

RESEARCH PROJECT

**FACTORS INFLUENCING UPTAKE OF YOUTH FRIENDLY HEALTH
SERVICES AMONG THE YOUTH (18-25) IN NAKURU EAST SUB-COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to establish factors influencing uptake of youth friendly health services among the youth (18-25) in Nakuru East Sub-County. Specific objectives of the study were; to determine socio-cultural factors of the youth that influences their uptake of youth friendly services, to establish the influence of knowledge factors on the uptake of youth friendly services among the youth, to find out health system factors that influences the uptake of youth friendly reproductive health services. Descriptive survey design was used to gather the information. The study was conducted in level three social institutions in Nakuru East Sub-County. The social institutions included in the study were K.I.T.I (Kenya Industrial Training Institute), St. Monicah Church and A.G.C (African Gospel Church). The study population were the youths aged between 18-25 years. Stratified random sampling technique was used to come up with a sample size of 30 respondents. Descriptive analysis was used to analyze the findings. From the findings, it was established that, most of the respondents who have knowledge about YFS had it first from their friends. Services like; Family planning services (Contraceptives, condoms), Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT), Treatment of all the diseases, Treatment of sexually transmitted Infections/diseases, Care of pregnant young persons and General health information/counseling are offered in the facility are offered. Based on the findings of the study, the researcher recommended that, the facility to ensure that the general public are made aware about the facility and the services offered, this can be done through proper advertisement, there's should be use of billboards, televisions and any other advertising facilities that will enable the targeted youths to get the information. The advertisement should be based on the importance of the services and this will enable a big number of the targeted population to acquire such services. Since most of the serviced were found to be offered in the facility, the researcher recommended that the facility to ensure that they employ qualified personnel's to offer such services. Services like counseling are very essential and really need people of high qualifications. The facility should also ensure that they improve on their service level to ensure that none of the attendants goes unattended. The researcher recommended that a similar study to be carried out on a wider geographical region and in different locations.