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The Effects of Family Home Books Clubs in Enhancing Family Unity and Development of Children

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Imagine this...



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This seems to be the reality.

Divorce rates, family apathy, homicides etc.

Even the corporate world knows it



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuHRHLtqFzI>

Do books have anything to contribute to family unity and development of children?



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In 2018, we imagined a family

- That sets aside at least 40 minutes a day to read together.
- In which all the members take turns to read.
- Where the contents of the books read are discussed.
- That has a well-stocked book shelf.
- That is united by a book, one at a time.



Then we asked six families to:

- Create a small book club at home
- Converge for 40 minutes daily to read.
- Read books and build a small library at home.
- Give books as gifts to one another and to other loved ones.
- Incentivise the reading of particular books.
- Register as members of public libraries and visit once a month together.

After six months, we asked them:

- Has the book club united you more?
- Have your children started learning any new skills from the initiative?
- Have the books brought any joy to your household?



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The Results

- Question 1:
 - 83%/5 families - YES
 - 17%-1 Family - NO
- Question 2:
 - 100% - YES
- Question 3:
 - 83%/5 Families - YES
 - 17% - NO

**What can we learn
from these?**



Why a home book club?

- Puts the family on the same page.
 - Instills reading culture early enough to **Junior and Kadogo**.
 - Opens the family members to each other.
- Develops the family as a unit.
 - Gives the family a chance to tackle difficult issues.
 - Is a solid tool for development of the children.



Other ideas for the club

- Booking dates with other families
- Reading at museums, parks and other public spaces.
- Sharing lessons at other family gatherings.
- Introducing incentives, like special treats, for reading books or reviewing them.
- Merging many family book clubs.
- Attending book launches and related activities.
- Carrying a book everywhere you go.
- Making family presentations on books and ideas.



Limitations of the study

- Only families where members can read were considered.
- May not be applicable in some family set ups.
- Different age groups may present a challenge.
- Clashing timelines may be a challenge.

Are you interested, or know someone who is interested, in taking part in this research?

Let me know
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