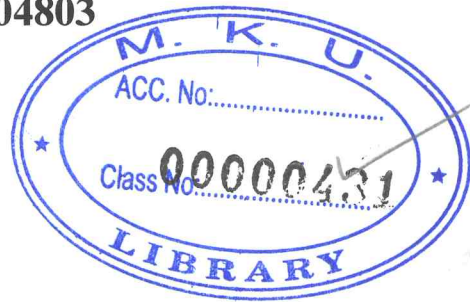


**CAUSES OF K.C.P.E POOR PERFORMANCE IN RURAL
PRIMARY SCHOOLS. CASE STUDY: KITUI CENTRAL
DIVISION**

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ABSTRACT

Education is one of the most important aspects of human resource development. Poor school performance not only results in the child having a low self esteem, but also causes significant stress to the parents. There are many reasons for children to underperform at school especially rural schools such as medical problems, below average intelligence, emotional problems, poor socio-cultural home environment and even environmental causes among others. The information provided by the parents, teachers and pupils about children's academic difficulties guides education stake holders to form informed solutions to such causes. However a multidisciplinary in-depth research is usually necessary before making a final diagnosis it is important to find the reason(s) for a child's poor school performance and come up with a "treatment" plan early so that the child can perform up to full potential.

Considerable research has focused on various factors that predict academic performance, researchers have offered varied explanations. Although these explanations and previous studies have contributed substantially to the field, they have subsequently overlooked specific factors attributable to rural primary schools. Compared to pupils in urban schools, those in rural schools may not share the same values, factors or have access to community resources, may have encountered more difficulties in acculturation and may experience more struggles in acquiring English proficiency and achieving academic success.

The study is aimed at investigating causes of poor performance in primary schools in rural areas in comparison to those in urban centers and private schools in Kitui Central Division. Data will be collected from 4-8 respondents by use of interviews and questionnaires. Data is to be analyzed by use of frequency distribution and percentages. Teacher absenteeism is indeed a negative correlate to performance while a violet ability of facilities predicts better performance.

There are a lot of poor performing pupils in Kenya certificate of primary examination (K.C.P.E). The research was trying to find reasons for poor performing and find viable solutions to the problem. The concerned parties who include teachers, education officers, parents and government will be informed on what to do to improve performance in rural primary schools.