



Mount Kenya University

Scaling the Heights of Education

SCHOOL OF SOCIALSCIENCES

INSTITUTE OF SECURITY STUDIES, JUSTICE ANDETHICS (ISSJE)

**A STUDY ON THE FACTORS LEADING TO THE INCREASE OF DRUG ABUSE IN
CAMPUSES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON STUDENTS' PERFORMANCE. CASE OF
UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI (UoN) - MAIN CAMPUS)**

SIMONKAURIAOLENKUO

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ABSTRACT.

The main purpose of the study was to find the factors leading to the increase of drug abuse in campuses and their effects on students' performance. A case study in the University of Nairobi and the specific objectives were; to determine the cause of drug abuse among the students in University of Nairobi, to establish the effects of drug abuse on students' performance in University of Nairobi and to find out the most commonly abused drugs in University of Nairobi. The findings of the study will assist the University to come up with ways that will control the abuse of drugs which in turn will reduce the use of drugs abuse by students and aid NACADA to come up with policies of curbing the vice. A descriptive survey design for data collection was used. The research targeted students, lecturers and community members. The following were picked randomly: 6 Lecturers, 12 community members and 46 Students whom questionnaires were administered. Questionnaires and document analysis was used to collect data. Data collected was scrutinized, coded and analyzed using Statistical package for social scientists (SPSS). The Lecturers, community members and Students consent was sought and an explanation rendered for the same. The following were causes of drug abuse according to the study: polygamous family, excess money, lack of continuous family interaction, peer pressure, family influence and continuous family conflicts. The main cause of drug abuse according to the lecturers and community members was stress, frustration and least is because of relaxation prior to a social event. Most of the students who are involved in drug abuse perform dismally in their academics. Most common form of drug abuse used by student is local brew alcohol. During the study, the researcher was able to come up with certain recommendations on increase of drug abuse in campuses and their effects on students' performance ; have a monogamous family, parents to avoid giving excess money to students, there should be continuous family interaction, families should avoid protracted conflicts, family members should be role models always, antisocial peers should be shunned, there should be stringent penalties for those who abuse drugs and finally the government should carry out awareness programs.