

**FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO GIRL DROP OUT IN
MIXED PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN GESERO ZONE,
SUNKA DIVISION, KISII CENTRAL DISTRICT.**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
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ABSTRACT

The government of Kenya spends about 40% of her recurrent budget on education on the understanding that it is the cornerstone of social economic development. The noble objective is however compromised by the high wastage rates in schooling system. It is estimated that 25%-35% of primary school pupils who enroll in class one leave school prematurely as a result of dropping out. In spite of the implementation of Free primary education in 2003 by the government of Kenya, pupils especially girls still drop out of school. The study was designed to investigate the factors for girls' drop out in Mixed Public Primary schools in Gesero Zone, Suneka Division, Central District. The study used descriptive survey to obtain information from Five (5) head teachers, 10 teachers, 35 parents, 30 pupils (15 boys and 15 girls) and 10 girls who had dropped out of school. Simple random sampling technique was used to select five (5) schools because it offers all the subjects in the population equal chances of being selected, and the head teachers of these schools were selected. Stratified, and the head teachers of these schools were selected. Stratified random sampling was used to select the deputy head teachers and the senior teachers in the schools. Stratified random sampling was also used to select pupils from the class six class register from each school. Three(3) boys and three (3) girls were selected from each schools. 10 girls who had dropped out of school were selected for the study using snowball sampling technique to locate the dropouts through their parents in the village. Questionnaires and in-depth interview schedule were used to collect data from parents. The suggestions of the supervisor were used to improve the instruments. Data from the questionnaires and in-depth interviews were tallied, tabulated and converted into percentages and some bar graphs drawn. The study found out that the rates of dropouts for girls were higher than boys in primary level. Their drop out was attributed to child labour, poverty, peer pressure, sexual harassment, orphanage, repetition of classes and parents low attitude to girl child education among others. The study recommended that the government should through the Ministry of Educations, reinforce practical guidance and counseling in primary schools in this zone. It should also reinforce her efforts on poverty eradication by financing small scale farmers, allocation of funds to schools and organize workshops and seminars to sensitize both parents and teachers on equal opportunity in education irrespective of gender. The study suggested that further research needed to be carried out to find out why more girls than boys dropped out of primary school