

Impact of domestic violence on the social development of children: a case of Meru Municipality Imenti North

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ABSTRACT

Domestic violence has a taken toll on many countries in the world with children and women impacted most. It is a universal phenomenon cutting across the world and affecting all the members of the family wealthy or poor, young and old. This study focused on the impact of domestic violence on the social development of the children. The purpose was to investigate the impact of domestic violence on the social development and establish rationale for early intervention. The idea was to investigate specifically how domestic violence is affecting children's personality and relationship in growing environments. Thus, the study addressed the factors affecting changes in children as they grow such as, physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence. The research used a descriptive survey research design since the study was both qualitative and quantitative. The study sample was selected from the target population using stratified random sampling method. Simple random sampling was used to take sample in each group or strata. The study used self administered questionnaire and interview guides to collect data. The data was processed and analyzed using the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). Descriptive statistics such as cumulative frequencies and percentages were used for analysis. The results were presented in summary reports and frequency tables. Research finding showed that domestic violence practices was one of the major key hindrances to quality social development of children thus it was recommended that the government, organizations, and individuals must embrace the need for socially fitting and developing children in the society. In order for this to happen, emphasis should be geared towards implementing the best practices, policies, and laws for addressing prevention of domestic violence and let the law be enforced in relation to policing and prosecuting instances of domestic violence and this to be done using the existing own laws and policies.