

Evaluating the Influence of Parental Involvement in Early Childhood Education Programs

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Abstract: This study delves into the multifaceted impacts of parental involvement in early childhood education programs, elucidating its pivotal role in shaping a child's cognitive, emotional, and social development. By meticulously analyzing various parental engagement strategies, we highlight parents' profound influence in fostering a conducive learning environment. Parental involvement, such as reading to children, participating in school activities, and providing supportive home learning experiences, significantly enhances cognitive development, leading to better academic performance. Emotionally, children with engaged parents often exhibit higher self-esteem and better stress management. Socially, these children tend to have improved communication skills and healthier peer relationships. Real-world examples illustrate the tangible outcomes of active parental participation, emphasizing its significance in laying the foundation for a child's lifelong learning journey. For instance, a case study of a preschool program that integrates regular parent-teacher interactions showed marked improvements in children's language skills and social behavior. This research contributes valuable insights to educators, policymakers, and parents, fostering a collaborative approach to optimize early childhood education outcomes. By understanding and promoting effective parental involvement, we can create a holistic educational environment that supports and nurtures every aspect of a child's development, ensuring a strong start on their educational journey.

Keywords: Early Childhood Education; Parental Involvement; Collaborative Approach; Data Collection Method; Data Analysis; Traditional Authority (TA); Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs).

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1. Introduction

According to Nagaraj et al., [1] Parental involvement in early childhood education programs is a critical factor that significantly influences a child's development and educational outcomes. As we delve into this topic, we will explore the multifaceted ways in which parents can play a pivotal role in their child's learning journey, the impact of such involvement on academic success and social development, and the various strategies and challenges associated with fostering effective partnerships between parents and educators. In today's rapidly evolving educational landscape, the significance of parental involvement in early childhood education has gained increasing attention [2]. As the foundational years of a child's development lay the groundwork for their future academic success, understanding the multifaceted impact of parental engagement is crucial. This study delves into the complexities of this relationship, exploring its effects on children's learning outcomes, school readiness, and overall

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educational experience. By assessing the role of parental involvement, we aim to shed light on how parents can become active partners in fostering their children's early educational journey, ultimately shaping the trajectory of their lives [3].

Parental involvement in early childhood education programs plays a crucial role in a child's development and educational success [4]. Here are some key points to consider when assessing this role: Learning support: Parents can create a supportive learning environment at home by reading to their children, engaging in educational activities, and helping with homework. This support can significantly impact a child's cognitive and academic development [5]. Social and Emotional Development: Parental involvement can foster social and emotional development by teaching children important skills like empathy, cooperation, and problem-solving. This can enhance their ability to interact with peers and teachers [6].

Communication Skills: Regular communication between parents and educators helps track a child's progress, address any concerns, and set goals for their development. This collaboration ensures that the child's needs are met [7].

Positive Attitudes Towards Education: When parents show a strong interest in their child's education, it often leads to the child developing a positive attitude towards learning and school, which can have a long-lasting impact on their academic success [8].

Equity in Education: Encouraging parental involvement can help bridge educational inequalities by ensuring all children can access the same support and resources regardless of their background. Challenges and Barriers: It's important to recognize and address the challenges and barriers to parental involvement, such as language barriers, work schedules, or lack of resources [9]. Finding ways to overcome these barriers is essential for ensuring equal access to quality education. Cultural Sensitivity: Different cultures have varying expectations and approaches to parental involvement. Educational programs should be culturally sensitive and adaptable to accommodate diverse family backgrounds [10].

Research and Assessment: Research studies and assessments can be conducted to assess the impact of parental involvement on the academic and socio-emotional outcomes of children with actively involved parents. Continuous Improvement: Education programs should continuously evaluate and adapt their strategies for involving parents, aiming for a dynamic approach that best serves children's and their families' needs [11].

1.1. Some Key Definition Concepts of the Role of Parents in Childhood Education Program

- Primary Educators: Parents are the child's first and most influential teachers, laying the foundation for learning and development [12].
- Supportive Environment: A nurturing home environment fosters cognitive, emotional, and social growth in the early years.
- Communication: Regular communication between parents and educators enhances understanding of the child's progress and facilitates a collaborative approach to education.
- Modeling Behavior: Parents serve as role models, influencing a child's values, attitudes, and behaviors, which are fundamental aspects of early education [13].
- Partnership with Educators: Collaborative efforts between parents and teachers contribute to a holistic approach, ensuring consistency in educational strategies and support for the child.
- Advocacy: Parents advocate for the importance of early childhood education, recognizing its impact on a child's future academic success and overall well-being [14].

1.2. Effects of the Role of Parents in Learning of Children in Early Years

Parental involvement in early childhood education yields numerous social and emotional benefits for children. Firstly, it fosters a sense of security and attachment, as children feel supported by their parents in their learning environment. For example, a parent engaging in reading activities with a child can enhance emotional bonds [15]. Secondly, it promotes positive social behaviors. When parents participate in school activities or collaborate with educators, children often develop better social skills and cooperation, learning to interact effectively with peers. This is exemplified when parents actively participate in school events or encourage group activities at home. Moreover, parental involvement enhances children's self-esteem. Regular communication between parents and teachers allows for a more comprehensive understanding of a child's progress, enabling parents to provide constructive feedback and praise. This positive reinforcement contributes to a child's sense of accomplishment and self-worth. In summary, active parental involvement in early childhood education creates a supportive environment, cultivates social skills, and boosts self-esteem, all of which play pivotal roles in shaping a child's holistic development [16].

1.3. Positive Social and Emotional Outcomes of Parents in Early Childhood Education

Parental involvement can significantly influence a child's development. For instance, active involvement in a child's education, such as helping with homework and attending school events, can positively impact academic performance. On the other hand,

providing emotional support and fostering open communication creates a supportive environment for the child's overall well-being. Different types of involvement can shape various aspects of a child's life.

1.4. Impact of Different Types of Parents Involvement in Early Childhood Education.

According to Pianta and Nimetz [17] in his research he discovered that parental involvement in childhood education can significantly influence a child's development and can also improve a child's academic performance. For instance, active involvement in a child's education, such as helping with homework and attending school events, can positively impact academic performance. On the other hand, providing emotional support and fostering open communication creates a supportive environment for the child's overall well-being. Different types of involvement can shape various aspects of a child's life.

2. Theoretical Framework

Sociologist Pierre Bourdieu initially suggested social capital theory in the late 1970s and further developed by James Coleman in the late 1980s. The theory emphasizes the importance of social networks, relationships, and connections in fostering social cohesion and achieving individual and collective goals and social capital in the creation of human capital [18]. In the context of early childhood education, social capital theory suggests that the relationships and networks formed by parents play a crucial role. Parents who actively engage in social networks, such as parent-teacher associations or community groups, can contribute to developing social capital [19]. This social capital, in turn, can positively impact the early childhood education program.

Parents with strong social connections may share valuable information, resources, and support, creating a collaborative environment that benefits both the parents and the educational institution. Additionally, children may benefit from a more cohesive and supportive community, enhancing their overall educational experience. Therefore, social capital theory is related to the study assessing the role of parents in early childhood education, which is often grounded in social capital theory [20]. This theory suggests that relationships and networks, such as those formed through parental involvement, contribute to children's social and educational development. An example could be parents engaging in joint activities with their child, such as reading together or participating in school events, which enhances the child's educational experience and overall development [21].

2.1. Background of the Study

The global background of studying the role of parents in early childhood education involves recognizing parents' critical impact on a child's development. Research indicates parental involvement positively influences academic achievement, socio-emotional development, and well-being [22]. Understanding cross-cultural variations in parenting styles and their effects on early education is essential for creating effective and inclusive programs. In many countries, parents are seen as the first and most influential educators in a child's life. For example, Zambia is known for its successful education system, and Zambia emphasizes the importance of parental involvement. Parents are seen as partners in education, and schools actively engage them in decision-making processes. In South Africa, parental involvement varies, but there is a growing recognition of its importance. Many schools encourage parents to participate in parent-teacher associations (PTAs) and volunteer in classrooms. Parental involvement is a key factor in a child's academic success [23].

Globally, the trend is towards recognizing parents as essential partners in early childhood education, fostering collaboration between home and school environments to create a supportive and enriching educational experience for children. Malawi, a country with a rich cultural tapestry, strives to enhance the quality of early childhood education (ECE) programs. Recognizing the pivotal role of parents in shaping a child's early learning experiences, there is a growing need to assess and understand the extent of parental involvement in Malawian ECE programs [24]. Malawi's unique socio-economic context and diverse cultural practices make it essential to delve into how parents contribute to or hinder their children's educational development during the formative years. Limited research exists on this topic in the Malawian context, making it imperative to explore and document the dynamics of parental involvement in ECE [25].

This study investigates the multifaceted aspects of parental participation, examining factors such as socio-economic background, cultural influences, and educational awareness. By conducting a comprehensive analysis, we seek to identify patterns of parental engagement that positively impact early childhood education outcomes [26]. Understanding the role of parents in the context of Malawi's ECE programs is not only academically significant but also has practical implications for policymakers, educators, and parents. It has the potential to inform the development of targeted interventions that can enhance parental involvement and, subsequently, improve the overall quality of early childhood education in Malawi [27]. Through this research, we aspire to contribute valuable insights that can guide future initiatives, foster collaboration between educators and parents, and ultimately nurture a more conducive learning environment for Malawian children in their critical early years of education [28].

3. Problem Statement

This study aims to investigate the role of parental involvement on children's academic and socio-emotional development in early childhood education programs, focusing on identifying the key factors, strategies, and barriers that influence the extent and quality of parental engagement. By examining the dynamic relationship between parents, educators, and young learners, this research aims to provide valuable insights for improving early childhood education practices and fostering more effective partnerships between parents and educational institutions. This problem statement outlines the key components of the study, the focus on parental involvement, and the potential outcomes it seeks to explore.

3.1. Main Objective

Assessing the role of parental involvement in early childhood education program.

3.2. Specific Objectives

- To measure how parents' role affects children's learning in the early years.
- To identify and quantify the positive social and emotional outcomes, such as improved self-esteem and social skills, in children with parents actively participating in their early education.
- To assess the impact of different types of parental involvement.

3.3. Research Questions

- How does the role of the parents affect children's learning in the early years?
- What are parental involvement's social and emotional benefits in early childhood education, and how do these benefits manifest in children's development?
- How does the level and type of parental involvement influence the overall quality of early childhood education programs?

3.4. Importance of the Role of Parents in Early Childhood Education Program

The study of assessing the role of parental involvement in early childhood education programs holds significant importance for several reasons:

- **Child Development:** Understanding the impact of parental involvement can lead to improved strategies for enhancing children's cognitive, social, and emotional development during their critical early years.
- **Educational Quality:** It helps evaluate and improve the quality of early childhood education programs, ensuring that they provide the best possible environment for learning and growth.
- **Parent-Teacher Collaboration:** This research can foster stronger partnerships between parents and educators, creating a supportive network for children's education.
- **Policy Development:** Findings can inform education policies and funding allocation, directing resources toward effective strategies for parental involvement.
- **Long-Term Academic Success:** Research can provide insights into how early childhood education experiences, influenced by parental involvement, impact a child's later academic success and life outcomes.
- **Economic Impact:** High-quality early childhood education can contribute to economic development by better preparing future generations for the workforce.
- **Health and Well-being:** A strong educational foundation early in life can improve overall health and well-being in children, which is of societal significance.
- **Reducing Achievement Gaps:** Identifying effective ways to involve parents can contribute to reducing educational disparities and achievement gaps among children.
- **Journals** would explore how the study defines and measures parental involvement, assess the validity and reliability of its data collection methods, and consider the implications of its results for educational psychology theories and practices. The journal might also discuss potential limitations of the study and suggest avenues for future research in this area.

3.5. Limitations of Early Childhood Education Program.

- **Resource Constraints:** Limited funding and resources can impact the quality and scope of early childhood education programs.
- **Teacher Quality:** The effectiveness of early childhood education heavily depends on the skills and training of teachers. Insufficient training or high turnover rates can be limiting.
- **Inequality:** Access to quality early childhood education may not be uniform, leading to disparities in educational opportunities for children from different socioeconomic backgrounds.
- **Parental Involvement:** The success of early childhood education often requires active parental involvement. Barriers such as parents' work schedules or lack of awareness can limit this involvement.
- **Limited Duration:** The benefits of early childhood education can diminish if not followed by continued quality education throughout a child's academic journey.

3.6. Delimitations of Early Childhood Education Program

Delimitations in early childhood education programs can include factors such as:

- **Age Range:** Programs may be designed for a specific age group, limiting their applicability to children within that range.
- **Geographic Location:** Some programs may be tailored to a particular region or community, affecting accessibility for those outside that area.
- **Resource Constraints:** Limitations in funding, facilities, or staff may impact the scope and quality of the program.
- **Curriculum Focus:** Programs may emphasize certain aspects of education, such as social development or academic skills, potentially excluding other important components.
- **Duration:** Programs may have a specific timeframe, such as a set number of years, which can influence the depth of educational impact.

4. Research Methodology

These are the specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyze information about a topic. Specific procedures, such as research design, to achieve the objectives and pick out an approach to data collection. In this regard, a survey was conducted because the study investigates public opinions or other manifestations through direct questions. Cross-sectional surveys involve collecting data at one point at a time from a sample selected to present a larger population. The findings are largely in the form of percentages of the respondents' answers in tables, for the service provider's findings are largely in the form of text depicting respondents expressed views and somewhere with direct verbatim words or quotations from the respondents. Structured questionnaires were also employed for analysis using this qualitative research method.

4.1. Population and Sample

The research study was conducted in Ekwendeni village, T/A Mthwalo Malawi. The study targeted the impacts of the role of parents in early childhood education programs, the total population (universe), and the role of parents in early childhood education programs in Mthwalo Malawi was almost three hundred. However, it was ensured that the sample size was acceptable for the researcher, making the results show a fair view of the reality on the research ground. In every research, it was essential to determine a favorable sample size; in this study, the researcher ensured that the sample size should not be too big or too small but rather a reasonable size. Therefore, the sample size was fifty (50) respondents randomly selected from the total population, and 25 questionnaires were administered. The researcher used the sample composition, which took the above number of respondents in each category to enable the researcher to obtain accurate and concrete data from the group members with experiences, understanding, and deep knowledge of the self-help group.

4.2. Sampling Techniques

The study will be conducted using simple random sampling, also referred to as random sampling. Simple random sampling was the purest and the most straightforward probability sampling strategy; it is also the most popular method for choosing a sample among populations for various purposes. In simple random sampling, each member of the population is equally likely to be chosen as part of the sample, and simple random sampling also removes bias from the selection procedure. A simple

random sample is meant to be an unbiased representation of a group; it was considered a fair way to select a sample from a large population since every member has an equal chance of getting selected.

The researchers use purposive sampling when they want to access a particular subset of people, as all participants of a survey are selected because they fit a particular profile; purpose sampling is when researchers thoroughly think through who they will establish a sample population, even if it was not statistically representative of the greater population at hand. As the name suggests, researchers went to the community because they thought these individuals fit the profile of the people they needed to reach.

4.3. The Study Area

The study was physically conducted in the village of T/A Mthwalo Mzimba Malawi, a district in the northern region of Malawi. The research was conducted under the traditional authority of Mthwalo Mzimba Malawi district. The study area was identified to collect information about the role of parents in early childhood education programs.

5. Data Collection Method

The study used both questionnaires and interviews as the primary source of data. The questionnaire is a face-to-face social interaction between the interviewer and respondents, in which the researcher monitors the physical and social circumstances of the interviewer and gives a chance to probe respondents where necessary [28]. For this study, a combination of both close-ended and open-ended questionnaires was prepared by the researcher; basically, questionnaires have the advantage of providing the respondents adequate time to reflect on the questions asked and consult relevant documents before providing the required data [29].

The questionnaires were self-administered and therefore contained questions in simple language to enable understanding by the respondents; these particular questionnaires captured basic socio-economic and demographic information like sex, age, marital status, occupation, income levels, and level of education [30]. The disadvantage of using this questionnaire is that sometimes respondents are limited in their freedom to disclose what and how they feel about the topics researchers bring unto them [31]. The researcher will use questionnaires to collect information on the role of parents in early childhood education programs in T/A Mthwalo Mzimba Malawi; therefore, the researcher used this technique to collect primary data from the respondents.

5.1. Interview

An interview means understanding people's thoughts through verbal expressions [32]. This study will use semi-structured interviews, particularly in collecting qualitative data, due to their flexibility, focus, and time-effectiveness. Also, semi-structured interviews will be used to allow deeper exploration of opinions, feelings, and ideas about their roles in early childhood education in children during early years, and this acts as a guide to the researcher to obtain all the necessary and precise information [33]. The key information in this study was to assess the roles of parents in early childhood education programs.

5.2. Ethical Consideration

Ethics refers to a system of moral values concerned with the degree to which the researcher adheres to professional, legal, and social obligations to the study [34]. Ethical considerations were first considered by seeking authorization from the District Commissioner(DC) and Traditional Authority (T/A) Mthwalo Mzimba Malawi [35]. In every research, there are ethical guiding principles for the researcher to follow; in this study, the researcher made sure that the questions included in the questionnaire were non-emotional, they respected the respondents' privacy, and the questions were voluntary [36].

5.3. Data Analysis

Data analysis is a procedure for analyzing data techniques to interpret the results of such procedures. It is a process of inspecting, cleaning, transforming, and modeling data to discover useful information, suggest conclusions, and support decision-making; in the research, the analysis stage, instruments were also used to analyze and interpret the data into meaningful information to the readers.

Some of the tools the researcher used for data analysis were code sheets (coding), thus translating data that is not expressed in numbers into a form that allows it to be processed by a specific software program; coding refers to the process of assigning numbers or other symbols to answers so that responses can be put into a limited number of categories or classes. In this case, Microsoft Excel was used after the coding of the information that had been collected was finished.

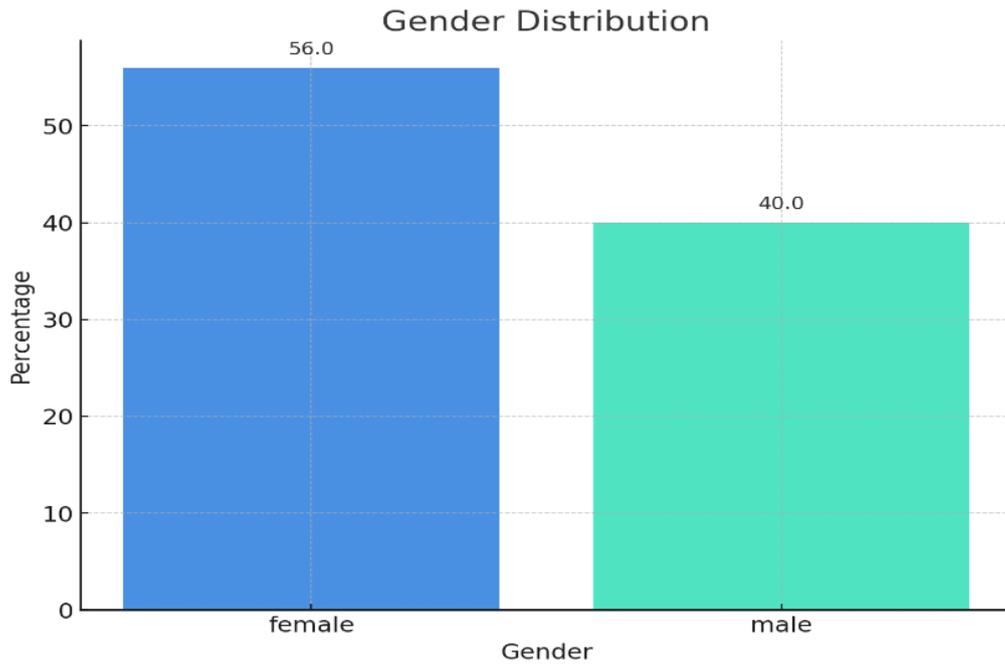


Figure 1: Sex of respondents

Figure 1 shows the sex of respondents, which implies that most respondents (60%) were females, compared to males, who represented a minor figure in the exercise (40%).

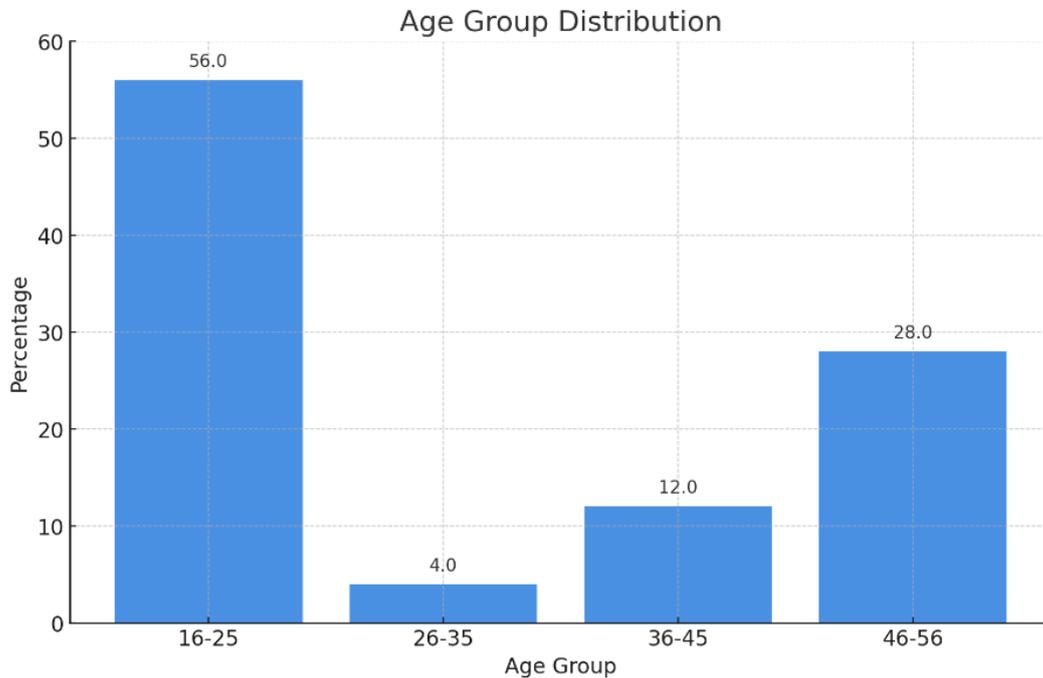


Figure 2: Age, individuals who participated in the research

Figure 2 shows the respondents age, individuals who participated in the research on the impacts of the role of parents in early childhood education programs their age range; are 58% are 16 to 25 years, 5% are 26 to 35 years, 15% are 36 to 45 years, 25% are of 46 to 56 years and above.

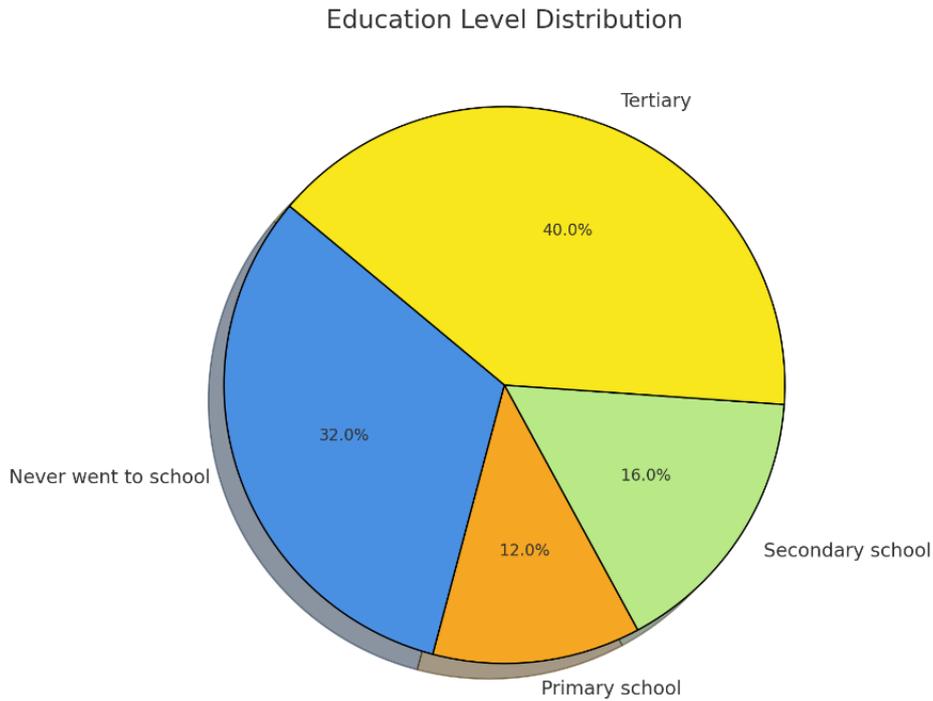


Figure 3: Education level of respondent

Figure 3 indicates the education level of respondents in the research on the impacts of parents in early childhood education program T/A Mthwalo in the Northern part of Malawi. Thus, 32.0% never went to school, 12.0% went to primary school, 16.0% went to secondary school, and 40.0% were at tertiary level.

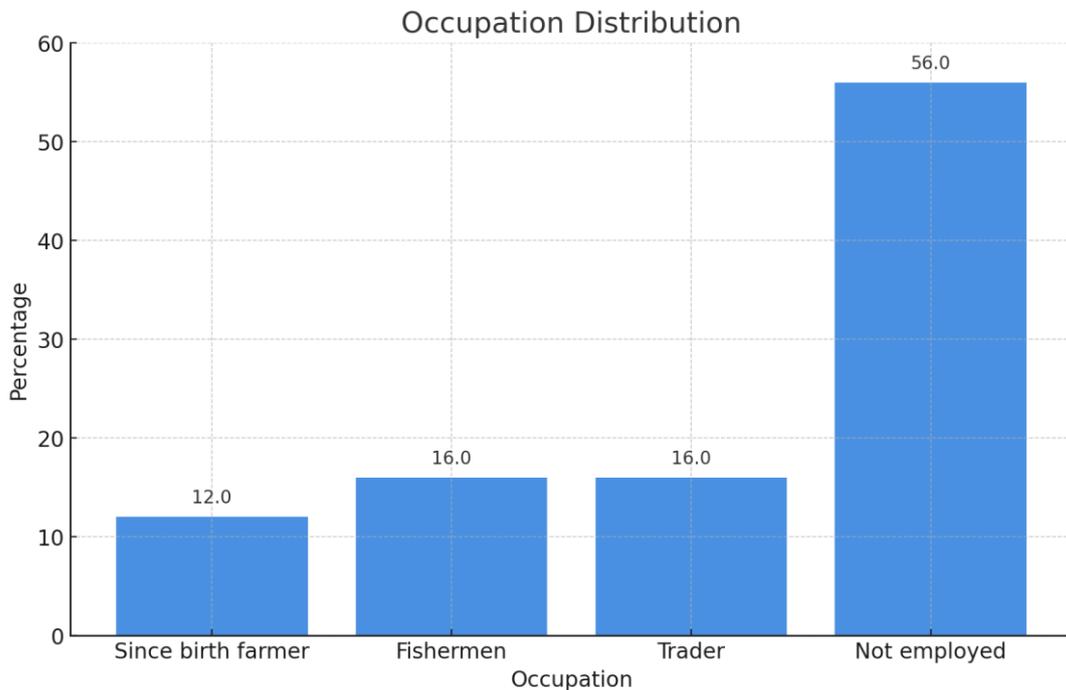


Figure 4: The occupation of respondents

Figure 4 indicates the occupation of respondents in the research on the impact of parents on the role of parents in the early childhood education program T/A mthwalo marimba. Thus, 56.0% were unemployed, 16.0% were traders, 16.0% were fishermen, and 12.0% had been dependent on farming since birth.

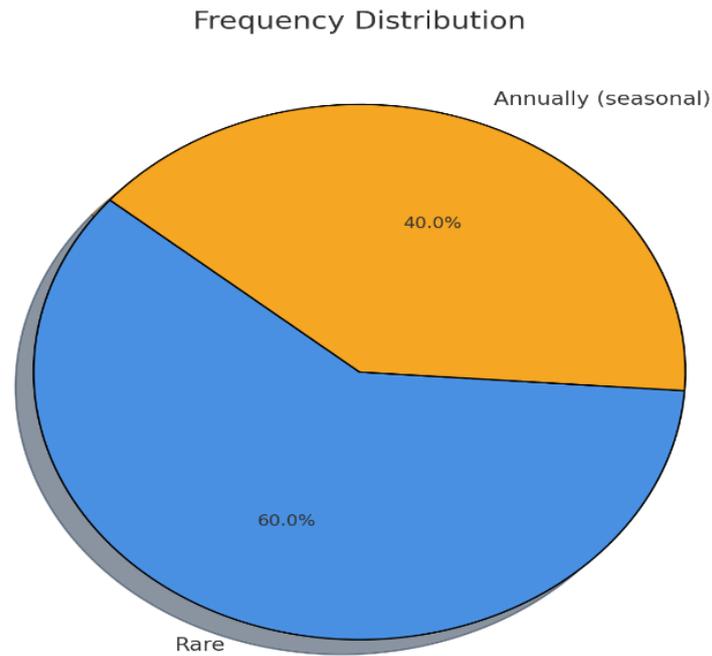


Figure 5: How often do floods occur? Do you participate in school activities or events related to your child’s education?

Figure 5 indicates how often you participate in school activities related to your child. This research conducted education in Ekwendeni T/A Mthwalo marimba in the north part of Malawi. Thus, 60% said that rarely, and 40% said that annually (seasonal).

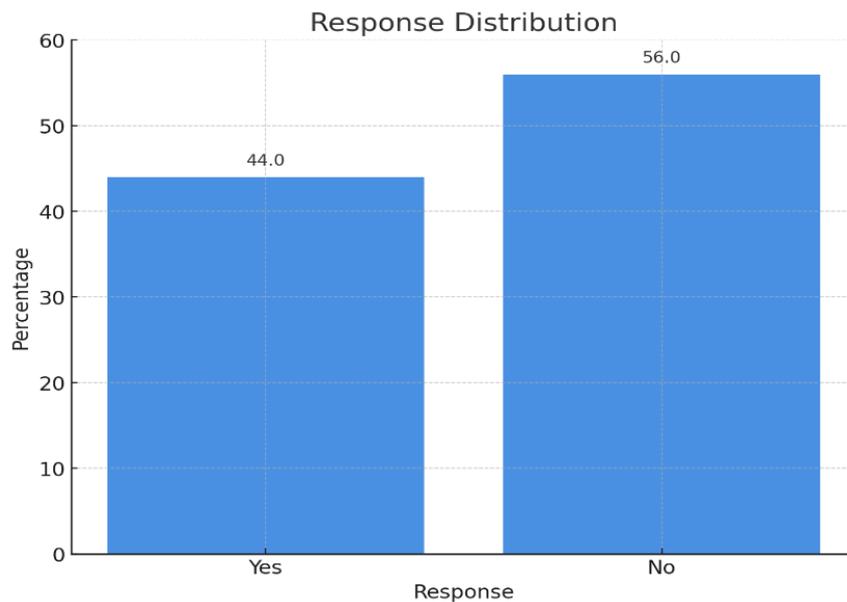


Figure 6: Overall, do you believe that parental involvement plays a crucial role in the success of early childhood education programs?

Figure 6 indicates the information on the impacts of role parents in early childhood education programs in Malawi T/A Mthwalo. Thus, 100% of the participants participated in this research differently. Thus, 56.0% said yes, whereas 44.0% said No, which shows many people believe in parental involvement in early childhood education programs.

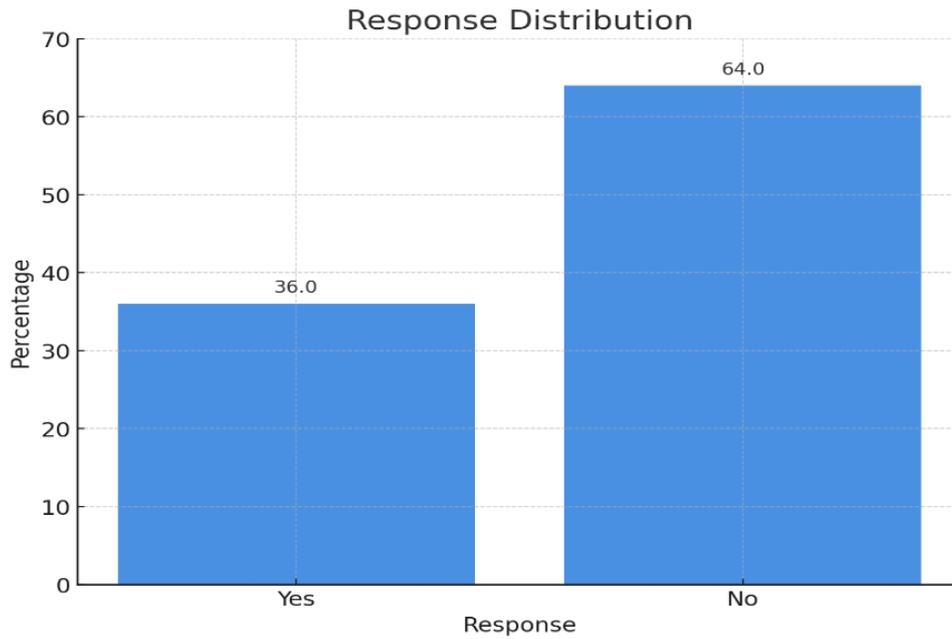


Figure 7: Do you feel comfortable approaching your child's teacher with concerns or questions

Figure 7 indicates if parents feel comfortable approaching their child's teacher with concerns or questions in this community in T/A Mthwalo. Thus, 64% of participants in this research said yes that some parents feel comfortable approaching their child's teacher with concerns or questions, while 36.0% said No; hence, the data that has been collected in this research shows the high number of respondents said yes that feel comfortable approaching your child's teacher with concerns or questions and low percentage of parents said No.

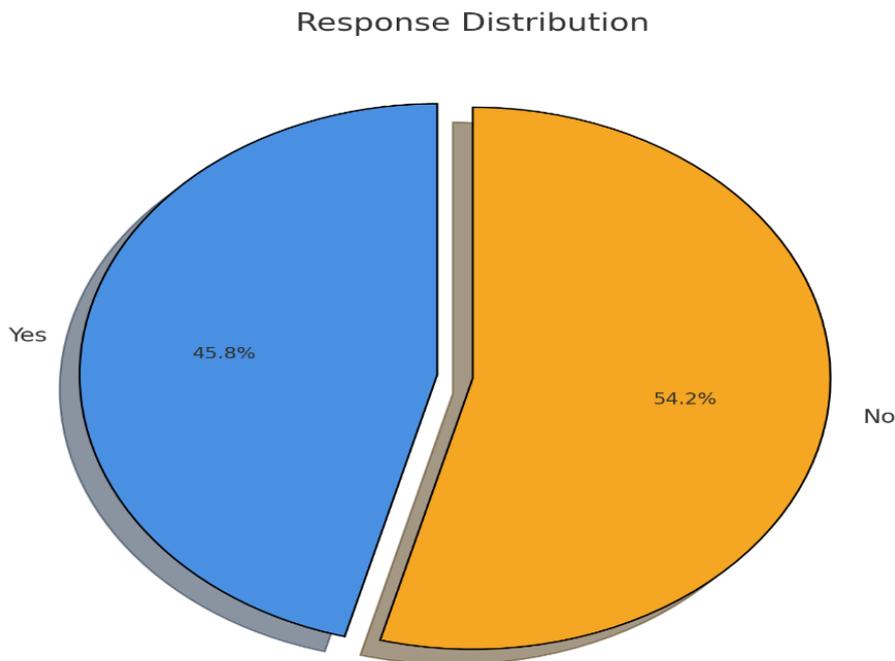


Figure 8: Do you engage in educational activities with your child at home?

Figure 8 shows the data statistics for whether the parents engage in educational activities with their child at home. Thus, 100% of the respondents participated in this research differently. 44.0% said yes that they engage themselves in education activities

with their child at home, and 52.0% said No, which shows that the number of respondents who said yes is lower than the number of respondents who said No.

6. The Findings

The researcher deduced that parental involvement in early childhood education programs positively impacts child success in education. The involvement of parents in early childhood education programs has a positive impact on a child's performance.

6.1. Causes of Impacts of Role of Parents in Early Childhood Education Program

- **Modeling Behavior:** Parents serve as primary role models for young children. Their attitudes toward learning, reading habits, and overall approach to education significantly impact a child's perceptions and behaviors. Positive parental modeling fosters a love for learning and sets a foundation for academic success.
- **Emotional Support and Security:** The emotional support provided by parents creates a secure environment conducive to learning. Children who feel emotionally supported at home are likelier to engage actively in educational activities and develop positive attitudes toward school.
- **Language and Communication Development:** Parental involvement, particularly in activities like reading and storytelling, contributes to language development in early childhood. Regular communication between parents and children enhances vocabulary comprehension skills and lays the groundwork for effective communication in and out of the classroom.
- **Active Participation in Learning Activities:** Parents who actively engage in their child's learning by participating in school activities, attending parent-teacher conferences, and involving themselves in homework assignments positively influence academic outcomes. This involvement reinforces the importance of education in the child's mind.
- **Home Learning Environment:** The learning environment at home plays a crucial role in shaping a child's academic success. Parents who create a stimulating and supportive home environment by providing educational resources, setting routines, and encouraging curiosity contribute significantly to a child's overall development and academic achievements.

6.2. Impacts of Role of Parents in Early Childhood Education Program.

- **Academic Success:** Active parental involvement is linked to improved academic performance in early childhood. Parents who engage in their child's learning, assist with homework, and communicate with teachers contribute to a positive academic environment, fostering a foundation for future success.
- **Social and Emotional Development:** Parental support and involvement are key to a child's social and emotional development. Children with actively involved parents tend to exhibit better social skills, emotional regulation, and overall well-being, enhancing their ability to navigate social interactions and form positive relationships.
- **Increased Motivation and Enthusiasm for Learning:** When parents demonstrate enthusiasm for education and engage in learning activities with their children, it often translates to increased motivation in the child. This positive attitude toward learning can have a lasting impact, influencing the child's approach to education throughout their academic journey.
- **Enhanced Communication Skills:** Regular communication between parents and children, such as reading together or engaging in conversations, contributes to developing strong communication skills. This foundation is crucial for language development, literacy, and effective communication inside and outside the classroom.

6.3. Efforts of the Parents in Early Childhood Education Program

In the study assessing the impacts of parents in early childhood education programs, parental effort plays a crucial role. Parents contribute by actively engaging in their child's learning, providing a supportive environment at home, and participating in activities recommended by the program. This involvement positively influences the child's cognitive and socio-emotional development, creating a foundation for future academic success. The study likely emphasizes the significance of parental contributions to enhance the overall effectiveness of early childhood education initiatives.

7. Discussion

Promote Regular Communication Channels: Encourage frequent and open communication between educators and parents. For instance, establish a digital platform where teachers can share updates on a child's progress, and parents can provide insights into their child's learning experiences at home. **Parental Training Workshops:** Organize workshops to educate parents on

effective ways to support their child's education. These workshops might cover topics like creating a conducive learning environment at home or engaging in educational activities that align with the curriculum. Home-Based Learning Resources: Provide parents with accessible learning materials that complement the curriculum. This could include age-appropriate books, educational games, and online resources that parents can use to reinforce classroom teachings. Parental Involvement in Decision-Making: Include parents in decision-making processes related to the early childhood education program. For example, seek their input on curriculum choices, extracurricular activities, and overall program enhancements. Encourage Family Literacy Programs: Implement programs that foster a reading culture within families. Encouraging parents to read to their children regularly can significantly impact language development and literacy skills. Create Supportive Parent Networks: Facilitate the formation of parent support groups where they can share experiences, resources, and advice. This helps build a sense of community among parents, creating a supportive network for sharing insights and challenges.

Flexible Parental Involvement Opportunities: Recognize and accommodate diverse schedules and commitments by offering flexible opportunities for parental involvement. This could involve virtual participation in school events, allowing working parents to engage without significant time constraints. Regular Assessments of Parental Involvement Impact: Establish a feedback loop to assess the effectiveness of parental involvement initiatives. Regularly collect feedback from parents and educators to identify areas of improvement and refine strategies for maximizing the positive impact on children's education.

Longitudinal Study Design: Consider implementing a longitudinal study design to track the long-term impacts of parental involvement. This approach comprehensively explains how parental contributions influence a child's development. Diverse Parental Involvement Metrics: Develop a range of metrics to measure parental involvement beyond traditional methods. Include qualitative measures such as the quality of interactions between parents and children and quantitative measures like frequency of participation in school activities. Cultural Sensitivity in Parental Engagement: Recognize and address cultural diversity by tailoring parental involvement strategies to accommodate various cultural backgrounds. This ensures that inclusive programs resonate with families from different ethnicities and traditions. Incorporate Technology for Accessibility: Leverage technology to enhance accessibility for parents, especially those with busy schedules or limited physical presence. Virtual platforms, online resources, and mobile applications can facilitate seamless communication and involvement.

Collaborative Partnerships with Community Resources: Establish collaborations with community resources to extend the impact of parental involvement. This could involve partnering with local libraries, community centers, or organizations that offer additional educational support and resources for families. Personalized Support Plans: Develop personalized support plans for families based on their needs and challenges. This could involve identifying areas where parents may require additional guidance and tailoring interventions accordingly. Parental Education Campaigns: Launch targeted campaigns to educate parents about the importance of their involvement in early childhood education. Utilize various channels such as workshops, newsletters, and social media to disseminate information and encourage active participation. By incorporating these suggestions, the study can gain a more nuanced understanding of the multifaceted impacts of parental involvement in early childhood education programs.

8. Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this research underscore the pivotal role parents play in shaping the outcomes of early childhood education programs. The evidence demonstrates that active parental involvement positively influences children's cognitive and socio-emotional development, creating a foundation for lifelong learning. As we reflect on the study's implications, it becomes clear that fostering strong partnerships between educators and parents is essential for maximizing the impact of these programs. Through initiatives such as regular communication channels, parental training workshops, and the promotion of diverse parental involvement metrics, we can harness the full potential of collaborative efforts. Embracing technological advancements and cultural sensitivity further enhances accessibility and inclusivity, ensuring that the benefits of parental engagement reach all families. The recommendations for flexible involvement opportunities, family literacy programs, and collaborative partnerships with community resources emphasize a holistic approach to education. This holistic approach recognizes that the home environment is an integral extension of the learning space. As we move forward, it is crucial to continually reassess and refine parental involvement strategies based on feedback and evolving educational landscapes. By doing so, we can create a dynamic and responsive framework that nurtures young minds' development and empowers parents as active contributors to their children's educational journey. Ultimately, this research advocates for a paradigm shift that acknowledges the transformative potential of collaborative efforts between educators, parents, and the community. By embracing this collective responsibility, we can pave the way for a more enriching and impactful early childhood education experience, setting the stage for a brighter future for future generations.

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