

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE IN  
KENYA CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION AMONG  
GIRLS' SCHOOLS IN KANDARA DISTRICT, MURANG'A COUNTY.**

**JANE KINANU NG'ANG'A**

**REG. NO. E35S110/02057**

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND CURRICULUM STUDIES  
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD  
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION DEGREE OF MOUNT KENYA  
UNIVERSITY.**

**SEPTEMBER 2013**

## 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 school, economical and political development. The education of girls has been recognized as the most effective investment which leads to development in a nation. It is because of this reason that this study sought to investigate into the causes of poor performance in Kenya certificate of education in girls' schools in Kandara District in Murang'a 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 school in the District. The study was guided by objectives of the study which included: the effects of lack of teaching and learning resources, absenteeism due to lack of school fees, poor attitude towards the teachers, school and studies, conducive learning environment, role played by external partners in Kandara district of Murang'a county. The study used descriptive survey design. Random and purposive samplings were used to sample principals, teachers and students respectively. Data was obtained through questionnaires filled by principals, teachers and students.

Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data obtained. The analysis of the findings was done immediately after the presentation of data followed by the discussion of the findings. Quantitative data was also analyzed. The study recommended on the need for schools to offer conducive learning environment, need for school managers to involve partners in planning. There should be improvement on the quality and quantity of teaching and learning aids/resources, parents should make every effort to pay school fees on time, there should be increased guidance and counseling to help change the attitude of the students towards teachers and studies.