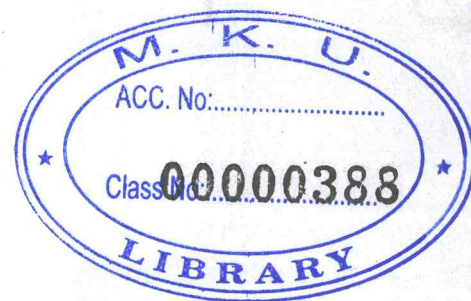


CONSTRAINS FACING FORM FOUR GIRLS' IN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN  
CHEMISTRY MWEA WEST DISTRICT, KIRINYAGA COUNTY

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## ABSTRACT

It has globally and nationally been noted that the education of girl child need some attention. This has been due to persistent low academic performance in chemistry among girls at form four level world-wide. It has also been the case in Mwea West district for the last three years. It is for this reason that the researcher investigated the effects of school factors on academic achievements in chemistry amongst form fours in Mwea West District with reference to girls' performance.

The related literature is reviewed under the following sub-sections:- importance of investing in education, teacher qualifications, teaching load, availability of textbooks and class size. The reviewed literature revealed the need to undertake this study in Mwea West District since girls' academic achievement in Chemistry at Form Four level secondary schools in Mwea West District has been wanting.

Using research design, the study population covered all the girls secondary school in the district from which data was collected. It involved all the teachers who taught Chemistry at form four levels in 2011. The instrument for data collection was questionnaires. The Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education results for Chemistry was used as a standardized measure of the learners' academic achievement. Data for analysis were primary data collected through a sample survey which was half of the girl's schools in the District and analyzed statistically. The findings from the study explained why chemistry is not done well by most girls at Form Four level in national examinations. This helped the researcher to recommend different approaches based on the findings to help improve chemistry performance among girls in secondary schools. The outcome of this study can also be used by policy makers and other education stakeholders in decision making for better performance in chemistry.

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