

**EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG PRIMARY SCHOOL GOING  
CHILDREN IN KASAKINI PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KITUI WEST  
DISTRICT**

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**BEDA/000513/1122/05929**

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF  
THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION (ARTS) OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

**FEBRUARY 2015**

## **ABSTRACT**

The research project looked into the factors which affect drug use in pupils in public schools in Kitui West district, Kitui County. The study established that the commonly abused drugs are tobacco, alcohol, khat and marijuana by the pupils; it also established their sources and administration on the pupils. The researcher also investigated the practices by the pupils, the parents and the teachers which are responsible for the increase in the use of drugs among the pupils, establishing the levels or age groups mostly affected by the drugs amongst the pupils and the information shared with the schools and the parents. Simple random Sampling method was used to identify pupils who were the respondents at all levels. From a total of 257 pupils in Kasakini primary school, 100 of the pupils were taken as the sample size. Each class contributed proportionally to its pupil population to the sample size. For the data collection, the researcher used survey method, which made use of observation for those who were not able to fill the questionnaire especially those in standard 4 and 5; interviews for those who were not able to understand the language used and also not able to interpret the questions and questionnaires were given to the rest. Since the study aimed at establishing whether drug abuse is prevalence among the pupils, the research found out that 54% of the pupil who performed poorly in classes used drugs and hence drug abuse is common among the pupil in primary schools. For data analysis, the research used tables and bar graphs to illustration the solutions and in conclusion, as per Anderson theory, we found that the origin of drug abuse among pupils in our schools is cultural, social and economical based in its origins .i.e. Some of abusers come from families where local brews are made, bhang is smoked and excess pocket money which they end up using in purchasing drugs. Drug abuse as a problem can be handled by both the teachers and the parents through discipline while the government should enforce laws.