

**AN ASSESSMENT OF CHILD ABUSE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN
SECONDARY SCHOOL: A CASE STUDY OF BOFU SECONDARY SCHOOL IN
KWALE COUNTY.**

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**A RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION IN
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ABSTRACT

Child abuse during the early years has had a great negative effect in the child's growth and development. These effects affect different aspects of growth and development e.g. cognitive, social, moral etc. Casual surveys of secondary schools in Samburu division show that a significant number of children are being abused by relatives. The purpose of the study was to gather necessary information on how child abuse affects the academic performance of secondary schools children in Kasemeni location Samburu division, Kinango district of Kwale county. The research was based on effects of parenting patterns on child's moral, social, physical and emotional development and education. The study revealed the people that are mostly associated with child abuse in Kasemeni location. The study also showed that the holistic development of abused children is poor due to the fact that their basic needs are not adequately met, sexual and physical abuse causes stigma leading to low self-esteem by the abused child. The study found a correlation between the child abuse and the academic underperformance of the secondary school children in Kasemeni location Samburu division, Kinango district of Kwale County. Due to this abuse, children are most likely to be forced into rigorous activities at early age like child labour to earn a living hence infringing their rights. In collecting data from respondents the researcher used questionnaires. Since secondary school children can read independently and understand. The researcher used close ended questions. The researcher collected data by visiting the secondary schools for the children and teachers to fill the questionnaires. The data was analyzed by using descriptive notes, tables, frequency polygons and pie charts. The researcher concluded that there is still child abuse in kasemeni location and recommended that people and institutions should intervene by supporting activities that aim at cases of child abuse. The researcher also urged the government to policies which would help the abused children so as to retain them in school and deal with child abusers.`