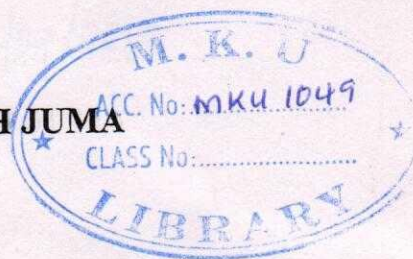


**MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

**THE CHALLENGES FACING THE REHABILITATION OF JUVINILE  
OFFENDERS IN KENYA**

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## ABSTRACT

In today's society crime as a social deviance is an aspect of life that is present whether it is acknowledged or ignored. Crime is being committed more frequently and more often by adolescents. Juvenile delinquency has therefore been on the rise thus leading to increase in the number of delinquents that go to correctional facilities to serve time for the crimes they have committed.

Research shows that previously incarcerated youth return to crime at alarmingly high rates due to failure of the rehabilitation process they undergo. Eventually, the incarcerated youth have to come out of the correctional facilities and be re-intergraded back into mainstream society once they have served their time.

This inquiry attempts to examine current challenges facing the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders in Kenya since inception and provides discussion on contemporary and future prospects.

Chapter one touches on the understanding of the concept of penology and in particular, juvenile rehabilitation, its advent and current situation in Kenya. This part also seeks to address the problem at hand and to seek justification for the research. We have looked at other authored works and perspectives on juvenile rehabilitation and given a broad of the legal definition of a juvenile.

Chapter two dwells on the general overview of penology. It also traces the historical evolution of penology, how the concept of punishment has developed from the ancient times to present times, and the theories which seek to justify punishment of criminal offenders.

Chapter three takes a look at international regimes on the concept of penology, how different countries within different jurisdictions have applied this concept and dealt with the problems arising there from. It also seeks to bring out the contrast in the application of penology and to appreciate the advancement that has so far been carried out.

Chapter four dwells on the national legal framework. It seeks to examine the various laws which have been enacted to deal with the juvenile offenders; it also discusses the institutions that have the mandate to facilitate the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders, and also which government ministry is in charge. The chapter further outlines the challenges facing rehabilitation of juvenile offenders in Kenya

Chapter five gives the general conclusion of the research and recommendations on how to tackle the challenges facing rehabilitation of juvenile offenders in Kenya.