



MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY
AN INVESTIGATION ON CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE IN KENYA
CERTIFICATE OF PRIMARY EDUCATION A CASE STUDY OF
THIKA SUB-COUNTY

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**A Research Project Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Award of a
Bachelor of Education Degree in Mount Kenya University**

March 2016

ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to establish the major causes of poor performance in K.C.P.E examination in and the corrective measures that were taken to curb the problem. The objective of the study was to assess the effectiveness of curriculum supervision and implementation in primary schools and to establish the attitude of teachers towards teaching in primary schools. It was expected that the findings of this study would improve KCPE results in Thika Sub County and all stake holders including the QASOS who took corrective measures to enhance performance in KCPE in the Sub County. This study also aimed at providing information to teachers on the best practices in the improvement of KCPE in Thika. It contributed to the teachers' improvement in their instructional methods and planning which eventually led to effective implementation of the curriculum whose outcomes were worthwhile. This study confined itself to the pupils, the heads and the teachers in public primary schools in the Sub County. The pupils and the teachers that were included in the sample were those in session in their respective schools by the time of study. The main limitation for the study was that the researcher needed a lot of time when taking a large sample and other daily responsibilities and also needed capital for the transport to various institution's. In chapter two literature review was reviewed in relation to the topic under the study. The study used descriptive survey design to obtain information from 8 schools with 1580 students and 215 teachers. Simple random sampling was used since it offers all the subjects in the population equal chances of being selected. Stratified sampling was used to select 690 students and 5 head teachers from the sample. Questionnaires were used to collect data from teachers and students. The study established that both the teachers and the learners had negative attitude towards teaching and learning since teachers said they disliked teaching while pupils said they also disliked learning. The study recommended that seminars for teachers be intensified to encourage them cultivate positive attitude toward teaching in primary schools. In addition, teachers were encouraged to advice the pupils cultivate positive attitude towards learning. The suggestions of the supervisor was used to improve the instruments. The researcher recommended that further research will be needed so that poor performance in Thika Sub County will be eradicated completely.