"Exploring various ways in which the learning environment can be improved to promote girl child education in schools" A case study in the lower Secondary Schools in Uganda.

Submitted by;

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A research report submitted in the partial fulfilment for the requirement of the award of the Degree of languages, English language and literature in English from Busitema University, Faculty of science and education.

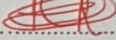**Jan/2023**

Statement of dedication;

I declare that this research report is my original work and its contents have not been particularly or who'll been presented for an academic award by any person in any university or institution of higher learning.

KISAKYE JEMIMAH.

....DATE...24TH FEB -2023........................

Endowment by the supervisor.

This research proposal has been prepared under my supervision upon appointment by Busitema University.

Madam. Nakazinga Rachael. .... Date......24th/02/2023

ii

Acknowledgement;

I humbly take this opportunity to thank the almighty God for giving me a health and stable mind and body to complete this proposal. I there by express my deepest gratitude to my dear supervisor, Madam Nakazinga R, whose guidance, encouragement and support have truly enabled me develop an understanding of this research, for, without her endless feedback and comments, this wouldn't have been possible.

Then, to my loyal and great mother, I extend my deepest appreciation for her constant encouragement, her craziness effects to pray for me, just to have me focused amidst the challenges. And finally, my heart is filled up with joy and thanks to my dear brothers and all those participated in this study, without their contribution, perhaps this wouldn't have been possible.

Dedication;

I humbly dedicate these writings to girls/women and men that stand firm to fight the many causes of gender inequality in schools with in Uganda.

List of chapters and Contents

CHAPTER-1

CHAPTER-2

ACRONYMS;

7

FGM-   **female genital mutilation.**

STI-   **Sexually Transmitted Infections**

HIV/AIDS-   **Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.**

UNICEF-   **United Nationals International Children Fund.**

UNESCO-   **United Nations Education Scientific Cultural Organization.**

OECD-   **Organisation For Economic Cooperation and Development (Advanced Economic)**

MDGS-   **Millennium Development Goals.**

Summary:

Education is one of the most desires instrumental for human resource debt. Education is truly becoming a global and universal human right and an essential component in the process of empowering women but then, gender inequality with I n the education sector is a terrible problem in Ugandan schools. There is a failure to enrol a number of girls I'm schools and those that get any chances to be in school highly dropout than the male learns all due to the lacking and unsupportive environment around them. Girls/women's success in acquiring education is very much affected and conditioned by the various elements within the learning environment. The factor of environment and social attitudes establish student's interest and motivation to aspire for the best in the world of literature. Even though women/girls are seen as a weaker sex with poor intellectual abilities, its there right to have equal rights just like the boys/men within the same society. Then, the proposed research also aims to see the various improvements that can be done to eliminate gender inequality and its associated challenges that cause difficult in the girl-child's educational process. The elements of the learning environment can be a safe learning area, engagement, connectedness and support for learners must feel supported and empowered all the time.

CHAPTER-1

1-Introduction and Background of the study.

This chapter presents the background, problem statement, purpose, objectives, research questions, significance, context of the study definition of the key terms.

1:1-The background of the study;

Education is an important investment that a country could make. Enhancing accessibility to education services is significant in the development of a nation (Torrent, 2009). This is because education positively affects socio-economic behaviour such as productivity, living standards, health and demographic characteristics of any population. Likewise, it opens infinity of possibilities for society that would otherwise be denied such as a better chance to lead healthy and productive lives, building strong and nurturing families, participating fully in civic affairs of their communities, moulding morals and values, creating culture and shaping history. It is a solid foundation for progress and sustainable development and internet of human rights and critical step towards dismantling the gender discrimination that threatens all other rights catalysing freedom and democracy within borderlands and extending its reach as an agent of international peace and security (UNICEF,2000). It is therefore, social obligations to make the provision of education to all people according to their gender and individual capacity.

Defining the term Gender Inequality, is essential because it is a present problem with the education system especially for girls, belong to economically weaker sections of the society. Gender inequality in education is regard as the major impediments with in the course of overall progressive of the education system. Therefore, Gender inequality can be defined as a social phenomenon in which men and women are not treated equally and feminism can be defined as the advocacy of women's rights on the basis of gender equality.

1:2-Problem statement.

According to the global education report, boys and girls must feel welcome in a safe and secure learning environment. Governments, schools, teachers and students all have a part to play in ensuring the schools are free to violence and discrimination and provide a gender-sensitive, good quality education. Schools are responsible for address sing school-related violence and providing comprehensive health education. Teachers should follow professional normal regarding appropriate disciplinary practices and provide unbiased instructions.

Basing on a dialogue between Socrates and Glaucon in Plato's Book v-The Republic, socrates says that, if women are to have the same duties as men, they must have the same nature and education. Unfortunately today, many school have violated these kinds of rights by paying no or less attention to these kinds of rights and the fact that when women face limited opportunities for education, their capacity and abilities to achieve equal rights are limited and so it is important for schools to promote women's rights to equal education. Due to this very cause, it is the teachers responsibility to provide a safe learning environment for these learners but instead innocent girls are sexually tortured by the very people meant to support them through the education process which affects their progress.

Therefore, feminism believe that gender stereotyping may still exist in society as boys are beloved to fit better in the future workplace than girls, the feminism theory aims to understand gender inequality and focuses on gender politics, power relationship and sexuality. While providing a critique of social relations; it also focuses on analysing gender inequalities and on the promotion of women's rights, interests and issues. It majorly gives room to explore more on discrimination, stereotyping, objectification

2-As students within this school, explain the impact of gender inequality and how the learning environment can be improved to strengthen the education among the students within your school.

3-Explain how the problem of gender inequality in access to education can be addressed with in your school.

Appendix-C: Interview guiding questions for parents;

1-As parents, please explain the factors you think are causing gender inequality in education within secondary schools like Butaleja secondary school.

2-Being parents, show and explain the impacts of gender inequality and how the learning environment can be improved to strengthen the education among the students at Butaleja secondary school.

3-You as a parent, explain how the problem of gender inequality in education at Butaleja Secondary school.

Appendix-D: Guiding questions for Teachers/students focus group discussion.

1-Explain the factors causing gender inequality in education amongst the students at Butaleja S.S

2-Explain the impacts of gender inequality and how the learning environment can be improved to strengthen the education amongst the students with in your school.

3-Mention and explain measures taken to minimise gender inequality within this school.

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