

**FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO POOR PERFORMANCE OF GIRLS IN MURANGA
COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to evaluate factors contributing to poor performance of girls in Murang'a County. In most parts of the world, there have been gender disparities in the education system. When compared to boys, girls have been performing poorly in school. In Murang'a County, girls continue to perform poorly compared to boys despite an effort by the government to promote equality in education. Various studies have been conducted to investigate the factors that contribute to poor performance of girls in the national examination. However, there is still a research gap that exists on factors contributing to poor performance of girls in Murang'a County.

The main objective of this study was to investigate factors that are contributing to poor performance of girls in Murang'a County. The scope of the study was six secondary schools in Murang'a County, both qualitative and quantitative research method were used in the study. Information obtained from the literature review helped the researcher to formulate research hypothesis and research questions that guided the study. The findings indicated that, sexual harassment, poor attitude towards mathematics and science, lack of role models, cultural and social beliefs and lack of adequate resources are the main factors that affect the performance of girls secondary in Murang'a County. The study recommended that the county government of Murang'a should increase employment of more female teachers to act as role model for girls in school as well as reduce sexual harassment by male teachers. The government should also increase public awareness of girl's education to deal with various cultural and social beliefs that affect girl's performance.