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HIV/AIDS AND ENROLLMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
CHILDREN IN ASEGO DIVISION, HOMABAY COUNTY, KENYA

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ABSTRACT

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus which eventually develops to Acquired immune deficiency syndrome HIV/AIDS. Since the first cases were reported in San Francisco, USA in 1987, HIV/AIDS has been rising steadily worldwide. In 2002 people living with HIV/AIDS globally were 42 million. Sub-Saharan Africa countries leading with 28 million people infected. Countries like Botswana, South Africa, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Mozambique have the highest infection rates worldwide. Kenya is among the highest affected countries. By 2002, 2.2 million people were infected from the time the first case was reported in 1984 in Kenya. The most affected ages are between 15-45. HIV/AIDS has been declared a national epidemic in Kenya. HIV/AIDS has affected the most productive population of Kenya thus affecting the economy of the country, the health of many people, the enrolment in Schools, Increased child abuse stigmatization and neglect of many ECDE children education. The purpose of this study, therefore, is to provide data that will contribute to critical needs of the affected and infected by HIV/AIDS. The objectives of the study are to explore the effects of HIV AIDS in ECDE programs on enrolment, attendance and performance in Asego division. The target population will be ECDE teachers, children and parents. It aims at collecting information from about 30% of the target population using the simple random sampling technique. The researcher will use papers written Yes or No, shake them to mix and select someone to pick them. Those selected for yes will be sampled for interview and will assist in data collection. The study will attempt to utilize at least three data collecting tools and instruments. They will include questionnaires for ECDE teachers, parents and children, the interview schedules and observation schedules. All of them are accurate in information gathering since they engage one to one interaction between the researcher and the respondents. The finding will be significant in that it will provide valuable information and ideas which will considerable help in improving standards of education in ECDE programme. It may assist the government in developing a clear policy towards the HIV/AIDS affected and infected children, parents and teachers in the zone and country wide.