Exploring Familial Factors: Influence on Tenth-Grade Students' Academic Achievement at High School

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Amidst of swift socio-economic shifts and escalating educational competition globally, students' academic prowess has emerged as a paramount yardstick for assessing the quality of education across nations. Academic performance not only serves as an evaluative gauge but also significantly intertwines with students' future earning potential, lifestyle, and the overall progress of a nation. This study delves into the impact of familial factors on the academic performance of tenth-grade students within a high school setting. Employing a descriptive research approach, the investigation scrutinizes a cohort of 100 students during the academic period of 2021-2022. The study explores various aspects of the home environment, including family size, economic status, parental education, accessibility of learning resources, internet connectivity, and household dynamics, aiming to understand their influence on students' academic achievements. While factors like family size, economic condition, parental education, and resource availability exhibit substantial correlations with academic performance, this study found insignificant associations between academic outcomes and family structure, lighting conditions, ventilation, home space allocation, and household chores. Upholding ethical considerations, participants' consent, confidentiality, and privacy were prioritized throughout the research process. This investigation sheds light on the pivotal role of familial elements in shaping students' educational experiences, emphasizing the significance of tailored attention and conducive home environments in fostering academic success.

Keywords: Educational Competition, Family Factors, Economic Condition, Parental Education.

Introduction:

A family represents a social unit founded on emotional connections, encompassing marriage, blood relations, and adoption. It embodies shared living arrangements, economic collaboration, and the propagation of offspring. In contemporary society, we witness a growing array of family structures. In addition to the traditional heterosexual blood-related family, diverse forms like adoptive, foster, single-parent, and same-sex families have emerged. Compared to other social bonds, familial ties are the most intimate and profound. Functionalist perspectives portray society as a system of specific social institutions ensuring the perpetuation of values. Talcott Parsons, a prominent sociologist from Harvard University, identifies the family's primary functions as primary socialization and personality stabilization. According to Parsons, the smallest unit in industrial society involves one adult working outside the home while another cares for the family and children [1]. Early socialization transpires from infancy to adolescence, marking the foundational and pivotal stage of an individual's life. This phase involves acquiring and mastering communication skills, cognitive abilities, and behavioral norms essential for

societal membership. It entails internalizing cultural norms, forming behavioral and evaluative systems, learning diverse roles, and laying the groundwork for one's personality traits. The family serves as the principal vehicle during this stage, significantly shaping children's acquisition of communication, cognitive skills, and more through parent-child interactions and parenting approaches. While schools offer systematic learning and growth for students, the family environment substantially influences a child's physical and psychological development, subsequently impacting academic performance. Thus, the family plays a crucial role in determining a student's academic achievement [2]. Material aspects within the family, such as varying incomes and parental socioeconomic status, can lead to differences in a child's upbringing, affecting their physical and psychological growth. Factors like acquiring educational materials, attending specialized classes, and access to quality education also impact academic performance. Beyond material aspects, attitudes, emotions, family ambiance, and parenting style profoundly shape a child's character and personality development, indirectly influencing their academic performance [3][4][5].

This study aims to explore the correlation between the home environment and the academic performance of tenth-grade students. Employing a descriptive research design, this investigation endeavors to offer a thorough comprehension of this subject. The focus on scrutinizing how the home environment influences academic performance intends to expand the current educational knowledge base. Generally, students in this grade level reside with their parents or legal guardians in their respective households. In this phase, children commence their journey of physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development. The home environment can wield a notable influence on students, particularly during crucial moments. As a result, the household and its residents play a substantial role in shaping an individual's holistic well-being. Universally recognized as a fundamental social institution, families offer children initial stimulation and practical learning experiences [6][7][8].

Numerous students live within their family homes, under the guidance of their parents or legal guardians. G.U.A. discusses the concept as the comprehensive amalgamation of internal and external factors impacting the existence, development, and well-being of organisms. Furthermore, she delineates three distinct categories for environments: physical, social, and abstract. The physical environment encompasses objects and substances found within domestic, educational, or communal settings [2]. Additionally, the social environment involves individuals, siblings, and classmates, encompassing an individual's social interactions, involvement in societies, and participation in clubs. The abstract realm involves the diverse reactions, emotions, and exchanges that stem from interpersonal interactions. Nonetheless, students' academic performance holds paramount importance in education and is regarded as the pivotal axis around which the entire educational system revolves [9]. This assessment primarily aims to gauge students' grasp of a specific subject or curriculum, reflecting their, as well as the educator's or institution's, attainment of educational objectives. Academic performance, defined as the acquisition of knowledge and skills, is evaluated by educators using grading systems and the achievement of predetermined educational goals within a defined period. The authors also highlighted that ongoing evaluations or examination results measure the accomplishment of these objectives. Moreover, there's an interdependent relationship between the environment and academic achievement [10]. The home environment significantly shapes students' academic performance by serving as a crucial backdrop for knowledge acquisition. Factors within students' households have an impact on their performance in educational settings. Studies suggest that various aspects of the home environment, such as access to educational resources, parental involvement in academic pursuits, and the presence of familial care and encouragement, can positively influence students' academic success. Conversely, lacking family support may hinder students' progress. Low academic motivation is closely linked to adverse outcomes, including higher rates of school dropout, retention, and reduced engagement in school activities [11].

Previous studies have documented the detrimental impact of chaotic and disorderly home environments on the well-being and development of children. As a result, the familial context, regardless of its quality, significantly influences the lives of individuals. Additionally, it's been highlighted that various factors such as communication, access to learning resources, effective guidance, and family stress also play a role in influencing student progress [12].

The current "new normal" represents a pivotal phase for children, as they spend most of their time at home. How parents navigate these shifts within their family dynamics is poised to have a lasting impact on their children. The multitude of changes brought about by the pandemic, coupled with individuals' lack of readiness, has educators feeling ill-equipped, akin to entering a battle unprepared and anticipating defeat [13]. The Department of Education has continually stressed the significance of continuous learning. Thorough research has explored diverse learning methods tailored to meet the varied needs and interests of students amidst ongoing education. This circumstance is new for everyone involved, especially parents, who now play a pivotal role in executing the revamped educational structure. Education will be brought directly into homes, with parents taking on the responsibility of educators in unique ways. They are facing the unprecedented challenge of juggling roles as both caregivers and teachers [14].

In the new normal, parents and caregivers bear a more substantial responsibility in supporting their child's educational journey compared to before. Additionally, a notable shift has emerged in education, favoring home-based learning over traditional classroom setups. This shift has reduced the physical presence of teachers, a trend underscored by the Varkey Foundation in 2018. Their findings indicate that parents face challenges when taking on the role of educators for their children. The knowledge, educational background, and socioeconomic status of individuals significantly influence their children's ability to participate in remote learning. Disparities in educational outcomes among students arise due to unequal access to remote learning resources. Building on these observations, researchers suggest that these issues can be addressed within the Grade 10 student community of Sto. Niño National High School, currently navigating remote learning due to the ongoing pandemic. Therefore, this study aims to explore how the home environment impacts students' academic performance in this new educational setting [15].

This section offers a comprehensive review of existing literature on the topic. The term "home environment" encompasses the physical, social, and psychological elements within an individual's living space that contribute to their overall well-being and growth. The study of the home environment has been a significant focus in early development research for over fifty years. Scholars increasingly agree on its pivotal role in children's development, learning, and academic achievements. It denotes the familial context in which a child is raised, encompassing the people and tangible elements within the household that impact the child's development and well-being [16]. The household or family unit stands as the foundational institution in a child's life, marking the home environment as the genesis of a child's early educational and social growth. As per Nwachukwu, the family residence holds the primary and essential status in socializing children. A child's experiences within the family undeniably shape their activities, as the family furnishes the essential environment for holistic development across physical, cognitive, psychological, and social realms [17]. Establishing a nurturing and empathetic family environment, and encouraging skill development and adaptability, remain crucial for adolescents' well-being. This involves implementing effective organization, parental involvement and warmth, appropriate discipline, overseeing growth opportunities, and ensuring basic needs are met. The home environment encompasses multiple factors vital for children's development and welfare. These include the emotional support and warmth shown by parents in their interactions, the availability of stimulating educational activities at home, and the physical environment's safety and cleanliness, particularly in play areas [18].

A child's well-being is profoundly shaped by their immediate surroundings. Providing a

safe and nurturing living space is critical for optimal growth, cognitive development, and a child's exploration. According to the National Center for Healthy Housing, a healthy home is one that's deliberately designed, constructed, maintained, and renovated to promote positive health for its occupants [19]. Conversely, an unsupportive home environment can negatively impact a child's cognitive, social, and psychological development. As per research, empirical evidence suggests that an unsupportive home environment during early childhood can lead to compromised developmental outcomes. These may include lower language skills, behavioral challenges, and inadequate readiness for formal education. This perspective conceptualizes the home environment as the immediate social context where a child grows, portraying it as the foundational framework for child development within an ecological context [20]. The concept of human development ecology, as outlined, refers to the scholarly examination of the dynamic and mutually influential relationship between a developing person and the evolving aspects of their immediate environment. The path of development is shaped by the interactions among various settings and the broader contexts in which these settings exist. Bronfenbrenner stresses that during development, individuals aren't passive recipients of environmental influences but active participants who contribute to reshaping their environment over time. The impact of the environment on an individual's growth and advancement is demonstrated through social interactions with other people, objects, and symbols within their surroundings [21].

The use of the family environment as a social setting aligns with the framework of sociocultural theory. According to this theory, individual development is shaped by the complex interplay between the person and the social and cultural factors in their environment. It emphasizes that a child's learning process is deeply connected to social interactions occurring when the individual engages with others in their immediate environment. The child actively participates in various social roles, as discussed in Vygotsky's work (1978). When considering child development, it's crucial to examine three fundamental components present in both the ecological theory of human development and the sociocultural theory [22]. Theoretical frameworks assert that a child's development is significantly impacted by their social context, underscoring the importance of the environment. Moreover, it's widely recognized that the child's surroundings play a pivotal role in their developmental journey. These concepts suggest that the child is an active participant, exerting influence and being influenced by the surrounding environment. This relationship between the child and their environment is mutually influential. The thesis argues that the home environment can be seen as a microsystem, drawing upon the core components outlined in these theories [23]. A microsystem refers to the specific set of activities, roles, and personal connections experienced by an individual within a clearly defined physical and material environment during their developmental journey. It encapsulates the cultural surroundings in which they are educated and live, along with the people with whom they interact [24].

The learning environment significantly shapes students' educational experiences. Studies suggest that a student's academic success might be influenced by their environment, with estimations indicating that up to 25% of their overall achievement could be attributed to these factors. Establishing a conducive environment can inspire students to strive for outstanding accomplishments. Moreover, a student's behaviors within the school setting are influenced by their home environment [25]. Additionally, learning behaviors—such as motivation, attention, and perseverance—hold a crucial influence on academic success. Research by [26] has presented evidence that various factors, including gender, age, ethnicity, urban residency, parental education level, and special education status, can significantly affect the likelihood of engaging in particular learning approaches. The most significant factor lies in their interpersonal relationships with individuals who offer children affection, stability, support, communication, and positive role models, thereby enhancing academic motivation. A supportive home learning environment nurtures curiosity and self-confidence in young individuals [27].

A child's linguistic and literacy development, along with their academic performance, are profoundly shaped by the familial and household environment in which they grow up. This influence is particularly impactful in the early stages of a child's growth but remains influential throughout their educational journey. Researchers suggest that the familial context plays a crucial role in children's ability to perceive and understand emotions. A lack of emotional expressiveness within the family setting might hinder the progression of emotional development. The learning process is significantly impacted by the home environment. The interactions parents have with their children, the values they impart, and the level of support and guidance they offer all contribute to shaping a child's character and impacting their academic achievements [28]. Research consistently demonstrates that a positive and nurturing home environment, characterized by warmth, responsiveness, and consistent discipline, correlates with improved academic outcomes for children. Conversely, a negative or tumultuous home environment marked by conflict, neglect, or inconsistent parenting can negatively impact a child's personality development and academic performance. Therefore, it's essential for parents and caregivers to cultivate a supportive and conducive home environment that promotes positive growth and achievement in children. The home significantly influences a child's academic performance. The teachings and support provided by their family play a pivotal role in shaping a child's knowledge acquisition and motivation toward education, subsequently impacting their academic achievements. In the article "Effective Strategies in Online and Distance Teaching and Learning," factors contributing to successful outcomes in remote education are explored. It's important to recognize that home-based education offers advantages, highlighting that valuable learning experiences aren't solely confined to structured academic settings but can occur in various contexts. The home environment offers children numerous opportunities to engage with nature, strengthen family bonds, develop a sense of civic responsibility, and prioritize their social well-being. Studies on the influence of home environments suggest that a person's values, shaped during childhood, are akin to markings on the bark of a young tree. These values not only grow with the individual but also become an integral part of their character. Therefore, the early stages of education play a crucial role in nurturing and shaping an individual. Raising children is widely acknowledged as a challenging task with no instruction manual, emphasizing the importance of meeting their fundamental physical and emotional needs.

Methodology:

Research Design:

This study utilizes a cross-sectional survey approach to investigate the influence of home environment factors on the academic success of Grade 10 students.

Participants:

The study involves 100 Grade 10 students from various schools, with 35% from three different government schools, 15% from private schools, and a total of 100 respondents.

Data Collection:

Survey Instrument:

A structured questionnaire is developed to gather data on familial factors and academic performance.

Demographic Profile:

Participants provide information on their school affiliations, distributed as mentioned.

Academic Grades Distribution:

- **Grade Range 75-82:** 25 respondents (25%)
- **Grade Range 80-85:** 10 respondents (10%)
- **Grade Range 85-90:** 25 respondents (25%)
- **Grade Range 70-75:** 20 respondents (20%)

- **Grade Range Above 90:** 2 respondents (2%)
- **Grade Range Below 70:** 18 respondents (18%)

Data Analysis:

Descriptive Statistics:

Frequency and percentage distribution of students' profiles based on school affiliations and academic grades.

Association Analysis:

Explore correlations between home environment variables (to be identified in the survey) and academic performance.

Ethical Considerations:

Informed Consent:

Prior consent from students and permissions from respective schools are obtained.

Confidentiality:

Ensure anonymity and confidentiality of participants' information.

Limitations:

The study's cross-sectional design limits establishing causality. The data rely on self-reported academic grades and may have subjectivity. This methodology aims to explore the relationship between home environment factors and students' academic achievements among Grade 10 participants, providing insights into the influence of familial contexts on educational outcomes.

Results and Discussion:

Overall, the respondents' academic performance generally reflects commendable grades. This analysis focuses on the frequency and percentage distribution of academic grades. Table 3 delineates this distribution concerning family size. Notably, 47% of participants reported a family size of 4 to 5 members, with 25% having 1 to 3 members, 20% with 5 to 8 members, and only 8% having 9 or more members as illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1: Family Size Distribution

Family Size	Percentage (%)
1-3 members	25%
4-5 members	47%
5-8 members	20%
9+ members	8%

Table 2 shows the financial status of the majority of respondents' parents falls below 25,000 Rs, constituting 52% of the sample. Following this, 24% reported their parents' economic status between 30,000 to 40,000, 15% in the range of 40,000 to 50,000, 5% between 50,000 to 55,000, and only 4% above 55,000. Examining fathers' educational attainment, 25% had middle education, while secondary education levels comprised 30%. Intermediate education accounted for 25%, university undergraduates at 9%, short course enrollees at 1%, and 10% reported no degree. Similar patterns were observed among high school undergraduates and primary graduates.

Table 2: Parents' Economic Status

Economic Status	Percentage (%)
Below 25,000 Rs	52%
30,000-40,000 Rs	24%
40,000-50,000 Rs	15%
50,000-55,000 Rs	5%
Above 55,000 Rs	4%

Conversely, a significant proportion of mothers had attained a college degree. The

breakdown of educational attainment shows 19% completing middle education, 25% with secondary education, 35% having intermediate education, 7% as university undergraduates, 7% as graduates, and 12% without a degree. Regarding family structures, 75% belonged to nuclear families, 9% were from single-parent households, while extended and grandparent families each represented 16% of the sample. The study also examined parental educational attainment. Analyzing learning material accessibility within respondents' homes, TV and videos had a mean score of 2.95, online resources at 2.17, relevant reading materials at 2.08, and textbooks at 3.29, depicting occasional accessibility. Other resources like software, maps, computers, charts, and posters showed infrequent accessibility, with varying weighted mean scores. Television and movies emerged as portable educational resources offering convenient learning. The study aims to explore the relationship between the availability of learning materials at home and their weighted mean and descriptive value.

Table 3: Fathers' Educational Attainment

Educational Level	Percentage (%)
Middle Education	25%
Secondary Education	30%
Intermediate	25%
University	9%
Short Course	1%
None	10%

Table 4: Mothers' Educational Attainment

Educational Level	Percentage (%)
Middle Education	19%
Secondary Education	25%
Intermediate	35%
University	7%
Graduate	7%
None	12%

Furthermore, the distribution based on illumination and ventilation is depicted. The data illustrates that a considerable number of participants express contentment with the lighting conditions, with 55% indicating satisfaction. Additionally, 34% report high satisfaction, while only 11% express dissatisfaction. Regarding ventilation, it's notable that 61% of participants express satisfaction, with 21% highly satisfied. Conversely, 12% indicate dissatisfaction, and only 6% express significant dissatisfaction. This implies that students tend to perform better in conducive learning environments at home, benefiting from optimal lighting and adequate ventilation. Examining dwelling space allocation, the sala had the highest proportion of usage at 55%, followed by the bedroom (27%), study room (8%), terrace (8%), and backyard (2%). Regarding internet connectivity, 54% of respondents utilized cellular data, 35% relied on wireless/Wi-Fi, 7% used cable, and 4% had no internet. The data suggests a strong preference for cellular data among students, enabling access to instructional resources without temporal or spatial constraints. Further analysis based on internet connectivity reveals that 48% experience a moderate connection speed, 43% face slower speeds, and only 9% enjoy faster connectivity. This indicates varying levels of connectivity among participants, which could influence their access to online educational resources. Moreover, in performing home duties, respondents reported carrying them out "some of the time" with an average weighted mean score of 2.93. This suggests that participants have sufficient time available for completing their academic tasks within their residences.

Discussion: The weighted mean concerning household chores and its correlation with

academic performance is significant. Insufficient internet access limits their ability to excel academically, posing a significant challenge. Regarding household chores, participants reported engagement "some of the time" with an average weighted mean of 2.64. This suggests they have ample time to dedicate to academic tasks at home. Analyzing family size and academic performance demonstrates a positive correlation, indicating that children from smaller families tend to perform better academically compared to those from larger households. Parents' responsibility in meeting their children's educational needs significantly influences their motivation and academic success. The economic conditions of parents show a notable correlation with academic success. Students from higher socioeconomic backgrounds tend to perform better academically due to increased access to educational opportunities. Parental educational attainment is linked to their children's academic accomplishments. Parents with higher education levels influence decision-making regarding schooling more significantly, impacting their children's academic performance positively. Family structure does not exhibit a statistically significant impact on children's academic performance, as per previous studies. Learners can excel academically regardless of family arrangements when they receive sufficient parental support. The presence of learning materials at home significantly correlates with students' academic achievement, facilitating the learning process. However, factors like lighting and ventilation in students' homes do not notably affect their academic performance, which primarily relies on individual effort and access to resources. Empirical evidence emphasizes the impact of internet connectivity speed on students' academic performance. Higher internet speeds are associated with improved academic achievement, highlighting the importance of effective connectivity in supporting educational pursuits.

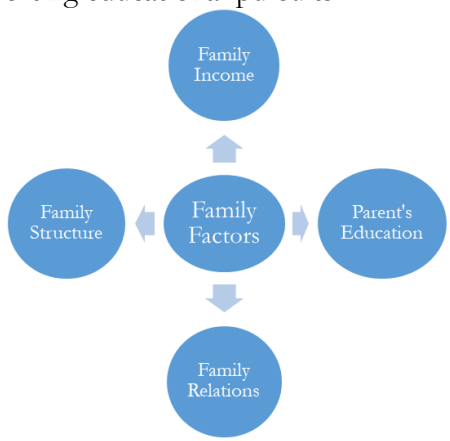

Figure 1: Factors of Family which Influence Academic Performance of a Student.

According to the study, there's no significant link between students' academic performance and the household chores they engage in. The frequency of household activities doesn't seem to impact students' academic achievements. Thus, effective time management becomes crucial for students to fulfill academic responsibilities like homework, projects, and other educational tasks. This discussion will further explore this analysis. The primary aim of this research was to explore how the family environment influences the academic success of Grade 10 students in government schools. Conducted through a descriptive research approach, the study used a survey questionnaire to collect data from a representative sample of 100 10th-grade students during the academic year 2021-2022. Results showed that a significant portion of participants demonstrated commendable academic performance and success in their educational endeavors. However, certain home environment characteristics notably influenced students' academic outcomes, including family size, parents' economic status and education level, availability of learning resources, type and quality of internet connection, and internet speed. Each of these factors significantly impacted students' educational experiences. Conversely, the study found that family structure, lighting conditions, ventilation, home space allocation, and

household chores held little significance in affecting students' academic performance based on the research outcomes.

Conclusion:

The achievement of positive educational outcomes relies on effective teaching practices and fostering conducive learning environments. This collective effort involves educators, institutions, students, parents, and the unique family contexts where students grow. A supportive family environment plays a vital role in facilitating optimal academic success, considering the varying abilities and attitudes toward learning among students. Hence, personalized attention from parents becomes crucial. Establishing and maintaining a favorable home environment demands effort. This study aimed to assess how the family environment impacts students' academic success. Adhering to ethical considerations, participants were requested to provide informed consent, ensuring their voluntary participation. They were assured of confidentiality, privacy, and the freedom to withdraw from the study at any point. Clear information about the study's purpose was provided, and participants were encouraged to share only what they were comfortable disclosing. Efforts were made to maintain anonymity and minimize bias in interpreting the primary data. These ethical considerations ensured respect for participants' autonomy, confidentiality, and protection throughout the research process.

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