

**THE CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE IN K.C.S.E
AMONG GIRLS' SCHOOLS, IN IMENTI SOUTH DISTRICT, MERU COUNTY.**

BY

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ABSTRACT

Investing in education is among the top priorities in the political agenda in many nations this is because of the important role it plays in socioeconomic development. The education of girls has been recognized as the most effective investment which leads to development in a nation .Access to good education can provide girls with the tools to exercise their basic roles as future family leaders and breadwinners. It is because of this reason that the study was designed to establish causes of poor performance in Kenya Certificate of Education in girls' schools in Imenti South District Meru County.

It was carried out on the background that performance of students in the schools has generally been poor over the years due to the standards of the schools in the district. The study was guided by objectives of the study which included: to determine the effects of lack of teaching and learning aids/resources, absenteeism due to lack of school fees, poor attitudes towards the teachers school and studies and poor academic entry behaviour and understaffing on performance.

The study used descriptive survey design and targeted a population of 480 students and 3 principals. The primary data that was used in the research was obtained through questionnaires filled by students' teachers and the school administrators

The study established that there is scarcity of teaching and learning aids and resources in the school, there has been a high rate of absenteeism due to lack of school fees, the students have been having poor attitudes towards teachers, school and studies and that many students joining the school had low marks at form one though some had relative mark. Lack of enough teachers