

**ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS MALPRACTICES IN KENYA CERTIFICATE OF
SECONDARY EDUCATION IN KAKAMEGA NORTH SUB-COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is analysis of student's malpractices in the in Kenya Certificate of secondary education in Kakamega North Sub-County, Kenya. The problem of examination malpractices has attracted national attention. As a result, many students suffer by missing results, teachers, invigilators prosecuted and even jailed, and others losing their jobs, some schools have suffered cancellation of examination results. The objectives of the study were to assess the student's motive in examination malpractices, to establish the nature of stakes on students' lives in Kakamega North Sub-County and to determine the consequences of KCSE malpractices on student's lives. The research design adopted was descriptive survey. The population for the study was 245 respondents. The sample was drawn using stratified random sampling procedure from a population which is heterogeneous. The questionnaires were pre-tested to confirm clarity of the questions. The researcher used both primary and secondary data. Questionnaire with closed and open-ended questions were used to collect data. Pilot study was conducted to determine validity and reliability of research instruments. The data was analyzed using quantitative and qualitative techniques and presented using descriptions; tables and charts. Percentages were used to interpret the data. Data collected in this study was analyzed by inferential statistical tools, a Pearson product moment correlation was used to establish the correlation between the examinations students lives stake and examination malpractices. Study findings revealed that the students' lives stake believe success in exams is success in life. The nature of exam malpractices were *mwakenya* and leakages, the consequences were dire, including cancellation of results. It was also revealed that those entrusted with supervising the examination would a times collude to help students pass their exams, in return for support in the community. The study also revealed that those at the centre of handling examination in schools were mostly teachers, who had not stayed long enough in their stations to handle the exam malpractices. The study further indicated that examination malpractices have eroded the environment where the culprits are found to indulge in corruption and unethical practices with high levels of inefficiencies at work places. Analysis of the findings shows that students' are also involved in exam malpractices and there is a lot of corruption in the entire fabric of examination organization. The study finally recommends that stringent measures be put in place to curb the exam malpractices in schools.