

**SOME OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY ORPHANS IN
CHILDREN'S HOMES IN KIAMBU COUNTY**

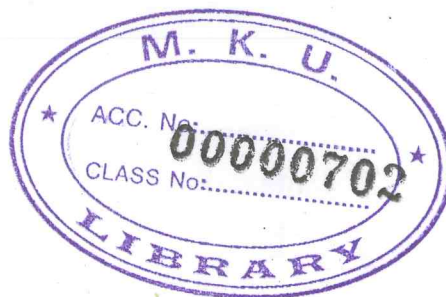
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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate some of the psychological problems encountered by orphans in children's homes in Kiambu County. The specific objectives of the study are to find out the psychological problems faced, whether there are differences in psychological problems between the orphans and non-orphans, whether there are counseling services, the activities they are involved in apart from academics, the coping mechanisms applied by the caretakers in dealing with these orphans and if there are sufficient facilities in these children's homes.

The study adopted explanatory approach using a descriptive survey design. A sample of seven children's homes was selected. Five orphans in each home were selected using simple random sampling. Stratified sampling was used to get the homes. The population of the study consisted of the orphaned children, their caretakers and managers of the seven children's homes.

The data was collected using questionnaires, interview schedules and observation. The collected data was analyzed using descriptive statistics. The raw data from the questionnaires was coded and entry done using Statistical Package Of Social Sciences (SPSS) data entry program. Simple calculations were done manually. Information from interviews was analyzed using qualitative methods.