

**INVESTIGATION ON THE EFFECTS OF ORAL  
NARRATIVES ON YOUTH MORAL VALUES**

A case study of Igembe, Meru County

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## ABSTRACT

The study was carried out in Kamuciene village Igembe district, Meru county.

It sought to find out the impact of oral narratives in promoting morality among the Meru community. This topic is important in that a morally upright society lives in peace and harmonious life. This is due to the fact that in our modern society there are a lot of indiscipline cases among the young people due to lack of moral values. The researcher used interviewing method as a way of collecting the data. The sample population included the youth, the middle ages and the elder people in the village.

The data collected through this method was then coded in categories for analysis. This was basically in relation to the despondences of the respondents as given in the interview. The data was then presented in tabular and pie chart which was followed by discussion to elaborate on the findings. The researcher found out that morality was vital to everybody in Meru community especially the youth. The study employs various theories such as ethnopoetic theory, psychoanalytic theory and deontological theories which the researcher used to collect and analyze data. The study had both limitations and delimitations that affected the research in one way or the other. The study was done by simple random sampling. The population in Igembe was sampled and Nkinyanga location was used as a case study with a population of 3000 people. The researcher used questionnaires, Interview schedules and Observation schedules in data collection. The researcher analyzed the data by qualitative and statistical techniques.

The researcher recommends that researchers in future to carry out a research on Kimeru cultural values which I feel had not been tackled. The government should also make study of narratives to be carried out in secondary schools to enlighten the youth and the society.

In this research the researcher critically analyzed the narratives of the Igembe people of Meru community to show how morality was portrayed in them and how morals were brought through characterization, performance, thematic concerns and the use of language.