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INFLUENCE OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON THE CARE OF AGEING PARENTS IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION, NYAMIRA COUNTY - KENYA

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ABSTRACT

This study sought to investigate the influence of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Kenya. To achieve this, it employed descriptive survey design. The target population of this study was residents of Keroka Township Location, Nyamira County - Kenya. To arrive at the study sample, the researcher used cluster and stratified sampling technique. The study targeted 1200 subjects from which a sample of 93 people was selected using proportionate random sampling guide by Nassiuma (2000) formula. Questionnaires were pre-tested in Kisii Township and found to be both reliable and valid followed by the actual data collection. Data collected was coded, edited, organized and cleaned. 5 local administrators and 12 elderly persons were interviewed by the researcher to gather more information. The findings were analyzed both quantitatively and qualitatively. The influence of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents was tested through the statistical package for social science (SPSS). The findings were analyzed both quantitatively and qualitatively using SPSS. The quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics methods which included frequencies, percentages and statistical tabulations while inferential statistics was applied using cross tabulation, correlations and Chi-square. The data were presented using frequency tables, percentages tables and pie charts. The study results indicated that Sibling conflicts influenced parental care negatively among the ageing population. The study recommends rolling out of a study on parental care in all the 47 counties to understand the demographical differences and the impact of sibling conflicts on parental care in Kenya.

KEYWORDS

sibling conflicts, parental care, ageing parents.

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INTRODUCTION

The cases of sibling conflicts have been on the increase in the recent past due to many global societal changes. Conflict in a family refers to a situation whereby the smooth interaction and relation among members of a family is disrupted because of one thing or another (Hinde and Kilner (2007). Conflicts in a family can be as a result of lack of trust, drunkenness, lack of dialogue, lack of respect, joblessness, and idleness (Tolkacheva, Groenou, & Tilburg, 2010). It comes in form of fights, quarrels, and parental abuses. According to Emery, Sbarra, and Grover, (2005) ageing parents are the one who are mostly affected by the cases of sibling strife. In most cases, sibling conflicts may lead to increased cases of physical, financial, emotional, and verbal abuse among the ageing population. Furthermore, the ageing parents face the challenges of coping with physical issues of ageing, frustration, and social isolation due to sibling rivalry or engagement.

Tolkacheva et al. (2010) argues that the problems aging parents tend to increase in families where conflicts persist. They found out that parental negligence can increase the cases of physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse, financial abuse, and neglect or failure to provide adequate care for the elderly. In Kenya, Hinde and Kilner (2007) found out that ageing parents tend to experience suffering in cases where there is sibling rivalry. They further found out that in some households, lack of proper care among the elderly has been rampant since some members believe that spending money on the elderly is a waste of time as it is better to spend money on the young. According to Matagaro (2005), ageing parents from conflict backgrounds tend to have distress, sadness, fear, uncertainty, and anxiety. Therefore, this study aims at investigating the effects of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Keroka township location- Nyamira County – Kenya.

IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

This research will assist scholars for it will serve as a source of data and literature for providing a deeper understanding on the effect of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Kenya. Second, the study will enable the government to come up with good policies that will help in the institutionalization of parental care. Also, the study will help to formulate a critical legal and policy framework that can form the basis for advising the government on key intervention measures necessary for ensuring that Kenyans respect and provide adequate care for the aging. The study will also help in formulation of policies that can help in tackling challenges, such as changing social context and weakened family protections structures in the modern world. Equally, this study will assist the government and the local authorities to make informed decisions and take corrective measures to mitigate the neglect of ageing parents. Ageing parents will benefit from this study by receiving improved care from the immediate family/children and the government by extension. Finally, the findings of this study will give insight to members of the community on the effect of family conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Kenya thus also help in reducing sibling conflicts in the community.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the modern world, the mainstream media is awash with cases of family conflicts. It is often reported that a parent or a child or both have been hospitalized or killed as a result of family conflicts. Furthermore, cases of parental negligence are also common due to rural urban migration, poverty, or disputes. In the modern days, most families experience problems, such as quarrels and fights, a scenario that can interfere with traditional family structure. According to Rosen, (2013),

the problem of sibling rivalry has been existing in the world since time immemorial. Emery *et al.*, (2005) argue that sibling rivalry is a matter of concern because it can lead to negligence of ageing parents who are estimated to be around 1.2 million in Kenya (Cicerelli, 2013). Thus, as a population is ageing, a number of older people in need of care are expected to increase. In modern Kenya, more than 68% of the ageing population are aged between 65 and 75 years (Hogstel, Curry, & Walker, 2005). In this case, children become an important source of care to the ageing parents. However, Cicerelli (2013) notes that if relationships among the siblings are poor, parental needs may not be realized effectively. In such a scenario, questions on who should provide care arise. Despite the fact that siblings may compete to care for ageing parents, quarrels over the best care arrangement, arguments about the number of visits or phone calls or level of assistance that is given to a parent. Preliminary research in Keroka township location in Nyamira County Kenya indicates that a number of ageing parents are neglected due to conflicts between their children. It is against this background that this research study seeks to investigate the effects of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Kenya.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The broad objective of the study was to investigate the effects of sibling conflicts on parental care among the ageing in Keroka Township Location, Nyamira County-Kenya.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To investigate the causes of sibling conflicts in Keroka township location.
2. To determine the effect of sibling conflicts on parental care among the ageing population in Keroka township location.

HYPOTHESES

HO1: There are no known causes of sibling conflicts in Keroka township location.

HO2: There is no significant effect of of sibling conflicts on parental care among the ageing population in Keroka township location.

HO3: There is no significant strategy that can aid in reducing sibling conflicts and neglect of ageing parents in Keroka township location.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study used a descriptive survey research design. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999), a descriptive survey is appropriate because it can help in gathering information about the characteristics, actions or opinions of a large group of people with the aim of obtaining information from large samples of the population.

TARGET POPULATION

A population entails the object of study that comprises of individuals, objects, events, and products (Orodho & Okombo, 2002). The target population for this study were the residents of Keroka township location as shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1 TARGET POPULATION AND SAMPLING MATRIX

Respondents	Male	Female	Total	Sample size	Sampling Technique	Research Instrument
Teachers	90	90	180	15	Clusters/stratified	Questionnaire
Civil servants	20	20	40	10	Clusters/stratified	Questionnaire
Medics/nurses	10	10	20	8	Clusters/stratified	Questionnaire
Local administrator	6	4	10	5	Clusters/stratified	Interview
Businessman/woman	150	150	300	25	Clusters/stratified	Questionnaire
The elderly	150	220	370	12	Clusters/stratified	Interview
Boda boda rider	90	90	180	15	Clusters/stratified	Questionnaire
Casual labourers	80	80	160	3	Clusters/stratified	Questionnaire
TOTAL	596	664	1260	93		

Source: Researcher (2017)

STUDY SAMPLE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

To select the sample size, the researcher applied Nasiuma (2000). Nasiuma (2000) asserts that the sample size can be determined by;

$$n = \frac{Nc_v^2}{\{c_v^2 + (N-1) e^2\}}$$

Equation (1)

Where: n is the target population (1260), N= is the total population, c_v is the coefficient of variation, e- Tolerance at the desired level of confidence, at 95% confidence level (Take 0.05). Thus:

$$= \frac{1260 \times 0.5^2}{\{0.5^2 + (1260-1)0.05^2\}}$$

$$= 92.715$$

$$= 93 \text{ participants}$$

Cluster and stratified sampling technique was employed to sample the participants.

DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENTS

The study used a self-administered questionnaire to collect primary quantitative data. The questionnaires were administered through drop and pick method. The questionnaire included both close-ended and multiple response open-ended questions. To gather specific information from the elderly and from the local administration, the researcher used an interview schedule.

ADMINISTRATION OF INSTRUMENTS

The researcher obtained an official letter from the university college for legal and administrative reasons. The questionnaires were distributed to respondents through drop and pick method. The respondents were then requested to fill the questionnaire and hand them in to the research assistant upon completion. The questionnaires were picked once the participant had finished filling it. Five local administrators and twelve elderly persons were interviewed by the researcher to gather information. The data obtained were then be recorded and analyzed.

VALIDITY OF INSTRUMENTS

The content validity of the items in the questionnaires and the interview schedule were discussed with the supervisors. They carried out verification of the items in the questionnaire to determine if these items were consistent with the objectives of the research. Where items were found to be unsuitable, they were discarded or changed appropriately and additional items were included.

RELIABILITY

Reliability is a measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). It refers to the consistency that an instrument demonstrates when applied repeatedly under similar situations (Kerlinger, 1983). The Cronbach Reliability coefficient was used to test for reliability. The questionnaires were self-administered to confirm the consistence level of the results.

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

The questionnaires were checked for completeness and consistency. The researcher then sorted, edited, coded, and analysed primary data. Coding was done to help classify answers of the research questions into meaningful categories so as to bring out their essential patterns. Then the study tabulated quantitative data for each research question. Data analysis was done and the findings reported in chapter four both quantitatively and qualitatively. Descriptive statistics (i.e.

frequency analysis) was computed. Chi-square and cross tabulations were used as statistical measures to assist in understanding the relationship between the influences of sibling conflicts and care of the aged in the society.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CROSS TABULATION OF GENDER AND CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION

The analysis of cross tabulation of gender and the variable causes was carried out and the result was presented in Table 2. From the investigations carried out, it was established that 20 male and 7 female participants strongly agreed that comparison and favouritism caused conflicts among siblings while 43 male as opposed to 9 female agreed that comparison and favouritism brings conflicts among the siblings in the family. This implies that majority of the respondents (86.25%) accepted that families that practice comparison and favouritism stand a higher chance of conflicts among the siblings as shown in in Table 2.

On the issue of handling of inheritance, 26.25% of the both male and female respondents strongly agreed that issues of inheritance resulted to conflicts among siblings in families. This was supported by 61.25% who agreed that inheritance was major issue in families and that due to this siblings were in constant conflicts of sharing the property of their parents as indicated in Table 2. These findings were also supported by the findings from the respondents of the interviews where a majority (10 out of 14) that agreed that conflicts among siblings came as result of unequal distribution of land among children which in return contributed to neglect of elderly parents in many families.

Table 2 also reveals that 67.5% of the participants strongly agreed that lack of mutual communication in families led to sibling conflicts. This implies that, if the families are not able to sit and share their issues in a friendly manner, there are high chances of these problems resulting to conflicts among siblings. Interestingly, 32.5 % of the participants believed that lack of communication was not the reason that caused conflicts among the siblings while 32.5% of the respondents also remained unaware of the problem of sibling conflicts in families. From the interviews conducted, it was also established that good communication is the foundation of strong family relationships. As a result, practicing mindful communication, to change age-old family mistakes can be hard but it is worth the effort to improve and save family relationships. Also, a majority of the participants (73.25%) confirmed that unrealistic expectations among the siblings can also lead to the problem of sibling conflicts which can result to the aged being neglected by their children as indicated in Table 2.

TABLE 2: CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION

		Cross Tabulation of Comparison and Favoritism					Total
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
Gender	Male	10	43	3	1	2	58
	Female	7	9	3	1	2	22
Total		17	52	6	2	4	80
Percentages		21.25	65	7.5	2.5	5	100
Inheritance Issues							
	Male	12	39	5	2	0	58
	Female	9	10	1	2	0	22
Total		21	49	6	4	0	80
Percentages		26.25	61.25	7.5	5	0	100
Lack of Communication							
	Male	17	20	21	21	0	58
	Female	8	9	5	5	0	22
Total		25	29	26	26	0	80
Percentages		31.25	36.25	32.5	32.5	0	100
Unrealistic Expectations							
	Male	12	37	8	1	0	58
	Female	7	7	6	2	0	22
Total		19	44	14	3	0	80
Percentages		23.25	55	17.5	7.25	0	100
Differential Treatment							
	Male	13	19	22	3	1	58
	Female	10	10	1	0	1	22
Total		23	29	23	3	2	80
Percentages		28.25	36.25	28.75	7.25	2.0	100

EXTENT TO WHICH CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS AFFECT THE CARE OF AGEING PARENTS

Table 3 indicated that majority of the participants (71.3%) accepted that ageing parents were seriously affected in the families that had sibling conflicts.

TABLE 3: EFFECTS OF CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON INFLUENCING THE CARE OF AGEING PARENTS

	Frequency	Percentages
Very High	10	12.5
High	47	58.8
Average	23	28.7
Total	80	100.0

CROSS TABULATION OF EFFECTS OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON PARENTAL CARE AMONG AGEING POPULATION IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION

Table 4 conducted a cross tabulation between gender and effects that occurred as result of sibling conflicts. The analysis conducted established that sibling conflicts resulted to strained relationship between the parents and the children in the families. Table 4 shows that 91.25% of the participants agreed and strongly agreed that sibling conflict was a major issue among siblings because it affects their relationship and that of the parents. The interviews that were conducted also indicated that most of the parents were left sick and bedridden without any support, poor, sometimes they would go without meals as their children eat and in some cases it led to killings in the family, where the elderly would be eliminated because of being suspected being a 'witch.'

Table 4 also revealed that majority (75%) of the respondents agreed that sibling conflicts resulted to change in psychological behaviours while 20% strongly agreed that the outcome of psychological behaviours are associated with sibling conflicts.

Improper care of ageing parents was one of the issues that the study endeavored to establish from the participants. Table 4 established that (93.75%) of the participants strongly agreed and agreed that sibling conflicts is a major problem in care giving to the elderly and society in general. The study agrees with views of the interviews conducted among 14 elderly people that some of the older people have been injured; exploited, and mistreated by someone on whom they depend for care and protection.

TABLE 4: EFFECTS OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON PARENTAL CARE AMONG AGEING POPULATION

Cross tabulation of Sibling Conflict Brings Strained Child Parent Relationship						Total
Gender	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
Male	11	43	3	1	0	58
Female	8	11	1	2	0	22
Total	19	54	4	3	0	80
Percentages	23.75	67.5	5	3.75	0	100
Sibling Conflicts Causes Change in Psychological Behaviors						
Male	9	47	2	0	0	58
Female	7	13	1	1	0	22
Total	16	60	3	1	0	80
Percentages	20	75	3.75	1.25	0	100
Sibling Conflicts Leads to Lack of Proper Care of Ageing Parents						
Male	12	43	3	0	0	58
Female	8	12	1	1	0	22
Total	20	55	4	1	0	80
Percentages	25	68.75	5	1.25	0	100

CORRELATIONS OF THE CAUSES OF THE SIBLING CONFLICTS

The causes of sibling conflicts formed the first category of the independent variable. The study wanted to learn if there was a significant relationship among the causes of sibling conflicts factors and which one(s) had great association on influencing the causes of sibling conflicts and care of the aged in the society especially in Keroka Township Location (dependent variable). Therefore, Pearson correlation was conducted to establish their relationship. Results from the Pearson correlation are indicated in Table 6 as they relate with the variables in Table 5.

TABLE 6: CORRELATIONS RESULTS OF THE CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS

Correlations		Comparison and Favoritism	Inheritance Issues	Lack of Communication	Unrealistic Expectations	Differential Treatment
Comparison and Favoritism	Pearson Correlation	1	.572	.786	.405	.107
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.015	.007	.010	.003
Inheritance Issues	Pearson Correlation	.572	1	.358	.467	.108
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.015		.018	.037	.001
Lack of Communication	Pearson Correlation	.786	.358	1	.104	.371
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.007	.018		.018	.001
Unrealistic Expectations	Pearson Correlation	.405	.467	.104	1	.653
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.010	.037	.018		.002
Differential Treatment	Pearson Correlation	.107	.108	.371	.653	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.003	.001	.001	.002	

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Analysis of the causes of sibling conflicts exposes strong positive association between comparison and favoritism with lack of Communication at $r = .786$ and P value of 0.007 which is significant positive association. This means that poor communication and comparison accompanied with favoritism in the family will greatly affect how the old age population is handled. Unrealistic expectations and differential treatment disclosed another important association with a strong positive association. Inheritance issues and comparison and favoritism also revealed strong positive association which has a significant relationship of ($r = 0.572$ and $P < .015$) as indicated in table 6. This implied that the four variables had great influence on the welfare of the aged in society.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INFLUENCES OF CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON THE CARE OF THE AGEING PARENTS

The first null hypothesis was to establish if there was a significant relationship between influences of the causes of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents. The null hypothesis was tested by the Chi-Square inferential statistic technique.

H1₀: There is no significant relationship between influences of the causes of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Keroka Township.

TABLE 7: CHI-SQUARE TESTS FOR THE INFLUENCES OF CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON THE CARE OF THE AGEING IN FAMILIES

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	18.901 ^a	8	.015
Likelihood Ratio	22.042	8	.005
Linear-by-Linear Association	.538	1	.023
N of Valid Cases	80		

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The findings from Table 7 indicate that comparison and favoritism, inheritance issues, lack of communication, unrealistic expectations, and differential treatment have significant relationship with influences of the causes of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents since their p-values (0.015) are less than $P < .05$.

DECISION RULE

Because $P < \alpha$, we fail to accept the null hypothesis 1, therefore we accept alternative hypothesis that comparison and favoritism, inheritance issues, lack of communication, unrealistic expectations and differential treatment were among the causes of sibling conflicts families hence, they had significant relationship with influences of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Keroka Township Location.

CORRELATIONS OF THE EFFECTS OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON PARENTAL CARE AMONG AGEING POPULATION IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION

The study sought to learn if there was a significant relationship among the effects of sibling conflicts factors and which one(s) had great association on influencing sibling conflicts and care of the ageing parents (dependent variable). Therefore, Pearson correlation was conducted to establish their relationship. Results from the Pearson correlation are shown in Table 8 as they relate with the variables in table 7.

TABLE 8: CORRELATIONS OF EFFECTS OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON PARENTAL CARE AMONG THE AGEING

Correlations		Strained Child Parent Relationship	Psychological Behaviors	Lack of Proper Care of Aging Parents
Strained Child Parent Relationship	Pearson Correlation	1	.710	.513
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.008
Psychological Behaviors	Pearson Correlation	.710	1	.649
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.001
Lack of Proper Care of Aging Parents	Pearson Correlation	.513	.649	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.008	.001	

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Analysis of the effects of sibling conflicts depicts strong positive association between strained child parent relationship and psychological behaviors at $r = .710$ and P value (0.000) which is significant positive association. It revealed strong positive association which has a significant relationship of $(r = 0.649$ and P value (.001) as indicated in table 8. This implied that the three variables had great influence on the welfare of the ageing in society.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INFLUENCES OF THE EFFECTS OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON THE CARE OF THE AGEING IN FAMILIES

The second null hypothesis was to find out if there was a significant relationship between influences of effects of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents. The null hypothesis was tested by the Chi-Square inferential statistic technique.

H2₀: There is no significant relationship between influences of effects of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Keroka Township Location.

TABLE 9: CHI-SQUARE TESTS FOR THE INFLUENCES OF EFFECTS OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON THE CARE OF THE AGEING IN FAMILIES

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	19.498 ^a	6	.003
Likelihood Ratio	19.489	6	.003
Linear-by-Linear Association	.298	1	.015
N of Valid Cases	80		

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The findings from Table 9 signpost that strained child parent relationship, psychological behaviors and lack of proper care of ageing parents have a significant relationship with influences of effects of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents since their p -values (0.003) are less than $P < .05$.

DECISION RULE

Because $P < \alpha$, we fail to accept the null hypothesis 2, therefore we accept alternative hypothesis that strained child parent relationship, psychological behaviors and lack of proper care of ageing parents were among the effects of sibling conflicts in families hence, they had significant relationship with influences of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Keroka Township Location.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

CAUSES OF SIBLING CONFLICTS IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION

From the research, it was established that those who strongly agreed that comparison and favouritism caused conflicts among siblings were 20 among men and 7 among female participants while those who agreed were 43 men and 9 female that indeed comparison and favouritism brings conflicts among the siblings in the family. Majority of the respondents (86.25%) accepted that families that practice comparison and favouritism stand a chance of conflicts among the siblings as shown in Table 2. The other cause of sibling conflicts was the inheritance. 26.25% of both male and female gender strongly agreed that issues of inheritance resulted to conflicts among siblings in families. This was supported by 61.25% who agreed that inheritance was a major issue in families. This was supported by the findings from the respondents of the interviews where a majority (10 out of 14) agreed that conflicts among siblings came as a result of unequal distribution of land among children.

Also, Table 2 reveals that 67.5 % of the participants strongly agreed that lack of mutual communication in families led to sibling conflicts. Interestingly though, 32.5 % of the participants believed that lack of communication is not the reason that causes conflicts among the siblings while 32.5% remained unaware of the problem of sibling conflicts in families. From the interviews conducted, it became apparent that good communication is the foundation of strong family relationships. It was also revealed that majority of the participants (73.25%) confirmed that unrealistic expectations among the siblings can cause the problem of sibling conflicts which can result to the ageing being neglected by their children.

THE EFFECT OF SIBLING CONFLICTS ON PARENTAL CARE AMONG THE AGEING POPULATION IN KEROKA TOWNSHIP LOCATION

Table 3 indicated that majority of the participants (71.3%) accepted that ageing parents were seriously affected in families where sibling conflicts was rife. Cross tabulation of effects of sibling conflicts on parental care among ageing population established that sibling conflicts resulted to strained relationship between the parents and the children. Table 4 shows that 91.25% of the participants both agreed and strongly agreed that sibling conflict was a major issue among siblings because it affects their relationship and that of the parents. The interviews that were conducted also indicated that most of the parents were left sick and bedridden without any support, poor, sometimes they would go without meals as their children eat and in some cases it led to 'killings' in the family, where the elderly would be eliminated.

Table 4 further reveals that majority (75%) of the respondents agreed that sibling conflicts resulted to change in psychological behaviours while 20% strongly agreed that the outcome of psychological behaviours are associated with sibling conflicts. Table 4 also established that (93.75%) of the participants strongly agreed and agreed that sibling conflicts is major problem in care giving to the ageing. This concurs with the views of the interviews conducted among 14 elderly people from Keroka Township Location.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the study found out that sibling conflicts affect the care of ageing parents. The Chi-square tests performed on all the effects showed that significant influence exists between sibling conflicts and parental care. This implies that the null hypotheses developed were rejected and consequently the alternative hypotheses accepted.

SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The current study established significant influence of sibling conflicts on the care of ageing parents in Keroka Township Location, Nyamira County – Kenya. The findings are however not exhaustive on the subject of parental care. The following recommendations are made for further research:

1. A study on the nature of sibling conflicts among family members in Kenya.
2. Studies to understand the impact of sibling conflicts on parental care in Kenya.
3. A study on strategies that can aid in reducing sibling conflicts and neglect of ageing parents in Kenya.
4. A study on parental care across the Kenyan population to understand the demographical differences.
5. An investigation other variables that are related to the care of ageing parents in Kenya today.

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