

**CHILDREN NEGLECT AND DELIQUENSCY:
A STUDY OF KIAMBU CHILDREN REMAND
HOME AND KIRIGITI GIRL'S RECEPTION
AND REHABILITATION SCHOOL,
KIAMBU COUNTY, KENYA.**

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to explore whether parental child neglect can lead to child delinquency. A study of Kirigiti Girls' Reception centre and Rehabilitation school and Kiambu Children's Remand Home in Kiambu County. The objectives of the study were to investigate the reasons why many children end up in the Rehabilitation schools and Children's Remand Homes, to identify the forms of child neglect common to children admitted in Kiambu Children Remand Home and Kirigiti Girls Rehabilitation School, to identify the economic challenges of delinquent children admitted in Kiambu Children Remand Home and Kirigiti Girls Rehabilitation School, to identify psychological challenges of delinquent children admitted in Kiambu Children Remand Home and Kirigiti Girl's Rehabilitation School. The significance of this study was the knowledge got from the study can be used in family therapy. It will also create awareness to Children Department what can be done to reduce the number of institutionalized children. The study was based on the assumption that its findings and suggestions can help parents, caregivers to be sensitive when handling children and not to neglect them. The researcher used Maslow's hierarchy theory of human needs. The researcher also analyzed on causes of child neglect, forms of neglect and how this lead children to delinquency. The independent variables were the causes of child neglect, intervening variables are the forms of child neglect and dependent variables are delinquent children. The target populations were girls and boys aged 10 to 17 years who were committed to Kirigiti Girls Rehabilitation School and Kiambu Children's Remand Home. The sample size was 50 children selected randomly from the institutions registers. The data was collected from the institution records, interviews and filled up questionnaires. The researcher used test-retest questions to the same individuals on two different occasions to check on the reliability of the instruments. The researcher maintained confidentiality and use pseudo names on individuals participating in the study. Data was analyzed using Stastical Package for Social Sciences(SPSS) which involves descriptive statistics using frequency tables, bar graphs and pie charts.