

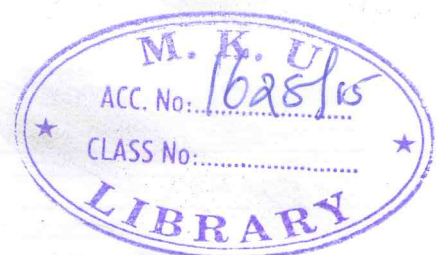
**CHALLENGES FACED BY ABUSED AND NEGLECTED LEARNERS IN PUBLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KAYOLE ZONE EMBAKASI, NAIROBI COUNTY,
KENYA**

BY ALICE BONARERI MARENDI

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the challenges faced by abused and neglected learners in public primary schools in Kayole Zone Embakasi, Nairobi County. To achieve this, four research objectives were formulated. These objectives were to investigate the extent of child abuse and neglect, to determine the types of child abuse and neglect, the effects of child abuse and neglect and to find out the measures to curb child abuse and neglect in public primary schools in Kayole Zone. The study employed a descriptive survey study. The population of the study consisted of 20 primary schools, 20 head-teachers and 600 primary school teachers in Kayole Zone Embakasi district. Simple random sampling was used to select 240 teachers and 8 head teachers to participate in the study. The main research instrument that was used in this study was questionnaires for teachers and the head teachers. The data was analyzed using descriptive techniques, which included percentages and frequencies. The data was then presented in forms of tables and graphs. The study findings revealed that child abuse and neglect practices were common in most of the public primary schools in Kayole Zone with most of the respondents indicating that the cases of child abuse and neglect were very high in their schools. However even though these cases were very high the pupils rarely reported cases of abuse making it difficult to control this vice. The major types of child abuse and neglect identified in these schools were physical abuse, emotional abuse, child labour, sexual abuse, and child neglect while cases of child neglect most were physical neglect, educational neglect and emotional neglect. The pupils were affected by child abuse and neglect with most of them exhibiting signs of anger problems, depression and lack of happiness, withdrawal from their peers, acting indifferent and isolation. Due to these effects most of them suffered from teenage pregnancies, indiscipline, poor performance, less concentration span, drug abuse and absenteeism from class. To curb this vice the study advocated for the following measures including the law enforcers being given more training on child abuse, head teachers being protected by the constitution in order to deal with family child abusers, the government deal with child abusers appropriately, school should create a good atmosphere where children can report their abusers at home and away, children should be sensitized on how to protect themselves from family abusers and that teachers should be trained on how to guide and counsel the abused children. The researcher further indicated that further research be done on how the challenges of child abuse and neglect in respect to

gender, the relationship between child abuse and academic performance and a similar studies in other counties to determine whether similar findings will reached