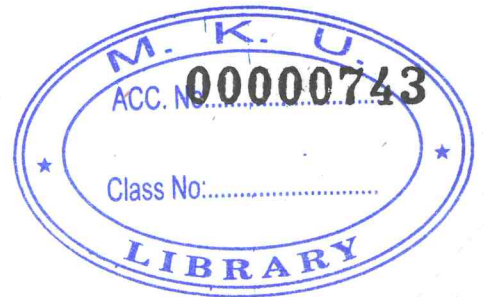


# GIRL - CHILD- DROP OUT

A STUDY OF THE FACTORS THAT LEAD TO GIRL-CHILD DROP-OUT IN  
PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN MITUMBIRI ZONE

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## ABSTRACT

This paper studies the factors that have led to Girl-child Drop-out in Mitubiri zone Murang'a County. In spite of Primary Education being offered free in Kenya through the Primary Education funding by the government.

It has come out that poverty is one of key factors that led to girl-child drop-out in Mitubiri zone. Cases of poverty led to a large percentage of girl dropping out of school. This is an issue that needs to be addressed through empowering parents especially women so that they can be able to provide the basic need for the family without involving girls in the labour.

HIV/AIDS orphans is another group of learners who left school. There is the need to address this issue of vulnerable children due to the effect of the AIDS scourge. Cultural practices like FGM was also another issue that contributed to girl-child drop-out in this zone. Once the girl in middle upper primary under went the rite, they left school as a result of feeling that now they are adults who can feed for themselves.

This paper also addressed possible solutions that could help the girls remain in school until they sat for KCPE. It was suggested that's through government intervention, policies should be put up to eliminate the gender gap in schooling in this area. Children from poor families who cannot provide two meals a days should be put under the school feeding programme. Early teenager pregnancies should be curbed through guidance and counseling by teachers as well as intensified family life education in the school curriculum.