KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

DETERMINANTS OF MALE PARTNER PARTICIPATION IN MATERNAL AND CHILD WELL-BEING PROGRAMS IN KIAMBU COUNTY, KENYA

JANE K. FRANCIS (MPHE)

C82/21141/10

Research Proposal submitted to the School of Humanities and Social Sciences in Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy of Kenyatta University

May 2014
DECLARATION

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

Jane. K. Francis (Bed. Arts, MPHE)

C82/21141/2010

Signature  date 15.5.2014

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

Signature  date 15.5.2014

Prof. L.M Kisovi

Associate Professor

Department of Geography

Kenyatta University

Signature  date 16.5.2014

Dr. Samuel C. J Otor

Senior Lecturer

Department of Environmental Sciences

Kenyatta University
ABSTRACT

Despite several decades of awareness, advocacy and investment into HIV and AIDS control and prevention programs, the global pandemic continues to grow. About 95% of the children globally get infected with HIV through Mother-to-Child Transmission (MTCT). This infection is preventable and any infection is regrettable. Preventive measures are provided through Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV programs (PMTCT) offered at most Health Facilities (HFs). Uptake and adherence to PMTCT services has been associated with reduction of the infection to 1% or even its total eradication. Without these interventions there is a 45% chance that a child born to HIV positive mother will be infected. In most parts of the world, male-partner participation in PMTCT has been associated with increased uptake of the services. Lack of or low male-partner participation on the other hand has been associated with decreased consumption of the services and high program dropout rates by their female-partners and the infants. Kiambu County identified low male-partner participation in reproductive health as a major challenge in implementation of reproductive health program, specifically PMTCT. The main objective of this study will be to investigate factors that have led to the low male-partner participation in Kiambu County. To achieve this objective, a cross-sectional survey will be carried out to examine the relationship between the level of male-partner participation (dependent variable) and the various factors (independent variables) that are likely to influence it. The independent variables include male-partner’s demographic characteristics, economic factors, knowledge and awareness in PMTCT programs, perception of current PMTCT programs and influence of socio-cultural factors. Purposive sampling will be used to select the study area (Kiambu County) with low male-partner participation in PMTCT programs. Random numbers will be used to select five out of the twelve sub-Counties to cover 40% of the County. Purposive sampling will be used to select Health Facilities offering PMTCT services in the County from which the sample size will be picked. Stratified sampling will be used to apportion number of participants per Health Facility based on the health records at PMTCT sections of HFs. Simple random sampling will then be used to select two hundred and fifty pregnant women and mothers to children below five years of age from the sampling frame who will then introduce their male-partners for the study through snowballing technique. Data will be collected from a total of two hundred and fifty male-partners using structured interview guides. Multiple-regression will be used to analyse the collected data. The data will further be subjected to Ancova analysis of covariates to control effects of covariates in the study and increase statistical power of the testing tool. Analysed data will be presented using graphs, tables and percentages using SPSS package. Results of this study will be useful in designing more effective programs to encourage male-partner participation in PMTCT programs in Kiambu County, and elsewhere in Kenya and other parts of the world experiencing similar challenge. This in turn will lead to improved uptake of the PMTCT services and in achieving Millennium Development Goal 4&5 on reduction of under-five child mortality, improved maternal health and combating HIV and AIDS. The study will also support the Kenyan government in ensuring a more productive women population and a healthy society which will provide the necessary labour force to drive the Nation’s vision 2030.