

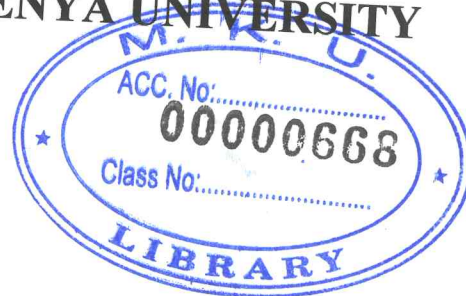
**CHALLENGES AFFECTING TEENAGERS BETWEEN
AGES 13-18 YEARS LEADING TO POOR
PERFORMANCE IN LARI DISTRICT KIAMBU
COUNTY; KENYA.**

BY

WARUINGI MARGARET WANJIKU

E35S110/02222

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
FULFILMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION DEGREE OF MT KENYA UNIVERSITY**



AUGUST 2012

ABSTRACT

There are several challenges affecting teenagers between ages 13 – 18 years. These challenges affect them as they go through their education system. The researcher investigated the problems affecting teenagers and how these problems affect their performance at school. The study explored ways through which teenagers can be helped to cope with these problems.

The objective of the study was to find out the social, ethical and environmental challenges experienced by teenagers in Lari District, Kiambu County. It was also aimed at finding out the role of parents and teachers in causing challenges to teenagers.

The study was guided by psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud. Sigmund Freud records that human beings are structured in such a way that they are related to their environment through their levels of consciousness and records that behavior is acquired through long learning. As one interacts with the environment one learns how to respond in a particular way. This theory is useful in understanding teenage problems and what causes them. Many researchers have shown various problems that affect the youths as emotional stress due to loss of loved ones, displacement, lack of self esteem and loneliness, Peter R. Mwiti (1999).

There are also social, ethical and environmental challenges affecting teenagers leading to poor performance at school, Rosslyn and Rosenberg (2004). Rebelliousness, absenteeism, drugs and substance abuse are other challenges, Richard B. Stalling (2002). High expectations from parents, rigid curriculum and lack of basic needs are also a big challenge, Nzomo (2005).

The researcher used sampling method in her research. A whole population of the area was represented by a sample from which information was collected to represent the population of teenagers between 13 – 18 yrs.

The researcher collected data in Lari District Kiambu County. The area is located to the western side of kiambu town, 25km from Nairobi. The areas climate is cool and wet.

The research instruments used were self developed questionnaire to student, interview schedules and observation.

The researcher used a case study research design that involved the empirical investigation of a particular contemporary phenomenon within its real life content using multiple sources of evidence (Sounders et al 2003).

Data was analyzed using graphs, pie charts, frequencies and percentages of various variables under study.