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**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

INAUGURAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE IN HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

THEME

Leveraging Multidisciplinary Research and Innovation in
Humanities and Social Sciences for Sustainable Development

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WELCOME MESSAGE



*Dr. Christopher Nkonge Kiboro, Ph.D.
Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social
Sciences*

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I am pleased to welcome you to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Inaugural Scientific Conference. The theme of this landmark conference, Leveraging Multidisciplinary Research and Innovation in Humanities and Social Sciences for Sustainable Development, signifies a bold step towards embracing a collaborative approach in exploring innovative ways of achieving sustainable development. Moreover, it underscores the importance of appreciating and integrating different perspectives and approaches from various disciplines in determining ‘what works’ for sustainable development. Indeed, we recognize that by promoting multidisciplinary research, we are in a better trajectory of producing holistic solutions to many problems that impede the realization of sustainable development. Thus, the conference is designed to bring together the academia, research institutions, development practitioners and the industry to share and discuss cutting-edge research and innovations.

This volume contains over 100 abstracts each with a distinct perspective contributing to the broader discourse of sustainable development. The abstracts in this book were carefully selected and aligned with the relevant conference sub-theme. They not only advance academic knowledge but also contribute to practical solutions for sustainable development. The abstracts included in this volume also reflect how multidisciplinary approach in humanities and social sciences can encourage innovation, influence policy, and foster change in society. Therefore, this volume is a credible resource especially to the conference delegates who are interested in creating strategic partnerships and collaborations beyond their field of specialization.

I would like to convey our gratitude to the Conference Organizing Committee, Keynote Speakers and all the Authors for their effort and willingness to take part in our inaugural research conference. We would like also to thank our sponsors for their support. We hope that this conference will promote the exchange of new ideas and foster collaboration among participants.

We wish you an inspirational and fruitful conference, and hope that you will enjoy everything the conference has to offer as well as the serenity and beauty of Chuka University.



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LANGUAGES, LITERATURE, MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

Kupima Umbali Kati ya Kiambu, Kikuyu, Kimeru na Kitharaka kwa Kifani Cha Isimu-Kongoo

Yuning Shen, University of Hamburg

Katika uwanja wa kiakademia wa isimu, kuna njia kuu mbili za kupima ukaribu baina lugha na hivyo kutambua kuwepo kwa familia za lugha (au lahaja). Njia ya kwanza iitwayo isimulinganishi huchunguza badiliko la mfumo wa sauti - aghalabu badiliko la fonimu. Kwa bahati mbaya tanzu hii inahitaji muda mwingi sana wa kuchunguza mifumo ya sauti, ilhali tayari ni nadra sana kuwapata wataalamu tosha wa lugha au lahaja hizo zote. Njia ya pili ni kuhesabu asilimia ya mfanano wa msamiati wa msingi ya hizo lugha, lakini kwa bahati mbaya tena, pia si jambo geni sana tukakuta dhana fulani ambayo ina mwakilishi zaidi ya moja (k.m. visawe, tofauti za lahaja au tafsida/sitiri kutokana na mwiko). Wasilisho hili linaripoti mchakato wa kuunda mbinu mpya ya kuainisha lugha za Kiafrika kwa usaidizi wa Isimu-Kongoo ambayo kwayo: kwa upande mmoja inategemea kulinganisha matini mengi ya lugha lengwa, na kwa upande mwingine kazi ya kupiga hesabu ikafanywa na tarakilishi chini ya uongozi wa mwanaisimu. Lugha zilizotumika katika uchunguzi huu ni Kiambu, Kikukuyu, Kimeru na Kitharaka. Wasilisho hili linajadilia ufaafu wa mbinu hii ya kuainisha lugha na kuweka kumbukumbu za sifa maalumu ya matumizi yake kwa lugha za Afrika Mashariki.

Fasihi Kama Mkakati wa Kufunza Maadili kwa Watoto kwa Maendeleo Endelevu

Cyprian Kithinji Mbeere & Prof John M. Kobia
Chuka University

Utafiti huu umekusudia kuchunguza matumizi ya fasihi kama mkakati wa kufunza madili kwa watoto na vijana ili kuleta maendeleo katika jamii kwa kutumia mhusika mkuu katika matini teule za fasihi ya Kiswahili malengo ya utafiti huu utachunguza mchango wa wahusika wengine kuchangia kumwezesha mhusika mkuu kuwa vile vile uchunguzi huu utabainisha jinsi mhusika mkuu anavyosawiriwa kama kielelezo cha kufunza maadili kwa watoto na vijana ili kuleta maendeleo katika jamii. Utafiti huu aidha utachunguza mchango wa asasi za kijamii zinavyo changia kubomoa maadili au kujenga misingi dhabiti ya kukuza maadili kwa vijana na watoto na athari zake katika jamii. Malengo ya utafiti yatatimizwa kwa kuchambua matini ya utafiti saba teule ambazo ni Mui huwa Mwema (Jamadar 1978), Nyota ya Rehema (Mohamed 1978) Rosa Mistika (Kezilahabi 1988) na Aha! Ajizi (Nyambeka 2016). Matini ziliteuliwa kwa kuwa zinashughulikia kwa kina masuala ya watoto na vijana ambayo yatachunguzwa kupata kukuza maadili, mchango wa wahusika wengine kumsadia mhusika mkuu kujenga maadili na kuchunguza mchango wa asasi za kijamii kubomoa au kujenga misingi kwa vijana na watoto. Uteuzi wa sampuli wa kimakusudi ulitumika kuteua matini teule kwa kuwa zinaakisi data inavyotakikana kuchambuliwa. Utafiti huu ni wa maktabani ni ambapo mtafiti atavisoma vitabu teule saba mtandao na maandishi mengine yanayochangia malengo ya utafiti huu. Data itakayopatikana itachanganuliwa na kuwasilishwa kwa mbinu elezi kwa kuwa itakuwa ni data ya kinathari. Data itaongezea maarifa zaidi katika taaluma, wahakiki na watafiti wa fasihi ya vijana, fasihi ya watoto watanufaika na maarifa mapya, walimu, wazazi, viongozi wa kisiasa watawaelewa watoto na vijana zaidi. Wizara ya Elimu inaweza kutumia data hiyo kama njia ya kupambana na utovu wa nidhamu ili kuleta maendeleo katika jamii.

Maneno makuu: Fasihi ya Vijana, Maadili, Maendeleo endelevu, Fasihi ya Kiswahili, Mkakati

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Liana Sammy Dimbu, Prof. John Kobia & Dr. Mary Kanyua
Chuka University

Lugha ni kifaa cha kufanyia siasa na wanasiasa huteua istilahi kwa mpangilio fulani ili kukua athari fulani kwa hadhira husika. Makala hii inalenga kutathimini namna mahusiano ya uwezo yalivyokuzwa na Bi. Samia Suluhu kupitia mtindo wa lugha katika hotuba yake katika Bunge la Kitaifa nchini Kenya. Makala hii iliongozwa na nadharia ya Uchanganuzi Makinifu wa Diskosi. Nadharia hii hudokeza kuwa lugha kama rasilimali nyingine ya jamii hutumiwa na wenye mamlaka ili kudhihirisha uwezo wao wa kimalaka unaotokana na miundo iliyopo ya kijamii. Makala hii inatumia muundo wa kimaelezo. Sampuli ya makala hii iliteuliwa kimakusudi kutoka Kumbukumbu ya Kudumu ya Bunge la Kitaifa iliyo kwenye tovuti ya Bunge la Kitaifa. Kifaacha utafiti kilichotumiwa ni orodha ya ukaguzi. Uchambuzi na uwasilishaji wa matokeo ya utafiti yalifanywa kwa njia ya kimaelezo. Matokeo ya makala hii imebainisha kuwa katika sampuli teule, Samia Suluhu alitumia mtindo kama vile, ucheshi, msimbo, ucheshi, tasfida na jazanda katika kuwasilisha ujumbe wake. Ingawa mtindo huu uliwasilishwa kwa istilahi ya kawaida na inayoeleweka ililenga kughilibu hadhira lengwa ili kukubaliana na madai ya mzungumzaji. Hivyo kuendeleza mahusiano mbalimbali ya uwezo. Makala hii hivyo inaweka wazi mkikakati ya kimtindo wanayotumia wanasiasa katika kufumbata ujumbe wao ambao huenda ungekataliwa na hadhira ikiwa haunge wasilishwa kwa mtindo husika. Makala hii inapendekeza tafiti za baadaye ziangazie namna mikakati ya kimtindo inavyokuza kughilibu katika hotuba za kisiasa.

Istilahi Muhimu: diskosi za kisiasa, hotuba, mtindo na uchanganuzi makinifu wa diskosi.

Wahusika na Uhusika Katika Nyimbo Za Kampeni Za Wachuka Nchini Kenya

Dr. Ntiba Onesmus Gitonga, Chuka University

Makala hii ina lengo la kuhakiki mgogoro wa kisiasa kama unavyodhihirika katika nyimbo za kampeni za jamii ya Wachuka katika Kaunti ya Tharaka Nithi nchini Kenya. Data ya uchunguzi imechotwa kutoka nyimbo za kampeni zilizokuwa zikiimbwa katika kipindi 1992 - 2013. Uhakiki wa usemi wa nyimbo unaweza kukitwa katika masuala kama vile muktadha, maana, lugha, uhusika na wahusika. Mjadala katika makala hii unatambua kuwa masuala haya huingiliana kimzunguko. Mkabala wa kihakiki utakaozingatiwa katika makala hii ni wa kiuhalisia wa kijamaa. Ni mkabala unaolenga suala la wahusika na uhusika katika mgogoro wa kitabaka katika jamii lengwa. Wahusika katika nyimbo kama hizi ni jira ya matukio katika mgogoro wa kisiasa katika mapisi ya jamii husika. Istilahi muhimu: Wahusika wanasiasa halisia, wahusika wanasiasa zungumza, wahusika ombwa, wahusika rejelewa kifiche.

Matumizi ya Ishara katika Vikatuni vya Shujaaz: Mtazamo wa Kisemiotiki

Mercy Karimi Nthia & Prof. John Kobia
Chuka University

Ishara za vikatuni hukuza dhana ya uelewaji wa vikatuni. Lengo la makala hii ni kutathmini matumizi ya ishara katika vikatuni vya Shujaaz: mtazamo wa kisemiotiki. Utafiti huu uliongozwa na nadharia ya Semiotiki. Nadharia hii iliasisiwa na Ferdinand de Saussure na

na Charles Pierce. Baadhi ya Mihimili ya nadharia hii ni: ujumbe, msemaji na mpokeaji. Mihimili hii ilimfaa mtafiti katika kuchunguza lugha ya ishara, picha, maumbo na taswira zinazojengwa katika vikatuni vya Shujaaz ili kuvifanya vileweke. Data ya utafiti huu ilipatikana kutoka kwa nakala 30 za vikatuni vya Shujaaz zilizoteuliwa kimakusudi kulingana na mada ya utafiti huu kati ya mwaka 2011-2019. Mpango wa kimaiezo ulitumika kuchanganua na kuwasilisha matokeo ya utafiti. Matokeo ya Makala hii ni kuwa ishara hutumika kuashiria dhana mbalimbali kama vile miondoko, wakati na hisia katika vikatuni vya Shujaaz na kuvifanya vileweke. Utafiti huu utachangia katika taaluma ya Fasihi kwa kufafanua ishara mbalimbali zitumiwazo katika vikatuni. Aidha utatoa mchango kwa kufafanua maana ya ishara katika vikatuni. Makala hii ilipendekeza tafiti za baadaye zifanywe kutathmini namna ishara zinavyokuza naratojia katika vikatuni. Makala hii inachangia katika maendeleo endelevu kwa kubainisha mbinu tofauti za mawasiliano katika sekta ya elimu, huku ikitoa fursa kwa waandishi wote kuweza kujiendeleza.

Maneno makuu: Ishara, Semiotiki, Shujaaz, Vijana na Vikatuni

Usawiri wa Mwonoulimwengu wa Kisiasa wa Wandia Katika Ngano

Mwai Njine, Prof. John Kobia, & Mugambi Allan
Chuka University

Makala haya yanachunguza usawiri wa mwonoulimwengu wa kisiasa wa wandia kutoka eneo la Mlima Kenya. Makala haya yanahakiki sampuli ya ngano mbili zilizotambwa na fanani Wanjira wa Rukenya, kunukuliwa kwa lahaja ya kindia na kutafsiriwa kwa Kiswahili sanifu kwa minajili ya uhakiki. Makala haya hususan yanania kufahamu jinsi suala la siasa za jamii ya wandia linavyojenga msingi wa usawiri wa mwonoulimwengu wao kwa kuchukulia kuwa siasa ni sehemu ya mfumo wa maisha wa jamii na msingi wa usawiri wa mwonoulimwengu wao wa kisiasa. Ngano teule zilihakikiwa kwa kuongozwa na nadharia ya naratolojia. Baadhi ya mihimili ya nadharia hii ni: kutambua kuwa kuna njia mbalimbali za usimulizi wa hadithi, kutambua suala la wakala wa simulizi na kutambua kuwa msimulizi huwa na mtazamo wake kuhusu masuala anayosimulia. Utafiti ulifanywa nyanjani ambapo uteuzi wa sampuli wa kimakusudi ulifanywa ikizingatiwa kwamba matini za ngano za wandia zinashughulikia mionoulimwengu mingine kando na mwonoulimwengu wa kisiasa. Data ya utafiti ilikusanywa kupitia uwasilishaji hai wa ngano teule, unukuzi, na tafsiri za ngano hizo. Utafiti huu utawanufaisha wahakiki wa fasihi kwa kuweka wazi kuwa fasihi simulizi inaakisi kikamilifu utambuzi wa mwonoulimwengu wa jamii. Uhakiki ulithibitisha kuwa masuala ya kisiasa kama vile usuluhishi wa migogoro katika jamii, uongozi na haki ndiyo masuala msingi ya usawiri wa mwonoulimwengu wa kisiasa wa Wandia. Makala haya yamethibitisha kuwa masuala ya kisiasa yanachangia pakubwa utunzi wa ngano za Wandia kwa kuwa ngano zinaibuka kutokana na tajiriba ya jamii. Tajiriba hii ndiyo msingi wa fasihi yamwonoulimwengu wa kisiasa wa Wandia.

Maneno makuu: Usawiri, mwonoulimwengu, kisiasa, ngano, wandia

Fumbo Katika Chamchela na Kijiba cha Moyo

Sophie Okwena, Taita Taveta University

Makala hii inachunguza mafumbo yaliyomo katika tamthilia ya Chamchela (2007) na Kijiba cha Moyo (2009). Mafumbo ni kauli zenye maana iliyofichama. Mafumbo hutumia lugha ya kiistiari pamoja na tamathali nyingine za usemi kuwasilisha ujumbe kwa njia fiche. Fumbo humtaka anayeambiwa kudadisi mazingira yake na kufikiria ili kupata maana iliyomo katika fumbo. Mafumbo huchemsha bongo za wale wanaoshiriki katika kuyafumbua kwa sababu mafumbo ni semi ambazo hufumba jambo na huhitaji mtu kuwaza ili aweze kubaini fumbo lenyewe. Mbali na mtu kutumia uhalisia wa mambo kulifumbua fumbo, mtu huyo anahitaji kutumia mantiki ili kulifumbua (Matei, 2011). Mafumbo hutumika sana katika mazungumzo

huundwa kutegemea mazingira. Shughuli, maumbile au vitu katika mazingira ya jamii vinaweza kufumbiwa na mara nyingi mafumbo hufananisha kitu kilichotajwa katika fumbo na mazingira halisi. Mafumbo hustawisha ubunifu yaani fumbo hufumbuliwa kwa kuoanisha yaliyomo katika fumbo, tajriba na mazingira. Hivyo mtu hutumia kiwango fulani cha ubunifu ili kupata maana. Waandishii hutumia mafumbo kuwasilisha tajriba zao, mawazo yao na hisia zao katika vipindi na wakati wao. Kwa hiyo, sharti kuwe na uwiano kati ya ujumbe wa mwandishi na mafumbo ambayo ametumia kwa sababu mafumbo yanapotumika katika njia mwafaka huchangia katika ufanisi wa kazi ya kisanaa kwani hutumiwa katika uzuaaji na ubunifu wa kifasihi. Tathmini hii inaongozwa na nadharia ya kimtindo. Tumeteua kuhakiki tamthilia hizi kwa msingi kwamba ni tamthilia ambazo zimeandikwa kwa falsafa ya kiwango cha juu na inasheheni lugha fiche.

Mitindo ya Uwasilishaji wa Suala la Afya Katika Matini Teule

Reuben Mwilaria, Prof John Kobia, & Dr Dorcas Musyimi
Chuka University

Fasihi ya Kiswahili ya Watoto ni mojawapo ya tanzu za fasihi ya Kiswahili inayotumiwa na wasanii kuhamasisha jamii kuhusu masuala yanayoiathiri kama vile magonjwa, uharibifu wa mazingira na ukiukaji wa haki za watoto miongoni mwa mengine. Zaidi ya hayo, madhara yanayotokana na changamoto za kiafya zimekuwa kikwazo katika maendeleo ya jamii na kuafikiwa kwa maendeleo endelevu katika mataifa mengi ulimwenguni. Kwa jinsi hii, makala hii ililenga kuchunguza mitindo ya uwasilishaji wa masuala ya kiafya yanayoathiri na kutatiza kuafikiwa kwa maendeleo endelevu katika jamii na kufafanua jinsi ya kusuluhisha matatizo ya kiafya, kama ilivyoangaziwa katika matini teule za Fasihi ya Kiswahili ya Watoto Madhila ya Bi. Shufaa (Bakari, 2008) na Kosa la Marehemu (Panja, 2010). Nadharia ya Umitindo iliyoasisiwa na Leech (1969) ili kuchunguza mitindo ya uwasilishaji wa kazi za kifasihi iliongoza utafiti huu. Aidha, uteuzi wa sampuli kimakusudi ulizingatiwa na data iliyokusanywa ilichanganuliwa kwa kuzingatia mkabala wa kimaeezo. Baada ya uchanganuzi wa data ilibainika kuwa, mitindo kama vile nyimbo, usimulizi na ushairi ilitumiwa kuwasilisha masuala ya kiafya katika matini teule. Vilevile, utafiti huu ulibainisha aina kadhaa za matatizo ya kiafya kama vile ugonjwa wa UKIMWI na kufafanua njia mbalimbali za kusuluhisha matatizo ya kiafya kama vile kutafuta huduma za kiafya na kudumisha usafi katika jamii. Isitoshe, uchunguzi zaidi ulipendekezwa kuhusu namna Fasihi ya Kiswahili ya Watoto inavyoweza kutumiwa kidijitali kuangazia masuala ya kiafya yanayoathiri jamii. Hii ni kwa sababu mtindo wa kidijitali umeimarika sana kutokana na maendeleo ya kiteknolojia. Maneno makuu: Fasihi ya Kiswahili ya Watoto, Umitindo, uchanganuzi, suala la kiafya, maendeleo endelevu, uwasilishaji

Mwingilianomatini katika Utanzu Wa Riwaya: Mshabaha kati ya Nyuso za Mwanamke na Wenye Meno

Kinyua Alex Mwirigi, Chuka University

Kazi za kifasihi huhusiana, hurejeleana na huingiliana katika mchakato wa kuandikwa kwake, lakini mambo haya hujibainisha kwa uwazi zaidi katika mchakato wa upokezi na ufasiri wa kazi hizo. Bakhtini, mwasisi wa nadharia ya mwingilianomatini, anahoji kwamba utanzu wa riwaya una uwezo na wasifu wa kutumia na kushirikisha kiutunzi nduni za tanzu una uwezo na wasifu wa kutumia na nyingine na bado utanzu huu ukabakia na sifa zake kama utanzu. Kwa mfano, riwaya inaweza kuhusisha na kushirikisha kiutunzi sifa au nduni ya mazungumzo ambayo aghalabu hubainika katika utanzu wa tamthilia au ikahusisha kanuni za ushairi na bado ikabakia kama riwaya. Mnadharia huyu anasema kwamba utanzu wa riwaya una upekee kwa sababu una uwezo wa kuchota sifa, mbinu na mikakati ya kiutunzi ya tanzu nyingine na kuzijumlisha katika kurutubisha muundo na usanifu wake kwa njia anuwai. Sifa hizi za kuhusiana, kurejeleana na kuingiliana kwa nduni za kiutunzi, ni uhalisia unaojitokeza kwa wingi katika tungo za Said Ahmed Mohamed. Kauli hii inahalisi kuhoji kuwa kuna kiasi kikubwa cha mwingilianomatini kinachojitokeza katika kazi za mtunzi huyu. Hali hii inashawishi na kuchochea shauku ya kiutafiti kutaka kubaini kama Said Ahmed anajikariri kiutunzi au kama kuakisika kwa nduni sawia kutoka kazi moja hadi nyingine ni ufundi wa kukuza na kuimarisha mbinu zake za kiutunzi. Hivyo, mchango wa makala hii katika kuziba pengo hilo ni kuchunguza jinsi riwaya mbili za Said Ahmed: Nyuso za Mwanamke (2010) na Wenye Meno (2014) zinavyoingiliana katika vipengele vya maudhui na uhusika. Usampulishaji wa kimakusudi umetumika kuteua kazi hizi. Kwa ujumla, mwelekeo wa Makala ni wa mwingilianomatini.

Uhusika na Wahusika Katika Fasihi Bulibuli ya Kiswahili: Mfano Kutoka Utenzi wa Mikidadi na Mayasa

Rosemary Njeri & Allan Mugambi
Chuka University

Makala hii inanuia kutathmini uhusika wa wahusika katika tenzi za Kiswahili kwa kuegemea utenzi mmoja bulibuli: *Utenzi wa Mikidadi na Mayasa*. Utenzi huu ulitungwa na Saidi Abdallah Masudi el buhry aliyekuwa mkazi wa Pemba. Ingawa Masudi aliishi Pemba kwa muda, alihamishwa kwenda Mtang'ata, kilomita kumi kusini mwa Tanga alipohudumu kama gavana wa utawala wa Kimazrui. Bwana Masud alikuwa mwana mashairi mtajika aliye-tunga mashairi mengi. Utenzi huu ni mojawapo wa kazi zake zilizotia fora katika janibu ya Waswahili wakati huo. Allen (1971) anasema kuwa *Utenzi wa Mikidadi na Mayasa* unahusu mashujaa wa wakati wa mtume Mohammed na kipindi cha baada ya kuiaga dunia kwake. Kipengele cha wahusika ni muhimu katika kutunga kazi yoyote ya kifasihi. Kinashirikishwa na vipengele vingine vya kifani ili kuwezesha mtunzi kutoa maudhui au ujumbe wake. Watunzi wa kazi ya kifasihi huwajenga wahusika kisanaa ili waweze kuwakilisha vipengele vingi katika maisha ya jamii wanayotungia. Watunzi pia hutumia mbinu mbalimbali kuwasawiri wahusika kutegemea tajriba yao ya kisanii pamoja na utanzu unaoshughulikiwa. Makala hii inalenga kufafanua mbinu zilizotumiwa na mtunzi kuwajenga wahusika wa aina mbalimbali waliojitokeza katika *Utenzi wa Mikidadi na Mayasa*. Pia tunakusudia kubainisha kuwa, ushairi hasa tenzi huwa na wahusika waliojengwa kikamilifu kwa kutumia mbinu mbalimbali za kimtindo na za lugha. Huu ni utafiti wa maktabani na uliongozwa na nadharia ya Umitindo. Makala hii imegawika katika sehemu tatu; sehemu ya kwanza ni utangulizi; unaotoa muhtasari kuhusu *Utenzi wa Mikidadi na Mayasa*, sehemu ya pili inaangazia dhana ya wahusika katika fasihi na sehemu ya tatu inafafanua uhusika kwa jumla, sehemu ya nne inabainisha mbinu zilizotumiwa kuwasawiri wahusika katika *Utenzi wa Mikidadi na Mayasa*.

Black Consciousness Motif: An Investigation of Lucky Dube's Selected Songs

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It is hard to overstate the intimacy of the relationship between music and consciousness. The variety of African Music creates a very rich and complex heritage of African Aesthetics and religious practices in Music and songs. The history of South Africa can be viewed as the history of black resistance to white conquest and domination, with the resistance taking a multifaceted paradigms which have naturally undergone profound modifications in the years following the arrival of the first colonialists led by Jan Van Riebeck in 1652. Further, scholars have noted that each form of colonial resistance represented a specific reaction and attempted solutions to the political, material and organizational problems generated by white hegemony. One of the notable ways in which the South African Literary canon has addressed the issue of oppression is through the genre of Music. Although it is arguable that humans have a desire and appreciation for Music since it connotes the consciousness of a People's lifestyle, Musical Traditions most importantly resonate with the historical afflictions like colonialism. This paper intends to analyse the motif of Black consciousness in Lucky Dube's songs namely *Victims*, *Prisoner*, *Different Colours* and *You stand alone*. The study will utilize the postcolonial theory and specifically the thread of Subaltern, advanced by Antonio Gramsci and popularized by Gayatri C. Spivak in her seminal essay, *Can the Subaltern Speak?* Just as Lucky Dube acts as a voice of reason for the marginalized other in Africa, the strand of the subaltern will be relevant to this study as Gramsci became interested in the study of the subaltern classes of consciousness and culture as one possible way to make their voice heard instead of relying on the historical narrative of the state which is by the end, the history of the ruling and dominant classes. Ultimately, the study will demonstrate that music is a popular, significant and accessible tool in awakening the consciousness of the otherized.

French Language in Intercultural Communication and Its Contribution to Sustainable Development in the Era of Globalization and Information and Communication Technologies

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Aside from linguistic competence, cultural competence or intelligence is a critical skill in surviving and thriving in the current global economy. For learners to take part effectively in this global civil society they are required to be able to assess and critique challenges in a world where global interdependence is growing. Speaking about the world implies discussing globalization, acknowledging the existence of diversity, and the willingness to address it, if not creating a leveling by eroding these diversities. Faced with this challenge, one might consider that the French language still occupies a comfortable position, certainly of significant importance. The available linguistic statistics confirm the good status of the French language worldwide. While it is surpassed by about ten other languages in terms of the number of speakers, such as Portuguese, Arabic, Russian, Spanish, English, Bengali, and Chinese, it still holds the second position after English as a language of international status.

This is because it is spoken on all five continents and serves as the official language in at least 30 countries (compared to English, which holds this role in 45 countries). It is worth noting that within the United Nations organizations, French enjoys the dual status of official language and working language, a privilege it shares only with English. This paper analyzed the contribution of the French language in communication to sustainable development in the light of globalization and ICT era. It specifically examined the status of the French language in the world, evaluated its role in enhancing sustainable development and lastly suggested ways in which the French language use in communication can be promoted worldwide with the aim of enhancing sustainable development. A descriptive research design enabled secondary data to be collected. The data were analyzed qualitatively. The paper concludes that the use of the French language in communication can foster inclusivity, cultural understanding, knowledge sharing, international cooperation, and empowerment, all of which are essential elements for promoting sustainable development.

Keywords: Intercultural communication, French language, globalization, ICT, sustainable Development

Textuality of Social Media Political Discourse in Kenya

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Texts are constructed using multiple modes, which in themselves represent socially realized meanings. They reflect socially coherent semiotic resources that establish cohesion both internally, among the elements of the text, and externally within the contexts of the texts' environment. In the process of composing a text, producers makes semiotic decisions about what modes to include or exclude from the text, the overall design and its delivery, turning it into a coherent and unified text and thereby empowering it with specific contextual meaning. During the period under study, social-political actors took to their twitter and Facebook pages to represent sensational political happenings in the country. These were; leadership, police brutality, the handshake, corruption, Women and leadership and 2022 succession. These formed the thematic areas from which the texts were obtained. In order to do this powerfully creators exploited different semiotic modes to create cohesion and make the impact of the message greater. This study used Multimodal Discourse Analysis theory by Kress and Van Leeuwen (1996) which enabled the researcher to analyze the different semiotic modes in a text in order to understand the construction of power, dominance, bias, and inequalities. The set of resources in visual design that related to textual meaning were: information value, salience modality, gaze, size of frame and social distance. This study established that most realistic signs are not what they appear to be but serve an ideological function. Therefore, it performs a valuable semiotic function of denaturalizing, deconstructing and contesting the realities of signs to reveal whose realities are privileged and whose are suppressed.

A Pragmatic Analysis of the Use of Mock Politeness by Kenyans on X

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Kenyans on X function as a community of language users where language is not just a tool of communication, but an instrument for achieving social goals where they use language to navigate social interactions, have fun, critique leaders and assert their social identities. This paper examines the use of mock politeness as a communicative strategy by Kenyans on X (formerly *Tweeter*). With focus on their language, the study discusses how mock politeness helps Kenyans on X discuss various social, political and economic issues around this virtual space. Impoliteness theory by Culpeper (1996) helps to analyze how impolite language is used on this virtual space. Qualitative research approach is used in the study as the data is linguistic. Purposive sampling technique was used to select tweets that showed how mock politeness impoliteness strategy was used by Kenyans on X. A guiding card was used to collect and place data collected in various categories. Content analysis method was also used to analyze data that was collected. This research is important as it helps to understand how Kenyan X users employ mock politeness to express themselves and negotiate power dynamics on X. The study sheds light on communicative practices of Kenyan X users.

Keywords: Kenyans on X Twitter Mock politeness Impoliteness

Memoiric Techniques in Patrisse Khan-Cullors & Asha Bandele's *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*

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The rise of the #BlackLivesMatter movement has influenced and altered many narratives as well as the way in which media presents activism and various forms of protest. Whereas several texts have attempted a presentation of racial prejudice in African American literature, the post black lives matter memoirists have challenged some of the structural and aesthetic features that characterized the texts. Thus, the memoirist endeavors to problematize an idea of an authentic confession while refraining from casual narrative connections. This paper seeks to interrogate the memoiric techniques in *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*, written during the post *Black Lives Matter* period, hence functioning as prismatic lenses to reflect the racial prejudices faced by the people of colour. The study has used the strand of orientalism derived from the Post-colonial theory as the critical interpretive grid. Through a qualitative research design, this study explores the perspectives of racial contestations during the post *Black Lives Matter* epoch. The paper argues that the Memoir's ability to structure life according to meaningful narrative connections makes its presentational techniques relevant, democratic and relatable to the burning issue of racism.

Keywords: People of colour, African American, Bipoc, Memoir, Prejudice, supremacy

Media Coverage of Health Crises in Kenya: Narratives on Healthcare Seeking and Access, & Health Justice

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Sustainable national development can only be a reality when the provision of quality and affordable healthcare is accessible to all citizens. However, media coverage of cases of patient negligence often leading to severe health complications or even death in Kenyan healthcare facilities is frequent. But the objectives of the media coverage on the audience, including the general public and those holding relevant public positions, have not been thoroughly investigated to establish their influence in improving healthcare decision-making among the public, and healthcare policy formulation and implementation among the leadership at the county and national governments, and practitioners and managers in the healthcare sector. This study focuses on media coverage of health crises as narratives involving various actors, having varied understandings and perspectives on health crises and their implications on health justice. The study therefore analyses these narratives as an account of the treatment experiences of patients and their caregivers; healthcare decision-making processes; physician professional and communication competences; leadership perspectives on healthcare issues; challenges in the provision of quality healthcare services; and the framing of the narratives by the media and their sources. One leading newspaper in Kenya was purposively sampled for the study. Data collection from the newspaper on stories covering crises in the healthcare sector for the last five years, from 2018-2023, is continuing. The study is anchored on the narrative theory of crisis communication. This data will be analyzed thematically.

Keywords: healthcare crisis, media coverage, narratives, health justice

Impacts of Biometric Technology Utilisation on Hotel Operation Performance: Hotel Security Process

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The continuous improvement of technology and the desire of the hotel guest to use technology to satisfy guest needs especially those inclined to technology has pushed hotel to adopt and utilize many novel technologies. Biometric technology is one of those technologies that has being integrated with hotel security process to improve the hotel performance through its utilization. Many studies have focused on the need for adapting to biometric technology and few have considered utilization impact on hotel operations. Adoption of the technology by the hotel is not enough justification of improvement of hotel process performance. Measuring the impact of biometric technology on hotel operation is important in determining the extent to which it has contributed to investment return, increased guest satisfaction, smoothed guest identification and access processes, reduced employees task, reduced service queue, and improved the satisfaction level of guests and employees. This study purposed to identify the impacts of biometric technology on hotel security operational process. The study was conducted in star rated hotels in Nairobi that had installed and used biometric technology in their operations. Nairobi was the preferred study area since it is considered the most technology empowered city in the East Africa community.

Descriptive cross sectional research design was used, and primary data collected through use of questionnaires. The study had 104 employees and 198 guest as its respondents. The Cronbach alpha coefficient was 0.923 and 0.814 for employee and guest respectively. This study showed that biometric technology has a positive and significant effect ($p=.000$) on hotel operational performance from both guest and employee perspectives. Most employees preferred fingerprint biometric technology in security process, while most guest preferred facial biometric technology. Both guests and employees preferred a multimodal technology with facial/fingerprint biometric technology being the most considered. This study will help in management of technologies that are integrated with hotel property management system in ensuring their value and performance is well established.

Politeness Strategies in Kĩmwĩmbĩ (E531) Condolence Messages

Loyford Kariuki Kinegeni & Prof. Humprey Kirimi

Chuka University

The purpose of this paper is to investigate the politeness strategies used by condolers in expressing condolence in Kĩmwĩmbĩ. Death is a natural part of human life. Regardless of its cause, it is usually very painful and therefore, losing a loved one causes deep feelings of loss and sorrow not only to the family of the deceased but also to friends and relatives. The main purpose of expressing condolence is to convey sympathy or compassion to the bereaved. Yule (2017) argues that in linguistic politeness, face is the most important concept and claims that a person's face in pragmatics is their public self-image. In expressing condolence, condolers threaten the face of the bereaved but also employ politeness strategies to formulate messages in order to save the bereaved face. The study adopted the qualitative and quantitative research design and used Brown and Levinson (1978) Politeness Theory. Politeness theory focuses on 'saving face' which is a key aspect in politeness. The study was conducted in Chogoria Division, Maara Sub County, Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya. Purposive sampling was used to sample twenty condolence messages for analysis. The data was collected using a voice recorder that was used to record condolence speeches and a guiding card was used to categorize these politeness strategies. The data was analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively providing explanation of these politeness strategies and giving their frequencies and percentages in tables and charts. It was established that the four politeness strategies proposed in the politeness theory are used in expressing condolence in Kĩmwĩmbĩ, with positive politeness strategy being the most used. The findings add the existing knowledge in pragmatics, especially on politeness and burial discourse. Similarly, the study provides data which can be used to compare with other languages hence aiding in generalizing conclusions and providing a better understanding of the condolence speech act.

Keywords: Condolence, Politeness, Politeness Strategies, Politeness Theory, Kĩmwĩmbĩ.

Dictation in Evaluation of French for Specific Purposes in Kenyan Colleges: From research in didactics to pedagogical practices

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Masinde Muliro University

The knowledge of a foreign language has become an important element in professional life world over. In Kenya, French is one of the foreign languages taught throughout the education system: primary, secondary, college and university. However, despite the availability of qualified teachers, sufficient teaching and learning time and materials learners still face difficulties in learning French as a foreign language. The learners' difficulties can be traced in the mistakes in both their oral and written productions. Dictation practices listening and writing skills first and foremost and, in the latter case, a number of sub-skills such as spelling and punctuation. The purpose of this study is to bring out a better understanding, through the learners' written productions, of the spelling difficulties in French for specific purposes -FSP- examinations in Kenyan colleges and also to suggest the pedagogical practices that can remedy this. This study will be guided by the following research objectives: to establish the existence poor performance in dictation in FSP examinations in Kenyan colleges; to identify the spelling difficulties facing learners of FSP in Kenyan colleges; to explore appropriate pedagogical practices that can be implemented in the classroom to remedy these difficulties. This study will be based on Vygotsky's and Bruner's language development theories – Zone of Proximal Development and Scaffolding. The analysis of the orthographic difficulties will be based on criteria as outlined by Catch (1968). Purposive random sampling will be used to select two colleges in Meru and Embu Counties in the Eastern part of Kenya. The study will use written texts by the students at Certificate and Diploma pursuing programmes in Tourism and Tour Guiding Management. The findings of this study are meant to kindle debate on practice of dictation in evaluation, teaching and learning among researchers and policy makers in the field of FFL teaching and learning. It will also enable teachers of French improve on their pedagogical skills, therefore helping the learners of FSP explore their full potentials during training for their future professional life taking into consideration the role FFL plays in the labour market.

Keywords: dictation, ZPD, scaffolding, foreign language teaching / learning, FFL, FSP

Masculinity: A Mirage Not a Reality in Migrant Literature: A Study of Unoma Azuah's Novel *Edible Bones*

Muriungi A Kanaa & Dr. Antony Mate Mukasa
Chuka University

The concept of masculinity crisis has been a major motif in migrant literature. Bedevilled by the ghost of postcolonial experiences and cultural demands on the male character, the immigrant character in most of the migrant literature seesaws in a state of limbo. The protagonist in the novel *Edible Bones* suffers mental depression as a result of the pressure to radiate the acceptable masculine identity and the incongruity of the diasporic environment with his culture. The migration of the protagonist in the novel *Edible Bones* is motivated by a wild assumption of the west as the center of civilization, prosperity and generally the epitome of self fulfilment as espoused by the colonial master. This research paper, will analyse the masculinity crisis in the Unoma Azuah's novel *Edible Bones*. Through the lenses of masculinity theory as espoused by Raewyn Connel (2005). This paper intends to unearth how the hyped individual and cultural expectations on immigrant characters, and the

dissonance of migration environment plunge the African migrant character into masculine crisis. Through the analysis of the migrant characters in the novel *Edible Bones*, this paper will explore the masculinity crisis the migrant character is engulfed in, as a result of the migration experience, which leaves him more vulnerable than before. The significance of this research paper is to create some awareness on mental depression prevalent in the contemporary male character in the African society in attempt to reinvent their masculine identity.

Politeness Strategies in Gichuka Request Expressions

Emise Kageni Kirimi, Chuka University

Gichuka is a Bantu language of the Niger- Congo family spoken by the Chuka people of Tharaka- Nithi County, Chuka Igamba-Ng'ombe Constituency. The aim of this paper is to analyze the politeness strategies used in Gchuka request expressions. This is because politeness is an important social norm that is expected in any society for maintaining cordial relationships in everyday life. Its expression, however, varies from culture to culture. The study is guided by the Politeness Theory by Brown and Levinson and the Communicative Principle of Relevance by Sperber and Wilson. It utilizes the descriptive research design to study six purposively sampled Gichuka social events. One hundred and twenty seven request expressions are identified as requests from those communicative events. The study establishes that Gchuka request expressions conform to Brown and Levinson Theory of Politeness. It finds that the most commonly employed strategies of requesting in Gchuka social events are negative politeness strategies. This study gives vitality to Gichuka language. It significantly enhances the analysis of the Gchuka variety and adds to the existing knowledge on pragmatic analysis of politeness in requests in various languages of the world as well as other Bantu languages.

Keywords: Gchuka, Politeness, Requests, Social Events, Strategies.

Leveraging New Media, Information, and Technology for Sustainable Healthcare Development in Kenya: A Focus on Cancer Prevention and Treatment Initiatives in Meru County

Mwendwa Mildred Zipporah, Chuka University

Cancer is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide. In Kenya, cancer as a disease ranks third as a cause of death after infectious and cardiovascular diseases and the cancer cases are increasing at an alarming rate. In Kenya, the intersection of new media, information, and technology presents a promising avenue for advancing sustainable healthcare, particularly in the realm of cancer prevention and treatment. This study affirms the same and aims to explore the dynamic landscape of utilizing these tools to address the pressing healthcare challenges facing the nation. It will explore the utilization of new media, information, and technology as catalysts for sustainable healthcare development in Kenya, with a specific emphasis on cancer prevention and treatment initiatives in Meru County. In a country facing challenges of limited resources and infrastructure in healthcare, the intersection of these tools offers unprecedented opportunities to bridge gaps and improve health

outcomes. Leveraging platforms such as social media, mobile applications, and telemedicine, coupled with innovative technologies like artificial intelligence, has facilitated the dissemination of health information, expanded access to specialized care, and enhanced community engagement. Through grassroots initiatives, partnerships, and policy reforms, Kenya is poised to harness the power of digital innovation to advance cancer prevention and treatment, ultimately paving the way for sustainable healthcare development and improved well-being for its population. The study will adopt descriptive survey design using both quantitative and qualitative approaches. Data will be collected using Focus Group Discussions (FGD), Key Informant Interviews (KII), questionnaires, observations, secondary data and analysis of digital data. Data will be analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The findings of the study will be disseminated through learned conferences, seminars and workshops.

Keywords: Leveraging, New Media, ICT, Sustainable Healthcare, Cancer

Effect of Facebook Information Disorder on Sociocultural Sustainability

Jackton Otieno Midigo, Rongo University

Sustainable development comprises the economic, environmental and social domains. Much focus has been on the economic and environmental growth while the socio-culture sphere concerned with language and communication in a digital space remains unnoticed. This study concerns itself with how Facebook information disorder affects socio-cultural sustainability. Human interaction is essential in sustainable development hence, language as a shared means of communication is worth paying attention to. Information disorder as discussed in this paper include misinformation, disinformation and misinformation, which can influence public perception, behavior, and societal cohesion. Facebook, is one of the largest social media platforms which plays a pivotal role in the dissemination of information. This makes it susceptible to the spread of misinformation and its potential consequences on socio-cultural sustainability. Through an interdisciplinary approach drawing from language, communication and technology, this study explores the mechanisms through which misinformation spreads, its effect on cultural beliefs, social cohesion, and community resilience. Additionally, the study evaluates the effectiveness of existing strategies and interventions in mitigating the effect of information disorder on socio-cultural sustainability within the Facebook ecosystem. The study targeted Nairobi County residents residing in Roysambu to purposively settle on a sample size of 50 informants for data collection, through interviews with open ended questions. The data collected was both qualitative and quantitative in nature that was described using descriptive research design. The study adopted The Developmental-Sociocultural Framework propounded by Choukas-Bradley (2022) for data analysis. The findings reveal that Facebook users are increasingly exposed to misinformation, leading to a distortion of societal norms and values. The findings shed light on the intricate relationship between information disorder on Facebook and sociocultural sustainability. The findings may provide insight for policymakers on social media platforms and communities to develop robust strategies to combat misinformation and promote a more sustainable socio-cultural environment in this digital age.

Key words: Language, communication, technology, sociocultural sustainability and information disorder.

Meanings in *Always* Sanitary Pads Advertisements Njenjere Karambu Fridah, Chuka University

Meaning, in multimodal theory, emerges through the intricate interplay and combination of different modes. This study scrutinizes the meanings of online advertisements of *Always* Sanitary Pads by Procter and Gamble. The theoretical framework comprises Multimodal Theory by Gunther Kress and Theo van Leeuwen. Employing quota sampling as the research design, the instrument was a guiding card, facilitating a nuanced exploration of the communicative intricacies within these advertisements. This research found out that *Always* Sanitary Pads advertisements contain multimodal components composed of semiotic resources that are interacted creatively hence contributing in the shaping of the perceptions of feminine hygiene products. This research is important as the findings of this study are expected to add to the existing literature in the field of pragmatics and semiotics. The findings of this study help linguists learning the language since they will aid in gaining an understanding of the linguistic politeness strategies and the visual modes employed in advertising.

Internet Meme Culture in Kenya as a Catharsis for Poor Governance Prof. Nancy W. Mbaka, Chuka University

Kenya has become a meme nation. Meme lords and ordinary Kenyans use everyday occurrences to create internet memes. Memes are characteristically humorous and this has drawn Kenyans to view memes in the social media sites on a daily basis. Humour is an area of study with direct relevance to our daily lives. It has benefits for our emotional wellbeing as it provides relief from stress. Yet, it is a subject, which is erroneously dismissed as insignificant and taken for granted. Memes help Kenyans to cope with difficult situations and keeps them resilient and hopeful. This paper analyses memes on four areas that relate to governance namely: high taxation, high cost of living, poverty and corruption. Purposive sampling was used to select memes whose content is on the areas mentioned from the internet from 2022 to 2024. These are issues of governance that were weighing heavily on Kenyans minds during this period. The research adopted two theories: the theory of play and the theory of incongruity. The two theories complement one another and provide a framework for analysing the incongruity that creates humour and the play aspect in the memes. The study found out that the main source of humour in the Kenyan memes is incongruity and the humour relieves Kenyans shielding them from hopelessness and enabling them to move on with their daily lives. Humour is a multidisciplinary field and the results of this study are relevant not only in Linguistics but in Psychology, Philosophy and Literature.

Key words: Meme, Corruption, High Taxation, High Cost of Living, Poverty, Humour.

How Social Distance Influences Politeness Strategies Used by Teachers in the School Staffroom in Kirinyaga County

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Politeness is considered an essential practice which ensures that interactions between people are orderly and that the desired goal is realized. During interactions speakers intentionally try to assuage threats of the face carried out by face threatening acts (FTAs) towards another person in social interaction. Politeness is such an important principle in human language use because speakers must consider the listener's feelings. Additionally, understanding among people promotes good interpersonal association and creates a favourable working environment. The study focused on politeness strategies used by teachers in various contexts, during their own free interactions and during briefings when the school administrators were passing an important message to teachers. Politeness theory by Brown and Levinson (1987) was used to analyse the data. Descriptive research approach was adopted for this study. Three secondary schools were randomly sampled. All teachers in the sampled schools were selected for the study. Research instruments were video recorder, observation and field notes to reinforce the data collected through video recording. The researcher recorded only the first 30 minutes of the meetings and the non-formal interaction periods (lunch hour) starting from when teachers came in from class preceding lunch break. Qualitative approach to data analysis was used in the study to present the utterance by teachers. However descriptive data from the frequencies of use of the politeness strategies by teachers was presented in tables. The positive politeness strategies used by teachers included notice, attending to hearer, optimism and seeking agreement. The social distance between teachers and principals was considered great since the principals used bald-on-record strategies during briefs. This was evident from the straight forward orders and requests they made to the teachers. The distance of the speaker and hearer was identified from the way teachers interacted amongst themselves and with the principals. The use of the word 'sir' to address the principal was social distance characteristic. The social distance helped teachers to freely interact with each other and keep it is official with the principals. The social distance between the speaker and hearer was however varied among participants of the same gender, age and rank among different schools.

Keywords: Politeness, strategies, face threatening acts, social distance.

A Forensic Linguistic Study of Victim Impact Statements in Magistrates' Court in Kenya

Kiriimi Antony Kiambi, Chuka University

This study focuses on Forensic Linguistics which involves use of linguistic knowledge, insights and methods to the forensic context of law, language, crime investigation, trial, and judicial procedure. It is said to be the language of evidence. It serves to limit, control, promote or reduce dominance since language has power. This paper therefore analyzes the emotive vocabulary in rape cases' Victim Impact Statements. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) theory by Fairclough (1989) helps to analyze how emotive vocabularies are used in VISs. Qualitative research approach is used as the data is linguistic. Purposive sampling was used to collect VISs that have emotive vocabularies and from rape cases. A lexical checklist helped to categorize lexical items and vocabulary types as used in rape cases' VISs. The sample size for this study was ten VISs. A descriptive qualitative technique was used in this study and the three dimensions of CDA; description, Interpretation and explanation used in data analysis. Content analysis was also used to analyze the data. This study is important as the findings are expected to add to the body of knowledge on Forensic Linguistics which is an emerging area of study especially courtroom discourse.

The findings give insight to the legal practitioners especially legal decision makers on language used in rape cases' VISs.

Key Terms: Emotive vocabulary Rape Victim Impact Statements

An Analysis on the Use of Attitude Markers in English Doctoral Dissertations in Kenyan Universities

Lilly Kabura Mbugua, Chuka University

In Kenya, English is widely used for academic purposes. Academic writing is not merely providing an overview it also involves taking a stance. In academic writing the authors describe, analyse, and evaluate the development of their research. To successfully achieve this target, writers' endeavor to create coherent and cohesive dissertations that clearly show the propositions of their findings. This implies that, writing has two major levels, the propositional level and the metadiscourse level. The purpose of the metadiscourse level is to create a relationship between the writer and the reader and to help the reader navigate through the writer's work. Though metadiscourse markers do not add much to the proposition, they are important linguistic devices that enhances the social relation between the reader and the writer. In addition, metadiscourse markers are used to organize the discourse, engage the audience, and signal the writer's attitude. The writer's attitude is signaled by the use of attitude markers. Attitude markers refer to expressions used in a text to reflect writer's position toward both the content in the text and the reader. Attitude markers can be realized through the use of deontic modal verbs (e.g., should, have to), lexical verbs (e.g., prefer, agree), adjectives (e.g., appropriate, unfortunate), affective adverbs (e.g., hopefully, surprisingly) and some other expressions (e.g., it is necessary). This study looks at the use of attitude markers in doctoral dissertations written by English second language writers, studying English for Academic Purposes (EAP) in Kenya. These markers are important in academic writing, because they enable the reader to easily identify the writer's position on his proposition. The data is drawn from the introduction, discussion and conclusion chapters of a randomly compiled corpus of twenty dissertations from eleven universities across the country. Hyland (2005) framework of metadiscourse markers is used to identify and code the markers. The data is analyzed using the Antconc text 4.1.4 analysis tool and Log-likelihood statistics to investigate how attitude markers are used. The findings of this study will provide valuable insights into the use of Attitude Markers in academic writing and it can inform the development of English for academic purposes (EAP) course materials to enhance the academic writing skills of doctoral writers in Kenya.

Keywords: Second Language Writing, Academic Writing, Metadiscourse Markers, Attitude Markers, Doctoral dissertations.

Representations of the 21st Century University Don in Paul. B Vitta's novel, *Fathers of Nations*

Purity Wanja ,Chuka University

This paper explores the portrayal of the don characters in Paul B. Vitta's novel, *Fathers of Nations* as representational of the place of the university don in 21st century African politics.

It guided by two objectives: to examine the representation of dons in the novel and to explore the literary techniques the author has used to comment on the place of the 21st century don in the African politics and development agenda.

This study utilizes textual evidence. It will involve a close reading of the primary text, *Fathers of Nations*, as well as secondary sources such as journal articles on both the novel and the topic. The paper will be anchored on the post-colonial literary theory to comment on the impact of neocolonialism in the treatment of the academic elite.

Key Words: Don, Politics, Postcolonial, development

Legal and Ethical Challenges of Citizen Journalism in Kenya

Lisper Kathure Mukuru ,Chuka University

Citizen journalism is a standard of activities in the Internet that shows how members of the public in a country engage with each other, share ideologies with others on the platform to create a whole online community. The audiences are not groups of inactive receivers, but people who actively participate by reacting and respond to messages, produce and even distribute their own messages. Traditional roles and societal responsibilities of journalism compared to the citizen active participation day to day seem to have dwindled where the quality of news gathered and reported by mainstream media was common. Now professional journalists are witnessing the profession which they were previously proud of, full of market-driven attempts with the main motivation being to gain profits. Their responsibilities and commitments to protect the welfare of the public as gatekeepers has been overtaken by showy and distasteful fetes of what now is most appealing to the society. For democracy to be achieved in a nation, there requires freedom of the press. These are bill of rights that ensure there is free movement of ideas to ensure that the public dialogue allows what is factual to come out. However, despite existence of responsible mass media, the fight for dominance and completion in demand for profit there is need to prevent abuse of this freedom. The study analyzed media ethics dilemma in citizen journalism where users used the platforms with disregard to media ethics as outline in traditional media codes of ethics. It established that questions have been raised over the authenticity of the information that is made available on these social media platform especially concerning the number of followers shown for the accounts and the technicalities and process followed. The dominance of the platforms therefore outline that the users spread and control a lot information and dictate who will share it and to whom it will be shared to. The findings are beneficial to law and policy makers in the country in regards to enactment of serious policies and laws to curb legal and ethical issues as well as and media scholars in regard to media law curriculum that focuses on citizen journalism platforms. This calls for effective definition and embracing of regulations and guidelines on ethics to ensure that media practitioners operate in good conduct.

Keywords: Internet, Social Media, Media Ethics, Journalism, Legal Challenges, Ethical challenges.

A Syntactic Analysis of Focus and Topicalization in Kĩmũthambĩ

Diana Kananu Kaburo, Chuka University

Focus and topic are aspects of information structure that are associated with the left periphery of the clause. According to Rizzi (1997), focus and topic are functional projections in the left periphery; FocP (Focus phrase) and TopP (Topic phrase) respectively. Each of the projections projects its own specifier and head positions. Studies of the left periphery present varied details on how these elements are realized across language (Rizzi, 1997; Aboh, 2004; Bassong, 2014; Yuan, 2016; Nweya, 2018). This kind of detail has not been examined in Kĩmũthambĩ and hence the need to characterize Kĩmũthambĩ focus and topic elements as features of the left periphery. Consequently, this paper provides a description of focus marking and topicalization in Kĩmũthambĩ and gives a syntactic analysis of these projections as elements of the left periphery. Kĩmũthambĩ is a central Kenya Bantu language, which belongs to the larger Kikuyu-Kamba group (E50); classified as E531 Mwimbi-Muthambi by Maho (2009). The paper explores the various strategies for encoding focus in Kĩmũthambĩ and proposes that there are two domains for encoding focus; post verbally and in the left periphery. In topicalization, the study notes that topics move to the left periphery and the main specificity for topicalization is the phonological pause between the topic and the rest of the clause and the presence of a resumptive pronoun in the extraction domain; which is not evident in focus constructions. The present study contributes to the description of the language and also to typological and comparative studies of focus and topic constructions in various languages. The data used in this work was collected through elicitation from native speakers of Kĩmũthambĩ and the author's intuition as a speaker of the language.

Video on demand for personalized watching and engagement. A case of Viusasa

Peter James Wainaina, Chuka University

Since its invention, television has undergone numerous institutional changes due to the fact that the values, daily lives and routines of its audiences have also remarkably changed. This has given rise to a revolutionary application known as a video on demand (V.O.D) which has become a one-stop-shop for audiences who desire personalized watching experiences. Despite the unique watching practices that come with Viusasa, knowledge about Video on Demand platform in Kenya remains highly subjective due to limited research on the efficacy of personalization and engagement of users on local Video on Demand platforms. In addition, there has been delayed adoption of this revolutionary platform. Therefore, this study seeks to bridge this gap by analyzing the media transformation brought by Viusasa, leading to personalized watching experiences and involvement. The study sort to assess the effectiveness of personalized content delivery on Citizen Tv's Viusasa, determined the role of viusasa in promoting local content and ascertained major challenges experienced by viusasa users when accessing content. This study was anchored on the Mediamorphosis theory which recognizes the relationship between existing and emerging media. The theory further brings to light how existing and new media alter each other while also emphasizing the reality that existing media must adapt by identifying new niche areas of fit to ensure sustainability and existence in the presence of newer or better platforms. The study adopted a descriptive research design where open-ended and closed questionnaires were used as instruments of data collection. The study involved 383 Viusasa users within Nairobi central business district in Starehe constituency.

Data was analyzed using narrative analysis and descriptive statistics. establishing patterns in this study. This research was very instrumental in enlightening the audiences about the Video on demand applications which offer personalized watching experiences since the array of content available was tailored to meet the various needs of heterogeneous media content consumers. The study further provided useful insights to television station players on the need to incorporate video on demand applications as one of their convenient content outlets that is anchored on Internet and technology.

Linguistic Ethnobiology: The Case of Gĩkũyũ Plant Names

C. Patrick Kihara ,Chuka University

It is generally agreed that language is important in transmitting folk wisdom, including environmental knowledge. In recent years intra-discipline research has expanded, and Linguistics has reaped more benefits of the expansion in term of increased areas of study. One such new area of study is linguistic ethnobiology. Ethnobotany is the study of people- plant relations (Anderson et al 2011:133), and linguistic ethnobiology is the study of naming of plants and animals (Hunn & Brown 2011). Legere (2022: 732) describes linguistic ethnobiology as the study of the connection between languages and ethnobotany in Africa. He delves into the aspects of folk taxonomy, plant naming strategies in Bantu languages, which according to him, remarkably differs from the scientific Linnaean taxonomy and conceptualization. Legere contends that rural communities use their own systems to name the plants based on their size, shape (plant morphology), habitats or uses, independent of the Linnean structuring and classification of the plant kingdom. Nicolle (2004) asserts that Ethnobotany promotes linguistic vitality. Such vitality counts even for languages such Gĩkũyũ, though not threatened, requires revamping in ethnobotany research. Plant names are part of language, and their loss is loss of flora, cultural and linguistic diversity. The traditional knowledge of plants contributes to the preservation and conservation of plant biodiversity. In a small way, this paper endeavours to contribute the preservation of plant names in Gĩkũyũ, a central Bantu language spoken mainly in central Kenya. The plants domain is important to linguists as it offers them an opportunity to explore the domain with ethnobotanists, who require people with linguistic knowledge in their work (Sutton 1980). Further, languages vary in how they form names for plants and animals (Hunn & Brown 2011), which makes it important to see how Gĩkũyũ does it. This paper deals with the linguistics of plant names in Gĩkũyũ. Linguists who study ethnobotany are interested in the morphology and semantics of plant names. In the morphological domain, linguists can look into the generic and specific naming of plants, the types of compounding, reduplication, derivational affixation, metaphoric extension, among others (Sutton 1980). The overarching objective of this paper is to explain the morphology and the conceptual meanings of Gĩkũyũ plant names, in order to find out what Gĩkũyũ plant names tell us about the people, their culture and probably their ecosystem. The data used here sourced from two main sources: Gachathi (2007), which is a comprehensive dictionary of Gĩkũyũ plant names, their uses and cultural values, and Kamau et al. (2016). Some of it is my own knowledge of Gĩkũyũ plant names as a native speaker of the language.

CULTURE, GENDER, SOCIAL WORK AND MENTAL HEALTH

Play Therapy as a Treatment Measure for Trauma in Children: A Literature Review

Meek Mutheu Lio, Chuka University

Trauma is an issue that plagues a large number of children and has numerous negative outcomes extreme of which is development of mental illnesses such as depressive and anxiety disorders among others. It could be argued that addressing trauma in childhood could mitigate development of mental illness among children as they age into adolescence thereby curbing the ever rising rate of mental illness among the youth. A descriptive research design was adopted for this study since variables were described without any kind of manipulation. Keywords were used to generate the required literature and maximum variation sampling was used to ensure that the sources of literature covered diverse areas of interest. Thematic analysis was employed to tease out the main domains of curative measures for trauma among children endorsed by play therapy. The findings from this study indicated that play therapy is a developmentally appropriate intervention for children, can be personalized to meet the individual needs of children, allows children space to resolve their issues related to trauma, and improves the mental wellbeing of children. Based on these findings, it was recommended that policy makers endeavor to create awareness about traumatic experiences that bring children to play therapy, psychotherapists to consider integrating different play therapy techniques to address the specific needs of each individual child, developers of play therapy need to consider cultural nuances when developing socially relevant play therapy modalities and that parents, family members, guardians, teachers and significant others be involved in and support the trauma recovery process of children.

Keywords: Curative measure, mental illness, Play therapy, Trauma in Children.

An Assessment of the Effectiveness of Palliative Care Communication Approaches Targeting Children Living with Cancer at the Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya

Machogu Omambia Benson, Chuka University

This study seeks to assess how effective palliative care is communicated to children suffering from cancer in Nairobi. Palliative care, whose purpose is advancing the quality of life for patients with chronic diseases, entails effective communication amongst healthcare workers, patients, and their families. Various communication strategies such as face-to-face, written, Video, print media, music and online methods can facilitate communication in palliative care. But then there is ineffective palliative care communication in Kenya, leading to inadequate access to palliative care services. The study objectives are; analyzing the approaches used for pediatric palliative care communication in Kenya, assessing the effectiveness of pediatric palliative care communication in Kenya, and designing an alternative pediatric palliative care communication model. Anchored in the Health Belief Model (HBM), the study will gain insights on how individuals respond to and perceive palliative care information. This study's research design will be descriptive, combining both qualitative and quantitative methodologies to investigate and analyze communication processes in pediatric oncology. The study will take place at the Kenyatta National Hospital's Paediatric Oncology Wing in Nairobi County, with participants including pediatric palliative care providers and parents/guardians of children suffering from cancer. The target population is children suffering from cancer at the hospital. Convenience non-probability sampling will be used to set sample size, ensuring representativeness of the entire population. Questionnaires together with interviews will be used for data collection. A pilot study will be done prior to the main study to examine the validity and reliability of data gathering methods.

Ethical considerations will be followed, assuring participants' voluntary involvement, confidentiality, and informed consent. Data cleaning, coding, classification, and quantitative and qualitative analysis will all be part of the data analysis process. The data will be presented using tables, percentages, bar graphs, and charts. This study aims to contribute to the enhancement of palliative care communication for children with cancer in Kenya, with the absolute goal of improving the quality of care and support provided to this vulnerable population.

Redefining the Epistemic Foundations for Gender Equality in Contemporary African Societies

John Mosu Nzioka, Chuka University

In most African societies, just as organized societies worldwide, individuals are raised to adopt a convergent way of thinking and acting. As a result, culturally accepted belief systems and traditions define what is considered appropriate for all members of that society. Concerning male to female relations, the males have always been considered superior and dominant whereas females have been trained to be obedient and submissive to men. These beliefs are assumed to be based on firm and logical grounds which are universally held to be factual. Some scholars even compare the claim that men are superior to women with occurrences in nature. They claim that nature designs it to be as such and conventional laws cannot change it. It is on this theoretical foundation that societies develop cultural values and designate roles and responsibilities to members in the society based on their sex. In order for any beliefs to qualify as knowledge, they must meet the tripartite conditions of belief (conviction), justification (proof/evidence) and truth (actual state of affairs). In this paper, I argue that the theoretical basis on which we have based our beliefs and practices does not meet these three conditions (they do not have logical reasons backing them and are not true), hence we formulate and adhere to cultural values that are not logically justified. I argue that this attribution of superiority and inferiority has negatively affected progress in society because those who adhere to it are limited by these beliefs. This paper posits that the differences between men and women (both psychological and physiological) do not offer us sufficient grounds to assign inferiority or superiority to them as people or to their culturally-defined roles. Instead, societies formulate perceptions without consideration of their epistemic validity. This paper demonstrates how these beliefs are, at best, instances of false belief, and as such, should be abandoned through a systematic change of mind-set (through a critical system of learning) as well as sensitization on equality and equity. It also advocates for an end to strong affirmative action which undermines equality and equity. Ultimately, the paper categorically stipulates that if we succeed in dropping this theoretical basis for our beliefs and actions, society will experience positive change in development and achieving our goals for sustainable development. This paper is a library-based research which involves analysis and critique of contemporary literature on gender issues in Africa.

Keywords: Gender, Gender Equality, Gender Equity, Epistemic foundations, Feminism,

Ownership and Control of Assets among Social Cash Transfer Beneficiaries in Marsabit County, Kenya: A Household Analysis

Boniface Munene Rufo, Chuka University

Social cash transfer programs promote diversification and intensification of livelihoods, and asset accumulation among the beneficiaries. However, there is a paucity of information regarding asset ownership and control decisions at the household level. This study presents findings from a mixed-method research conducted from October to December 2023, targeting 350 beneficiaries of the Hunger Safety Net Program in Marsabit County, Kenya. A relationship between ownership of assets (chi-square statistic of 179.628 and p-value < 0.05) and control of assets (chi-square statistic of 48.15 and p-value < 0.05) was established with gender. Men dominated the ownership of productive assets such as land, machines,

and livestock. Women and children majorly owned commercial houses and unproductive assets. The findings further revealed joint ownership of some assets in the household. However, all the productive assets (land, machines, livestock, and commercial houses) were majorly under the control of men in the household excluding women from the control decisions. Therefore, this study recommends the creation of awareness to households and communities regarding women's property rights. In addition, the government and other development agencies should establish programs and policies that can empower and protect women's ownership and control rights to assets.

Keywords: Ownership, Control, Social Cash Transfer, Assets

Impacts of Women Empowerment on Sustainable Development

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According to Statistical Division, (2013) women empowerment refers to process that increases women's 'options, choices, control and power' through women's own agency. Women's empowerment is recognized as a right in itself as well as a transformative tool with a multiplier effect for achieving progress in all other areas of social and economic development. While progress has been made in trying to close the gender gaps especially in sub-Saharan Africa where close to 61% of the women are considered to have one of the highest labour force participation rates in the world and also where significant strides have been made in the political arena over the years as witnessed by the number of women occupying top decision making posts, most African women continue to face grim livelihoods as they are still discriminated against when it comes to issue of income and power. Thus, women in some parts of Africa are still being denied education and employment and also continue to have limited opportunities in trade and industry (World Bank, 2014) This paper therefore, seeks to investigate the impacts of women empowerment on sustainable development. The researcher will apply a systematic review design to identify and synthesize all the available information about the subject. The paper will focus on influence of women participation in decision on sustainable development, women access to education and its impacts on sustainable development, women economic empowerment and sustainable development and how political empowerment of women influence sustainable development. The study will impact the communities on the importance of embracing and supporting women empowerment, help the national and the county government come up with plans for supporting women empowerment in Kenya and also help other development agencies to support the process women empowerment.

Parentification in the Context of Subjective Well-Being

Monicah Buyatsi Oundo, Grace Gatune Murithi & Tabitha Mbungu
Chuka University

Subjective wellbeing revolves around cognitive and affective evaluations of life experiences by an individual in terms of frequency of positive affect, prevalence of negative affect and general life satisfaction. The way a person thinks and feels about life experiences predicts one's quality of life including subjective wellbeing and is a function of material resources, social support system, the environment among other factors. Therefore, family dynamics play a profound role in the subjective wellbeing of an individual. Thus, this study sought to examine parentification in the context of subjective wellbeing. A case study design was adopted and data collected by use of an interview guide and an observation checklist. Member checking was employed to enhance credibility of the findings. Hypervigilance, responsibility fatigue, self-deprivation and imposter syndrome were fundamental themes that emanated from the data depicting deficits in positive affect, presence of negative affect and limited life satisfaction. While self-reliance and achievement orientation featured as sub themes that generated a sense of positive affect and some form of life satisfaction, these were both sabotaged by imposter syndrome. It was therefore recommended that psychological and educational interventions geared towards parentification be made available in an attempt to

enhance the subjective wellbeing of parentified clients as well as curtail propagation of parentification to subsequent generations.

Key Words: Dysfunctional families, Parentification, Parents, Siblings, Subjective wellbeing.

The Role of Atharaka Cultural Aspects in Political Mobilization during the General Elections in Tharaka Constituency, Kenya (1961-2013)

Kirunguru Raphael & Dr. Martha Muraya
Chuka University

Different societies in Africa have been using various cultural aspects as a strategy for political mobilizations during general elections. In this regard, the study will focus on examining the role of Atharaka cultural ties in political mobilization from 1961-2013. The study will be guided by the following objectives: to examine the role of music in political mobilization in the Tharaka constituency from 1961 to 2013; to analyze the role of clanism in political mobilization among the Atharaka during general elections and to find out how age-set system was used as one of the key political mobilizer. The study will be steered by the assumption that culture plays a significant role in political mobilization. The literatures will be reviewed on this study to identify the gap. The study will be guided by structural functionalism theory. Methodologically, a qualitative approach and descriptive study design will be used. The study will be carried out in the Tharaka constituency which has two sub-counties, Tharaka North and South due to their extensive inclusion of their culture in their social-cultural and political activities. Respondents will be purposively sampled using snowballing techniques because it will assist the researcher to identify respondents who have been deeply involved in Tharaka culture and politics. Tharaka constituency is among the three constituencies in Tharaka Nithi County which includes Maara with population of 144,894 and Chuka Igambang'ombe with population of 144,688. Tharaka constituency has population of 133,595 thus categorizing it as a minor group in this study. For minor group a sample size of 20- 50 respondents will be used since the study will rely on data saturation. The respondents will be categorized into two, 30 to be interviewed individually, and 20 will be used for focus group discussions. The researcher will use both primary and secondary data. Primary data will be acquired through interviews and archives. Archival information will be used up to 1990s. Secondary data will be found in books, journals, articles, theses, dissertations and the Internet. On research instruments, an interview guide, a focus group discussion, observation of audio-visual records and listening audio records will be mainly used as tools for data collection. Descriptive analysis will be used to analyze the data. The study is expected to contribute to the social-political history of Kenya. The study is also expected to contribute to policy-making, especially on ways to curb cultural activities that instigate conflicts and ethnicity in Kenya.

Women's Livelihood Options in Tharaka Nithi County: Understanding the Basics

Dr. Christopher Kiboro¹, Boniface Munene Rufo¹, Catherine Thiong'o¹, Elizabeth Njiru¹, Faith Karimi¹, Lilian Kiruja², Samuel Muigai², Eilene Njoki², Prof Grace Ngare³, Dr Philip Wambua³, Dr Christine Njuguna³

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Women play a crucial role in poverty reduction and sustainable development by participating in various livelihood activities. This paper examines the determinants of women's livelihoods in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya, and explores the implications for their economic empowerment, resilience, and sustainability. Drawing on empirical data, the paper identifies key determinants influencing rural women's livelihoods and discusses policy implications for enhancing their economic empowerment. The data used in this study is from surveys conducted between September 2021 and May 2022 in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya. The findings reveal that various factors influence rural women's livelihoods, including access to land, education, childcare, credit, markets, ecological factors, and technology. Gender norms and cultural practices also significantly shape women's economic opportunities and decision making power. Moreover, the intersectionality of gender with other social categories such as age, marital status, and socioeconomic status, further influences women's livelihoods and empowerment outcomes. These findings underscore the importance of addressing structural barriers and gender inequalities that hinder rural women's access to resources and opportunities. Policies and programs aimed at enhancing rural women's livelihoods should prioritize interventions that promote land tenure security, improve access to education and credit, and empower women to participate in decision-making processes at household and community levels. Additionally, the study recommends collaboration between development agents, cultural leaders, and policymakers to implement effective initiatives that incentivize women to engage in any livelihood without restriction.

Keywords: Livelihoods, Poverty, Economic Empowerment, Developing Countries

Cultural Factors Affecting Utilization of Guidance and Counselling Services among Students in the National Schools in Meru and Tharaka Nithi Counties, Kenya

Ruth Nkatha Manyara, Chuka University

Guidance and Counseling is a process of helping the individual find solutions to own problems and accept them. Guidance and Counseling services in secondary schools are part of a broader delivery system designed to assist students to deal with Educational, personal, social, mental emotional and other similar problems. However, various cultural factors may hinder student's willingness to engage counseling services in solving their inherent problems. The purpose of this study is to investigate cultural factors affecting utilization of Guidance and Counseling service, among students in national schools in Meru and Tharaka-Nithi Counties, Kenya. The study was conducted using descriptive survey research design and the target population was 3702 subjects comprising four head teachers, four Guidance and Counseling teachers and 3694 students. The sample size for this study was 377 respondents comprising four head teachers, four Guidance and Counseling teachers and 369 students selected through purposive and stratified random sampling. The research questionnaires were piloted in two national schools in Embu County and involved two head teachers and two guidance and counseling instruments, the researcher consulted supervisors and other members of the Department of Education in Chuka University who are experts in item analysis and research methodology

Reliability of the questionnaire was tested through a test-retest method. Correlation coefficient of 0.71 and 0.72 was obtained from the teachers and students questionnaire. The researcher personally administered the instruments to the participants and allowed them three days to fill all the items. Before data analysis, it was cleaned to remove outliers. Quantitative data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20 for windows. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze quantitative data.

Colonial Policies Against Female Circumcision among the Nyakoe People, Kisii County, Kenya, 1907-1963

Dennis Ondieki Onger, Chuka University

Female circumcision among communities in Kenya has a long historical dispensation tracing back to the precolonial period. The colonial government put in place measures that were aimed at curbing female circumcision. Despite this unrelenting effort, female circumcision has continued in its persistence among the Nyakoe people in Kisii County. This study was about the colonial policies against female circumcision among the Nyakoe people, Kisii County, Kenya between 1907 and 1963. The study was guided by the following objective: To examine the colonial policies against female circumcision among the Nyakoe people, Kisii County between 1907 and 1963. The study was based on the assumption that there were established colonial policies against the practice of female circumcision among Nyakoe people. This study used Cultural Attraction Theory (CAT) as a tool for analysis. Methodologically, qualitative research was applied, hence the study used the descriptive study design. This study was conducted in the village of Nyakoe, south of Kisii County, because of the continued female circumcision among Nyakoe people. 50 Respondents were purposively sampled using snowball techniques. The data was collected from primary, archive, and secondary sources that were corroborated to ensure the reliability and objectivity of the study. This survey collected data through oral interviews and focus group discussions. Data was analyzed and presented by qualitative data analysis. The main research findings were as follows: Christian missionaries and the African chiefs in the local native councils, building of schools, forced labour of Gusii men, narrative of European superiority, taxation, prosecution of the participants, trade and evangelization were used to protest against female circumcision. Female circumcision continued in the study area despite the colonial government's efforts to stop it.

Keywords: Colonialism, Policies, Female circumcision, Nyakoe people

The Nexus Between Gender-Based Violence and Sexual/Gender Rights and Responsibilities: Perspectives from the Kenyan Legal Framework

Dynesius Nyangau, Chuka University

This paper delves into the complex interplay between gender-based violence (GBV) and the spectrum of sexual and gender rights and responsibilities within the context of Kenya's legal landscape. The study underscores the pivotal role of comprehensive legal protections and societal norms in addressing and mitigating the incidence of GBV. Through an in-depth analysis of Kenyan laws, policies, and case studies, the research highlights the critical importance of enhancing gender and sexual rights to foster a more equitable and safe society. Kenya's legal framework has evolved over the years, reflecting a growing recognition of the need to protect individuals from gender-based violence while promoting gender equality. However, despite these advancements, GBV remains a pervasive issue, rooted in deep-seated cultural norms and systemic inequalities. This paper argues that a robust enhancement of gender and sexual rights, coupled with clearly defined duties, can significantly reduce the prevalence of GBV. The research begins by outlining the current state of GBV in Kenya, drawing attention to statistical data and real-life instances that underscore the gravity of the issue. It then explores the existing legal instruments, including the Sexual Offences Act, the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act, and the Constitution of Kenya, evaluating their efficacy and identifying gaps that hinder their full implementation.

A significant portion of the study is dedicated to examining how strengthening sexual and gender rights—such as the right to bodily autonomy, freedom from discrimination, and access to justice—can create a more protective environment against GBV. The paper also emphasizes the importance of educating society about gender duties, which include respect for others' rights and active participation in preventing violence. Insights from interviews with legal experts, activists, and survivors provide a nuanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the Kenyan legal landscape.

The findings suggest that legal reforms, when combined with public education campaigns and community involvement, can lead to substantial reductions in GBV. In conclusion, the paper asserts that the enhancement of gender and sexual rights and responsibilities is not merely a legal imperative but a societal necessity. By fostering a culture of respect, equality, and accountability, Kenya can make significant strides in minimizing gender-based violence, thereby promoting a safer and more just society for all.

Culture, Gender, and Social Inclusion: A Study on Television Advertising and Sustainable Development

Okemwa Kemunto Sabina

Chuka University

This paper examines the profound influence of television advertising on the collective consciousness of societies, investigating the cross-gender effects of gender stereotypes in the historical context of television advertising. Focusing on selected Kenyan TV commercial adverts aired on Citizen TV, the research utilizes a case study approach to explore inherent differences between men and women stereotypical images present in advertisements. Stereotyped representations of specific genders in main characters and voice overs are conspicuously prevalent. These depictions contribute to reinforcing entrenched gender-related societal norms for both men and women, posing a challenge by perpetuating undesirable social ideals through television. The study delves into the cross-gender impacts of gender stereotypes in advertising through text and imagery, addressing the subject's scrutiny across various topics, given the criticism of advertising for perpetuating gender stereotypes. Recognizing nuanced distinctions between men and women, the paper contends that stereotypical representations not only mirror existing differences but also influence self-perception and societal treatment. Employing a content analysis research framework, the study systematically investigates textual communication by selecting eight television commercials and subjecting them to content analysis across eight non-variables .

A sample of 384 respondents, chosen through random sampling, undergoes data analysis using SPSS version 26 to extract meaning, percentages, frequencies, and standard deviation. Descriptive statistical analysis was applied to questionnaire data, while numerical data from content analysis was scrutinized based on developed themes. The findings indicate that depictions of women and men in advertising have a presumed negative impact on viewers, leading to heightened advertising reactance. The observed TV advertisements oscillate between traditional and sexist portrayals of genders, reflecting instances of shifts in the representation of women and men in TV advertising. This phenomenon adversely affects brand-related outcomes across different genders and contributes to gender stereotypes related to physical characteristics and roles. In conclusion, the paper outlines future research directions for gender stereotypes in advertising, emphasizing the negative reactions of both women and men to stereotyped portrayals of other genders. The results underscore the necessity for marketers to adopt a more conscientious approach to gender portrayals in advertising, signaling a call for a paradigm shift within the industry. Thus, the study contributes valuable insights into the intersection of culture, gender, and social inclusion for sustainable development.

Keywords: Advertising, Gender, Stereotypes, Themes

Childcare Quality and Women Employment: Evidence from Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya

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Women's participation in childcare and workforce is currently a significant topic of scientific interest and policy significance. The number of mothers who care for their children while working is increasing, and this trend has been going on for a while. However, the availability of child care facilities has not kept pace with the rise in the number of mothers who have small children, especially in less developed countries. As a result, the purpose of this study was to determine the extent to which childcare quality influences a woman's choice regarding whether or not to participate in the labour force in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya. This research was grounded in the rational choice hypothesis, which states that individuals choose options that maximize their own utility. According to this view, people choose actions that will benefit them the most financially. The study aimed to reach 24,000 working mothers, who were dispersed over 577-daycares, as indicated by the County Development Plan for 2018-2022. The descriptive research method was used for this study. There were a total of 384 people who took part in the study, and they were all chosen at random. Questionnaires were used in data collection. The Chi-Square test was used to analyze the statistical significance of the impact of childcare quality on women's labour force participation. The findings demonstrated a strong correlation between women's labour force participation and the childcare quality. The findings will enrich the ongoing discussion regarding the status of women in the workplace around the world.

Keywords: Childcare Quality, Women's Employment, sustainable development, Labour; Tharaka Nithi County.

Religion and Peace for Sustainable Development in Kenya: A Case of Meru County

Dr. Purity Kananu Mwongera, Chuka University

Peace is an important factor in a country that aims at achieving sustainable development. Religious leaders, teachings and practices have remarkable contributions in bringing peace. However, in our contemporary society religious role in engendering peace for sustainable development is not given enough attention not only in state leadership but also by researchers in different fields. Some scholars have written on religion and peace but how religion engender peace for sustainable development in a developing country like Kenya required attention if different counties have to achieve sustainable development. Since 2013 when devolution was implemented in Kenya, different counties have been faced with leadership differences that have escalated to prolonged stand offs affecting development in the country and Meru County is not an exception. Thus, the study explored factors causing leadership differences in Meru County. It examined the role of religious leaders in engendering peace for sustainable development and investigated religious teachings and practices that engender peace for sustainable development as well as find out challenges hindering promotion of peace for sustainable development in Meru County. The study obtained qualitative and quantitative data from a population of 1,611, 315 million people. The sample size of 160 men and women affiliated to Christianity informed the study. The results indicated that there is a problem of selfish interest on the part of political leaders that destabilized Meru County; religious leaders played a discriminative role in engendering peace in Meru County that proved unfruitful; there were adequate Christian teachings and practices that had efficacy for producing peace for sustainable development and that leaders in Meru County were less committed to addressing the interest of the people which posed a major challenge to attaining peace for sustainable development. The study sends insights on how religion in the modern society can be of benefit not only to counties but also to the country in achieving the agenda of sustainable development.

Key Words: Religion, Peace, Sustainable Development, Africa, Church, Conflict

Influence of the Teachings and Practices of the Full Churches of Kenya on Gospel Environmental Conservation in Embu Evurore District, Kenya

Esther Karuana Rubiri, Chuka University

God created the environment and the natural resources therein and ordered man to be its responsible steward. The rate at which the environment is suffering degradation is a global alarm and as such a concern to the church. The FGCK is active in environmental conservation and has established a National Development Project. FGCK Embu Evurore District has reached out to the congregants through teaching them environmental practices to avert environmental degradation. This process is referred to as environmental evangelism, yet despite the effort by the FGCK Embu Evurore District the environment is highly degraded. The study will evaluate the influence of the teachings and practices of FGCK on environmental Conservation in Embu Evurore District. It will be guided by the following objectives; to find ways the congregants practice the teachings on environmental conservation in Embu Evurore District, to examine the effectiveness of the environmental conservation measures practiced in FGCK Embu Evurore District and to establish ways to improve the practices on environmental conservation in Embu Evurore District. The study will be guided by Behaviour Change Theory by B.F Skinner. In this theory people are victims of the society they live in as it informs their attitude and behaviour. During the study Descriptive research design will be adopted for the study. The research instruments will be questionnaires for the congregants and interviews for the Leaders. These instruments will be designed to collect data on practices of the teachings on environmental conservation, effectiveness of the environmental conservation practices adopted by the congregants and ways they can be improved. Random sampling and purposive sampling will be used to identify the respondents. Using random and purposive sampling 327 respondents out of a population of 2032 congregants will form the sample for data collection. The collected data will be analysed through description, classification and interpretation. Analysed data will then be presented through tabulation, charts and graphs. This study will contribute to eco-theology, a body of knowledge in religious studies and it will contribute to research in both religion and in environmental studies.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Literacy Crisis for Adolescents in Rural Primary Schools in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kenya

Prof Colomba Muriungi, Chuka University

Kisii Central Sub-County is one of the most densely populated sub-counties in Kenya with a population growth rate of 2.75% compared to 2.28% national population growth rate (National Council for Population and Development - NCPD, 2017). Records available from several health facilities in Kisii County indicate that teen pregnancies are on the rise (Abuga, 2019). The fact that Kisii Central Sub-County continues to experience a surge in teen pregnancies is a serious concern among health professionals, educationists, politicians and other stakeholders in the Sub- County. This challenge is caused by lack of information or limited access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services, among other factors as noted in the NCPD report (2017). Previous research conducted in Tharaka Nithi County indicate that girls' limited exposure to knowledge on menstruation and SRH information and services has contributed towards high levels of teen pregnancies (Muriungi and Andima, 2020), which hints to the need to include issues of SRH education in girls' empowerment programmes in Kenya. This study therefore sought to establish the nature of Sexual and Reproductive Health Literacy Materials (SRHLMs) available for adolescent girls in Kisii Central Sub-County, how the materials were accessed, and whether the adolescents were able to comprehend messages contained in these materials. The study included 225 pupils in grades 5, 6 and class 7 aged between 10-15 years from five (5) primary schools, 20 teachers, 5 deputy head teachers (one from each of the 5 schools), 5 head teachers (one from each of the 5 schools) and 20 community leaders (four from each school).

Descriptive survey research design was used to generate data on the status of the SRHLMs in Kisii Central Sub- County. Both quantitative and qualitative data were collected. The study was guided by Anna Kågesten & Miranda van Reeuwijk's conceptual framework for adolescent sexual well being (2021). It was established that there were limited SRHLMs for adolescents in the research community and the comprehension level by the adolescents was relatively low. The study recommends sensitization of various stakeholders on the importance of availing SRHLMs for adolescents and the need to give both boys and girls equal opportunities for them to realize their full potential, in line with Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 5. This will not only help address challenges teens face in addressing their SRH needs, but it is also a step towards achieving universal gender equity.

Key Words: Teenage pregnancies, Sexual Reproductive Health Literacy Materials (SRHLMs), Kenya, Access.

Changes in the Kipsigis Women's Roles and Gender Relations in Bomet Tea Farming Zone from 1924-1975

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Chuka University

The purpose of this study was to analyze the changes in the Kipsigis women's roles and gender relations as a result of introduction of tea farming by the British in Bomet County from 1924- 1975. Traditionally the Kipsigis women had well defined roles, values and status in agricultural production that clearly defined their jurisdictions within the Kipsigis community. However, this study argues that the introduction of colonial tea farming by the British with intrinsically detrimental colonial policies led to significant changes in the Kipsigis women's roles and gender relations to the women's disadvantage. The study employed descriptive research design and it was guided by Marxist Feminism and Patriarchal theories that showed how the Kipsigis women were subordinated by the existing traditional structures as well as the new capitalist economic structures. The study found out that the coming of the British and the subsequent introduction of tea farming brought about the intensification of patriarchy and gender relations through capitalist farming practices such as forced labor, large scale crop farming, land alienation and new farming mechanization that were manifested in the tea farming. It also strengthened the existing traditional unequal gender relations and roles in agricultural production which significantly reduced the socio-economic status of women thus making them to be viewed as the secondary and low value participants the tea farming. The Kipsigis women's traditional agricultural land was alienated, agricultural labor exploited and their agricultural skills undermined by the British in tea farming plantations to their detriment. This study recommends that hybrid approaches should be embraced to achieve gender mainstreaming in tea farming zones in Kenya, an approach that will incorporate and recognizes both the traditional women agricultural roles and values and the new farming technology. This study contributes to women's role in agricultural development by documenting the dynamics of the Kipsigis women's roles and gender relations since the introduction of tea farming.

Kipsigis Ritual Male Circumcision before 1962

Langat Kiprotich Robert, Dr. Caroline M. Kithinji & Dr. Job Mulati
Chuka University

This study focused on examining the traditional rituals of male circumcision among the Kipsigis by 1962 before the onset of major dynamism which has befallen on ritual male circumcision. This study was guided by the objective of examining the traditional ritual of male circumcision of the Kipsigis before the year 1962. This proposed study covered the period before 1962. It was based on the assumption that indeed there was a ritual male circumcision among the Kipsigis. This study face scarcity of data which was overcome by corroborated various sources to address the reliability, objectivity as well as the validity of the study. This study used both Evolutionary Social Change and Darwin's Social theory

to examine the traditional rituals of male circumcision of the Kipsigis of Bomet County by 1962. The study adopted descriptive research design. Using Kombo and Tromp (2006) formula, a sample size of 50 respondents was derived from 27000 populations. The study applied stratified purposive sampling method and snowball technique. During data collection, questionnaires, interviews, focused group discussions and books were used collected data from primary and secondary sources. The data analysis was done qualitatively through thematization, corroboration and verification. The findings were: indeed there were ritual male circumcision and it was portrayed in the religious significance accorded to the practice, origin, how it was done, wear gear, scene imagery and the purpose it served in transformational of the novice from boyhood to adulthood. Before the major changes which were brought forth by the missionaries, the explorers and imperialists and later by the pandemics e.g. Hiv/Aids the community had a distinct concrete ritual male circumcision.

Key words; - Ritual, male circumcision, customs, dynamics, tradition, customary ritual stages, novices

Influence of Statist Inter-ethnic Political Leadership Transformation in the Management of Inter-ethnic Conflicts in Bungoma County, Kenya

Dr. Mulati Job Chebai, Dr Crispinous Isaboke
Chuka University & Dr Betty Chemutai Koech
University of Kabianga

The study interrogates the influence of statist inter-ethnic political leadership transformation in management of inter-ethnic conflicts in Bungoma County. In Kenya, specifically in Bungoma, from the 1963 conflict in the region, acquired a political and a national outlook. In 1992, despite 29 years of independence, the violence was unparalleled. Specific objective of the study was to examine the effect of statist inter-ethnic political leadership integration in management of inter-ethnic conflict in Bungoma County. A conceptual framework underpinned by Lederach's Conflict Transformation and Gultang's Conflict Triangle theories guided the study. A descriptive research design was adopted. By use of Yamane 1967 formula, a sample size of 400 participants was derived from 1375065 population. Participants were distributed randomly, purposively and proportionately. Questionnaire, interview, FGD and document analysis were used to collect primary and secondary data respectively. Data analysis was done quantitatively by MS excel and qualitative through thematization, corroboration and verification. The findings were: Unlike inter-marriage 23%, culture 20% and trade 15%, 42% of respondents concur that elders were key in influencing interethnic coexistence. However their role was alienated and differentiated by colonization. Independent statist political leadership transformation mutated from precipitating inter-ethnic inclined: corruption and greed 17%, political repression 16%, political participation in government 15%, punishment 14%, torture 13% and demotion 12% to inter-ethnic integration of glimpses of diversity policies into political leadership.

Despite peace building, the glaring challenges yet to be addressed were enforcement of inter-ethnic political leadership integration policies in Bungoma County, translation of inter-ethnic political leadership transformation initiative into a documentary and creative art and detach administrative cum political boundaries from ethnic boundaries.

Key words : Statist, Political leadership, Inter-ethnic political leadership Transformation, Peace building Strategy, Management of inter-ethnic conflict, Political leadership integration

Influence of Training on Performance of Enterprises of Youth Living with Disabilities in Igambang'ombe Constituency, Kenya

Caroline Mutunga, Prof. Anne Sande & Prof. Geoffrey Gathungu, Chuka University.

Unemployment is one of the serious problems affecting the youth living with disabilities in Kenya. The Kenyan government has made efforts to offer entrepreneurship trainings to enhance the engagement of youth living with disability in income-generating enterprises. Despite the interventions, literature from previous studies indicates that the majority of the enterprises fail within the first few months of operation. The purpose of this study was to determine the influence of entrepreneurial training on the performance of income generating enterprises for youth living with disabilities in Igambang'ombe constituency, Kenya. The target population for the study was 76 youth living with disabilities who own income-generating enterprises. The study was a census survey where data was collected from all the respondents. The research used a descriptive survey design and was guided by critical disability theory. Data was collected using questionnaires. Analysis was done both descriptively and inferentially. Results of the study indicated entrepreneurship training significantly influenced the performance of income generating enterprises correlated positively and significantly ($P < 0.05$). The variables; attendance of training, duration of training and subject matter covered during the training were important aspects performance of income-generating enterprises in the study area. It was concluded that entrepreneurship training plays an important role in performance of income generating enterprises owned by Youth Living with Disabilities. The study recommended the development of more training and awareness programs for the YLWD in the study area and further research on roles played by the YLWD on training program.

Key Words: Disability, Training, Performance, Youth, Living

EDUCATION AND PHILOSOPHY

A Defense of Educational Ideal of Critical Thinking as one of the Principle Aims for Democracy and Sustainable Development

Dr. Julius Wambua Mbithi, Machakos University

In this paper, I argue that critical thinking ought to be the principle aim in every educational pursuit. Further, as an educational ideal, CT promotes democracy and inevitably sustainable development. I maintain these claims with a discussion of the philosophical works of Harvey Siegel from his definitions of critical thinking as skills/abilities and dispositions, and critical thinking as an educational ideal. I offer the defense that such a conception is vital for democracy and sustainable development. I offer support for my conclusion based on one's ability to challenge the validity of claims, and the skills/abilities to determine the quality of true belief. Further I will argue that since societies appear to progress to modern levels of economic and social-political quality, CT as skills/abilities as an educational ideal, is indispensable for the competence of citizens to participate in society ensuring sustainable development.

Transformative Education: The Pathway to Gender Equality for Sustainable Development

Celina Kagendo, Catholic University of Eastern Africa

Gender equality has received enormous recognition as a critical tool for attaining sustainable development in contemporary society. However, intrinsic gender disparities, rooted in cultural norms persist to perpetuate social exclusion. Consequently, hampering universal sustainable development. Globally, education has been accredited to promote gender equality by challenging; gender roles, discriminative norms, culture, poverty, unemployment and ignorance. However, there exist limited studies that examine the inherent linkage between gender, education and development through a tridimensional perspective. This paper intends to shed more light on the aforementioned by packing and unpacking the role of transformative education in promoting gender equality and social inclusivity for sustainable development. It will introspect various pedagogical approaches deployed to empower learners to; advocate for equality, challenge stereotypes, promote social inclusivity and diversity. Anchored on andragogy theory, liberal feminism theory and theory of change, this paper will examine the tridimensional perspective in truly empowering gender equality as an avenue for attaining sustainable development, rather than empowering to disempower. The findings from this paper can inform educators, policy makers and all stakeholders interested in matters of sustainable development and transformative education as a pathway for attain sustainable development through gender lens. This paper will rely on secondary data and literature review to examine challenges, opportunities and principles of transformative education in advancing social inclusion and gender equality for sustainable development.

Philosophical introspection of a Greener Generation: Ethical consumption for sustainable Ecosystem

John Nyabwari Nyambane, University of Nairobi

In today's epoch, individuals are becoming more conscious of their health, environment and total wellbeing. Consequently, the notion on ethical consumption has gained momentum as a necessary pathway towards a sustainable ecosystem of a greener generation while reducing animal suffering. This paper intends to examine the intricate nexus between ethical consumption and a sustainable greener ecosystem using Meta-Analysis research methodology. It will be grounded on the theory of change to establish the; motive, challenges and opportunities on ethical consumption for a sustainable ecosystem. The paper underscores the significance of fostering an equitable and compassionate global society that cares for its environment for both the present and the future generation. The paper will not only benefit individuals to make consumption ethical choices powered by socioeconomic benefits, but also reduce animal suffering by people adopting a green lifestyle, as well as the environment

which such considerations will help in mitigating environmental degradation. The findings from this paper will be beneficial to policy makers, organizations, animal welfare advocates and people at large by gaining insight on what motivates individuals to adopt greener consumption, possible challenges and available opportunities.

Impact of Community Service Learning on Teaching Practice Experiences of Student Teachers

Simon Wachira Wahiu
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Meaningful community engagement. Community service learning when used in teacher education, can help pre-service teachers bridge the gap between theory and practice, develop their teaching skills, and appropriately respond to the needs of their community. This study investigated the impact of community service learning on the teaching practicum experiences of pre-service teachers. The study assessed the experiences of student teachers of teaching practice as service learning; their perceptions of service learning and their preparedness for service learning. A survey was conducted among 180 pre-service teachers enrolled in the Bachelor of Education programmes. Prior to the practicum, the teacher trainees had participated in a series of service learning workshops. The results showed that pre-service teachers had positive experiences in their teaching practice. Participants reported a sense of preparedness for teaching and readiness to render service; a better understanding of the needs of their students; and commitment to making a difference beyond the school community. The findings of this study suggest that community service learning can be a valuable addition to teacher education programs. Incorporation of community service learning can help pre-service teachers develop an integral approach in inculcation of values, skills, knowledge, and experiences for quality training of teachers.

Decolonizing Development Approaches for Sustainable Development in Africa

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Sustainable development has been a matter of great global concern and a critical pillar of African aspiration for 2063. A variance of theories and conceptual discourses have established the perceived driving forces and directional pathways towards the practical object behind what is sustainable and development. Despite the numerous concerted efforts towards it, sustainable development has remained elusive especially in the developing world and Africa in particular. The paper contends that the foreign American-Eurocentric approaches to development in Africa is the main reason. The research question for this study therefore was, "How can Africa achieve sustainable development through approaches strange to its existential context, approaches that continue to marginalize most of its member states and are therefore unsuitable? The paper thus confronts the foreign development models to decolonize approaches, epistemologies and history and practice of development in the post-colonial African societies and advocates for Afrocentric approaches relevant to the context of the continent. The paper uses critical content analysis and philosophical reflection to explore the various evidence-based development practices and existing discourses on development and issues related to it in the African context. Through this it sought to decolonize existing non-African epistemologies on development for the continent's paradigm shift and take off towards sustainable growth and development. The findings reveal that, continued unsustainability of Africa's development is partly a result of slavish application of Euro-American development approaches. It therefore concludes that there is need to challenge the American-Eurocentric discourses behind the concept of "sustainability" and calls for utilization of contextualized development knowledge discourse and frameworks for posterity in issues of development including but not limited to security and climate change in the continent. The paper draws its theoretical analysis from both post-colonial and post-structural

epistemologies that take into account inclusivity of “other” development approaches and knowledge from non-European contexts. It espouses Afrocentric development approaches and African values to attain lasting development goals.

Factors Influencing Education Participation for Learners with Hearing Impairments in Special Public Primary Schools in Meru and Isiolo Counties- Kenya

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Globally needs for education, as a measure of one's ability to function fully in today's society, is an important motivator for efforts to achieve the highest level of education in the world. The persistence under achieving of deaf students in Kenyan schools is of great concern as evidenced by final average scores in their formative and summative scores in their assessment. The average score in KCPE outcomes for deaf learners is 150 out of a possible 500, with a passing score of

250, while their peers average between 300 and 400. Several interventions have been put in place through ratification of international policies like Universal Primary Education (UPE) ratified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Education for All remains a major concern for all stakeholders including Kenya which is evidenced by the high budget allocation towards education and in particular to learners with hearing impairments. It is therefore expected that education need for each learner should be adequately met and equal benefits accrued by individuals regardless of individual differences even those contributed to by disability. The discrepancies experienced could be due to factors within the education management that could have a negative effect on education participation for these learners with hearing impairment. The literature review focused on learners with hearing impairment, parental involvement, and placement

option finances and physical resources influence on educational participation for learners with hearing impairment. The study goal was to examine the factors influencing education participation for learner with hearing impairment in public primary schools for learners with hearing impairment in Meru and Isiolo counties. The objectives of the study are to aimed at finding out how parental involvement, financial, physical resources and placement option in Special schools influence education participation for learners with hearing impairment. The study was guided by Maslow's theory of motivation in learning. Phenomenological research design was utilized. The study targeted three primary schools handling learners with hearing impairments in Meru and Isiolo counties that is Kaaga, Njia and Isiolo school for learners with hearing impairment. The target population comprised of 3 headteachers, 45 teachers, 254 parents, 254 learners and 6 house parents. The sample size comprised of 3 head teachers, 3 parents, 3 teachers, 6 learners and 9 support staff. The head teachers, teachers and parents and support staff were purposefully sampled while simple random sampling was utilized in sampling learners. Data collection tools utilized were open ended questionnaire for head teachers, interview schedules for learners, parents and class teachers document analysis, observation and focus group discussion. Piloting of instrument was done in Tharaka Nithi county to help establish validity and reliability of the instruments. The reliability of the instrument was analyzed using Cronbach alpha which generated a value of 0.7. Thematic approach was used to analyze the qualitative data. Ethical issues like confidentiality was observed throughout the study process. The presentation of the data was through description. The study revealed that parental involvement was minimal, finances in schools were inadequate, assessment of learners for placement was not effectively done and school physical resources were inadequate. The study recommended that more funding should be done through alternative methods rather than relying on government only, Multidisciplinary team be availed for assessment and establishment of more placement center by the government, parental mobilization on the need to be effectively involved in the education affairs of their children and physical resources be availed in the schools for learners with hearing impairment through engagement of relevant stakeholders.

Critical Exposition of Moral and Existential Implications of Climate Change

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Besides other challenges such as economic crunch and the threat of possible World War III orchestrated by conflict between Russia and Ukraine and the war in the Middle East, climate change appears as a major challenge facing our world today. This is a phenomenon tends to shape the global narrative and influences many government policies as well as dominating most global organizations' debates. There is a general consensus among scientists that climate change is largely anthropogenic, that is, it is largely caused by human activities that emit enormous greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere leading to austere heating of the earth surface. This being the case, we realize that climate change raises both existential as well as moral concerns. A critical peek on the various UN and WHO reports on the extent and reality of climate change, backed by evidence of extreme and unpredictable weather patterns witnessed across the globe such as heavy floods in various parts of the world and/or extreme temperatures in many parts of Europe point to a situation that threatens not only the very existence of man and other organisms through death and extinction, but also a disturbance to societal moral values, prompted by such questions of climate justice and responsibility of the contemporary generation for future generations. This situation unsettles any critical mind not only to be conscious of the reality and severity of disasters caused by climate change but also to think of possible way to formulate a framework that address the need for mitigation and adaptation but also preserving the world for future generations. It is the view of this write up that as a problem that needs a solution, and enlightened by the philosophical problem solving skills, climate change catastrophe needs clear and precise definition, hence the need to explicate the real existential as well as moral crises it raises. This paper therefore becomes richly informative and brings to the consciousness of everyone the great risks we are faced with today due to climate change.

Principals Attitudes and Safety Measures in Secondary Schools in Kikuyu Sub-County, Kenya

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Safety measures in schools are important components for effective learning. They form integral and indispensable components of the teaching and learning process. Safety problems in secondary schools have been persistent and recurrent leaving a gap in understanding the role of principles in relation to the same. The study purposed to assess the role of principals' attitude towards safety problems in secondary schools. A descriptive survey design was used to obtain data from a total study population of 12 680 people. The target population was; secondary school principals, members of PTA and BOG, teachers, students and parents. A sample size of 384 people was determined with reference to Krejcie and Morgan (1970). Questionnaires, interviews and Focus Group Discussions were used to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics (percentages and means) and inferential statistics (chi-square), while qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis. Results indicated that; majority (80%) of the principals consented to their attitudes having influenced safety measures in schools. . The attitudes of the principals that negatively influenced safety measures in schools manifested in terms of; imposition of self-benefiting programs (80%), failure to involve stakeholders in decision making (62%), selection of incompetent school management teams (58%) and poor relationship with local communities (40%). Results indicated significant relationship (0.05) between the principals' attitudes and safety measures in schools. It concluded that successful implementation of safety measures required participation of all stakeholders. The study thus recommended review and implementation of universal policies in order to enhance safety in schools. The study also suggested development of early warning and monitoring mechanisms in every school in order to guide and ensure adherence to the policies.

An Analysis of Odera Oruka's Philosophical Sagacity Manifestation in The Tharaka Community Wise Sayings

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Philosophical sagacity refers to the body of thought produced by persons considered wise by their communities. African Philosopher, Odera Oruka categorizes these wise persons into two groups; folk sages and philosophical sages. Odera Oruka, a Kenyan philosopher, introduced the concept of sagacity as a distinct mode of knowledge acquisition and decision making in African societies. He referred to philosophic sagacity as logical and critical African wisdom endowed to African individuals who because of the depth of their reasoning were able to build strong African traditional community. By studying Odera Oruka's philosophical concept of sagacity through the lens of the traditional wise sayings and proverbs, this research has the main objective of understanding the wisdom endowed and communicated in the African traditional wise sayings for individual and societal well-being. The study will analyze Odera Oruka's contributions in the development of sagacity in the field of African philosophy as a traditional societal wisdom and examine how it is manifested in the African traditional communities' wise sayings. The need for the study is prompted by over emphasis on systematic western philosophy since scholastic time that has continued to devalue African wisdom which is not only a foundation of African philosophy but also the wisdom behind wise sayings. This problem has been enhanced by a debate on the misunderstanding among African and Western Philosophers as to what constitutes a philosophical concept of discourse in Africa. The research will use rational- analytical philosophical approach also known as Socratic midwifery method of questioning in addressing the problem of the study. The critical- analytical approach which will be used for the analysis is widely associated with philosophy as an academic discipline and finds it a lasting expression in the questioning attitude of Ancient Greek philosopher Socrates. The study will employ Edmund Husserl's idealism theory. Husserl's idealism is special approach to language that lies exclusively in his refusal to separate the analysis of speaking from thinking, of language from thought. The research will be library based, from published and unpublished works, journals as well as digital sources. The research findings will contribute to a deeper understanding of African wisdom here referred to as Philosophical sagacity and shed light on its significance in a world where traditional African social wisdom is being eroded by Western ideologies.

Examination of the Role of Existentialist Philosophy in Mitigating Climate Change

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Man has relied on nature for food, medicine, fresh air, water and other life supporting factors. However, human activities have threatened biodiversity which now possess a magnanimous threat to man's food, water, air and medicine supply. Existentialist philosophy emphasizes on the aspects of freedom, choice and responsibility. We are where we are because of man's choice and we can change our situation through choice. In this paper we make reference to among various existential themes, the concept of freedom, authenticity, transcendence, choice and responsibility. We acknowledge that man's actions have led to threats to his own existence. On the contrary, man has lived in bad faith by relying on the deity to save him (man) from self-inflicted anguish. It can be observed that unless man authentically takes responsibility, his very existence is threatened and may lead to his extinction. For centuries, man's existence has been dependent on nature for survival, however, man's actions have destroyed nature upon which man's existence was dependent. The purely scientific course of action and which depends on the political will of the governments has not produced any tangible fruits, since politicians have a tendency of acting on the basis of political expediency. Governments are formed by politicians who are often keen on winning the next election. As such, most governments tend to place climate change on the periphery as they get preoccupied by what can help them win the next election. This therefore implies that there is very

high confidence that policies managed by governments are very likely to fail. This is why this paper seeks to reinvent the narrative and develop a framework that is based on existentialist philosophical aspects of individual, authenticity, freedom and choice, and demonstrate how this framework anchored on existentialist philosophy goes beyond mere mitigation and adaptation.

Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity: A Kantian Epistemological Approach

Mutinda Theophilus Nzengu, Chuka University

Kantian epistemological approach towards the question of knowledge acquisition focuses on the nature of knowledge and limits of human understanding. According to the approach, our knowledge is not merely a reflection of the external world but it is actively constructed by the mind through concepts and categories. There are three mental capacities relevant for knowing objects; sensibility, understanding and reason. Artificial Intelligence is used in the academic sector to carry out academic activities like writing research papers, analyzing data, detecting plagiarism, paraphrasing and correcting grammar on the text presented. When not tamed, use of Artificial Intelligence compromises academic integrity, fairness and respect for intellectual property as witnessed by widespread plagiarized academic contents and auto-generated arithmetic algorithms and grades. Such kind of ignorance, according to this research, portrayed the learners' unwillingness to monitor the results and outcomes of the artificial intelligence. While in real sense, they should have utilized it in achieving desired results. This raised a pertinent question on how it should intersect with academic integrity. The main objective of the study was to analyze academic integrity in the face of Artificial Intelligence using Kantian Epistemological lens. For purpose of logical, critical and comprehensive analysis of literature on Kant's Epistemology, Artificial Intelligence and academic integrity, critical method of research was used. The study was library-based because library provided e-content fundamental to the research. The data collected was secondary from published and unpublished texts, journals and internet. The study used qualitative method and descriptive analysis for analyzing secondary data from reliable existing sources to examine instances where Kantian epistemology is applicable in bringing a middle ground between Artificial Intelligence and academic integrity. According to findings of the research, the role of human reason and understanding in knowledge acquisition provides a unique perspective on the epistemological implications of Artificial Intelligence in academia. The study recommended that Artificial Intelligence systems used for academic purposes must align with Kant's notion of a priori knowledge, grounded in rationality and universal principles. From this perspective, learners should utilize Artificial Intelligence tools that facilitate genuine understanding and critical thinking for genuine academic work. The Artificial Intelligence algorithms used by institutions should be transparent and align with the universal principles of intellectual honesty.

Implications of Kantian Universal Principle on Same-sex Marriage Paradox

Mutinda Theophilus Nzengu, Chuka University

Immanuel Kant's universal law claims that we should act only in accordance with that maxim through which we can at the same time will that it becomes a universal law. This universal principle stems from Kantian categorical imperative. From a Kantian standpoint, categorical imperatives are commands or moral laws that we should follow, despite our desires or demanding situations. As unconditional morals, these imperatives are binding on all humans. However, the world is drifting fast to relative morality with the emergence of moral issues like same-sex marriages or sexually intimate unions. Viewed as a paradox, a critical question arises on the validity and soundness of the Kantian Categorical imperative concept of morality in the context of the fast-growing moral relativity in justifying same-sex unions. The research method that was used for this research is the critical method in philosophy, which means judging the possibilities of knowledge before advancing to knowledge itself, simply, the art of judgment. Viewed from that perspective, the method helped us subject the moral issue of same-sex unions to criticism to clear the controversy within.

The method also helped establish the validity and usefulness of Kant's categorical imperatives in the face of contemporary moral issues. In our study, used deontological theory to obtain useful data concerning our research. Deontology is one of those kinds of normative theories regarding which choices are morally required, forbidden, or permitted. Through the study, we established how human reason works in shaping universal moral principles, and determine whether such principle can form character and foundations of moral judgements. Through the study we also established that some types of actions such as same-sex marriages are wrong in themselves, and not simply wrong because they have bad consequences. The findings of the study were recommended to the government, legislators, religious leaders, non-governmental agencies and every other individual in the society as a reference point in resolving conflicting moral views. A good example of conflicting moral views which the study recommended is on the same-gender relationships which are posing a huge threat to the marriage institution. The study forms a basis for enacting laws that touch our morality. This is because morality is the basis of positive human laws.

Information Literacy Skills of Students in Secondary Schools with African Perspective. A Literature Review

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Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and to locate, evaluate and use the needed information effectively. It is significant to scholars for making decisions with critical thinking skills, seeking answers to critical questions, finding information from sources, forming intelligent opinions, and evaluating sources of information. Therefore, it is pertinent that governments incorporate information literacy knowledge into academic programs to ensure that citizens are productive and equipped to function globally in the 21st century. Information literacy skills are essential to secondary school students in developing countries. However, many secondary schools' students have very little or no basic knowledge about library use, computer literacy and information searching skills. This problem can be attributed to students being educated in environments with poor learning facilities, such as lack of well-equipped school libraries, lack of computers in schools and failure to recognize the school library (where in existence) as a learning resource. In this information technology age, secondary school students need to be equipped to develop the skills to help them search, evaluate, and utilize the information effectively. This paper delved on the extant literature discussing information literacy in secondary schools to establish existing gaps found in this study of information literacy skills of students in secondary schools with an African perspective.

Ubuntu and Universal Ethics: Analyzing Its Influence as a Bantu Value System in Human Societies

Dynesius Nyangau
Chuka University

Ubuntu, a concept rooted in Bantu philosophy, embodies a profound ethical framework that emphasizes interconnectedness, compassion, and communal harmony. This paper explores the concept of Ubuntu not merely as a cultural artifact of the Bantu peoples but as a universal value system inherent in diverse human societies worldwide. The discussion delves into Ubuntu's foundational principles, examining how it promotes mutual respect, collective well-being, and the cultivation of moral virtues among individuals and communities. Drawing on philosophical perspectives and case studies from various cultures, the paper investigates Ubuntu's applicability beyond its African origins, proposing that its core principles resonate with fundamental human values across different nations and societies. Furthermore, it examines Ubuntu's potential contributions to contemporary ethical discourse, particularly in fostering social cohesion, resolving conflicts, and promoting sustainable development on a global scale. By analyzing Ubuntu within a comparative and cross-cultural framework,

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this paper aims to highlight its relevance and significance as a moral compass that transcends cultural boundaries and offers insights into cultivating a more inclusive and compassionate world.

Cultural and Familial Influences on the Development of Competency-Based Skills and Values in Learners: A Philosophical Inquiry

Dynesius Nyangau
Chuka University

In the evolving landscape of education, the integration of competency-based skills and values in learners are paramount for fostering holistic development. This paper explores the foundational role that culture and family play in nurturing these competencies. By examining the philosophical underpinnings of education, the paper delves into how cultural norms and family structures contribute to the development of skills and values essential for learners in contemporary society. Cultural influences shape learner's worldviews, attitudes, and behaviors, providing a contextual framework within which education occurs. Cultural narratives, traditions, and communal practices imbue learners with a sense of identity and belonging, essential for personal and social development. These cultural elements not only enhance cognitive skills but also instill values such as respect, responsibility, and cooperation. Philosophically, this relationship underscores the importance of culturally responsive education that aligns learning experiences with the cultural backgrounds of learners, ensuring relevance and resonance in educational practices. Family, as the primary social unit, plays a crucial role in early childhood development and continues to influence learners throughout their educational journey. The family environment, through parental attitudes, expectations, and support, directly impacts learner's motivation, self-efficacy, and academic success. Philosophical perspectives on family education highlight the ethical dimensions of parenting and the moral responsibilities families hold in shaping learner's character and competencies. Familial interactions provide the initial context for developing communication, problem-solving, and emotional regulation skills, forming the bedrock for future educational achievements. This inquiry also addresses the dynamic interplay between cultural and familial influences, advocating for an integrated approach to competency-based education. Recognizing the symbiotic relationship between these factors can lead to more effective educational strategies that honor the learner's holistic experience. By embracing cultural diversity and familial contexts, educators can design and implement curricula that not only impart technical skills but also cultivate essential values and life skills. In conclusion, this philosophical exploration reveals that the development of competency-based skills and values in learners is deeply intertwined with cultural and familial influences. Acknowledging and leveraging these influences can lead to a more comprehensive and meaningful educational experience. The findings of this inquiry advocate for educational practices that are culturally attuned and family-oriented, promoting a balanced and enriched development of learners capable of thriving in a complex and diverse world.

Multimodal Instructional Approaches and Lower Primary School Learners' Environmental Conservation Core Competences in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya

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Chuka University

Ecosystem degradation poses a significant challenge worldwide, exacerbated by unsustainable resource utilization and inadequate educational instructions, particularly the ignorance of the impact that pedagogical processes and young children can have sustainable environmental conservation. This study aims to address this gap by identifying multimodal instructional approaches and strategies that significantly impact lower primary school learner's acquisition of environmental conservation core competences. The general objective is to examine the influence of multimodal instructional approaches on learners' environmental conservation core- competences in lower primary schools in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya.

The study is framed within the Engagement Theory of Learning which suggests that comprehension results from learner's prolonged engagement with instructional materials and integration of multiple pedagogical methods during learning to enhance learning outcomes. The study will focus on lower public primary schools. The study comprises two main steps. The study population in step one involving survey will comprise all the 3,323 teachers and 43,900 learners in lower primary level in public primary schools in Tharaka Nithi County. In step two involving development, training, implementation and evaluation of the instructional model, all the 479 grade three teachers and 23,939 learners will form the study population. In all the stages, simple random sampling will be adopted to arrive at a sample of 354 learners and 27 teachers for the empirical survey and 372 learners and 8 teachers in the latter. Questionnaires for teachers, observation schedules of teaching, and observing learners' core-competencies as well as pre-and post-tests for learners and document analysis will form the tools for data collection. Data collection tools will be piloted in two schools in the Tharaka Nithi County involving two teachers and 37 grade three children totaling to 39 respondents. Raw data will first be checked for completeness, usefulness and accuracy. After data cleaning, quantitative data will be coded and entered in the computer for analysis using Statistical Package for Social Sciences Version 29. Thematic analysis of qualitative data from interviews will be done using NVivo 12 plus software. Statistical tests such as t-tests, ANOVA, chi-square tests, or regression analysis to compare means, proportions or relationships between variables across different groups will be done to determine the influence of multimodal instructional approaches. pre- and post-test scores will be analysed using statistical methods such as paired t-tests or Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) to determine the effectiveness of instructional interventions. The outcomes of this study have the potential to positively impact environmental education practices, learning outcomes, and community engagement efforts in Tharaka Nithi County, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable future for the region.

Nietzsche's Moral Relativism and Sustainable Development

Lusabe Lennoxie Nafuma

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Friedrich Nietzsche's take on moral relativism, rooted in his critique of conventional norms and the idea of master-slave morality offers a thought-provoking philosophical outlook. This viewpoint stands in comparison to modern ideas around sustainable development. Nietzsche's relativism questions the idea of fixed moral values, highlighting the fluid nature of values shaped by power relations, which can be used to reexamine the principles of sustainable development goals (SDGs). Sustainable development, framed by initiatives like the United Nations and SDGs, aims to find a balance between economic growth, environmental care, and social fairness.

However, these global goals often presume a universal set of values, which may not fit with the diverse moral and cultural landscapes worldwide. This paper delves into how Nietzsche's doubts about universal values could influence a more varied and flexible approach to sustainability. It asks several questions: Can Nietzsche's skepticism foster a broader, more adaptable method to sustainability? How might his concept of the will to power affect sustainable practices? What difficulties does Nietzschean relativism present to the ethical basis of sustainability discussions?

By merging Nietzschean thought with sustainable development theory, the paper highlights possible overlaps and conflicts. It suggests that a relativistic viewpoint might call for flexible, context-specific strategies that respect cultural differences and local conditions. Moreover, Nietzsche's criticism of accepted moralities pushes us to rethink the ethical commands behind sustainability measures. This leads to a critical review of whether current sustainability efforts reinforce power imbalances or truly encourage fair development. The analysis strives for a deeper understanding of sustainable development, one that accommodates Nietzschean relativism by promoting policies and ethical systems responsive to the world's complexities. Ultimately, this cross-disciplinary study broadens the conversation about

sustainability, challenging scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to review the moral underpinnings of their methods. It encourages the consideration of a wider array of values and views, making the approach to sustainability more inclusive and thoughtful.

The ‘Superman’ (Nietzsche) Syndrome and Sustainable Development in Kenya

Lusabe Lennoxie Nafum
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The idea of the Superman, or *Übermensch*, introduced by Friedrich Nietzsche, offers a remarkably thought-provoking philosophical concept. It posits intriguing possibilities for sustainable development, particularly in contemporary societies like Kenya. Nietzsche’s *Übermensch* epitomizes a transcendent figure who goes beyond traditional morals and societal standards. This encourages individuals to craft their personal values and pursue excellence, rising above mediocrity. When applied to sustainable development, this ideal can signify a pivotal shift toward innovative, flexible, and enduring solutions to various developmental challenges. Kenya, currently facing significant socioeconomic and environmental hurdles, finds itself at a critical juncture where traditional development models frequently fall short. Adopting a Superman mentality could potentially inspire Kenyan leaders, innovators, and citizens to conceptualize and implement bold, transformative strategies. These strategies would ideally prioritize long-term ecological sustainability, social fairness, and economic growth. This study meticulously examines how the concept of Nietzsche’s *Übermensch* might cultivate a mindset conducive to sustainable growth — one that moves beyond entrenched limitations and advocates for progressive change. It explores how the essential attributes of the *Übermensch*, such as creative vision, moral independence, and the relentless pursuit of self-improvement, can inspire sustainable practices in governance, business activities, and community efforts. By reviewing a combination of case studies and theoretical discussions, this paper seeks to outline both the potential benefits and the possible drawbacks of applying Nietzsche’s philosophy to development dialogues. While the Superman concept indeed provides a robust incentive to reimagine sustainability approaches, it simultaneously raises ethical concerns. These concerns include issues of elitism, exclusion, and the challenge of balancing individual ambitions with collective welfare. The aim is to propose a nuanced strategy where Nietzsche’s principles can be harmonized with inclusive and participatory development models. This harmony could propel Kenya towards a more sustainable and equitable future. The discourse aspires to illuminate a potential pathway wherein Nietzsche’s ideals synchronize with comprehensive development plans, guiding Kenya towards a more balanced and just tomorrow.

Placement Option Influence on Education Participation for Learners with Hearing Impairments in Special Public Primary Schools in Meru and Isiolo Counties- Kenya

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Globally need for education, as a measure of one's ability to function fully in today's society, is an important motivator for efforts to achieve the highest level of education in the world. The persistence underachieving of deaf students in Kenyan schools is of great concern as evidenced by final average scores in their formative and summative scores in their assessments. This study aimed to find out how placement options influence education participation for learners with hearing impairment. The study was guided by Maslow's theory of motivation in learning. A phenomenological research design was utilised. The study targeted three primary schools handling learners with hearing impairments in Meru and Isiolo counties that is Kaaga, Njia, and Isiolo school for learners with hearing impairment. A thematic approach was used to analyze the qualitative data. The study revealed that the assessment of learners for placement was not effectively done. The following were some recommendations made. Parents should be made aware of the existence of EARC and its role. Learners should be assessed early enough to avoid the placement of overage learners in lower grades.

The EARC should be staffed with the right and adequate personnel for effective assessment. The government should fund EARC so that the staff can effectively carry its role of sensitization and mobilization in a wide area thus helping in early identification, assessment, and placement.

Keywords: Placement option, education participation, learners with hearing impairments

Parental Involvement Influence on Education Participation for Learners with Hearing Impairments in Special Public Primary Schools in Meru and Isiolo Counties- Kenya

Purity Karegi Nthuku
Kenya Methodist University

Globally need for education, as a measure of one's ability to function fully in today's society, is an important motivator for efforts to achieve the highest level of education in the world. The persistent under achievement of deaf students in Kenyan schools is of great concern as evidenced by final average scores in their formative and summative scores in their assessments.

This study aimed to find out how parental involvement influences education participation for learners with hearing impairment. The study was guided by Maslow's theory of motivation in learning. A phenomenological research design was utilized. The study targeted three primary schools handling learners with hearing impairments in Meru and Isiolo counties that is Kaaga,

Njia, and Isiolo school for learners with hearing impairment. A thematic approach was used to analyze the qualitative data. The study revealed that parental involvement was minimal. Based on the study findings, collective effort should be made to sensitize the parents on their roles in the education of their children. Employers of parents of students with hearing impairments should be given days off with pay when going to attend to their children's issues in school like closing days, opening days, and clinic days for their children. The school should provide some incentives to parents like meals during the school meetings to help reduce parents' expenses.

The government should ensure tax waivers for parents of students with hearing impairments.

The stakeholders should help change parental attitudes that their children will not make it.

Keywords: Parental involvement, education participation, learners with hearing impairments

LAW, CRIMINOLOGY AND GOVERNANCE

Effectiveness of Police Reforms: Merging of Administration Police Service and Regular Police in Kenya: A Case of Nakuru City County

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The main objective of this paper is to examine the effectiveness of police reform initiated through the merging of Administration and Regular police in Kenya. To understand this development, the paper seeks to analyze historical development of Kenya police. The evolution of police and their command structure can be traced from colonial and post-colonial regimes in Kenya. Kenya police was an alien institution established during the colonial regime after Kenya was declared a British protectorate in 1895. The pre-colonial African societies had elaborate systems of cohesion, sectional relations and codes of justice all of which contributed to the corporate polity of their social groups. The Kenya police established by the colonial state heavily borrowed from colonial India. The British pushed for adoption of the Indian Penal Code, derived from English common law, which would serve as the basis of the formal criminal justice system in Kenya. This was by design so as to dominate and control Africans to achieve their capitalistic agenda. Colonial and post independent police force was characterized by human rights violation. This necessitated various reforms in the police service. It is evident that the merger of Administration Police Service and Regular police focused heavily on command structure, police performance and welfare. With these well documented reforms there is a concern on crime mitigation goal since the incorporation of community through *nyumba kumi* initiative has not yielded the expected objective in Nakuru City County. Therefore, there is need for proper streamlining of police operations with members of the public as the primary clientele.

Perceived Social Determinants of Women Criminality in Informal Settlements in Kiambu County, Kenya

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There is an inclination of there being more men than women in prisons despite the point that most incarcerated men have close women allies in crime. This social collaboration suggests existence of relatively similar numbers of men and women criminality with more protective dynamics that keep women offenders away from contact with law enforcement officers. The presence of unprosecuted women offenders in the general population poses the risk of propagation of criminal activities in the society through social interaction. To mitigate this trajectory, there was need to examine perceived social determinants of women criminality in informal settlements in Kiambu County in Kenya. The study employed the descriptive survey research design. A sample of 380 respondents was selected by use of purposive sampling, proportionate sampling and simple random sampling techniques from a population of 40,050 residents of the informal settlements. Questionnaires and focus group discussion schedules were used to collect the required data. Chi-square test statistic, frequencies and percentages were adopted for data analysis. The findings indicated that family structure, marital status, alcohol and drug abuse, peer pressure, level of education, cultural norms and media exposure were determinants of women criminality. It was recommended that Law enforcement officers to consider eradicating use and misuse of alcohol and drugs in an attempt to curb women criminality in informal settlements, women in informal settlements to consider living within family structure setups in order to mitigate the tendencies of engaging in criminal activities and policy makers in the ministry of education to initiate programs aimed at increasing literacy levels and reinforcing value based cultural practices among women in informal settlements.

Streets of Influence: Investigating the Impact of Neighborhood Characteristics on Juvenile Delinquency in Nairobi and Mombasa Counties, Kenya

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There has been a rise in juvenile delinquency worldwide, particularly in developing countries such as Kenya. The shortcomings in interventions suggest potential inefficacy due to misdiagnosis, inadequate analysis, and insufficient research documentation. Consequently, there was a pressing need to thoroughly investigate and document the connections between criminogenic neighborhood factors and juvenile delinquency in Kenya. This study aimed to explore these predictors and their correlation with juvenile delinquency in Nairobi and Mombasa counties, examining both delinquents and non-delinquents to establish definitive relationships. The study was anchored on Social Learning and Social Disorganization theories. The study adopted a Concurrent Nested mixed-method Research approach with a qualitative component being embedded in a quantitative Causal-Comparative Research Design. The target population of the study was 2,908,950 juveniles in the two counties. The accessible population was 235,861 respondents, out of which a sample of 400 was drawn, from which the researcher got 360, a response rate of 90%. The researcher drew the sample using a disproportionate stratified random sampling thus ensuring representation of both delinquents and non-delinquents in each county. Random sampling was done using the Excel data analysis tool pack. In addition, 12 respondents were selected purposively from the authorities dealing with children matters, 6 from each county. The total sample size attained was thus 372 respondents. A face-to-face interview questionnaire and an in-depth key informant interview schedule were the main instruments of data collection. Binary logistic regression was conducted on the quantitative data at a 95% confidence interval (CI) and a p-value <math>< 0.05</math> considered significant with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 26.0 software. Thematic content analysis was conducted on the qualitative data with the help of Max. Qda software. The odds ratio indicates that when holding all other variables constant, a child is 2.2 times more likely to turn out delinquent with poor neighborhood characteristics. Therefore, employing a .05 criterion of statistical significance, the null hypothesis was thus rejected because the findings show a statistically significant predictive relationship between combined situational predictors and juvenile delinquency. The findings will be useful to the government, academia, and policy actors developing crime prevention policies and informing effective tailoring of relevant social policies.

Breaking the Criminogenic Cycle: Exploring Parental Influences on Juvenile Delinquency in Nairobi and Mombasa Counties, Kenya

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&

Dr. Nyachoti W. Otiso
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Juvenile delinquency has been on the rise globally, especially in developing nations like Kenya. The failure of interventions suggests that measures may be ineffective due to misdiagnosis or insufficient analysis of the problem, compounded by mixed results and limited research. Thus, there is a crucial need to comprehensively understand the link between parental influences and juvenile delinquency in Kenya. The study was anchored in Social Learning and Social Disorganization theories. The study adopted a Concurrent Nested mixed-method Research approach with a qualitative component being embedded in a quantitative Causal-Comparative Research Design. The target population of the study was 2,908,950 juveniles in the two counties. The accessible population was 235,861 respondents, out of which a sample of 400 was drawn, from which the researcher got 360, a response rate of 90%. The researcher drew the sample using a disproportionate stratified random sampling thus ensuring representation of both delinquents and non-delinquents in each

county. The delinquent group comprised individuals who had committed minor and serious violations, drawn respectively from borstal institutions and the Probation Department. Non-delinquents were selected from county secondary schools. Random sampling via Excel was utilized, with an additional purposive selection of 12 respondents from child welfare authorities. This yielded a total sample of 372 respondents. Data collection methods included face-to-face interviews and in-depth key informant interviews. Binary logistic regression was conducted on the quantitative data at a 95% confidence interval (CI) and a p-value ≤ 0.05 considered significant with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 26.0 software. Thematic content analysis was conducted on the qualitative data with the help of Max. Qda software. The odds ratio indicates that when holding all other variables constant, a child is 7.2 times more likely to turn out delinquent with poor parental characteristics employing a .05 criterion of statistical significance, the null hypothesis was thus rejected. The findings will be useful to the government, academia, as well as parents in developing crime prevention policies, contributing to theory and literature, and informing on better family management practices

Collaborative Governance for Sustainable Development in Kenya: A Critical Perspective

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Maasai Mara University

With the advent of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, sustainable development has become a global imperative and a concern for every international player. Global attention has been drawn to the role of government and non-state actors in achieving global development Agenda. Collaborative governance emerges as a key mechanism to drive the development partnership processes. Despite the existence of such development partnerships, Kenya is unable to achieve sustainable development outcomes. This is, arguably, because of entrenched power dynamics and deep-rooted inequities. The paper explores power imbalance and equity considerations within collaborative governance structures for sustainable development, with the aim of understanding the effects these factors have on decision making processes and resource allocation and the potential challenges and opportunities to enhance the public and private value of such partnerships. The study relied on desk research to comprehensively review existing academic literature (secondary data) on the role of collaborative governance in fostering sustainable development in Kenya. Critical Content analysis was used to scrutinize the books, peer-reviewed journals and articles, government reports, policy documents, and online sources, among others. The study focused on the following research questions; what are the key elements of collaborative governance in Kenya? How does collaborative governance contribute to sustainable development outcomes in Kenya? What role is played by state and non-state actors in shaping collaborative governance efforts for sustainable development in Kenya? What are the unique context specific challenges faced by collaborative governance initiatives in Kenya? And lastly, what are some of the innovative strategies for enhancing collaborative governance impacts on sustainable development in Kenya? The study findings established that collaborative governance is an effective system for achieving the principles of sustainable development. It thus concludes that the concepts of sustainable development can be effectively achieved through collaborative governance, provided all key stakeholders state and non –state, continue to develop their institutional and capacity over time.

Key Words: Collaborative governance, Kenya, partnerships, Sustainable development, equity, participatory decision making

Effectiveness of Juvenile Justice in Curbing Juvenile Offenders in Uasin Gishu County, Kenya

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Preventions of reoffending among children in conflict with law requires an in-depth understanding of their individual circumstances as well as the respective roles of varied social institutions in facilitating their social reintegration. Despite Kenyan government having introduced a raft of measures in Juvenile Justice as a way of regulating juvenile crime and inhibit from recidivating, statistics point to consistent high rates of juvenile recidivism. This study therefore presents an analysis of the Department of probation and Aftercare services in Kenya, and reflects on their effects on addressing juvenile recidivism in Uasin Gishu County. The study was conducted in probation departments and after care services and it utilized descriptive research design. The analysis was based on primary data collected from a sample of 87 respondents. The primary data collection instrument used was the questionnaire. The validity of research instruments was tested using content validity and reliability using Cronbach Alpha. Data analysis methods used for descriptive statistics included frequencies, percentages, and means to summarize raw data. Results of data analysis were presented using frequency distribution tables. The study found out that the Department of probation and Aftercare services plays a big role in ensuring an efficient supervision and rehabilitation to the juvenile recidivists. The study recommends that the government should review policies guiding the juveniles' supervision by ensuring they are tailored towards addressing special specific needs of the juveniles to reduce on rate of re-offending.

Towards People Centered Policing: A Reflection on Success of Community Partnership in Nyumba Kumi Policing in Samia Sub-County

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&

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The world today is facing diverse security challenges, some deeply embedded in the very fabric of society. At the same time, trust in the very police institution charged to combat crime is falling drastically prompting a dramatic change in the policing approach. Faced with this dilemma, Kenya has since adopted a policing strategy that anchors security to the household level. This was based on the idea that many crimes emanate from the community and its impact is felt by the community itself. To this problem Kenya adopted *Nyumba Kumi* community policing strategy, a people centered policing to solve emerging crime challenges and their root causes. The practice of *Nyumba Kumi* as community policing is modeled along the tithing system that existed in Britain in the Middle Ages. It was based on the subdivision of the society into ten households. *Nyumba Kumi* is a Kiswahili phrase for "ten households". In this model of community policing, security is anchored at the household level with community members in charge of their own security and police acting as a facilitator. Studies have been conducted in Kenya on the concept of *Nyumba Kumi* and crime prevention, however the majority of them have concentrated mostly in urban and semi-urban areas. In Kenya, *Nyumba Kumi* is a relatively new approach to maintaining neighborhood security. The main purpose of the study was to examine the contribution of *Nyumba Kumi* community policing strategy on crime reduction through community partnership in Samia Sub-County. The area was ideal for the study for having embraced *Nyumba Kumi* initiative. However, national police crime statistics have indicated a steady rise in the number of crimes reported in the area and the development of organized criminal gangs. Descriptive survey design was used in the study. The study was guided by two theories, Broken Window theory and Cornwall's theory of participation. Target population of the study was 107176 including all local residents of Samia, police officers, chiefs and *Nyumba Kumi* leaders. The Study used a sample size of 384 respondents. Four chiefs, ten police officers and five Sub-location *Nyumba*

Kumi chairpersons were purposely included as key informants. A dummy run of the study was conducted in Bwiri and Ageng'a Nanguba wards. Cronbach's alpha was used to test the reliability of the research instruments. Role of *Nyumba Kumi* had a reliability coefficient 0.724 and challenges facing *Nyumba Kumi* 0.709. Descriptive statistics using frequency tables and percentages were employed. Categorical regression analysis was used in the inferential analysis. Findings show that community partnership in *Nyumba Kumi* activities had a positive impact on crime reduction in Samia. Study recommended enhanced civil education to members of Samia Sub-County and more training to *Nyumba Kumi* leaders so as to unleash the full potential of *Nyumba Kumi* in crime reduction.

Assessing the Efficiency of Laws on Environmental Crimes and the Promotion of Sustainable Development in Kenya

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In the light of the increasing environmental problems, this research paper critically evaluates the effectiveness of the laws that deal with environmental crimes in Kenya and the effect on sustainable development. The research looks into the details of the national and international laws, treaties, and conventions, studying their strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. To have a complete evaluation of the realistic use and effect of the legal framework on environmental crimes, a case study of the diverse jurisdictions is compared. The paper draws attention to various difficulties which hinder the function of the current legal framework in fighting environmental crimes and promoting sustainable development. The main issues include inadequate enforcement mechanisms, lack of harmonization between the national and international laws, and insufficient public participation in the decision-making processes. The study stresses that the resolution of these difficulties is the key to the improvement of the capacity of the law to attain the sustainable development goals. The research presents the successful case studies and the best practices, thereby, providing the necessary information on the possible ways to improve the existing legal situation. Taking into account these instances, the paper posits that the new robust mechanisms are the key to the successful implementation and enforcement of the environmental laws and policies. The possible solutions to this problem include the improvement of the monitoring and compliance systems, the enhancement of the international cooperation and the increase of the public participation in the environmental decision-making process. The paper concludes that despite achievement of progress in curbing environmental crimes, there is a need to strengthen the legal frameworks for environmental protection and promotion of sustainable development by addressing the gaps in enforcement and implementation. Through studying the successful cases and the challenges that have been faced, the policymakers and stakeholders can join hands to build the legal frameworks that will be the guardian of the safety of our planet and will be the foundation for the equitable and sustainable growth of the future generations.

Transformative Justice: Strategies for Ensuring Equal Rights and Opportunities for Nubian Women in Nairobi County through Citizenship Reforms

Antony Mugambi Gitari, University of Nairobi

This paper responds to the persistent problem of statelessness caused by the bottlenecks in attaining citizenship by the Nubian women in Nairobi County. This became more pronounced during the post-cold war period where the conversation around citizenship in Kenya increasingly shifted from the state level to the societal and the individual levels. The Nubian community in Kenya have continued to be marginalized and discriminated against in access to identification and lack recognition as one of Kenya's ethnic communities. Unlike other communities enjoying political, social, and economic rights post-independence, Nubians have been systematically excluded. This study, rooted in the liberal citizenship theory, aimed to determine the contribution of lack of citizenship to the marginalization of Nubian women and their access to public goods and services in Kibra Sub-County, Nairobi County, Kenya.

A mixed-methods approach was employed with qualitative participants selected purposively, and quantitative respondents randomly selected from five wards in Kibra Sub-County. Quantitative data was analyzed using Stata version 17 while qualitative data were transcribed verbatim, translated into English, coded and analysed thematically using NVivo version 12. With an average age of 42 years, these women, recount experiences of humiliation and frustration during identification procedures, often resulting in educational setbacks and limited access to services. Emerging themes from the analysis include legal and bureaucratic challenges, discrimination and marginalization, community empowerment and advocacy, socio-economic struggles, and land ownership and infrastructure. The findings underscore the pervasive nature of citizenship-based discrimination in Kenya, exemplified by instances of denied educational opportunities, denied access to healthcare and lack of participating in political spaces due to lack of national identity cards. As a result, the imperative for Nubian recognition as Kenyan citizens emerges, necessitating concerted efforts to overcome bureaucratic hurdles hindering access to essential services. This study advocates for citizenship reforms to address the systemic barriers faced by Nubian women and the broader community. Activation of constitutional provisions, resolution of land issues, and streamlining of bureaucratic processes are crucial towards fostering inclusivity and safeguarding against political exploitation. These reforms are envisioned as catalysts for empowering Nubian women and the community ensuring equitable rights and opportunities within Kibra Sub-County and the country.

Psychosocial Determinants of Imprisonment among Petty Offenders Inmates in Kirinyaga County, Kenya

Linda Wakabu Mwai, Chuka University

Imprisonment of offenders is not only a national concern but also a global concern due to its devastating effects not only to the convicts but also to the family members of the convicts. Prison and correctional services are meant to rehabilitate and deter prisoners for repeating offenses that they have been convicted of. Probation services and aftercare on the other hand helps in integrating the prisoners back to the community and perhaps occupy them so that they will not repeat the offenses. Petty offenders in Kenyan Prisons forms the biggest percentage of prisoners and oftenly repeat the offenses that they had committed ending back in prison again and again. This seem to go hand with psychosocial issues like emotional disorders, self-esteem, stress, alcohol and drug abuse and social disorganization which are also on increase in the society. This study will Therefore, examine the psychosocial determinants of imprisonment among petty offenders inmates in Kirinyaga county, Kenya, Cognitive behavioral therapy and modeling theory will form the theoretical framework. The study will adopt a descriptive research design. Kirinyaga County has two prisons namely Kerugoya GK prison and Gathigiriri prison with a population of 500. Systematic sampling as well as simple random sampling procedure will help in selecting a total of 277 respondents comprising 267 inmates and 10 prison wardens. Questionnaires will assist in collection of data from prisoners while interview schedules will be presented to the prison wardens. Interview schedule will be used to some prisoners who may not be able to write since a majority of petty offenders may not have formal education. Piloting will be carried out in Embu GK prison. This is to ensure reliability test-retest method will be used where questionnaires will be administered twice to test for reliability of the instruments. Pearson Product-Moment Correlation formula will be incorporated during the calculation of correlation coefficient. Questionnaires will be considered variable only if the correlation coefficient of 0.7 or higher is obtained. Validity tools will be ascertained by Chuka University. Data will be analysed using standard package for social sciences and presented the findings will be presented using bar graphs and pie charts and frequency distribution tables will be used. The study recommendations will be helpful to the correctional and after care services since the prisoners will eventually be integrated back into the society they came from. Parents will be able to

Parents will be able to understand the cause for maladaptive behavior for their children will seek counseling for them. Inmates will understand the reasons for imprisonment and seek counseling aiming at correcting their maladaptive behavior. The government will improve policies to foster other mechanisms of correcting offenders, especially petty offenders who happen to be repeat offenders. It will also form a base for further studies and research in the field of counseling.

Contribution of Police Community Partnership in Crime Management Among Community Members Along The Tharaka Tigania Border, Kenya

Silas Kariuki Mitugo, Christopher Nkonge Kiboro & Monicah Buyatsi Oundo, Chuka University

Effective communication between the police and communities is fundamental to ensuring the success of crime management strategies. This research aims to assess the contribution of communication in achieving shared objectives and strategies along the Tharaka-Tigania border. The region faces unique challenges, and understanding the dynamics of police-community communication is crucial for fostering trust, collaboration, and ultimately reducing crime rates. This research aims to assess the role of police-community communication in crime management along the Tharaka-Tigania border. It focuses on transparency, clarity of objectives, channels of communication, frequency and consistency of communication, community feedback mechanisms, trust-building, and crime reduction outcomes. Transparent communication builds trust and ensures community members understand the goals and methods employed by law enforcement. The evaluation will also examine the accessibility and inclusivity of communication platforms, such as town hall meetings, community forums, social media, and local media updates. The study will also examine the frequency and consistency of communication, as well as the presence of mechanisms for community members to provide feedback or seek clarification on objectives and strategies. The research will also examine the impact of effective communication on crime reduction and prevention, aiming to inform policy adjustments and enhance the effectiveness of police-community collaboration in addressing the region's unique challenges. To verify the validity of the construct and content, research experts from the Department of Social Sciences were consulted. While several debriefings between the researcher and participants were used to determine the dependability of the qualitative items, the split-half approach was performed to assess the reliability of the numerical data. Descriptive statistical methods including means, frequencies, and percentages were used to summarize the raw data. Tables displaying frequency distributions displayed the data analysis results. The multiple linear regression model was designed to ascertain the effects of the four independent factors on the dependent variable. This study employed both qualitative and quantitative approaches to assess the data that were gathered. According to the study, there was a statistically significant and positive association between communication of the Police strategies and objectives in the contribution of wellbeing in the community.

Resource Conflicts Facilitating Criminality among the Youth in Laikipia County, Kenya

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Communities devoid of crime register profound developmental milestones due to optimal resource allocation, increased productivity and harmonious coexistence. However, Laikipia County in Kenya may not achieve the laid down developmental goals owing to persistent community conflicts and the rising number of youths convicted of varied crimes. Competition for resources by constituent communities has been identified as the main driver of the long-drawn conflicts in the county and as such, this study focused on examining resource conflicts facilitating criminality among the youth in Laikipia County in Kenya. The study employed the descriptive survey research design on a population of 1,324 convicted youths in Laikipia County. Stratified random sampling was used to select a sample of 302 respondents comprising of youths serving custodial and non-custodial sentences as well as

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corrections and probation officers. Questionnaires and interview guides were used for data collection. Reliability of the research instruments was estimated using Cronbach Alpha coefficient while validity was established through expert opinion of university supervisors. Data analysis was aided by the Statistical Package for Social Sciences version 25.0. Descriptive statistics were used to analyse quantitative data while thematic analysis for qualitative data. Data analysis results were presented as frequency distributions and in prose narration. The findings revealed that resource conflicts played a role in the rising cases of criminality among the youth in Laikipia County in Kenya.

**Role of the Anglican Church in Addressing the Boy Child Crisis in the
Diocese of Embu by**
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Chuka University*

The boy child crisis in Kenya, characterized by declining educational achievements, increased involvement in crime, substance abuse, and socio-economic marginalization, has garnered significant attention. This study focuses on the Diocese of Embu and explores the critical role the Anglican Church can play in addressing this crisis. Through a comprehensive analysis of the socio-cultural, economic, and spiritual challenges faced by boys and young men in the region, this paper proposes targeted measures for intervention. The study adopted the descriptive survey design. It was carried out within the Anglican Church Diocese of Embu County, Kenya. The accessible population was 26108 men, women and youths in ACK churches in the Diocese of Embu. The study involved 50 churches stratified into 7 archdeaconries and a sample of 254 men and women, and 73 youths selected by stratified proportionate random sampling. The researcher purposely selected 21 priests and 35 church elders. The total sample size for the study was 383 respondents. Data was obtained using interviews, questionnaires and focused group discussions. Findings revealed several key issues: Significant endorsement for pastors engaging in guidance and counseling at schools, proactive engagement within clergy families in addressing matters related to the upbringing and development of their children, substantial support for organizing boys seminars on youth development, positive perception towards youth engagement within the church context, substantial agreement with the practice of churches undertaking door-to-door missions to attract youths to ministry, overwhelming support for churches involvement in drug abuse campaigns and mentorship programs for adolescents, the church was perceived to assist male youth in various ways, with an emphasis on creating a welcoming and non-judgmental environment, the integration of traditions and modern Christianity by the church was widely acknowledged among the youth demographic. Considering the findings above, the study recommends formalizing the role of pastors in providing guidance and counseling at schools, encourage and facilitate more discussions and interactions between parents and clergy on child development, actively organize and promote more boys seminars focused on youth development, encourage and actively involve youths in church leadership roles to instill a sense of responsibility among the younger generation, engage in constructive dialogue and education to address the varying perspectives regarding the involvement of churches in traditional cultural practices, continue and enhance the practice of door-to-door missions to address the challenges of youth disengagement and disconnection from ministry.

**The Influence of Representative Politics on Socio-Economic Development of the
Kadimo Clan in Siaya County during the Colonial Period, 1902 and 1963**

*Richard Olwande Odo & Caroline M. Kithinji
Chuka University*

This study is on the influence of representative politics on socio-economic development of the Kadimo clan in Siaya County during the colonial period between 1902 and 1963. The study employed the descriptive research design. Data was obtained from oral, archival and secondary sources. The researcher interviewed a total of 30 respondents who were purpos-

archival and secondary sources to ensure the validity and reliability of the study. The discussion starts with the influence of representative politics on social development then moves to the influence of representative politics on economic development. Underdevelopment theory was used to establish the influence of representative politics on social and economic development of the area of study. The study established that there were no health centers among the Kadimo clan. Jo-Kadimo hugely depended on the traditional doctors to cure the various diseases that were common in the chiefdom such as stomach aches; offenses in Kadimo location were punished in various stringent forms; many people from Kadimo were recruited as carrier corps; the peasants of Yimbo hated to leave their homesteads to provide labour in distant places and they also hated to pay the oppressive hut tax and the poll tax. This helped to support elucidation that peoples' representation is strategic to socio-economic development. This study has contributed to the colonial historiography of the Kadimo clan of Yimbo in Siaya County, Kenya.

Efficacy and Adequacy of Criminal Justice Agencies in Kenya: The Case of Children in Conflict with the Law

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Problem Statement: It is estimated that 130 of every 100,000 children in Kenya pass through the criminal justice per day, or 30 children in every 100,000 commit crimes and offenses punishable by law in Kenya. Majority (46%) of the Kenyan population are children (KNBS, 2021). The response by criminal justice agencies has been far-reaching, where, in some cases, children are arrested and presented for processing. In some incidences, no action is taken leading to recidivism. The study aimed at assessing the efficacy and adequacy of the criminal justice agencies in dealing with children in conflict with law.

Methodology: The research adopted a mixed method approach involving both quantitative and qualitative techniques, employing an evaluative research design. The study interviewed 1,002 public officials from various institutions and 359 children in conflict with the law selected from various facilities and institutions. Findings: The study identified the need for psycho-social support, legal representation, care and protection, basic needs, and access to formal education. On efficacy and adequacy, public officials indicated that legal services and health/medical services were generally adequate. However, vocational training, victim and witness protection, and diversion programs were found to be inadequate. Majority of children expressed satisfaction with alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, judicial services, and participation in extracurricular activities, however, some were dissatisfied with basic formal education and legal representation. Children's and public officials had concern on lack of adequate resources, infrastructure, and training. Additionally, children said they are faced with psychological distress, trauma, and stigmatization.

Conclusion: The study established that programmes and services in place for addressing the needs of children in conflict with the law are still inadequate to meet the needs for successful rehabilitation. Recommendations: Includes: establishing of more child protection units in police stations, more consideration on diversion of children's cases, prioritizing community-based rehabilitation, decentralization of children correctional facilities to improve visitation and reduce psychological distress, enhancing the capacity of officers, modernizing vocational training programs, and increasing public awareness about the roles of relevant agencies; strengthening witness and victim protection agencies, increasing funding for criminal justice agencies, and enhancing pro- bono legal representation.

The influence of workplace values on effective utilization of youth enterprise development fund in Isiolo County, Kenya

Dr. Joram Kiarie Njuguna, Chuka University

The objectives of the study were: to investigate the social institutions influencing effective utilization, to investigate social networks influencing effective utilization, establish how workplace values influence effective utilization and to determine cultural values that influence effective utilization of YEDF in Isiolo County, Kenya. The study adopted correlational research and descriptive survey designs. The total study population was 9,602 people. This included a target population of 1,919 youths who have benefitted from YEDF and obtained from the 288 youth groups in Isiolo County. The population also included 7 YEDF officials and 7,676 community members. A sample of 384 respondents was obtained both proportionately and purposively. All the 7 YEDF officials participated in the study. Data collection was done using questionnaires and interviews. Reliability of the instruments was estimated using Cronbach Alpha Coefficients. Questionnaire for youths had a reliability coefficient index of 0.916 while questionnaire for community members had a reliability coefficient of 0.805 which were deemed reliable basing on the threshold set at 0.7 Cronbach Alpha Coefficient Index. Both questionnaires were self-administered. An interview schedule for the key informants was also used and filled by the respondents. Research assistants were hired to assist in the process. The respondents were given time to respond to the questionnaires and those who were not able to read or write were assisted. Data was analyzed by use of descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics used in the study was mean, standard deviation, percentages and frequencies while the inferential statistics used was linear regression. The study findings indicated that work place values had significant influence on effective utilization of youth enterprise development fund. The study recommended the use of an online application and notification process to reduce bottlenecks that prevent potential YEDF applicants from applying for the Fund. In addition, beneficiaries should be fully informed about risk assessment and management strategies prior to disbursement of funds.

Effects of Police Service Culture on Work-Life Balance among Female Police Officers in Central Region Kenya

Joyce Wangari Kamau, Chuka University

Police Culture is that of a Male dominance and fits Masculine attributes like strength, authority and power. The nature of police work requires to balance tasks in order to meet the demands to address societal issues. The complexity scatter roles are likely to lead to imbalance between work and personal life. The demands of the police work and the demands of female police officers personal life may be difficult to set equilibrium. Maintaining a work life balance is about separating personal and professional lives without allowing one to encroach upon the other. In most cases, the Police Service Culture often, work takes precedence over everything else in the lives of female Police officers. The desire for the Police culture bravery, perfectionism and the desire to succeed professionally can push officers to set aside their own well being. Work-life balance describes the ideal situation in which an employee can split their time and energy between work and other important aspects of life. The aim of conducting this study was to determine the effects of Police Service Culture on work life balance among Female Officers in Central Region, Kenya. The objective of study was to focus on examining the masculine Psyche, Warrior culture, organizational culture, Gender Discrimination and their work life balance among women police officers. The population was divided into 4 strata consisting of Superintendent, Inspectors, Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables. The study examined how Masculine Psyche affects work-life balance, Culture affects work-life balance among female Police Officers, determining how the Warrior Culture affects work-life balance among Female Police Officers and examining the Gender Discrimination Culture affects work-life balance among Female Police

Officers in Central Region, Kenya. The study used Descriptive Research Design. The population for this study was 163, comprising of 158 Women Police officers in five Police stations and five accredited therapists from the National Police Service. All women in the selected police station were interviewed from each strata. Questionnaires were used to collect data utilizing the rating scale method and from an interview guide for the therapists. Reliability was tested using cronbach's coefficient alpha and a reliability coefficient threshold of 0.7 and above was considered as appropriate for the instrument. Data was validated through expected feedback from supervisors in Chuka University and other experts. Pilot study was conducted in the Eastern Region. Data was then analyzed using descriptive statistics through the

Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22. The finding of the study will benefit Policy makers in the Ministry of Interior, National Police Service Commission, police officers and therapists by understating Police Service Culture affects work-life balance. These stakeholders will use the gathered results to create evidence-based practice of Police Service Culture that will promote work-life balance.

The Influence of Prison Visitation on Recidivism. A Kenyan Perspective

Chepngetich Marygorrety, Chuka University

Visitation of inmates in prison and its impact on recidivism is an interesting study as it helps in the fight against reoffending. The expectation of such an effect stems from prominent crime theories and studies that stress on the importance of social ties to the reentry process. The study sought to examine the influence of visitation on criminal recidivism amongst inmates in Kenyan prisons. The specific objectives were; to investigate the effect of prison visitation on criminal recidivism, to identify the challenges affecting visitation policies in Kenyan prisons, and to recommend best practices for policy improvement. The study employed a cross sectional survey research design allowing for the examination of the various aspects of prison visitation by focusing on a sample of recidivist offenders at that time. A census engaged 103 respondents using questionnaires and an interview guide for the five (5) key informants selected for the interviews from the Nairobi Remand and Allocation Maximum Security prison and Langata women's Maximum Security prison. Findings of the study established that of the inmates who were visited 60.6% of the men and 73% of the women portray a positive change in attitude and behavior and less likely to recidivate as compared to their counterparts who did not receive any visitors. Further, 75% of the respondents found visitation as an important factor in fighting recidivism. The underlying obstacles crippling prison visitation are; the short time of visitation, overcrowded visiting areas, poor communication of prison visitation rights and the prisoners incarcerated far away from home. The researcher recommends that the government through the department of corrections needs to come up with programs that encourage visitation, strengthen the implementation of existing policies to maximize visitation of inmates for example include conjugal visits in prisons. The government needs to sensitize members of the public on the importance of social ties in the fight against recidivism. The government needs to address the challenges that impede inmate visitation by coming up with workable programs that would support inmate visitation. The study recommends further research into the singular aspects of visitation with regard to criminal relapse and findings compared to those of this study

Key words: Influence, Recidivism, Social Ties, Prison Visitation

**Political Dyadic Networks and Electoral Participation in Uasin Gishu County-Kenya;
A Case of Gubernatorial Elections by**

Dr. Geoffrey Towett , Obushe Dennis and Kiboi Walter

International law and states' constitutions in liberal democracies provide for free, fair and regular elections as an unfringeable right of the voter in the choice of political leaders. Electoral participation and outcome globally, is however shaped by various determinants. This research interrogated political dyadic networks prevalent in gubernatorial elections in Uasin Gishu County-Kenya, and which shapes electoral participation and outcome under the Constitution of Kenya-2010 dispensation. A descriptive survey research design was adopted and targeted all 450,055 registered voters in Uasin Gishu County as per Independent Electoral and Boundary Commission statistics of 2017. A sample size of 384 respondents participated in the study and was drawn from 12 selected Wards in all the six Sub-counties in Uasin Gishu County. Questionnaires, interview schedules and Focused Group Discussion were used as key research instruments in the collection of primary data and corroborated with the existing secondary data. Data analysis was carried out through the use of convergent parallel mixed method for the purpose of presentation. The study revealed entrenched vertical political dyads aimed at enhancing patron-client networks and electoral participation and included political candidate' vertical dyads with; ethnic political patrons, business associations, community groups, the media, religious groups, professionals' trade unions and directly with voters, with each dyad established and sustained by use of clientelistic goods and services. The study concluded that electoral participation and outcome was influenced by political dyadic linkages established by political candidates and the voters during electioneering period. The study recommended that established Constitutional commissions such as Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, National Cohesion and Integration Commission, and Kenya National Human Rights Commission should develop civic education training frameworks that incorporate and inculcate liberal democratic values as opposed to clientelistic practices. Cross national studies on political dyadic networks with other African countries are recommended for further research in order to enrich existing literature gap.

Key Words: Political Dyadic Networks, Electoral Participation, County, Kenya

CLIMATE CHANGE, FOOD SECURITY AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

Causes of Environmental Degradation in Chuka Igambang'ombe Sub- County, Kenya

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This study sought to investigate the causes of environmental degradation in Chuka Igambang'ombe Sub-County. The Catholic Church in Chuka Igambang'ombe Sub-County, actively participates in tree planting, river rehabilitation, soil conservation, and environmental campaigns during the world environmental day. However, despite these efforts, environmental challenges persist, including; deforestation, pollution, inadequate clean water sources, drought, and blocked drainage systems. Environmental degradation poses a significant threat to ecosystems and the well-being of human beings worldwide. Empirical evidence and media sources highlight a concerning trend where a significant portion of the community members take part in environmental degradation activities such as deforestation, pollution, failure to take care of the environment, lack of knowledge on conservation of the environment, burning of fossils and charcoals, and soil erosion. The study adopted the descriptive survey design. It was carried out in Chuka Igambang'ombe Sub-County, Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya. A population of 15574 Church members comprising of 20 priests, 20 Development officials, 3663 youths, 4285 CMA, 7321 CWA was targeted by the survey. A sample of 10 priests, 10 Development committee members, 86 youths, 175 CWA and 98 CMA members was obtained for the study making a total of up to 389 members of the target population. Data was obtained using interviews and questionnaires. The study established that the environmental degradation resulted from multiple factors, including deforestation, air pollution, failure to take care of the environment, lack of knowledge on conservation of environment, burning of fossils and charcoals, soil erosion, Water pollution, improper waste disposal, overgrazing, and encroachment on habitats. In view of the findings obtained in this study, it is recommended that the government and other stakeholders involved in implementing environmental conservation measures should implement stricter regulations on deforestation practices and enhance waste management strategies to prevent water pollution.

The Transition from Subsistence to Cash Crop Farming in Abogeta Sub County of Meru from 1937 to 1980

Lydia Gaceri Kaburu, Chuka University

This study is about a history on the transition from subsistence to cash crop farming in Abogeta Sub-County in Meru County, Kenya from 1937-1980. Before 1937 farming practices were mainly for subsistence. Crops grown included millet, sorghum, peas, arrowroots, yams, beans and cowpeas. The purpose of this study was to examine the transition from subsistence to cash crop farming in Abogeta Sub County of Meru from 1937 to 1980. It was guided by Articulation of Modes of Production theory whose main precept is that penetration of capitalism in Africa affected modes of production. The study employed descriptive research design to describe the events as they occurred systematically. The instruments of data collection were interview schedules, focused group discussions and observation schedule. The sources of data included oral sources, archival sources and secondary sources which were corroborated to meet the reliability and objectivity of the research. The study was analyzed and presented through Qualitative Data Analysis. The study revealed that traditionally people from Abogeta Sub County engaged in subsistence farming. Farming shifted to cash crop farming from 1937 with the introduction of cash crops like coffee and tea. This drift was fueled by search for money and industrialization. The study also noted that the transition had both positive and negative impacts on people of Abogeta. Food insecurity and migration were noted while on the positive side it became the major economic activity and hence a source of livelihood to those that practiced. The study may be useful to future researchers in related areas. Policy makers in the government may use the study to find solutions to food insecurity in Abogeta Sub County of Meru-County.

Rethinking Government Policies and Interventions in Matters of Food Security in Kenya since Independence

Thomas Gichobi & John Ndungu Kungu
Maasai Mara University

This paper analyzes the course of the policies and interventions of the government regarding food security in Kenya since 1963. The study looks into the past and recent strategic approaches that have been used, cutting across challenges and victories to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the previous frameworks, thus proffering new strategies for future change initiatives. Kenya has faced these difficulties since its independence in ensuring adequate food security regarding crop failure due to drought, farmers' irregular production, unfair distribution of resources and widespread corruption in the agricultural sector. During the beginning of the process, major government policies were geared towards the advancement of large-scale agricultural development, manifested by cash crops for export, while the grassroots farmers and local food production remained ignored. Characteristically, the food crisis and problems of a stable food source have become a permanent topic and campaign tool in Kenya's political arena. However, the food question has received broad publicity forcing subsequent governments to adopt policies and interventions to promote food safety. The establishment of the National Food Policy in the 1980s sought to foster sustainable agricultural practices and support small-scale farmers. Methods such as fertilizer subsidies, subsidized irrigation systems, and others facilitated the accessibility and affordability of food for citizens whose populations were rising. However, there are a number of challenges to overcoming the weak infrastructure, climate risks, lack of money to invest in good seeds and technology from smallholder farmers, and structural imbalance, which make some of them unable to own land and access markets. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the food supply chain vulnerabilities and highlighted the need for resilient and adaptive policy frameworks. Using historical trajectory and in light of these challenges, this paper argues for a holistic approach to food security. Its position is to enact policies that focus on sustainable planting techniques, promote multiple situations in agriculture, strengthen the fight against corruption, and, at the same time, increase the resilience for sorting out climate change and other ecology-related issues.

Reclaiming the Garden of Eden's Lost Glory: Christian Responsibility on Ecosystem for Sustainable Development in Kenya

Prof Dickson Nkonge Kagema, Chuka University

Humanity was created as God's vicegerent and was placed in the Garden of Eden to have dominion over all other creatures and enjoy life in abundance. Man was to have a peaceful co-existence with nature, take care of it and as a result derive all his existence from its bounties. Soon after the fall, humanity misunderstood the right to dominion to domination and started to mercilessly and selfishly exploit nature. The continuous destruction of the environment by human beings has been the greatest hindrance to sustainable development in the world. In most cases, the Church which is the conscience of the society and agent of peace in the world has not taken it as her responsibility to mend the broken relationship between man and nature. The aim of this study was to look at how Christians in Kenya can participate in environmental conservation for sustainable development. No sustainable development can be attained while nature is groaning in pain. The study which involved 384 respondents mainly Christians drawn from various denominations and counties, found out that the Church in Kenya has not taken it her responsibility to care for the ecosystem. Christians in Kenya have concentrated on other things and have neglected the pertinent issue of ecological disaster which threatens to wipe out all existence. Consequently, Christians should take it as their responsibility to conserve the environment if all any meaningful sustainable development has to be attained in Kenya. This is tantamount to attaining the lost Garden of Eden's glory.

Effects of Credit Lending Terms on Access to Credit by Small and Medium Enterprises in Chuka Town, Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya

Moses Rugendo Muatha, Chuka University

The Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) sector has a crucial role in stimulating the economic growth of Kenya by making a substantial contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Small-scale investments are widely recognized as significant drivers of socio-economic transformation in economies, particularly in developing nations. Over the period of 2019 to 2022, its contribution witnessed an increase from 5.1 percent to around 6.0 percent of the country's GDP. According to the Economic Survey of 2022, SMEs heavily rely on bank loans and often face challenges in securing adequate financing. This disparity between the demand for funds by SMEs and the available supply is caused by multiple factors. The purpose of this research is to explore how credit lending terms affect the access to credit by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Chuka Town, Kenya. Specifically, the study aims to investigate the effects of credit lending interest rates, penalty charges, repayment period and borrowing limits on the ability of SMEs to obtain credit. In Kenya, there is a concerted effort to improve access to financial resources hence reducing interest rates, aligning with similar initiatives seen in both developed and developing countries. To accomplish the research objectives, a combination of questionnaire and interview guide will be employed to collect data. The target population for this study comprises 750 SMEs located in Chuka Town licensed by County Government of Tharaka Nithi from which a sample of 150 SMEs will be selected. The research design for this study is a correlation research design, which aims to investigate the relationship between credit lending terms (independent variable) and SMEs access to credit (dependent variable).

Effect of Health Expenditure on Economic Growth in Kenya

Francis Mukundi Kirema, Chuka University

The health expenditures effect on economic growth in Kenya presents an essential inquiry due to the significant investment in healthcare and its prospective impact on national productivity and well-being. This study, set within Kenya's complex economic and public health landscape, seeks to uncover how different types of health expenditures—Out-of-Pocket (OOP), Government Health Expenditure (GHE), and Development Assistance for Health (DAH)—influence Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The research adopts a quantitative approach using the Auto-Regressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model to analyze time-series data, capturing both short and long-term economic impacts of health spending. The study is motivated by Kenya's increased health budget, recognizing healthcare as pivotal for economic resilience and growth. Recent escalations in health spending have been dramatic, with allocations growing approximately 132% from 2014 to 2023. However, high OOP costs continue to pose financial hardships, emphasizing the need for effective health financing strategies to promote economic stability and reduce poverty. The paper explores how increased GHE and DAH can enhance economic performance by improving public health, thus supporting labor productivity and economic activity. Conversely, the burden of OOP expenses, which often leads to catastrophic financial impacts for households, is scrutinized for its counteractive effects on economic growth. Preliminary findings suggest a complex relationship where GHE and DAH contribute positively to economic growth, whereas high OOP expenses have a regressive effect, potentially stifling economic activity due to reduced household spending and investment. This study aims to provide robust empirical evidence to guide policy reform, advocating for a health expenditure structure that not only targets health improvement but also fosters broader economic development in Kenya.

Types of Community Participation and Sustainability of Donor Funded Food Security Projects in Tharaka Nithi County

Anita Mwende, Prof Anne Sande, & Prof. Geoffrey Gathungu
Chuka University

Participatory approach has been embraced globally for sustainability of most development projects. Most food security projects have been implemented in many communities using the participatory approach. However there is evidence that many Food security projects collapse soon after commencement. The study explored the types of community participation in the sustainability of the donor funded food security projects in Tharaka Nithi County. Descriptive survey design was used to collect data from 238 people sampled by simple random and purposive sampling methods from a study population of 393 177 people. The sample size was based on a sampling table by Krejcie and Morgan (190). The target population was; project officers and community members in the study area. The instruments of the study were questionnaires and interview schedules. Data was analyzed both quantitatively (descriptive and inferential) and qualitatively (narratives). The study found out community participation and sustainability of Donor Funded Food Security Projects correlated positively and significantly ($r=0.548$, $p=0.000$). It was also noted that there was a significant relationship between level of community participation and sustainability of the donor funded food security projects ($p=0$). Majority (80%) of the community members participated passively which indicated a negative influence on sustainability of the donor funded food security projects ($r= -0.3$). It was concluded that the type of community participation played a significant role in the sustainability of donor funded food security projects. The study therefore recommended sensitization and involvement of all stakeholders from the preliminary to the advanced stages of donor funded food security projects in order to increase active participation.

Effect of Private Sector Credit on Private Investment in Kenya

Brendah Chepkorir & Dr. Lenity Maugu
Chuka University

Private investment remains an important sector in the growth of economy and sustainable development in Kenya. The success of Kenya's long-term economic plan, Vision 2030, is largely dependent on the function of the private sector investment and financial sector in achieving the country's economic growth target of about 10% and beyond. They are key pillars expected to enhance wealth creation, increased employment opportunities and industrialization. Enhancing

Private sector growth remains the government's top priority. However, the country is yet to realize its potential growth rate of 24% in the Private investment sector. Existing studies in Kenya have majored on the determinants of private investments while others focused on the wider perspective of financial deepening and economic growth. Additionally, most of those studies tend to employ different methods of analysis that may not be appropriate for unbiased results. This study intends to fill these gaps by specifically determining the effect of private sector credit on private investment. The study will also include public investment and real interest rates as control variables. Financial intermediation theory and financial liberalization theory are the theories that will guide the study while Causal research design will be adopted. Data will be obtained from IMF and World Development Indicators (WDI) and STATA software will be used in the analysis of the collected data. Stationarity of data will be determined with the use of the Philips Perron test. Due to its suitability to provide robust findings, the Autoregressive distributed lag model (ARDL) will be employed to determine the cointegration of variables. If all the variables are found to be non-stationary and cointegrated, the error correction model (ECM) will be used to estimate the long-run relationships. Finally, diagnostic tests (multicollinearity, autocorrelation and heteroscedasticity) will be performed. The findings of the study will be summarized in graphs and charts and recommendations provided. Therefore, filling the knowledge gap in the existing literature. `

Effect of External Debt on Public Investment in Kenya

Francis Gichia Kagotho & Dr. Lenity Maugu
Chuka University

Many countries require external debt to bridge the gap in government's expenditure budget. In Kenya, the government has over time accumulated large stocks of external debt to facilitate the provision of the essential public services and promote infrastructural development. Kenya's external debt has been increasing, recorded at 36.4 percent of gross domestic product as of 2022. Despite the increased external borrowing in Kenya, public investment target of 10 per cent of gross domestic product has however not been attained. The public investment level in Kenya was 8.3 per cent of gross domestic product in 2022. Many previous studies have focused on public debt and little has been done on internal and external debt, and the corresponding effect on public investment. Therefore, the objective of this study is to investigate the effect of external debt on public investment in Kenya. Yearly time series data on external debt and Public Investment for the years 1990 to 2022 will be collected using the structured data collection checklist from Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and World Bank. The relationship between external debt and public investment will be based on Debt Overhang Theory and Accelerator Theory of Investment.

The research will utilize the Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model to determine the relationship between the two variables. Moreover, the study will utilize descriptive research design. Diagnostic tests such as heteroscedasticity, multicollinearity and autocorrelation will be done to ascertain that linear regression assumptions are adhered to, and Stata software will be used for data analysis. The stationarity of data, cointegration test and residual analysis will also be conducted. The research findings will help in shaping the policy decisions on external borrowing and resources allocation by the government to promote economic growth and development. Research ethics will be considered to ensure that there is ultimate integrity, as required by the University and the National Council for Science and Technology.

Effect of Recurrent Government Expenditure on Private Investment in Kenya

Cecilia Njeri Chege, Chuka University, Dr. Lenity Kananu Maugu, Chuka University,
Dr. Onesmus Mbaabu, South Eastern Kenya University,

The tenacity of the country's entrepreneurs and the favorable climate has been credited with the rapid expansion of private sector activity in the Kenyan economy. New technology and increased private investment propel the country's economy toward full employment, where resources are best used and economic development is achieved. Investment levels should be over 32 percent of Gross domestic product, with state investment comprising above 9 percent of Gross domestic product and private investment being 24 percent of Gross domestic product, according to Vision 2030. This objective does not appear to be attainable at the current private investment growth rate. Private investment is significantly impacted by recurrent government expenditure that affect aggregate demand, distribution of wealth, and the economy's capacity to produce goods and services, hence encouraging private investment is vital for achieving economic development. As a result, the goal of this research proposal is to evaluate how government recurrent expenditure has changed through time in relation to private investment. The study's theoretical foundations include the Keynesian Approach Theory. To find the causal effect link between the variables, a casual study design will be used. A sample of 42 years from the yearly series data will be taken from the websites of the Central Bank of Kenya, the World Bank, the African Development Indicators, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, and Kenya Revenue Authority for the years 1980 to 2022. Augmented Dickey Fuller and Philips-Perron tests will be used in a unit root test to check for data stationarity. Granger Causality test and cointegration will be undertaken on the stationary data to ascertain the kind of causality and presence of Long Run equilibrium between variables. To confirm that the traditional linear regression assumption has been upheld, a diagnostic test will be run. The findings of the study will be very important in developing and putting into practice efficient policies that would encourage investment from private parties in Kenya by fostering an investment-friendly environment.

Financial Development and its Effect on Inclusive Growth in Kenya 2000 – 2022

Dr Onesmus Mbaabu Mutiiria & Joseph Nzomoi
South Eastern Kenya University

Purpose: In the past decade, Kenya's economy registered an average real GDP growth rate of 4.63 percent. Despite this growth, many people have been locked out of social and economic opportunities, with 19.1 percent of the Kenyan population living in poverty. This has intensified the need for inclusive growth, a growth model that promotes shared prosperity. Several studies have shown that financial systems that function well play a great role in the economy through the provision of key financial services that drive growth. However, there is a lack of substantial inquiry into financial development and inclusive growth in Kenya. This study sought to examine this relationship for the period 2000-2022.

Methodology: The study employed a causal research design and used time series data that was collected from various databases. The level of inclusiveness in Kenya was analyzed using an inclusiveness matrix. An inclusive growth index was constructed, which was then used to empirically test the effect of financial development on inclusive growth.

Findings: The inclusiveness matrix shows that despite positive economic growth rates, there is a low rate of equity growth, which shows that Kenya has a low level of inclusivity. The empirical results show that bank deposits and private-sector credit have a positive and statistically significant effect on inclusive growth. A 1% increase in bank deposits leads to a 0.074% increase in inclusive growth. When private-sector credit increases by 1%, inclusive growth expands by .070%. Bank return on assets has a positive but insignificant effect on inclusive growth. The study confirms that financial depth and access to financial services are the most conducive to inclusive growth in Kenya. Other determinants of inclusive growth include initial income, human capital development and macroeconomic stability. The overall findings suggest that financial development can be used to create economic opportunities for poor people in Kenya, thus reducing income disparities.

Unique Contributions: The study has contributed to the ongoing conversation on inclusive growth, specifically on its measurement. The empirical results on the finance-inclusiveness nexus provide evidence-based policy interventions that can help in reducing income disparities and enhancing shared prosperity. The findings imply that policymakers and practitioners need to focus their attention on promoting financial access and financial depth in marginalized regions to create a significant impact on inclusive growth in Kenya.

Public Procurement price variance in Kenya: extent, Drivers, and Proposed Mitigation

Peter Kamoni, South Eastern Kenya University

Developing economies, often dependent on donor funding and debt, such as Kenya could benefit from sealing budget leakages. Public procurement price variance is deemed a key inefficiency in public expenditure contributing to the loss of colossal amounts of Money. Mechanisms to achieve realistic public procurement prices are stipulated in the existing public procurement regulatory regime; However Price variances, manifesting in inflated tenders, are abound. The extent and drivers are yet to be empirically examined. This study adopted an exploratory approach to examine the extent of public procurement price variance; by conducting variance analysis of market prices and prices of goods contained in procurement contracts of 336 public procuring entities (Ministries, Departments, and Agencies) in Kenya in the 2022/2023 Financial Year. Analysis of data drawn from a random sample of 50 MDAs, indicates that all items acquired by MDAs were overpriced: at between 20% and 220% of the market price. Analysis drivers of overpricing ranked: "budgeted kickbacks/bribes"; "Response to Late Payments by MDAs"; "Collusive Bidding"; and "Over-use of non-competitive methods"; as key drivers. The study reviewed the price oversight mechanism of the public procurement system in Kenya and recommends the adoption of a live internal public procurement audit model to monitor and oversight pricing. This will require a review of the regulatory regime to entrench the internal procurement audit model into the public procurement process.

The study also recommends a public procurement study to examine the extent and magnitude of procurement price variance across Kenya and its fiscal effect on the Economy.

key words: Public Procurement Overpricing, Procurement Price Variance, Drivers of public procurement overpricing; Internal Procurement Audit.

Determinants of the Performance of the Manufacturing Sector in Kenya

John Wambua Muendo, Chuka University

The manufacturing sector which dovetails the country's economic blueprint that perceives a possibility of the sector achieving 20% GDP contribution by 2030 exists to a great extent in Kenya. A comparison of these numbers to the 11.16% it contributed to GDP in 2011, gives a clear picture of the last decade trend, which highlights the inability of this sector to create a steady growth pattern over the ten-year period. Substantially, new credit lines aimed at the sector recorded a stepped up in them, more specifically, in 2021 of \$462.6 billion which means that there was an increase in debt financing. In the same line, delays in borrowing rate, exchange rate, and inflation will equally have an impact on the sector's growth. While the comprehension of these macroeconomic variables positions the policymakers to succeed in rejuvenating the GDP contribution of the manufacturing sector to 20% by 2030, it is fulcrum. This research will explore whether the interest rates, exchange rates, and inflation rates affect the exportations in the economy of machine produce in Kenya from the year 1998 to 2023. The study main objective will be looking into the determinants of the performance of manufacturing industry in Kenya. The specific objectives will be investigating the influence of interest rate, exchange rate and inflation rate on the Kenyan manufacturing sector's functionality. Quantitative-correlational research design will be adopted as the tool to be used to investigate secondary data gotten from the Central Bank of Kenya, the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and the Kenya Association of Manufacturers. The theoretical pillar rests on the Mundell-Fleming framework, which studies the relationship among macroeconomic variables under different types of exchange rate regimes and its implication for the manufacturing sector. The study will work with the Error Correction Model (ECM) to incorporate dynamic relationships between variables, which includes a discussion about both the path-breaking short term impacts and long term equilibrium adjustments regarding these variables. The research objectives are to supply analytical basis so as the authorities and enterprises could understand economic chances that condition productivity, profitability and growth in the manufacturing sector. To determine the vital factors on the manufacturing sector's performance, this research aims at ensuring implementation of appropriate economic policies that protect from internal and external economic challenges in Kenya.

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