

**IMPACT OF DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON THE ACADEMIC
PERFORMANCE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN WAJIR EAST
SUB COUNTY.**

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ABSTRACT

Substance abuse has become a major challenge in secondary schools in Kenya. The aim of this study was to find out the impact of drug abuse on academic performance of students in secondary school. The objectives of this study were: To identify the types of drugs and substance abused by the students, to establish the level of academic performance of students' at secondary schools, to determine the extent to which drug and substance abusing parents influence their secondary school children' in drug and substance abuse, to establish the influence of students' perception of the impacts of drug and substance abuse on academic performance of students' at secondary schools. The target population for this study consisted of all 12 secondary schools comprising of 12 counseling teachers, 2503 students. The sampling was done using stratified sampling to obtain different categories of schools, and the status of each school. The schools were chosen from the strata using purposive and simple random sampling methods. Systematic sampling was then applied to obtain the required number of students, where every tenth student from the admission register was selected. One counseling teacher from each sampled school was selected to participate in the study. The total number of respondents was 241 students and 6 counseling teachers. The instrument's validity and reliability was enhanced through a pilot study in two schools within the Sub county and were not included in the main study. The questionnaires were administered to the respondents by the researcher. The research began after obtaining a research permit from the Ministry of Education. The statistics used for this exercise were mainly percentages, pie charts. The key findings showed that peer pressure, school, family stress, drug availability contributed to students' drug abuse. The study concludes that stringent measures should be put in place urgently so as to address the problem of drug abuse.