

**ROLE OF YOUTH POLYTECHNICS IN IMPROVING THE LEVELS OF
EDUCATION FOR THE SCHOOL LEAVERS AND SCHOOL DROPOUTS
IN GATUNDU NORTH DISTRICT, KIAMBU COUNTY.**

BY

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BEDA/000513/1122/05566

**RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION IN PARTIAL
FULFILMENT FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
DEGREE OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY.**

JULY 2015

ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to identify the role the youth polytechnics play in improving the deteriorating standards of education and how the youth polytechnics cater for the ever rising numbers of school leavers and school dropouts in Gatundu North District, Kiambu County. The study was guided by three main objectives, the first objective was investigating the role played YPs in improving the deteriorating levels of education; determining the reasons for low enrollment and the benefits of the YPs in the community. The study adopted descriptive survey design to collect data. The study also used questionnaires as the main instrument of collecting data. In some instances where the researcher needed an expertise information the researcher used interview schedule. Data collected was presented in tables and graphs and Statistical Package for Social Sciences(SPPS) Version 21.0 was used to analyze the collected information. The study targeted 350 students, 7 polytechnic managers, 5 head teachers and 1 officer. The study adopted the stratified random technique to sample 200 students from the youth polytechnics, 3 youth polytechnic managers and 5 primary school headteachers in Gatundu North District, Kiambu County. The study was conducted in Gatundu North District Kiambu County. The study established that ender based socio cultural factors and quality education were factors influencing youth enrolment levels. The study concludes that economic status, socio cultural factors and quality of education were factors that influencing youth enrolment levels in public youth polytechnics. It recommends formulation of regulations to ensure to ensure YP fees are affordable to the target population, introduction of more gender oriented courses, intensification of sensitization programmes on the value of YP education and the intergration of vocational training into the main stream education system. The researcher suggests that a similar study should be conducted with a wider focus and an independent research on the effect that a central governing body would have on youth enrolment levels in YPs.