

**FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO LATE ENROLMENT OF
CHILDREN IN MTWAPA, KILIFI DISTRICT**

**A research report submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements of bachelor of education degree in early
childhood to the department of Educational Communication
and Technology, University of Nairobi.**

BY

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DECLARATION

I declare that this project report is my original work and has not been presented for the award of any degree in any other university.

Signature Loice Bahati Karisa
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Date: 26/8/09

This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as university supervisor.

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Dr. Origa

Date: _____

ABSTRACT

The study was intended to find out the factors contributing to late enrollment of children in Mtwapa, Kilifi District. The study had the following objectives; to investigate the relationship between parents' economic status and the late enrolment, to establish the relationship between parents lack of awareness of preschool services and late enrolment of children, to establish the relationship between child labour and late enrolment, to investigate the relationship between free primary education and late enrolment of children and to establish the relationship between distance of the school from the children's homes and late enrolment. This study used the case study research design. The tools used to collect data were questionnaires, interviews and observation.

The conclusion was that poverty was the major factor that contributed to the late enrollment of preschool children in Mtwapa. Others were free primary education, the distance of the schools from the children's homes, child labour and ignorance of the parents. The study came up with the following recommendations; early childhood education should be made free. The government should introduce school feeding programs in schools especially those in marginalized areas. Parents should be empowered economically through engagement in economic activities sponsored by the government and other agencies. The government should build more public schools in order to reduce the distance walked by children from their homes to school.