The purpose of this study was to investigate the management of secondary school students' unrest and the responses of school managers in the light of the causes of students' strikes in Machakos District. This study sought to find out the causes of strikes and the response of the school managers, and their effect on the management of secondary schools in Machakos District. Three main objectives guided the study thus; to establish the causes of students' strikes in Machakos District, to establish the response of school managers towards students' strikes in Machakos District and the effects of students' strikes and the response of school managers in the management of secondary schools in Machakos District.

This study employed descriptive survey design. Its target population was students and the teaching staff of 47 secondary schools of Machakos District. It utilised random sampling to get sample. Questionnaires and interviews were used for data collection; 742 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents and 80% response rate was achieved.

The study found out that the main causes of students' unrest were; lack of dialogue, poor diet, inadequate learning material, inadequate teaching staff and poor performance in examination, and the managers responses included, closure of schools, improving the diet and availing learning materials and teaching staff for better performance. The study concluded that school managers should do a pre-analysis of students' needs before schools open, the Deputy Head teacher should always be in school in the absence of the Head teacher, regular staff meetings should be held and that student representatives should attend these meetings, prefects should be trained through seminars and workshops on leadership and counselling, disciplinary procedures concerning suspension and punishment should -be clearly communicated to both students and teachers, and the teacher on duty should reside in the school compound to ensure that students are where they should be and that any problem arising is handled immediately.