

**AN INVESTIGATION OF THE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT EFFECT ON THE  
SECURITY SITUATION IN NAIROBI: A CASE OF MATHARE  
CONSTITUENCY**

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## ABSTRACT

The general objective of the study is to assess the effect of youth unemployment on crime rates in Mathare Constituency. The specific objective is: to establish the effect of substance usage, violent groupings, vagrancy, and poverty levels on crime rates among the youths in Mathare Constituency. The study will adopt descriptive research design where the target population of 250 respondents will be divided into strata and stratified random sampling technique will be used to formulate the sample size of 75 respondents using a ratio of 0.3. The analysed data will be presented in graphs and charts. The trend in youths' engagement in socio-economic activities in developing countries like Kenya has been a thing of concern with many of them being unemployed.

The youth unemployment crisis is not new, what is new is the staggering proportional increase it has reached in the recent time. Substance abuse and delinquency often share the common factors of school and family problems, negative peer groups, lack of neighborhood social controls, and a history of physical or sexual abuse. When social aspiration is coupled with high level of poverty there is a tendency for crime. Every day that unemployment remains above the full employment level (allowing for a small unemployment rate arising from frictions). The influence of the gang on levels of youth violence is greater than the influence of other highly delinquent peers. Education curriculum must be immediately revised to incorporate skills and enterprise development. A special program should be designed for low-skilled youth in vocational centers. It is an essential prerequisite for reducing poverty, improving the living conditions of people.