



The Effect of Negative Social Cultural Practices



Mtwara Technical Secondary School

Warda Mbaraka Mwanza and Bahiya Mubhihiri Mewile

Introduction

The project concerns about the effect of negative social cultural practices for the students' academic performance. In this project we are going to learn about the negative social cultural practices, its causes, how do they affect the students academically and the ways on how to overcome this problem.

Method

1. Initiation ceremonies (Jando and Unyago)

This is the tribal ritual that involves taking adolescents to some cultural trainings according to the traditions and customs of the particular tribe. Usually the trainings take place within two weeks to one month or more months, this includes both gender, whereby the issue of jando is for boys and Unyago is for girls.

During this period both genders do not attend school hence they miss studies that later leads to poor academic performance, but also their behaviors and mindset usually changes after attending the rituals, and that's why most of them end up getting married for girls and boys dropping out from school.

2. Early and forced marriage

In Mtwara region most of girls get married at a very young age of about 12 --17years.(under 18 years.) whereby at this time a girl is supposed to be in school, but due to such practices they fail to get into education thus they decide to drop out from school. And for forced marriage It involves getting children married without their consent and approval at an early age, and this is what typically happens to most families in Mtwara region since the parents draw much interest in the gifts that come hand in hand with the bride price. So at this state usually psychological effects results them to poor academic performances and thus dropping out of school becomes easy.

Procedure

In the process of analyzing the effects of negative social cultural practices we used data from different sources like NGO's, Bodaboda site, Chikongola village, as it was done through questionnaire method which helped us to get information on their understanding towards the effects of negative social cultural practices.

This was the best way to check out more about our project, their knowledge and awareness, since it comprised of relevant questions concerning the effect of negative social cultural practices.

We used a sample of 250 people, whereby 150 of them responded positively

Results

After performing our research work, the following data were obtained from education officer of Naliendele ward, which represents a huge number of school drop outs due to the effects of negative social cultural practices per month in 2018; Table below show the number of students drop out per month in 2018.

From the graph 1 shows the number of students who drop out from school increase from January to December. But the peak is in December which indicates a lot students are getting involved in cultural rituals e.g. initiation ceremonies during holiday time. But also in October has lot of students involved in these initiation ceremonies while other are proceeding with academic sessions. Hence the number of school dropout increases.

From the graph 2 shows the number of students who drop out from school increase from January to December. But the peak is in December which indicates a lot students are getting involved in ceremonies during holiday time. But also in September has lot of students involved in these initiation ceremonies while other are proceeding with academic sessions. Hence the number of school dropout increases.

Conclusions

The results from a questionnaire that assessed the awareness and knowledge of people of Mtwara Municipal shows that with reflection to a sample taken, a large number of people are not aware of the effects of negative socio-cultural practices.

Also from the graphs indicates the increase of victims of negative socio-cultural practices as the increase of victims creates a potential threat to the education system and public at large especially the young as the promising generation for the growth of national economy.

We call for more research to be done on this issue, and the education should provided to the society in order to eradicate if not to minimize the effects of negative socio-cultural practices, since fighting against negative socio-cultural practices brings out benefits to the country at large, whereby some of the importance can be;

- reduction in the rate of street children after school drop out.
- reduce the death rate once fighting against rituals like female circumcision
- reduction in the rate of early pregnancy
- Ensuring gender balance in the society.

Acknowledgments

Firstly, we thank the almighty God for the gift of life, and with genuine humility and respect we would like to extend our sincere thanks to our project Mr. Mbaraka Midole, fellow students and the school staff members for good cooperation they provided for us. We also wish to extend a lot of thanks to our head master, Mr. paul Kaji for his support and assistance..



-MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
DROP OUTS	06	09	07	07	08	05	11	06	08	13	05	15

The graph below show the number of students drop out per month in 2018.

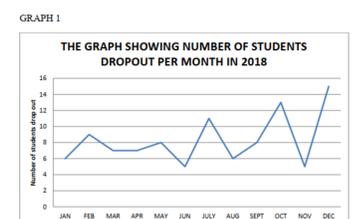


Table below show the number of students dropout per month in 2019

-MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
DROP OUTS	10	8	06	07	08	05	11	06	15	11	8	25

