
POVERTY AND GIRL'S EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS. A CASE STUDY OF ITIRIKWA SUB-COUNTY.**1 Tiondi Emmanuel Oryema, 2 Twinomujuni Rosebell****1, 2 Metropolitan International University****ABSTRACT**

The study aimed at the effect of poverty on girl's education in primary schools and it was guided by the following objectives; To examine the causes of poverty Itirikwa sub county, to analyze the impacts of poverty on school enrollment in Itirikwa Sub County and to find out strategies for addressing poverty in Itirikwa Sub County. The researcher used a descriptive survey research study design. This method was used for gathering data or information through the socialization from parents' teachers, and pupils or documents. It involved the systematic collection of data on an entity or group of data. From the findings, it was found out that early school dropout was one of the impacts of poverty in school enrollment in Itirikwa sub county, this was supported by 45% of the total population, on the other hand, the study found out that poor health and early marriages were also the impacts of poverty in school enrollment, 23%, and 32% of the population supported this respectively. Upon recommendations, the sub county authority should also ensure issues of solving domestic violence is of paramount, this could put chances for family stability hence collective responsibility of fighting poverty. Early marriage emphasis should much be put to ensure children stay in school and complete their primary level.

Key words: poverty, girl's education and primary schools**Background to the study**

Over time, export-based agrarian capitalism led to the emergence of a powerful landed elite capable of using the power of the state to advance its goals (Paul et al., 2023). With current trends toward economic competitiveness and the need to develop comparative advantages among countries, it is likely that Latin America will keep up its agro-industrial production, which does not bode well for the resolution of social disparities. Poverty [1] increased during the 1980–1990 decade in Latin America, growing from 46 to

60% in urban areas and from 80 to 85% in the countryside (Godfrey et al., 2023). Extreme poverty increased from 22 to 27% in urban areas and from 50 to 52% in rural areas, according to statistics gathered by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, also known as CEPAL (Zulaikah & Rebecca, 2023). In Brazil, the industrial giant of Latin America (Shamim et al., 2023), 1990 urban poverty stood at 39%, or 9% above its 1979 level and 5% above its 1987 level (CEPAL, 1994). More

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recently, from 1990 to 1997, according to CEPAL, the proportion of poor households in Latin America dropped from 41% to 36% (Faridah et al., 2023). Not only are these gains small but the number of people who are poor increased from 136 million in the 1980s to 207 million in 1997 (Christopher & Micheal, 2022). Government expenditures on social benefits in the region remain largely regressive and will likely continue to be so in order to maintain investor confidence. Approximately, 1.2 billion people in the world live in extreme poverty (less than one dollar per day) (Vincent & Peter, 2023). Poverty creates ill health because it forces people to live in an environment that makes them sick without a decent shelter, clean water or adequate sanitation. Poverty entails more than lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihood (Derrick et al., 2023). Its manifestations include hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusions. However, it is caused by many factors such as poor education, conflict, inequalities, climate change, lack of infrastructure and limited capacity of the government (Anthony, Kazaara, Kazaara, et al., 2023). Girls' education is however scraped through the 1950s and 60s and the

70s even with the opening of girls' school as Gayaza junior and Gayaza high school (1905) Mt St Mary's college Namayunga (1942) many girls were unable to go to school largely because of prevailing unfavorable societal cultural attitude of educating girls (Sub-county et al., 2023).

Statement of the problem

A recent report on poverty found that 135 million children in the developing world between the ages of 7 and 8 had no education at all with girls 60% more than boys to be so educationally deprived. Education deprivation and poverty go hand in hand (Victoria et al., 2023). Gender disparity in education is significantly greater for children living in poverty (Suzan & Kazaara, 2023). These girls are in double jeopardy, affected by both gender and poverty. Customary laws and practices ensure that women's position remains subordinate (Anthony, Kazaara, & Kazaara, 2023). This is made worse by the existence of a dual legal system. In education, girls' progression rate is worse than boys because of high dropout rates due to pregnancies, lack of school fees, and family-related crises (Oromo et al., 2023).

Research Objectives

1. To examine the causes of poverty in Itirikwa sub county.
2. To analyze the impacts of poverty on school enrollment in Itirikwa Sub County.
3. To find out strategies for addressing poverty in Itirikwa Sub County.

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Research Questions

1. What are the causes of poverty in Itirikwa Sub County?
2. How does poverty impact on school enrollment in Itirikwa Sub County?
3. What are the possible ways of addressing poverty in Itirikwa Sub County?

Methodology

Research Design

The researcher used a descriptive survey research study design. This method was used for gathering data or information through the socialization from parents' teachers, and pupils or documents. It involved the systematic collection of data on an entity or group of data.

Study population

The study population concentrated on 152 participants consisting 40 pupils from primary 4-7 of whom 20 were girls and 20 boys who had good knowledge of their environment, 35 teachers, school management committees, and 25 PTA members 11 head teachers 5 parents 35 local community leaders, 11 NGO officials this was because the researcher expected to have gathered feedback from the target respondents and he involved random sampling from the study population within the area under study.

Category	Number	Percentage
Girls	20	15%
Boys	20	15%
PTA	25	17%
Teachers	25	17%
Local leaders	11	7%
NGO Officials	11	7%
Head teachers	5	3%
Parents	25	23%
Total	152	100%

Sample size

The sample size of 152 respondents were selected as the table below shows.

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Category	Population	Sample size	Percentage	Sampling techniques
Girls	20	19	13%	Simple random
Boys	20	19	13%	Simple random
PTA	25	24	17%	Cluster sampling
Teachers	25	24	17%	Cluster sampling
Local leaders	11	10	7%	Cluster sampling
Head teachers	5	5	4%	Purposive sampling
NGO Officials	11	10	7%	Purposive sampling
Parents	35	23	22%	Cluster sampling
Total	152	143	100%	

Data collection instruments

The study utilized a number of research instruments including questionnaires and structured interview guide

Questionnaires

This researcher self-administered questionnaires for the respondent. The justification for using this instrument was that, questionnaires were easy to administer and analyze where the population is large. In addition, the questionnaires were used because the study focused on opinion attitude; feeling and perception of the respondents which helped them deliberate such freely

Data analysis

Qualitative data analysis was done using research instrument such as interview guides, questionnaire and research surveys. Also, narratives were recorded during face-to-face interview. The researcher used a quick impression summary in analyzing qualitative data, he summarized key finding by noting down frequent responses of the respondents during the interview on various issues relating to poverty and girls' education using SPSS (Nelson et al., 2022). The technique of qualitative data analysis has been chosen because it saves time and it's not very expensive.

RESULTS

Table 3 causes of poverty in Itirikwa sub county

Causes of poverty in Itirikwa sub	Frequency	Percentage
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county		
Lack of opportunities	15	12
Conflicts	30	23
Diseases	25	19
Illiteracy	60	46
Total	130	100

Source: primary data (2020)

It was revealed that lack of opportunities contributed to poverty in Itirikwa Sub County, this was supported by 12% of the population; similarly, the study found out that conflict's diseases and illiteracy amongst the poor communities contributed poverty, 23%, 19% and 46% supported this respectively

The study sought to analyze the impacts of poverty in school enrollment in Itirikwa sub county, table 4 shows the results.

Table 4 sought to analyze the impacts of poverty in school enrolment in Itirikwa Sub County

Impacts of poverty in school enrolment	Frequency	Percentage
Early school dropout	58	45
Poor health	30	23
Early marriages	42	32
Total	130	100

Source: primary data (2020)

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It was found out that early school dropout is one of the impacts of poverty in school enrollment in Itirikwa sub county, this was supported by 45% of the total population, on the other hand, the study found out that poor health and early marriages were also the impacts of poverty in school enrollment, 23%, and 32% of the population supported this respectively.

The study sought to find out the strategies for addressing poverty in Itirikwa Sub County, table 5 shows the results.

Table 5 the strategies for addressing poverty in Itirikwa Sub County

Strategies for addressing poverty	Frequency	Percentage
Good governance	40	30
Giving voice to poor communities	80	62
Fighting domestic violence	10	8
Total	130	100

Source: primary data (2020)

It was found out that good governance is one of the strategies for addressing poverty in Itirikwa Sub County, 62% of the population supported this view. On the other hand, the study found out giving voice to poor communities and fighting domestic violence contributed to addressing poverty, 30%, 8% of the population supported this respectively (Damasus et al., 2023).

Conclusions

Based on the research findings the study concluded that; lack of opportunities, conflicts diseases and others are found to be the causes of poverty in Itirikwa sub county.

Recommendations

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The sub county authority should also ensure issues of solving domestic violence is of paramount, this could put chances for family stability hence collective responsibility of fighting poverty

Early marriage emphasis should much be put to ensure children stay in school and complete their primary level. This is because many parents were found to be forcing their daughters out of school so that they could get wealthy from the dowries paid

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