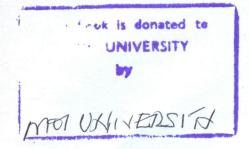
FACTORS THAT AFFECT THE PERFORMANCE OF PHYSICS: A CASE STUDY OF WAA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, KWALE DISTRICT, KWALE COUNTY, KENYA

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A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AWARD OF POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATION MEDIA



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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the factors that affect the performance of students in Physics as a subject at Waa Girls High School. This study would enable the researcher to make appropriate recommendations that shall correct the situation. In chapter one we will discuss the; background information about the School, objectives of the study and limitations of the study. The School has four streams with a student population of about 900. A sample of 150 students was picked by stratified sampling as respondents. These were given questionnaires to fill and returned to the researcher for analysis. Ten questionnaires were not returned by respondents. Two physics teachers were also given a questionnaire to fill. In chapter two we will look at the factors affecting performance in Physics. These factors include; facilities and resources available, the students' attitudes and motivation, social-economic status of the community, students' entry points, teaching methods and the learning environment. In chapter three the researcher looks at the research design, characteristics of the population, sample and sampling techniques, research instruments, data collection procedures and methods of data analysis. The data was interpreted and explained using tables and percentages. In chapter four we will look at the analysis of data and interpretation. Factors that were pointed out in connection with the performance include: students' entry behavior, socio-economic status, absenteeism, inadequate textbooks and laboratory facilities, mode of conducting experiments and their frequency, students' level of performance, students' attitude towards Physics, the learning environment and lastly effectiveness of guiding and counseling department. In the last chapter the researcher looks at conclusions and recommendations based on the findings. The researcher recommends for an urgent address to the above factors in order to improve on the performance of Physics as a subject. This can be done through purchase of more facilities and resources by the School through financial assistance from the government or donor and teachers conducting more experiments and use various teaching methods to raise students' interest among others.