

**FACTORS INFLUENCING ATTENDANCE IN  
ECE CENTRES, KALUNDU ZONE, CENTRAL  
DIVISION, KITUI CENTRAL DISTRICT**

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**A project submitted in partial fulfilment for the award  
of diploma in early childhood education**

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

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## Declaration

I hereby declare that this research project is my original work and has never been presented for a diploma in any other university.

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Breter Vilita Musyoka

Date: 8/8/2011

Supervisor:

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

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Prof. Patrick. O. Digolo

Date: 8-8-2011

## Abstract

The purpose of the study was to investigate the factors that influence attendance in ECE centres, Kalundu Zone, Kitui Central District. It was a hypothesis that poverty, child labour, health, domestic violence, drugs and ignorance influence attendance in the ECE centres.

The study was conducted using samples drawn from twelve public pre-schools, four church-sponsored pre-schools and five private-owned pre-schools in Kalundu Zone, Central Division of Kitui Central District which has a total of forty-five pre-schools. Some nineteen pre-school teachers, parents, quality assurance and standards officers in the zone also contributed in the study.

The study employed a descriptive survey research design and used questionnaires and interviews for data collection.

Data was analysed using tables, graphs and pie charts. Means and percentages were reported using frequency distribution and tables.

Attention is focused on the underlying factors, which make children not attend school regularly. The following were the findings of the study on the factors that influence attendance in the pre-schools of Kalundu Zone, Central division, Kitui Central District:

- High level of poverty
- Effects of HIV/ AIDS
- Drugs
- Ignorance
- Child labour
- Ill health

Finally, suggestions for further research was made so as to replicate this study to cover a larger sample and find out the factors that influence attendance in ECE centres in other areas of this country.

Recommendations are also made to the ECDE centres and the educational managers to ensure that young children are provided with the necessary factors so that they do not miss this important advent in the history of their early educational development.