

**PARENTAL SEPARATION AND CHILD UPBRINGING AMONG FAMILIES OF
ADJUMANI TOWN COUNCIL –ADJUMANI DISTRICT**

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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, OPEN,
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DECLARATION

I, Emmanuel Adui the undersigned, declare that this is my original work and has never been submitted for any award of degree or any other qualification in any university. Any material which is not my original work, the authors have been acknowledged.

Signed: 

Date: 

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APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research report has been submitted to the University Board with my approval as the candidate's University Supervisor.

Signature:.....

Date.....

DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to my children and my wife

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am grateful to Almighty God who has been with me throughout the whole period when pursuing the course.

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ABBREVIATIONS

SPSS : Scientific Package for Social Sciences

PLCC : Pearson Linear Correlation coefficient

LC : Local Council

PS : Parental Separation

TC : Town Council

ABSTRACT

The study was set to examine the effect of parental separation and child upbringing in selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District. The study had three specific objectives

i) to examine the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District, ii) to examine the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District and to examine the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District. This study employed the descriptive survey design specifically the descriptive correlational and causal design strategies. Questionnaire of four likert scale namely strongly disagree, disagree, agree and strongly agree. The findings indicated that most respondents were female (56%), between 40-49 years of age, and majority were master holders (38%) confirming high level of education. The consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council – Adjumani District is generally high and this was indicated by the average mean of 2.69. The effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District with 2.597 on average was generally high. From the findings and the conclusions of the study, the researcher recommends there is need help parents understand the effect of separation on children emotionally ii) Children should be sensitized on the effect of drug abuse on their lives, family and community, iii) More research on women should be conducted causal of parental separation. This will help to come up with solutions to parents who have marital problems, iv) Families with marital problems are required to go for counseling and resolve their issues without separation hence leaving the children)

Children need to be assured of their provision of the basic needs with divorce or separation has occurred and Despite of all these challenges, parents provide for their children even when separation or divorce has occurred.

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

1.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the background to the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, hypothesis, scope of the study, significance of the study and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Over half of couples divorcing in the UK in 2007 had at least one child aged under 16 years. This meant that there were over 110,000 children who were aged under 16 when their parents separated or divorced. 20% of these children were under 5 years old (Catherine & Karen (2012)). The conventional methods of parenting in an African setting are correspondent with cultural dynamics but are practiced and applied differently. The preservation of culture is prevalent in African parenting literature from the ancient and modern times. Parenting practices, beliefs and norms become intergenerational as they are passed onto the next generation for conservational purposes of their heritage (Yovsi, 2014). The division of parenting roles is quite distinct from the western civilization of raising children. Fathers are viewed as instillers of discipline and mothers as comforters to children).

Today, more than one-third of all births in the U.S. occur outside of marriage (Martin et al., 2006). Although most unmarried parents are romantically involved when their child is born (Carlson et al., 2004), many separate before their child reaches age three (Osborne and McLanahan, 2006). While the consequences of parental divorce on children have been studied extensively, the effect of relationship dissolution between never-married parents on child wellbeing has rarely been examined in large survey data. Compared to couples who marry before

having children, unmarried parents tend to be socioeconomically disadvantaged, have poorer prospects in the marriage market, and are more likely to be with less assortatively matched partners (Brown, 2004) Thus, generalizing the impact of separation between married parents on child wellbeing to children of never-married parents may be misleading. Furthermore, when examining how parental separation influences child wellbeing, factors driving relationship dissolution should also be considered. The determinants of relationship dissolution between unmarried parents are not well-understood, mainly due to the lack of information on men who father children out-of wedlock. To the extent that the effect of parents' relationship dissolution on the wellbeing of their children reflects the characteristics of both parents as well as the characteristics of the partnership (e.g., quality of the match), estimates of the effect of parental separation that do not account for these factors may be biased.

Uganda is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child and to the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, both of which state that every child shall be entitled to the enjoyment of parental care and protection and shall, whenever possible, have the right to reside with his or her parents. A child should be allowed to grow-up free of abuse, violence, exploitation and neglect, yet children are vulnerable to these in many different situations; families, schools, alternative care, in work environments and on the street (Abdul-Rida & Nauck, 2014). Unfortunately, parents happen to separate or divorce due to unresolved issues, which affects the children both physically, psychologically and emotionally and they end up being exploited, abused and neglected.

Parenting or child rearing is the process of promoting and supporting the physical, emotional, social, financial, and intellectual development of a child from infancy to adulthood (Garcia, et al, 2008). Parenting refers to the aspects of raising a child aside from the biological relationship.

Parental separation is the dissolution of a romantic relationship between couples or parents with children together (Setiloane, 2014).

In Adjumani, most of parents can separate but when they have not divorced, and it can take even 3-5 years without getting back together (Babatunde 2013). When even a parent has started new life with his or her children, a father or a mother may start coming as in checking on his or her children that lack support from their biological parents or have lost them to HIV/AIDS seek alternatives from their next of kin especially grandparents. However, the interaction with western civilization on the African continent has influenced greatly the adoption of nuclear families that promotes the individualistic ideologies to parenting (Nyarko, 2014). However, children that lack support, from their biological parents or have lost them to HIV/AIDS seek alternatives from their next of kin especially grandparents if they are still alive.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Approximately one in three marriages end in divorce and it is relatively common for parents to wait until their children leave home before separating. To parents it may look as if they are no longer needed and they may assume children won't be so greatly affected because they are older (Gibson, 2012). But generally this is not the case; separation and divorce can have far-reaching implications for every member of a family whenever it happens. When parents separate or divorce, children are likely to feel a sense of loss-separation from a parent can mean you lose not only your home, but your whole way of life, different, with an unfamiliar family, fearful about being alone if one parent can go, perhaps the other will do the same, angry at one or both parents for the relationship breakdown, worried about having caused the parental separation: guilty, rejected and insecure and torn between both parents and this is caused by unresolved issues between the two people. These feeling are often made worse by the fact that many children have

to move home and sometimes school when parents separate, and most families in this situation come under some financial strain, even if they did not have money worries before. Even if the parental relationship had been very tense or violent, children may still have mixed feelings about the separation. Many children hold onto a wish that their parents may get back together.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The study was set to examine the effect of parental separation and child upbringing in selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

1.4 Objectives of the study

1.4.1. To examine the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

1.4.2 To examine the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

1.4.3 To examine the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

1.5 Research Questions

The study sought to answer the following questions

1.5.1 What are the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District?

1.5.2 What is the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District?

1.5.3 What is the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District?

1.6 Null hypothesis

There is no significant the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

1.7 Scope

1.7.1. Geographical scope

The study was carried out in Adjumani is a town in Adjumani District in the Northern Region of Uganda and the site of the district headquarters. Adjumani is in the West Nile sub-region, approximately 210 kilometers (130 mi), by road, northeast of Arua, the largest city in the sub-region. This is approximately 460 kilometers (290 mi), north-northwest of Kampala, the capital and largest city of Uganda. Most of the families in Adjumani, the children are in refugee camps due to unstable security and domestic violence at home hence affecting their performance at school.

1.7.2 Theoretical scope

This study was based on Self-system Model of Motivational Development (Connell & Wellborn, 1991; Deci & Ryan, 1985; Grolnick & Ryan, 1992). At the most general level, the motivational model posits that children are intrinsically motivated by three basic psychological needs that is related, authentic and effectiveness.

1.7.3 Content scope

In this study, parental separation (independent variable), in terms family differentiation, attachment relations and conflict behavior, child upbringing in terms of health, education and

moral (Dependent variable) and the relationship between the independence variable and dependent variable.

1.8 Significance of the study

The study will be useful to **parents** by understanding the effects of divorce on the children especially when they are still young.

It will help the **children** to understand the causes of separation and avoid them when they grow up.

It will help **policy makers** to understand how to handles issues related to domestic violence which would lead to divorce.

Other **researchers** the study will help them to use this knowledge as literature for further research.

1.9 Operational of key terms

Parental separation refers to the dissolution of a romantic relationship between a husband and a wife.

Child upbringing refers to the way of bringing up a child, health wise, educational wise and morally.

Family refers to a group consisting of parents and children living together in a household.

CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews previous studies on the research area. The purpose of the review was to clarify the key concepts and identify research gaps to justify the study. For this purpose the review is organized as parental separation and child upbringing and a theoretical review.

2.1 Conceptual framework showing the parental separation and child upbringing in selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

Independent Variables

Dependent variables

(Parental separation)

(Child upbringing)

- **Family differentiation**
- **attachment relations**
- **conflict behavior**

- **Health**
- **Education**
- **Moral**

Intervening variable

- **Relatives**
- **Neighbours**
- **government**

Source: Dolan & Bradley, R.H., (2009) Parenting and the home environment provided by grandmothers of children in the child welfare

2.2 Theoretical perspective

This study was based on Self-system Model of Motivational Development (Connell & Wellborn, 1991; Deci & Ryan, 1985; Grolnick & Ryan, 1992). At the most general level, the motivational model posits that children are intrinsically motivated by three basic psychological needs: Children need to experience themselves as belonging (related), as effective (competent), and as authentic (autonomous; Connell & Wellborn, 1991; Deci & Ryan, 1985; Skinner & Wellborn, 1994). When parents interact with children in ways that allow them to experience themselves as related, competent, and autonomous, children engage more constructively with parents and are more willing to be seriously socialized.

Integrating work on attachment, perceived control, and self-determination, the motivational model holds that parental warmth is critical to children's experiences of belonging, that parental provision of structure is the basis for experiences of competence, and that parental autonomy support is necessary for children to express their autonomy. In contrast, the model stipulates that parental rejection undermines a child's sense of relatedness, that chaotic parenting interferes with a child's sense of efficacy, and that parental coercion prevents children from developing psychological autonomy. The motivational model also explains why these features of parenting style should be critical in shaping children's development because they have an impact on children's receptive compliance (Maccoby & Martin, 1983) or openness to socialization (Darling & Steinberg, 1993; Kochanska, 1997). The key notion is that interacting with parents who support children's fundamental psychological needs serves an energetic function.

Children are motivated to constructively engage with parents, to cooperate with the parental agenda, and to internalize the behaviors and values promulgated by parents. In other words, they are ready to be socialized. In contrast, children who interact with parents who are hostile,

chaotic, and coercive become disaffected from parent – child interactions, and can be sullen, submissive, oppositional, or apathetic. In other words, they resist socialization. Because of their centrality in facilitating children’s motivation and in predicting their engagement, these three dimensions of social contexts have been a frequent target of research. Warmth/involvement, structure, and autonomy support from parents and teachers have been shown to predict the development of children’s self-system processes and their trajectories of engagement in many domains all across childhood (Skinner & Edge, 2002).

2.3 Parental separation

Separation anxiety and conflict behavior. As parents and adolescents renegotiate their relationships, an increase in the frequency and intensity of conflict between parent and adolescent often occurs (Monte-mayor, 1982). This increase in conflict and the expression of negative emotion might be related to increasing psychological and physical distance between parents and adolescents that occurs as adolescents mature (Flannery, Montemayor, Eberly, & Torquati, 1993; Larson & Ham, 1993; Steinberg, 1989). On a more positive note, some research suggests that the ability to discuss disagreements, resolve conflicts, and reach compromises is rooted in the security of the attachment relationship (Kobak, Cole, Ferenz-Gillies, & Flemming 1993; Kobak & Sceery, 1988).

Separation anxiety and family differentiation. In addition to physical separation, parents and adolescents also must negotiate the psychological process of differentiation. Differentiation-a family-systems-level attribute-is a family's characteristic tolerance for intimacy and individuality or distance among family members and between the family and the outside world (Allison & Sabatelli, 2014). Consistent with the major tenets of attachment theory, differentiation was hypothesized to be systematically associated with parental separation anxiety. Low

differentiation should be linked to attachment representations in which separation experiences would invoke high anxiety and contribute to disputes in family relationships. In contrast, high family differentiation should be more indicative of secure attachment and low separation anxiety; members of highly differentiated families would be flexible and comfortable with their feelings of intimacy and would be able to cope with age appropriate separation.

Separation anxiety and attachment relations, the psychological and emotional experience of parental separation anxiety should be linked to parents' representations of attachment relationships (Bloom-Feshbach & Bloom-Feshbach, 1987) and witnessed in adolescents' perceptions of attachment to parents. Response to separation is a reflection of the security of the attachment representation. Thus, parents who experience less separation anxiety with their adolescents' increasing self-reliance, while providing a sense of felt security when required by the adolescent, were expected to be most comfortable with others' dependency, need for closeness, and need for independence. Moreover, those parents who were less anxious about separation, in comparison with parents who were more anxious about separation, might be more responsive to adolescent needs for psychological security and exploration.

Consequences of Separation on Health

Parental separation is expected to lead to a reduction in parental involvement with and resources for the children as benefits associated with growing up in a (parental) union are at best temporarily interrupted and potentially discontinued for a prolonged amount of time. McLanahan (1985) shows that income explains up to half of the differences in child wellbeing between one- and two-parent families. Much of the existing evidence on the effects of family structure and child outcome stems from studies using data on the wellbeing of school-age children and adolescents. We focus on early child outcomes since unmarried families tend to be less stable

and hence more short-lived (Bumpass and Lu, 2000; Manning et al., 2004), findings from these previous studies may be characteristic of stable unmarried families only.

Unions yield from specialization and exchange in the presence of comparative advantages of the partners. Couples may also pool individuals' resources, and realize economies of scale in household production and gains from exploiting risk-sharing opportunities. Individuals may also be more productive as part of a family due to social learning or other positive externalities. Finally, the effective use of monetary transfers from one partner to the other on behalf of the child is more easily monitored (Willis, 1999).

Consequences of parental separation on education and moral

Parental separation or divorce is associated with approximately a one and half or two-fold increase in the risk for impairing outcomes in the offspring, such as dropping out of school or experiencing their own divorce. Yet a majority of offspring who have experienced a parental separation do not experience these serious outcomes. The magnitude of the effects are typically described as small to medium by social science researchers.

Parental separation is also associated with negative outcomes and earlier life transitions as offspring enter young adulthood and later life. Children of divorce are more likely to experience poverty, educational failure, early and risky sexual activity, non-marital child birth, earlier marriage, cohabitation, marital discord and divorce. Infact, emotional problems associated with divorce actually increase during young adulthood.

2.4 Related studies on parental separation and child upbringing

For children, the process of experiencing their parents' separation, of learning to alternate between households, and of potentially moving schools or neighbourhoods, can be very challenging (Ruschena, Prior, Sanson & Smart, 2005). Contact with the non-residential parent may be intermittent and may diminish over time. Given the stressors and difficulties related to the divorce transition, a large body of research has examined the relationship between divorce and child adjustment, largely in studies comparing child adjustment expressed as the presence of behavioral, social and emotional problems – in divorced versus intact families. The two major predictors of children's adjustment consistently identified in the literature are the exposure to inter-parental conflict and the quality of the parent-child relationship. Thus it is not separation or divorce per se that is problematic, but ongoing exposure to conflict and a difficult parent-child relationship, that impacts negatively on child wellbeing.

Normative outcome of resiliency, but not invulnerability

Although there is little doubt that divorce brings a number of important stressors for children, the research indicates that the majority of children from divorced families are emotionally well-adjusted (Amato, 1994; 2001; Hetherington, 1999; Leon, 2003). Several quantitative literature reviews (e.g., Emery, 1988) and a meta-analysis of the literature (Amato & Keith, 1991) have found that overall, the differences in the psychological adjustment of children whose parents have divorced in comparison to those whose parents remain married are statistically significant, but small in magnitude (Emery, 1994).

Thus, although divorce is associated with an increased risk for a number of adjustment, achievement and relationship difficulties, resilience is the normative outcome for children, and most children who experience parental divorce adjust well and do not exhibit severe or enduring

behaviour problems (Amato, 2001). Resilience refers to the capacity to endure stressors and difficulties without developing clinically significant adjustment problems (Thompson & Amato, 1999). However, although children of divorced parents may be characterized as resilient, they do experience significant psychological distress and pain following separation and report a number of fears and wishes, including fears of abandonment, wishes for reconciliation, grief at separation from, or the loss of contact with a family member, and worries about the increased stresses in a single parent family (Emery, 1994).

The normal outcome of resiliency for children from divorced families is not equivalent to being invulnerable to the impact of divorce; indeed children of divorce have been found to experience substantial distress (Laumann-Billings & Emery, 2000), although as a group they are not psychologically disturbed. Nonetheless, children and adolescents of divorce report that the divorce, and the following years, is a significantly painful period of their lives (Laumann-Billings & Emery, 2000).

2.5 Conclusion

Parental separation is associated with increased risk for numerous psychological, academic and social problems throughout the life-course. Experiencing parental separation is associated with roughly a two-fold increase on average, but an overwhelming majority of children and adolescents do not exhibit impairing problems after parental separations. Children and adolescents who experience parental divorce, however frequently experience great emotional distress during the separation and aftermath.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter consists of the research design, population, sample size, sampling technique, research instruments, validity and reliability of the instrument, data gathering procedures and data analysis.

3.1 Research Design

This study employed the descriptive survey design specifically the descriptive correlational and causal design strategies. Descriptive studies are non-experimental researches that describe the characteristics of a particular individual, or of a group. It deals with the relationship between variables, testing of hypothesis and development of generalizations and use of theories that have universal validity.

3.2 Research population

The target population included total of 100 parents from the selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District

3.3 Sample size

The Slovin's formula was used to determine the minimum sample size.

N

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N \alpha^2}$$

where: n= sample

N= Target population

α = the level of significance 0.05

3.4 Sampling Procedures

The purposive sampling was utilized to select the respondents basing on the gender, age, number of years in marriage. The systematic random sampling was used and finally selected the respondents with consideration to the computed minimum sample size. Amin (2005) defined purposive sampling as a type of sampling where the researcher applies her own judgment or common sense regarding the participants from whom information is collected.

3.5 Research Instruments

The research tools that were used in this study include the following: (1) face sheet to gather data on the demographic characteristics of respondents (gender, age and educational levels) (2) researcher devised questionnaires to determine the consequences of parental separation on the health of children, effects of parental separation on the education and morals of children. The response modes and scoring are as follows: for

Women participation and sustainable development -4) strongly agree (3) agree (2) disagree and (1) strongly disagree.

3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instruments

Content validity was ensured by subjecting the researcher devised questionnaires of women participation and sustainable development (who shall estimate the validity on the basis of their experience) of parents.

The test-retest technique was used to determine the reliability (accuracy) of the researcher devised instruments to 10 qualified respondents, 5 were all men and 5 were women. These

respondents were not included in the actual study. In this test- retest technique, the questionnaires were administered twice to the same subjects. And the test was reliable and the trait was being measured stable, the results were consistent and essentially the same in both times (Tuyizere, 2007)

3.7 Data Gathering Procedures

Before the administration of the questionnaires

An introduction letter was obtained from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences for the researcher to solicit approval to conduct the study from respective heads of projects. When approved, the researcher was secured a list of the qualified respondents from the projects authorities in charge and select through systematic random sampling from this list to arrive at the minimum sample size. The respondents were explained about the study and requested to sign the Informed Consent Form (Appendix Reproduced more than enough questionnaires for distribution and selected research assistants who assisted in the data collection; briefed and oriented them in order to be consistent in administering the questionnaires.

During the administration of the questionnaires

The respondents were requested to answer completely and not to leave any part of the questionnaires unanswered, the researcher and assistants emphasized getting back of the questionnaires within five (5) days from the date of distribution and on retrieval, all returned questionnaires were checked if all are answered.

After the administration of the questionnaires

The data gathered was collated, encoded into the computer and statistically treated using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

3.8 Data Analysis

The frequency and percentage distribution were used to determine the profile of the respondents.

The means and interpretations were applied for the parental separation and child upbringing

The following mean range was used to arrive at the mean of the individual indicators and interpretation:

A. For the level of women participation and sustainable development.

Mean Range	Response Mode	Interpretation
3.26 – 4.00	strongly agree	very high
2.51 – 3.25	agree	high
1.76 - 2.50	disagree	low
1.00 - 1.75	strongly disagree	very low

To determine whether there is a significant relationship between parental separation and child upbringing. Pearson linear correlation coefficient (PLCC) was used to compute the influence of the independent variable to dependent variable.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

To ensure confidentiality of the information provided by the respondents and to ascertain the practice of ethics in this study, the following activities were implemented by the researcher:

Sought permission to adopt the standardized questionnaire on women participation in the implementation of development activities and sustainable development through a written communication to the author, the respondents were coded instead of reflecting the names, solicited permission through a written request to the concerned officials like LCs, police of Muyenga, requested the respondents to sign in the Informed Consent Form (Appendix 3), acknowledged the authors quoted in this study and the author of the standardized instrument through citations and referencing and presented the findings in a generalized manner.

3.10 Limitations of the Study

In view of the following threats to validity, the researcher claimed an allowable 5% margin of error at 0.05 level of significance. Measures were also indicated in order to minimize if not to eradicate the threats to the validity of the findings of this study.

1. *Extraneous variables* were beyond the researcher's control such as respondents' honesty, personal biases and uncontrolled setting of the study.
2. *Attrition/Mortality*: Not all questionnaires were returned neither completely answered nor even retrieved back due to circumstances on the part of the respondents such as travels, sickness, hospitalization and refusal/withdrawal to participate. In anticipation to this, the researcher had reserved more respondents

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter shows the profile of respondents, the level of women participation in the implementation of development activities and projects, the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District, to the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District and the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District. The presentation here is based on data as collected from the field and as analyzed by the researcher.

Respondents were asked to provide their gender, age and academic level. Their responses were summarized using frequencies and percentage distributions as indicated in table 1;

Table4.1:
The profile of the respondents

profile of respondents	Frequency	Percent
Gender		
male	35	44
female	45	56
Total	80	100
Age group		
30-39	22	27
40-49	35	44
50 and above	23	29
Total	80	100
Education qualification		
certificate	2	3
diploma	20	25
degree	12	15
masters	30	38
PHD	16	20
Total	80	100.0

Results in Table1 indicated that female respondents (over 56%) were higher than male respondents (over 44%). This indicates that women experience more separation than men.

Regarding age group, respondents in this sample were dominated by those between 40-49 years (44%), suggesting that most of the respondents in selected families of Adjumani Town Council – Adjumani District are adults.

With respect to academic qualification, majority of the respondents (38%) were master holders, indicating that respondents are highly qualified. Diploma holders were followed by relatively qualified (25%) confirming the high level of qualification.

4.1 The consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

The first independent variable in this study was the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District, for which the researcher wanted to determine its level. Parental separation had eight quantitative questions namely:-. Each of these questions was based on the four Likert scales. Respondents were asked to rate the extent to which parental separation impact on the health of children whether is high or low by indicating the extents to which they agree or disagree with each question.

Their responses were analysed using SPSS and summarized using means as indicated in table4.2;

Table4. 2

**The consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of
Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District**

Categories	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
Drug abuse among children and parents too	3.41	Very high	1
Involvement of sexual risky behaviors by children hence contracting STDS	2.72	High	2
Loss separation can mean loss of a home hence resorting to streets which is more risky	2.68	High	3
Early pregnancies among girls	2.60	High	4
Lead to reduction in parental involvement with resources for children	2.58	High	5
Conflicts among children	2.56	High	6
High level of mistrust	2.54	High	7
Loss-separation can mean loss of a home	2.40	Low	8
AVERAGE MEAN	2.69	High	

Key for interpretation of means

Mean range	Response mode	Interpretation
3.26-4.00	strongly agree	Very high
2.51-3.25	Agree	High
1.76-2.50	Disagree	Low
1.00-1.75	Strongly disagree	Very low

Results in Table 4.2 the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District are generally high and this is indicated by the overall average mean of 2.69. This means that the consequences of parental separation health highly affects children’s life where by children end up in abusing drugs.

4.2 The effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

The dependent variable in this study was the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District. This variable was operationalised using seven questions or items in the questionnaire, with each question Likert scaled between one to four, where 4=strongly agree, 3=agree, 2= disagree and 1= strongly disagree. Respondents were required to rate the extent to which separation of parents can impact on education and morals of children, by showing the extent to which they agree with each item. Their responses were analysed using means as summarized in table 4.3;

Table 4.3;

**The effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families
of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District**

Categories	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
Poor performance in the class	2.72	High	1
High levels of school dropouts	2.69	High	2
Angry at one parent or both if the relationship is broken	2.65	High	3
Late pay of school dues if the parents was not working	2.60	High	4
Fear to get married because of the feelings	2.57	high	5
Disrespect of parents especially to the one who has left home	2.50	high	6
Suffer a psychological torture especially when chased from home	2.45	high	7
AVERAGE MEAN	2.597	high	

The results in Table 4.3 revealed that the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.’ Most of the respondents agreed where by they were rated high on average that is to say 2.597 this means that parents when they separate, it affects children’s educations.

4.3 The relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

The last objective in this study was to establish whether there is a significant the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District, for which it was, hypothesized that parental separation and child upbringing are not significantly correlated. To test this null hypothesis, the researcher correlated the mean indices on parental separation and those on child upbringing using the Pearson’s linear correlation Coefficient (PLCC), results of which are indicated in table 4.4.

Table 4.4;

The relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District

Variables correlated	r-value	sig	interpretation	Decision on the null-hypothesis
Parental separation Vs child upbringing	.101	.145	No significant correlation	Accepted

The PLCC results in Table 4.4, indicated that there is no significant relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council – Adjumani District (sigs >0.05). For example, results indicated a no significant correlation between parental separation and child upbringing. (r = 0.101, sig. = 0.145). Basing on the results,

the null hypothesis was accepted and a conclusion made that parental separation and child upbringing are not significantly correlated yet the results are significant at 0.05 level of significance. This is so because if a parent however much separate with his or her partner, children's rights are respected that is to say a child deserves his or her equal rights so they are provided to them (basics needs are given).

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of major findings, conclusions and recommendations plus the suggested areas that need further research.

5.1 Summary of Findings

The study was set to examine the effect of parental separation and child upbringing in selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District. The study had three specific objectives i) to examine the consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District, ii) to examine the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District and to examine the relationship between parental separation and child upbringing of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District.

The findings indicated that most respondents were female (56%), between 40-49 years of age, and majority were master holders (38%) confirming high level of education

The consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District is generally high and this was indicated by the average mean of 2.69. The effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District with 2.597 on average was generally high.

The findings also indicated a positive insignificant relationship, positive significant correlations between parental separation and childupbringing, since all since all the sig. values

were greater than or equal to 0.05, which is the maximum level of significance required to declare a relationship insignificant. This is shown by the fact that the sig. value was greater than the maximum sig. value of 0.05 considered in social sciences.

5.2 Conclusions

From the findings of the study, the researcher concluded that most respondents in selected families of Adjumani were females, between 40-49 years in age, and majorities are masters holders in education.

The consequences of parental separation on health of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District is generally high.

The effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District was generally high and parental separation and child upbringing are positive and insignificantly correlated this is so because if a parent however much separate with his or her partner, children's rights are respected that is to say a child deserves his or her equal rights so they are provided to them (basics needs are given)..

5.3 Recommendations

From the findings and the conclusions of the study, the researcher recommends there is need help parents understand the effect of separation on children emotionally.

Children should be sensitized on the effect of drug abuse on their lives, family and community.

More research on women should be conducted causal of parental separation. This will help to come up with solutions to parents who have marital problems.

Families with marital problems are required to go for counseling and resolve their issues without separation hence leaving the children.

Children need to be assured of their provision of the basic needs with divorce or separation has occurred.

Despite of all these challenges, parents provide for their children even when separation or divorce has occurred.

5.4 Areas for Further Research

The research does not and cannot guarantee that the study was completely exhausted. In any case, the scope of the study was limited in accordance with the space, and objectives. It is therefore, suggested that a national research covering the whole country be undertaken.

Also, prospective researchers and even students should be encouraged to research into the following area: causal research to be conducted on parental divorce.

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APPENDICES
APPENDIX I
TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR THE RESPONDENTS

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings!

I am a student for a bachelor's degree of guidance and counseling at Kampala International University with a research report on *parental separation and child up bringing in selected families of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District*". As I pursue this academic requirement, may I request your assistance by being part of this study?

Kindly provide the most appropriate information as indicated in the questionnaires and please do not leave any item unanswered.

Any data from you shall be for academic purposes only and will be kept with utmost confidentiality.

May I retrieve the questionnaires two days after you receive them?

Thank you very much in advance.

Yours faithfully,

ADUI EMMANUEL

APPENDIX II
CLEARANCE FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE

Date _____

Candidate's Data

Name _____

Reg.# _____

Course _____

Title of Study _____

Ethical Review Checklist

The study reviewed considered the following:

___ Physical Safety of Human Subjects

___ Psychological Safety

___ Emotional Security

___ Privacy

___ Written Request for Author of Standardized Instrument

___ Coding of Questionnaires/Anonymity/Confidentiality

___ Permission to Conduct the Study

___ Informed Consent

___ Citations/Authors Recognized

Results of Ethical Review

___ Approved

___ Conditional (to provide the Ethics Committee with corrections)

___ Disapproved/ Resubmit Proposal

Ethics Committee (Name and Signature)

Chairperson _____

Members _____

APPENDIX III
INFORMED CONSENT

I am giving my consent to be part of the research study of **Mr. Adui Emmanuel** that will focus on **parenting styles and child upbringing.**

I shall be assured of privacy, anonymity and confidentiality and that I will be given the option to refuse participation and right to withdraw my participation anytime.

I have been informed that the research is voluntary and that the results will be given to me if I ask for it.

Initials: _____

Date _____

APPENDIX IV

SECTION I: FACE SHEET: PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

✓ Tick the appropriate answer

Background Information

1. Gender

Male

Female

2. Age bracket?

30 – 39

40 – 49

50 and above

3. Level of education

Certificate

Diploma

Degree

Masters

Direction: Please tick your preferred option on the space provided before each item. Kindly use the guide below.

The consequences of parental separation on the health of children in Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District

For each of the following statements, circle the number of the 4-point scale (1=strongly disagree, 4= strongly agree) that describes how that statement applies to children. There is no right or wrong answers so don't spend a lot of time on any one item. We are looking for overall impression regarding each statement. Be sure not to omit any items.

1= Strongly Disagree, 2= Disagree, 3= Agree,4= Strongly Agree.

Statement	1	2	3	4
Conflicts among children	1	2	3	4
Drug abuse among children and parents too	1	2	3	4
Early pregnancies among girls	1	2	3	4
High level of mistrust	1	2	3	4
Involvement of sexual risky behaviors by children hence contracting STDS	1	2	3	4
Lead to reduction in parental involvement with resources for children	1	2	3	4
Loss separation can mean loss of a home hence resorting to streets which is more risky	1	2	3	4
Loss-separation can mean loss of a home	1	2	3	4

**The effects of parental separation on education and morals of children of selected families
of Adjumani Town Council –Adjumani District**

Instructions: In each case, please indicate with a check on the some of the effects of parental separation on education and morals of children.

1 = very low 2 =low 3 =high =very high

Statements	1	2	3	4
Angry at one parent or both if the relationship is broken	1	2	3	4
Disrespect of parents especially who left them	1	2	3	4
Fear to get married because of the feelings	1	2	3	4
High levels of school dropouts	1	2	3	4
Late pay of school dues if the parents was not working	1	2	3	4
Poor performance in the class	1	2	3	4
Suffer a psychological torture especially when chased from home	1	2	3	4

APPENDIX V

SAMPLE POPULATION

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(\partial)^2}$$

Where n= the required sample size, N = target population and ∂ = significance level, given at 0.05.

Therefore: N = 100

$$n = \frac{100}{1 + 100(0.0025)}$$

$$s = 80 \text{ parents}$$