

ASSESSMENT OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN BEHAVIOR
MODIFICATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS OF
IMENTI NORTH DISTRICT MERU
COUNTY KENYA

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A RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
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ABSTRACT

The research on parental involvement in behavior modification of primary school pupils, was to find out why there is an increase in school indiscipline cases. Reported cases of bullying of fellow pupils, defiant behavior towards teachers and absenteeism in Imenti North district. The study also investigated how parental involvement could be integrated with counseling in the school set up to help modify behavior among the pupils. The research design was descriptive survey because the study required the respondents to describe the influence of parental involvement in modeling behavior of Primary school Pupils. The target population of this study was parents, teachers, pupils and school guidance counselors from 50 primary schools in Imenti North District. The sample size taken was 50% of the schools population. Data collection was done mainly by use of questionnaires that were self administered. The questions were both open-ended to allow open thinking of the respondents and closed ended to ensure that the respondents respond adequately to the needs of the objectives. Validity was ensured by use of three sets of questionnaires as well as interview. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics. , Ethically the researcher had moral obligation to treat the information with uttermost confidentiality. Presentations were done in form of tables for easier understanding. The findings were that 94% of respondents indicated that counseling teacher existed in their schools and among them 76% said that counseling services offered in school involved individual counseling. Further 61% of respondents sought counseling due to academic challenges while 30% due to personal issues. Only 63% of respondents said that their parents were aware of guidance and counseling services offered in schools while 37% were not aware. However it was noted that only 26% of parents consulted the school counselor at least once per year while 50% did not consult at all throughout the year. Concerning accessibility to social media 39% of the respondents had free access to television, internet and computer games, while 35% said that their parents always limited their access. Also 67% of parents knew only a few of their teenage children's friends while 26 % of them knew all their teenage children's friends. The conclusion was that involvement of the parents in counseling to modify pupils behavior would save them from involvement in acts such as alcoholism, drug abuse, violence and illegal 'gangs. The researcher used Cognitive behavior theory, Behavioral theory, Social theory and Developmental theory in behavior modification of the pupils