

**AN ASSESSMENT OF SOME SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF CHILDREN OF
ALCOHOLICS IN SELECTED SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN DONYO
SABUK MARKET, MATUNGULU DISTRICT**

BY

MUSYOKA SAMUEL KYALO

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to find out some of the social problems experienced by students of alcoholics and whether these students are able to deal with the problems. The objectives of this study were to find out some of the social problems experienced by students of alcoholics and whether the students are able to deal with the problems. The study also attempted to find out the guidance offered to these students by the teachers to help them accept their conditions and achieve their aspirations. Students of alcoholics are viewed with reservations by society and as a result they have negative feelings, lack of motivation and aspiration. The study was carried out in selected secondary schools in Donyo Sabuk Market, Matungulu District. Four schools formed the sample. The schools were purposively sampled. Only 20 students of one stream of Form Three in one school and one teacher in charge of guidance and counseling participated in the pilot study. These did not take part in the main study. Only 80 students and four teachers from four schools were targeted for the main study. Data was collected by use of a questionnaire. The 80 students and the four teachers responded, no blank questionnaire forms were returned. Data analysis was done using descriptive statistics, percentages and frequency tables. The study found that students of alcoholics experience a wide range of social problems. These includes low self esteem, anger, feeling of helplessness, neglect, early sexual activities, truancy, fear of parent divorcing, aggressive behavior, withdrawal, alcohol abuse, feeling detached from parents, hostility from parents, physical abuse, loneliness, hopelessness, rejection by peers, shyness, lying and anger. These are the most common problems experienced by students of alcoholics. The study found out that students had developed ways of dealing with their social problems. Among them include dialogue with parents, learning coping skills, seeking spiritual counseling, nurturing dreams, setting SMART goals, avoidance of parents, seeking help from relatives and friends, sharing experiences with close relatives, abstinence, relaxation, adopting better leisure activities and saying no to alcohol. The study further found that the teachers in charge of guidance and counseling in the schools assisted the students. Methods applied by teachers includes guidance and counseling, offering unconditional love and acceptance, peer counseling, team work, motivational speakers, teaching moral values, lunch programmes in schools and encouraging them to read self help books, brochure, pamphlets all dealing with dangers of alcohol abuse. The study thus recommended that there be established professional counselors in the schools who would be accessible to serve the students at an individual level focusing on their social problems. In order for students to triumph students' cooperation with teachers will highly mitigate their social problems.