

**AN INVESTIGATION ON FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR INCREASED DRUG
ABUSE AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN NKUENE DIVISION,
IMENTI SOUTH DISTRICT-MERU COUNTY**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN
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ABSTRACT

According to a United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) report (2005), some 200 million people, or 5 percent of the total world's population aged 15 - 64 have used drugs at least once in the last 12 months an implied 15 million people more than the 2004 estimate. The report goes on to say that, no nation has been immune to the devastating effects of drug abuse. According to the UNODC most of the drug abusers are the youngsters. This is mostly in the learning institutions such as the colleges, the Universities and the high schools. Due to the increasing number of the drug abuse cases in the high schools, many of the scholars and various school stakeholders have done studies to know the reason as to why there are such cases. Studies have also been done to find out the effect which drug abuse has to the performance of the students. Scholars have also done researches on the factors contributing to abuse of drugs in learning institutions. Though the studies have been, the scholars have not fully exploited the field of drug abuse amongst the students in the high schools. In this project the researcher wanted to investigate the factors responsible for increased drug abuse among secondary school students in Nkuene division Imenti South District. The researcher investigated this through various objectives such as the types of drugs that are mostly abused amongst the students, the relationship between drug abuse and Environment and finally the relationship between the drug abuse and home background. This project would help various categories of people such as the teachers, parents and the ministry of education in tackling the issue of drug abuse amongst the students in the secondary schools. The researcher revisited the various literature review related to the topic under study so as to get full information on the issues that pertain to the drug abuse amongst the youths and especially the students. In the study, the researcher used the purposive sampling in getting the information as it regards to the topic under study. The researcher collected data through use of questionnaires and this information was collected from the teachers, students and parents. The collected data was sampled and analyzed through the use of the excel 2007 and later be presented through the use of frequency tables, bar graphs and pie-charts. From the analyzed data, the researcher found out that the common drugs that are abused by the students are Miraa and alcohol. He also concluded environment and media are the main factors that lead to high rate increase in drug abuse. He therefore recommended that the leader of the community should be very keen to act on demolishing of drug usage in the villages and arrest students if found in those areas. The researcher also recommends that the parents should put rules on their children on what to what in the media devices and also should give money to their children only when they genuinely need it to avoid them from having idle cash which they use to buy even phones.