

**CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE IN GEOGRAPHY IN KASARANI
DIVISION, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY, KENYA.**

BY

NYAGA N. ROBERT. K.

REG NO. E35S110/00934

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
FOR THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A BACHELOR
DEGREE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTIONS IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER 2012

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the causes of poor performance of geography in Kasarani Division Nairobi City County. The study was geared towards finding out the causes of poor performance in geography and whether the methodological approaches adopted by teachers are adequate in addressing the performance. It also sought to find out the teachers and parents perception on the performance of geography.

The study adopted the operant conditioning theory and the social learning theory. These are theories that clearly show the role played by the teachers and the learners in bringing out effective learning processes. Since geography deals with the human beings and their surroundings, the two theories focus on conducive environment that is crucial in learning processes.

The study clearly shows how the mixed research design was adopted in making descriptive statistics in presentation of data and in drawing inferences from the research data collected. The target populations were students learning geography and teachers teaching geography in the division. A simple random sampling method was used to sample the schools and respondents. Questionnaires were used to provide qualitative and quantitative data that was analyzed using the SPSS software.

Through the study, various causes of poor performance in geography as well as the factor behind decline enrolment in number of students taking geography were revealed. The factors noted were attributed to both the teachers and the learners of geography. In line with this were suggestions for appropriate measures and recommendations that should be put in place to enhance the acceptance of the discipline and improved performance in the division.

Among the proposed suggestions and recommendations for this study include public sensitization on value of learning of geography which is a key subject to major careers offered in universities, recruitment of qualified and trained geography teachers, the use of learners centered methods in the teaching process as well as a call for the implementation of the government initiated performance contract for the teachers. The above will go along away in enhancing better performance of geography.