 The scope/Delimitation**

The study is to be done in Mazzi Parish in Kamira Sub – county in Luwero District on “Economic Status of parents and academic performance of learners in selected secondary schools?”

The research is intended to focus the economic Status of parents and academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish but representing a larger area of Luwero District.

Therefore the researcher is intending to pick on the following categories of information for data collection.

**3.4.1 Students:** These can interpret and answer the questionnaires, they form the part of group of people being studied and so they can approve or disapprove the statement of the problem.

**3.4.2 Teachers:** These are because they are the driver to success and knowledgeable on the topic of the study.

**3.4.3 Parents:** These are picked because they are the one who finances learners academically with scholastic material and school fees.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DATA ANALYSIS**

#### **4.0 Introduction**

In this chapter, the focus is put on data presentation and its analysis.

The data was collected from 20 respondents, 18 of whom admitted that economic status of parents in Mazzi Parish has a greater affect on academic performance of learners.

In the data presentation therefore, the following issues were the concerns of the researcher:-

- ❖ The causes of the poor academic performance in Mazzi parish
- ❖ The other factors responsible for the poor academic performance in Mazzi parish.
- ❖ The measures that can be taken to help learners whose parents' economic status have affected learners academic performance.
- ❖ The possible solutions to the factors that affect the academic performance of learners in Mazzi parish.
- ❖ The effects of poor academic performance of learners, in Mazzi Parish.

#### **4.1 Presentation and Interpretation of data.**

The findings and interpretation of data presented in tables and clearly differentiated and discussed according to the objectives.

**(a) Presentation of data on academic performance of learners and economic status of parents in tabulated and discussed below.**

Total no of respondents	Positive respondents	Percentage	Negative respondents	Percentage	Total
20	6	30%	14	70%	100%

***Source : Field Survey 2009***

From the findings, out of 20 respondents six (6) agreed that economic status of parents has affected academic performance of learners as from the table above, fourteen (14) did not agree with that view of economic status of parents affect academic performance of learners.

**(b) Presentation of data on other factors that affect the academic performance of learners rather than economic status of parents, is tabulated and discussed below:**

Total no of respondents	Positive respondents	Percentage	Negative respondents	Percentage	Total
20	3	15%	17	85%	100%

***Source: Field Survey 2009***

From the findings, out of 20 respondents three (3) argues that there are other factors which affect academic performance of learners other than economic status of parents other factors like environment, lack of role models, lack of enough teachers, poor payment of teachers, lack of enough school facilities high rate of school drop out.

**(c) The presentation of data on proposed solutions to problem of poor academic performance of learners is tabulated and discussed below:-**

Total no of respondents	Positive respondents	Percentage	Negative respondents	Percentage	Total
20	18	90%	2	10%	100%

***Source: Field Survey 2009***

From the findings, out of 20 respondents eighteen (18) suggested possible solutions to the problem of poor academic performance of learners like sensitizing parents about value of education, increasing of teacher's payments, encouraging of career guidance and counseling, availing of some economic activities to local people and providing enough facilities like laboratories and library to existing schools.

#### **4.1.1 The ways how economic status of parents affect academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish.**

Basing on the questions that demanded how economic status of parents affect, academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish, the following responses were given.

- (a) Eleven (11) out of the twenty (20) agrees that economic status of parents affect learners' academic performance in a way that parents can not effectively cater for students/ learners needs like Lunch, clothes among others.
- (b) Twelve (12) Respondents out twenty (20) were of the view that poverty of the people of the area hinders parents from keeping the students in schools regularly hence irregularity hence for academic performance.
- (c) Six (6) respondents suggested that environment is the factor for poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi parish, in a way that there is few role models since most of people do not go to school because of poverty, they are peasants and charcoal burners. Hence learners lack people they would use as examples to work hard at school.
- (d) Nine (9) informants of the twenty (20) Argued that poor academic performance of learners is due to poor performance economic status of parents since parents delay to pay school fees. Delay to pay school fees lead to absenteeism of the students consequently poor performance of learners.
- (e) Four (4) informants argues that lack of teachers' quarters (Staff quarters) is another factor responsible for poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish. This is because parents are poor they can not afford to pay some fee for putting up teachers quarters. Some most of the teachers reside far from school and due to long distances others end up arriving late at school sometime even when the time for the lesson is over.
- (f) Seven (7) informants out of the twenty (20) Argued that is due to economic status of parents that there is no boarding sections in

schools in Mazzi parish. This is because parents can not afford to pay for accommodation due to poverty. And most of the students/learners move long distances from their homes to school, some reach late even when the first lesson is over and others tend to absent themselves for fear of being late for school.

- (g) Eleven (11) of the respondents who were parents and students believed that poor economic status of parents has led to high rate of school drop out in Mazzi Parish since most of the parents could not keep their children in school due to lack of school fees. Hence this affect those still in school they get demoralized bearing in mind that any time their parents may also fail to pay for them school fees and they drop out. Hence less concentration which result into poor academic performance.

### **Interpretation.**

Due to the reasons listed above, the researcher concluded that economic status of parents has affected academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish in the following way; Poverty of parents, lack of role models in an area, high rate of school drop out, lack of boarding section, failure to cater for children's needs among others.

#### **4.1.2 Factors influencing performance besides economic status.**

- (a) Negative towards education, the parents and teachers believed that negative attitude towards education among parents has contributed to the poor academic performance of learners. Parents do not give education first priority.

The researcher observed that poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish is due to negative attitude of parents towards education they value other things like drinking, marrying many wives, rearing of animals among others and think of education last.

(b) Location of the school being in hard to reach area.

The teachers and students were of the view that the location of the schools being in hard to reach areas has affected academic performance of learners.

The researcher agrees with the view because most teachers reside in Kampala and those who claim to be residing near are around Ndejje town so moving such long distances is not easy.

(c) Poor payment of teachers.

The teachers suggested that poor payment of teachers has led to poor academic performance of learners. Since teachers are given less pay compared to the services they render to the nation.

The researcher agrees with this view because many secondary teachers part time or teach in many schools in order to make ends meet. This is because they are not satisfied with their pay.

(d) Lack of enough teachers.

Both parents, teachers and students argued that poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish is due to lack of enough teachers for all subjects.

The researcher agrees with this view in a way that in schools in Mazzi parish one teacher teaches from senior one to senior four which is too tiresome to bear , hence un effectiveness consequently poor academic performance.

(e) Lack of enough facilities like Laboratories, library among others.

The teachers and students believed that if their schools had enough facilities like laboratories, library and others learners would be performing well academically.

The researcher here critically assessed the view and realized in a sense that the science teachers informed the researchers that the laboratory is not well stocked with chemicals and students were of the complaining of lack of text books for reference which indicated that the library was weak or poor.

(f) Learners have carefree attitude towards education.

The teachers argues that learners in Mazzi Parish have carefree attitude towards education, they do not show any sign of seriousness and determination as far as education is concern.

The researcher with this view because some learners are ever loitering to trading centers during class hours besides that there is rampant absenteeism among learners.

It can therefore be summarized that causes of poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish include; Economic Status of parents, negative attitude towards education, location of the school, poor payment of teachers, lack of enough teachers, lack of enough facilities like laboratory and other, learners, carefree attitude towards education.

#### **4.1.3 The effects of poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish.**

In the question that the researcher asked concerning the evidence of poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish, sighting the greatest effect, the eighteen (18) of respondents who agree that the academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish is poor as a result of poor economic status of parents had varying responses as summarized in the table below:- scientifically.

<b>Effect</b>	<b>No of respondents</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
High rate of school drop out	6	33.3%
Early Marriages	2	11.1%
Lack of role models	1	5.6%
Sexual immorality	4	22.2%
Theft and robbery	3	16.7%
Backwardness	2	11.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source : Field survey 2009**

#### **4.1.4 The means that can be taken to improve on academic performance of learners.**

Concerning the questions that demanded for the measures that can be taken to improve on academic performance of learners, the following responses were given;

Miss Nassanga Barbra (teacher) suggested that parents should be sensitized about the value of education, this can improve on carefree attitude about education.

Mr. Mutumba Joshua (teacher) was of the view that the government should increase on the teachers' payment in order for teachers to be motivated.

Sefuma Robert (student) suggested that the government should create and promote organizations such as CGC (Concern for the Girl Child) and Uganda Red Cross Society. These Organizations can support learners who come from poor families.

Sixteen (16) informants out of twenty (20) suggested that the government should provide the existing school with enough facilities like laboratories library among others.

Seventeen (17) respondents were often view that career guidance and counseling should be encouraged among learners, (70%) agreed in would improve on academic performance of learners.

Thirteen (13) informants (65%) suggested that teachers should be supervised by education official, this will make them to be committed to their duties and responsibilities.

Seven (7) informants suggested that with USE (Universal Secondary Education) in place parents should be encouraged to cater for others.

Some informants suggested that government should avail some economists activities to the people of Kamira sub- county Mazzi Parish to enable them generate income to support their children.

The interpretation of the response above is that to improve on academic performance of learners the following measures should be taken, sensitizing parents, increase on teachers' payment governments should avail some economic activities to parents, government should provide existing schools with enough facilities like laboratory, library, career guidance and counseling should be encouraged, supervision of teachers creation of organization like Red Cross and CGC (Concern for the Girl Child).

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

In this chapter the focus is put on conclusion and recommendations of the research.

#### **5.1 Discussion**

The research has focused on how economic status of parents affect the academic performance of learners.

Besides economic status of parents other factors has been suggested that affect academic performance of learners rather than economics status of parents.

The proposed possible solutions to problems of poor academic performance of learners so as to improve on academic performance of learners in secondary schools have been also discussed.

#### **5.2 Conclusion**

The research has been focused on economic status of parents and academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish, Kamira sub – county in Luwero district.

The researcher found out that the academic performance of learners is poor since parents can not afford to cater for learners school needs in time like paying school fees in time.

Besides economic status of parents of parents affecting academic performance of learners other factors have equally affected academic performance of learners like location of the school in hard to reach area, negative attitude of parents towards education, poor payment of teachers, lack of enough facilities like laboratories, library among others, learners, carefree attitude towards education.

The researcher came up with some of the possible solutions to poor academic performance of learners such as sensitization of parents about the value of education, increasing teachers' payments, creation and promotion of organizations such as Concern for Girl Child (CGC) and Uganda Red Cross Society, encouraging Career Guidance and Counseling.

It has specifically been concerned with academic performance of learners in Mazzi parish and the researcher observed that the academic performance of learners is poor. This basically has been a result of poor economic status of parents, although there are other factors responsible for poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish such as; negative attitude towards education, lack of role models, poor payment of teachers, lack of enough teachers , lack of enough facilities like laboratory and library learners having carefree attitude towards education.

Following is a summary of the different themes in order which the topic has been discussed;

A. Ways how economic status of parents affect academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish :-

- ❖ Parents can not effectively cater for the learner's needs like Lunch, clothes, books and pens.
- ❖ Poverty of the people in the area hinders parents from keeping the learners in schools regularly.
- ❖ There is few role models in the area
- ❖ Parents delay to pay school fees due to economic hardships
- ❖ Lack of teacher's quarters for accommodation
- ❖ Lack of boarding section in existing schools
- ❖ High rate of school drop out.

B. Other factors responsible for the poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish rather than economic status of parents.

- ❖ Negative attitude of parents towards education
- ❖ Location of the school being in hard to reach area.
- ❖ Poor payment of teachers
- ❖ Lack of enough teachers
- ❖ Lack of enough facilities like laboratory, library
- ❖ Learners have carefree attitude towards education.

C. The effect of poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish.

- ❖ There is high rate of school drop out in Mazzi Parish
- ❖ There is early marriages, at age of sixteen and twenty
- ❖ Lack of role models in the area .
- ❖ High rate of sexual immorality
- ❖ Theft and robbery in common due to idleness of people
- ❖ Backwardness of the people and area at large.

D. The measures that can be taken to improve on academic performance of learners.

- ❖ Parents should be sensitized about the value of education
- ❖ Government should increase the teacher's payments.
- ❖ Government should create and promote organizations such as a Concern for the Girl Child (CGC) and Uganda Red Cross society.
- ❖ Government should provide existing schools with enough facilities like laboratories and library.
- ❖ Career guidance and counseling should be encouraged
- ❖ With USE (Universal Secondary Education) in place, parents should be encouraged to cater for other.
- ❖ Government should avail some economic activities to the local people.

## **5.2 Recommendations**

Due to negative effects of poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish, the researcher identified particular categories of people that help to improve on academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish to whom the following recommendations were made:-

The categories include the government, parents, teachers and learners.

The recommendation to each group are spelt out below:

### **5.2.1 Recommendation to the government**

The government ought to emphasize children's rights together with education of masses on how to apply these rights so as to assist parents together with their children to become responsible people in the society.

- ❖ The government also has to set up principle/ rules to be followed by the parents and children concerning children who are not out of school before age of eighteen should be dealt with accordingly.
- ❖ Government should also set up laws against child neglect and should monitor parents , activities up on rising up children properly by catering to their basic needs.
- ❖ The government should stipulate punishments against the victims of immoral behavior like sexual immorality, theft and robbery and should punish them through prosecuting and trying them in courts of law.

- ❖ The government should put more emphasis on ministry of sports by making sure that there is enough facilities in existing schools, teachers' salaries are increased and there is supervision of teacher.

#### **5.2.2 To parents.**

- ❖ Parents should spare time and talk to their children about the value of education
- ❖ Parents should also take a step in guidance and counseling of their children on self control to avoid things which can mislead them and neglect studies.
- ❖ Parents should restrict children from activities that yield to immorality for example attending discos, disrespect of elders, teachers since discipline is key to success.
- ❖ Parents should play their roles and provide children with scholastic materials in time above all they should their children's school fees in time.
- ❖ Parents need to realize that they ought to produce a manageable size of children that they will afford support and educate.

#### **5.2.3 To teachers.**

- ❖ Teachers should live exemplary life among learners and community at large so that learners may admire and work hard to success in life.
- ❖ Teachers should guide and counsel learners oftenly and not to get tired they should tell them value of education.

- ❖ Teachers should organize parent's meetings at school and try to inform them on values of education and their roles as parents to the child's future.
- ❖ Teachers should revise their professional code of conduct and try their level best to play their roles and duties in school in order to enable learners perform well academically.
- ❖ Teachers should also mind of the children's future first before they think of how much they are paid since they were trained to serve the nation and their profession is noble.

#### **5.2.4 To learners**

- ❖ Learners should mind of their future before they think of any other thing, they could be tempted to do.
- ❖ Learners should know that education is the key to success, without education one can not have a bright future.
- ❖ Learners should respect their parents, elders and teachers whether at school or outside school.

In a conclusive remark. It appears quite hard to improve on academic performance of learners but with combined efforts of governments, parents teachers and learners, academic performance of learners can improve for the betterment of children's future and community at large.

## REFERENCES

- Centerwval. B.S (1995) Race, Social – economic Status and Domestic Homicide. Journal of the America Medical Association.
- Durojaiye S.J (1986) Introduction to education Psychology. Macmillan New York.
- Ezeu. E (1981) Sociology of Education. Longman, Hong Kong.
- Fallin Phillip (1995) “The community and social work” 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Peacock Publishers.
- Kisembo S. (1995) The Implements of effective performance of teachers in secondary schools in Kabaraole. Bed research report (MUK) Unpublished.
- Leagans J.P (1961) Characteristics of teaching and learning in extension education. Government of India New Delhi.
- Lindgren H.C (1976) Education Psychology in the classroom. Willy International, New York.
- Mbiti J.S (1981) Introduction to education. Kampala, Uganda
- M.O.E.S (1989) Basic Requirements and minimum Standards Indicator for secondary schools. Education Inspectorate, Kampala.
- Myra .P Sadker (2003) Teachers, Schools and societies. 6<sup>th</sup> edition. McGraw – Hill
- Newell S. (1983). Human Behaviour In education administration. Macmillan, London.
- Ngonga, B.G (1991) A comparison between the performance of trained Untrained teachers in the teaching of English in Uganda secondary schools. Kampala Uganda.

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A

#### QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE STUDENTS.

Dear informants, I wish to request you to assist me answer the following questions on the topic; "Economic Status of parents and academic performance of learners in selected secondary schools in Mazzi Parish, Kamira Sub – county in Luwero – District.

1. Does the economic Status of parents affect learner's performance in Mazzi Parish?

Yes ☐ No ☐

2. If yes, how does it affect the academic performance of learners

.....

.....

.....

3. Is it true that poor performance of learners mentioned in question no. 2 are as a result of economic Status of parents?

Yes ☐ No ☐

4. If yes, what measures can be taken to help learners whose parents economic status have affected learners academic performance.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5 What are other factors that have affected learners' academic performance a part from parents economic status in Mazzi Parish?

.....

.....

.....

***Thank you very much***

***God Bless You***

## APPENDIX B

### QUESTIONNAIRE TO TEACHERS.

Dear informants, I kindly request you assist me respond to the following questions intended to answer my problem in a research on topic; "economic status of parents and academic performance of learners in selected secondary schools in Mazzi Parish Kamira sub – county in Luwero District."

1. Do learners of Mazzi Parish Perform well academically?

Yes

No

2. If No, what are the some of the causes of the poor academic performance (Mention the greatest first)

.....

.....

.....

3. Does the economic status of learners affect academic performance of learners? If yes

(a) Give reasons

.....

.....

.....

.....

(b) On the other hand, what are other factors responsible for the poor academic performance of learners in Mazzi Parish?

.....

.....

.....  
.....

4. Suggest solutions to the factors that affect the academic performance in Mazzi parish?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

***Thank you very much***  
  
***God Bless You***

## APPENDIX C

### QUESTIONNAIRE TO PARENTS

Dear informants, I kindly request you assist me respond to the following questions intended to answer my problem in a research on topic; “economic status of parents and academic performance of learners in selected secondary schools in Mazzi Parish Kamira sub – county in Luwero District.”

1. Is the economic status of parents Ok?

Yes ☐ No ☐

2. If, No, Does it affect the academic performance of learners?

Yes ☐ No ☐

3. If yes, how does it affect the academic performance of learners?

.....  
.....  
.....

4. Suggest possible solutions to the above problem in question no.3

.....  
.....  
.....

5. Apart from economic status of parents what are other factors that affect academic performance of learners.

.....  
.....

***Thank you very much***

***God Bless You***