

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO FACTORS AFFECTING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN
MWINGI DISTRICT**

BY

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ABSTRACT

This research study aimed at investigating factors affecting academic achievement of secondary school students in Christian Religious Education in Mwingi District. The specific objectives of the study were to find out how students understand the nature and purpose of religious education, find the difference in quality of students achievement in relation to their gender and to determine how parents and teachers help students understand the importance of religious education affects academic achievement of secondary schools in Christian religious education in Mwingi District. This study was significant to the schools management and other researchers.

The target population size of 120 students were targeted from which sample sizes were drawn and use stratified random sampling where fifty percent of the entire target population formed the sample size of the study of which 60 were chosen. Data was collected from both primary and secondary sources whereby questionnaires and literature reviewing were done respectively so as to get detailed information. The questionnaires were presented for validity and reliability before distribution to the respondents. Data collected from respondents were edited to delete errors and detail the viral facts. The data was analyzed using graphs, pie charts and table diagrams respectively depending on the techniques.

From the findings 92% of the schools have CRE a compulsory subject 8% is not. 72% of the students said yes they could identify boys / girls who might be involved in CRE, 28% said it is difficult to know if boys and girls are involved in CRE. 84% indicated yes when asked about if parents and teachers value what is done in CRE. Another section of the respondents 16% indicated no. 96% said that CRE is important in their school while their remaining counterparts 4% disagree.

From the study it clearly states that majority of the schools in Mwingi District are Christian schools and would love to maintain Christianity in their schools. The study also showed that CRE indeed brings out the best in students and want to learn about ways of living with others and having etiquette everywhere they go, since this will help them in their future. It further concluded by saying that CRE will teach them good morals and if they have smaller siblings they will tend to follow their footsteps. It can be concluded that students be allowed to express or discuss their understanding of CRE, if not they might misinterpret and lead to wrongs doings or expressions, so it is very important for them to discuss to be able to understand more.