

**COMPARISON OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE  
PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN MUMONI DISTRICT OF KITUI COUNTY**

**JOSEPHINE KATHUO**

**MED/111/02111**

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTERS DEGREE IN EDUCATIONAL  
MANAGEMENT, PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION OF MOUNT KENYA  
UNIVERSITY.**

**JUNE, 2015**

## **ABSTRACT**

The problem that prompted the researcher to carry out this study is the complaint from the parents that there was laxity observed among teachers in undertaking their professional duties which had led to poor academic performance in public schools compared to private schools. The argument was supported by the notion that, the teachers take their children to private schools where they are well attended to, perform better and continue with their learning process. From the reactions of the parents, their expectations were that performance in public and private schools correlate since teachers employed in the two categories of schools were trained in the same way and from the same colleges. However, private schools had outdone the public schools. The primary purpose of this study was to investigate the difference between academic performance in private schools and public schools. Further, it sought to examine the factors affecting or contributing to poor academic performance in Mumoni District. It also sought to make recommendations geared towards improving the performance. The study was conducted in Mumoni District. Cluster random sampling and convenient sampling techniques were used to select the schools and participants for the study. 13 head teachers, 26 assistant teachers, 130 pupils, 26 parents and 3 zonal quality assurance officers (ZQASO) and one DEO participated in the study. The data were collected by use of questionnaire, interview documents analysis and observation of day-to-day activities in the school. Descriptive statistical techniques which included the use of frequency tables, percentages and average were used to analyze the data collected. The study revealed that; teachers play important roles in academic system. It also revealed that there were many factors that contribute to pupil's performance despite the type of school he/she learns from. The factors included learning environment, home back ground, exposure, attitude, influence, hard work, determination, facilitation as well as mentor or role models as well as team work