

**CHALLENGES OF RAPID GROWING POPULATION ON
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS
A CASE STUDY OF SELECTED SCHOOLS IN KIAMBU WEST DISTRICT
KIAMBU COUNTY**

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ABSTRACT

Academic performance in secondary schools has faced various challenges due to the rapidly growing population. The growing population has resulted in scarcity of resources hence variations in socio-economic welfare of parents. In turn, this has resulted in variation in students performance with children from well of backgrounds performing better than those from poor backgrounds.

In view of this problem, the study investigates the different socio-economic factors that influence performance of secondary school students and the policies the government has put in place to bridge the gap between students from different socio-economic backgrounds.

The research covers three public secondary schools in Kiambu West District. The researcher administered questionnaires to teachers and students in which a respondent was supposed to answer questions based on their experience in the teaching and learning process.

The respondents were also required to answer question to help the researcher assess the level of intervention made by the government to bridge the gap between students from different socio-economic backgrounds.

The findings of this research are analyzed using tables and graphs.

The main objective of this research was to find whether socio-economic background of parents influence academic performance and if it does, what the government has done to ensure all students get equal opportunities. In addition, the researcher intended to find out if the policies set up by the government to bridge the gap between students from different socio-economic backgrounds have been effectively implemented.

This research uses research design methodology in data collection and questionnaires and observation as data collecting instruments.

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