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**THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILY BACKGROUND ON STUDENTS ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE IN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SIRONKO**

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**ABSTRACT**

This study was designed to examine the influence of family background on students' academic performance in government secondary school in Sironko district, Uganda. The research focused on the following objectives: To find out the influence of parental income on children' academic performance. To examine the influence of family size on student's academic performance. To find out the influence of parents educational level on children' academic performance. The study adopted a cross sectional survey design. The research used a sample of 314 respondents which include 68 parents and 246 students of all the five public secondary schools in Sironko district. Snow ball sampling techniques was used to select parents while simple random sampling technique was used to select the respondents. Data collection for this study was presented in frequency distribution and percentage tables. A directional correlation test was computed for each set of responses in the questionnaires in order to find out the significant relationship between the variables. The findings of the study showed that variables such as parent's income level, family size and parent's education level have influence on academic performance of students in the schools under study. The researcher concludes that the above variables are factors that have influence on performance of students in secondary school in Sironko district. Parents should participate in their children education irrespective of their financial status. Parents should provide time to sit with their children and talk about their educational aspect irrespective of their educational level and family size. Parents should provide time to visit the teachers to know the status of their children performance in school.

