# Organizational Politics and Teachers' Turnover Intentions in Secondary Schools in Tororo Municipality Uganda

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BU/GS19/EDM/1

A Dissertation Submitted to the Directorate of Graduate studies, Research and innovations in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and Management of Busitema University

Declaration

I, Atyayi Noeline Prossy (Reg. No BU/ GS19/EDM /1) do hereby declare that the work in this research dissertation titled "Organizational Politics and Teachers' Turnover Intentions in Secondary Schools in Tororo Municipality Uganda", is a result of my effort. This dissertation is my original work, and to the best of my knowledge, has not been presented, published, or submitted for any award in any other university or institution of learning.

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## Approval

The research dissertation titled "Organizational Politics and Teachers' Turnover Intentions in Secondary Schools in Tororo Municipality Uganda", was written under our guidance and supervision and meets the requirements set by Busitema University for the award of Master of Educational Leadership and Management. It has been submitted with our approval as the university supervisors.

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## **Dedication**

I dedicate this work to my dear husband Patrick Onyango, thank you for the support and encouragement. My children Charles Protus Oburu, Prosper Okoth, and Pius Omollo; my Parents Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Ssempa Emojong and Bishop Deogratious Byabazaire (RIP) laid a good foundation for me.

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## **List of Abbreviations and Acronyms**

## **CVI** – Content Validity Index

**OP** – Organizational Politics

SPSS – Statistical Package for Social Sciences

**UNEB** – Uganda National Examination Board

**USA** – United States of America

**SD** – Standard deviation

**M** - Mean

**Min** - Minimum

Max - Maximum

#### **Abstract**

This study investigated the extent Organizational Politics (OP) influences teachers' turnover intentions in secondary schools in Tororo Municipality Uganda. The study was based on Vrooms' expectancy theory (1964). The following specific objectives guided the study: (1) To examine the extent to which OP manifests in secondary schools in Tororo Municipality; (2) To examine the extent of manifestations of teachers' turnover intentions in secondary schools in Tororo Municipality; (3) To assess the influence of OP on teachers' turnover intentions in secondary schools in Tororo Municipality; (4) To assess other factors that cause teachers' turnover intentions in secondary schools in Tororo Municipality. Cross-sectional survey design was used where both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection were employed. Validity which was above .78 the recommended validity was attained using a formula CVI = Number of questions considered relevant divide by Total Number of questions. Cronbach alpha was used to measure the reliability of the questionnaire. The values for subscales were .74 and .76 for OP and turnover intentions respectively which was above recommended .70. In this study five (05) administrators were sampled using purposive sampling and one hundred fiftynine (159), teachers were sampled using stratified sampling. A structured questionnaire was used for collecting data from the teachers while administrators were interviewed. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze objective 1 and 2 while regression analysis was used for objective 3. The factors that cause turnover intentions were analyzed using thematic content analysis. The results revealed a moderate (M = 32.0377, SD = 6.79993, Min =10, Max =50) level of manifestation of OP and a moderate (M = 28.1258, SD = 5.17019, Min=10, Max = 50) level of teachers' turnover intentions in Tororo Municipal secondary schools. The results also indicated a low positive correlation between OP and turnover intentions (r = .299, p < 0.005). The study concluded that OP exists in schools moderately, also teachers have intentions to leave but have no alternative jobs. In addition, there was a low, positive, correlation between OP and teachers' turnover intentions in secondary schools in Tororo Municipality. The study recommended that administrators should be trained through workshops and seminars to make decisions through consensus to avoid promotion of self-interest and conflicts which lead to OP and also provide adequate remunerations to avoid turnover intentions.

Keywords: organizational politics, turnover intentions.

#### **Chapter One**

#### Introduction

### 1.0 Background to the Study

Teachers' retention is a key aspect for any institution to achieve its goals, objectives, and continued progress (Gbadamosi & Chinaka, 2011). Therefore, teachers need to be retained to improve the competitiveness of the institution. Employees harbor the intention to move but fear getting a less satisfactory job (Ahmed 2018) and this feeling of discontent can be lowered if they are comfortable at their current workplace. For this reason, employee turnover intention is a remarkable cause of deteriorating efficiency and decreasing effort in almost every organization (Menezes, et.al., 2018). Therefore, retention of treasured personnel may be a key matter that managers in today's administrations need to be troubled about. Just like turnover, turnover intentions can be either voluntary or involuntary (Santoni & Harahap, 2018) and it is the greatest influential predictor of actual turnover (Emerson, 2013). It is a matter of concern for all organizations as they have to incur direct expenses associated with selecting, recruiting, and training the replacement as well as indirect expenses such as decreased morale, and increased burden on retaining employees.

The query of whether the turnover intention is affected by organizational politics, which is the underlying assumption of many studies is only recently getting attention in leadership management research (Moon, 2017). Danish, Humayon, Aslam, Usman, and Tariq,(2014) opines that Organizational politics (OP) exists in organizations, it originates from those with influence or top administrators. He further adds that it is about how people apply their supremacy and impact the activities of the organizations. Studies carried out by Ahmed (2018) indicated that

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