Abstract:

Student strikes and school unrests have continued to be a subject of great concern and have led to public outcry. The aim of this study was to investigate the factors leading to students' strikes, the extent of these secondary school strikes in Kilome division and to recommend measures which could be put in place to curb the vice. The researcher gathered data from 431 students, 36 principals/deputy principals and 5 education officers through questionnaires and interview schedule. A document analysis guide was also used to collect information from the schools and from the education offices. Descriptive statistics was used for analysis of data obtained. This was in form of frequencies and percentages. The findings confired that most of the headteachers had reasonable education: at least a first degree, reasonable work experience matched with training and generally were competent enough to administer schools well. However, despite this, some few secondary schools went on strike. The study showed that guidance and counselling programme was carried out in schools frequently and that drug and substance abuse was prevalent in secondary schools. The study revealed that the consequences of these drugs led to vandalism, violence, unrests and riots or strikes. Finally, recommendations were given on how best to contain students' strikes in secondary schools. The recommendations included, strengthening guidance and counselling services in schools as opposed to punishment. Further recommendations were strict law enforcement on drug trafficking, improving the academic standards, involving students in decision making and prudent management of schools' finances.