

## **An assessment of girls performance at schools in Awassa**

In Awassa town, at the Ethiopia Tikdem School an assessment was conducted to find out the academic performance and dropout rates of school girls.

The objectives of the study was to asses the academic performance of female students, to know the cause of school dropout rates of female students and the impact of social pressure that affect girls education. During the assessment two volunteer university students were involved to collect and analyse information. Another 50 girls from Ethiopia Tikdem School were randomly selected to complete questionnaires.

Before the assessment, the surveyors organised girls to girl counseling session to discuss the academic issues at school. The assessment is believed to provide information to design plan for better intervention strategy to support girls.



*Partial view of girls to girls counseling session  
Discussion on the importance of the assessment*

The result of the assessment showed that female students have equal potential as males but there are factors that affect their academic performance. Female students are highly exposed to school drop out, sexual harassment, heavy work load within the family and negative social outlook. Lack of awareness on the importance of female education with in the family and the surrounding community members are some of the challenges being faced by female students.

After the assessment it was recommended that providing free tutorial classes for female students will enhance their academic performance. It was also decided to engage with education professionals and social workers to make them aware of the problems girls experience and incorporate these finding into their education policies and guidelines.

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