

The Causes of Girls' Dropout at Secondary School Level in Quetta City:

By

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Abstract:

The dropout issue is one of the most alarming issues in field of education throughout the world. The dropout issue may be different in ratio expressively in both male and female students. The present was conducted at Baleli and Kuchlak union councils. The target sample number was 120 respondents. They were inquired through questionnaire. In the view to the conducted research, this is assumed that the key causes of the dropout of girls at secondary school level are cultural factors, school level factors, household factors and economic factors which can be countered by providing proper facilitations trained counselors in educational system. While studying many of the researches about the dropout done in the past, the issue of dropout students from the schools has been conceded out heedlessly of students' gender. The studies about the dropout of the girls have also been done by many of the researchers throughout the world in their respective regions. Therefore, this study as well represents a particular geographical region; it also covers more factors such as early marriages, pregnancy, absenteeism, etc. That may be contributing extensively in the increase of dropout foremost in female students and the impacts of these factors are always negative on educational system.

Keywords: Dropout, Girls Education, Economic, Household, School level and Cultural factors.

Introduction:

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Education is an important factor of human life. It plays a vital role in society's modification and life style of the people live in the society, develops the psychological approach of individual. Education in society may not only be restricted to males as it important most for the females of the society who are the care takers of the children and tackle the issues inside the home completely. Women education is given priority in all the religions of the world and Islam has given it a prominent place in its teachings. The Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SAWW) has said on several occasions to show the importance of education especially in case of female education his saying is "It is obligatory to get proper education for every Muslim both men and women." His saying according education is "Every Muslim shall get education from the lap of mother till the last day of his or her life." The importance of education in Islam can be assessed by this saying of Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SAWW) that He suggested all the Muslims "Go even to China for the sake of education".(Ah,yaa,ay uloo,mud deen ki jild #1 k pg#8)

According to Plato Education provides discipline to the society and it makes person capable, potential, knowledgeable and brings success to life of an individual and (Mohammad Rashid, Allied Material of Foundation Education AIOU, Course Code 831) describes Education as development of positive and permanent change in behavior of people and prepares human being to perfection. Education unlocks the unity as it plays the role of a key of strengthening in society. Also the work of Gerald, W Bracey is unforgettable about the Dropouts—Statistics Dropouts--Forecasts and trends School Enrollment – are absolute expert articles as well as the work of Suh, Suhyon Soh, Jingyu her Quarterly research in 2006 published at books of scholars about education and its engagement and degree attainments among secondary school level dropouts in which she shared really very good ideas and suggestions and are helpful for reducing the dropout rate. Same of Roderick Melissa House Auburn, 1993 book on The path to Dropping out Evidence for intervention discussion about the change of the policy, the system and also focusing the critical sides that which way would be better and able to be applied to stop dropout at school level. By the measurement of the issues of educational misbalance and extended educational inequality the development of a society can be judged very easily. The prevalence's of unequal distribution of education among boys' and girls' students' hampers at the development at every stage of nations. In accordance to the World Conference on Education in 2001 all children, specifically girls, must have access to and complete quality education by the year 2015. It is very well known that both boys and girls have been given equal rights to be get education and

for the development of a nation it is of imminence importance to provide education irrespective of gender.

A survey report published in daily Jang newspaper, Baluchistan lacks secondary schools which has direct impact on girl's education. This survey shows the figure of the students studying in formal setup, i.e. 10 lacs 29 thousand and the strength female students is 4 lacs. The number schools registered for female are 3360 which can be divided as 2862 schools are of primary level, middle level schools are 636 and high/secondary schools are just 137. The literacy rate of girls in Quetta city is better than the far-flung areas of the province. Female teachers were scared due to law and order situations and got transferred their services to Quetta and some of them have quit their jobs. During this survey it was also observed that the data provided by the education department tells that there are some of the schools in Quetta city where single teacher deals with three students only while in far areas of the same city lack teachers. Not only the schools are far to access, but there are fewer schools basically in the province as per population. In 1998's census of Pakistan, there are twenty-two thousand or more settlements in the Balochistan whereas there are twelve thousand schools approximately run by government.

The worst law and order situation coupled with the allocation of budget, the absenteeism of teachers, non-availability of facilitations in schools and the growth of corruption are some of the factors which contribute in low literacy rate in Balochistan. Some of children do work to sport their families due to poverty. There are several factors contributing their part in dropout of girls in process of education.

To show the picture clearer of these factors I divided them into 4 groups as Economic, Household, School level and Cultural factors.

Hypothesis:

Economic, Household, School level and Cultural factors are contributing in girls' dropout at secondary school level.

Methodology:

The design and method of this research is descriptive in nature, containing survey method with the help of questionnaire that consist of several questions which are close ended, the research paper has also been beautified by the conduction of observations.

For the investigation of decreasing strength of girls in educational system at secondary school level, subsequent measures have been taken:

- Private and Govt., schools have been investigated to get knowledge about the dropout of girls in educational setup at secondary school level.

- The sample of the population has been interrogated through a questionnaire.
- The data has been collected through primary and secondary sources by tools of investigation which has helped to draw a refined conclusion.

Population and Sample:

This research has been covering the private and Govt., girls' secondary schools of two union councils of Quetta city they are Baleli and Kuchlak, though the population is high in strength but through random sampling the data collection was made possible which has almost fulfilled the requirement of the study.

Sampling Techniques:

Two stage sampling technique was adopted for selection of sample. At first, the sample is selected via cluster sampling technique of two union council they are Kuchlak a rural union council and Bilali union council selected randomly.

At second stage of non-random sampling technique was adopted to select the respondents of for the said study. Purposive sampling was employed as a purposive sampling technique is only best way to collect the responses the desired sample.

Instrument and Data Collection:

As far as the design of the study is concerned it was based on survey and investigation type, a set of structured questionnaire was constructed and the data was collected via questionnaire prepared by researcher himself under the supervision of supervisor.

The scale of the research study was based on Likert scale. The range of the scale was from 1 to 5. Those opinions who are ranked as agree and strongly agree, are considered as 1 and 2. The value of 3 is considered to be neutral. Values of 4 and 5 considered as disagree and strongly disagree accordingly. The language of the Questionnaire was Urdu and researcher personally visited different schools and collect the data of the respondents.

Reliability & Validity:

Pilot Testing:

To ensure the reliability of the instrument, pilot study was conducted at Govt & Private Girls High Schools of Kuchlak and Baleli. A number of 30 students provided the responses on the questionnaire. The reliability coefficient alpha was 0.69 which indicates that instrument was reliable.

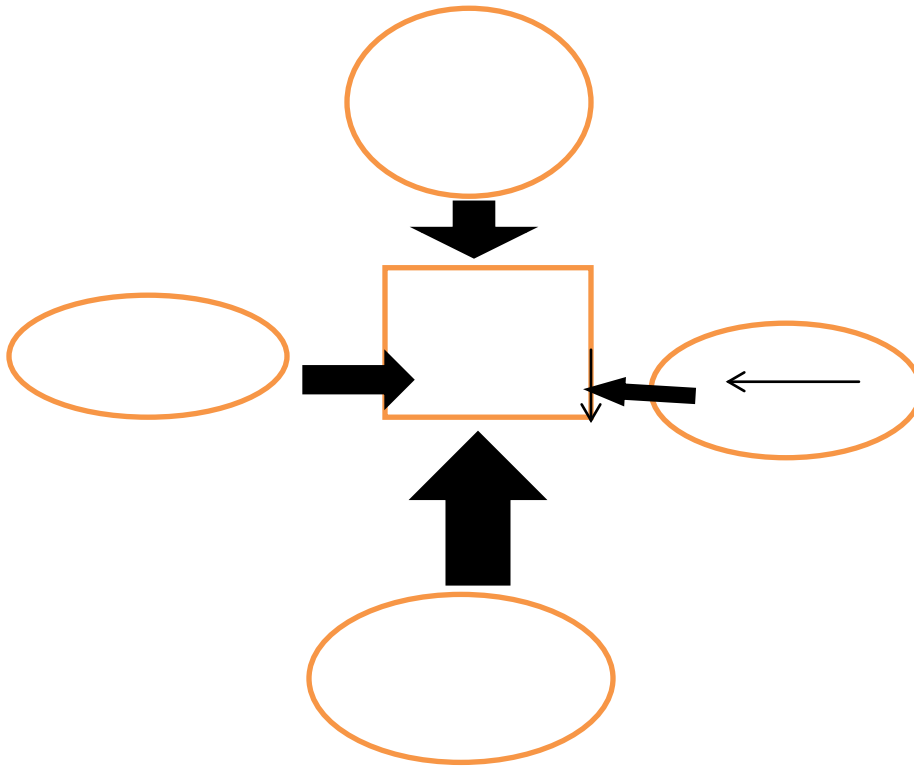
Validity:

The validity of the instrument, which was content validity ensured by instrument expert, in the light of suggestions provided by expert the language of questionnaire adapted. Instrument was in Urdu language as the knowledge of secondary school students was not sufficient in understanding English.

Conceptual Framework:

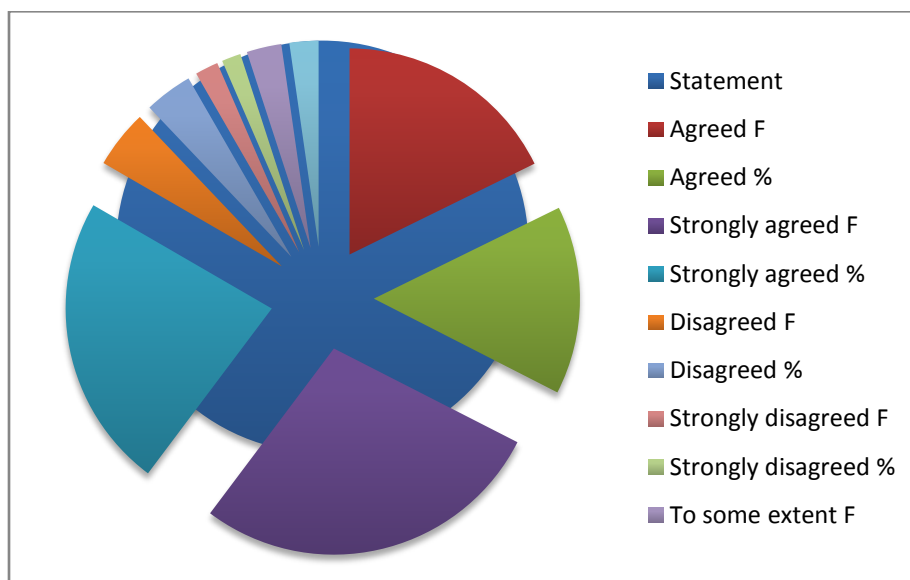
The conceptual framework the said topic is in following lines, there exist correlation amongst girls' dropout from secondary schools with Economic, Household, School level and Cultural practices S.M. Shahidul (2015european journal ISSN No 2056-5852). From the research studies, it is well known that girls' dropout from Govt., and private secondary schools are highly dependent on mentioned factors.

Economic + Household + School level + Cultural factors = Girls Dropout



Results and Discussion:

Statement	Agreed		Strongly agreed		Disagreed		Strongly disagreed		To some extent	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1 Allthe religions especially Islam grants permission for girls to study?	39	32.5	61	50.8	10	8.3	4	3.3	6	5.0
2 Boys are given more priority in educational process in society	24	20.0	96	80.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Rough behavior of the teachers compels girls to leave schools.	38	31.7	72	60.0	8	6.7	2	1.7	0	0
4 Do our schools provide girls a healthy educational environment to study?	33	27.5	77	64.2	8	6.7	2	1.7	0	0
5 Early marriages abandons educational process of girls	39	32.5	81	67.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Immigration of the families from one place to another place is cause of dropout of girls.	35	29.2	75	62.5	8	6.7	2	1.7	0	0
7 Financial problems of the families are causing the dropout of girls at secondary schools.	53	44.2	38	31.7	8	6.7	19	15.8	2	1.7
8 Girls dis-continue their studies due to un-availability of secondary schools.	53	44.2	67	55.8	0	0	0	0	0	0



Conclusion:

This study aims at inquiring the factors influencing the dropout of girls at secondary school level to focus and control main factors to avoid the dropouts of girls. In this regard the study approved that, investment of the parents for their children's well-being may sometimes flatter gender biased. Though parents are self-sacrificing to the gender of their own kids, in case of education they do not invest equally for all of them. Education is less attained overall by girls and is conducive to dropout in comparison to boys earlier. Thus, when dropout rate is different by gender and if girls are conducive to dropout at early stages as compared to boys, it shows that there are some typical factors which contribute to increase the ratio of dropout specifically for females. Furthermore, it has been observed in the result of the study that girls have less participation in extracurricular activities that discourage them and cause the dropout because it reduces the interest of girls towards schools. This study has also sighted that as girls reach puberty the parents of girls get more anxious about their marriages and they try to tend the minds of girls from going to schools towards the household works and finally they get their marriages arranged rather than continuing schooling.

This study is concerned with the dropout of girls which is a worldwide issue. Many of the researches and studies have been conducted regarding this issue in specific regions of the world. In this research, many aspects have been observed by consulting the related literature available and while collecting data from primary and secondary sources. A questionnaire consist of 24 questions was distributed among the sample of the population which shows that there are four main factors involved in causing dropout of girls in the specific regions. These four factors are economic factors, household level factors, school level factors and cultural factors. These factors are further elaborated into sub-factors which clarify main causes of dropout in both genders special focus is maintained on girls' dropout which is the alarming issue of the era. This research provides sufficient data and knowledge about the causes of dropout for almost all the developing and underdeveloped countries of the world. Though the studies have been conducted regarding dropout in different regions of the world but it conducted for the first time in Kuchlak and Baleli union councils of Quetta district and may be applicable in all rural areas of the province.

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