

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING PRACTICES BY TEACHERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KISUMU WEST SUB COUNTY, KENYA

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ABSTRACT

This study found out Guidance and Counseling practices by teachers in primary schools in Kisumu West Sub County. The research objective was to: identify G&C practices, find out how learners respond to G&C practices in primary schools in Kisumu West Sub County. The practices by teachers was independent variable while G&C dependent variable. The behavioral theory of B.F. Skinner was adopted. *Ex post facto research design* was used for this study. The study population comprised 504 prefects, 126 head teachers, 126 G&C teachers from all the 126 primary schools in the Sub County. Saturated sampling was used to obtain 126 head teachers and 504 prefects; purposive sampling was used to obtain 126 Guidance and counseling teachers. Descriptive statistics in frequencies and percentages were used to analyze data generated by questionnaires and focus group discussions using summary tables, data from interviews were transcribed and organized into themes, categories and sub-categories as they emerged in the study. The validity and reliability of the questionnaires were enhanced through pilot study done in 4 schools which were not used in the study. Validity of the instruments was done by Supervisors in the Department of Psychology/Educational Foundation. The findings showed that: majority (76%) responded teachers use referrals, (70%) agreed teachers use group G&C, Majority (78%) agreed teachers use individual G&C, and teachers were not confidential on pupils' information as reported by most respondents (58%). On how pupils respond to G&C, majority (57.1%) agreed that it was fast; majority (47.6%) responded that teachers' response was fast. Based on these findings, it was recommended that: The Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs should fund G&C in primary schools to cater for in-service courses, Seminars, and training of teachers; Parents should be sensitized on the importance of G&C on the behavior change of their children. The results of this study may assist teachers in primary schools to streamline G&C Practices to meet pupils' needs.

Keywords: Guidance, Counseling, Practices, Teachers, Pupils.