

**FACTORS INFLUENCING RECURRENCE OF SECONDARY
SCHOOL STUDENTS' UNREST IN KITUI CENTRAL
DISTRICT, KENYA**



BY

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ABSTRACT

Students' unrest recurs very often in Kenyan schools. Attempts to curb it do not seem to have succeeded in the past. The purpose of this study was to investigate the factors influencing Recurrence of Unrest in public secondary schools in Kitui Central District. The objectives of the study were: to determine the influence of peer pressure, drug abuse, school administration and gender differences on Recurrence of Unrest. The researcher used a descriptive survey design. The targeted population was 1413 form four students in the year 2012, 211 teachers and 13 headteachers which gave a total of 1,637. A sample of 144 was selected using simple random sampling which included the six headteachers, 18 teachers and 120 students. Data was collected using questionnaires. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and the findings were presented in frequency tables, histograms, bar graphs and pie charts. The study established that school administration was contributing to Recurrence of Unrest in public secondary schools. Drug abuse was associated with peculiar behaviours which could lead students to unrest. Punishments were highly associated with the cause of Recurrence of Unrest in most of the schools. Headteachers' poor communication strategies were found to be able to bring confusion, misunderstandings, and indecency among students hence contributing to Recurrence of Unrest. Boys were found to be more rebellious than girls. Therefore, boys were more likely to initiate unrest in schools. The researcher concluded that poor school management contributed more to Recurrence of Unrest than other factors because poor communication strategies, drug abuse and peer pressure were factors that could be contained by the school management. The researcher recommended that headteachers should undergo in-service courses on school management in line with the current trends in life styles of the young generation of students.