

# **An Investment into the Effects of Early Marriage on Girl Child Education**

**A Case Study: Kissy Town Section Kenema City Eastern Region, Sierra Leone.**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Early marriage is a concept that has faced multi-variant explanations depending on the context and society under discussion. What is regarded as early marriage in one society may not be the same as in another. Such can be explicit of Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. Every society is bounded by traditions and values which are meant to uphold the future of such a society. Therefore, this research views the concept of early marriage as the marriage of a girl under 18 years of age.

The slow development of Education especially that of the Girl child in Sierra Leone in general and the Kenema city in particular is concluded by this research as a result of early marriage of their girls which admit the legality of such marriage.

Over the years, this problem of early marriage has immensely affected the education of girls in the Kissy town section of Kenema city which is the cause study of this research.

For easy reading, this research has been divided into five (5) chapters to ease the attainment and chronological arrangement of the set objectives. These chapters include:

- Introduction
- Review of related literature
- Methodology
- Analysis and presentation of Data
- Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation.

**Keywords:** An Investment into The Effects of Early Marriage on Girl Child Education

## **INTRODUCTION**

Marriage is a social institution that unites people in a special form of mutual dependence for the purpose of finding and maintaining a family. As a social practice entered into through a public act, religious or traditional ceremony. It reflects the purposes, character, and customs of the society in which it is found. Many societies have norms that limit the age of young girls to enter into marriage, but in some cases the age of young girls to enter into marriage, but in some cases the age limit does not take into consideration their physiological readiness for child bearing. Marriage often takes place at ages much earlier than the legally ratified minimum age. Early marriage is the marriage of children and adolescents below the age eighteen (18).

Marriage before the age 18 is a reality for many young women. In many parts of the world, parents encourage the marriage of their daughter while they still children hoping that

the marriage will benefit them both financially and socially, while also relieving financial burdens on the family. In actuality, child marriage is a violation of human rights, comprising development of girls and often resulting in early pregnancy and social isolation, with little education and poor training reinforcing the gender nature of poverty. Today in Sierra Leone, even though a large number of women's advocacy groups are trying to prevent girls from being forced into marriage, until they are matured, more than two thirds of the young girls are married between the ages fourteen and fifteen. In the northern part of Sierra Leone where petty trading has for long been given premium at the expense of education, only few girls, often those who happened to come from educated homes stay in schools until completion (cluster survey, 2005-statistics Sierra Leone). About seventy –five percent of young girls together with their parents fancy quick money than education. This has made them to send their children on early marriage to people who can provide for their needs irrespective of the age. Most of the times, when young girls are given items to sell, a lot of hazards will befall them such as rape (Dr. Alpha Tejan Wurie- 2004). They are sometimes enticed with money to have unprotected sex while going around with the wares. All of these in turn will help to rapidly send the victims to early marriage at the detriment of education (Ibid).

In Kenema district which is one of the multi-cultural districts in Sierra Leone many ethnic groups encourage their young girls to marry at an early age even before they could reach sixteen (16 years). A lot of those early marriage may be as a result of religious or economic factors. Also, in the district because of the position of people such as paramount chiefs and important land holding families. Some people wanting to acquire those wealth or titles through their children send their young girls to marry those highly placed people before they could reach the age of marriage. About two-fourth of the girls who are supposed to be in schools in the district are married at age fourteen mostly to men old enough to father them.

Kissy town section is one of the sections in Kenema city, Eastern Region. It is one of those communities where most young girls are given of in marriage at the ages thirteen (13) and fourteen (14) years, even though eighteen years is the stipulated age limit provided in the constitution of Sierra Leone. Early marriage and large spouse age differences are common in Kissy town section. Among women age 15-19 who are married or in marriage, a lot of them are with men who are senior to them by ten or more years. Very recent in 2006, the situation of children in need of special protection, notably girls vulnerable to sexual abuse and HIV/AIDs, suggest that early marriage is being used as a strategy to protect girls from sexual exposure or to pass the economic burden from their care to others. Thus, early marriage lingers on as a culturally and values and among some highly stressed population it may even be on the rise.

Poverty is a critical factor contributing to child/early marriage and a common reason why parents may encourage a child to marry. Where poverty is acute, a young girl may be regarded as an economic burden and her marriage to a much older sometimes even elderly man is believed to benefit the child and her family both financially and socially. In communities where child marriage is practiced, marriage is regarded as a transaction, often representing a significant economic activity for a family. A daughter may be the only commodity a family has left to be traded and sometimes girls can be used as currency or to settle debts. A girl's marriage may also take place as a perceived means of creating stability. In uncertain times such as poor harvest conditions or war, a family may believe it is necessary to ensure the economic safety of their daughter and family through marriage.

The age disparity between a child bride and her husband, in addition to her low economic autonomy, further increase a girls vulnerability to HIV/AIDs. There is also a clear link

between Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child and early marriage. Communities who practice FGM are also more likely to practice child marriage and in some FGM practicing communities. FGM is carried out at puberty and then marriage is arranged immediately afterwards.

## **STATEMENT OF PROBLEM**

The 2004 National Population and Housing Census data collected revealed that girls are in minority in schools in the country even though free and universal girl child education has been assured by government at least at the primary level of the school system. Such unfortunate situation need to be given the attention its deserves if the role of women as partners in the development of the country is to be improved upon.

During the past decades early marriage has been ignored by almost all sectors in Sierra Leone, especially in the dominated areas of rural settlement social fulfillments made by boys and cultural/traditional demands in the past encourages early marriage in rural settlement and fanatic religious areas (Muslims) in Sierra Leone.

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **AIMS**

The main aim of this research is to assess the impact of early marriage on girl child education in Kissy town section Kenema city.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The specific objectives of this study are as follows:

- To assess the effects of early marriage on the society.
- To assess the causes of early marriage.
- To examine the level of early marriage and girls child education in the section.
- To make recommendations that can enhance girl child education and prevent early marriage

### **JUSTIFICATION**

This work is carefully and systematically undertaken in order to understand the level of the impact of early marriage on girl child education in the country generally and Kissy town section in Kenema city in particular. This work is therefore justified for the following reasons:

- It can serve as a reference work for future research.
- It may serve as a guide to users against early marriage and help to foster girl child education.
- Thus work in its completed form may also act as a guide to government and advocacy groups in the process of their interventions.
- It may provide an insight into the level of success of the activities of government and advocacy groups with regards to early marriage and girl child education.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **AREA OF STUDY**

The area of study of this research is the Kissy town section, Kenema city in the Eastern part of Sierra Leone. It is bounded by the Government Secondary School along Combema Road and Kpayama section on the north-west. It is bounded by a swamp and steep hill by the south west and a large massanch plantation on the north-east owned by the Catholic Mission Kenema – Diocese.

Kissy town section was one of the slums around Kenema city, but has been engulfed by the city and hence forms parts of the city. This area is populous because it is surrounded by an educational institution and the government hospital in Kenema. In fact, most of the inhabitants here are pupils, students or workers. Most of the youths have drop out of school and hence get married. It is interesting to note that the dropout rate in the section is high particularly for that of the girls who are now mothers. There are few vegetable gardeners who work in the swamp and small valley to help solve the problem of the city in terms of fresh vegetables.

Most of the young girls and boys are either married or have children out of wedlock. Some girls with the consent of their parents have decided to engage themselves in petty businesses to help support the child and young husband in schools. But most time, many are frustrated by these young boys after completing their secondary education. It is therefore, on this ground that the study area was selected.

### **POPULATION SAMPLE**

Samples of fifty (50) respondents were selected within the Kissy town community in all. Twenty-five (25) mother girls who are married to husbands were selected; twenty (20) men who are married to girls below eighteen (18) years were selected also. They were randomly selected. This is because they were directly affected and are practicing it. The men are married with girls below eighteen years, which the parents are aware of.

### **DEVELOPING AND PRE-TESTING THE QUESTIONNAIRE**

Since a good number of the respondents in question are illiterate, the following methods were used; personal visitation and observation, and the use of questionnaires to access the few literate ones in the selected community i.e. Kissy town section. The interview questionnaire was pre-tested on some respondents in the targeted area of the study as a means of making the questionnaire valid.

### **COLLECTION OF DATA**

Collection of data was done by means of face-to-face interviews, using structured questionnaires. In the process of obtaining the data, two main exercises were carried out. Firstly, the researcher used questionnaire to interview the illiterate respondents and secondly, the questionnaire was given to literate respondents to complete and return later.

### **ANALYZING AND PRESENTING DATA**

The information thus collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics, because the major part of the study was descriptive. The overall data was analyzed and tabulated using frequencies and percentages.

**ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF DATA**

This chapter comprises of data analysis and presentation. The data analyzed and presented were collected based on the objective of the research as follows:

- a. General data of respondents.
- b. Information on the types and activities of government and advocacy group on girl child education and early marriage.
- c. The level of early marriage and girl child education before government and advocacy group intervention.
- d. Data on the impact of government and advocacy group activities on girl child education and early marriage.
- e. Recommendations to improve on girl child education and the prevention of early marriage in Kissy town section.

The datum are represented in tables with number of respondents and percentages. The procedure used to analyze and present the data includes:

- introduction of tabulated data
- tabulation of data
- brief discussion of the tabulated data.

**GENERAL DATA ON RESPONDENT**

The researcher was interested in knowing the major cause of early marriage in Kissy town section Kenema city.

**TABLE 1: PRESENT THE MAJOR CASE OF EARLY MARRIAGE IN KISSY TOWN SECTION**

<b>CAUSE OF EARLY MARIAGE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF GIRLS AND BOYS WHO ARE MARRIED AT AN EARLIER AGE</b>	<b>TOTAL PERCENTAGE (%)</b>
Premature sex Pregnancy during school years Peer pressure Sexual harassment Poverty Forced by parents Care during school days.	25 sample girls (mother girls)	55.6%
Sexual gratification Religious fulfillment Traditional values and role assignment	20 samples boys	44.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Survey Result 2012**

Table one (1) targeted 45 respondent because they respond to the questionnaire and were engaged in early marriage directly. 55.6% of the girls/women gave several causes of early marriage in which they were all victims.

### AGE OF THE RESPONDENTS

The researcher also investigated into the age of the respondents. The datum is shown in table 2. below

Table 2: AGE OF RESPONDENT

AGE OF RESPONDENT	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
18	20	40.0
27	21	42.0
35	5	10.0
40	3	6.0
55	1	2.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table source: Survey data 2012 show that 40.0 percent of the respondent interviewed were 18 years of age and 42.0 percent were at age 27. In other words, most of the respondents interviewed were between the ages 18-27 years.

### SEX OF RESPONDENTS

The researcher also was interested in finding out the sex of the respondents. The datum is shown in table 3 below

Table:3 SEX OF RESPONDENT

SEX OF RESPONDENT	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Female	20	40.0
Male	20	60.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table 3 revealed that 40.0 percent of the respondents interviewed were female and 60.0 percent were male. In other words, greater proportion of the respondents interviewed were males.

Table 4: MARITAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS

MARITAL STATUS	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Married	44	88.0
Single	3	6.0
Divorced	2	4.0
Widow	1	2.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table 4 shows that 6.0 percent of the respondents interviewed were single, 88.0 percent were married, 4.0 percent of the respondents were divorced, and 2.0 percent were widows. In other words, majority of the respondents interviewed were married.

**RESPONDENTS RESPONSE TO HAVING CHILDREN**

The researcher wanted to find out whether the respondents had children. The datum are shown in table 5 below

Table 5: RESPONSE

RESPONSE	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Yes	40	80.0
No	10	20.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table five (5) shows that majority of the respondents interviewed had children.

Table 6: Occupation of respondents before marriage

MAIN OCCUPATION	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Farming	0	0.0
Petty trader	5	10.0
Schooling	25	50.0
Mining	20	40.0
Others	0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table 6 shows that majority of the respondents went to school before they get married. 40.0 percent of the respondents were miners before they got married.

**SUPPORTERS OF RESPONDENTS SCHOOL CHILDREN.**

Table 7: Supporters

SUPPORTERS	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Government	5	10.0
NGO	5	10.0
Father	15	30.0
Mother	25	50.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table 7 shows that the main support for children comes from mothers in the Kissy town section in Kenema city. In other words, mothers play greater role in the education of their children.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND OF RESPONDENTS**

The researcher wanted to find out the educational background of the respondents. The datum is shown in table 8. below

TABLE 8: Educational background

<b>EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND</b>	<b>NUMBER RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>OF PERCENTAGE</b>
No school	4	8.0
Completed primary school	40	80.0
Completed secondary school	6	12.0
Vocational school	0	0.0
Training college	0	0.0
University	0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Survey Result 2012**

Table 8 shows 80.0 percent of the respondents interviewed attended and completed primary education, 12 percent went up to secondary school and completed 8.0 percent of the respondents interviewed never went to school. In other words, majority of the respondents interview only attended and completed primary education.

**DO YOU BELIEVE THAT EDUCATION IS OF BENEFIT TO THE KISSY TOWN SECTION?**

The researcher wanted to know if girl child education is perceived by the people as beneficial to the section. The datum is shown in table 9 below

TABLE 9: Response

<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>NUMBER RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>OF PERCENTAGE</b>
Yes	30	60.0
No	20	40.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Survey Result 2012**

Table 9 reveals that 60.0 percent of the respondents interviewed agreed that girl child education is of benefit, while 20 percent of the respondents interviewed indicated that girl child education is not beneficial to the section. In other words, though some people in the section saw education for girls as important, others still show it as less important.

**IS THERE EARLY MARRIAGE IN THE SECTION**

The researcher wanted to find out if early marriage is prevalent in the section. The datum are shown in table 10.

Table 10: Response

<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>NUMBER RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>OF PERCENTAGE</b>
Yes	50	100.0
No	0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Survey Result 2012**



Table 10 reveals that 100.0 percent of the respondents interviewed confirmed that there is an existence of early marriage in the section.

**RESPONDENTS RESPONSE TO THE LEVEL OF EARLY MARRIAGE**

The researcher also wanted to find out the level of early marriage in the section. The datum are shown in table 11. below

**TABLE 11:** Early Marriage Level

<b>EARLY MARRIAGE LEVEL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
High	25	70.0
Moderate	13	26.0
Low	2	4.0
No idea	0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Survey Result 2012**

Table 11 shows that 70.0 percent of the respondents interviewed indicated that early marriage is on the increase in the section. In other words, the level of early marriage is high in the section.

**REASONS FOR THE HIGH PREVALENCE OF EARLY MARRIAGE**

The researcher wanted to find out the reason for the prevalence of early marriage in the section. The datum are shown in table 12 below

**TABLE 12:** Reasons for High Prevalence of Early Marriage

<b>REASONS FOR HIGH PREVALENCE OF EARLY MARRIAGE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Illiterate	20	40.0
Poverty	15	30.0
Traditional presence	10	20.0
Religious belief	5	10.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Survey Result 2012**

Table 12 reveals that 40.0 percent of the respondents interviewed agreed that illiteracy is one of the vital reasons for the prevalence of early marriage. Another 30.0 percent of the respondent interviewed agreed that another major reason for the prevalence of early marriage is poverty. Traditional practices and religious beliefs though not major but also contributed to the high prevalence of early marriage in the section.

**THE LEVEL OF GIRL CHILD EDUCATION WITH THE INTERVENTION OF GOVERNMENT AND ADVOCACY GROUPS**

**TABLE 13 THE LEVEL OF GIRL CHILD EDUCATION WITH THE INTERVENTION OF GOVERNMENT AND ADVOCACY GROUPS**

<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
High	5	10.0
Moderate	25	50.0
Low	20	40.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table 13 reveals that 50.0 percent of the respondents interviewed responded that the level of girl child education in the section is moderate. Another 40.0 percent of the respondents interviewed agreed that girl’s child education level in the section is low. In other words that level of girl child education in the section is between low and moderate.

**REASONS FOR THE LOW/MODERATE LEVEL OF GIRL CHILD EDUCATION IN THE SECTION**

The researcher was interested in knowing the reason for the moderate or low level of girl child education in the section of Kissy town. The datum is shown in table 14

The level of girl child education with the intervention of government and advocacy groups

**Table 14:** Reasons for the low or moderate level

<b>REASONS FOR THE LOW OR MODERATE LEVEL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Early marriage	30	60.0
Traditional belief	13	26.0
Religious belief	5	10.0
No idea	2	4.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey Result 2012

Table 14 reveals that 60.0 percent of the respondents interviewed agreed that early marriage is a major reason for the low or moderate level of girls in school. Traditional and religious beliefs also serve as minor factor for the low level of girls in school in the Kissy town section.

**HOW DOES EARLY MARRIAGE AFFECT GIRL CHILD EDUCATION IN THE SECTION?**

During the research, the researcher was interested in knowing how early marriage affect girl child education in the section. The datum is shown in table 15.

**TABLE 15:** Effects

<b>EFFECTS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Negative	48	96.0
Positive	1	2.0
No idea	1	2.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source:** Survey Result 2012

Table 15 reveals that 96.0 percent of the respondents interviewed states that early marriage had negative effect on girl child education in the section.

**WHAT NEGATIVE EFFECT HAS EARLY MARRIAGE HAD ON GIRL CHILD EDUCATION IN THE SECTION.**

The researcher was interested in knowing negative effects that had affected girl child education in the section. Below is the datum shown in table 16.

**TABLE 16** Negative Effects

<b>NEGATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
High dropout level	15	30.0
High illiteracy level	20	40.0
Low intake level of girls in schools	2	4.0
Low retention level of girls in school	8	16.0
Low level of concentration among girls in schools	5	10.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source:** Survey Result 2012

Table 16 reveals that 40 percent of the respondents interviewed agreed that high illiteracy level is the major negative effect that early marriage has had on girl child education in the section. Another 30 percent of the respondents interviewed agreed that high dropout level is another negative effect on early marriage. Low intake level of girls in schools, low retention level of girls in school and low level of concentration of girls in school where also other negative effects early marriage has had on girl child education in the section.

**SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

This chapter is divided into three sections. The section is concentrated on summary of findings of the study. The second section includes the conclusion relating to the study, i.e. effect of early marriage on girl child education in Kissy town section, Kenema city. The third sections include the recommendations for improving on girl child education and prevent early marriage in the Kissy town section, Kenema city, Eastern Sierra Leone.

**SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS**

Early marriage and girl child education are activities that have been going on in the Kissy town section Kenema, early marriage is a phenomenon that had created a lot of effects on education of girls in Kissy town section. It is widely agreed that girl child education is one of

the tools that foster quick development in Sierra Leone. Early marriage and its effects had been one of the factors militating against girl child education in Sierra Leone which in turn poses a lot of problem on both the communities of local level and the country at large. In Kissy town section, the school girls main support comes from their parents (mothers). But lack of those support makes the way for the early marriage of the girl child. Therefore, the summary of the findings include: most of the respondents interviewed were married male and female Muslims between the ages 18-27 years. And majority of them completed primary school education before they got married. Most of the interviewed respondents agreed that the support for their children's schooling comes from their mothers. Their major occupations before marriage were schooling and mining. All of the respondents interviewed agreed that there are advocacy groups on girl child education but there is no advocacy on early marriage in the section. It was revealed that bulk of the respondents were illiterate and bulk of the respondents who are actually practicing early marriage are unemployed. All of the interviewed respondents agreed that the activities of government and advocacy groups has created some positive change in the section. Majority of the respondent interviewed selected free primary education for boys and girls and the award of scholarships for some girls in junior secondary schools some of the changes experienced with the intervention of government and advocacy groups on girl child education. Majority of the respondents interviewed rate the level of intake of girls in school as moderate and the retention level as low.

Most of the respondents interviewed suggested and expected government and advocacy groups or NGOs to introduce advocacy groups on early marriage and sex education programmes. Government should enact a law that ensure marriage age for girls at 20 years and sensitize literate mothers and fathers on the danger of early marriage. Government and NGOs should provide amenities for girls coming from poor homes, and enact law that will protect girls throughout their schooling.

## **CONCLUSION**

The findings of the research that early marriage in the Kissy town section was carried out and encouraged mainly by poor and literate mothers and fathers. Parents considering their daughters as bread winners encourage them to marry as early as possible thereby preventing them from pursuing their education to completion. Religious and cultural beliefs also encourage early marriage in the section. The people of Kissy town section have not had law that will cut down on the level of early marriage. As a result, a lot of problems are created. Some of these problems include:

- Increase of illiteracy level amongst women.
- High birth rate.
- High prostitution level.
- High dependency level.
- Reduction of the number of girls in schools.

To improve on girl child education and prevent early marriage in Kissy town section the government of Sierra Leone should put modalities in place to combat the problems faced by Kissy town section on girl child education and early marriage.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the result of the research, the following recommendations will help to improve on girl child education and minimize early marriage in Kissy town section, Kenema city.

- Government and NGOs should provide an enabling environment for people to treat girl child education seriously and to see it as a major priority.
- Government should create conducive ways for girls child education programmes so that young girls would be attracted to education.
- Government and NGOs should create advocacy groups against early marriage in the section.
- Government should create sex education programmes and centers for girls.
- Government should enact a law that would clearly define the marriage age for girls and punish men who married under-age girls.
- Government should direct most of its support to girl child education for especially these girls coming from poor homes.
- Government should create adult education programmes for illiterate parents focusing mainly on the importance of girl child education and the dangers of early marriage.

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## QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is designed to investigate into the effects of early marriage on girl child education in Kissy town section. The information is intended to be used for the purpose and will be treated with confidentiality. Therefore you are kindly asked to answer the questions with the shortest possible time to expedite the process.

### A. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESPONDENTS.

1. Name .....
2. Address.....
3. Age.....
4. Sex: Male  Female
5. Marital status: Married  Single  Divorce  Widower
6. Do you have children? Yes  No
7. What work where you doing before you got married? Farming  Petty trading   
 Schooling  Other job
8. If you have children in (Q6) who supports their schooling?  
 NGO  Father  Mother
9. What is your religion? Christian  Islam
10. What is your educational background? (circle or applied)  
 No school  Primary school completed  Secondary school completed   
 Vocational school completed  Training College completed

### B. INFORMATION ON THE IMPACT OF EARLY MARRIAGE ON THE INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY

11. Do you have any regret or been married before the age of 18 ?  
 Yes No
12. If yes, what are they?  
 i. ....  
 ii. ....  
 iii. ....  
 iv. ....
13. Does your relationship have any impact on you? Yes  No
14. If yes, specify.....
15. Does your married have any impact on the community where you are living?  
 Yes  No
16. If yes, state them.....
17. Do you have a peaceful martial home? Yes  No
18. If no why? .....

**C. INFORMATION ON THE IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT AND ADVOCACY GROUP ACTIVITIES ON GIRL CHILD EDUCATION AND EARLY MARRIAGE IN THE SECTION**

19. Have you experience change in girl child education with government and advocacy groups activities in the school?

Yes  No

20. What change have you experienced? Positive  Negative

21. If the change is possible (Q20) selected the positive experiences?

- i. Free primary education for boys and girls
- ii Free secondary education for boys and girls
- iii Award scholarship for girls in Junior secondary school

**D. RECOMMENDATION**

22. Do you believe that education for girls is of benefit to the section?

Yes  No

23. If yes, (Q 22) what do you want government and NGOs to do towards girl child education in the section?

- i. ....
- ii. ....
- iii. ....
- iv. ....

24. What expectation do you have for government and advocacy groups against early marriage in the section?

- i. ....
- ii. ....
- iii. ....
- iv. ....