

Examining The Relationship Between Poverty And Early Marriages Among School Going Girls - A Case Study Of Kimanya Sub County

Ssegawa Vincent, Magara Peter

Metropolitan International University

Abstract: *The study aimed at examining the relationship between poverty and early marriages among school going girls with a case study of kimanya sub county and it was guided by the following objectives; To assess the different causes of early marriages' in communities, to identify ways how early marriages', affect girl Child education and to identify ways how early marriages' can be abolished in communities. Following some of the participants who updated the investigator that poverty and a lack of possibilities was also a contributing factor contributing to early marriage within secondary schools, the results of the study showed that 35% of the pupils clearly stated that adolescent pregnancies was their primary cause of early the course of pregnancy. Nevertheless, 14% of the participants additionally advised the investigator that customary procedures were additionally regarded as one of the factors that led to marriages that occurred early, and 8% urged the investigators to take action. The researcher also recommended the parents to always send their children back to school whenever they get involved in early marriages.*

Keywords: poverty, early marriages and school going girls

Background of the study

The usual trinity of major human life events is birth, pregnancy, and death. Motherhood is the only one of these three occurrences that is a decision. Beginning in the Roman era, the freedom to exercise that option was recognized as a legal precept, and it has since been codified in international agreements on human rights (Bunting, 2012). Pregnancy has existed from the dawn of humankind. According to the Bible, Adam was the first man that God created, and he was an orphan. God, who is omnipresent and infinitely aware was aware of his predicament and sent Adam into a deep sleep before removing one of his ribs and creating Eve (Genesis 2:21–22). From this point forward, Adam and Eve were the first to become pregnant. Dr. Murray Bowen's Family Networks Theory, which holds that the family can be best comprehended by envisioning it as a complicated, fluid, and changeable assembly of pieces, parts, and individuals in the family, will be used by the investigator in this study. A counselor or the investigator might communicate with loved ones to determine the manner in which what components of the household are in require of repair as well as intervention, much like an auto technician might communicate with the electronic equipment of an automobile that is malfunctioning to determine which structures are broken device (transmission, electric, fuel, etc.) to repair it.

Problem Statement

A bad direction was represented by a premature delivery. Pregnancy was seen as a life milestone and occasion for joy all across the world. Tragically, prenatal care involves the denial of essential human rights. Young girls were robbed of their innocence and forced to fill roles for which they are not emotionally ready. Most young girls have little option as to when to get pregnant or who their spouse will be. Others are too fragile to make a well-informed decision, while others are forced into pregnancies. Adolescent pregnancy denies individuals the chance to grow personally as well as the full enjoyment of their rights to reproductive wellness, mental health, education, and civic involvement.

Objectives of the study

1. To assess the different causes of early marriages' in communities.
2. To identify ways how early marriages', affect girl Child education
3. To identify ways how early marriages' can be abolished in communities

Research Questions

1. What are the different causes of early marriages in communities?
2. How does early marriage affect girl child education?
3. What are some of the ways how early marriages can be abolished in communities?

Methodology

Research Design

To a quantitative study design, the researcher adjusted. Because the investigator conducted her investigation in the densely populated Kimanya Sub County, a statistical approach was adopted. In this instance, the investigator collected data from those who participated by using quantitative metrics like percentages.

Study Participants

Greg Lawrings (2015) described populace as the people who live in a specific location. The sample characterization and community sampling strategy were both incorporated in the study community.

150 parents, 25 teachers, and 25 neighborhood figures were the target demographic. To obtain a sample, an investigator will employ an extraction procedure.

Table 1: Target Population

| Respondents | Target Population |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Parents | 220 |
| Teachers | 130 |
| Community leaders | 90 |
| Total | 360 |

Population and Sampling technique

The population from which the sample was taken involved the Parents in Kimanya Sub County, teachers and Community leaders. The respondents were got from various villages in order to come up with accurate data to help the researcher get all that was needed.

Table 2: Sample Size

| Respondents | Target Population | Sample Size | Percentage |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|
| Parents | 220 | 200 | 56% |
| Teachers | 130 | 100 | 28% |
| Community leaders | 90 | 60 | % |
| Total | 440 | 360 | 16% |

Source: Field data (2021)

Although the stratified method was particularly useful when dealing with big communities, the investigator used a representative sample of 200 parents, 100 teachers, and then 60 community leaders in all the numerous villages in Kimanya Sub County. To ensure that the results were intended, participants from various areas and schools were chosen using a straightforward random selection procedure.

Instruments for research

Secondary as well as primary sources of data and knowledge were generated by the investigator. The investigator employed questions as data collection techniques when gathering primary data. The researcher will use materials by well-known authors in this sector, such as periodicals, articles, books, and news papers, to acquire the necessary secondary data.

Questionnaires

The intended demographic was educated and so able to complete the survey responses, so the selection of apparatus was made. The responders had enough time to think about their responses. Additionally conducted by individuals, surveys supply a quick way to get information from a representative group of a significant population.

Data Collection Methodology

To ensure a simple and precise collection of information from participants, the investigator made sure to ensure that the individual who participated had consented to the study. The investigator then made visits with teachers, parents, and members of the neighborhood in order to construct surveys that would prevent having too much or too little information. The investigator then contacted participants at the predetermined times to gather data.

Data Processing and Analysis

Data was processed from the questionnaires that were administered to the respondents, the researcher then went ahead and gathered the questionnaires from respondents in order to know the number of respondents who responded to the questionnaires from the sample size that was used. The researcher then used SPSS to analyze data and present them into percentages on graphs and pie charts to be easily understood.

RESULTS

Response Rate

The response rate of the respondents was explained in the table below:

Table 3: Groups of respondents and number of questionnaires retrieved

| Respondents | Number of questionnaires distributed | Retrieved Questionnaires |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Students | 200 | 180 |
| Teachers | 100 | 90 |
| Community leaders | 60 | 55 |
| Total | 360 | 325 |

Source: Primary data (2021)

The table above clearly indicated that the researcher retrieved data from 180 students out of the sample size of 200 respondents and the researcher at the same time retrieved data from 90 teachers out of the sample size of 100 and 55 community leaders out of 60. This made a total of 325 respondents who presented to the researcher accurate data that was used basing on the objectives of the study.

Causes of early marriages on the Girl Child

Table 4: Respondents views on the causes of early marriages

| Causes of early marriages | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Poverty and lack of opportunities | 90 | 28 |
| Level of education | 20 | 6 |
| Traditional practices | 45 | 14 |

| | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|
| Adolescent pregnancy | 120 | 35 |
| Ophanhood | 15 | 5 |
| Displacement | 25 | 8 |
| Peer group influence | 10 | 3 |
| Total | 325 | 100 |

Source: Field Data (2021)

Some of the participants told the investigator that financial hardship and a lack of possibilities were also components that led to marriage at an early age during secondary schools, but 14% said that customary procedures were also one of the causes that culminated in early being pregnant. These findings are shown in figure 3 above. In accordance with the results of the investigation, 35% of those surveyed clearly stated that adolescent pregnancies was their main cause of early gestation.

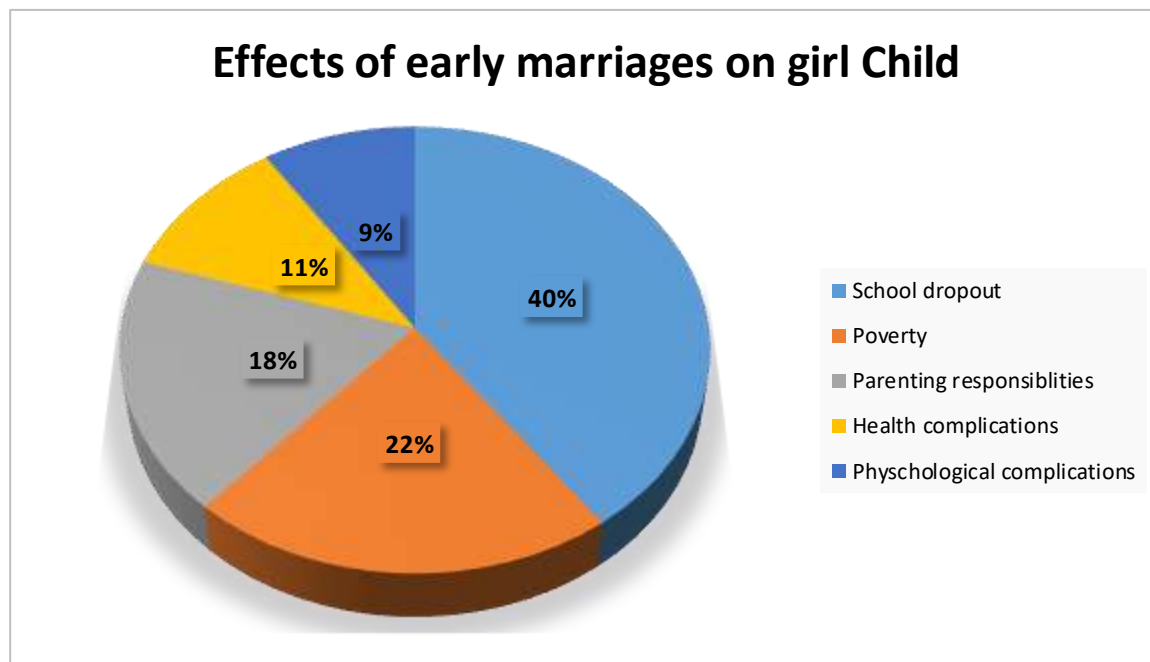
Effect of early marriages

Table 5: Respondents views on the effects of early marriages

| Effects of early marriages on girl Child | Percentage (%) |
|--|----------------|
| School dropout | 40 |
| Poverty | 22 |
| Parenting responsibilities | 18 |
| Health complications | 11 |
| Psychological complications | 9 |

Source: Field Data (2021)

Figure 1: Views on the effects of early marriages



Source: Field Data (2021)

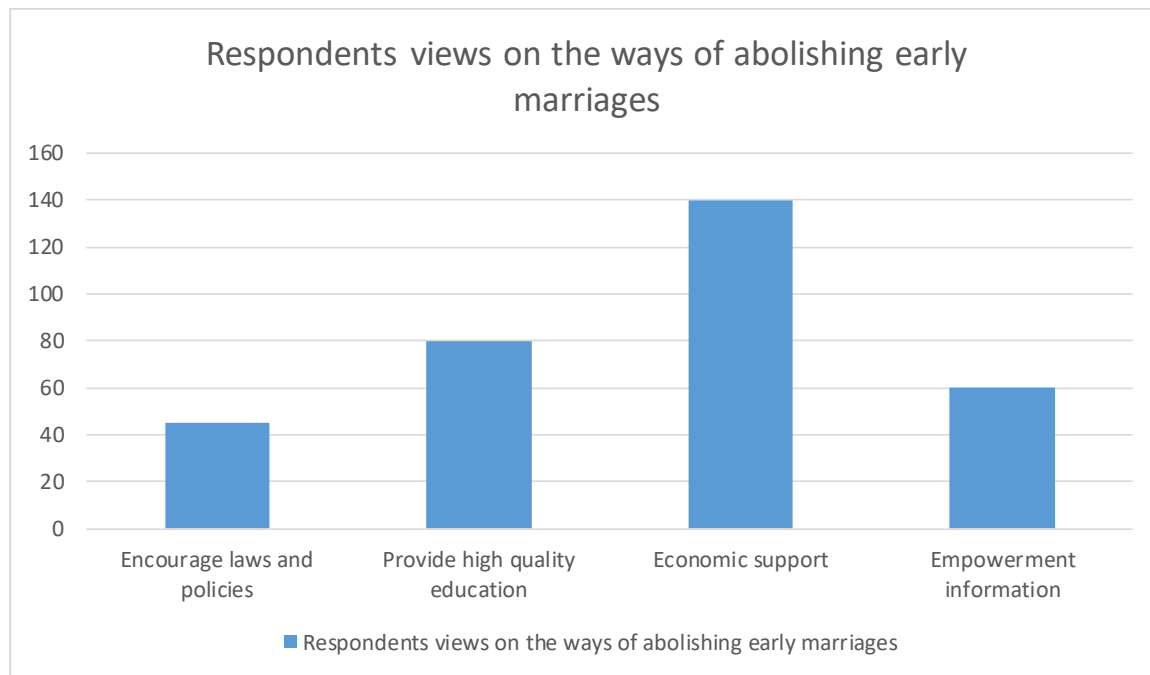
Figure 1 above shows the findings of the research, which concisely show that more than 40% of those who participated told the investigator that the primary adverse effect of early relationships is dropping out of college, then followed by 22% of participants who showed results showing that poverty was another consequence that would come about from marriage before the age of the girl child, and 18% of participants also showed results showing that one of the primary obstacles girls who planned to participate in early getting married would face was discovering a partner.

Ways of abolishing early marriages of the Girl Child

Table 6: Respondents opinions on the ways of abolishing early marriages

| Ways of abolishing early marriages | Percentage (%) |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Encourage laws and policies | 45 |
| Provide high quality education | 80 |
| Economic support | 140 |
| Empowerment information | 60 |
| Total | 100 |

Figure 2: Respondents views on the ways of abolishing early marriages



Source: Field Data (2021)

In accordance with the findings of the research, more than 140 participants told the investigator that the only way the practice of early marriage would be eliminated was by giving the girl child monetary assistance so she could access all of her basic needs. Following this group were 80 participants who provided results demonstrating how offering the girl child with an excellent educational opportunity would also contribute to abolish marriages before the age of 18, and sixty participants who provided results demonstrating how girl child.

Conclusions

As a consequence of the time squandered when not working, which forced many people into marriages early in life, more than half of the participants informed the investigator that pregnancy among adolescents was the primary reason of early relationships at Kimanya Sub County. Nevertheless, certain participants updated the the investigator that poverty and a lack of chances to succeed was also a contributing factor of early marriages, despite others who cited In areas where it was a cherished institution.

Recommendations

Additionally, the investigator advised parents to always send their kids back to school anytime they enter into young marriages.

In order to care for girls who typically experienced health issues as a result of early marriages, the medical industry of neighborhoods also needed to be improved.

In order to prevent early marriages between adults and young girls from occurring, severe rules had to be placed in place.

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