

**EFFECTS OF PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES ON
PERFORMANCE OF SCIENCE ORIENTED
SUBJECTS ON SECONDARY SCHOOL
STUDENTS IN SOUTH KINANGOP DISTRICT**

BY

**PERIS MWIHAKI KAHIGA
E37S111/01454**

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
FOR AWARD OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN SCIENCE
EDUCATION.**

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 2013

ABSTRACT

The prime purpose of this study is to collect enough data to find out the effect of practical activities on performance of science related subject of secondary school student in South Kinangop District, apparently in central Kenya

Questionnaires were used as data collection tools. They contained both closed and open-ended items / questions. The researcher used survey design method to gather data required. Simple Random sampling method was used to select the student respondent of which six students from each school were given a questionnaire, which they filled in. Also four science teachers from each school were also given a questionnaire which they filled in. To be specific lottery method of simple random sampling method was used. All questionnaires were gathered from field, collapsed and analyzed. The researcher used frequency distribution table, pie charts and bar graphs to represent the data. A discussion was made; conclusion and recommendations were also given in light of the data obtained.

The following conclusions were made amongst others on the basis of the findings of the current study:-

- Majority of science teachers in South Kinangop Zone are male by gender.
- Most of science teacher in South Kinangop zone have age bracket of 30-40 years.
- Students have different attitudes towards science subject.
- Science teachers enjoy teaching science subject.
- Majority of science teachers use teacher demonstration method as a method of teaching science subjects.
- Science teachers rarely conduct educational field trips and excursions.
- School administration do not support science department willingly.
- Deprivation of practical activities in students causes adverse effects.
- Good preparation is necessary for a teacher before teaching learning process.

Recommendations made were that;

The researcher in right of the findings of the current study made the following recommendations:-

- County government; The County government should set aside some funds for buying apparatus and chemicals as well as for building laboratories to all small and starting secondary school to enhance good performance.
- Teachers; All science teachers should prepare well before teaching learning process and to have well mastered of the content for competency and good delivery of the content.
- Curriculum implementers; the time allocated for practical's activities in secondary schools should be well specified and should also be added to allow students to explore, discover and to experiment.
- Students; students should develop positive attitudes in science subjects to be able to achieve the visions of a country since most of the visions require advanced technology which has its foundation from science subjects.

- Parents; Parents in the zone should be educated on the importance of education so as for them to be able to support their children in all aspect of life