TRENDS IN WOMEN’S ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE FAMILY IN KIRINYAGA WEST CONSTITUENCY, KIRINYAGA COUNTY IN KENYA

TERESIA WANGECI MATHENGE

A RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES OF KENYATTA

MAY, 2014
STUDENT DECLARATION

“This proposal is my original work has not been presented for the award of a degree in any other university.”

Signature: ________________________________ Date: 8/05/14

Name: Teresia W. Mathenge
C50/NYI/PT/25702/11

Supervisors: This proposal has been submitted for the review with our approval as university supervisors.

Signature 1: ________________________________ Date: 8/5/14

Dr. Pacificah Okemwa
Department of Gender and Development Studies

Signature 2: ________________________________ Date: 8/7/2014

Dr. Casper Masiga
Department of Gender and Development Studies
ABSTRACT

The increase in alcohol use in Central Province has raised the concern of both the public and Government and has been identified as an acute problem. However, its increased use by women is of greater concern since they perform very central roles in the family. This study therefore seeks to examine whether excessive alcohol consumption by women affect families in Kirinyaga West and seek causes of the practice. The theory adopted for the study is the systems theory of the family advanced by Murry Bowen (1966) which explains that families are systems of interconnected and interdependent individuals who cannot be isolated from the system, with each member having a role to play for the wellbeing of others and rules to respect for its smooth running, failure to which it suffers dysfunction. The descriptive survey research design will be used whereby, centres of high alcohol preparation and consumption will be purposively selected and the non probability method used to select 60 households and 6 sub chiefs. Interview schedules and focus group discussions will be used to collect data on women patterns of alcohol consumption, reasons for increased alcohol use and effects this has on the family. Data will be presented by use of frequencies, pie charts and themes. The study is hoped to contribute to the ongoing NACADA researches on alcohol abuse and add to academic literature how alcohol consumption by women affect families especially in regard to the key roles that they perform. It may also lead to the inclusion and consideration of women's alcohol consumption while making policies such as those related to health and alcohol nationally hence useful in prioritizing targets for prevention and intervention.