

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE FACTORS AFFECTING GIRL CHILD
EDUCATION IN PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KARGI DIVISION IN
LOIYANGALANI DISTRICT IN MARSABIT COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

Education is the foundation that we build upon for the rest of our lives. Education in the world is to ensure that it enables children both girls and boys from poor families enroll and complete a full course of primary school. Educating girls is one of the strongest ways not only to improve gender quality but in promoting economic growth and health development of families, communities and nations through human development. However, statistics from United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR) show around 67 million children worldwide many of them girls do not get education opportunities and achievements due to war, famine, natural disasters and corruption. The purpose of this study is to investigate factors affecting girl child Education in public primary schools in Loiyangalani District, Marsabit County. The objectives of the study included to establish how economic factors influenced the girl child Education Public primary schools, investigate how family background factors influenced the girl child Education in public primary schools, determine how social factors influenced the girl child Education in public primary schools, establish how cultural factors influenced the girl child Education in public primary schools, determine how school and environmental factors influenced the girl child Education in public primary schools. The study population comprised of primary school head teachers, class teachers, class eight girls and parents of Loiyangalani District, Marsabit County. Three questionnaires were used to collect data and interview guidelines for parents. They were summarized and analyzed descriptively using tables, frequencies and percentages. A pretest was carried out in three schools randomly selected from 24 primary schools to test validity and reliability. The study found out that a combination of factors affected the girl child Education in public primary schools. The research concludes that the main economic factors that affect girl child education, which were; poverty, parent's income level, child labour and poor economic growth in Kenya. The study concludes that the main family background factors that affect girl child education were parents' education attainment, economic status of the family and parents occupation. The study also concludes that social factors such as poor attitudes and perceptions toward girls' education and negative attitude of parents toward girl education affected girl child education. Finally the study concludes the main cultural factors that affect girl child education were early pregnancies and early marriages affected girl child education, custom and tradition practices and large families place pressure on parents educating their children. The community should be sensitized on girl child rights. The T.S.C needs to employ more teachers for smooth running of schools. School feeding programme to alleviate hunger should be introduced in schools. The Government should increase funding to cater for the essential necessities. Finally government, NGOs, churches, mosques should address the cultural factors, social factors which affect the girl child education.