

**INVESTIGATION ON CAUSES OF DROPOUT AMONG
STUDENTS IN KANYANGI ZONE, LOWER YATTA SUB-
COUNTY, KITUI COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

School dropout is a serious issue resulting from various causes. There is overwhelming statistics that higher number of students is dropping out of school lately as compared to the previous years. 'The underlying causes of dropout remains obscured and that is why this study sought to investigate the factors that influence dropout of students in high schools The general objective for this study was to Investigate on causes of high school dropout among students in Kanyangi Zone Zone, Lower Yatta Sub-County, Kitui county. The study was guided by the following specific objectives' to assess the extent to which school related factors, family economical background and environmental factors influences dropout rate of students in High schools The study employed descriptive survey design. The students who dropped but came back to school were established through the school records such as class registers and the admission book. The current record from EMIS indicates that 2540 students had dropped out but came back to school. From this population 104 students were selected both from schools and out of school to participate in the study. Schools were selected proportionally by simple random sampling. Simple Random Sampling was used on the 88 sampled schools to select head teachers in. The head teachers, students and parents were the respondents for this study. Purposive sampling was used to select school dropouts who were not presently in school to be respondents. Purposive sampling is one that is selected in a deliberative and non random fashion to achieve a certain goal. The main instruments for data collection were questionnaires, interview schedules and school records. Data collected was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively through descriptive statistics. Validity of the instruments were checked by consultation from my supervisor from the School of Continuing and Distance Education. Reliability was measured by test-retest technique. Operational definition of variables was used to guide in data analysis. The family background that had an immense influence on students drop out were parents socio-economic status which included; family income, occupation, literacy level, family size and poverty. The study established that school related factors that causing dropout of students were poor academic performance, teachers attitude, too much work in school and failure to pay school extra levies. The community should be sensitized through the ministry of education on the importance of education. The study also recommends that the government should come with a law on age that should be allowed to ride bicycles and motor cycles as a business means. As a basis for further research, the study should be conducted in the in the whole country to have an overview of the nation and apply the present findings.