

**THE INFLUENCE OF STUDENTS' ATTITUDE ON THE  
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF KISWAHILI AMONG  
SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF KANGUNDO SUB-COUNTY,  
MACHAKOS COUNTY**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
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## **ABSTRACT**

This research aimed at investigating the influence of students' attitude on the academic performance of Kiswahili among secondary school in Kangundo sub County, Machakos County. This project report aimed at benefiting not only the students and teachers but also the curriculum developers. The research established the students' attitude towards Kiswahili .It also examined the influence of the attitude on the performance of Kiswahili and possible ways of developing positive attitudes towards good performance of Kiswahili .This research project targeted secondary school students in Kangundo Sub County, Machakos County. Purposive sampling procedure was employed to select 3 schools; a boy school, girl school and a mixed school. This research employed a descriptive research design to collect both qualitative and quantitative data .Simple random sampling procedure was used to arrive at a sample size of 240 respondents. Both Form III and Form IV students participated because they had teaching and learning experience and their attitudes towards Kiswahili had developed. The questionnaires were used to collect data and the data analyzed according to the objectives of the study by use of statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). According to the research, students had negative attitude towards Kiswahili. This was established through analysis of the data where 83.1% rated it as a hard language compared to 16.9% who rated it as a simple subject. A greater percentage also indicated that they would not have studied Kiswahili if it were an elective subject. Also only a few would have preferred doing Kiswahili after Form IV. This research has also established that, the negative attitude influenced the performance of the students through the analysis of the records of exams they have done and also KCSE exams. According to this study, Kiswahili were among the poorly performance subjects compared to sciences in boy schools and applied as well as English in girl schools. Hence, the negative attitude had a negative impact on the academic performance of Kiswahili.