KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

INDIGENOUS KENYANS' PERSPECTIVE OF PERSONALITY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON
MULTI-CULTURAL COUNSELLING

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A RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY OF KENYATTA UNIVERSITY.

2014
DECLARATION

This proposal is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university or for any other award.

Signature ___________________________ Date: 12/08/14

Gathaara Hellen Wathoni, M.A
C82/11132/08

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

1. ___________________________ Date: 15/8/14

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ABSTRACT

Personality is shaped by both genetic and environmental factors. The most important of the latter are the cultural influences. Culture is a key determinant of what it means to be a person. Culture influences people's worldview and provides the context within which personality is developed, observed and acquired, and thus strongly influencing it. A survey research design will be used for this study to find out the indigenous Kenyans' perspective of personality and its implications on multi-cultural counselling. The Symbolic interactionism theory will be used as the theoretical framework in order to show the indigenous Kenyans understanding of personality based on their worldview acquired in culture. The target population will be the teaching staff, students, counselling psychologists and non-teaching staff from two public and two private universities. Non-probability sampling procedures will be used in a multi-stage sampling process, where non-proportional quota sampling, purposive sampling and heterogeneity sampling methods will be used to get the final sample of 400 respondents. The research instruments will be questionnaires, interview schedules and focus-group schedules. The data will be analyzed using manual qualitative critical discourse analysis for the open questions of the questionnaires, interview and focus-group schedules. Computer SSP programs will be used for various perceptual factors in the closed questions of the questionnaires and also for computing frequency distribution, mean and percentages for demographic data. Data will be presented using descriptive statistics. The implications of the research findings are far reaching. They will benefit psychotherapists in the field of multi-cultural counselling and psychotherapy in offering services, help the government to plan for health and education and also increase knowledge in the scholarly world.