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Factors contributing to poor performance of Girl child in Mathematics in Sare zone Rongo district, Kenya

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FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO POOR PERFORMANCE OF GIRL CHILD IN MATHEMATICS IN SARE ZONE RONGO DISTRICT, KENYA

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A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO SCHOOL OF EDUCATION IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS) OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY.

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ABSTRACT
The study was carried out during the month of July 2013, on factors contributing to poor performances of girl child in Mathematics in Sare Zone. The target class was class eight female pupils.

The purpose of the study was to investigate reasons why girls perform poorly in Mathematics. Out of 11 schools in Sare Zone, three schools were sampled i.e Sony, Sare and Awendo Primary. In every school, ten respondents filled a questionnaire.

Mathematics teachers and head teachers of three primary schools also filled questionnaires. Oral interview was also employed to obtain accurate information.

The data collected was analyzed and presented in a graph and table form.

Analysis had shown that a number of girls have an attitude that mathematics is difficult and that it is a male subject. Peer influence from friends, family poverty, lack of female teachers who handle the subject, cultural and social factors are the main factors that lead to poor performances of girls in mathematics.

Government, teachers, NGOs and community need to work hand in hand through education manes, creation of awareness so as to help in improving the poor performance of girls in mathematics.