

Critical Review of Sociodemographic Factors and Their Role in Children's Anti-Social Behavior: A Focus on Bobaracho, Nyaribari Chache''

I appreciate the effort you've put into this manuscript! It addresses a timely and important topic. To help you further refine your work, I've summarized the reviewer's feedback below, followed by more detailed suggestions for each section. Let's work together to make your paper even stronger, section by section!"

A. Abstract:

Clarification of Objectives:

- **The reviewer's Comment:** Explicitly state the primary research question or hypothesis.
- **Author's Revision:** The author hasn't explicitly stated a research question or hypothesis in the revised abstract. They reiterate the aim "to investigate the influence of sociodemographic variables on children's antisocial behaviour."
- **Assessment:** The author could improve this by formulating a clear research question (e.g., "What is the relationship between specific sociodemographic factors and antisocial behaviour in children?") or stating a testable hypothesis.

2. Methodology Details:

- **The reviewer's Comment:** Include specifics about the sampling method.
- **Author's Revision:** The author now mentions using a "stratified sampling method."
- **Assessment:** This is a good addition. However, they could elaborate on how the stratification was done (e.g., what variables were used to stratify the sample).

3. Results Summary:

- **The reviewer's Comment:** Present key quantitative findings or statistics.
- **Author's Revision:** The author still uses the placeholder "[insert specific findings or percentages here]."
- **Assessment:** This is a crucial missing piece. The author needs to replace the placeholder with concrete findings to strengthen the abstract.

4. Implications:

- **The reviewer's Comment:** Mention broader implications for policy or practice.
- **Author's Revision:** The author provides specific recommendations for parents, guardians, and school administrators.
- **Assessment:** This is well done. The author directly addresses the implications of the findings for relevant stakeholders.

5. Limitations:

- **The reviewer's Comment:** Acknowledge limitations.
- **Author's Revision:** The author acknowledges the limited generalizability due to the focus on a single geographic area.

- **Assessment:** This is a good start. The author could consider mentioning other potential limitations, if any, to enhance transparency.

Overall Assessment:

the author made some positive changes to the abstract by incorporating some of The reviewer's suggestions, but it's not quite "fine" yet. There are still a few key areas that need improvement:

- **Missing Quantitative Results:** The lack of specific findings in the results section significantly weakens the abstract. Without concrete data, the reader cannot fully grasp the study's outcomes.
- **Incomplete Methodology:** While mentioning "stratified sampling" is a step in the right direction, the author should elaborate on how the stratification was implemented. This detail is crucial for understanding the sampling process's rigor.
- **Potential for More Limitations:** Acknowledging the geographical limitation is good, but there might be other limitations inherent to the study design or data collection. Addressing these would enhance the transparency and trustworthiness of the research.

In summary: The author has made progress, but addressing the missing results, elaborating on the methodology, and potentially acknowledging further limitations would significantly strengthen the abstract and better reflect the study's quality.

B. Methodology:

- **Descriptive survey:** This design is appropriate for the study's objective.
- **Sample size:** 150 participants is a decent sample size, but it's worth noting the initial target was 200. The author should address this discrepancy and explain the reason for the lower participation rate.
- **Stratified sampling:** While the author mentions using this method, they should elaborate on how the stratification was done. What variables were used to create the strata (e.g., age, gender, socioeconomic status)? Providing this information is crucial for understanding the sampling process and assessing its potential biases.
- **Data collection:** The author mentions using questionnaires and interviews. They should provide more details about these instruments, such as:
 - **Questionnaire:** How many items were there? What were the response options (e.g., Likert scale, open-ended)? Was the questionnaire pre-tested or validated?
 - **Interviews:** What topics were covered in the interviews? Were the interviews structured, semi-structured, or unstructured? How long did the interviews last?
- **Data analysis:** The author mentions using SPSS version 20 for quantitative data analysis and thematic analysis for qualitative data. They should elaborate on the specific statistical tests used for the quantitative data and describe the process of coding and theme development for the qualitative data.
- **Ethical considerations:** The author mentions obtaining ethical approval and consent from participants. This is well done.

Table 1:

- The table clearly presents the sample size by children's living arrangements (boarding vs. day).
- Consider adding more demographic information, such as age and gender distribution, to provide a more comprehensive overview of the sample characteristics.

Overall:

The author provides a good overview of the methodology. However, they should expand on the details regarding the sampling method, data collection instruments, data analysis procedures, and address potential limitations to enhance the transparency and rigor of the study.

C. Results:

It's great to see the author has incorporated the reviewer's feedback and added statistical details to the results section! Presenting the results of the univariable generalized linear model regression analysis, including beta coefficients, confidence intervals, and p-values, significantly enhances the transparency and rigor of the findings.

Here are a few observations and suggestions:

1. **Clarity in Variable Descriptions:** While the table provides some information, it would be beneficial to clarify the specific sociodemographic and anti-social behaviour variables being analysed. For instance, what specific aspects of sociodemographic and anti-social behaviours are being measured? Providing clear definitions or examples within the text would enhance the readability and interpretation of the results.
2. **Interpretation of Findings:** The author states the significant associations but could elaborate further on their practical implications. For example, what does a negative beta coefficient for "Children from broken homes" on sociodemographic suggest about this group's characteristics compared to those from poor families? Providing a more in-depth interpretation of these findings would enrich the analysis.
3. **Consideration of Multicollinearity:** Since the analysis involves multiple predictors, it's worth considering the potential issue of multicollinearity (high correlations between independent variables). Addressing this statistically, or at least acknowledging it as a potential limitation, would strengthen the robustness of the findings.
4. **confusing Language:** The phrase "poor sociodemographic" is unclear. It's important to use precise terminology. If referring to a composite measure of socioeconomic disadvantage, clearly define it. If referring to specific sociodemographic factors (e.g., low income, low parental education), use those terms directly.
5. **Contradictory Statements:** The text mentions that factors like inadequate parental discipline and parent-parent conflict were associated with "increased poor sociodemographic" but also "good social behaviours." This appears contradictory. It's crucial to clarify the direction of these associations and ensure consistency in reporting.
6. **Missing Information on "Good Social Behaviours":** While the text provides beta coefficients and p-values for the association between certain factors and "good social behaviours," it lacks the same level of detail for other factors like poor parenting, drug

abuse, etc. Presenting this information consistently for all factors would enhance clarity.

7. **Consider Multivariable Analysis:** The current analysis appears to be univariable, examining each predictor in isolation. To understand the independent contribution of each factor while controlling for others, consider performing a multivariable regression analysis.

by addressing these points, the author can significantly improve the clarity, consistency, and depth of the results section.

D. Discussion:

You've done a great job presenting your research findings clearly! To help readers fully grasp their importance, consider adding a discussion section. This is where you can analyse the results in depth, connect them to existing literature, and explore their implications. It's a chance to showcase your insights and spark further discussion in the field.

Here are few suggestions:

- "You could start by discussing how your findings confirm or challenge previous research (The Influence of Sociodemographic Factors on Anti-Social Behavior among Children: A Case of Bobaracho Area, Nyaribari Chache, Kenya, 2024)."
- "It would be interesting to elaborate on the practical implications of your findings for educators or policymakers."
- Consider discussing any unexpected results and potential explanations

E. Conclusion:

The author provides a concise list of conclusions based on the study's findings. However, there's room for improvement in terms of clarity, depth, and connection to the results:

Strengthening the Conclusions:

- **Streamline and Prioritize:** Condense the conclusions to avoid repetition and highlight the most significant findings. Instead of listing every contributing factor, emphasize the most impactful ones, such as family conflict and discrepancies between home and school values.
- **Connect to Specifics:** Ground each conclusion in concrete results from the study. For example, when discussing family-based factors, specify which behaviours or dynamics were most influential.
- **Elaborate on Key Differences:** When mentioning the discrepancies between school and home values, provide specific examples to illustrate these differences and their implications for student behaviour.

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. **Avoid Repetition and Redundancy:** Several conclusions overlap significantly. For instance, points i, ii, iii, and iv all point to family and school environments as influential factors. Streamline these points to avoid redundancy.

2. **Connect to Specific Findings:** Instead of general statements, ground the conclusions in the specific results of the study. For example, instead of "The study found that antisocial behaviour is influenced by family-based factors," specify which family-based factors were identified (e.g., "Family conflict and a history of problematic behaviour were significantly associated with increased antisocial behaviour").
3. **Elaborate on "Notable Differences":** Conclusion (v) mentions "notable differences" between school and home values but doesn't elaborate. Briefly explain the nature of these differences and their implications for student behaviour.
4. **Address Limitations:** Acknowledge any limitations of the study that might affect the generalizability of the findings. For instance, mention the study's specific geographical context and target population.
5. **Consider Future Research:** Briefly suggest potential avenues for future research based on the study's findings.

Refining the Recommendations:

- **Consolidate and Focus:** Combine overlapping recommendations into a cohesive set of actionable strategies. Instead of separate points on parental involvement and school interventions, create a unified approach emphasizing family-school partnerships.
- **Get Specific and Actionable:** Replace vague suggestions with concrete steps. Instead of "encouraging parental involvement," recommend specific programs or strategies, like parent education workshops or regular communication channels.
- **Address Feasibility:** Acknowledge potential challenges in implementing certain recommendations, such as resource constraints. Offer alternative approaches or emphasize collaboration with community organizations to overcome obstacles.

Based on the study's findings, the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Strengthening Family-School Partnerships:** Implement programs that foster collaboration between parents and schools, such as parent education workshops on effective communication and discipline strategies, as well as regular communication channels between teachers and parents to address behavioural concerns.
- **Creating a Supportive School Environment:** Develop and implement school-wide initiatives to promote positive social norms, address peer pressure, and provide adequate supervision and counselling services. This could include establishing peer mentoring programs, training teachers in conflict resolution and classroom management techniques, and ensuring access to school counsellors or social workers.
- **Addressing Systemic Factors:** Advocate for policies and programs that address broader societal issues contributing to antisocial behaviour, such as poverty, inequality, and exposure to violence. This could involve collaborating with community organizations to provide resources and support to families in need.
- **Further Research:** Future research should explore the effectiveness of specific interventions targeting the identified risk factors, investigate the influence of media exposure on antisocial behaviour, and examine the generalizability of the findings to other contexts and populations.

General Improvements:

- **Connect to Existing Literature:** Strengthen the manuscript by referencing relevant research that supports the findings and recommendations. This demonstrates a thorough understanding of the field and adds credibility to the arguments.
- **Consider Future Research:** Conclude by suggesting specific avenues for future research based on the study's limitations or unanswered questions. This highlights the study's contributions and encourages further exploration.