

Consequences of Failure of Pupils to Attend School during Funerals in Asego Division, Homa Bay Sub County, Kenya

By

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Abstract

Regular school attendance is very important to pupils. This study investigated the consequences of failure of pupils to attend school during funerals in Asego Division, Homa-Bay Sub County. The objectives of this study were to find out consequences of poor school attendance of pupils and gender differences in school attendance during funerals. Eight primary schools in Asego Division were sampled for this study. Two hundred and forty Luo pupils in classes four to eight in the sampled schools were purposively sampled as participants and descriptive survey research design was used. Questionnaires were administered to the sampled pupils. Focus group discussions for teachers were held in the sampled schools. They were chaired by the researcher with the assistance of two enumerators. Data analysis employed descriptive statistics such as means, frequency distributions, percentages and standard deviations. The findings of this study were presented in tables and in prose. The findings showed that consequences of poor school attendance were poor academic performance 35%, poor concentration in classes 24%, school dropout 18%, class repetition 9%, juvenile delinquency 8%, and indiscipline 6%. There was no gender difference in school attendance during funerals. The study concluded that failure of pupils to attend school during funerals had negative consequences to both male and female pupils. Further research was recommended to investigate guidance and counseling services offered to bereaved pupils during funerals. A similar study can be replicated in other parts of Homa Bay County and other parts of Kenya.

Keywords: *Culture, Relative, School attendance, Loss, Gender*