

INVESTIGATION INTO THE FACTORS INFLUENCING STEALING AMONG
STUDENTS IN PUBLIC BOARDING SECONDARY SCHOOL IN KITHIMANI ZONE,
YATTA DISTRICT IN MACHAKOS COUNTY.

BY

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed at finding out the factors that influence students into stealing behavior in public boarding secondary schools in Kithimani Zone, Yatta District. It examined family factors, schools factors and peer factors that may influence students into stealing behavior while they are at school. The study also aimed at finding out the prevalence of stealing among students in public boarding secondary schools. The study seeks to find out whether there are differences in the extent of stealing behavior according to the gender and the measures taken by teachers in secondary schools to modify stealing among students. It was also interested in finding out what students think about stealing behavior.

The study employed both survey and naturalistic designs to collect the data. The sample for the study included 90 students, 20 teachers, 1 deputy principals and 1 Quality Assurance and Standard Officer in Yatta District. Systematic simple random sampling technique was used in selecting the students' participants and the deputy principals and the Quality Assurance and Standard Officer were selected through the use of purposeful sampling. The researcher, used questionnaire to collect information from the study participants following the research questions. The questionnaire was used to collect data from the teachers and students while interview guides were used to collect data from the deputy principal and the DQASO. Document analysis assisted the researcher to ascertain the information gathered about cases of stealing and methods used to modify the behavior. The instruments for data collection was validated by use of specialist in the research department and pilot study for quantitative paradigm and for qualitative paradigm the researcher used source and method triangulation, member check, peer review and participants language verbatim accounts to ensure credibility and reliability