

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY

**EFFECTS OF SINGLE PARENTING ON THE ATTENDANCE OF DAY SECONDARY
SCHOOLS IN MERIGI ZONE, BOMET COUNTY**

BY

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ABSTRACT

Single parenthood has been common historically due to high parental mortality rate due to diseases, wars and maternal mortality. In the United States, since the 1960s, there has been an increase in the number of children living with a single parent. The results of the 2010 United States census showed that 27% of children live with one parent. About 16% of children worldwide live in a single-parent household. In 2003, 14% of all Australian households were single-parent families. In New Zealand, 17.8% of the families were single parents. Most of the countries in the world have a good percentage of families led by a single parent and especially led by a mother. Most of the children from these single families cannot attend regular schooling because of poverty line for example in the United States 27% of single mothers live below the poverty line. In most part of the world children from single parents do not attend school because they, at times are left with responsibilities to do at home, diseases inherited from parents who died like HIV/AIDS make them not able to attend school among other factors in the world. In Africa, in South Africa, 43% of children live in single families. In Nigeria, 13% of families live in single parent families. In most countries in Africa, the number of single families is high on the rise. Most of these families have problems in raising their children and have problems with ensuring that their children get accessed to basic regular education. In Kenya today, cases of single parenting is on the rise and are faced by many problems which makes them unable to send their children to school daily. An estimated percentage of 20% of families in Kenya are led by single parents. This has made parents not able to send their children to school daily.