

**THE IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON ACADEMIC
PERFORMANCE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN
KIRINYAGA COUNTY: SURVEY OF NGARIAMA ZONE**

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Abstract

The purpose of the study was to find out the effects of domestic violence on academic performance of secondary school students in Ngariama Zone within Gichugu Constituency in Kirinyaga County. The study was believed to be an important tool for policy makers in amending and implementing policies and laws related to the rights of children since it contained updated information on the current situation of domestic violence in Kenya. The theoretical framework of this study was based on a model developed by Hastings (1996) which pointed out that domestic violence, as the ultimate independent variable in this study, has an indirect effect on academic performance of teenager students.

Literature review revealed that domestic violence has an indirect effect on academic performance of teenage students in that the cognitive, social, physical, emotional and psychological abilities of the teenagers are negatively affected leading to declined academic performance.

The survey design was adopted in the study. The target population for the study comprised of teachers, students and their parents from the selected schools and the community leaders in Ngariama Zone. The sample size comprised of 78 people, that is, 15 parents, 9 teachers, 51 students and 3 community leaders. Questionnaires were used to collect both qualitative and quantitative data. Qualitative data was analyzed through narration form while quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics, frequencies and percentages. Tables, graphs and pie charts were used for easy presentation of results.

Data analysis and presentation was based on the research findings as per research objectives. Conclusion of the study was then drawn and recommendations made on how domestic violence can be minimized.