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**THE IMPACT OF HIV AIDS ON SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AGED 6-7
YEARS IN KYANGWITHYA
ZONE, CENTRAL DIVISION, KITUI CENTRAL
DISTRICT.**

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project was to find out the effects of HIV/AIDS on social development among children in Kyangwithya zone, Central division, in Kitui Central district. The objectives of study were to:- determine the causes of HIV/AIDS, find out the general impacts of HIV/AIDS and to establish the effects of; HIV/AIDS on social development of children. The researcher used descriptive survey design; simple random .Sampling was used to sample the HIV positive children. The researcher prepared questionnaires for the teachers as her tool collect the data and interview schedule was used to collect data from the children. The data collected was analysed using tally sheets and electronic calculators and presented in frequency tables bar graphs and pie- charts. The main findings were that children infected with HIV/AIDS experience series of negative feelings such fear , lack of hope, denial, grief loss of confidence and depression, which are caused by rejection by parents, relatives peers and entire community and hence they are stigmatized .This led to improper socialization with the other in school affecting their social development. The Study recommended teachers, parents care givers community and peers who need guidance on how to handle HIV/AIDS infected children and to reduced the stigma. The social development of HIV infected children can be improved by offering special care and concern for HIV positive children and treating them equally with others.