

**A RESEARCH TO INVESTIGATE FACTORS AFFECTING GIRLS'
ENROLLMENT IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS:
A CASE STUDY OF MATINYANI SUB-COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

Education is the foundation that we build upon for the rest of our lives. Education in the world is to ensure that it enables children both girls and boys from poor families enroll and complete a full course of secondary school. Educating girls is one of the strongest ways not only to improve gender quality but in promoting economic growth and health development of families, communities and nations through human development. However, statistics from United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR) show around 67 million children worldwide many of them girls do not get education opportunities and achievements due to war, famine, natural disasters and corruption. The purpose of this study was to investigate factors affecting girls' enrollment in public secondary schools in Matinyani sub-county, Kitui County. The objectives of the study included to establish how economic factors influence enrolment of girls in Public secondary schools, investigate how family background factors influence enrolment of girls in public secondary schools, determine how social factors influence enrolment of girls in public secondary schools, establish how cultural factors influence enrolment of girls in public secondary schools, determine how school and environmental factors influence enrolment of girls in public secondary schools. The study population comprised of secondary school principals, class teachers, form two, form three and form four students and parents of the sampled schools. Three questionnaires were used to collect data and interview guidelines for parents. The study revealed that economic status of family, social status, cultural factors as well as school and environmental factors affect the enrolment of girls in secondary schools. The study finally made recommendations that would help increase the enrolment of girls in secondary schools.