

An Assessment of Church Sunday school Programs in Addressing Spiritual Needs of Children: A Case of Selected Churches in Nairobi County, Kenya

by

Jane C. Kositany
11-1006

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APPROVAL PAGE

AN ASSESSMENT OF CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMMES IN
ADDRESSING SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN: A CASE OF SELECTED
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Jane C. Kositany
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In accordance with Daystar University policies, this thesis is accepted in partial
fulfillment of requirements for the Master of Arts degree.

Signature

Date:

Daniel M'Mutungi, DMIN,
1st Supervisor

Roseline Olumbe, MA,
2nd Supervisor

Roseline Olumbe, MA,
Assistant Coordinator,
Institute of Child Development

Kennedy Ongaro, PhD,
Dean, School of Human and
Social Sciences

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DECLARATION PAGE

AN ASSESSMENT OF CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMMES IN
ADDRESSING SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN: A CASE OF SELECTED
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I declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been submitted to any other college or university for academic credit.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Jane C. Kositany
(11-1006)

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACK	-	Anglican Church of Kenya
AIC	-	African Inland Church
CI	-	Compassion International
CLMC	-	Christian Learning Materials Centre
KCC	-	Karen Community Church
LCC	-	Lavington United Church
PCEA	-	Presbyterian Church of East Africa
SPSS	-	Statistical Program for Social Sciences

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the church's role in addressing spiritual needs of children: a case of selected churches in Nairobi County, Kenya. Objectives of the study were to; determine the types of Sunday school programmes in selected churches in Nairobi County, examine age appropriateness of the lessons taught in Sunday school in the selected churches, determine the teachers training and knowledge on Sunday school programmes and establish the role of parents in Sunday school programmes at the church. The literature reviewed informed the topic of study. The study was anchored on the theories of child development by Piaget and faith development by Fowler. The research design used was descriptive with a sample size of 100 respondents. The main instruments of data collection were questionnaires, interview guides and observation guides. The data was analyzed using SPSS version 20 and presented using tables, graphs and pie charts. The study established that Sunday school as programme was present in all the four churches, the majority of Sunday school teachers had one day seminar, Sunday school programmes were not fully age graded and parents' major role 100% (20) was to take their children to Sunday school. The study recommended that the churches should develop a curriculum that is child friendly and age appropriate. The church leadership should also ensure that all Sunday school teachers and volunteers are trained. Also develop a recruitment policy for Sunday school teachers. In conclusion the programmes taught in Sunday school range from bible reading, singing, memory verses, drama and prayer. Most of these programmes were not age appropriate in their presentation and design. Most parents failed role modeling for their children and instead left it to the Sunday school teachers.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to my husband Dr. Peter Cheruiyot and our children Blessings Chepkoech, Immanuel Kiptoo and Joshua Kipkoech for their prayers, love, care and support. It is also dedicated to my late father Richard Kositany and to my mother Mrs Grace Kositany for their prayers, wise counsel, love for education and educating me this far.

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