

**AN INVESTIGATION OF KENYA CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL
EDUCATION EXAMINATION IRREGULARITIES IN MARAGUA SUB-COUNTY,
MURANGA COUNTY.**

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ABSTRACT

While transition from primary school to secondary school in Kenya is steadily rising, so is the number of candidates KCSE every year. As this positive step is to be appreciated there is also a worrying trend with cases of examination malpractices and cheating steadily rising over the years and hence the purpose of this study. The objective of this study was to establish factors which contribute to K.C.S.E examination irregularities in Maragua Sub-County, Muranga County. The study was conducted in public secondary schools in the sub-county using the exploratory survey design. Purposive sampling was used to select three secondary schools in the sub-county. These included one girl's secondary school, one Boy's secondary school and a mixed day school. Random sampling was used to select the teachers and students to be included Sample. The questionnaires were used to gather information from principals, teachers and students. The reliability of the questionnaires was established through test-re-test methods. Data was coded manually and later analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively using descriptive statistics mainly percentages and content analysis. The results were presented by use of frequency tables and graphs. The significance of this research was to ensure that students are equipped with life skills that they might need to overcome many irrational feelings they have about passing examinations. This research revealed that parents, teachers and the student are fully involved in cheating in examinations. The researcher therefore recommends that both the students and other stake holders to be taken through proper examination ethics and equip the students with life skills that they might need to overcome irrational feelings about passing examination.