

**THE EFFECTS OF SINGLE PARENTHOOD ON LEARNERS'
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE: A CASE OF MUKURU KWA
NJENGA SLUM IN NAIROBI COUNTY**

Boniface M. Ngalama

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ABSTRACT

The study intended to investigate single-parenthood and its effects on children's academic performance in Mukuru kwa Njenga. The purpose of the study was to find out the influence of family pattern on the academic performance of children. Descriptive survey research design was employed. A total of 60 respondents were carefully selected. Out of the 50 schools in Mukuru kwa Njenga, 5 were chosen at random from all the corners of the slum. Using the stratified random sampling, 4 pupils, 4 teachers and 4 parents were selected from each of the five schools. Personal data forms were used to collect information on their age, sex, marital status and level of schooling of the respondents. The data was collected using questionnaires to the 60 respondents and document analysis, that is, academic records of pupils that were obtained from the head teachers of the five schools. Piloting of the questionnaires was done on a sample of 2 teachers, 2 parents and 2 pupils in two primary schools that were not involved in the final study. Test-retest method was used to determine the reliability of the instruments. The researcher analyzed and presented the data in frequency tables, bar graphs percentages and pie charts. It is hoped that the results of this study will give parents, educators and the government a better understanding of the effects of single parenting on children's academic performance and suggestions on how to improve the situation in case of negative effects.