

**INFLUENCE OF COMMUNITY BASED ORPHAN CARE ON
INTEGRAL GROWTH OF ORPHANS IN HOMA BAY
COUNTY: A CASE OF THE MANGO TREE
ORPHAN SUPPORT PROGRAM**

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THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN
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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has never been presented for a degree or any award in any other university.

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L50/71775/2014

This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work with love to my beloved husband Peter Kunyada, my late parents Norbert Auma and Magadalina Obambo; my brothers and sisters, and the entire extended Kodungu family from whom I learnt the values of community living and love for the poor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My grateful acknowledgement goes to Prof. Harriet Kidombo for helping me achieve this work. I thank the teaching and non-teaching staff, and fellow students of Nairobi University who supported me in any way to complete this work.

I am grateful to my husband Peter Kunyada and my children Betty, Katy and Danny who did not only miss my care and attention during the period of study but also forfeited certain needs when I committed resources to my education.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- OVC:** Orphans and Vulnerable Children
- HIV:** Humino-deficiency Virus
- AIDS:** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
- TMT:** The Mango Tree Orphan Support Program

ABSTRACT

While Home Based Care (HBC) of orphans is for the most part advancing in recognition in most of developing countries in Africa as an alternative approach to Institutionalized Based Care, its knowledge among the members of local communities in Kenya especially Homabay County remains scanty. This study is aimed at investigating the influence of community based orphan care on the integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County in the case of The Mango Tree Orphan Support Program. The study reached a total number of sixty five orphans and households. Purposive sampling procedure on the other hand was used to arrive at the sample of households that were selected to participate in the Focus Group Discussion (FGD). In sampling the participants, the researcher was assisted by using the zero-based acceptance sampling plan table to come up with a sample size of 68 participants with a .65% representation of the total population of four thousand four hundred and fifty eight (4458). The total number of those who were selected included fifty (n=68) participants.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Over 16 million children worldwide are living without one or both parents due to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and other related factors. In numerous instances, more children are vulnerable because of chronically ill parents or the social and economic effects of living in high Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV) prevalence communities (PEPFAR, 2014).

According to Mallia (2012), several agencies of the UN and other renowned world humanitarian outfits have been rolling out support packages for moulding the orphaned to fit into the general community with varied successes and failures. Questions have been raised on the impact of these agencies in designing sustainable strategies for giving the basic care to these orphans and also preparing them to fully participate in various community initiatives on the same footing with those from advantaged families, Fhallin (2013).

Reporting from a survey done in Argentina based on the influence of Orphan Care Support Project on integral growth of orphans, Amnio (2014) observed that most of the orphans were capable of fitting into the general society as these projects were packaged in different strategic units such as extended family units, alternative family based care, guardianship and volunteerism making them responsive to community needs. According to the National Australian Association of Community Health Care Report, (2011), local health care organizations in Australia were playing significant role of giving hope to those from poor households through such programs as guardianship, alternative family based care and volunteerism services, equipping those in their care with crucial skills to make useful contributions to the general wellbeing of the society.

In a study undertaken in the Eastern Block Division of Jabalpur in India focusing on the influence of Dellion Orphan Support programme on integral growth of orphans, Ahmalghali (2013) outlined that a community initiative that focuses on the low economic category should offer training aspects that render the beneficiaries opportunities for self reliance. In addition, alternative family based care, guardianship and volunteer activities on key community development projects be encouraged so that such orphans get fully embraced in the wider society.

According to Nalmon (2013), several community health care projects were steadily closing parental gaps left as a result of HIV/AIDS scourge in China, rolling up integrated orphan care activities to ensure that these orphans gain life skills for responsive community needs. He enlists these services as alternative family care, guardianship and encouraging these orphans to take up voluntary activities for purpose of making contribution to the general well being.

Reporting from a study done in South African's Natalya Division with its focus on the influence of community based orphan care programmes on the strategic growth of orphans, Nolino (2012) noted that alternative family care was responsible for giving parental care to the orphans and upon full growth these orphans effectively get integrated into the society offering a lot of voluntary services. She further indicated that these institutions of child rescue were also rolling out strong guardianship on career choice and responsible community behavior which were necessary for social integration.

Working with the World Vision's orphan care projects in Congo, Fazul (2014) observed that these projects, packaged in such activities as family care, guardianship and community voluntary services, were responsible for successful preparation of the youths into mainstream community chores. Besides, moral standards and spiritual nourishments

are also inculcated in the orphans so that they get fully prepared for facing the ever challenging aspects of community living.

According to Dousman (2011), effective strategies for realizing preparation of dependable citizens in the society from the activities of child care centres in Senegal took the form of mentorship through provision of role model behavior for these young persons, social integration, community support and a feeling of responsibility. With these dimensions of the growth of young people in most orphanages, many children left behind due to the death of their parents, were getting the necessary opportunities to play their roles in the community effectively just like those with their caring parents.

As noted by Ashram (2012) in his survey based on the impact of orphanage care programmes on the general growth of the orphans in Temnazo community in Tanzania, orphans who were brought up from these institutions formed majority of individuals offering voluntary services to the society, proving much more responsible than children brought up in the comfort of family environments. He also indicated that these institutions were providing alternative family care to the orphans as well as offering career mentorship in life skills vital for future survival.

In a survey on the effects of community based orphan care programmes on the growth of the orphans in Toromega community in Uganda, Mangeli (2014) pointed out that young people were learning effectively through mentorship offered by success stories and these programmes were just based on solid platform of mentorship, alternative family care and corporate social responsibility through voluntary programmes.

Focusing on the impact of Orphan support programmes in Bumula Constituency, Onyango (2014) indicated that through such strategies as strong guardianship programmes, voluntary services and a culture of humility and moral uprightness, the orphan support

programmes were promising hope to hitherto hopeless individuals orphaned as a consequence of the death of their parents through HIV/AIDS.

Reporting from the study commissioned by ADRA based on the assessment of the effectiveness of Community based orphan support programmes in Migori County, Rawila (2013) noted that through guardianship and alternative family care initiatives, the programme was one of the success stories on how far orphans can be nurtured into responsible citizenship. Indicated also in this report was that ADRA supported community based orphan care programmes in all areas of the project implementation acknowledged the role of engaging in community voluntary services as a mark of fulfillment of corporate social responsibility and equipping orphans with reality in actual community service.

Enumerating the best practices in community based orphan care projects in nurturing holistic development of the beneficiaries capable of making meaningful contribution in community initiatives, Kibet (2014), a consulting professional on child care development with DEMS programme in Nandi County, noted that mentorship programmes through role model behavior, cultural integration on community responsibility and community pay back practices, were significant for the integral growth of the young in readiness for active public service.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Homa Bay County recorded the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the country in the previous two consecutive years and the trend may prevail subsequently, (UNAIDS Report, 2013). Homa Bay County is therefore perceived as home to the highest number of AIDS orphans in Kenya who need attention so as not lose future opportunities due to their disadvantaged status.

Besides the efforts of the Government, there are very many organizations working on OVC care in the county with the most significant groups being AFYA Nyanza, World Vision, Catholic Relief services, Child Fund and The Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme among others, yet it is not very clear how these projects contribute to integral growth of these orphans, Rachuonyo South Social Protection Department Report, 2015.

Despite all these efforts, there are many more OVCs whose lives have remained miserable and always in a state of material want for survival. It is in this light that this study sought to investigate influence of community based orphan care on the integral growth of OVC using a case of The Mango Tree Orphan Support Program in Homa Bay County.

1.3. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to investigate the influence of community-based orphan care programme on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.

1.4. Objectives of the Study

This study was guided by the following objectives;

1. To assess the extent to which African extended family influences integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.
2. To investigate the influence of Alternative family based care on Integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County.
3. To examine how Guardianship influences integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County.
4. To evaluate the influence of Volunteerism on Integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County.

1.5. Research Questions

1. To what extent does African extended family influence integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County?
2. What influence does Alternative family based care have on Integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County?
3. How does Guardianship influence integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County?
4. To what extent does Volunteerism influence Integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County?

1.6. Significance of the Study

Community based orphan care is being put forth as the most appropriate way of supporting children orphaned as a result of their parents demise from the pandemics of HIV/AIDS. As a consequence, many individuals and groups of people have chosen to go this road as it promises more hope to this group of disadvantaged children in the community.

On the account of this reality, the results of the study was hoped to be significant to NGOs, Government Agencies, Humanitarian Organizations and other community based organizations offering care to orphans by being informed of the best strategies to embrace in order to nurture such orphans for responsive citizenship in the wider society. However, not enough research has been done to ascertain its strengths and weaknesses.

Besides, the results of the study would also offer self evaluation to the Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme on the extent to which it was achieving its core objective of preparing holistic individuals with the necessary life skills for future survival in a competitive world. This research study, being academic in nature, stood to offer rich

knowledge on the same and contributing to the search for an appropriate model for orphan care in Africa worth adopting.

1.7. Limitations of the study

The study was a case of the Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme done in 53 villages with 1329 households in six (6) sub-locations namely Rakwaro, Kobuya, Kamwala, Kobala, Kajiei, Upper Kakwajuok in Homa Bay County that was very expansive which posed difficulties in accessing all the respondents during data collection. However, this limitation was addressed by engaging in data collection using two well trained and motivated research assistants who used motorbikes to reach the respondents.

The study was also limited by weather conditions that were often unpredictably fluctuating given that it was conducted during the onset of long rains in the region. To overcome this weather phenomenon, study visits were timed at around noon or thereabouts when the weather conditions were still favorable. Some respondents, due to undisclosed reasons, also declined to give information, while others giving false information deliberately. This was addressed by explaining to the respondents that the purpose of the study was purely academic and also that any information obtained would be used confidentially and never, whatsoever divulged to any other person.

1.8. Delimitations of the Study

The study, being a case of the Mango Tree Orphan Support Program, was confined in Homabay County and done in 53 villages with 1329 households in six (6) sub-locations namely Rakwaro, Kobuya, Kamwala, Kobala, Kajiei and Upper Kakwajuok. The mango tree programmes supports 3129 orphans living in six sub locations and are in primary and secondary schools in Homa Bay County. The research therefore limited itself to orphans

and children with disabilities as OVCs because the poverty levels of a significant number of families are so high and would qualify all children in them as OVC.

1.9 Basic assumption of the Study

The study was grounded on the basic assumptions that; the sample obtained would reflect the major characteristics of the target population; respondents being willing to give information truthfully and objectively and that the data collection instruments would be valid and reliable in measuring the desired results. Moreover, the study also assumed that the program under investigation was large enough and had been in operation for over eight years thereby providing tested evidence.

1.10 Definition of significant terms as used in the study

Orphans: A child below the age of 18 whose mother or father, or both father and mother has died.

Community-based orphan care programme: This implies a community organized outfit targeting orphans in a specific social group with the main purpose of bringing up such disadvantaged children into future responsible citizens

Volunteerism: an activity and a practice of incorporating young people with some theoretical skills into a community set up engaging them in different activities, not for direct monetary gains, but mainly for service to the overall well being of the general community.

Alternative Family Based Care: The short term or long-term placement of a child into a family environment with one consistent caregiver and maturity family environment where the child is part of supportive kin and community.

Extended Family: a family that extends beyond the nuclear family, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other relatives, who all live nearby or in one household (Collins English Dictionary).

Guardian: A guardian is one who is charged with responsibility for a child's welfare including comfort, uplifting, guidance, provision of basic rights and realizing human rights.

Integral growth: Integral growth of OVC implies an all rounded approach to each individual child. Integral growth can also be referred to as holistic. It implies that every aspect of the life of the child is considered and steps are taken to ensure that all the needs are met.

1.10 Organization of the study

The study is organized in five chapters. Chapter one features; background of the study, statement of the problem and purpose of the study. In addition, the chapter contains objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study and limitations of the study. Moreover, the chapter also outlines delimitations of the study, basic assumptions of the study as well as definition of significant terms as used in the study.

Chapter two contains literature review organized in themes such as the analysis of the existing literature on the same area of research and the empirical study done against the backdrop of key study variables. Besides, the theoretical framework, conceptual framework, and knowledge gaps in literature review are also presented.

Chapter three contains research methodology, highlighting the research design, the target population, sample size and sample selection. In addition, data collection instruments, instruments pretesting, instruments validity and instruments reliability are also captured.

Moreover, procedures of data collection, methods of data analysis, operationalization of variables, and ethical issues in research are equally outlined.

Chapter four highlights data analysis, presentation, interpretation and discussions, while chapter five gives the summary of study findings, conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Introduction

This chapter focuses on literature review of studies related to the researcher's area of interest. The literature was reviewed against the background of key study variables. Moreover, theoretical framework and conceptual framework are also outlined.

2.2. The Concept of Integral growth of Orphans

Several agencies of the UN and other renowned world humanitarian outfits have been rolling out support packages for moulding the orphaned to fit into the general community with varied successes and failures, Mallia (2012). Questions have been raised on the impact of these agencies in designing sustainable strategies for giving the basic care to these orphans and also preparing them to fully participate in various community initiatives on the same footing with those from advantaged families, Fhallin (2013).

Amnio (2014) observed that most of the orphans were capable of fitting into the general society as these projects were packaged in different strategic units such as extended family units, alternative family based care, guardianship and volunteerism making them responsive to community needs. According to the National Australian Association of Community Health Care Report, (2011), local health care organizations in Australia were playing significant role of giving hope to those from poor households through such programs as guardianship, alternative family based care and volunteerism services, equipping those in their care with crucial skills to make useful contributions to the general well being of the society.

Ahmalghali (2013) outlined that a community initiative that focuses on the low economic category should offer training aspects that render the beneficiaries opportunities for self

reliance. In addition, alternative family based care, guardianship and volunteer activities on key community development projects be encouraged so that such orphans get fully embraced in the wider society.

In the views of Nalmon (2013), several community health care projects were steadily closing parental gaps left as a result of HIV/AIDS scourge in China, rolling up integrated orphan care activities to ensure that these orphans gain life skills for responsive community needs. He enlists these services as alternative family care, guardianship and encouraging these orphans to take up voluntary activities for purpose of making contribution to the general well being.

Nolino (2012) noted that alternative family care was responsible for giving parental care to the orphans and upon full growth these orphans effectively get integrated into the society offering a lot of voluntary services. She further indicated that these institutions of child rescue were also rolling out strong guardianship on career choice and responsible community behavior which were necessary for social integration.

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According to Dousman (2011), effective strategies for realizing preparation of dependable citizens in the society from the activities of child care centres in Senegal took the form of mentorship through provision of role model behavior for these young persons, social integration, community support and a feeling of responsibility. With these dimensions of

the growth of young people in most orphanages, many children left behind due to the death of their parents, were getting the necessary opportunities to play their roles in the community effectively just like those with their caring parents.

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2.3. Extended family on the Integral growth of orphans

In Sub-Saharan Africa, Mishra and Bignami-Van Assche (2008) posit that orphaned children have been cared for by their extended family, including grandparents, uncles, aunts and other relative and the tradition of child fostering has become an essential coping response to the increased adult mortality due to AIDS. It is also perceived that culturally and locally acceptable solution to the “orphan crisis,” where there is consideration of institutional arrangement, such as fosterage in orphanages are thought to be adequate only in desperate situations.

However, there is growing recognition that the AIDS epidemic jeopardizes this traditional systems of child care (Howard et al, 2006; Kamali et al, 1996; Nyambedha, Wandibba & Aagaard, 2001; Nyamukapa & Gregson , 2005; Oleke, Blystad & Rekdal, 2005). As earlier noted as relates to community based care, Better Care Network (2010) highlighted that most orphans live in families that are poor and unable meet all their needs and in some cases the orphans are discriminately treated by their relatives.

However it was for the sake of the OVC families were still considered to be of great benefit in providing adequate care and building community protection systems to guard against and respond to abuse and exploitation. It further highlighted that rather than directing resources to an institutional care system, sustainable solution in addressing the

needs of the orphaned children are best met by supporting and strengthening the already existing family care and developing family care for the smaller number of orphans who are living outside of families, Komen (2011).

According to Dascom (2010), the nuclear family concept where family is considered to be Father, mother and children has made the situation of orphans to worsen. This is because the extended family has been considered as kept at a distance thereby disintegrating the wealth of the traditional approach of family approach in bringing up children which includes economical, social and emotional support.

Strategic thinkers are sending alarming message that the traditional system is collapsing and will no longer be able to care for children (Foster 2000) Institutional care is an alternative care to provide care for orphans when kinship care is unavailable. But several suggest that early institutionalization increases the risk for psycho-social and developmental problems, including attachment disorder and deficit in cognitive functioning (Sigal et al. 2003; Makame, Ani, and Grantham-McGregor 200; Castol et al. 1999).

In the views of Honn (2009), the family or guardian and orphan relationship has been marred by poor upbringing and mistreat varying from abuse, child labor, physical abuse and other unjust marginalization which has caused emotional trauma to children. This has greatly had a negative influence on integral growth of orphans as a result of the modern perception of extended family care. In addressing the rights of children various organizations were started in taking care of the orphaned and marginalized children so as to advance their lives in a humane way. However the orphanages were not either free from the challenges faced by extended family approach.

Such adverse outcomes together with scandal concerning the cohesion of biological parents and child abuse motivated industrialized countries to close down orphanages after

World War II (Mckenzie 1999; Wiener 1997) while in Africa institutional care is still common. Nowadays there two trends of thought about institutional care; the first trend argues that institutional care should never be considered because other care options are available. This position is rooted in the evidence of developmental problems mentioned above and the psychoanalytic theories that emphasis the importance of early mother-infant bonds for child development (Wiener, 1998).

Another drawback of orphanages is the high cost of care compared to child fosterage (Bhargava & Bigombe 2003; McKenzie 1999). Therefore, experts and international agencies have called for abandonment of institutional care in favor of investing in the traditional systems (Chirwa, 2000). They claim that communities are developing adaptive mechanisms to continue to care for most orphans. So, one can use Community Based Organization (CBOs) to strengthen existing networks and empower community efforts by providing financial assistance. (Evans 2005; UNAID 2001).

Some authors advocate recruitment of community volunteers who will identify, support and supervise vulnerable families who are caring for orphans as observed in Uganda (Lee et al. 2002; Drew, Makufa & Foster, 1998).

On the contrary, the second trend of thought is more pessimistic and calls for immediate actions to address the increased of burden of orphan hood. Although they agree with the primacy of child fosterage, partisans believe that the extended family has failed (Zimmerman, 2005; McKenzie, 1999). The following facts seems to corroborate this situation: Many orphan in foster families are suffering from discrimination, deprivation, exclusion, hard treatment, and illness as compared to biological children (Oni, 1995; Castle, 1995; Bledsoe, Ewbank & Isiugo-Abanihe, 1988); community restructuring and coping mechanisms are in progress and will take years to achieve, while orphans are hungry, dying, or becoming street children (Zimmerman, 2005) observed that orphanage

care is a better way to meet the maximum number of needs for large group of Malawian orphans in the most efficient manner.

2.4. Alternative Family Based Care on Integral Growth of Orphans

The definition of informal alternative care is “...any private arrangement provided in a family environment, whereby the child is looked after on an ongoing or indefinite basis by relatives or friends (informal kinship care) or by others in their individual capacity, at the initiative of the child, his/her parents or other person without this arrangement having been ordered by an administrative or judicial authority or a duly accredited body” (Roby, 2011).

Berliner et al, (2015) posit that family based care is the short term or long-term placement of a child into a family environment with one consistent caregiver and maturity family environment where the child is part of supportive kin and community. AFBC is an alternative to institutional care. Research has shown that children suffer immeasurably when brought up in institutions (even the well funded ones) and that family based placements are much better and more economical for children.

Placing a child within a substitute family avoids many of the risks of harmful institutionalization and it potentially offers individual care and love from a parent figure opportunity to experience family life, and the chance to be involved with normal activities within the community and wider society. This will all make it possible for the child to enter adulthood better equipped to cope practically and emotionally with independent life. The benefit of family based care is also recognized in the UN convention on the rights of child (Csáky, 2009).

2.5. Guardianship on Integral Growth of Orphans

According to Nonny (2013), a guardian is one who is charged with responsibility for a child's welfare including comfort, uplifting, guidance, provision of basic rights and

realizing human rights. It is absolutely necessary for each child to choose or be assigned, know and relate to one significant adult, the guardian.

In the United Nations Convention on the Right of the Child it is stated that; Childhood is a stage demanding specific care by a significant person and that parents should protect the child from physical or mental abuse, neglect, injury or exploitation and this should be done within a family (UNAIDS, 1999). But this is no longer possible for many children who have lost both their parents and their families due to HIV/AIDS.

In addition, findings illustrated the strong influence of household wealth and food security on caregiver's well-being. Food security and poverty that persist or developed over time are associated with increasing distress. Conversely, maintenance or improvement in food security and household wealth are associated with decreases in distress. Providing all aspects of household maintenance care for children, primary caregivers are key to the extended family solutions for orphaned and vulnerable children, Dola (2013).

Bolstering the foundation of rural African families to ensure care and protection of these children involved targeting support to orphan caregivers but must also include addressing the issues of poverty and food insecurity that pose a wider threat to care giving capacity Adams (2010). The challenge is how to safeguard these rights for children in this situation and to domesticate these international conventions for the benefit of all children in our country. Ironically, the rights of the vulnerable child seem to be a right to abandonment, death by starvation, child labor, child battering, exploitation and child prostitution. Twelve studies documented general trends relating to who provides care and prevents these from happening.

This trend of familial care was supported in studies in South Africa (freeman & Mkombo 2006), Zimbabwe (Foster et al., 1995), Brazil (Doring, Junior, & Stella, 2005) and the

United States (Rotheram – Boras et al., 2002). Studies also showed gendered patterns of care with female extended family members typically taking on care duties (Yamano, Shimamura & Ssurunkuuma, 2006), particularly older female relatives (Foster et al., 1995, Howard et al, 2006). Family based care within the extended family or with close friend of the family known to the child either of formal or informal nature.

Overreliance on shared child rearing to ensure care for orphans and vulnerable children without formalized support may erode the strength of tradition systems. Maintenance of tradition family based care systems may mitigate the negative impact of loss and transition that orphaned and vulnerable children often face. Better understanding of the implications of orphan care for caregiver well-being is essential in identifying ways to support and sustain caregivers, Monalisa (2014).

A tradition of shared child rearing among extended family members is perhaps what has positioned African families to protect the millions of children orphaned by AIDS and other causes of young adult mortality. A sense of shared responsibility continues to facilitate care in times of family crisis (e.g., Ankara, 1993; Madhavan, 2004; Nyamukapa & Gregson, 2005). Although new HIV/AIDS infections and deaths have stabilized (joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS [UNAIDS], 2010), The HIV/AIDS pandemic remains a major public health challenge in sub-Saharan Africa. Research shows that just over 10% of the world's population live in sub-Saharan Africa, yet 68% of HIV/AIDS infected persons live in this region (UNAIDS, 2010). During 2009, 1.8million adults and children became HIV infected contributing to a 22.5million persons living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa (UNAIDS). In sub-Saharan Africa, women are particularly affected, making up 60% of persons living with HIV (UNAIDS, 2010). In 2009, 1.3 million AIDS-related deaths occurred in sub Saharan Africa (UNAIDS, 2010). More than four-fifths of

all children orphaned by AIDS worldwide live in sub-Saharan Africa, where every eighth child is an orphan (Mishra & Bignami-Van Assche, 2008).

OVC in Africa have traditionally been absorbed and supported by their communities. However, in the context of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and poverty, communities are increasingly stretched, compromising the quality of care available to children affected by AIDS, Adams (2014). This calls for an understanding of the processes that best facilitate the capacity of communities to provide good quality care support. It is through taking account of children and fostering families, that interventions have the best chance of supporting communities so that they can best facilitate resilience and well-being of OVC, and thereby enhance the coping and resilience of children.

Besides few studies on grandparent data on the degree to which orphan care is affecting the health and well-being of children's caregivers, attention to children's caregivers in settings affected by HIV and AIDS focuses primarily on the role of grandparents, and studies suggest that grand parents often experience physical and emotional health problems while children are in their care (Nyambedha, Wandibba, & Aagaard-Hansen, 2003; Schatz, 2007; Williams, 2003; World Health Organization (WHO), 2002). Information from quantitative and longitudinal studies is particularly limited for example in settings such as Malawi, where rates of orphan hood are increasing (Beegle, Filmer, Stokes & Tirerova, 2010) and over one million children are orphaned (National AIDS Commission [NAC], 2008), understanding implications for caregivers well being is essential.

In the Luo custom, Grandparents required to care for orphans. Paternal and maternal uncles and aunts accept responsibility either voluntarily or by appointment by the extended family leadership, Odwar (2011). Many care givers are either too old or too

young to adequately care for orphaned children, and many orphans leave their foster families to become street children. A solution can only be a return to the African extended family and the larger community by defining the needs of those in support.

2.6. Volunteerism on Integral Growth of Orphans

This is the principle of donating time and energy for the benefit of other people in the community as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reward. It is the policy or practice of volunteering one's time or talents for charitable, educational, or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community (Collins English Dictionary).

In order to raise sustainable and reliable income to support orphans, non-governmental institutions have before come forward to help. This is not always enough because of the large numbers and therefore the community needs to participate to support their own. Savings and loan activities are among the most promising activities of the project participants, Lopez (2010). Training in effective agricultural techniques increases the nutritional value of food grown and the number of crops so extra can be sold for income. Small gardens for each sector have been created and are used to teach OVC and the community.

The community assists by distributing seeds and erecting of greenhouses in areas of unfavorable climate. Access to this resources i.e. loan, capital, water, good climate among others has been cumbersome and thus a lot of effort is needed to make available these resources.

Advisory committees formed in villages, district/town, and provincial level accepted within the community as indicated, during community events and even election for local government positions, also help to support the vulnerable child, Amwata (2010). The orphan vulnerable child has the right to play and thus communities have in the past

organized for fun days for the children to play and have fun like the rest. Training for all volunteers occurs before they begin making home visits.

They are instructed in professional conduct, counseling, techniques, concepts of trauma and grief, sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and child rights. Messages of equal opportunity to better life for all are sent to the kids, Oula (2012). These children are able to make critical life decisions as they grow and thus there has been a decrease in school dropouts, early pregnancies and early marriages. This support has helped the children to grow positively and make the best of the little chances available to them.

According to Ghall (2014), children are motivated to lead through being given the chance to elect their own representative to whom they can raise essential issues in their small meeting and later present them to the community from where they can obtain help. Communities have in the past raised funds to help nature talent and the great ideas that this children have. Many vulnerable children lack the opportunity to reach their optimum potential. The main goal for community based care is to ‘reduce vulnerability and improve quality of life among children living without parental supervision and support through a community-based care approach.

Psychosocial support is an ongoing process of meeting the physical, emotional, social, mental and spiritual needs of children, all of which are essential elements of meaningful human development. Such can be obtained by going to institutions and sharing of facilities with other under the same grounds.

Through institutions group counseling and art therapy sessions can be conducted. Supportive clubs e.g. dance/arts clubs can be started to go a long way to break down isolation. Productive life skills, peer-education training sessions focusing on: child rights, conflict resolution, family and reproductive health are held in institutions to boost the

children's self esteem. Results suggest that becoming an orphan caregiver is associated with a shift from good to poor health status (adjusted odds ratio[AOR]2.29, 95% confidence interval [CI]1.164.54), and that elevated levels of distress and poor health both persist over time in comparison with care for non-orphans only.

Once engaged in orphan care, taking on additional orphans is associated with increased emotional distress in relation to not caring for orphans (AOR3.16, 95% CI1.307.73) as well as in relation to the maintaining the same number of orphans in care over time (AOR2.84, 95% CI1.047.70). In the context of rising rates of orphan-hood in AIDS-affected setting, very little is understood about implications for caregiver well-being increasing and intensifying responsibilities for the care of orphaned children. There is therefore an urgent need to earmark funds for orphan care and support.

However, in agreement with Foster (2002), we believe that such funds will do most good if they target existing support strategies and social psychological resources. This implies a need to understand, identify and strengthen latent and existing grassroots resources. Starting up OVC associations and networks helps to monitor how the available funds are used, projects are successfully performed and care for these children.

The associations can pressure the government to focus on protection of the children right and safety. This will reduce unwanted pregnancies and sexual harassments. OVCs associations can provide social and emotional support, promote self-help activities, organize savings and collection on a group level, encourage lobbying on issues affecting the children, assist with information sharing and distribution of essential items and give children a voice in the community.

2.7. Theoretical Framework

Theoretical framework refers to collection of ideas that are related based on theories and principals that offer to explain the existence of phenomena as captured by the theories,

Kombo and Tromp (2006). In many fields, theories and proposition about and relationships have been formulated. In such fields, the researcher may be intended in ascertaining or testing a particular theory, Mugenda and Mugenda (2003).

In this study, Erikson's psychosocial theory was be used. Erikson was keen to improve the way children and young people are taught and nurtured, and it would be appropriate for his ideas to be more widely known and used in day-to-day life, beyond the clinical and counseling professions. He holds that everyone can change and grow, no matter what has gone before. Understanding why orphans are like they are and helping them in gaining meaningful self-awareness - is always a useful and important step forward. Erikson's psychosocial theory is very powerful for self-awareness and improvement, and for teaching and helping others.

While Erikson's model emphasizes the sequential significance of the eight character-forming crisis stages, the concept also asserts that humans continue to change and develop throughout their lives, and that personality is not exclusively formed during early childhood years. This is a helpful and optimistic idea, and many believe it is realistic too. It is certainly a view that greatly assists encouraging oneself and others to see the future as an opportunity for positive change and development, instead of looking back with blame and regret.

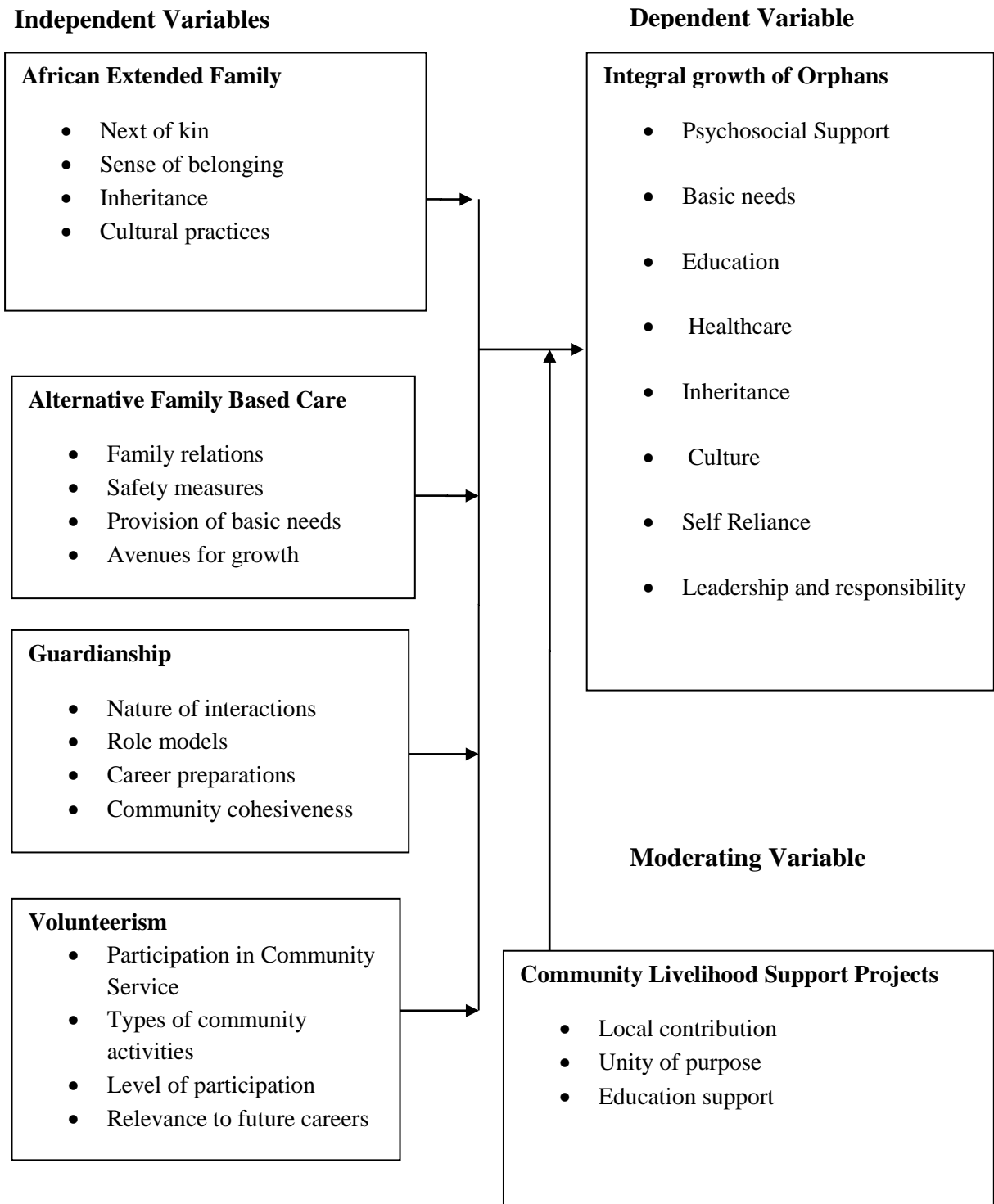
Given the fact that this theory acknowledges sequential growth of people in the entire life time, it was considered significant to the study as the community based orphan support programme is packaged on the ingredients of holistic child growth and development.

2.8. Conceptual Framework

A conceptual framework is defined as a set of broad ideas and principles taken from relevant fields of inquiry and used to structure a subsequent presentation, Kothari (2005). The conceptual framework in figure 2.1 attempts to explain the relationship between the variables in the study.

The conceptual framework is used to show the relationship between the variables and it indicates that integral growth of Orphans depend on guardianship, extended family, Alternative family based care and volunteerism. However, these are not the only variables to integral growth of orphans, other issues such as community empowerment projects and Resource availability may also influence it. In this study, these other variables are treated as moderating for their influence on integral growth of orphans may be difficult to measure or would widen the scope of the study to unmanageable size, hence their relationship with the dependent variable is portrayed as mild.

Figure 2.1 Conceptual framework of the study



2.9. Summary of literature review

More than four-fifths of all children orphaned by AIDS worldwide live in sub-Saharan Africa. In response to the growing number of orphans, governments, civil society, & international organization have implemented programs to provide protection, care and support to these children. Of significance to me were, “The Cost effectiveness of six models of care for OVC in South Africa” by Desmond and Gow, in 2000, A Comparison of the Wellbeing of Orphans and Abandoned Children Ages 6–12 in Institutional and Community-Based Care Settings in 5 Less Wealthy Nations by Kathryn Whetten (December 18, 2009) and Community-based initiatives in response to the OVC crisis in North Central Uganda by Samuel Samson Omwa and KristofTiteca (DISCUSSION PAPER / 2011.04).

It is therefore very clear that the search for appropriate models is still on, models that would take into consideration the magnitude in terms of OVC numbers, resources required and a holistic approach to the problem. These approaches would need to consider the psychosocial, material, cultural, educational and health needs of OVCs.

Need for community participation acceptance and seen to success through community projects to see to it that care is provided to the vulnerable children. The government’s role is to bear the responsibility of protecting vulnerable children rights. The children should themselves identify major psychological and social needs. Payment of school fees and health care with the aim of generating self reliance and elimination of poverty should be the greatest concern of the community after the withdrawal of external and dditional aid provided to children with special needs

Educating and preparing caretakers on early childhood development may aid in the task of caring for young children, thereby preventing long-term health, psychological, and emotional problems.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Introduction

Research methodology is defined by Leedy and Ormrod (2001) as the general approach the researcher takes in carrying out the research project. This chapter presents the research methodology that will be adopted in the study. Chosen for use is a quantitative research approach employing a descriptive survey research design. Featured as components of the research methodology are, research design, target population, sample size and sample selection. Moreover, data collection instruments, instruments validity and instruments reliability are also presented. Besides, piloting of the instruments, methods of data collection, methods of data analysis and operationalization of the study variables, as well as ethical considerations are also featured.

3.2. Research Design

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) a research design is a conceptual structure within which the research is conducted. Okello (2010) describes Research design as the conceptual structure in which research is conducted and constitutes the blue print for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. Kothari (2004) on the other hand defines research design as the arrangement of the conditions for collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economy in procedure.

The mixed method approach was adopted in this study with both quantitative and qualitative approaches (Creswell, 2008) to enable the collection of maximum information in an attempt to answer the research questions.

In this wider research paradigm, a descriptive survey research was employed involving collecting information by interviewing or administering a questionnaire to a sample of individuals (Orodho, 2003). The descriptive design was considered relevant because of its ability to identify the specific roles the community plays in achieving integral growth for orphans. This kind of survey is used because the design is based on the method of investigation. It helps the researcher to make choice on what to do and what not to do (Ngechu, 2006).

3.3. Target Population

Population is a group of individuals, objects or items from which a sample is taken for measurement (Kombo Delmo, 2006). It is that accessible population to which a researcher wants to generalize the results of the study (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). The study population was confined to the mango tree orphan support program in Homabay County. According to the Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme Report (2015), the program is in 53 villages with 329 households in six (6) sub-locations namely Rakwaro, Kobuya, Kamwala, Kobala, Kajiei, and Upper Kakwajuok. The mango tree programme supports 1129 orphans living in six sub locations and is in primary and secondary schools in Homabay County, giving a target population of 1458 potential respondents.

3.4. Sample Size and Sample selection

Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) describe a sample as a subset of a particular population and generally depends on the factors such as the number of variables in the study, the type of research design, the method of data analysis and the size of accessible population. Kathari (2005) defines sampling as the selection of some part of an aggregate or totality on the basis of which a judgment or inference about the aggregate is made.

3.4.1. Sample size

A sample size refers to the number of items to be selected from the target population and should be optimum to fulfill the requirements of efficiency, reliability, representation and flexibility (Kothari, 2003). Gay in Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) suggests that, for correlation research, 30 cases or more are required; for descriptive studies, 10 percent of the accessible population is enough and for experimental design, at least 30 cases are required. In this study, the researcher used a sample size equivalent of 10% of the target population (1458) giving rise to 145 respondents.

3.4.2. Sample selection

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), a sample is a subset of a particular population and in the view of Kothari (2009), a sample size refers to the number of items to be selected from the universe to constitute a sample.

This study adopted a probability sampling design in obtaining sample from the target population; a design of sampling in which each item from the target population was accorded an equal chance of being picked and included in the final sample. This helped in ascertaining objectivity in sample selection.

The random sampling procedure involving stratification of the target population on the basis of unique characteristics was used to arrive at a representative number of orphans and household heads from the Mango tree support programme in Homa Bay. This sample selection process is illustrated in table 3.1

Table 3.1. Sample design

Stratum	Total Population	Sample Percentage	Sample Size
Households	329	10	32
Primary pupils	420	10	42
Secondary Students	719	10	71
Total	1,458	10	145

3.5. Data collection Instruments

In order to collect relevant data that can address the objectives of the study, the data collection instrument must be selected appropriately to avoid collecting irrelevant information, Hanry (2004). In this study, Questionnaire was developed and used to collect both quantitative and qualitative information, as the study adopted a mixed method research paradigm.

Closed ended questions were preferred for the collection of quantitative data while open-ended ones were designed for the collection of qualitative data. There were also a set of questions for the focus group discussions with a selected few. The questionnaire was divided into two sections, with section A focusing on the demographic characteristics of the respondents and section B based on the study objectives. A questionnaire was preferred as it is easy to administer, cheap and timely in use.

3.5.1. Pretesting of the instrument

Instruments pre-testing or piloting is a preliminary study conducted on a small scale to ascertain the effectiveness of the data collection instrument, (Kothari, 2005). A pre- test sample should be between 1% and 10% depending on the sample size (Mugenda &

Mugenda, 2003). In this study, a pre- test sample size of 1% was used. The researcher prepared copies of questionnaire and self- administered to the respondents. The findings from the pre-test were significant as they helped to reveal aspects of ambivalence depicted by the questionnaire items that were subsequently reframed relative to the responses obtained from the respondents.

3.5.2. Instrument's Validity

Kothari (2005) defines validity as a measure of the degree to which differences found with a measuring instrument depict true differences among the items being measured. In the views of Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), an instrument is validated by proving that its items are representative of the skills and characteristics to be measured. Validity of the research instrument was ascertained by ensuring that the questionnaire items sufficiently covered the research objectives. Instrument's validity was also be assured by subjecting the data collection instruments to the experts for judgment and peers for review. Validity of the instrument was also addressed through randomization that was helpful in checking the influence of extraneous variables. Randomization was considered crucial for it is the best technique of ensuring the representatives of the sample to the target population.

3.5.3. Instruments Reliability

In Kothari (2005), reliability of a test instrument is a measure of the consistency with which a test instrument produces the same results when administered to the same group over time intervals. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), reliability is a measure of the degree to which a measuring instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials. In this study, split- half reliability measure was adopted by dividing the questionnaire into the two equal parts on the basis of odd and even appearances.

By administering the first part of the research instrument and the results attained, the second part was subsequently administered and the results noted. Pearson's product moment coefficient of correlation (r) was then used to compare the two scores and by applying Brown's prophecy formulae, an alpha value of 0.89 was obtained proving that the instrument was reliable. Split half reliability measure was preferred to a test retest, as it required only one testing session hence guarding against the threats to external validity of a research instrument.

3.6. Data Collection Procedures

For any research to be conducted effectively, steps and procedures must be followed to produce the desired outcome, Kothari (2005). A research proposal was prepared first and presented for assessment before the panel of examiners from the University of Nairobi, corrections effected and the research permit obtained from the Kenya National Council for Science and Technology.

With the research permit granted, the researcher commenced the actual data collection using two well-trained and motivated research assistants while closely being supervised by the researcher.

3.7. Methods of Data Analysis

Data analysis is the examination of data that has been collected for the purposes of making deductions and inferences. This process helps the researcher to unveil the underlying structures, extracting important variables, detecting anomalies, scrutinizing the acquired information and testing underlying assumptions (Okombo & Orodho, 2005).

Data collected was cleaned to ensure that only relevant data was retained for analysis. Quantitative data was analysed using descriptive statistics such as, frequencies and

percentages aided by Statistical Packages for Social Scientists (SPSS). Qualitative data was analysed by making inferences from views and opinions of respondents.

The information obtained was then summarized and organized according to research objectives, arranged in themes and presented in narrative form and presented using frequency distribution tables.

3.8. Operationalization of the variables

In operational definition of the study variables, the researcher seeks to identify the interaction of the variables and how each is to be measured. In this study, the independent variables, African extended family, alternative family based care, guardianship and volunteerism were considered as the greatest determinants of integral growth of the orphans in Homa Bay County as packaged in the Mango tree orphan care programme. The envisaged relationship is illustrated in table 3.1.

Table 3.2. Operationalization Table

Objectives	Variables	Indicators	Measurements Scale	Data Collection Method	Data Analysis
To examine the extent to which African extended family influences integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Independent African extended family	Next of kin. Sense of belonging. Inheritance. Cultural practices.	Ordinal	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics
	Dependant Integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Psychological support. Moral Development. Education. Health. Cultural growth. Sustainability.	Nominal Ordinal	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics

To investigate the influence of alternative family based care on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Independent Alternative family based care	Family relations. Safety measures. Basic needs. Avenues for growth.	Nominal	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics
	Dependent Integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Psychological support. Moral Development Education. Health. Cultural growth. Sustainability	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics
To assess how guardianship influences integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Independent Guardianship	Nature of interaction. Role models. Career preparation. Community cohesiveness	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics

	Dependent Integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Psychological support. Moral Development Education. Health. Cultural growth. Sustainability	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics
To investigate influence of volunteerism on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County	Independent Volunteerism	Participation in community service. Types of community activities. Levels of participation. Relevance to careers.	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics
	Dependent Integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.	Psychological support. Moral Development Education. Health.	Nominal Ordinal Interval	Questionnaire	Descriptive Statistics

3.9. Ethical Considerations

In every research ethical norms must be highly considered, Resnik (2011). Norms promote the aims of research, such as knowledge, falsifying or misrepresenting research data promote the truth and avoid error. Moreover, since research often involves a great deal of cooperation and coordination among many different people in different disciplines and institutions, ethical standard promote the value that are essential to collaborate work, such as trust, accountability, mutual respect and fairness,

William (2006) lists some of the ethical issues as, informed consent, confidentiality and anonymity. Given the importance of the ethical issues in several ways, the researcher recognized other scholarly works through quotation and citation. In this study copyright and aspects of patenting were respected and a plagiarism of any form was avoided. In the entire research period, respondents' identity and confidentiality were observed such that, any data obtained was not be disclosed to any other person and no form of forgery of data was entertained.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter gives a detailed analysis of data, presentation, interpretation, and discussions of the study findings. Data analysis was done against the backdrop of the key study variables: influence of alternative family, African extended family, guardianship and volunteerism on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay.

4.2 Questionnaire response rate

Copies of the questionnaire were self administered to the respondents by the research assistants who were being closely supervised by the researcher and of the 145 copies of questionnaire administered, 120 were received back completely filled giving a response rate of 82.76%. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), response rate refers to the number of subjects who respond to questionnaire. A response rate of 50% is deemed adequate for analysis and reporting, a response of 60% is good and a response rate of 70% and over is very good. In the light this, the study is deemed to have returned an excellent questionnaire response rate.

4.3. Demographics of the respondents

In this study, the researcher operated on the assumption that certain demographic features of the respondents would have some significance to the study and hence subjected to analysis. These demographic characteristics include, age, sex, marital status, level of education, level of involvement and the duration of time for which the respondents had been in contact with the mango tree programme. These demographics were considered significant to the study on the basis that such orientations could influence individual

personality and coping capacities which are the raw materials for the realization of integral growth of the young in society.

4.3.1 Characteristics of the respondents by age

It was assumed that age variations of the respondents would be of great significance to the study on the basis that issues of attaining integral growth of the orphans brings on board diverse stakeholders such as sponsors, caregivers, orphans and other key individuals whose ages differ considerably, yet each has a clear role to play in shaping the life of the orphans. The respondents were therefore requested to complete the questionnaire indicating their ages and their responses captured as displayed in table 4.1

Table 4.1: Age of the respondents

Age in years	Frequency	Percentage
15 and below	45	37.50
15-20	31	25.83
20-30	23	19.17
30-40	11	09.17
Above 40	10	08.33
Total	120	100.00

As depicted in table 4.1, 45(37.50%) of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire were below 15 years and below, 31(25.83%) fell in the age of 15-20 years, 23 (19.17%) were in the age of 20-30 years, while 11 (8.33%) being in the age of 30-40 years and 10 (8.33%) were above 40 years. The implication of these statistics was that,

more relatively younger orphans formed the bulk of the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme in Homa Bay County.

4.3.2 Characteristics of the respondents by sex

This demographic parameter was perceived to be of great significance to the study for the researcher was interested in establishing the influence of gender issues on involvement in key activities of the programme. Moreover, different sexes have different personalities for coping up with the challenges in life coupled with the general feeling that females can easily get alternative family care more than males. On this account, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire indicating their sex and table 4.2 presents their responses.

Table 4.2 Gender of the respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	68	56.67
Female	52	43.33
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.2 reveals that of the 120 the respondents who filled the questionnaire indicating their age, 68 (56.67%) were males and 52 (43.33%) were females. These figures indicate that the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme were fairly distributed between the two sexes. This scenario is encouraging in this time and age when affirmative action is being advocated for in order to close gender disparities in public engagements. On this account, mango tree programme was giving people hope to believe that before long, both the males and females, would get equal opportunities in their pursuit for survival in the general society.

4.3.3 Marital orientations of the respondents

This feature of the demographics of the respondents was of great significance to the study as it would reveal the extent to which marital orientations would influence the realization of integral growth of orphans. Besides, marital orientation could also be an indicator of social and emotional development which are crucial components of integral growth of orphans. In the light of this, the respondents were tasked to fill the questionnaire indicating their marital orientations and their responses noted as illustrated in table 4.3

Table 4.3: Marital orientations of the Respondents

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage
Single	94	78.33
Married	14	11.67
Widowed	12	10.00
Separated	00	00.00
Other	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

In table 4.3, of the 120 copies of questionnaire completed by the respondents stating their marital orientations, 94 (78.33%) were single, 14 (11.67%) were married and 12 (10%) were widowed, with none having fallen on other marital orientations. The statistics in the table reveal that majority of the respondents were single given that most were learners in both primary and secondary school level, with just a few married being care givers.

4.3.4 Level of education of the respondents.

In the study, the researcher believed that the level of education of the respondents would significantly influence the mango tree programmes' objective of attaining integral growth of the orphans, given that through education, the requisite survival skills are acquired. Besides, educated orphans, having acquired substantial knowledge and skills in different areas, would be more inclined to initiate more efforts in sustaining the programme even when the sponsors pull out. In this respect, the respondents were asked to fill the questionnaire stating their level of education and table 4.14 presents their responses.

Table 4.4 Level of education of the respondents.

Level of education	Frequency	Percentage
Primary and below	52	43.33
Secondary	56	46.67
Tertiary	12	10.00
Other	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.14 reveals that 52 (43.33%) of the respondents had primary level and below, 56 (46.67%) had secondary education, 12 (10.00%) had tertiary education and none had other forms of education. The implication of these statistics is that most of the respondents were young people in both primary and secondary levels whose quest for growth was the objective of the mango tree orphan support programme in Homa Bay County. Having such individuals in the project would definitely shape them into responsive citizens in future, as at this tender age predisposes them to build the desired traits to enable them participate effectively in the affairs of the society.

4.3.5: Characteristics of respondents by area of involvement

In this study, the researcher was interested in establishing the influence of different project engagements that individual PMCs undertook in the implementation of education interventions on expansion of education in North Masaba Sub County. This was because some project engagements demand more managerial skills than others. On account of this, the respondents were requested to complete the questionnaire stating their areas of project undertakings and their responses noted as illustrated in table 4.5

Table 4.5 Area of involvement in programme's activities

Area of involvement	Frequency	Percentage
Care giver	04	03.33
Pupil beneficiary	52	43.33
Student beneficiary	56	46.67
Community volunteer	08	06.67
Other	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.6 reveals that, out of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire giving their area of involvement in the activities of the programme, 04 (03.33%) were care givers, 52 (43.33%) engaged as pupil beneficiaries, 56 (46.67%) were student beneficiaries and 08 (06.67%) involved as community volunteers. Revealed by these statistics is that most of the respondents were actually young persons in schools of whom the project was preparing for full integration into the society.

4.3.6: Duration of being in contact with the programme.

It was assumed in this study that the duration of time one had been in contact with a particular endeavor would influence level of being integrated into the ideals of an intervention. In this respect, those who had been in contact with these ideals for a relatively long period of time would be better placed to have contributed to the realization of the goals of the programme. On account of this eventuality, the respondents were requested to complete questionnaire stating their duration of being in contact with the mango tree programme and their responses noted as illustrated in table 4.7

Table 4.6. Duration of being in contact with the programme.

Duration in years	Frequency	Percentage
1 year and below	22	18.33
1-5	24	20.00
5-10	20	16.67
10-15	26	21.67
Above 15	28	23.33
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.7 reveals that, of the 120 respondents whose questionnaire copies were received indicating the duration of being in contact with the mango tree activities, 22(18.33%) stated having been in contact for 1 year and below, 24 (20.00%) for 1-5 years, 20 (16.67%) indicated 5-10 years, 26 (21.67%) stated 10-15 years and 28 (23.33%) having been in contact for above 15 years. Implied by the statistics in table 4.7 is that the respondents had been in contact for a fairly even spread duration of time indicative of the

smooth transition the mango tree was realizing in achieving integral growth of the orphans in Homa Bay County.

4.4 Influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans

One of the key determinants of integral growth of orphans is African extended family relationship as more often, the role of the other members of society is considered critical in nurturing the young into responsible citizens. In the light of this fact, the variable was measured on the basis of the extent to which mango tree orphan support programme offers a sense of belonging to the beneficiaries, aspects of inheritance enjoyed, forms of education and the common cultural practices advocated by the programme.

4.4.1 African extended family ion integral growth of orphans

In measuring the influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County, the researcher was interested in seeking individual opinion of the respondents. They were therefore asked to complete the questionnaire indicating their level of their agreement that African extended family influences integral of orphans and their responses captured as depicted in table 4.8

Table 4.7: African extended family ion integral growth of orphans

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	96	81.61
Agree	20	16.66
Neutral	04	03.33
Disagree	00	00.00
Strongly disagree	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.8 reveals that out of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire indicating their level of agreement that African extended family influences integral growth of orphans, 96 (81.61%) stated that they strongly agreed, 20 (16.66%) were in agreement, 04 (03.33%) were neutral.

Deduced from these statistics is that the vast majority of respondents were in agreement that African extended family had strong influence on the integral growth of orphans owing to the fact, bringing up a responsible individual requires the concerted efforts of a wide spectrum of society members.

4.4.2 A sense of belonging on integral growth of orphans

In a more general perspective, the African extended family relationship in a community becomes significant in nurturing the orphans when a sense of belonging is inculcated so that the young look up to the adults as role models. On this account, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire indicating the extent to which Mango tree orphan support programme was offering a sense of belonging to the beneficiaries and their responses captured as depicted in table 4.9

Table 4.8 A sense of belonging on integral growth of orphans

Sense of belonging	Frequency	Percentage
Very greatly	98	81.67
Greatly	22	18.33
Indifferent	00	00.00
Less extent	00	00.00
Marginally	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.9 reveals that, out of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire indicating the extent to which they believed Mango tree orphan support programme was offering a sense of belonging to the beneficiaries, 98 (81.67%) indicated very great extent , 22 (18.33%) stated greatly and none mentioned any response to the contrary.

These statistics imply that the mango tree orphan support programme was being seen by the beneficiaries as offering a sense of belonging, hence was instrumental in integrating these orphan to the ideals of society as propagated through the philosophy of the African extended family relationship.

4.4.3 Aspects of inheritance on integral growth of orphans

As a measure of the influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County as packaged in the activities of the mango tree orphan support programme, orphans realize integral growth when they are able to obtain certain inheritance in society. On this account, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire indicating aspects of inheritance enjoyed from the programme and their responses captured as depicted in table 4.10

Table 4.9 Aspects of inheritance on integral growth of orphans

Inheritance type	Frequency	Percentage
Land	00	00.00
Property	02	01.67
Culture	03	02.50
Kinship	04	03.33
Other	110	91.66
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.10 reveals that, of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire disclosing the aspects of inheritance they were obtaining from the programme, none stated inheriting land, 02 (01.67%) stated property, 03 (02.50%) indicated, while 04 (03.33%) stated the other category comprised mainly of a pool of inheritance.

Implied by these statistics was that the mango tree orphan support programme offered the beneficiaries a range of items inherited through their being integrated in the mainstream of community activities. On this account, the programme was considered to be offering hope for future survival to the orphans, despite having lost those who could have offered such opportunities.

4.4.4 Common cultural practices on integral growth of orphans

The other measure of provision of infrastructure projects to schools through CDF funds is the frequency with which such projects are funded, as when funds are given just occasionally, expansion challenges become numerous. In view of this reality, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire indicating the frequency of funding infrastructure projects in their schools and their responses noted as displayed in table 4.11

Table 4.10 Common cultural practices on integral growth of orphans

Type of practice	Frequency	Percentage
Family relationship	84	70.00
Local language	08	06.67
Traditional practices	00	00.00
Modernity	08	06.67
Other	20	16.66
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.11 indicates that of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire indicating the common type of cultural practices advocated by the mango tree programme, 84 (70.00%) stated family relationship, 08 (06.67%) mentioned local language and modernity, 20 (16.66%) indicated the other category and mentioned traditional practices. These statistics reveal that, whereas there were several common practices in the general society in Homa Bay County, the mango tree orphan support programme was keen on advocating building strong family relationship to ensure that such orphans were fully integrated in the society.

4.5. Family relationship on integral growth of orphans

As a measure of the extent to which integral growth of orphans would be achieved through the activities of the mango tree orphan support programme in Homa Bay County, family relationship is worth research attention. This variable was considered against such parameters as, the thriving environment, safety measures and common basic needs offered.

4.5.1 Thriving environment on integral growth of orphans

As a matter of great concern to the extent to which integral growth of orphans would be achieved by the mango tree orphan support programme in Homa Bay County, the programme in its quest to achieve its objectives had to offer a conducive environment in which family relationship thrives. In the light of this necessity, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire indicating the extent of their agreement that the programme was offering a thriving environment for family relationship and their responses captured as displayed in table 4.11

Table 4.11 Thriving environment on integral growth of orphans

Environment	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	90	75.00
Agree	30	25.00
Neutral	00	00.00
Disagree	00	00.00
Strongly disagree	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.11 indicates that of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire disclosing the extent of their level of agreement that mango tree orphan support programme was offering a thriving environment for family relationship, 90 (75.00%) stated their strong agreement and 30 (25%) were in agreement with none being in any form of disagreement.

The implication was that the mango tree orphan support programme, being sensitive to the plight of orphans in Homa Bay County, had put in place a thriving environment for establishment of strong family ties which was crucial for realizing the integral growth of orphans in the community.

4.5.2. Common safety measures on integral growth of orphans

In this study, the researcher operated on the assumption that family relationship could be nurtured effectively when safety measures were guaranteed by the activities of the programme. In view of this, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire

indicating the common safety measures the mango tree orphan support programme had guaranteed and their responses recorded as displayed in table 4.12

Table 4.12 Common safety measures on integral growth of orphans

Safety Measure	Frequency	Percentage
Home environment	30	25.00
Sense of belonging	28	23.33
Career for survival	62	51.67
Insurance	00	00.00
Other	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.12 indicates that of the 120 respondents who filled the questionnaire disclosing the common safety measure guaranteed by the programme, none identified with insurance and the other category, yet 30 (25.00%) indicated home environment provided, 28 (23.33%) stated sense of belonging and 62 (51.67%) indicated career for future survival.

The implication was that the Mango tree orphan support programme was live to the ingredients of enriching the lives of the orphans in which critical safety measures were guaranteed to give the young in their care suitable preparation for future survival through career preparations.

4.5.3. Common basic needs on integral growth of orphans

It was of great interest in this study to establish the most crucial indicators for measuring the influence of family relationship on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County. In this light, a programme that seeks to nurture for the integral growth of the young to fit in

the wider society should also offer the basic needs. the respondents were therefore requested to fill the questionnaire indicating the most common basic need obtained from the programme and they responded as illustrated in table 4.13

Table 4.13 Common basic need on integral growth of orphans

Common basic need	Frequency	Percentage
Food	19	15.83
Shelter	11	09.17
Clothes	30	25.00
Other	60	50.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.13 reveals that out of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire indicating the most common type of basic needs offered, 19 (15.83%) stated food 11 (09.17%) mentioned shelter, 30 (25.00%) cited clothes and 60 (50.00%) mentioned the other category.

Implied by these statistics was that, owing to the fact that the mango tree orphan support programme was sensitive to basic issues to be embraced for purposes of achieving the objectives of its interventions, variety of basic needs were being given to orphans to prepare them for future challenges in life.

4.6 Influence of guardianship on integral growth of orphans

Human growth is intricate to measure and more complicated is the measures of integral growth. On this account, a lot of key players come into the picture to assist shape the life of the young to make them responsible citizens in future and this is the entry point of

guardianship on integral growth of orphans. This variable was measured on the prism of the type of interaction the programme offered, presence of role models, types of careers and the extent to which the programme prepares beneficiaries for effective community integration.

4.6.1 Type of interaction on integral growth of orphans

Guardianship is a form of interaction in which an elderly person offers advice and direction to the young in the society, and often the behavior resulting from such a relationship corresponds to that of the guardian. On this account, the respondents were asked to fill the questionnaire indicating the type of interaction commonly experienced from the mango tree orphan support programme and table 4.14 shows their responses.

Table 4.14 Type of interaction on integral growth of orphans

Type of interaction	Frequency	Percentage
Parent-child	18	15.00
Mentor-learner	12	10.00
Peer-peer	10	08.33
Diverse	80	66.67
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.14 indicates that of the 120 respondents who filled the questionnaire stating the common type of interaction experienced in the mango family, 18 (15.00%) indicated parent-child relationship, 12 (10.00%) stated mentor-learner, 10 (08.33%) indicated peer-peer relationship and 80 (66.67%) stated diverse relationships.

Implied by the statistics was that the mango tree orphan support programme had in place a strong guardianship strategy that offered a variety of interaction for purposes of realizing the integral growth of the orphans.

4.6.2 Role models on integral growth of orphans

Role models provide instructional resources to the young through variety of imitative behavior with successful outcome to guarantee the much needed learning effects, and offering such imitative actions in diversity is much more effective to learning and has the capacity to influence integral growth of the young. On this account, the respondents were requested to fill the questionnaire indicating their level of agreement that role models influence integral growth of orphans and they responded as illustrated in table 4.15

Table 4.15: Role models on integral growth of orphans

Role model	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	64	53.33
Agree	56	46.67
Neutral	00	00.00
Disagree	00	00.00
Strongly disagree	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.15 reveals that out of the 120 respondents who filled the questionnaire indicating their level of agreement that role models influence integral growth of orphans, none indicated any form of disagreement, with 64 (53.33%) stated being in strong agreement. Implied by these statistics was that the mango tree orphan support programme

acknowledged that role models offer much more effective ways of learning among the young, hence was likely to attain the integral growth of the orphans in Homa Bay County

4.6.3 Common careers on integral growth of orphans

Integral growth is said to be realized when the products of an intervention reflect knowledge, skills and desirable attitudes necessary to effectively face the challenges in life. These aspects of learning are often organized into different careers, that when performed well, one is said to have developed a strong instrument for community service. The respondents were therefore asked to complete the questionnaire indicating the common careers offered by the mango tree programme and their responses noted as illustrated in table 4.16

Table 4.16: Common careers on integral growth of orphans

Common career	Frequency	Percentage
Diverse fields	56	46.67
Specific areas	10	08.33
Personal choice	54	45.00
General areas	00	00.00
Other	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.16 reveals that, of the 120 respondents who filled the questionnaire stating the common careers offered, 56 (46.67%) stated that careers were being offered in diverse fields, 10 (08.33%) indicated careers in specific areas and 56 (45.00%) indicated that the careers were based on personal choice.

The statistics in table 4.18 give the impression that the Mango tree orphan support programme was offering opportunity to the young to embrace different careers based on personal choices. In the light of this reality, the programme was therefore in the first line to attaining the integral growth of the orphans under its care in Homa Bay County.

4.7. Influence of volunteerism on integral growth of orphans

In the study, it was assumed that integral growth would be easy to achieve through the activities of different interventions culminating into a display of the learned and acquired survival attributes in the form of service to the society. This variable was measured on the platform of the type of community service performed, level of community participation and relevance of voluntary services to the careers of the beneficiaries.

4.7.1 Type of community service offered

It is worth noting that the type of community service performed by the beneficiaries of the mango tree orphan care support programme through volunteerism would determine the extent to which such individuals get integrated into the society. The respondents were asked to fill the questionnaire stating the type of community service often performed by the beneficiaries and table 4.17 shows their responses.

Table 4.17. Type of community service offered

Type of service	Frequency	Percentage
Institutional support staff	88	73.33
Environmental management	16	13.33
Mentorship	16	13.34
Advocacy	00	00.00
Other	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.17 reveals that, out of the 120 respondents who filled the questionnaire indicating the type of community service performed by the beneficiaries of the mango tree ,88 (73.33%) stated service related to institutional staff, 16 (13.33%) mentioned environmental management, 16 (13.34%) stated mentorship of the young and stated advocacy and the other category.

Implied by the statistics in table 4.19 is that the mango tree orphan care support programme was steadily rolling out opportunities for the orphans to engage in varied activities on a voluntary basis as a test of the level of their involvement in community service.

4.7.2 Level of participation in community service

In the study, there were indications that involvement in community service on voluntary basis was being practiced showing that the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme were already integrated into the society. However, the extent of the participation was crucial in determining the level at which such individuals were fully integrated into the society. In this respect, the respondents were asked to fill the questionnaire stating the levels of participation in community service and table 4.18 shows their responses.

Table 4.18 Level of participation in community service

Level of participation	Frequency	Percentage
Very frequently	00	00.00
Frequently	48	40.00
Intermittently	82	60.00
Irregularly	00	00.00
Marginally	00	00.00
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.18 reveals that, of the 120 respondents who filled the questionnaire disclosing the level of participation in community service, 48 (40.00%) stated participating frequently and 82 (60.00%) mentioned intermittent participation, yet none identified with the remaining options. The implication is that, substantial level of community participation was realized among the volunteers of the mango tree orphan care support programme in Homa Bay County as a gesture of the beneficiaries attaining integral growth.

4.7.3 Relevance of voluntary service on personal careers

In order to determine the influence of voluntary service performed by the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme in Homa Bay County, issues of how relevant these services were to individual career preparation were sought. In this context, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire indicating how relevant these services were to their career areas and table 4.19 illustrates their responses.

Table 4.19 Relevance of voluntary service on personal careers

Relevance	Frequency	Percentage
Very relevant	25	20.83
Relevant	78	65.00
Neutral	00	00.00
Less relevant	00	00.00
Other	17	14.17
Total	120	100.00

Table 4.19 reveals that, out of the 120 respondents who completed the questionnaire stating the relevance of community service performed to their career areas, 25 (20.83%) stated that they were very relevant, 78 (65.00%) stated relevant and 17 (14.17%) indicated the other category.

Implied is that a relatively higher number of respondents noted that the community service performed were relevant to their career areas hence it was a strong justification that the mango tree programme was preparing the orphans to achieve integral growth for purposes of taking active role in the overall community affairs.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Introduction

This section puts to focus summary of the study findings, conclusions and recommendations. It outlines the findings on the basis of the demographic characteristics of the respondents, as well as findings against the backdrop of the major study variables.

5.2.1 Demographics of the respondents

In this study, the researcher operated on the assumption that certain demographic features of the respondents would have some significance to the study and hence subjected to analysis. These demographic characteristics include, age, sex, marital status, level of education, level of involvement and the duration of time for which the respondents had been in contact with the mango tree orphan support care programme in Homa Bay County.

While the respondents were indicating their ages, 68 (56.67%) were males and 52 (43.33%) were females. These figures indicate that the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme were fairly distributed between the two sexes. This scenario is encouraging in this time and age when affirmative action is being advocated for in order to close gender disparities in public engagements.

Marital orientation of the respondents was of great significance to the study as it would reveal the extent to which marital features would influence the realization of integral growth of orphans. Besides, marital orientation could also be an indicator of social and emotional development which was perceived as a crucial component of integral growth of the orphans. In the light of this, 94 (78.33%) of the respondents were single, 14 (11.67%) were married and 12 (10%) were widowed, with none having fallen on other marital orientations. The study therefore revealed that majority of the respondents were single

given that most were learners in both primary and secondary school level, with just a few married being care givers.

In the domain of the demographics, the level of education of the respondents would significantly influence the mango tree programmes' objective of attaining integral growth of the orphans, given that through education, the requisite survival skills are acquired. It was established that 52 (43.33%) of the respondents had primary level and below, 56 (46.67%) had secondary education, 12 (10.00%) had tertiary education and none had other forms of education. The findings revealed that most of the respondents were young people in both primary and secondary levels whose quest for growth was the objective of the mango tree orphan support programme in Homa Bay County.

While giving their area of involvement in the activities of the mango tree orphan support care programme, it was noted that 04 (03.33%) of the respondents were care givers, 52 (43.33%) engaged as pupil beneficiaries, 56 (46.67%) were student beneficiaries and 08 (06.67%) involved as community volunteers. Revealed by these statistics is that most of the respondents were actually young persons in schools of whom the project was preparing for full integration into the society.

Indicating the duration of being in contact with the mango tree activities, 22(18.33%) stated having been in contact for 1 year and below, 24 (20.00%) for 1-5 years, 20 (16.67%) indicated 5-10 years, 26 (21.67%) stated 10-15 years and 28 (23.33%) having been in contact for above 15 years. Observed was that most of the respondents had been in contact for a fairly even spread duration of time indicative of the smooth transition the mango tree was realizing in achieving integral growth of the orphans in Homa Bay County.

5.2.2 Influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans

In measuring the influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County, the researcher was interested in seeking individual opinion of the respondents, indicating their level of agreement that African extended family influences integral growth of orphans upon which, 96 (81.61%) of the respondents stated that they strongly agreed, 20 (16.66%) were in agreement, 04 (03.33%) were neutral. Revealed from these statistics is that the vast majority of respondents were in agreement that African extended family had strong influence on the integral growth of orphans owing to the fact, bringing up a responsible individual requires the concerted efforts of a wide spectrum of society members.

In a more general perspective, the African extended family relationship in a community becomes significant in nurturing the orphans when a sense of belonging is inculcated so that the young look up to the adults as role models. In their response on the extent to which they believed Mango tree orphan support programme was offering a sense of belonging to the beneficiaries, 98 (81.67%) indicated very great extent, 22 (18.33%) stated greatly and none mentioned any response to the contrary.

As a measure of the influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County as packaged in the activities of the mango tree orphan support programme, orphans realize integral growth when they are able to obtain certain inheritance in the society. Disclosing the aspects of inheritance they were obtaining from the programme, none stated inheriting land, 02 (01.67%) stated property, 03 (02.50%) indicated, while 04 (03.33%) stated the other category comprised mainly of a pool of inheritance.

Noted from these statistics was that the mango tree orphan support programme offered the beneficiaries a range of items inherited through their being integrated in the mainstream of community activities. On this account, the programme was considered to be offering hope for future survival to the orphans, despite having lost those who could have offered such opportunities.

Responding on the common type of cultural practices advocated by the mango tree programme, 84 (70.00%) stated family relationship, 08 (06.67%) mentioned local language and modernity, 20 (16.66%) indicated the other category and mentioned traditional practices. Revealed was that, the mango tree orphan support care programme in Homa Bay County was keen on advocating building strong family relationship to ensure that such orphans were fully integrated in the society.

5.2.3 Family relationship on integral growth of orphans

As a matter of great concern to the extent to which integral growth of orphans would be achieved by the mango tree orphan support programme in Homa Bay County, the programme in its quest to achieve its objectives had to offer a conducive environment in which family relationship thrives. Disclosing the extent of their level of agreement that mango tree orphan support programme was offering a thriving environment for family relationship, 90 (75.00%) of the respondents stated their strong agreement and 30 (25%) were in agreement, with none being in any form of disagreement.

Revealed was that the mango tree orphan support programme, being sensitive to the plight of orphans in Homa Bay County, had put in place a thriving environment for establishment of strong family ties which was crucial for realizing the integral growth of orphans in the community.

Operating on the assumption that family relationship could be nurtured effectively when safety measures were guaranteed by the activities of the programme, the respondents while disclosing the common safety measure guaranteed by the programme, none identified with insurance and the other category, yet 30 (25.00%) indicated home environment provided, 28 (23.33%) stated sense of belonging and 62 (51.67%) indicated career for future survival. Noted in this respect was that the Mango tree orphan support programme was alive to the ingredients of enriching the lives of the orphans in which critical safety measures were guaranteed to give the young in their care suitable preparation for future survival through career preparations.

It was of great interest in this study to establish the most crucial indicators for measuring the influence of family relationship on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County. In this light, a programme that seeks to advocate for the integral growth of the young to fit in the wider society should also offer the basic needs. In their response, while indicating the most common type of basic needs offered, 19 (15.83%) stated food 11 (09.17%) mentioned shelter, 30 (25.00%) cited clothes and 60 (50.00%) mentioned the other category. The study revealed that, a variety of basic needs was being given to orphans to prepare them for future challenges in life.

5.2.4 Influence of guardianship on integral growth of orphans

A lot of key players come into the picture to assist shape the life of the young to make them responsible citizens in future and this is the entry point of guardianship on integral growth of orphans.

Guardianship is a form of interaction in which an elderly person offers advice and direction to the young in the society, and often the behavior resulting from such a relationship corresponds to that of the guardian.

Stating the common type of interaction experienced in the mango family, 18 (15.00%) of the respondents indicated parent-child relationship, 12 (10.00%) stated mentor-learner, 10 (08.33%) indicated peer-peer relationship and 80 (66.67%) stated diverse relationships. In this respect, the mango tree orphan support care programme had in place a strong guardianship strategy that offered a variety of interaction for purposes of realizing the integral growth of the orphans.

Role models provide instructional resources to the young through variety of imitative behavior with successful outcome to guarantee the much needed learning effects, and offering such imitative actions in diversity is much more effective to learning and has the capacity to influence integral growth of the young. Indicating their level of agreement that role models influence integral growth of orphans, none of the respondent indicated any form of disagreement, with 64 (53.33%) stated being in strong agreement. In view of this, the mango tree orphan support programme acknowledged that role models offer much more effective ways of learning among the young, hence was likely to attain the integral growth of the orphans in Homa Bay County

Integral growth is said to be realized when the products of an intervention reflect knowledge, skills and desirable attitudes necessary to effectively face the challenges in life. These aspects of learning are often organized into different careers, that when performed well, one is said to have developed a strong instrument for community service. Responding to the common careers offered, 56 (46.67%) of the respondents stated that careers were being offered in diverse fields, 10 (08.33%) indicated careers in specific areas and 56 (45.00%) indicated that the careers were based on personal choice. Noted was that the Mango tree orphan support programme was offering opportunity to the young to embrace different careers based on personal choices. In the light of this reality, the

programme was therefore in the first line to attaining the integral growth of the orphans under its care in Homa Bay County.

5.2.5 Influence of volunteerism on integral growth of orphans

It is worth noting that the type of community service performed by the beneficiaries of the mango tree orphan care support programme through volunteerism would determine the extent to which such individuals get integrated into the society. Indicating the type of community service performed by the beneficiaries of the mango tree ,88 (73.33%) of the respondents stated service related to institutional staff, 16 (13.33%) mentioned environmental management, 16 (13.34%) stated mentorship of the young and stated advocacy and the other category. Observed was that the mango tree orphan care support programme was steadily rolling out opportunities for the orphans to engage in varied activities on a voluntary basis as a test of the level of their involvement in community service.

In the study, there were indications that involvement in community service on voluntary basis was being practiced showing that the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme were already integrated into the society. However, the extent of the participation was crucial in determining the level at which such individuals were fully integrated into the society. While disclosing the level of participation in community service, 48 (40.00%) of the respondents stated participating frequently and 82 (60.00%) mentioned intermittent participation, yet none identified with the remaining options. Noted was that substantial level of community participation was realized among the volunteers of the mango tree orphan care support programme in Homa Bay County as a gesture of the beneficiaries attaining integral growth.

In order to determine the influence of voluntary service performed by the beneficiaries of the mango tree programme in Homa Bay County, issues of how relevant these services were to individual career preparation were sought. Stating the relevance of community service performed to their career areas, 25 (20.83%) of the respondents stated that they were very relevant, 78 (65.00%) stated relevant and 17 (14.17%) indicated the other category. Revealed was that a relatively higher number of respondents believed that the community service performed were relevant to their career areas hence it was a strong justification that the mango tree programme was preparing the orphans to achieve integral growth for purposes of taking active role in the overall community affairs.

5.3. Conclusions

Based on the study findings, it was revealed that African extended family issues had significant influence on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County, given the fact that the programme was community-centered in its approach. On account of this framework of operations, these orphans were actually engaged in common types of community activities in which they were fully being integrated into community living.

Moreover, alternative family based care was also found to have significant influence on Integral growth of orphans, as the programme offered the feelings of belonging and the much needed security to the orphans despite having lost their parents. In view of this, these orphans were able to enjoy close kinship relationships with fellow peers and other elderly members of their immediate communities.

Moreover, guardianship and volunteerism were also realized to have significant influence integral growth of orphans in Homa-Bay County. This was because the young learn through imitative behavior and practice of what is observed.

5.4. Recommendations

From the study findings, recommendations are made, both for policy formulation and suggestions for further research.

5.4.1. Recommendations for policy formulation

Community based orphan care is being put forth as the most appropriate way of supporting children orphaned as a result of their parents demise from the pandemics of HIV/AIDS. The study recommends that the government, both central and devolved, should formulate policies that guide in the running of orphanages in such a manner that the orphans are brought up within their immediate family set up in order to be fully integrated in to the community affairs

The NGOs, Government Agencies, Humanitarian Organizations and other community based organizations offering care to orphans should also develop best orphan care strategies in order to nurture such orphans for responsive citizenship in the wider society. Besides, the Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme should also strengthen the policy of full community integration to ensure that such orphans are effectively prepared for holistic growth by acquiring the necessary life skills for future survival in a competitive world.

5.4.2. Suggestions for further research

The following areas are recommended for further research;

1. What is the influence of socio economic factors on the integral growth of orphans among the NGOs operating in Homa Bay County?
2. Which best orphan support care strategies should be adopted by the mango tree orphan support care programme to enhance the realization of its objectives?

3. What difference in integral growth of the young exists between orphaned children and children under parental care in Homa Bay County?
4. Would the study results remain the same if it were conducted among other projects dealing with the care to orphans elsewhere in Kenya?

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APPENDIX I: RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is developed to obtain data from the respondents on the study focusing on influence of The Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County. It is divided into two parts; sections A and B, with section A seeking for demographic characteristics of the respondents, while section B solicits for data on the study variables. Read the questionnaire carefully and respond as truthfully and objectively to the best of your knowledge.

1. State your age in years
 - a) 15 years and below
 - b) 15-20
 - c) 20-30
 - d) 30-40
 - e) Above 40
2. Indicate your marital status
 - a) Single
 - b) Married
 - c) Widowed
 - d) Divorced
 - e) Other
3. State your level of education
 - a) Primary and below
 - b) Secondary
 - c) Tertiary
 - d) University
 - e) Other
4. Indicate how long you have been in contact with Mango tree programme
 - a) 1 year and below
 - b) 1-5
 - c) 6-10

- d) 10-15
 - e) Above 10
5. State your level of involvement in the activities of the Mango tree orphan support programme.
- a) Care giver
 - b) Pupil beneficiary
 - c) Student beneficiary
 - d) Community volunteer
 - e) Other

SECTION B: THE STUDY VARIABLES

6. Indicate the extent of your agreement that mango tree orphan support programme offers an African extended family environment to the beneficiaries.
- a) Strongly agree
 - b) Agree
 - c) Neutral
 - d) Disagree
 - e) Strongly disagree
7. To what extent does the Mango tree orphan support programme offer a sense of belonging to the beneficiaries?
- a) Very greatly
 - b) Greatly
 - c) Indifferent
 - d) Less extent
 - e) Marginally

8. What aspects of inheritance do beneficiaries enjoy from the programme?
- a) Land
 - b) Property
 - c) Culture
 - d) Kinship
 - e) Other
9. How often do you engage in training?
- a) Very often
 - b) Often
 - c) Occasionally
 - d) Less often
 - e) Other
10. Indicate the common type of cultural practices advocated by the mango tree programme.
- a) Family relationship
 - b) Local language
 - c) Traditional practices
 - d) Modernity
 - e) Other
11. In your own opinion, explain the influence of African extended family on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.....
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12. Indicate the extent of your agreement that the Mango tree orphan support programme provides an environment in which family relations thrive.

- a) Strongly agree
- b) Agree
- c) Neutral
- d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

13. Indicate the most common safety measure guaranteed to the beneficiaries by the mango tree orphan support programme.

- a) Home environment
- b) Sense of belonging
- c) Career for future survival
- d) Insurance
- e) Other

14. State the most common basic need the mango tree orphan support programme offers to the beneficiaries.

- a) Food
- b) Shelter
- c) Clothes
- d) Other

15. State the extent to which you agree or disagree that mango tree orphan support programme influences integral growth of orphans by offering avenues for growth.

- a) Strongly agree
- b) Agree
- c) Neutral

d) Disagree

e) Strongly disagree

16. In your own opinion, explain how alternative family based care influences integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.....

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17. State the type of interaction mango tree orphan support programme offers the beneficiaries.

a) Parent-child

b) Mentor-learner

c) Peer-peer

d) Diverse

18. To what extent do you agree or disagree that mango tree orphan support programme guardianship in the form of role models.

a) Strongly agree

b) Agree

c) Neutral

d) Disagree

e) Strongly disagree

19. Indicate the common careers mango tree orphan support programme offers to the intended beneficiaries.

a) Diverse fields

b) Specific areas

c) Personal choice

d) General areas

e) Other

20. Indicate the extent to which mango tree orphan support programme prepares beneficiaries to effective community integration.

- a) Greatest
- b) Greater
- c) Great
- d) Lesser

21. In your own opinion, explain the influence of guardianship on integral growth of orphans in Homa Bay County.....

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22. Give the type of community service beneficiaries perform as part of their voluntary duties.

- a. Caring for the old
- b. Environmental management
- c. Mentorship to the young
- d. Advocacy
- e. Other

23. Indicate the level of participation beneficiaries often engage in community service as volunteers.

- a. Occasionally
- b. Frequently
- c. Intermittently
- d. Irregularly
- e. Marginally

24. State how relevant such voluntary services are to the career of the beneficiaries.

- a. Very relevant
- b. Relevant
- c. Neutral
- d. Less relevant
- e. Other

25. In your own opinion, explain the influence volunteerism has on integral growth of orphans in Homa bay County.....

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