Journalistic Story for the paper presented in the conference - I was motivated to write on bullying in primary schools because it is an area that has been ignored. Most researchers focus on bullying in secondary schools.

Bullying in Kenyan Schools: Causes, Impact and Possible Intervention Strategies

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Bullying is progressively emerging as a concern in Kenya as horrifying cases continue to be reported. The bullying trend in Kenyan secondary schools especially is worrying as these schools are experiencing higher levels of bullying than the international level. Although it seems to be rampant in Kenyan schools, there is scant empirical research on bullying and the only available literature on this topic focuses on bullying in secondary schools. The issue of bullying in primary schools in Kenya is not well documented. This study therefore intended to establish the trends and prevalence of bullying in Kenyan primary schools, the variety of reasons that perpetuate bullying, the impact of bullying and interventions for the bullying problem. Data was collected from 202 boys and 229 girls using a questionnaire. The results revealed both physical and psychological types of bullying exist in Kenyan primary schools. T-test results revealed significant differences between the boys and girls with boys being more likely to use physical forms of bullying while girls tended to use psychological forms. In addition, being bigger was among the reasons given for the bullying behaviour and the children also indicated they did not always report bullying behaviour inflicted on them. Bullying in Kenyan schools needs to be reduced and there might be need to develop specific programs for the different forms of bullying.