
GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING DEPARTMENT ON THE STUDENT'S BEHAVIOUR OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN UGANDA: A CASE OF SEMULIKI HIGH SCHOOL BUNDIBUGYO DISTRICT**Akugizibwe Lydia¹, Babirye Shamilah², Rutakama Godee³****1, 2, 3 Metropolitan International University****ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the study was to examine the effect of Guidance and Counselling department on students' behavior at Semuliki High School. The study was based on the findings from the 320 respondents who presented accurate data to be retrieved out of the sample size of over 370 respondents. The objectives of the study were to examine the need for guidance and counseling among students of Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District, to identify the different measures of guidance, counseling department at Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District, to examine factors that hinder guidance and counseling department at Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District. Data was collected from the teachers, parents and students of Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District. The researcher used random sampling technique to collect data from the respondents. The findings of the study indicated that there is a need to carry out guidance and counselling in secondary schools however some of the respondents opposed the suggestion through presenting results showing that there is no need to implement guidance and counselling. The study also revealed that majority of the respondents informed the researcher that one of the measures of carrying out Guidance and Counselling in Schools was through providing sex education to them and finally the study also showed that that peer pressure among the students in schools was the major factor that hindered Guidance and Counselling.

Key words: guidance, counseling, students, behaviour and secondary schools**Background of the study**

If people are to work harmoniously towards a common goal, guidance and counseling must be constantly practiced to reinforce discipline. The teachers and administration of the school have a duty to ensure that the students continue to grow according to his own personal line. Students are an invaluable asset and the most important element in education (Anthony, Kazaara, Kazaara et al., 2023). According to (Anthony, Kazaara, & Kazaara, 2023), "a child's overall development can only take place in an environment conducive to teaching and learning." Realizing the above, all educational services that can

support teaching and learning in schools are given significant attention by educational planners (Emmanuel et al., 2023). Counseling services belong to school education services. School counseling services are expected to develop, evaluate, and improve educational programs; improve teaching and improve teacher competence and reduce costs for children (Christopher, Komunda, et al., 2022). In addition to bringing students together for learning, teachers also address behavioral issues among them (Christopher, Moses, et al., 2022). Schools face more complex unfair practices that they always encounter.

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Guidance and counseling can provide a good basis for wider education for life. Although non-medical and non-psychiatric, it can be used as therapy for individuals with specific personal problems, or can form the basis of a more general "life skills training program" for a student who, even if suffering from no specific problem, should be supported in building his/her personal resources to cope effectively with her future life (Stokes, 1986). The role of

guidance and counseling in effective teaching and learning in schools for a child's future success (Eastburn & Sharland, 2017). At Semuliki High in Bundibugyo District, there was a need for guidance and counseling to improve the behavior of the students and thus the researcher is empowered to evaluate the impact of the guidance and counseling department on the students.

Problem statement

Despite the efforts of the Ministry of Education to manage indiscipline in public high schools, as evidenced by the establishment of a counseling department in every high school, many schools have not implemented it, and thus indiscipline in these schools persists with the principal researcher. refers to Semuliki Secondary School in Bundibugyo District (Godfrey et al., 2023). Not only are they violent and destructive, they also cause maximum harm to human life by going on strike, bullying classmates, engaging in malpractice investigations, sexual abuse, peer ganging, mishandling school property and other non-disciplinary practices (Victoria et al ., 2023). Currently, there seems to be no clear strategy to stop student indiscipline at Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo district and this has been shown by the increase in cases of indiscipline and it is because of this that the researcher is set to assess the effect of the guidance and counseling department on student behavior on Semuliki Secondary School in Bundibugyo District (Kanyerere & Muhammed, 2023).

Objectives of the study

- To examine the need for guidance and counseling among students of Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District
- To identify the different measures of guidance, counseling department at Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District
- To examine factors that hinder guidance and counseling department at Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District.

Methodology

Research Design

The Researcher used quantitative research design because it was the best research design when dealing with a large population. The study included the role of Guidance and counseling on students' behavior of Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District.

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Study Population

Target population is defined as a compute set of individuals, cases/objects with some common observable characteristics of a particular nature distinct from other population. According to Ngechu (2014), a population is a well-defined or set of people, services, elements, and events, group of things or households that are being investigated. This definition ensures that population of interest is homogeneous.

Table 1: Sample Size

Respondents	Target Population	Sample Size	Percentage
Students	300	270	90%
Teachers	40	30	75%
Parents	80	70	75%
Total	470	370	

Population Description

The population from which the sample was taken involved the students, teachers and parents. The respondents were got from various classes at Semuliki High School in Bundibuyo District. In order to come up with accurate data that helped the researcher get all that was needed.

Population Sampling Design

The target population was on 300 Students, 80 parents and 40 teachers amongst the entire school using stratified sampling technique because it was the most effective when handling heterogeneous population's parameters, and enabled separate estimates of the populations of the parameters that was obtained for each stratum without additional sampling. Respondents from different classes were then selected using simple random sampling technique to make the results objective and inferences based on them was more valid.

Research Instruments

The researcher used both primarily and secondary sources of information and data. In collecting Primary Data, the researcher used questionnaires as tools for collecting the data. For Secondary Data, publications by re known authors in this field were also used.

Data Analysis

This involved editing, coding, measuring and tabulation of the collected data using SPSS (Nelson et al., 2022). A quantitative method was used in computation of percentages and totals. Tables were used to present and summarize data for easy interpretation and display of information.

RESULTS

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The need for guidance and Counseling Schools

Figure 1: Need for Guidance and Counselling in Schools

Source: Field Data (2021)

n (370)

According to the figure above, the findings of the study presented results showing that 60% of the respondents informed the researcher that indeed there is a need to carry out guidance and counselling in schools followed by 20% of the respondents who informed the researcher that there is no need to carry out guidance and counselling. 15% of the respondents however presented results showing that they were not sure on whether Guidance and Counselling is needed in schools or not and finally the findings of the study presented results indicating that 5% of the respondents had no idea on Guidance and Counselling.

Measures of Guidance and Counseling Department

Table 2: Measures of Guidance and Counseling

Measures of Guidance and Counseling	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Providing Sex Education	160	50
Career Guidance	70	21
Conflict Resolutions	50	16
Providing Parental guidance	40	13
Total	320	100

Source: Field Data (2021)

n (370)

According to the table above, the findings of the study clearly indicated 50% of the respondents informed the researcher that one of the measures of Guidance and Counselling to the school going students is through providing sex education to them, followed by 21% of the respondents who presented results showing that giving career guidance to students is another good measure of Guidance and Counselling (Mark et al., 2023). Some respondents (16%) informed the researcher that Conflict resolutions at school also is a measure of Guidance and Counselling and finally the findings of the study also presented results showing that 13% of the respondents urged that providing parental Guidance to the students is another measure of Guidance and Counselling (Oromo et al., 2023).

Factors that hinder guidance and counseling

Figure 2: Views on the factors that hinder guidance and Counselling

Source: Field Data (2021)

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According to the figure above, the findings of the study presented results showing that 40% of the respondents presented results indicating that peer pressure was one of the main factors that hindered Guidance and Counselling followed, 10% of the respondents presented results showing that Drug Abuse was another factor that hindered Guidance and Counselling, some respondents presented results indicating that 20% of the respondents provided results indicating that poor administration of schools also hindered Guidance and Counselling followed by 13% of the respondents who informed the researcher that family background was another hindrance to Guidance and Counselling and finally the findings of the study presented results showing that Culture and Tradition was another hindrance to Guidance and Counselling (Joventa et al., 2023).

Discussion of findings

This study was conducted at Semuliki High School in Bundibugyo District. The target population of the study area was of 420 respondents namely students, teachers and finally the parents. Out of the target population of 420 respondents, the researcher used random sampling technique and came up with a sample size of 370 respondents who were then given Questionnaires and later on information that was retrieved by the researcher as concrete and accurate came from 320 respondents as shown below (Kazaara et al., 2023):

Among the objectives of the study, the researcher was to examine the need for guidance and counseling among students, the different measures of guidance and counseling department and finally the factors that hinder guidance and counseling. According to the data that was collected throughout the study, 60% of the respondents informed the researcher that indeed there is a need to carry out guidance and counselling in schools followed by 20% of the respondents who informed the researcher that there is no need to carry out guidance and counselling (Wegulo et al., 2023). 15% of the respondents however presented results showing that they were not sure on whether Guidance and Counselling is needed in schools or not and finally the findings of the study presented results indicating that 5% of the respondents had no idea on Guidance and Counselling. The findings of the study also showed that 50% of the respondents informed the researcher that one of the measures of Guidance and Counselling to the school going students is through providing sex education to them, followed by 21% of the respondents who presented results showing that giving career guidance to students is another good measure of Guidance and Counselling (Winny et al., 2023). Some respondents (16%) informed the researcher that Conflict resolutions at school also is a measure of Guidance and Counselling and finally the findings of the study also presented results showing that 13% of the respondents urged that providing parental Guidance to the students is another measure of Guidance and Counselling (Derrick et al., 2023).

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that poor administration of schools also hindered Guidance and Counselling followed by 13% of the respondents who informed the researcher that family background was another hindrance to Guidance and Counselling and finally the findings of the study presented results showing that Culture and Tradition was another hinderance to Guidance and Counselling (Godfrey et al., 2023).

Conclusions

The findings of the study also revealed that majority of the respondents informed the researcher that one of the measures of carrying out Guidance and Counselling in Schools is through providing sex education to them followed by some other respondents who informed the researcher that giving students career guidance is another measure of Guidance and Counselling however some respondents urged that conflict resolution in schools was another measure of Guidance and counseling and finally some respondents presented results indicating that providing parental guidance in schools was another measure of Guidance and Counseling.

Recommendations

Students should be motivated to share and discuss the choice of career with their counsellors and understand the relationship of subjects to a particular career.3. The guidance counsellor should be made to attend his/her professional conferences to learn new ideas of therapies with clients.

Ministry of Education should enforce the establishment of counselling centers in both public and private secondary schools and implementation of counselling programmes.

Government should support guidance and counselling practically by providing and making funds available for all the services in guidance and counselling

People should be sensitized effectively about Guidance and Counselling in order to make them gain more knowledge and proper understanding of Counselling such that they know ways how it can be avoided.

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