

**COMMUNITY PERCEPTION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF EXAMINATIONS
BY THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
(A Case Study of Central Division, Garissa County)**

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ABSTRACT

In this research the community perception on the Kenya National Examinations Council's (KNEC) management of the 2011 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education examination in central division of Garissa County was studied. The study was motivated by the council's decision to nullify the examination results of eleven schools and the violence and destruction of property that followed. Specifically the study strived to find out the perception of the school community (teachers, students and parents) on KNEC's management of the said examination. Alongside the above, the study sought to establish the position of education official who also doubled as KNEC representatives. The research was also intended to come up with recommendations on how irregularities and resultant violence could be reduced in future. Five affected schools were purposively selected. Stratified sampling method was used to select a sample population of 162 comprising of 23 teachers, 71 students, 62 parents, 4 principals and 2 education officials / KNEC representatives.

Questionnaires (for teachers), focus group discussion (for parents), chitchat (for students) and key informant interviews (for education officials and principals) were used as tools for data collection. There were both structured and unstructured questions to allow respondents to give more information. The data was then analyzed in form of graphs, charts as well as verbatim phrases from the respondents.