

## Abstract

Engagement in sport activities is an important contributory factor to improve the academic performance of students. The general norm with the parents in the society is that there is a negative relationship between Sport Participation and Academic Performance. It is important to know how parents can make correct decision to encourage their children towards sport activities when they are driven by the strong mindset that better education will ensure better jobs. Therefore, this study focus to identify the impact of Sport Participation on Academic Performance. The literature review facilitates to make an assumption of positive effects between Sport Participation and Academic Performance which are constructed by various aspects of indicators. In this research, six main factors were recognized, namely Training Experience, Training Volume, Competition Level, Parents Income, Family Influence and Child Commitment which are connected to Sport Participation and therefore, conceptual framework and operationalization were established considering them. A deductive approach has been taken to accomplish the objectives with quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods. The sample of eight Western Province schools were randomly selected and 181 students who are actually participating in sports activities, subjected as unit of analysis. The simple random sampling technique was used to select the students for this research. Students who are currently participating in sport activities have filled the questionnaire regarding students' involvement in sports and Academic Performance. The primary and secondary data from sources such as published books, articles, journals and internal records of Ministry of Education have been taken into consideration. Moreover, statistical software; Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) version 19 was used in order to analyze the collected data. As per the finalized outcome, it reveals that the Sport Participation has demonstrated a positive impact on Academic Performance. Furthermore, Training Experience, Training Volume and Family Influence are statistically significant and they have higher impact on Academic Performance whereas Parents Income, Competition Level and Child Commitment have recognized shows lower impact on Academic Performance. Further, developed cognitive core functions have demonstrated to uplift the academic achievements and educational competition identified as very high level at G.C.E.(A/L).

**Key Words:** Academic Performance, Sport Participation, Training Experience, Training Volume, Competition Level, Parents Income, Family Influence, Child Commitment, Cognitive Skill.