

**EFFECTS OF LEADERSHIP STYLES OF PRINCIPALS ON STUDENTS'
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN
MIGWANI DISTRICT, KITUI COUNTY.**

BY

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ABSTRACT

The nerve centre of this study was that despite the critical role played by the principals in secondary school management, students' academic performance has persistently been poor. Factors leading to this dismal performance have not been adequately investigated and well understood in Migwani district hence there was need for this study. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to determine the leadership styles of the principals and their impact on the students' academic performance in KCSE secondary schools in Kitui county, Migwani district. The study was conducted in six secondary schools within Migwani district from population of 15 schools, hence six principals, and 72 teachers from population of 180 and 680 students from population of 1700. The interest of the researcher to choose and study of these schools was strongly prompted by their continued poor performance in KCSE. Data was collected using the questionnaires and interview schedules. The study has made use of descriptive statistics such as percentages and frequency, which has been used concurrently with the Chi-Square test in the analysis. The study intended to come up with policy guidelines that will help to improve the leadership styles of principals in Migwani district and other developing countries, which require similar policies. The study will further to contribute to the functions of knowledge for the present and future scholars. The major findings has shown a significant relationship between initiative structures of the principals towards improving leadership style which has impact on academic performance, it has further shown no significant relationship between consideration behavior of the principals regarding day to day issues which has impact on academic performance and finally there will be a strong relationship between participatory traits of the principals and the management structures of the schools which has impact on the students' academic performance. Based on the findings, look forward to recommend that the school administration to cooperate from parents by holding regular meetings and working out strategic plans, to the ministry to in-service principals through workshops and finally to the teacher to be encouraged occasionally to review their own leadership styles and check their impact on students' academic performance.