

Reconceptualising Quality of Education: Exploring the Challenges Faced in Rural-Arid Communities in Isiolo County -Kenya

Gideon Ombongi

Email: gidyombongi@gmail.com

The introduction of free primary education in Kenya provided tremendous opportunities for schooling though certain pockets of rural Kenya are yet to enjoy the benefits anticipated. The study reported on in this paper investigated cultural and socio-economic determinants of participation and performance among learners in public primary schools. The objective of the study was: To find out the attitudes of teachers, parents and pupils towards participation and performance. Data was collected from 6 pupils and 3 teachers selected from 13 public schools making a sample of 117 respondents. Questionnaires were administered to teachers and pupils while interview schedules were used to collect data from parents. Simple descriptive statistics were used to show relationships between variables and presented as percentages, frequency distribution tables and means. The study found that religious and cultural beliefs influence attitudes towards schooling the study recommended that there should be collaborative efforts between the people and the government on education related issues to attract many more children to schools and capacity building for teachers and school managers to create friendly learning environments in the schools.

Key words: Teacher attitudes, quality education, social-cultural determinants, research