

## **Factors influencing enrolment of pupils in public primary schools: a case of Chavakali Division, Sabatia District**

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### **Abstract:**

The purpose of this study was designed to investigate factors influencing enrolment in public primary schools in Chavakali Division, in Sabatia District. The research aimed at finding out why there was a reduction in enrolment in public primary schools despite the fact that the population of Kenya was expected to go up. The objectives of the study were: To identify the influence of family income on enrollment, to identify the influence of family background on enrollment, to establish the influence of death of parents on enrollment, and to assess the influence of family size on enrollment. This study adapted to descriptive survey design as a major method of research where data was collected by the researcher from members of population under study. Stratified sampling technique was used to single out schools headed by head masters and head Mistress. Other methods that were used included, systematic random sampling, simple random and purposive sampling techniques. Perceived conceptual frame work and theoretical framework was used in the study. Three questionnaires were used for data collection and the interview schedule for parents. It was arranged, summarized and analyzed descriptively. It was described using tables, graphs and frequencies. Words were used to describe and explain the meaning of the data and made conclusions. The research findings revealed that most of the pupils came from poor family background that they had to give a hand in generating family income. Also most parents had attended education upto primary level which was seen as a key factor behind the low enrolment and participation of pupils in schools. Lastly the increase of poverty made it impossible for the parents to meet educational demands. Suggestions made were a replicate of the same study could be carried in other Districts to establish the results of the study if it holds in other areas. On the other hand an evaluation study could be done to determine the impact of free primary education on the enrolment and involvement of pupils in school.