

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO CAUSES OF HIGH RATE OF
SCHOOL DROPOUT IN PRIMARY SCHOOL IN MWINGI
DISTRICT, COUNTY**

BY MWENDWA DAVID MUIMI

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Abstract

This research study sought to determine the causes of high rate of school drop out in primary schools in Mwingi District Kitui county. The study also sought to establish the effects of FPE on attendance, enrolment and performance of girls in public primary schools in Mwingi District. The target population of this study was public primary schools in Mwingi District from which a sample of 3 public primary schools was used. The study employed survey research design. Random sampling method was used to sample the schools in Mwingi District.

A survey research design was used to carry out the study. The study used primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected using questionnaires, observation and interview guides. The questionnaires and interview guides were administered through drop and pick method to the Headteachers. Observation were used to help the researcher establish the conditions of the meals offered as well as the facilities, materials and equipment used to facilitate the programme. Data collected was organized according to the population studies and Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to analyze it, using descriptive statistics. The study found out the following:

FPE attracts more girls to be enrolled in schools and it helps them to complete the primary education cycle. The study also investigated whether the financial allocation for each child is enough to buy all the teaching and learning resources required. The study recommended that more trained teachers be employed in order to handle the high enrolment of pupils better.