

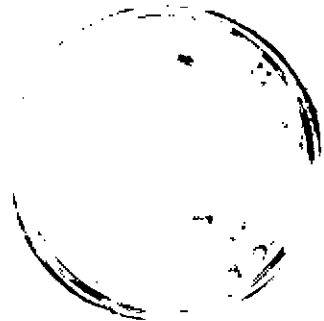
Christ the Teacher Institute for Education
Tangaza College
St. Mary's University of Minnesota

Single Mothers and the problems they face in up bringing
of their children.

Case study of Kayole Catholic Church Parish

Research project submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in
Education.

By



Cecilia Siamanta Teeka

May, 2001
Nairobi, Kenya

i

STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, declare that this long essay is my original work achieved through my personal reading, scientific research method and critical reflections. It is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Education.

NAME: CECILIA SIAMANTA TEEKA

SIGNATURE: *Cecilia*

DATE: *12 May 2001*



This project has been submitted with the approval of the Supervisor

NAME: SISTER MARGARET MARY WANYAMA SOM

SIGNATURE: *S.M.M. Wanyama*

DATE: *16 May 2001*

This intensive research work has been submitted for examination with my approval as the Director.

NAME: BROTHER ROBERT SMITH FSC

SIGNATURE: *Bro Robert Smith*

DATE: *19-5-01*

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my parents Mr. And Mrs. Solomon Teeka, my sweet Aunty Sister Julita, all my sisters and brothers. Also my friends

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge the effort of all my relatives and friends for the support they have tirelessly given me. More especially, my sister Jacinta and Chebet and Sister Nelly.

I appreciate sister Margerate's effort to make it easy for me. For going through the journey together from the beginning till the end.

I would also wish to acknowledge father Tom (SVD) for his moral and financial support, and O'lery in Ireland for her support: Thanks all.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	i
DEDICATION	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
LIST OF TABLES	iv
ABSTRACT.....	1
GENERAL INTRODUCTION	2
1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM	2
1.3 BACKGROUND OF THE PROBLEM.....	3
1.4 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY	5
1.5 SCOPE OF LIMITATION	6
1.6 DEFINITION OF TERMS.....	7
1.6.1 SINGLE MOTHERHOOD	7
1.6.2 YOUTH.....	8
1.6.3 DISCIPLINE	8
CHAPTER TWO	10
2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW.....	10
CONCLUSION	17
CHAPTER THREE.....	18
RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY	18
3. 0 INTRODUCTION.....	18
3. 1 RESEARCH DESIGN AND INSTIRMENTS	19
3. 2 SAMPLE AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES	20
3. 3 DATA COLLECTION METHODS	20
3.3.1 QUESTIONERS	20
3.3.2 INTERVIEWS.....	22
3.3.3 MASS MEDIA.....	22
3.3.4 READING.....	23
3.5 CONCLUSION.....	24
CHAPTER IV	25
DATA ANALYSIS	25
4.0 INTRODUCTION.....	25
TOTAL.....	28
4.1 PUBLIC OPINION ON SINGLE MOTHERS.....	40
4.2 DOES THE CYCLE GO ROUND?.....	43
4.3 CONCLUSION.....	44
CHAPTER V.....	45
SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION	45
5.0 INTRODUCTION.....	45
5.1 SUMMARY-CONCLUSION.....	45
5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS	48
5.3 GENERAL CONCLUSION.....	51

<u>5.3 GENERAL CONCLUSION</u>	51
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	53
APPENDICES	
APPENDIX I QUESTIONNAIRE A	
APPENDIX II QUESTIONNAIRE B	
APPENDIX II QUESTIONNAIRE C	
APPENDIX V OTHER DDOCUMENTS	

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1	Common Background Information of response	P.25
Table 4.2	Age Components of Respondents	P.27
Table 4.3	Respondent Occupation	P.28
Table 4.4	Educational Background for Single Mothers	P.30
Table 4.5	Categories of Single Mothers respondent	P.31
Table 4.6	Difficulties Single mothers face	P.33
Table 4.7	Family Reaction to Single mothers	P.37
Table 4.8	Public Opinion on Single mothers	P.40

ABSTRACT

The initial problem the researcher intended to investigate was the state of being single mother and the problems they faces in bringing up their children more especially the youths. The research was to be localized in Kayole area, Soweto slums, though the researcher has managed to collect more information from other districts.

By the use of questioners, interviews and the media, it was found that single mother's main and major problems are financial problems, social degradation and disciplining the children. To address their problem, the government and every member of the society is required to take the challenge and assist the single mothers rather than condemn them.

SINGLE MOTHERHOOD AND ITS EFFECTS ON UPBRINGING OF THE CHILDREN **CASE STUDY OF KAYOLE CATHOLIC CHURCH PARISH.**

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Life changes with time as people tend to catch up with civilization. Before western culture was imposed on Africans, the Africans lived a communal life where children belonged to the community but not to the parents alone. The fact of discipline was not seen as a problem because cases of single parenthood were unheard of and if one was widowed then there were cultural procedures to cater for the problem. Child's discipline was the duty of each and every member of that particular society, unlike modern times where it does not matter to an adult what a young person does or do not do as long as she or he is not your child. One was not allowed to give birth before they are married. Children were seen as a sign of marriage therefore no children before marriage.

Comparing our Traditional African society and the modern society, many changes have been brought up by the fact of individualism in modern society and so mothers have to work as well as their husbands. This has brought division of families and competition among spouses. Cases of single parenthood are amazingly increasing with time. As the saying goes, when two bulls fight the grass suffers. Equally, the children suffer when the parents separate. Cases of indiscipline are too common among the youths brought up by single parents therefore this is an issue that needs to be addressed.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The state of being a single parent and especially a single mother has disadvantages especially when it comes to cases of discipline of the youth who are mostly at the age of fourteen and twenty-one. If a child is not well natured while still young, she or he may turn up to be unsuitable human

person to live in the society. The bringing up of children do call for both parents. If it does happen that it is only the responsibility of one parent, then there crops in a problem and this are the problems the researcher wants to investigate

1.3 BACKGROUND OF THE PROBLEM

The issue of single parent hood and how it affects the child's discipline caught the researcher's attention when a close relative happened to be a divorcee with three children to look after single handedly. She approached the researcher asking for ways of disciplining her eldest son who is now fifteen years old. It caught the researcher's attention that the problem she was undergoing is the same problem other single parents have reportedly been undergoing.

Severally the researcher has been invited to address the youths of Kayole Catholic Parish and has observed that the youths tend to be quiet unruly to a point of no control. A time, they would fight or they are rebellious especially to the opposite sex. A girl for instant will not allow a boy to come somewhere near her and when asked, she basically reply that she hates men and fear them. Further observation reveals that she has no father or a brother therefore, the experience of the opposite sex is negative if any. This is already a problem brought about by single parenthood

The problem basically seems to be affecting all single parents all over the world Mostly western countries where divorce is the daily talk and practice. We read newspapers and magazines on how people are taking each other to court wanting to sign off a divorce and agree on how to bring up their children It is not possible to take care of a child both physically and emotionally when both parents are already apart. That is already a bad example to the growing child that marriage has no meaning. The circle therefore continues as the child will grow not attaching any meaning to the sacrament of marriage or may grow not trusting men and in the end, she ends up being single mother as well

Since this is a worldwide phenomenon, the researcher thought it an issue that has to be addressed on. The problem may seem to be affecting people in towns but research has shown that even the villages are affected too. People in towns are highly diverting from their cultural value of living as a community into a life of individualism. Other researchers have mentioned this issue but they are forgetting to mention how much this phenomenon does affect the children especially the youths who are at a tender age that determines what they are to be in future. Since youths are the group that makes up tomorrow, the researcher thought this is a sensitive and important topic that needs to be researched on.

1.5 SCOPE OF LIMITATION

Though this issue of discipline of the youth by single parents is worldwide, the researcher intends to particularly focus on a particular area which has all kind of people and that the residents of this area of whom majority are single mothers. The researcher is basically concentrating on Soweto which is a slum suburb. It is one of the congested areas of Nairobi city. It is therefore the best area to represent single parents in Nairobi area. The research will be localized in Kayole area though there are expectations of comments and data collection from other parts of Kenya.

The researcher intends to look at the problems that single parents undergo when bringing up their children and Particularly the youth this is because youth's stage is the most sensitive stage of human development. It is a stage that mostly determines what one is to be in life. If one trips off at this stage, there are no chances of repair. One's past determines what one is or will be. The researcher thinks that this is a stage that a human person undergoes major changes in life this are; physical emotional and biological changes that a human person undergoes.

Parents are important people in ones life. They groom their children to be responsible people in society. The grooming needs two people who have different experiences of growth it is not easy for a mother to know what changes the son is undergoing unless she has experienced it. So, it is necessary to have a father who knows what his son is undergoing and how he can help him. Equally, the father won't know what his daughter is undergoing. So where one parent is struggling to bring up the child without the help of the other partner is what the researcher wants to look at and asses why this state is a problem.

1.4 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To point out common causes of single parenthood and what contributes to the increase of the phenomenon.
2. To highlight what problems single parents undergo in bringing up their children.
3. To support the African social way of life and how it encourages discipline among all members of the society including children with either one or no parents.
4. To point out the fact that God had a purpose of creating man and woman and that sex is holy and only meant for married couples.
5. To consider what other people think of single parenthood and how it does affect the growing children.

1.5 SCOPE OF LIMITATION

Though this issue of discipline of the youth by single parents is worldwide, the researcher intends to particularly focus on a particular area which has all kind of people and that the residents of this area of whom majority are single mothers. The researcher is basically concentrating on Soweto which is a slum suburb. It is one of the congested areas of Nairobi city. It is therefore the best area to represent single parents in Nairobi area. The research will be localized in Kayole area though there are expectations of comments and data collection from other parts of Kenya.

The researcher intends to look at the problems that single parents undergo when bringing up their children and Particularly the youth this is because youth's stage is the most sensitive stage of human development. It is a stage that mostly determines what one is to be in life. If one trips off at this stage, there are no chances of repair. One's past determines what one is or will be. The researcher thinks that this is a stage that a human person undergoes major changes in life this are; physical emotional and biological changes that a human person undergoes.

Parents are important people in ones life. They groom their children to be responsible people in society. The grooming needs two people who have different experiences of growth it is not easy for a mother to know what changes the son is undergoing unless she has experienced it. So, it is necessary to have a father who knows what his son is undergoing and how he can help him. Equally, the father won't know what his daughter is undergoing. So where one parent is struggling to bring up the child without the help of the other partner is what the researcher wants to look at and asses why this state is a problem.

1.6 DEFINITION OF TERMS

1.6.1 SINGLE MOTHERHOOD

Different people have come up with different definition of the term single mothers. Depending on ones background and contingence, people have different ways of defining the term. Some would define the term with a lot of biases and on the other hand some people will view the whole issue as a normal phenomenon. An African origin who takes culture as the final thing will see the whole thing as evil and Immoral. Some will call single mothers prostitute, people with low esteem, loss and indecent. In most cases they would be isolated and disowned by the family and the society. Some people especially those from the western country and some Kenyans who understand what single mothers undergo or some of the circumstances that made them single, do not think it a crime but a matter of free choice or circumstances.

Interviewing some people on what they think the term single mothers means, some of them like Mrs. Purko who is the chair lady of Association of single mothers in Narok District had this to say. "single mothers are mothers who are bringing up children without the help of a husband." She made it clear that the children need not to be your own. One can adopt children that are not hers and so long as she is the one taking care of that child then she acts as the mother of the child, giving her all that a mother would have done to her own child, then equally she is a single mother so long as she is taking care of that child all alone.

Same the dictionary define the term as a woman who is not married. One who does not have an aquitance and yet have got children and takes responsibility of bringing up the children all by herself. Purko's defilation is the same as the one given in the dictionary.

1.6.2 YOUTH

This as defined is a stage of life which is very important and determines what one is to be in life. It is thought to be very delicate stage of life that needs modeling. Parents at this time are expected to play a great role in guiding the young stars and try to mold them to be good people.

There are several definition of the term youths but to many it means a stage between childhood and adulthood. One is said to be a youth full person when he is full of freshness of vigor of a young adult. They are expected to be strong energetic people. Mostly youths experiences changes in there life it could be physical or biological changes. At this stage young boys and girls tend to grow in size. The boy's shoulder would broaden, the girls would develop breasts and they both would grow tall. At this time they try to discover themselves. They would be struggling with identity crises according to psychologists some will go through the stage peacefully but some in most cases will have to struggle with the parents who would feel that they are still children, but since they want to prove their parents wrong, most youths would fight with their parents to attain freedom. If the parents are not careful the youth may undergo crises which will affect them in future.

Generally the term youth means a stage in life that is between a period of childhood and adulthood. It is a stage full of crises as one try to identify herself or himself. It requires proper guidance and counseling.

6.1.3 DISCIPLINE

The term discipline as many would define it means, a way of brining up in a moral and upright manner as expected by the society. Depending on ones background, some people would see an action immoral while to the other it is seen as a moral thing.

Talking to some students who have been brought up in different settings, Kimani from Kayole area says that discipline to him is doing what is right. What is right to you is what your consciousness tells you to do. On the other hand Harry from Lavington area says that discipline is doing what your parent expect you to do what your teacher or anyone elder tells you to do. To him some times you do something not because you think it is right but because you have been asked to do so.

According to the researcher, discipline is a way of molding and bringing up.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

Many writers and researchers have written so much on single mothers but it seems they have left out one of the main problems that single mothers undergo in our society. This is the problem they face bringing up the youth. The issue seems to be handled by different ways though much emphasis is placed on the state of being a single mother and where the society grades them. Many researchers are proving that in families headed by single mothers, their teenagers tend to be sexually experienced at an early age as compared to those with both parents (Zelnik sex and pregnancy in adolescence, 1981, p. 103)

Some writers like Wachege have highlighted the causes of single motherhood. He has mentioned for instance natural calamity like death. He has gone further and given some of the causes of death for example natural death. Acquired immune deficiency (A.I.D.S), that seems to be main cause at the moment in Kenya and the rest of Africa. He then mentions the calamities like war especially tribal clashes where for instance the Molo clashes in Kenya majority of people who were left were mostly women and their children some of them did not know where the husband went to or others just say that they were killed. He observes that most African men die much earlier than their wives mainly because it is said that they marry women who are younger than themselves so they die earlier than their young wives. Also it could be because of psychological problems where a man prefer to keep his own problems rather than sharing them. They feel that they should not fail in life therefore, when they have problems they feel they will be seen as failures therefore, keep the problems to themselves which leads to stress that may cause attacks and later death (African single mothers social and ethical and religious investigation p. 50, 1994).

Some authors do believe that the main cause of single parenthood is separation, and divorce. This could be due to unbearable pressure of living together with a partner who does not make it easy for another. It could be that things between the two partners are not working out right and so most of the time they end up quarreling and hence separation and mostly since the mother cares more about her children she prefers taking off with them and so in most cases the husband washes his hands and does not support the children in whatever way. Separation and divorce could be also caused by the “rapid evolvement in socio-political, economic, cultural, religious and innovation changes and newness”(African single mothers social and ethical religious investigation. 1994, p. 50). Since our way of life is changing, women prefer to remain single for they feel that they can provide for their children so long as they are working. This could be due to the issue of women liberation and in most cases we fail to understand that God had a purpose of creating both man and woman. The modern technology and ideas make us feel that we can do all single handedly.

Wachege still claims that most young girls and especially schoolgirls are sexually involved before they are married. This could be because of their fiancée lied to them. It ends up in tears and regrets because the man knows that he is not yet committed to you to be so your husband and therefore can withdraw from relationship any time. In the end, you are left a single mother. Others and most especially schoolgirls are lured into sexual activities because they need money for make up for instance. This mostly happens to youth who come from a poor background.

May in his book “Sociology of families reading”, argues that everyone has right to choose a way of life as long as they work hard to earn a decent living delay gratification, plan and live by the rules (1999 p.120). May’s argument seems to be addressing a particular group of people who seem to be the minority and then the majority who are the poor have nothing to plan and have no means of

earning a living because maybe they dropped out the school therefore, can not be employed anywhere.

Wachege seems to be looking at causes of single motherhood in a more practical way of an African and especially a Kenyan as compared to May who believes that it is out of choice that one become a single mother.

The best part of Wachege's book (African single mothers, socio-ethics and religious investigation. 1994, p. 54), is where he highlights the causes of premarital sex. What he documented includes:

1. Desire for sex
2. Lack of guidance
3. Deception by older men
4. Misinformation
5. Rape
6. Childhood experiences especially of children's own mother's bitter suffering or predicaments
7. Economic problems
8. Incest
9. Trying to discover self
10. Parent child relationship

Dominia in his book (Make or break; a guide to marriage counseling, 1994, p.19) supports Wachege's ideas and goes further telling that most women end up being single parents because of unsatisfactory reaction and expectation from marriage. This he says is reflected on the children, who have to live with the unhappy, depressed, irritable and tired mother. The child under normal circumstances will look for love and understanding and so in the final end they are lure into a wild

searching and can not differentiate a man who is genuine, and one who is trying to take advantage of the situation. Therefore, the cycle continues for they end up being single depressed mother as well.

Research done from the western countries indicates that the main issue here is the issue of legitimacy. For instance a journal Gender and Society, V.14 No 1, 2000, p. 63, informs that there are projects set in the country to support the single mothers who have always been attacked by the society and said to be a group of women who are lazy and unmotivated. Luker also in her book the politic of teenage pregnancy, p. 63, 1996, says that single mothers are sexually irresponsible and young also they are said to personify social, economic and sexual promiscuity, drug use, inadequate irresponsible parenting increase delinquency rates or abortion. This has led to people like demonized. We can take Luker's idea or mind as being the mentality most Africans have. Sitting another claim that Mrs. Magaret Mwaniki who works at Kenya Catholic Secretariat on the women's day's speech that she gave, (8th March 2001) she said that single mother are not accepted in our society, especially where she said the she faced several bishops in different dioceses as she tried to institute single mothers association. it seem that the church itself does not advocate for single mothers in their church for they claim they do not want to spoil the good name of the church. She later affirmed that the church did accept such organization to exist in the parishes.

Malinowski has made a dear implication of legitimacy in his book sex culture and myth, p. 8, 1962 He claims that a group consisting women and her offspring is sociologically incomplete and not legitimate. The father, in other words, is necessary for the full legal status of a family. Malinowski means that it is not possible to bring a child into existence without a man, therefore one needs a man to get a child and if one is sexually involved without marriage then it is seen as something that is immoral at Malinowski view he forgetting that some single mother are in such situation due the circumstances like death or divorce.

Miller in his article in the journal Gender and Society v.14, No 1, 2000, p. 63. Defies a child born out of wedlock he says that a child has right to have a father and by not doing so the child suffers the mother's and father's sin for they were mostly seen as outcast and labeled bastards. this could affect the child psychologically. Then in most cases ended up being aggressive towards parent and so that the parent could not control or advise her for she feels that the mother is a failure and so need not tell her to be what herself isn't.

In cultures where a child born out of wedlock is isolated and denied the right to inherit what the mother or the putative father had, the journal: Gender and Society v. 14 No 1, 2000, p.65 suggested that this is unfair because it was not a child's wish to be born in such a situation. If the child is left on her own she will live in the mercy of the society and may end up in the street and if so, she may be involved in all sorts of abuse for instance drug abuse and prostitution in order to survive. No one is available to give advice and moral support to such a youth and so ends up in a wayward actions. This kind of attitude changed in America and now the government comes in to give moral care and financial support, both biological parents have got a responsibility of bringing up their child and so a child does not belong to the mother alone (Hirsberg p. 338).

Parent child relationship and communication is an important factor in bringing up youth who at this stage needs counseling and encouragement. Most youth at this time as many psychologist say are struggling for independence they are trying to discover themselves. Hayes p. 103 says that at this stage the youth need more of parental support and if this element misses then the youth tend to look for it somewhere else and if they get a gentle man who acts as a father then they get attracted to that side and therefore, do not listen to the mother any more. So in this case it is hard for a mother to play both roles of the mother and at the same time the role of the father.

trains of difficulties. This could be true but one thing to bear in mind is that not always is a personal choice and if so, there is always a solution to all problems.

Our local press and newspaper have equally contributed to this phenomenon. Peter Kimani of the Kenya Daily Nation on the article "singled out for rejection" September 19th 1997 p. 1 of the weekender, points out that single mother are shun out of the community by many. In most cases they are treated with suspicion and contempt. He then acknowledges the fact that the society is at the moment accepting this group of people and eyebrows are not raised as initially was the situation. He says that even the churches like the Catholic and Presbyterian churches are accepting them.

The catholic periodical The seed in the article " Divorce or Separation" March 1999 written by Rose Wachira, she says that when spouses divorce or separate they suffer losses of companionship and togetherness they feel cheated not to have noticed that the sweet love will once run dry and sore, wasted in that they have spent their time building what never was, they feel frustrated misunderstood, and angry. All this brings in sense unworthiness low esteem and self-blaming. They may end up withdrawing from social activities and in the end their children suffer with them because they will not have someone to talk to. Their mother would have withdrawn from reality and in case of any problem she does not want to talk to other people for guidance.

There are also unpublished material on single mothers though most of them have concentrated on single mothers without looking at the aspect of bringing up the youth single handedly. George for instance in his dissertation The psycho-pastoral Dynamics of the rising incidents of single motherhood 2000 p. 26. Tend to affirm that according to his research most single mother are found in such situations by circumstances. He highlighted the fact that most of them are still stigmatized by the society, the number of single mothers seems to be increasing with modern time.

CONCLUSION

Having heard from several researches, we ought to prove their dissertation as we further go into the research and what other people in the real situation have to say. In the next chapter we will look at the methodology of the research.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3. 0 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher will basically describe and highlight some of the instruments that are going to be used in the collection of data in this research and look at the samples and sampling procedures of collecting data in this sensitive and necessary project of single mothers and the problems they face in bringing up their young adults or youths all by themselves. We will look at primary and secondary sources in that will help us in our data collection.

The primary sources in this case includes, interviews, questions, observation and what the media has to say about this issue.

On the other hand secondary sources involves the library. This basically is what we have used in literature review. This is the written literature both published and those which are not yet published.

In the same chapter the research intends to mention the targeted audience for the source of information. In this research work the targeted audience are the single mothers, the youths who have been brought up by this single mothers and the society as a whole since this is a social problem and it concerns every person in the society. The paper intends to investigate what the society thinks of the single families and the problems they face as compared to a family of both parents. The research will localize on the catholic Christians in kayole parish and the youths of soweto kayole area.

3. 1 RESEARCH DESIGN AND INSTRUMENTS

The commonly used instrument in this research work are the three set of questioners, we will also need a tape recorder and a tape for interviews.

The first set of questioners will be filled in by the single mothers only. It involves questions structured in such a way that if the single mothers fail to give what is required in one question will not escape it in the next question. The question are structured in such a way that we have open and closed ended questions. They will be written in English and also translated in Kiswahili. This is so because most of these single mothers are living in slums and may have not gone to school at all or dropped out of school and lower primary.

The second set is structured as the first set of questioners in that it has open and closed ended structured kind of questioners is set for the youths. These questioners will be filled in by youths with both parents and those who are brought up by single parents and specifically single mothers. These questions will be the same so that we can compare the answers as we analyze what the youths and especially those with both parents think the youths of the single parents miss or gain in such a background. Also, this questioners will tell us more about their mother, and what they think the society think of them and the treatment they get from the society especially their fellow youths.

The third kind of questioners is structured for the whole society both men and women, married and not married, young and old members of the society. This questioners will be distributed randomly but more specially to people around Kayole area for they have lived with targets of the research and the same area of localization of the research. Equally, these questioners will be structured in open and closed ended type of questions.

Appendix A, B, and C shows the structures of these questioners. All the three sets are meant to be taken to the fields testing and editing before the appendices is drawn.

3. 2 SAMPLE AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES

The questioners were dispatched to different groups of single mothers from different areas. Surprisingly 92% of the questioners returned were from Catholic single mothers. Much of this feedback shows that since most denominations are still denying single mothers their status most of them end up leaving those churches and joining the Catholic Church. Though out of the 70 questioners dispatched 1 out of the 62 that came back are non-Catholics.

The researcher would as well liked to dispatch these questioners to farther distances but due to time factor and the transport changers could not have been able to. However she managed to collect some data from the Nairobi area and as far as Kiambu area Kikuyu center, Narok, Kericho and Naivasha. Since this issue does affect the society in general the information gathered from these areas did help as well.

3. 3 DATA COLLECTION METHODS

As mentioned earlier, different methods have been used in the collection on data needed for this study. These were, questioners, interviews, observation and mass media.

3.3.1 QUESTIONERS

Much about the questions have been said. Having mentioned the three sets of questionnaires that were distributed to different areas around Kenya, to Kenyans and also non-Kenyans. The method used in distributing these questioners was through friends to other friends, relatives some as far as Narok, and also through Youth group meetings and lastly random distribution of the questionnaires

These questionnaires were collected immediately after filling in and some people took them home, which were to be collected from them later. The distribution and collection of the questionnaires was done as follows: The first set of questionnaires, which is meant to be for single Mothers, was distributed in five districts around Kenya. This was Nairobi and its surroundings, having the greatest number, and these were 48 questionnaires out of the 73 distributed in the five districts. The other 25 were randomly distributed to the four districts giving a way 15 around Narok, 5 Kiambu, and 3 Kericho, and 2 in Narok districts. In total the questionnaires that were collected were 62 in number. We had 40 from Nairobi, all the 15 from Narok, 4 from Kiambu, and the three from Kericho. The other set of questioners that is QB which is meant to be for the youths was distributed as well to all the four districts in that, out of the 40 questioners we managed to collect back 32 copies. We got 28 around Nairobi, majority of the copies coming from Kayole, which is a case study. We then got two from Narok, one from Kiambu and one from Kericho. This set of questioners was poorly attended to. The third set which was meant to be for the public in general was much attended to in the four districts As well and addition of one district which is Nakuru though since it is the only one it is classified in the column of Narok. So in this case we have a column containing the Narok questioners plus the one from Nakuru. In this case we managed to collect 42 questioners out of 50 distributed to the 5 districts, in that we collected 35 questioners from Nairobi area plus 4 from Narok in addition to the one from Nakuru. So in total five from Narok in addition from Kericho and one from Kiambu (Kikuyu) area More on this is analysed in diagram 4.1 (chapter 4) for the 3 set of questionnaires. The questionnaires were collected at different times thus no specific data for the collection of data.

3.3.2 INTERVIEWS.

Interviews were carried out anywhere and any time available. Apart from a few cases where there was need to book for an appointment, most single Mothers especially those living in the slum areas were free any time they were needed. It could be done anytime and in anyway since there were no sets of questions to follow while interviewing though the researcher tried as much as possible to limit herself in the area of studies. Over 20 single Mothers were interviewed at different times and different places. Fifteen members of the public were also interviewed and recorded though sometimes notes were only taken. Twelve Youths from different areas were also interviewed. Also available is a single Mother's 40 minutes recorded interview done in March 1998 done by Martin Alegbemi which was made available by the CSSP (Spiritan Community).

3.3.3 MASS MEDIA.

The Media equally including Television Internet and Radio have provided adequate and necessary materials for the research. This has included programmes in the radio like Youth variety Show and George Angmor who wrote a thesis on "Psycho- Pastoral Dynamics of the Rising incidence of single Motherhood 2000," was able to record particularly the program of 30-10-99 which was entitled " true love waits". In a program 'love zone' in Metro Fm. There was a program on Thursday night at 10.00pm, 16 February. 2001. There was an issue which was being discussed on air about a single young Mother who was cheated and dumped by the boyfriend after getting a baby and now she was seeking for advice on what to do since she is now involved with another Man who is married and so cannot marry her. People all over the republic called in to give their views about the issue. Also in television, there is a program in S.T.V channel where a counselor gives advice to people who are facing different problems. The program is known as Judy Johns. Having watched the program more frequent than not which features on Sundays' night around 10.30-11.30

p.m., I have realised that more problems are faced by single Mothers especially when it comes to issues of upbringing their Youth Children especially girls either the girl start moving out with the Mother's boyfriend or the girl just becomes unruly. The Internet also open up for us to view what is there in the World of single Motherhood and this we get from [http://www Parent place or ipshre@gn.apc.org](http://www.Parentplace.org) Apc.org

3.3.4 READING

Much of chapter two has proved to us that we can get a lot of data from reading texts that are published and those, which are not yet published. The topic of our interest seems to have been an interest to many therefore they are driven to research on it. Therefore, some data in this research work have been collected from other researchers have observed and found out.

3.4 PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED.

The Subject topic to many was seen like an issue that is private and confidential therefore many of the single mothers were not in a position to speak out their problems or rather they found some questions too sensitive. So they could not be bold enough to wash their dirty linen in public because they already have an attitude that the society does not yet accept them the way they are. Communication seems to have been a problem because some questions were hardly attempted to or in some cases the questions were misunderstood and hence the answers given were not relevant to our problem. Most dwellers of the slums have not gone to school and therefore could not read the questions so it could be easy for someone to read or explain for to them what the questions are all about. This demanded time and energy. Another manger problem was ignorance and doesn't care attitude where by the youths particularly did not pay much attention to the questions being asked. To many it did not concern them since there is no action in it. So some questioners basically

disappeared or were misplaced and could not be traced after all. Some questioners were hardly answered so they could not be analysed. Time factor was infact the chaotic part of the whole research work. Everything in the research work needed time which seemed to be limited. A time one could have planned to hold an interview at twelve P.M and instead the person to be interviewed would turn up around two P.M or did not turn up at all. This created enough of time wastage which could not be recovered. Moving from one place to the other collecting data was also a problem since it called for time and money for transport. Typing and proofreading the work of the research also needed money and time. So every minute given to the research costs some money.

3.5 CONCLUSION.

Having encountered those few problems, the data collection can be termed as a successes. It seems the goals for the research work will be achieved in one way or another so long as there is patience and determination since now we have the data at hand, in the next chapter will shall analyze this data to see whether our problem will have a solution in the end.

The table above is divided into four columns in that the first column indicates the areas in which the questioners were distributed to as mentioned earlier, Narok is inclusive of Nakuru district since in the case of public questioners the researcher collected one questioner from Nakuru district and since it is the only one it has been added to the four from Narok district to make a total of five questioners. The other three columns are for the three sets of questioners in that "A" is for single mothers, "B" for the youths and "C" for the public. Further this columns have been divided into 2 columns in each questioner's column such that we have the first column indicating the no. of the questioners collected the second column under each questioner indicates the percentage of the sample. Finally we have the last row which gives the total of the No's and the % which always adds to 100%. The total of No. indicates the sum of all the Questioners collected. The indicating Nairobi area seems to be having the highest percentage as compared to the other three areas. This could be so because the area of localization is Nairobi and the case study is Kayole area which is in Nairobi area. Notices that through out, this is the area in which there is a highest % of responce in that the first set 'A' we have 64.5%, 'B' 87.5% and 'C' has got 83.3%. Notice in all areas where there is mixed fractions the researcher has rounded off into one decimal place. This will be applied through out the analysis. The researcher could not have supplied the same number of questioners through out the other three districts because of the distances. It was possible for the researcher to sample the questioner to the four districts so that she could prove the fact that the problem does affect people from all parts of the country and the world as well.

The table above is divided into four columns in that the first column indicates the areas in which the questioners were distributed to as mentioned earlier, Narok is inclusive of Nakuru district since in the case of public questioners the researcher collected one questioner from Nakuru district and since it is the only one it has been added to the four from Narok district to make a total of five questioners. The other three columns are for the three sets of questioners in that "A" is for single mothers, "B" for the youths and "C" for the public. Further this columns have been divided into 2 columns in each questioner's column such that we have the first column indicating the no. of the questioners collected the second column under each questioner indicates the percentage of the sample. Finally we have the last row which gives the total of the No's and the % which always adds to 100%. The total of No. indicates the sum of all the Questioners collected. The indicating Nairobi area seems to be having the highest percentage as compared to the other three areas. This could be so because the area of localization is Nairobi and the case study is Kayole area which is in Nairobi area. Notices that through out, this is the area in which there is a highest % of resondance in that the first set 'A' we have 64.5%, 'B' 87.5% and 'C' has got 83.3%. Notice in all areas where there is mixed fractions the researcher has rounded off into one decimal place. This will be applied through out the analysis. The researcher could not have supplied the same number of questioners through out the other three districts because of the distances. It was possible for the researcher to sample the questioner to the four districts so that she could prove the fact that the problem does affect people from all parts of the country and the world as well.

TABLE 4.2. AGE COMPONENTS OF RESPONDENT.

AGE RANGE	QUESTIONNAIRES.					
	A		B		C	
	NO OF SAMPLE	% OF SAMPLE	NO OF SAMPLE	% OF SAMPLE	NO OF SAMPLE	% OF SAMPLE
LESS THAN 20 YRS	6	9.7	18	56.3	12	38.6
20 - 29 YRS						
30-39 YRS	12	19.4	14	43.7	19	45.2
40 - 49 YRS	32	51.6	0	-	7	16.7
50 - 59YRS	10	16.1	0	-	3	7.1
60 & ABOVE	2	3.2	0	-		
NOT GIVEN	0	0.0	0	-	1	2.4
TOTAL	62	100%	32	100%	42	100%

From table two above, the highest frequency of participating respondent for QA was much falling on people of age 30 - 39 years with frequency of 32 with a percentage of 51.6%. The followed people of the age 20 -29 years with a frequency of 12 and percentage of 19.4%. In section B the frequency lies on below 20 years and 20 - 30 years since this questioners were meant to be for the youths. So basically we have two youth groups that is junior youths who lay in years below 20 and specifically teenagers of 11 years-18 years then we have a group of youths who are in their late teen years that is 20 -30 years. This second set of questioners was only attended by the two groups of youths.

Thirdly questioner three which was meant to be for the general public was highly attend to by people ranging 20 - 29 years with a frequency of 20 and percentage of 47.6%. It was then followed by a group of people ranging from less than 20 years of age the youth that is.

TABLE 4.3. RESPONDENT OCCUPATION

	QUESTIONNAIRE					
	A		B		C	
	NO.	% OF SAMPLE	NO.	% OF SAMPLE	NO.	% SAMPLE
EMPLOYED	15	24.2	8	25	20	47.6
SELF-EMPLOYED	32	51.6	5	15.6	7	16.7
STUDENTS	2	3.2	16	50	8	19.0
NO OCCUPATION	12	19.4	3	9.47	7	19.0
TOTAL	62	100%	32	100%	42	100%

Looking Table 3 above the respondent occupation vary from questioner to questioner therefore getting different occupation for different group of attendance. For instance in the case of QA most single mothers are self employed with frequency of 32 in number. This could be so because initially if one was married and the husband had been working for her then he dies or she is divorced, then she has to look for a job or start her own business so as to support herself and her children. So in this case its has proved that most single mothers are motivated by their condition to work or start their own projects so as to survive. In this case the next frequency of single mothers occupation is the mothers who are employed with a frequency of 15.6. Then there is a frequency of single mothers who have nothing specifically doing following closely the No. of mothers who are employed with a frequency of 12. This group of women have nothing specific doing. Most of them since they are slum dwellers get some casual jobs to keep them going together with their children. So they can not tell specifically what they do. Some confess to the researcher that they are sex workers-3 of single

mothers and they classified themselves as self-employed. They say they do so to survive and that is a job like any other that need to be respected. The trio were amazingly confident and proud of their work. They say that they earn enough to keep them and their children alive.

Lastly two of single mothers are student and they happened to go back to school (secondary) and another college because their parents are able to pay for them and take care of their child. So they were blessed to go back to school and finish up their studies while at the same time they take care of their children.

On the set of questioner, majority of the youth are students and this has proved by the high percentage (50%) and frequency of 16 out of the 32 response. In this set the youth who attended this questioners are children of single mothers and some of them also have both parents. The three who are not in school or are basically doing nothing are in that state because their parents can not afford to take them to school and also they can not get a job because they are not qualified. Three also who are employed are working as housekeepers because they did not finish their education and their parents can not afford to sustain them therefore they are forced to work as house maids.

The third set of questioner was attended to by the general public this shows that the majority of the people living around Nairobi area are employed. This is proven by high frequency of 20 and percentage of 47.6%. This frequency could prove the fact that majority of people come to Nairobi city for employment sake. The followed by frequency of students. 8 in number and percentage of 19.0%. The there are those people who are self employed and those who are not doing anything specifically. This is a frequency of 7 for both with a percentage of 16.7%. Majority of non-occupation say that they are still looking for a job therefore idle for the time being.

TABLE 4.4 EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND FOR SINGLE MOTHERS

QUESTIONNAIRE A

EDUCATION	NO.	% OF SAMPLE
Non- school	5	8.1
Elementary	11	17.7
Secondary school	28	42.2
University & above	8	12.9
Not indicated	10	16.1
Total	62	100%

Studying the above table 4 the majority of single mothers background in education indicates that majority of them are secondary school leavers or some would indicate that they dropped out of secondary school. Some while asked how they ended up in their situation while their parents could have afford to take them up to secondary school level, they said that it happened so after they got married and then their husbands died or some would say that after giving birth their mother kicked them out of the family and the man behind the pregnancy could not take them back therefore they ended up in the slums struggling for survival with their baby. Generally from the table we can tell that majority of single mothers are secondary school leavers.

Then single mothers who only qualified for elementary or did not even finish their elementary school follow with a frequency of 11. They are in such a great number because their parents could not pay for their school fees. 8 out of the 11 are single mother's children. Notice also in the above case of students who drop out of secondary school, majority of them are also single mother's children

with a frequency of 15 out of the 28. They were able to give different reason as to why they dropped out of school or why they did not go on the next stage of education. The question how here arises is it true that single mothers children lack moral? or is it that single mothers are financially handicapped? The researcher intends to find out the problems single mothers are said to be facing.

In this area at list from the research findings, it can be concluded that education is becoming of great value to everyone, till the poor too are molding hard to achieve education for their children. Out of the total number of people who responded to the questioner only 5 out of 62 are tabled as not having gone to school and looking at their years they range 39-59. So they are not people of this generation.

TABLE 4.5. CATEGORIES OF SINGLE MOTHERS RESPONDENTS.

No.	Category	Frequency	%
1	Teenage/ school pregnancy	8	12.9
2	Separation	8	12.9
3	Widowed	12	19.4
4	Divorce	10	16.1
5	Adoption	5	8.1
6	Choice	15	24.2
7	Rape	4	6.5
Total		62	100

From the above table 5, it is possible to conclude that majority of single mothers are so by merit of choice. This is proven by the greatest frequency of 15 and a percentage of 24.2. This could have been so because of the rapid change of technology where people claim to be reliant and need no husbands to substitute what she already have. Majority of single mothers claim to be comfortable in their state and when asked why they think that families with both parents is disadvantaged, majority especially the divorced single mothers claim that a husband or rather a man in a family is a nuisance

that there are more to emotional problems when one has a husband as compared to the time one does not have any. So majority prefer being single since they can provide for themselves and the family without the need of a nagging husband.

Majority of teenage or girls who drop out of school because of pregnancy happened to be so because of mainly not being taught or rather not having an experience of what men could be. Some when interviewed said that they dropped out of school because they got pregnant after the boyfriends/peers cheated them on that she would not be pregnant when they do it only for the first time and once. So due to their innocents they get sexually involved and in the end they find that they have been cheated. Notice the single mothers who claimed to have been cheated in this way did not come from urban areas. It is possible to say therefore parents especially back in the villages shy off to talk openly about this issue of boy/girl relationship. Some parents fill that they can not talk to their girls just because their girls will be chaotic when they discuss this while that is not what the parent does. So the child gets spoiled and since the mother herself has no guts to discuss openly then the girl becomes an easy prey of sugar daddies.

Rape is also another cause of single parenthood especially when a girl is a shamed to report to either the parents that they have been raped, therefore they never got a chance to be taken to hospital and get cleaned off the spemicides. A times as stated earlier in chapter two, teachers also abuse their students by raping them. It is a shame in our society if older men take advantage of the innocence of the young girls.

Generally causes of single parenthood depends on one to another. Some women choose to be single, some are forced by the circumstances like divorce and some just feel they need to take care of the unfortunate children and they do so by adoption.

TABLE 4.6. DIFFICULTIES SINGLE MOTHERS FACES.

Difficulties	QUESTIONNAIRE A.	
	FREQUENCY	%
Social stigmatization	8	12.9
Financial problem	32	51.6
Children discipline	10	16.6
Family Isolation	5	8.1
Stresses & Loneliness	7	11.3
Total	62	100

Bearing in mind that the research was being carried out in a slum area, majority of single mothers would most likely be facing a problem of finance. They are all struggling to survive so they would be quick to indicate that the major problem they face is finance. They claim that they lack money to pay school fees for their children, rent and food for their family. As majority of them have indicated (table 3), they are in projects of self employment. This small projects involves selling of vegetable in small markets and a time, their children are made to sell things like groundnuts. Some single mothers are hawkers and as they claim they face great loss especially when they are cornered by city council askaris.

The great number of 32 with percentage of 51.6% single mothers who faces this problem of finance claim that, they did not perform well in their academics in school and some yet never completed their schooling. Some were initially depending on their husband and now that they have separated , divorced or widowed, they have to look for something to do in order to supply for the family's basic needs, but getting work that would fully provide for the family's basic needs is a problem so they a time even go without food. Interviewing Angelina and Mary who are both widows and residing in Kibera slums, the researcher learnt that their children have coped with the situation.

Mary particularly has a child of 6 years whom by the time the researcher visited her home, the child had neither taken breakfast nor lunch. Luckily enough, in Mary's case, she got a good Samaritan who agreed to pay school fees for her 14 years daughter who is in class eight and her 16 years old boy who is in form two. For her disciplining her teenage children has not been a problem. She claims that she has been the role model of her children therefore, they have grown learning, that their mother is the best. However, she cites that her elder son a time asks some embarrassing questions which are meant to be "father to son" kind of questions according to her. She says that she is forced to play both roles of the father and mother at the same time.

Visiting the Kayole residence who resides in Soweto slums in Kayole. Jane who is 41 years old and a hawker, claims that it has been tough for her to control her 19 years old son and 20 years old daughter of hers. Bearing in mind that the two are teenagers and since she could not afford to pay for them school fees, they were forced to drop out of school in primary school. She says that she tried to orient them into hawking but since they also want to be like their peers, go to discos, dress well and do what their age mates are doing, they refused to help her in order to educate their younger brother and sister.

A stone throw from Jane's house, there lived one young girl aged 17. She lives with their younger brothers. She was bold enough to speak out her occupation. She says that her mother left them a month ago she went back to the village (Siaya) to visit her mother and she has never come back since then. The girl claims that since she and her brothers have to live, she has to look for money and the only way she has to do so, is by selling her body in exchange of money. When asked whether if her mother comes back she is going to stop what she is doing, she says that she may or may not but one thing for sure is that she is going to leave her mother's house and get her own. The question was shot to her as to where she thinks she is going to get money to support herself, she

younger sister and brother even when his mother goes to work. Severally the mother has been forced to send the boy to the uncle for guidance. So in this case it would be right to say that a father is an important element in the child's growth and development. In the above case the uncle is forced to chip in and act as the father.

Mothers staying in the slum area have also claimed that instilling discipline in their young youths has been a great problem because of peer influence. This is an area where they are congested and the children could have interacted from their childhood. They have different backgrounds and are brought up in different ways. What is good for one parent could be bad to the other and vice versa. So if the children come and interact, they may end up being confused and can not differentiate between right and wrong. Also due to the congestion and the activities majority of slum dwellers involve themselves for survival sake, the youths would tend to copy what they see other neighbors doing. For example if there is a woman in the next door who is involved in prostitution and seems to be doing well, then the young girls would probably not see any harm of doing the same and in the final end if not given good guidance will end up being a single mother as well.

Bearing in mind that some single mothers did not have advance education to study the child's growth and development, they do not understand their children well and so can not help them grow as a child who has both parents

From the above example it is possible to conclude that cases of indiscipline becomes difficult because of the growth and changes both biological and physical changes youths undergoes. Also from the financial problem that faces single mothers it is possible to conclude that money and the pressure of the peer competition on fashions. It could be possible to also assert that the mother's behavior and character determines what their daughter or son would be in future.

TABLE 4.7. FAMILY REACTION TO SINGLE MOTHERS.**QA. FAMILY REACTIONS TO SINGLE MOTHERS.**

Reaction code.	Frequency	%
Very supportive	15	24.2
Supportive	12	19.4
Indifferent	13	20.9
Negative	10	16.1
Very negative	12	19.4
Total	62	100%

The above table is based on the fact that family reaction differ from one situation to another. The family reaction to the individual does affect her in one way or another. If a single mother faces negative reaction from the family who under normal circumstances should always be there for her in times of problems, she therefore tend to feel lonely and isolated. This can make her loss hope in life and neglect herself as well or negate her child since she is the cause of her problem and may end up in the streets.

Luckily enough some families have been supportive to the single mothers in their family. One of the single mothers was interviewed as she indicated, the family at the moment is supportive but initially, they did not want to see her around the homestead. She was kicked out of the house after she become pregnant while still in school. As she explains, her hope had been shattered. She did not know where to go to or whom to turn to since her mother had neglated her. She took off and acquired a job as a shopkeeper. She worked there for sometimes before her parents. since they were well-of, could take her back to school. She went back to school and now she has a better job and living single

with her child who is now 5 years old. She further explain that it was through counseling that she accepted the situation and began to have hope in life and approach it with a positive attitude.

Some family members would have wished to support single mothers in their family but they cannot because they themselves have their own problems. But still, some offer emotional support since they can't financially. Some, for example, Mary and Agnes who are in-laws since they were once married by brothers who died and therefore left widows, stay in Kibera slums, they are neighbors and always give each other support. One takes the children of the other as hers, if one has no food and the other has, she takes that chance to give the children at list a bite of super or lunch.

Some family members would simply take single mothers the way they are and concentrate less on them. They treat them indifferently. A time the parents would allow their daughters to stay with them, give them the necessary support and concern herself less on anything that has to do with her child. In this case it is not clear whether the parents are supportive or not.

Generally the family reaction to single mothers depends on the families background and understanding. It also depend on under what circumstances did they become single mothers. Mothers who become single mother out of negligence especially when still in school, are never been treated softly. The parents in that case fill that they have been betrayed and in most cases do not treat their girls fairly especially when they have high hopes of her. On the other hand, some parents would take it as good riddance to bad rubbish especially when they cannot afford to provide for their girl plus her child therefore they are quick to send them away taking the situation as the scape goat. Contrary, some parents are forced to accept their children the way they are. Some parents would even blame themselves for failing to introduce the topic on self-discipline long enough before the water split off. So, the family reaction to single mothers depend on the family capability of her family and the condition under which one become a single mother.

Looking back at table 6, some single mothers face social stigmatization and some end up being stressed and feel lonely and neglected. Bearing in mind that a human person is a social being then the single mothers get stressed up and feel that they are no human anymore since they have been isolated and neglected by everyone in the society. They lose hope in life and in the final end they do not care about anyone or anybody around them including their children.

As cited earlier single mothers are branded as loose, prostitutes and people with no morals. Some people still have this mentality up to date. These are people who will tend to shun off single mothers and give them less or no support at all. Some still have explained that their children also suffer their mother's fate. They are isolated and neglected by friends even sometimes by the family members because the mother is not married and has a child therefore like mother like child. This does affect the mother and the child equally.

Some men in Soweto, would like to take advantage of the single mothers. Jescica was very bitter narrating how she acquired her second child who is now 3 years old. She says that she was raped by the in-law. She complains that after reporting the matter to the police nothing was done and the man left unharmed and Jescica has a child that she had not planned for. There is much of social injustice to single mothers because they have no one to ask for them. Around the same Soweto area, one single mother claims that a drunkard neighbor disturbs her daily as he knocks her door before proceeding to his house. She feels it is unfair to her because she has children who feel threatened and insecure, till now they are lacking trust in her. They are frequently asking about their father who abandoned them.

The researcher feels that the single mothers from the above facts, do face social and emotional problems and this does affect their reaction to other people around them including their own children. This reaction could determine their children's behavior. If they feel that their only hope

who is their mother is abandoning them, they would seek refuge in other people who in return may take advantage over the situation. Especially when it a teenage girl or a time they may take the boy to work for them. The children are therefore abused in one way or another.

4.1 PUBLIC OPINION ON SINGLE MOTHERS.

In this analytic work, the researcher will analyze both the youths questionnaire since it was meant for all groups of youths those with both parents and those of single mothers/parents. The researcher will look out for facts on what the general public have to say about single mothers and the problems they face in bringing up their youths.

4.8. Public Opinion On Single Mothers.

REACTION CODE	QUESTIONER B.		QUESTIONER C.	
	FREQUENCY	% sample	Frequency	% sample
Accepted/Normal	10	31.3	12	28.6
Indifferent	5	15.6	7	16.7
Immoral/not	12	37.5	15	35.7
accepted	5	15.6	8	19.0
Not indicated				
TOTAL	32	100%	42	100%

Looking at table 8 above , it is possible to notice the crush between the public opinions. Mostly on the fact that the percentage of those who have accepted and have positive opinion single mothers and those who still hold to the fact that being single is a sign of immorality and they do not support it at all at all. Notice that in both questioners, B and C, the difference is of two and three

Surprisingly, even elderly people have changed their mentality and see the state of being single as a normal thing that is happening and has its own advantages and disadvantages. She is 48 years old and married with four children. She says that being single does not mean one is more evil than one who is married. Even when one is married, she or he can be sexually involved with another man/woman who is not her/his wife or husband. It is even more evil since you are cheating on your partner and God also. When asked whether she can think on difficulties single mothers undergo in bringing up their youths, she says even when both parents are living if they do not instill discipline in their children, they will be as spoilt as those of single mothers who have not been taught to differentiate between right and wrong, good or bad. So she concluded, it all depends on how the child is brought up. What measures does a parent take to ensure that her teenage girl/boy grows to be a responsible person in society. She further says that one can have both parents but the discipline part lies on one parent. Mostly the mother she kind of indicates that a child is meant to be for the mother alone when it comes to discipline but for both when he learn to will this when he is self reliant and can support himself. For her being single is the same as being married.

Some members of the public could not hold the idea politely leave alone the act of being single. They think that one can only be single when she fails in life in one way or another. Some members of public when asked what they think of widows they said that in some cases they can be excused since it is not their wish but if one's husband dies while she is young, she has all the rights to go right ahead and get married once again.

What majority and even the youths could not hold is the fact that some youth girls or women become pregnant out of ignorance and not being clever enough to reason out the consequences of involving themselves into sexual acts before marriage. They can not support the idea of getting a child out of wedlock.

Surprisingly, even elderly people have changed their mentality and see the state of being single as a normal thing that is happening and has its own advantages and disadvantages. She is 48 years old and married with four children. She says that being single does not mean one is more evil than one who is married. Even when one is married, she or he can be sexually involved with another man/woman who is not her/his wife or husband. It is even more evil since you are cheating on your partner and God also. When asked whether she can think on difficulties single mothers undergo in bringing up their youths, she says even when both parents are living if they do not instill discipline in their children, they will be as spoilt as those of single mothers who have not been taught to differentiate between right and wrong, good or bad. So she concluded, it all depends on how the child is brought up. What measures does a parent take to ensure that her teenage girl/boy grows to be a responsible person in society. She further says that one can have both parents but the discipline part lies on one parent. Mostly the mother she kind of indicates that a child is meant to be for the mother alone when it comes to discipline but for both when he learn to will this when he is self reliant and can support himself. For her being single is the same as being married.

Some members of the public could not hold the idea politely leave alone the act of being single. They think that one can only be single when she fails in life in one way or another. Some members of public when asked what they think of widows they said that in some cases they can be excused since it is not their wish but if one's husband dies while she is young, she has all the rights to go right ahead and get married once again.

What majority and even the youths could not hold is the fact that some youth girls or women become pregnant out of ignorance and not being clever enough to reason out the consequences of involving themselves into sexual acts before marriage. They can not support the idea of getting a child out of wedlock.

CHAPTER V.

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

5.0 INTRODUCTION.

In this final chapter a recap of the study as it has been discussed and unfolded in other chapters is given. The knowledge gained from the findings on the research of the single mothers and the problems they face especially when bringing up their youths. The findings will help the researcher make a factual conclusion, give the recommendation that are to be undertaken in helping single mothers with their problem since it is a problem to every member of the society. Finally the researcher will conclude on all that have been said in the whole paper.

5.1 SUMMARY-CONCLUSION.

Objectives had been set off in chapter one where the researcher highlighted some objectives of the research work. Bearing in mind that the objective of the research is to find out what problems single mothers faces in bringing up their children, this as mentioned earlier has proven to be only one of the problem single mother faces. Out of the research data collection and analysis, the researcher was able to conclude that, there are different cause of single parenthood and that this phenomenon is commonly experienced in all spheres of the world, also that the phenomenon is widely rising. Some of the causes of single mothers are; divorce and separation, personal choice and preference, rape and death of one patner. There is an alarming rate of divorce and separation and personal choice. Who or what is to blame for this rise has lied more on modern technology and the fact that 'I am able

young, she learnt that when you are bind together with love and hope, all will be well. She sounds positive but not always does one have to relay on hope but work has to come in as well.

4.3 CONCLUSION.

In the above chapter, it has been clear that peoples ideas and backgrounds do matter much on how one can define a word and give it meaning. Single mothers could be having a problem in their lives. It could be financial, social, emotional kind of problem but how she takes it, is what it is going to be. People can a time dictate how one is to live, but for one who know what life is all about has nothing to ask from the people. Generally the above chapter has indicated some of the problems single mothers undergo especially when bringing up their youths. Depending on our case study, majority of them have a problem of finance and social problems.

CHAPTER V.

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

5.0 INTRODUCTION.

In this final chapter a recap of the study as it has been discussed and unfolded in other chapters is given. The knowledge gained from the findings on the research of the single mothers and the problems they face especially when bringing up their youths. The findings will help the researcher make a factual conclusion, give the recommendation that are to be undertaken in helping single mothers with their problem since it is a problem to every member of the society. Finally the researcher will conclude on all that have been said in the whole paper.

5.1 SUMMARY-CONCLUSION.

Objectives had been set off in chapter one where the researcher highlighted some objectives of the research work. Bearing in mind that the objective of the research is to find out what problems single mothers faces in bringing up their children, this as mentioned earlier has proven to be only one of the problem single mother faces. Out of the research data collection and analysis, the researcher was able to conclude that, there are different cause of single parenthood and that this phenomenon is commonly experienced in all spheres of the world, also that the phenomenon is widely rising. Some of the causes of single mothers are; divorce and separation, personal choice and preference, rape and death of one patner. There is an alarming rate of divorce and separation and personal choice. Who or what is to blame for this rise has lied more on modern technology and the fact that 'I am able

all by myself: especially those who have freely chosen not to get married they feel that there are more advantages to be single rather than having a husband.

Whatever has an advantage has disadvantages too. As single mothers put it that all is a 'bed of roses,' roses have thorns too. There are several problems single mothers faces. One and the most crucial one is the problem of finance where instead of two saving in the same golden pot it is one person who is to take care of the whole family. The research was based on an area where there are slum dwellers, people who have kind of lost hope in good life and all they think of is how to meet their basic needs and not luxuries. The researcher realized that single mothers who are dwelling in slums cannot afford schools fees for their children or bear food. Shelter is a combination of paper and mud. If there is no schooling, children are idle and therefore since there is space for acquiring new knowledge in their mind, they tend to copy what they see around them. They would copy and influence each other what they see other neighbors doing whether good or bad all is well. Discipline becomes difficult since the children feel that their mother has no right to control their lives since she has also failed to provide for them. Their rights are not met therefore they do not have an obligation to obey their mother. Once they are unruly girls would probably fall into the same trap and circle continues they also end up becoming single mothers.

Single mothers also faces social problems. They are isolated by their families or by the society in general. They are blended as immoral people with no sense of direction. Some people try to take the advantage of the situation and mostly they are abused physically or emotionally. They are deprived of their rights because they cannot afford to take people to court since they have no money to hire a lawyer, or they do not have the strength to fight back because there is no man to protect them. They are seen as evil people who do not have self control most especially when one gives birth while still with the parents and not yet married. If one is divorced she is seen as someone who has

failed in life since majority of the people believe that a woman is the one who builds a home. If she fails to keep her husband in the home, then she is a failure in life. At times when one gets pregnant while still in school, she is expelled from school and if the parents cannot afford to take them back to school, they are doomed and in most cases they suffer stress and have no means of living since they have no money to begin living on .

Does modern society give single mothers support as the olden society did? This was a question that was not freely answered, but it is possible to think that the modern society is trying to accept, the phenomenon since it is almost touching each and every family. It is becoming a common issue that does not need one to isolate them because it is their everywhere and in our families. Some people are still living in the past and still cannot comfortably accept single mothers. These kind of people think that being single is not right since in all cases where there is a child, there should be a father of that child. If a woman is not living with the father of her child then she could have failed somewhere in that she could not reason out that the man was cheating on her. Such mothers are seen weak

Depending on the causes of single parenthood, people have taken the phenomenon in different ways. Some have time to understand why one has become single while others have seen no reason of excusing single mothers.

Morality in modern society lax as compared to ancient society where young girls and boys learned and practiced what they were not expected to according to their age in ancient times.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The phenomenon of single parenthood is an issue concerning each and every one of us. It should therefore be the problem of the government as well to join in and help single mothers in the problem they are facing. Especially when it comes to social and financial problems let the government protect and act as husband of the single mothers and father of the children who are frequently sent out of school because they cannot afford school fees. Let the government at least to give free education to girls especially those who are financially crippled.

The high rising of single mothers can be controlled by offering programs to young girls, sensitizing them on the effect of being single mothers. Let there be programs in school and churches showing the more importance of a man in the family. Since it is God's rule let people be shown the need of obeying the commandments since God had a reason of creating both men and women. The Catholic Church should teach the importance of the sacrament of marriage .sex should be seen holy and only meant for a married couple. The government can be involved by ensuring that commercial sex is discouraged as the provincial commissioner of Nairobi did by closing up all brothels in Nairobi.

Associations like single mothers associations have proved to be helpful to many therefore, such organizations should be encouraged. Single mothers should be encouraged to join in self help projects like the 'merry go rounds' where woman contribute a particular amount of money then they buy something for each member may be chairs cookers, or a time one is given a full amount to either pay school fees or use the money for whatever purpose. Once the single mothers form these organizations they offer meet and during these meetings, it can be a good opportunity to give lectures on the issues concerning single mothers.

The church should chip in and stop stigmatizing single mothers and instead, they should act as their source of hope. Since the church accept the fact that man is to err, then they should learn to

forgive and not condemn the single mothers. The church can organize programs that will sensitize the youth on the importance of keeping pure till marriage. The youth organizations can act as a source of guidance and counseling. These youths can also be taught on how to encourage and accept their parents the way they are. They can encourage them by respecting them and also helping them especially in times of problems. Youths who have dropped out of school can also be taught on how to be self reliant by generating self help projects which will supplement what their mother is working for. This can be done through the government as well.

Teachers should also act as a source of hope to the students who have problems of school fees and a time no food. The head teacher can do this by maybe asking the students to pay enough school fees so that they take at least lunch in school. This will ensure that the students who did not take super the previous day or breakfast, can have one meal at least. They should try to understand their student's background so that they know how to treat them. Some come from rich families while others come from the slum areas. The head teacher can help them by ensuring equality in school in that one does not feel that her background have caused her discrimination. Counseling can be introduced in school because there could be some children who are mentally disturbed by the problems they have back at home and therefore no concentration in class. Bright students can be given bursaries and scholarships. Some bright students are forced to drop out of school because they cannot afford school fees for their education therefore the government should offer bursaries to the most needy children.

A child discipline should be everyone's duty as it used to be in ancient days. A child is for the community. It should be noted that if that boy or girl is not taught to rely on himself /herself she will end up borrowing and if not given may end up breaking peoples houses and snatching purses. Later they will break into banks and dry up the cash box. The government has to pay the money or some

people have to lose their lives in case of bullet exchange. The moment the young children are left free and it is all made to be the parent business to discipline them, in future it becomes every one's business to keep safe and live in fear always. Like in the ancient times discipline should be the responsibility of everyone. It should not be left to the teachers and the parents only. The parents as well should play their role and to damp the child on the hand of the teachers and that is all. They are also expected not to spoil their children since "you spare the rod you spoil the child". The government as well could take a stern action to people found going against the law including the young people. It can encourage the rehabilitation of the street children or children homes for children without parents and for the children whose parents are not well off to support them.

More of intensive research could be encouraged to find out what solution or measures are needed to curb the alarming rate of single parenthood and the rising problem they are facing since it is also contributing to the country's inflation and the rise of poverty in the country. Also the widespread of sexually transmitted diseases, which is leading to a great number of orphans. What can be done to control sexual misconducts and sticking to one lover or abstaining from sex till both are proven safe from any transmitted diseases? How can social moral be taught and mentioned in our modern society? This is a question's future researchers could find out.

5.3 GENERAL CONCLUSION.

From the research it has been seen that being single is becoming a natural phenomenon to us, so in future, it would not be surprising to find out that women are living single and men are too living single and only meet when they want to have a child whom in most cases will be expected to be for the woman. The researcher has seen that the number of single mothers is increasing with an alarming rate. It has been realized that the phenomenon is worldwide and countrywide .it even attacks the communities that have always been thought to be holding the traditions. These are the masai people of Narok who also feel that they do not need to have a husband in order to have children so long as there is a man, he need not be one's husband. It has been noted that with modern life a husband is not necessary so long as one has her job and can afford to take care for the children. It seems marriage is for financial purpose at the moment it is no more sacred to have a man or a woman. The morals of our society is declining at a high rate. Human dignity has lost meaning. So long as one is a woman, she has no value therefore can be abused. We should all know that the modern society is heading into a cliff blind folded.

Having too much problems in single motherhood phenomenon, the duty of each and every one of us to personify this and take it as our own problem. We should not judge but help ourselves out of the mess we are already in. it is the duty of each one of us to encourage the single mothers and help in bringing up our children. The researcher has found out that single mothers are stigmatized and always blamed for being single mothers but the fact remains that the man who is responsible of impregnating the girl is a single father as well. Though living away from the child, it does not make him a lesser father. Both the father and the mother are responsible for their action so it should not be seen as if the woman is more evil than the man, like Jesus said in (John 8;4-11). The one who thinks that the woman has committed adultery alone may he be the first to stone her. Therefore, like people with consciousness, let us learn to act according to our moral consciousness and be responsible of our acts.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOOKS.

1. Dominia Charles, Make or Break; Guide to Marriage Counseling, Oxford University Press:U.K. 1994.
2. Lucker Kristin, The Politics of Teenage Pregnancy, Harvard University: U.K 1996.
3. Malinowski Carol, Sex Culture and Myth. Harvard University: U.K. 1972.
4. May Tyler, Sociology of Families Reading, Thousand Oaks Pine Forge Press: CA. 1999.
5. Wacheke Africa Single Mothers Social and Ethical and Religious Investigation, Signal Press Ltd.: Nairobi 1994.
6. Zelnik Sex and Pregnancy in Adolescence Academy Press: Washington D.C. 1981.

JOURNAL AND ARTICALS

1. Christine, E Bose (Editors), Gender and Society volume 14, No 1 University at Albany, Sunny U.S.A. 2000.
7. Scot and Warren, (Editors) Perspectives of Marriage. Judith Wallerstine, *Children After Divorce: Wounds that Never Heal*, Pocket Book Reference Bureau Washighton D.C 1987.

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

1. Kenyan Daily Nation 19th Sept 1977
2. The Seed, Divorce or Separation Consolata Fathers Nairobi Kenya. March 1999

UNPUBLISHED WORK

1. Angmor George Psycho- Pastoral Dynamics of the Rising Incidents of Single Motherhood, Nairobi Kenya. 2000.

Dear single mothers, I am carrying out a comprehensive research on the problems single mothers face in bringing up their children. I am therefore requesting your view and your experiences as single mothers. Your contribution will be highly appreciated and will be handled confidentially unless need be, quoting will be done with your permission.

Thank you.

Name (optional)..... (Age).....

1. Occupation

2. Level of education: Never went to school ()

Primary ()

Secondary ()

University/tertiary ()

3. How did you become a single mother?

.....

4. Are you comfortable with your state: Yes [] No []

Why

5. As a single mother what problems do you face?

.....

6. How does your society or family members take you?

.....

7. Do you get support from anywhere/anyone? Yes [] No []

8. What kind of support?

.....

Dear youth, I am carrying out a research work in which I am more concerned with single mothers and what problems they face in bringing up their youth. I think that this paper research will be helpful to you and me as we assess the society's view on single families. Whatever you put down will be handled confidentially.

Thank

Name (Optional) Age

1. Level of education Primary [] Secondary [] University/tertiary []

2. Do you have; both parents [] One parent [] None []

3. If you have, what do they/she/he do for a living

4. How do you relate with your parent(s)

a. Well []

b. Fairly well []

c. We do not relate []

5. What is the main reason of your disagreement with your parents(s)?

.....
.....
.....

6. What most do you like in your parent?

.....
.....

7. What do you think of single mothers?

.....

Dear,

I am carrying out a comprehensive paper on single mothers and the problems they faces in bringing up their children. Your contribution will be highly appreciated and will be handled in confidence unless need be quoting will be done with your permission.

Thank you.

Name (optional)..... Age

Occupation

1. Status; Married () Single () Below age of marriage ()

2. If married what do you think about marriage?

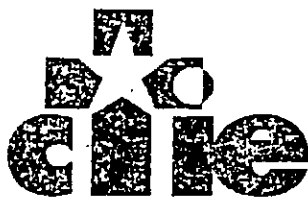
.....
.....

3. If not married are you comfortable? Yes () No ()

4. What do you think about the state of being a single mother?

.....
.....
.....

5. Do you advocate for it? Yes () No ()



Christ the Teacher Institute for Education
Tangaza College
P.O. Box 15055
Nairobi, Kenya
011-254-2-89-0339
FAX: 011-254-2-89-0018
Email: xteach@form-net.com

5 February 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

The students whose names appear on the attached Class Roster are all fourth-year full time students in good standing at Christ the Teacher Institute for Education. In May, each of them will be graduating with a B.Sc. in Education. As part of their final semester, they are enrolled in a research seminar in education, during which they are to conduct research and gather informational data regarding various issues in education, leading to the writing of a major paper. Their lecturer is (Sister) Margaret Mary Wanyama, SOM.

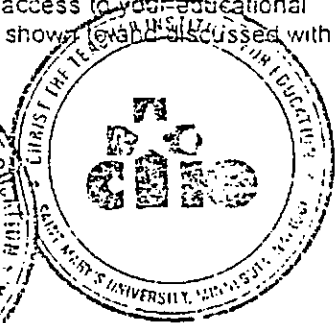
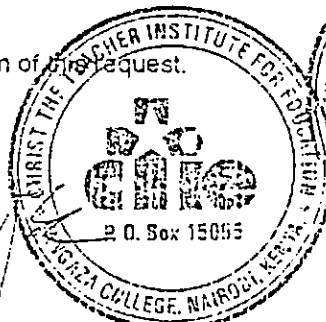
Christ the Teacher Institute for Education is an institute of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota/USA and also an institute of Tangaza College, a constituent college of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa.

In order to accomplish their work, I respectfully request that you allow the particular individual student high-lighted on the attached list the courtesy of having access to your educational institution for the purpose of gathering data, all of which will be shown to and discussed with you.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Brother Robert Smith, FSC, PhD
Director, CTIE
Dean, Nairobi Campus, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, USA
Associate Dean, School of Education, SMU of MN, USA



CHRIST THE TEACHER INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION

CLASS ROSTER

05-Feb-01

Course ID: CED493 Teacher: Sr. Margaret Mary Wanyama, SOM Time: Mon. 16:05
Semester: 2001/1 Description: Seminar: Research Methods Room: B-3

STUDENT ID	NAME	INITIAL.
0043	Ntambabazi, Philomene Nyiramana	OCBE
0045	Waeni, Rosa Kamweli	MC
9713	Kamau, Seraphine Mercy N.	
9715	Kondwani, Rose J.	PS
9716	Macharia, Pauline Nyambura	IBVM
9717	Mafuquene, Lucia	MC
9720	Mbogo, Nazanne Wandia	LSOSF
9723	Muthii, Peter M.	
9726	Njane, Mary W.	LSOSF
9729	Maingi, Mary Nelly	IHM
9733	Tecleharmanot-Beraki	FSC
9734	Teeka, Cecilia Siamanta	
9740	Chuwa, Honorata Stephen	RA
9743	Mutiswa, Alexander	
9304	Henry, Jacintha	MIC
9817	Mpanyula, Jacqueline Sheilla	MSOLA
9845	Martha, Margaret	NSA
9942	Ituru, Karuu Julius	

Total Records : 18