

**EFFECTS OF DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON LEARNING IN SECONDARY
SCHOOLS IN MUTOMO DIVISION, MUTOMO DISTRICT KITUI COUNTY IN
KENYA**

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ABSTRACT

There is great fear of having Kenya with people who cannot face world challenges if this menace of drug and substance abuse is not addressed. It's worthy to note it's through our children that we will secure better future for our nation's posterity. Drug and substance abuse is affecting secondary school learning a great deal. These children are in their most trying moment in their development where it's easy to be lured to various deadly practices which are quagmire to their learning without realizing. Many factors are influencing drug and substance abuse in secondary school thus these factors need to be voted out to have drug free society.

This study was comprehensively investigating effects of drug and substance abuse on learning in secondary schools in Mutomo Division, Mutomo District with aim of putting light various factors causing drug abuse, the commonly abused drugs and their effects to secondary school learning and how this can be prevented to have drug free society.

Study employed survey study where random sampling and purposive sampling were used to sample DEO, DQASO, 17 principals, 17 secondary school teachers and secondary school students. Interview guide and questionnaire were used to elicit information on the topic of the study.

The study realized that the commonly abused drugs in the area of the study are alcohol, cigarettes, miraa, bhang, wines and spirits and kuber in Mutomo Division. Main causes of drug and substance abuse indentified were curiosity among the students, peer group influence, availability of the drugs (exposing students to drugs), poor guidance and counseling, poor role models, giving excess pocket money, mass media influence, poor performance of the learners and over expectation by parents and schools.