

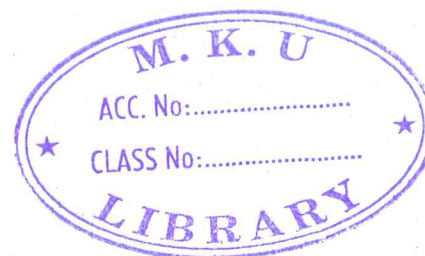
**CHALLENGES FACING TEACHERS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENT; A
CASE STUDY OF MATHARE SUB-COUNTY.**

BY

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF
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ABSTRACT

The aim with this study was to give awareness about the school situation for pupils living in the slum areas of Mathare Sub-County. The purpose was to raise the teachers' challenges about working with these pupils. Previous researches around the topic were studied to gain a better knowledge for the subject. The focus was put on Maslow's hierarchy of basic needs, trauma with its effects and possible treatments in school and the home environment effects on the pupil's learning. Since this was a qualitative study, the method used was open aimed interviews. Eleven teachers working in the slum area of Mathare Sub-County were interviewed with these two main questions in mind; What do teachers think is important when working with pupils who come from the slum areas of Nairobi and how do teachers work with these pupils? All schools were located in or close to a children home in order for the teachers to have a wide range of experiences when working with pupils from the slum area. Some of the results that came up were that teachers saw it as important to provide pupils with their basic needs in school. The teachers also said that pupils had different reactions towards trauma and it was of great importance for pupils to be able to both channel their expressions after the trauma but also to forget the trauma for the moment to be able to concentrate in school. The teachers were disagreeing about whether to treat pupils equally or individually. Some of the teachers said that the pupil's home environment affects their learning due to the quality and quantity of help that they can get with their homework. Some teachers felt adequate due to the extra work put on their shoulders in their work with the pupils from the slum areas.

Keywords: Teacher attitude, Trauma, Basic needs, Home situation, Slum, Kenya