EXPLORING PARENT-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS IN EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES IN NYERI NORTH AND NYERI SOUTH DISTRICTS, KENYA

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E55/10029/2006

A RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATION (SPECIAL EDUCATION) IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, KENYATTA UNIVERSITY.

AUGUST 2013
DECLARATION

This proposal is my original work and has not been presented in any other University.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: 5/02/2014

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Supervisor’s Approval

This proposal has been submitted for review with our approval as university supervisors

Signature __________________________ Date 5/02/2014

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ABSTRACT

In the recent trends on Education, there have been school empowerment programs to build capacity and to embrace partnerships. However, in order to satisfactorily contribute to education for children with disabilities, parents’ involvement and partnership with schools is highly recommended. The Salamanca statement of 1994 calls for shared task of parents and professionals. Studies have established that parents participate in decision making concerning their children’s education through parent-teacher association and other forums in primary and secondary schools. The researcher proposes to carry out a qualitative study on parent – school partnerships in education for young persons with physical disabilities in Nyeri North and Nyeri South districts of Central Province, Kenya. The districts were selected due to their comparative material poverty. Comparison will be made between a poor urban site, and a poor rural site. The objective is to analyze the various types of partnerships in order to assess their effects to schooling. The study will use a qualitative approach through the narrative research design. In-depth interview is the key method of data collection, through interview guides. Audio recording will be utilized to record the interviews, while note taking will be used to document unspoken information to complement interview data. The study targets all young persons with physical disabilities aged between 14-30 years, their parents, guardians or significant others and teachers in selected schools. Five male and five female subjects will be selected through the snowball technique. Ten Parents or guardians of the subjects and three Head-teachers of schools will be purposively selected. Pilot study will be done in a section of Kiganjo sub-location in Nyeri North District which was selected because it has similar category of disabilities and economic background. However, the pilot site will be precluded from the main study. After audio recording, narratives of personal experiences will be transcribed and then they will be coded using the Atlas.ti computer software for social studies. Thematic analysis shall then be applied, to make meaning out of the quotations in order to interpret data.