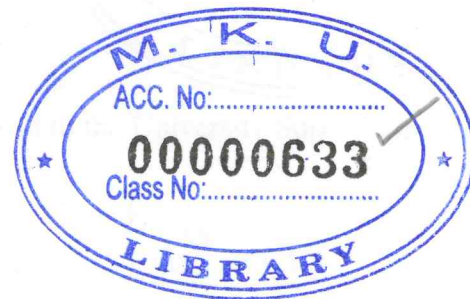


**An Investigation on Impact of Family Background on Student's
Academic Performance In Secondary Schools In Gatundu District.**

BY

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Abstract

This research reviewed the relationship between students academic performance and family background. The main focus was to examine the impact of family background on students academic performance. The literature involved indicated that there was a great relationship between the two variables whether positive or negative. Bronfenbrenner's theory was used as the conceptual framework.

The Literature showed that improved family background had a great positive impact on students academic performance. Furthermore parental involvement in students education had positive outcome in terms of academic performance.

The theory employed by this study was the Maslow theory developed in 1940's. The theory takes a humanistic perspective to look into the needs of an individual so as to enable him or her actualize to the highest level possible. The study adopted a case study design which involves an indepth investigation into the phenomena affecting the respondents under study. Through the design, the researcher was able to carry out a detailed examination of a subject, group or phenomenon.

It was significant to the teachers who handle the students, the students themselves to come out of the cocoons they have been subjected to by their family background. Also to the education administrators and agents who would be able to distribute resources considerably.

The study employed the research tools such as questionnaires and interviews which would be used to reach to the respondents drawn from the fifteen schools in Gatundu Districts. After collection of data, it was analyzed. The study made use of tables, pie charts, graphs and frequent distribution as a measure of dispersion of the data.