

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

**EXPLORING THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILY STRUCTURE ON SELF-  
ESTEEM AND ATTITUDE TOWARD VIOLENT CRIME AMONG YOUTH:  
A CASE STUDY OF KANDARA SUB-COUNTY, MURANG'A COUNTY IN  
KENYA.**

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NAIROBI.**

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**DECLARATION**

**Student declaration**

This research project is my original work and has not been submitted for the award of a degree in any other institution, college or university.

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**Supervisor's Approval**

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## **DEDICATION**

This research project is dedicated to my wife, Margret and children; Angie Blessing and Peter Lincoln.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS**

- ABC Attitude Model - Affective, Behavior and Cognitive
- ANOVA - Analysis of Variance
- APSD - Antisocial Process Screening Device
- ASL - Above Sea Level
- BCS - British Crime Survey
- BJS - Bureau of Justice System
- DV - Dependent Variables
- I.O.D - Information On Data
- ISE - Index Of Self-esteem
- IV - Independent Variables
- JD - Justice Department
- MACI - Million Adolescence Clinical Inventory
- NCPU - National Crime Preventive Unit
- NPSACR - National Police Service Annual Crime Report
- NYC - National Youth Centre
- OC - Organized Crime
- OCT - Operant Conditioning Theory
- PCL:YV - Psychopathic Checklist Youth Version
- PRIDE - Parent Resource Institute For Drug Education
- RSES - Rosenberg Self-esteem Scale
- SES - Social Economic Status
- SPCR - Surveying Prisoners Crime Reduction
- SPSS - Statistical Package of Social Science
- TRA - Theory of Reasoned Action
- UCR - Uniformed Crime Report
- WHO - World Health Organization
- Y.C.T.C - Youth Corrective Training Centre

## ABSTRACT

Youth initiatives and community policing programs have been used largely to curb crime and deter youth from engaging in delinquent behaviors in order to improve public safety. A raging debate however has been circulating around as to whether these approaches can be used with effectiveness in the prevention of violent crime among the youth of Kandara. However, none of these approaches have succeeded in eradicating crime so concerns about their deviant behaviors have raised eyebrow to the security agents and society. Influence from their respective family structures have known to play a bigger role when it came to crime. Therefore the study sought to examine and determine influence of family structure and how it affected self-esteem and attitude of the youth in Kandara. The aim was to ascertain how family structure influenced selfness of the youth, to examine influence of family structure on attitude and to establish the relationship between self-esteem and attitude toward violent crime. Theory of Reasoned Action and Operant Conditioning Theory formed the theoretical framework of the study. Permission for data collection was sought from NACOSTI (National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation) and Ministry of Education from Murang'a. The survey method was employed by use of questionnaire that entailed both open ended and close ended questions and key informant guide that included 5 people. Data analysis was carried out using the SPSS. The analyzed data was presented in table, through percentage, means, standard deviation and frequencies. Correlation between self-esteem and attitude of the youth toward violent crime was calculated using the Pearson correlation coefficient. The study revealed that the current increase in violent crime among the youth aged 15-24 was largely based on the influence of family structure setup. However, such crimes were found to pull back the economy of the area more so agricultural sector since youth were the work force. The study further established that youth initiatives such as Kazi kwa Vijana and Community policing programs could still be used to create a sustainable friendship between the community members and security agents in identifying crime. It was therefore recommended that guiding and counseling programs should be introduced in the community, learning institutions and churches in order to help deviant youth within Kandara in particular and Murang'a County at large.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

Upsurge in violent crime among young people in Kandara, has been attributed to various factors emanated from family structures. Violent crime has never been new to the people of Kandara since it has never been differentiated from any other crime in any part of the County. Self-esteem and attitude among the youth has been highlighted mainly when it came to various types of crime committed by them such as; kidnapping, assaults, robbery with violence, arson, among other by youth aged 15-24. Diener (1995) correlated self-esteem and happiness which in most cases had continued to amaze most researchers. Mruks (2013) defined self-esteem as “the ability to succeed in meaningful areas of life”.

According to 2010, UK report on crime showed that violent crime continued a general upward trend by 47 percent representing nearly 2 million fewer violent offences in those years. Most of that crime had been committed by young people. Salagaev (2003) observed that majority of those who had committed crime were youth and their rate had risen from 80 Million in 1992 to 150 Million by 2000.

In 2005, youth represented 45 percent of people involved in crime. Hart (2005) reported that the proximate cause for violence was decision to act violently. According to the Wikipedia violent crime was categorized as an offence in which an offender used force or threat in order to accomplish the act. Several factors contributed youth to indulge in various crime one of them being influence of family structure. Prior and Paris (2005) observed that majority of the young people were ending up in violent kind of crime such as; robbery with violence, kidnappings, smuggling of drugs, assaults, arson, organized crimes as a result of poverty. Erickson (2001) also noted that drug abuse contributed crime among the youth since it gave them false hopes and delusions.

U.N (2012) reports on criminal behaviors violent crime had dramatically increased by 27.3 percent and 41.5 percent in Southern African countries. Agbor, Taiwo and Smith (2012) noted that majority of the youth in African participated in economic growth



through labor markets. According to Angira (2015) confirmed that there was indeed an increase in violent crimes in Kenya and they were mainly prevalent in four major counties across the Country; Nairobi led with 525 cases, Kiambu 449, Mombasa 430 and Murang'a 412 cases respectively. Starvrou (2002) also observed that indeed crime levels in Nairobi were very similar to those in any other major cities in Africa. Ndikaru (2011) found out that common types of crime that were normally committed by youth included; robbery with violence 90 percent, burglary 80 percent, mugging 84 percent, drug abuse 82 percent, murder 65 percent, assaults 79 percent, kidnappings 11 percent, sexual offences 37 percent and arson attacks 26 percent. The root causes were high level of unemployment, poverty, drug abuse, idleness, low level of education, peer group pressure among other factors.

According to the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC), Murang'a County had over 200,000 adherents of Mungiki. This violent gang group took advantage of the youth predicament toward life. The group got its money from politicians, kidnappings, killings, smuggling, blackmailing and extortions (Ombati, 2013). Crime statistics revealed that since 2005, crime rate reports in Murang'a had escalated and main perpetrators had been youth. Therefore the best answer to this question of dealing with criminality among the youth requires knowledge of factors at an individual and societal level which influences the development of delinquent behaviors and types of intervention which can effectively curb offending.

## **1.2 Problem of the Statement**

The up surging cases of violent crime in Kenya among the youth were alarming. This issue forced the Kenyan government to develop measures and policies that would have at least curbed the involvement of youth in crime but did not bore fruits both in rural and urban areas (Wanjohi, 2014). Despite numerous efforts such as introduction of (Kazi kwa Vijana) initiative which involved youth in national building, community policing and introduction of rehabilitation centers, youth continued to engage in violent crime (Masese, 2007). A number of several factors were attributed to this menace and such factors included; social exclusion, poverty, unemployment, low level of education, sense of hopelessness, peer group pressure, drug abuse among

other which emanated from various family structures of those youth (Omboto, Ondiek, Odera & Ayugi, 2012).

According to IEA's Youth Research Compendium, those individuals who were in an age bracket of between 16-25 years old committed one crime in every two crimes reported to the police. Kenya Bureau of Statistics (2012) observed that indeed there was an upsurge in crime reported from 61,826 to 73,786 cases in the period 2008-2011. A number of researchers had studied the effect of family structure background on violent crime among the youth but focused mainly on social context of the upbringing of the youth child and relations to their parents/guardians.

Therefore this study focuses on the influence of the family structure as an entity and how it has affected self-esteem and attitude of the youth aged 15-24 who engaged in crime in Kandara.

### **1.3 Objectives**

- i. Evaluate family structure effects of the youths' self-esteem toward violent crime.
- ii. Examine the influence of family structure on attitude of the youth toward violent crime.
- iii. Establish the influence of family structure in connection between self-esteem and attitude of the youth toward violent crime.

### **1.4 Research questions**

- i. To what extent does family structure influence self-esteem of the youth aged 15-24 to engage in violent crime?
- ii. What does the influence of family structure affect the attitude of the youth aged 15-24 to involve in crime?
- iii. How does influence of family structure connected to self-esteem and attitude of the youth aged 15-24 who engage in crime from various family structures?

### **1.5 Purpose**

The study seeks to investigate effects that emanates from family structure on self-esteem and attitude of the youth aged 15-24 toward violent crime.

## **1.6 Justification of the Study**

Given the existence of violent crime among the youth aged 15-24 in Kandara, Murang'a County, a number of evidences have been pointing the influence of various family structures. Several factors such as poverty, unemployment, peer group pressure, drug abuse, low level of education, poor parenting styles among other factors from family structure have contributed behaviors and intentions of the youth toward crime. Reinforcements such as quick money, good life, psychological feelings of being in control and improved social status have been attracting youth into crime. Government policy on youth delinquent behaviors has often struggled with appropriate balance of concern on development of those who violate the law.

The youth are the backbone of progressive growth in Murang'a, and by them engaging in criminality they end up being apprehended or killed by security agents. The County government tried to suppress, condemn and punish those offenders but that did not deter them from re-offending. Nevertheless, they need to be educated and supported in a growth process that would help them in reforming. Therefore there was a need to investigate and identify some of those factors that largely determines culpability of the youth. Additionally, this research also seeks to provide new direction for further studies that would explore influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude toward crime among youth.

## **1.7 Significances of the study**

This study would be very much important and useful to the police sector in profiling criminals through investigating, apprehending, prosecuting and sentencing. It would also help in addressing family problems such as poor parental styles which manifests in youth deviant behavior. It would help mainly in coming up with suggestions inform of initiatives and programs that would benefit youth in desisting criminal activities such as (Kazi kwa Vijana) within the County.

## **1.8 Scope of the Study**

The study was based on those youth who seemed to engage in various criminal activities. The choice of the study site was guided by the fact that a lot of the youth were increasingly indulging in delinquency behaviors and therefore Kandara was a perfect area for this study. Its target population were youth aged 15-24 who engaged

in crime, from the study a sample of 370 youth was obtained in giving the study requisites information. This study did not focus on other youth groups who were below or above 15-24 years of age on influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude toward crime.

### **1.9 Limitation and Delimitation of the study**

The limitation of the study was through its actual handling of acquired information from the respondents aged 15-24 who were unwilling to offer personal information that would have been used in the study. This was solved by the researcher acquiring a letter of authorization from the NACOSTI, Ministry of Education in Murang'a and the University in order to carry out the study. Issues of bias were also avoided in the study by the use of stratified sampling techniques. This type of sampling ensured every respondent within strata had an equal opportunity of being selected and data collected was used as a representative of entire population of the youth.

Those respondents who did not understand the questionnaire properly due to illiteracy, the researcher provided an interpreter who assisted them in interpreting the questions. And those who were scared in participating in the study due to victimization from the rest of the members, the researcher assured them that this study was meant for research only.

### **2.0 Assumptions**

This study assumed that all youth aged 15-24 came from different family structures and were affected largely. Data collection instruments were valid and reliable based on the youth was another assumption of the study. Participants answered questionnaire in an honest and candid manner. They also had a sincere interest in participating in the research and did not show any ulterior motive other than providing information.

## **2.1 Definition of terms**

**National Crime Research Centre (NCRC):** it is a state corporation entity under the Attorney General office which is tasked in carrying out crime research.

**National Crime Preventive Unit (NCPU):** is a non-profit organization committed to promote public awareness on prevention and reduction of crime.

**National Police Service Annual Crime Report (NPSACR):** it is a type of crime report whereby criminal activities are obtained from the statistics of the police data.

**Bureau of justice in United States** - It is a type of crime report that deals with violent crimes such as rape, sexual assault, robbery with violence aggravated and simple assault among others in the US.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.0 Introduction

The study reviews influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Kandara, Murang'a County on the following discussions. Firstly, description of the context, secondly discussion focuses on the influence of family structure on self-esteem toward violent crime among the youth, thirdly, influence of family structure on attitude toward violent crime among the youth, fourthly, it discusses on how self-esteem correlates with attitude toward violent crime. Further it presents the conceptual and theoretical framework of the family structure influence on self-esteem and attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Kandara Murang'a County.

#### 2.1 Context of the Study

Study was done at Kandara area. According to National census report of 2009, the County has population of 942,581. Male are 48 percent and female 52 percent of the entire population ratio (2009 census). It has a total area of 2,325.8 Km<sup>2</sup> (898.0 sq mi).

It is approximately 85 kilometers north east of Nairobi and also borders Nyandarua, Embu, Nyeri, Kiambu, Machakos and Kirinyaga County respectively. It has latitude of 0034' to the South. This study would concentrate in this Sub-County which has six wards with approximate population of 156,663 a representative of 16.6 percent from the entire population of Murang'a County. This Youth aged 15-24 are 6.6 percent which translates population of 10,340 (Gitau, 2013). According to Alston reports on human rights of the year 2004, gang like styles of killings has been on the rise. The latest report being in Kihiu- mwiri land buying company where seven directors were shot at point blank in a broad daylight. These depicted re – emergence of organized crime (Mungiki Sect) that killed, extorted, kidnapped, blackmailed and even maimed residents. This has been a night mare to the law enforcers in eradicating crime. According to crime statistics reports of 2015, there has been an upsurge of 28 percent from 4,316 of similar cases in 2014 out of 5,525 cases that had been reported earlier.

## **2.2 Influence of family structure on Self-esteem toward violent crime.**

Impacts of family structure have had adverse effect on self-esteem of the youth in handling real situations. In order to enhance back their self-esteem so as to overcome feelings of loneliness and attentions, engaging in crime becomes their best option in life.

### **2.2.1 Low – Socio economic status and Self-esteem.**

Poverty among youth has led to an increase in poor self-confidence and self-esteem hence resorting in crime as their only way of enhancing back their self-esteem. Boden and Fergusson (2007) did a study in New Zealand with an aim of investigating the connection between self-esteem and adolescence youth who engaged in violent crime. Using self-report and other report, the study was able to examine over 1,000 youth data from poor family backgrounds. It further found out that lower level of self-esteem among the youth was related to greater risk of violent crime. Poverty stricken family structure backgrounds affected self-esteem of the youth making it hard to them to have a consistent good life. Delinquent behaviors only ended up saving their hopes since it enhanced back their self-esteem as way of getting to the system (Valdez et. al, 2007). As much as these findings had validity in them they did not put into a consideration relationship of the socio-economic status of the parents and youth self-esteem toward crime.

Giddens (1996) did a longitudinal study on the influence of socio-economic status of parents on children's behavior. He found out that those children who had behavioral problems such as delinquency came from families with low socio-economic background. Chauhan (2012) concluded that in deed poverty correlated positively with crime committed by the youth since it involved high earnings and very low risks (Ekpo, 2000). Therefore, those youth from low SEs were more prone to criminality due to low sense of self-esteem in them.

### **2.2.2 Level of employment status and Self – esteem.**

“Higher Unemployment level increases poverty and at the same time engenders crime activities due to depression associated with unemployment”, (Short, 2007). Low level of employment status among the youth demoralizes morale and even lower their self-esteem. Unemployment has known to push youth into a periphery and by them having

no option crime life becomes their only way of earning a living. Vivian and Schniever (2006) did a study in Burke Ridge Australia. The aim was to find out how level of employment affected crimes rate among the indigenous people. Using statistical census they were able to collect information on indigenous people who were aged 15 years and over. Further found out 37.5 percent were in an employment sector, 12.3 percent unemployed, 40.1 percent were not in the labor force and 10.1 percent were in labor force that was stated. They concluded that unemployment was linked with boredom, poor self-esteem and poor self-confidence that led people to violent crime. As much as this finding had validity in Europe, another study was done in Africa on the effects of unemployment and crime among youth.

Wanjohi (2012) did a study in Nairobi, Kenya on the influence of unemployment and youth gambling. Using questionnaire method to collect information on 200 youth aged 18-35, the study established that majority of them were unemployed with 38 percent. The fact that majority of them had no employment became a challenge to them to engage in any meaningful task in the society apart from indulging in crime such as robbery and theft.

### **2.2.3 Level of education and self - esteem**

Hjalmausson and Lochner (1997) did a study in Europe and United States. The aim of the study was to highlight the strong connection between education and crime. The study was carried out in the federal prison. They established that 59 percent of the inmates did not have a high school diploma (Harlow, 2003). Lack of proper skills and low level of education among them lowered their morale toward life which made them feel like failures in life, the only way of enhancing back their self-esteem was through crime. There had been a link between youth offenders and non-engagers with school systems (Becroft, 2004, & Gottredson, 2001). School systems also had known to implicate youth in criminal activities (Rutter et.al. 1979).

A similar study was conducted by William (1996) who did a study in Genese County jail in Flint, Michigan. The aim was to examine the effect of an intensive literacy program in that juvenile detention center. Using multiple baseline design across participants, he was able to evaluate the participants. He found out that 3.5 percent had decreased in recidivism rate which boosted their self-esteem of literacy and



positive toward life in general (Kidder, 1990). In nutshell, educational level that is good and perfect enhances self-esteem of an individual compared to those with lower level of education who loses self-confidence in life.

#### **2.2.4 Past criminal history background and self – esteem.**

Youth with past criminal history backgrounds had low self-esteem compared to those without. Farrington (1983) did a study in London. The aim was to compare boys convicted with delinquent behaviors and their past criminal history background. Using longitudinal study, he found out that those convicted with an age 10-17 by the end of their jail term refrained from involving in crime compared to their counterparts 24 year old.

A similar study was done by Laub (1998) who checked on the data of 500 juvenile offenders from the 1940s by use of Gluecks data, he was able to establish that only 25 percent of the juvenile re-offended after they were released from the correctional facility by the age of 32. It therefore concluded that those youth with past criminal background had low self-esteem and motivation toward life compared to those without. The degree of those individuals with past criminal background re-offending again was high due to low self-esteem and feeling of exclusion from the rest of the society.

### **2.3 Influence of family structure on Attitude toward violent crime.**

Negative attitude and perception toward life among the youth has been attributed largely to the effect of family structure on their behavior. Positive interaction between family structure and attitude ends up resulting in self-actualization process thus making youth realize their life objectives.

#### **2.3.1 Poor family background and Attitude.**

Many youth with low socio-economic status background have behavior problem like engaging in crime due to un-concentrated emotions. Poverty has contributed them to join crime because it was seen as their only way of getting basic needs and good life. Sibena (2015) did a study in Mombasa County, Kenya. The aim was to find out those factors that motivated youth toward terrorism and other various criminal activities. The study was grounded on the Strain Theory and Social Disorganization Theories.

Using primary data such as questionnaires and secondary data key informant interview guide, a total of 127 youth were interviewed. The findings were analyzed by SPSS and he established that terrorism and crimes were both entrenched on those respondents. It concluded that poverty, religion and influences from family background among other factors contributed attitude of the youth toward violent crime. This emphasized the fact that youth ended up in crime in order to free themselves from poverty.

### **2.3.2 Level of Education and Attitude**

Some of the studies have shown that increases rate of delinquency behaviors among youth follows after they have dropped out of schools (Bachman et.al. 1971). Hawkins and his colleagues (1998) in reviewing the literatures on the predictors of the youth violence, found out that violent delinquent behaviors had more school-related problems such as suspension, low grades and dropping out of school compared to their counterparts. Further those youth with school related problems directed their feeling toward delinquency and crime.

A similar study was done by Johnson and Williamson (2004) on 1000 English high school students. Using a survey design, they randomly sampled 780 students from a population of 1000 students. They found out that those students who were more likely to engage in future deviant behaviors showed negative attitude toward education with 78-90 percent. Majority of them came from broken family structures compared to 38-45 percent who came from proper family structures (Barnes et.al. 2006).

### **2.3.3 Level of Employment Status and Attitude.**

Ahmed (2008) did a study in Pakistan with an aim of establishing the influence of family unemployment background and attitude toward violent crime among the youth. He carried out a large scale study on 2200 youth population, both male and female, aged 19-35 years on an entire population of 200,140 youth in the rural Singh. Using a survey design of self-reporting methods, 75 percent of the respondents who were unemployed and had bared negative comments of the people, since their self-esteem were highly affected as they perceived themselves guilty and incapable of enjoying life (Williamson et.al. 2009).

A similar study was done by Wetzel and Baron (2009) who examined level of unemployment and how it castigated violent crime among 400 homeless street youth. Using questionnaires method, they collected information that was quantitatively analyzed using SPSS in order to establish the correlation between unemployment and attitude of the youth. They found out that the effect of unemployment among the youth led them to negative subjective perception and emotional distresses (Wetzel et.al. 2009).

#### **2.3.4 Past criminal history background and Attitude.**

A recent survey on the extent of young people in England and Wales who had involved in crime indicated that 22 percent of them were in an age between 10-25 years, and had also admitted to had committed offences in their past 12 months (Roe, 2008). It is obviously clear that youth with past criminal history background engages in delinquent behaviors more compared to their counterparts since they seem to exhibit negative attitude toward life and unstable emotional connection with the rest of the society.

Those youth who persist in re-offending differs greatly with those who desist through various ways such as being enrolled into military services or attached to school programs (Elder, 1986). Continuity of re-offending from juvenile into adulthood was higher according to Pittsburgh study on the youth; it had established that 52 percent of the juveniles had continued to engage in criminal activities after they had been released.

#### **2.4 Influence of family and Attitude structure on correlation between self – esteem toward violent crime among youth.**

The study of the youth self-esteem and attitude toward crime was vital in understanding influence of family structure and connection to their behavior. Therefore period of disorganization in youth's family structure background may display a sign of bad omen to their self-esteem and attitude toward life achievement.

#### **2.4.1 Level of socio – economic status and correlation between self –concept and Attitude.**

Previous studies had indicated that self – esteem was lower among adolescents from low socio–economic status. It was associated with a number of intrapersonal, interpersonal and socio – cultural factors. Williams (1983) did a study in Slovakia on students of elementary school. The aim was to check whether personality, mental health and social support if they could have contributed to the relationship between socio – economic status and self – esteem. Using survey design he randomly sampled 3694 students with mean age of 14.3 years. Using questionnaire methods, students had been allowed to fill out perceived social support scale. Results were analyzed using SPSS on the correlation and through hierarchical linear regression. It established that family affected personality dimensions of extroversion, emotional stability and openness to experience, as well as mental health subscales which associated with self-esteem and attitude of the youth. It further concluded that personality and mental health vices among youth related with their poor family background and their selfness. Therefore youth directed their attitude toward crime in order to enhance their self-efficiency (Cortez et al, 1998). However this study did not include the issue of employment level status of the youth when it came to correlation between self-esteem and attitude on crime.

#### **2.4.2 Level of employment Status and correlation between self – esteem and Attitude.**

Several studies have investigated the relationship of self-esteem to hostility and aggression as well as criminal behaviors. Rosenbaum and deCharms (1962) conceptualizes self-esteem as “a mediating response that determines expectations of reward or punishment, success or failure and so on”. Youth with less self-confidence have poor anticipation and were insensitive toward life hence more easily frustrated and prone to crime.

Simpson (1997) did a study in Chicago Illinois neighborhood of the youth. The aim was to examine how collective efficiency among the youth’s neighborhood had been linked to reduce defense. Using a survey design of self-reporting methods he randomly sampled 8782 residents of 343 neighborhoods. Multi-level analyses were used to show measure of corrective efficiency. It showed that yields were higher in

neighborhood areas with variation in crime (Rauden & Bush, 1997). In conclusion it found an association between level of unemployment status among youth and their self-esteem and attitude toward work.

#### **2.4.3 Level of education and correlation between self-esteem and Attitude.**

Researchers have demonstrated a strong correlation between antisocial behaviors especially among the youth and academic failures, this condition has been treated with academic achievements as separate from those associated with violent behaviors. Rhodes (1999) did a study with an aim of establishing the effects of monitoring relationship on adolescence academic outcomes and improvements in parental relationships. Using a survey design he randomly sampled a total of 959 young adolescents with a mean age of 12.25 years old who had been told to be applied as big brothers and sisters in that program. They were also tasked to be in either treatment or control group from where questions were administered. Model which comprises hypothesis was later used and it established a significant explanation of the data. In relation to proper parenting styles, youth achieves good grades and are competent in schools (Grossman et. al, 1999). Additionally, this study concentrated mainly with an association between mentoring process from parents and academic achievements among youth with low self-esteem and attitude who had been affected. In a nutshell the above study ought to act as a good framework when confirming the correlation on level of education and self-esteem and attitude toward violent crime among the youth.

#### **2.4.4 Past criminal history background and correlation between Self-esteem and Attitude**

Marie (2004) did a study with an aim of examining the relationship between psychopath scores and violent behavior among incarcerated youth. Using a survey design he randomly sampled 113 adolescents who had been incarcerated using questionnaire and on the basis of questionnaire he got results of the following. Various tools had been designed to check psychopath traits among young people among them were Psychopath Checklist Youth Version (PCL: YV). Also another version which comprises Antisocial Processes Screening Device (APSD) was later added. Further this study revealed that youth offenses correlated with those scores (Cornell, 2000, Kernis, 2001, & Kaplan, 2004).

However this study has not looked into the issue of clinical psychosocial and psychopathic traits among adults on crime and how it correlates with their sense of self-esteem and attitude toward life in general. Porter (2004) did a study with an aim of establishing the correlation and relevance of psychopath to adult offenders and their traits toward crime. The study evaluated psychopathic traits on clinical, psychosocial and criminal correlation. Using a survey design he randomly sampled 226 male and female who had been incarcerated young adult. According to the result of psychopath checklist youth version 18, only 9.4 percent showed high level of psychopathic traits consistent with previous researches, higher PCL-YC scores were positively associated with self-reported delinquency and aggressive behavior that were unrelated to emotional difficulties. Although higher PCL-YC scores were associated with the experiences of physical abuse, the only psychosocial factor to predict PCL-YIV Score was a history of non-parental loving arrangements (e.g. foster care). Further criminality and violent criminal history were positively associated with psychopathic traits (Campbell & Sanitor, 2004). In conclusion the advent of the PCL-R has led to an explosion of research on Psychopathic traits of the offenders and clear understanding of the disorder.

## **2.5 Hypothesis**

- i. There is a positive influence of family structure on self-esteem toward violent crime among youth aged 15 – 24 in Kandara, Sub-County.
- ii. There is a positive influence of family structure on attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15 – 24 in Kandara, Sub-County.
- iii. There is a positive influence of family structure on correlation between self-esteem and attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15– 24 in Kandara, Sub-County.

It is based on the psychological approaches. They are dominant in the investigation of crime among the youth. Study proposed to adapt two theories of crime i.e. Theory of Reasoned Action and Operant Conditioning Theory.

### **2.6.1 Theory of Reasoned Action**

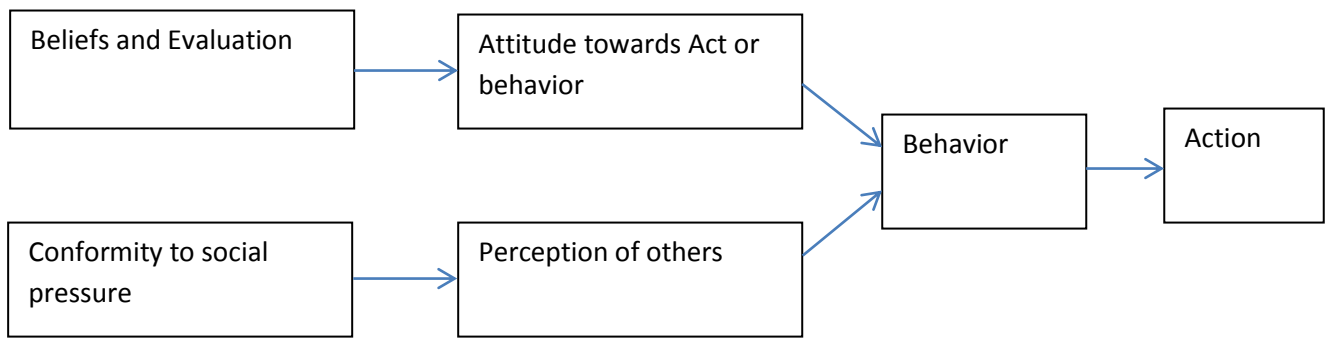
It is one of the three classic persuasion models of psychology. It was developed by Fishbein et.al. (1967) the theory suggests that stronger intentions lead to an increase in effort to perform certain behavior, it has suggested two factors that determine interior: attitude and subjective norms. According to Theory of Reasoned Action behaviors are largely determined by the attitude.

The theory postulates that social pressure influences greatly a person's intention on whether to act in a certain way. This arises when an individual think that others are monitoring them in performing the behavior in question (Vallerand, Deshaies & Mongeau, 1991). Reasoned Action is explicitly concern with behavior and it recognizes clearly that they are areas which limit effects of perception on certain action. Additionally, Theory of Reasoned Action predicts intentional action as that in between ceasing attitude prediction and real action. Furthermore it discusses areas which limits influences of attitude on individual's action.

The theory uses attitude and the manner at which people are anticipated in predicting their future actions. For example, criminal youth's attitude might encourage him to cease criminal activities, but his friends might perceive that suggestion as stupid. Does a criminal youth do what their attitudes suggest (cease criminal activities or continuing with criminal activities)? Additionally, all other factors in the external environment seek to influence behavior indirectly through their influences on attitude and subjective norms (Tsai, Chen & Chien, 2012).

Through this model of theory, attitude of a person and how others think of him/her extends adverse effect to their intentional action. However, one of the limitations of this theory is that it suggests that behavioral intentions are largely predicted by attitude and subjective norms, but other studies have shown that even low self-esteem is another predictor of violence among young people.

**Figure 1: Theory of Reasoned Action Fishbein et al., (1975)**

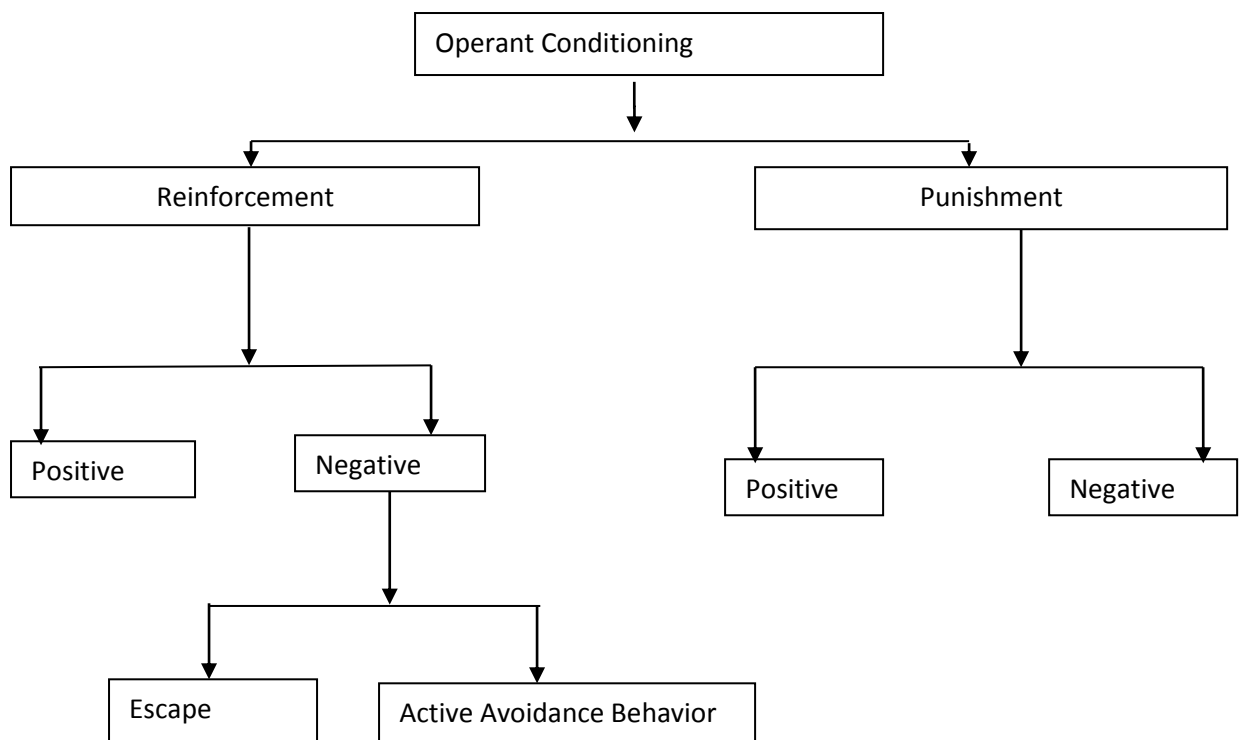


**Behavioral intentions = Attitude + Subjective norms**

**2.6.2 Operant Conditioning Theory (B.F. Skinner 1948)**

It is a type of learning in which the strength of a behavior is modified by its consequences called discriminative stimuli which signals these consequences.

**Fig 2: Operant Conditioning Theory**





Operant conditioning theory by B.F. Skinner (1948), States that learning is a function of change in overt behavior. An individual engages in violent crime because of the reward associates with criminal behavior such as money, psychological feelings of being in control or improved social status. He further explained that when an action was supported by reinforcement, that action was more likely to re-occur compared to when punishment would have been introduced to the said behavior (Schultz et. al., 2015).

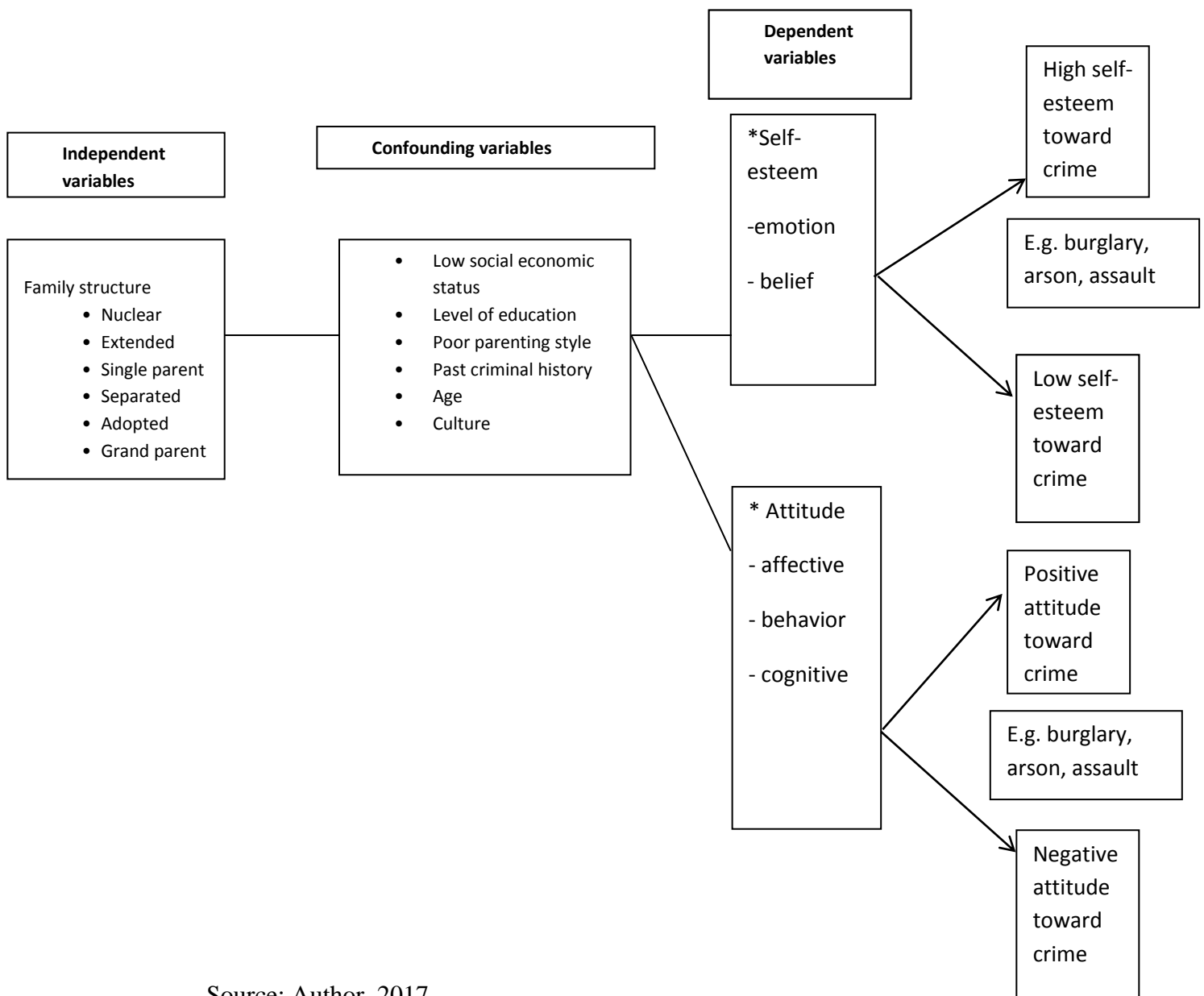
They are several components that affect operant conditioning. This includes reinforcements, which are events that cause the reoccurrence of a behavior. Reinforcements are either positive or negative. Positive reinforcements refer to the favorable events which follows a specific behavior like crime. These outcomes might be informed of praises from fellow criminal gang members or reward inform of money, vehicle, house and good social status. .

This theory emphasizes that those behaviors that are positively reinforced, their probability of reoccurring seems to be high and this is generalized across similar stimuli. Operant conditioning theory further successfully explains the enrollment of the youth in crime. Further it has commonly been used to explain why and how youth engages in delinquent behaviors, because it has been dealing with intentional actions that have had effect on the surrounding environment (Ambia, 2013). Through this theory measures that are suffice enough to curb criminal behaviors among the youth have been generated. The theory therefore acts as a situational crime induction strategy which is essential in identifying motivation aspects of the youth toward violent crime and consequences that follows (Ambia, 2013).

## 2.7 Conceptual Framework.

Influence of family structure and low socioeconomic status, poor parenting style, unemployment, poor education, age, culture and religion are the independent variable and intervening variables of the study respectively. According to Asal et.al. (2007), stated that the interplay between intervening variables and independent variable on dependent variable lead to an outcome. This has been represented graphically on the conceptual framework as shown below.

**Figure 3: Conceptual Framework.**



Source: Author, 2017.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The study in this chapter describes ways and techniques in depth that are useful in getting, processing and analyzing the data.

#### **3.2 Site of the study**

Murang'a being one of the Counties in the Republic of Kenya borders Nyeri, Kiambu, Nyandarua, Kirinyaga, Embu and Machakos. It lies between latitudes 0o 34' South and 1 0 7' South and Longitudes 36o East and 37o 27' East. The county occupies a total area of 2,558.8Km. The topography and geology of the county is both an asset and liability to the county's development. Therefore construction and maintenance of roads is difficult and expensive. The terrain is dissected creating the menace of landslides and gulley erosion. Soils emanating from the volcanic activity are generally fertile and important for agriculture. The area of Kandara is our main focus of study. (See the map in appendix 1).

#### **3.3 Research Design**

A case study research was used in attempt to achieve the desired objectives of the study through gathering in-depth information about the population. Quantitative data was obtained by use of questionnaires on the other hand qualitative data was obtained by use of key informant guide interviews from selected group of individuals. Unit of analysis in this study focused on influence of family structure on self – esteem and attitude, while unit of observation were youth aged 15 - 24 in Kandara Sub-County, Murang'a County.

Stratified sampling technique was also used in this study, and members were picked within each stratum. This process was done to ensure that each member in a stratum had an equal opportunity of being selected.

#### **3.4 Study Unit of Analysis and Observation**

In this study family structure on self-esteem and attitude was analyzed and understood. A unit of observation was the source of data about which information was collected. Researcher based the conclusions on information that was collected and

analyzed. The units of observations in this study were the youth aged 15 - 24 in Kandara Sub County Murang'a

### 3.5 Target Population

Ogula (2005) agreed in deed that a population was any group of institutions, people or objects that had common characteristics. The target population consisted of youth aged between 15-24 in Kandara Sub County, Murang'a County who were approximately 10,340 with the ratio of 3:4 boys and girls respectively.

### 3.6 Sample Size and Sampling Technique

#### 3.6.1. Sample Size

It was calculated by modified formula and adjusted using Toro Yamane.

$$n = \frac{Z^2 pq}{d^2}$$

n = Sample size more than 10000

Z= value of 1.96 corresponding to a confidence level of 95%

P= proportion in target population estimated to have characteristics being measured.

Since the variability was unknown therefore it used maximum variability of (0.5)

q = is (1-p) = 1-0.5=0.5

d= is degree of accuracy desired set at 0.05

$$n = 1 \quad n = \frac{1.962 \times 0.5 (1-0.5)}{(1 - 0.05)^2} = 384$$

Estimated population of                      = 6.6 x 156, 663 = 10,340

Youth in Kandara Sub-county              100

The sample size for the study as below:

$$nf = \frac{n}{1+n/N}$$

Where

nf= the desired sample size (when population is less than 10,000)

n= constant 384

N= N is the estimated population of the study which is 10,340.

$$nf = \frac{384}{1 + 384 / 10,340}$$

nf= 370.

Sample size is a procedure by a researcher to identify people, place or things in the study (Trump, 2006). In this study, the focus was on youth aged 15- 24 in Kandara Murang’a County totaling 10,340 youth, 370 from Kandara sub-county in Murang’a County who were sampled. Therefore, from the entire population of 10,340 youth a sample of 10 percent was taken using stratified random sampling technique that gave each youth an equal chance of being selected. Furthermore, five key informants were interviewed based on the experiences with criminals, and the informers comprised chief, sub-chief, village elder, church leader and police officer in that sub-county.

Strata	Target population	Gender		Youth
		Male	Female	
Sub – county	Youth			Total in Sub county
Kandara	aged 15 – 24	211	159	370
Total				370

### 3.6.2. Sampling Procedure

Kothari (2005) stated sampling technique as “totality on which basis of judgment or inference about it was made.” Because it was not plausible to obtain information from the whole universe to accurately accomplish study objectives therefore random stratified sampling was used in this study. A sample of 370 respondents was drawn from schools, households and in churches. They were divided into different categories according to their level of education, employment status, religion, age (15-24) and gender that was meant to ensure that each respondent get an equal chance of being selected.

### 3.7 Instruments of Data Collection

Data was collected using two methods, questionnaire (See appendix 2) and the key interview informant guide (See appendix 3).

### **3.7.1 Collection of quantitative data**

Quantitative data was obtained during the actual field study. The method was used to gather specific and current information that were needed in the study and those which were not readily available in previous studies. The questionnaires were designed to fit the respondents were self-administered.

### **3.7.2 Collection of qualitative data**

Key interview informant guide (See appendix 3) was used to gather information. Interview schedule was held with leader of various youth groups. For this case 5 key informants were interviewed through face to face interviews. This type of method was important because one got in-depth information. Qualitative data was also obtained from books, online electronic journals and reviews.

### **3.8 Data Analysis**

The data that was collected in both objectives is 1, 2, 3 was analyzed using descriptive analysis that comprised frequency, central tendency and dispersion. Further in both three objectives the data was analyzed using inferential analysis. Thereafter the information was kept in paper and electronic storage which was later analyzed by Statistical Package of Social Science (SPSS). Information was later presented in form of pie charts, bar graphs and in prose form.

### **3.9 Ethical considerations**

Researcher took all necessary actions to ensure that respondents were not affected by the results. Further there was a need to protect the identity of the respondents from public exposure and so the researcher collected, analyzed and reported the data without compromising their identities.

The researcher ensured that there was informed consent from respondents before they were allowed to participate in the study. Additionally, researcher did not allow information to share between participants since he had put procedures in place to protect the data.

For good and fair research, a letter from the university of Nairobi research office was carried along by the researcher.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Introduction

Data analysis and discussions would be presented in this chapter. Further it sought to investigate the extent by which influence family structure on self-esteem and attitude have affected youth psychologically, thereafter engaging themselves in violent crime in Kandara Sub-County, Murang'a County. Primary data was collected through administration of questionnaires to the targeted respondents.

#### 4.2 Outcome rate

A total of three hundred and seventy (370) questionnaires were distributed to the respondents, out of which 300 were completed and returned. This gave a positive outcome of (81.1%) that was adequate to the study as has been depicted below.

**Table 1 Outcome Rate**

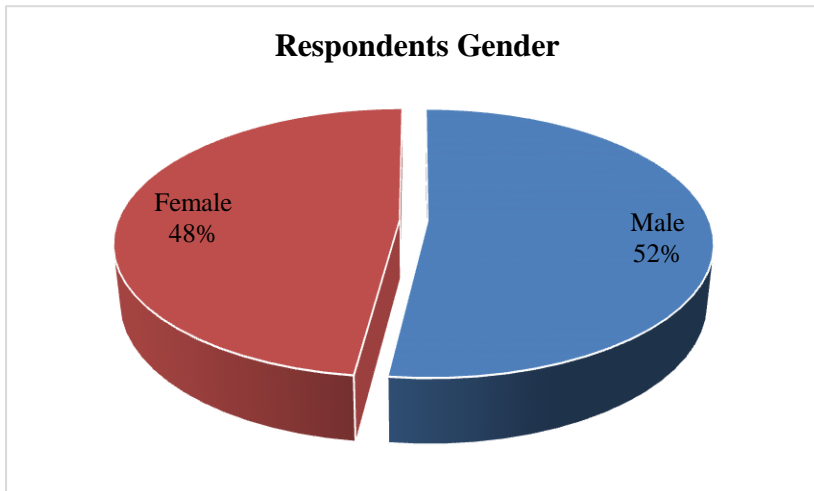
	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Respondents	300	81.1
Non-respondents	70	18.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4.3 General information

General information concerning the organization was included and this was important since it formed foundation under which the study fairly adopted in coming up with conclusions.

### 4.3.1 Gender of the Respondents

Respondents were categorized according to their genders and the results are as shown below.

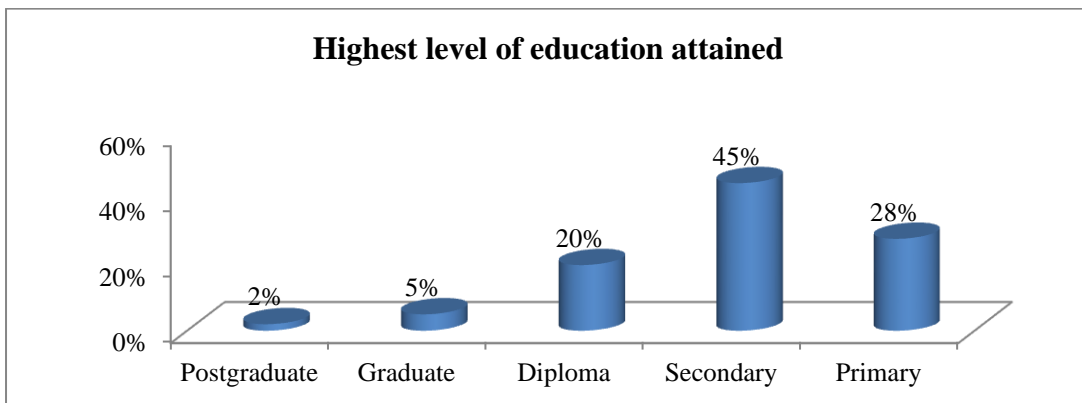


**Figure 4: Gender of the Respondents**

As per the findings indications (52%) and (48%) were male and female respectively. Therefore male respondents were greatly affected by family structure.

### 4.3.2 Highest educational level attained

Respondents were placed according to their highest level of education as indicated below.



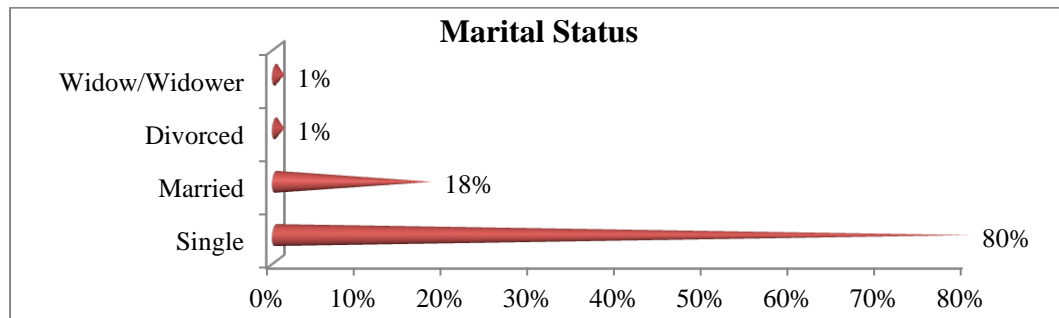
**Figure 5: Highest education level attained**

According to the results most youth (45%) had educational level up to secondary, 28% had primary education, 20% had diploma education, 5% had graduate education while 2% had post graduate education. A significant number of the respondents were still in secondary schools (45%).



### 4.3.3 Marital Status of the respondents

Respondents were indicated according to their marital status and the results were provided below.

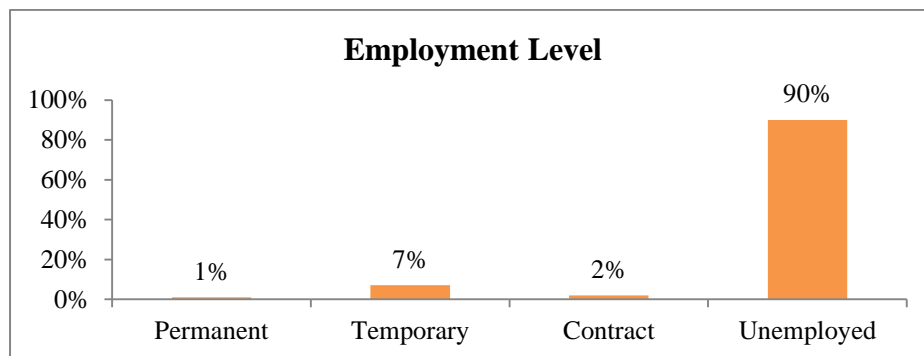


**Figure 6: Marital Status of the respondents**

According to the results, (80%) who were interviewed were still single, 18% were married, 1% were divorced, and widow/widower respectively. However, the apparent anomaly could be explained with references to the influence of family structure factor such as unemployment, where by respondent's ends up not marrying because of their economic situations.

### 4.3.4 Employment status of the respondents

Youth were categorized according to their employment status and the results were indicated as below.



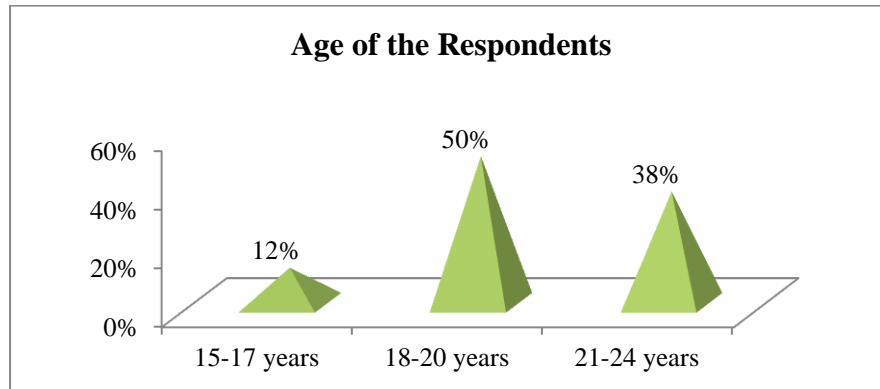
**Figure 7: Employment status of the respondents**

Results depicted that (90%) were those youth who unemployed, 7% were employed on temporary basis, and 2.0% were on contract, while 1% were permanently employed. It implied that majority of the youth were unemployed and even those employed on contract or temporary basis had already failed to secure formal

employment. It seemed majority of the respondents on temporary and contract basis were in an informal sector i.e. Jua kali.

#### 4.3.5. Age attainment of the Respondents

Respondents were placed according to their age attainment and findings were provided as per the figure below:

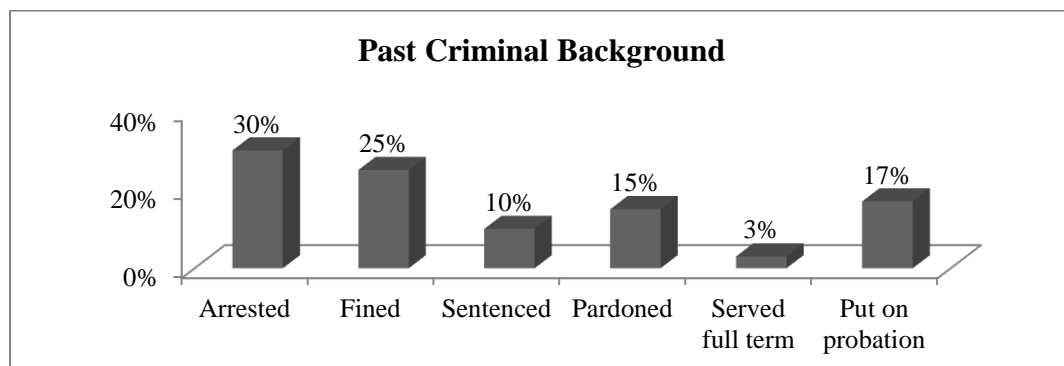


**Figure 8: Age attainment of the Respondents**

From the results provided above (50%) had an age bracket of between 18-20, 38% were between 21- 24 years, while 12% were between 15-17 years. It implied that majority of those surveyed in the study were in a range of between youth and young adults within an age bracket of 18-20 years.

#### 4.3.6 Past Criminal Background

The respondents were requested to indicate whether they had been involved in any criminal activity. The findings were as shown in the figure below:



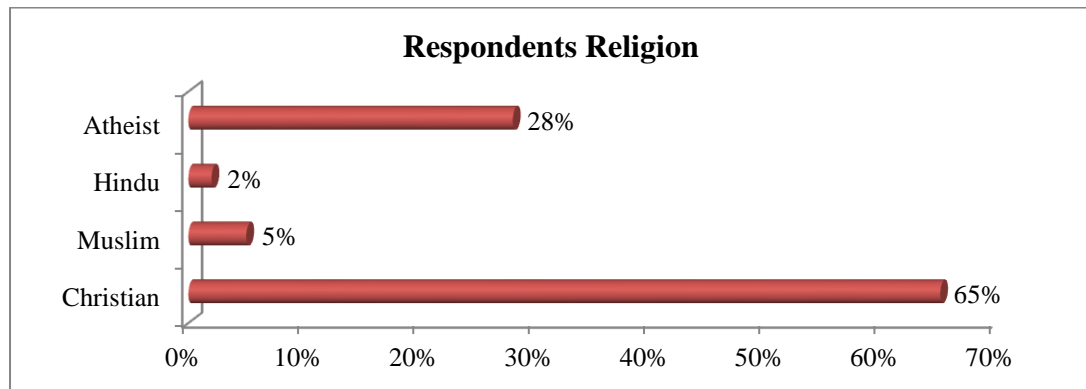
**Figure 9: Past Criminal Background**

From the findings, most (30%) of the respondents were already been arrested, 25% were fined, 17% had been put on probation, 15% had been pardoned, 10% sentenced,

while 3% served a full term. This implied that most of the respondents were in one way or another been engaged in crime.

#### 4.3.7 Respondents Religion

The respondents were divided according to their various religion and the outcomes were provided as below.

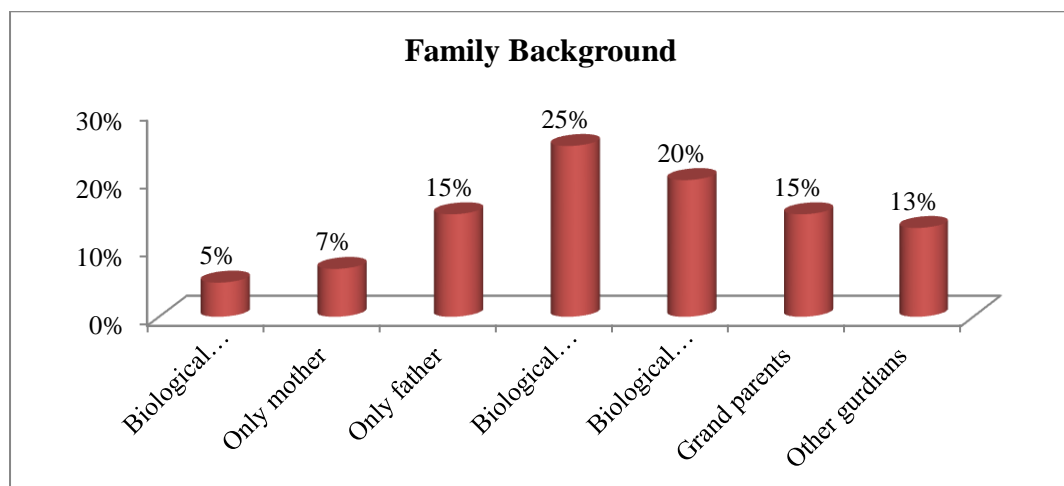


**Figure 10 Respondents Religion**

According to figure 4.7 results, (65%) were Christians, 28% were atheist, and 5% were Muslims, while 2% were Hindu. It implied that majority of the respondents were church goers and were conversant with teachings of the bible.

#### 4.3.8 Family Structure (Background)

The respondents were categorized according to their family background as indicated below.



**Figure 11: Family Background**

From the findings (25%) of the respondents were living with biological father and step mother, 20% indicated biological mother and step father, 15% indicated only

father and grandparents respectively, 13% indicated other guardians, 7% indicated only mother while 5% indicated biological parents. This implied that majority of the respondents were living in a step-family (biological father and step mother) background.

#### **4.4 Study Objectives**

Family structure influence on self-esteem and perceptions of the youth aged 15 – 24 toward violent crime in Murang'a was the prime assessment of this study, with the focus on the specific objectives whose results, findings and discussions were explained in the following objectives:

##### **4.4.1 To determine the influence of family structure on self-esteem toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.**

The section below discussed the descriptive statistics in explaining the influence of family structure on attributes of self-esteem toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Appropriate inferential statistics were used to explain the influence of family structure on attributes of self-esteem.

**4.4.1.0 Determine the effects of family structure on selfness of the youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.**

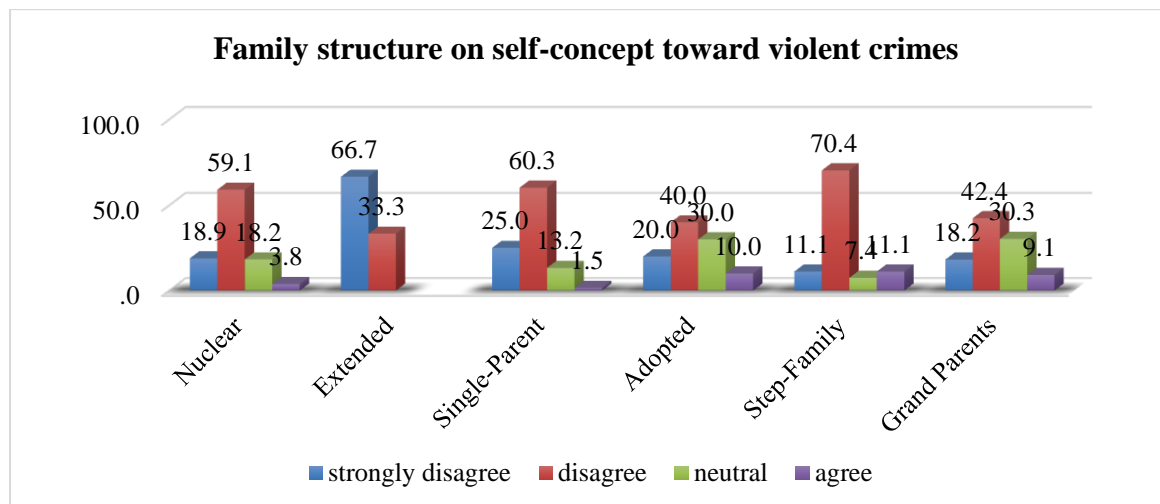
**Table 2 Self-Concept toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics**

<b>Self-Concept toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics</b>				
	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>	<b>Skewness</b>
• I can see myself committing a violent crime in five years to come	300	2.2	1.051	.362
• I can see myself joining a gang – crime group (Mungiki sect) in order to assist my family	300	2.1	.934	.624
• It is easier for me to participate in petty crimes rather than violent one	300	1.9	.947	.899
• I normally feel happy after indulging in crime	300	1.9	.786	.605
• I have a lot of common or we share same views with other youth who break the law	300	1.9	.859	.717
• I can see myself not quitting organized gang group	300	1.9	.817	1.064
• I normally feel afraid whenever I see security personnel around the area	300	2.3	1.196	.657
• I normally participate in crime because it is the only way of getting rich quickly and fame	300	2.0	1.036	.883
• I can see myself relying on new technology in order to improve my criminal techniques in future	300	1.9	.830	.655
• My youthfulness encourages me to engage in crime better than anyone else in our gang group	300	1.9	.820	.515

According to table 2 distributions of the responses data on the Self-Concept toward violent crime showed all of the attributes had positive coefficients of Skewness. It indicated that the distribution of the responses were to the right (positively skewed). It implied disagreement response ranged (1.9-2.3) 2 on the likert scale.

From the findings more of the respondents disagreed that they felt afraid whenever they saw security personnel around them or area (mean = 2.3), followed by they saw themselves committing a violent crime in five years to come in order assist their family (mean = 2.1), they normally participated in crime because it was a way of getting fame (mean = 2.0),it was easier for them to participate in petty crimes rather than violent one (mean = 1.9), they had lot of common or shared same views with other youth who broke the law (mean = 1.9), they saw themselves relying on new technology in order to improve their criminal techniques in near future (mean = 1.9), their youthfulness encouraged them to engage in crime better than anyone else in their gang group (mean = 1.9), they saw themselves not quitting organized gang group (mean = 1.9) and lastly they usually felt happy after indulging in crime (mean = 1.9).

#### 4.4.1.1 Influence of family structure on selfness of the youth aged 15-24



**Figure 12: Influence of family structure on selfness of the youth aged 15-24**

For those youth from the nuclear families, most of them (59.1%) disagreed with the self-concept toward violent crime with 18.9% strongly disagreeing with the same. Whereas those youth from extended families, 66.7% strongly disagreed on selfness toward violent crime whereas, 60.3% from single parent families disagreed too. Those from adopted families, 20% strongly disagreed, therefore 40% of the respondent

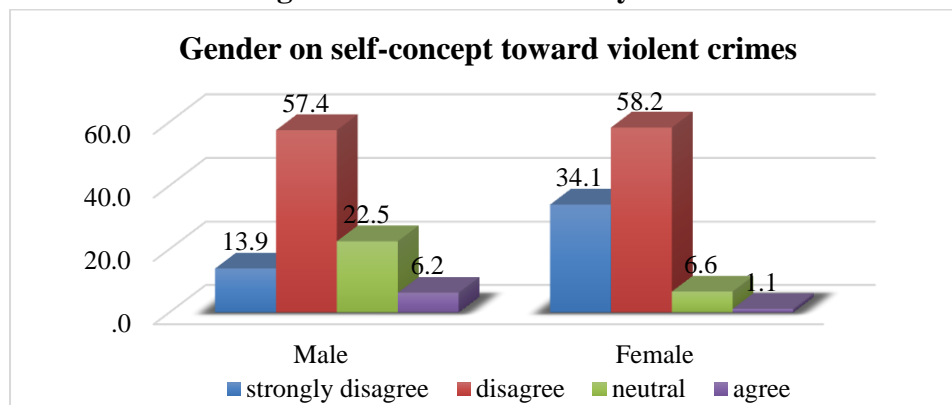
disagreed while 10% agreed with the fact. For the youth from the step families 70.4%disagreed while 11.1% were neutral. Most of the grandparents and family respondents 42.4% disagreed with the issue while 30.3% were neutral.

**Table 3 Family Structure on Selfness of the youth toward violent crime**

Family Structure on Selfness of the youth toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	11.579	3	3.860	1.191	.313
Within Groups	959.208	296	3.241		
Total	970.787	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	21.478	15	.122		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.084	300	.000		

From table 3 the significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 1.191$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.313$ ) greater than 0.05 and therefore there was no significance influence of family structure on selfness of the youth toward violent crime between the various family structures. The significance value for the chi-square was ( $\chi^2 = 21.478$ ,  $df = 15$ ,  $p = 0.122$ ) there was no association between family structure and self-concept toward violent crime among youth. Pearson Correlation depicted weak linear correlation ( $r=0.084$ ,  $p= 0.00$ ) of family structure and self-concept. An increase in one led to an increase in another. Therefore influence of family structure had an impact on self-esteem of the youth when it came to indulging in crime. Since crime was perceived to affect social aspects of the youth (Cortex et.al. 1998).

#### 4.4.1.2 Influence of gender on selfness of the youth



**Figure 13: Influence of gender on self –concept of the youth toward crime**

A bigger proportion of the male youth (57.4%) disagreed with the fact while 22.5% were neutral, 13.3% strongly disagreed and finally 6.2% agreed with the concept toward violent crime. For the female youth 58.2% disagreed, 34.1% strongly disagreed, 6.6% were neutral and finally 1.1% agreed on how gender had an influence to their selfness toward crime.

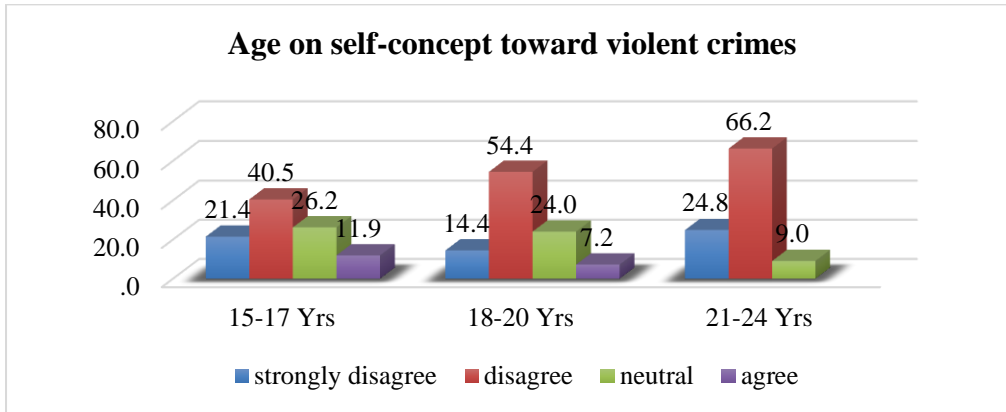
**Table 4 Gender on Selfness toward violent crime**

<b>Gender on Selfness toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	5.401	3	1.800	9.189	.000
Within Groups	57.996	296	.196		
Total	63.397	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	25.558	3	.000		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	-.285	300	.000		

According to table 4.4 ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 9.189$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ) showed clearly a significant influence of gender on selfness of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 25.558$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). This showed there was an association between gender and selfness of the youth aged 15-24 toward violent crime in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation deduced negative linear connection ( $r = -0.285$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ) between gender and selfness. Therefore an increase in one led to a decrease of another. In summary gender had an impact when it came to youth indulging in crime since delinquent behaviors only ended up serving them well and were seen as a way of getting back to the system (Boden, 2007).



#### 4.4.1.3 Influence of age on self-concept toward violent crime



**Figure 14: Influence of age on self-concept toward violent crime**

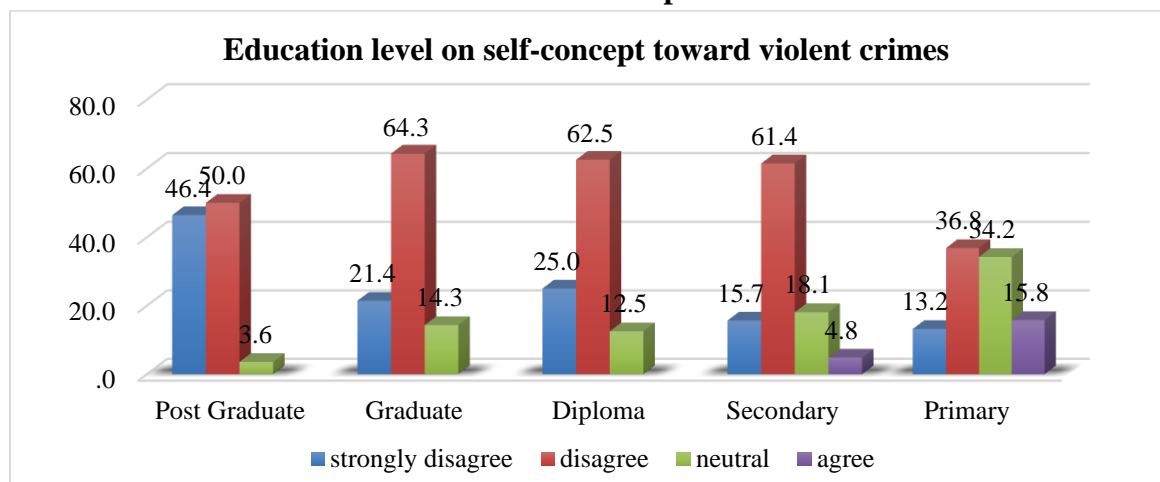
A bigger proportion of the youth between 15 and 17 (40.5%) disagreed, 26.2% were neutral, 21.4 strongly disagreed and finally 11.9% agreed. Whereas those in between 18-20 years (54.4%) disagreed, 24% were neutral, 14.4% strongly disagreed and finally 7.2% agreed on the issue. Finally, for those between 21-24 years, (66.2%) disagreed, 24.8% strongly disagreed and lastly 9% were neutral on the influence of age on their self-concept toward violent crime.

**Table 5 Age on Selfness of the youth toward crime**

Age on Selfness of the youth toward crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	12.940	3	4.313	9.496	.000
Within Groups	134.457	296	.454		
Total	147.397	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	30.423	6	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	-.251	300	.000		

From table 5 ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 9.496$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ), it depicted that there was a significant influence of age on selfness of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 30.423$ ,  $df = 6$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ), there was also an association between age and selfness of the youth. Pearson Correlation indicated there was negative linear correlation ( $r = -0.251$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ) between age groups and self-concept toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Majority of the youth who engaged in crime were in an age bracket of between 21-24 years old.

#### 4.4.1.4 Influence of education level on self-concept toward violent crime



**Figure 15: Influence of education level on self-concept toward violent crime**

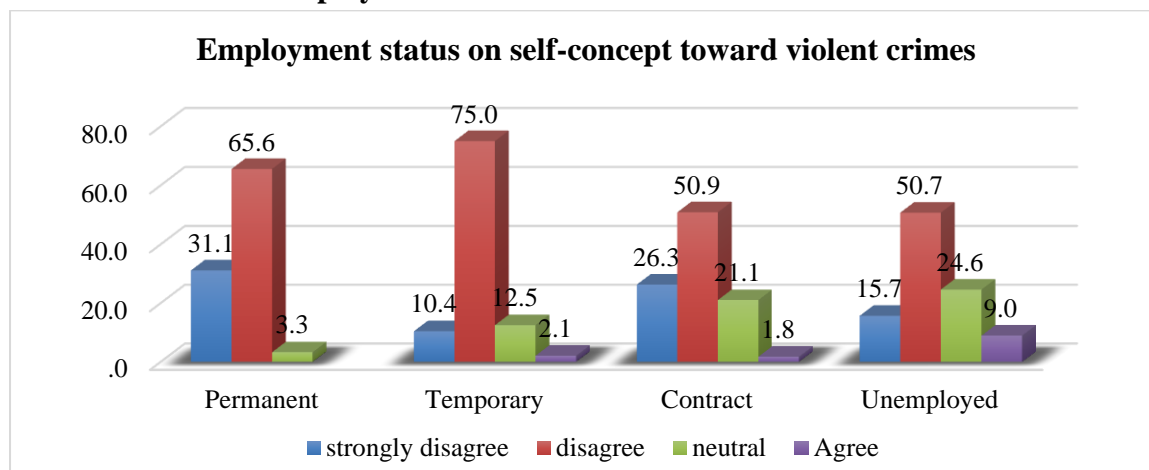
For those youth in post graduate level, 46.4% strongly disagreed, 50% disagreed while 1.6% were neutral. Whereas those who were graduates 21.4% strongly disagreed, 64.3% disagreed and 4.3% were neutral. Those with diploma, 25% strongly disagreed, 62.5% disagreed and 2.5% were neutral. Those with secondary level of education, 15.7% strongly disagreed, 61.4% disagreed, 18.1% were neutral and 4.8% agreed on the same. Lastly those who were in primary level 13.2% strongly disagreed, 36.8% disagreed, 34.2% were neutral and 15.8% agreed on influence of education to their self-concept.

**Table 6 Education level on Selfness toward violent crime**

Education level on Selfness toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	33.581	3	11.194	9.711	.000
Within Groups	341.206	296	1.153		
Total	374.787	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	41.086	12	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.299	300	.000		

According to table 6 ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 9.711$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Therefore there was a significant influence of educational level on selfness of the youth toward youth violent crime. Chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 41.086$ ,  $df = 12$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ), there was also an association between educational level and selfness. Pearson Correlation depicted that there was weak linear relation ( $r = 0.299$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ) between education level and selfness toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Therefore education was connected to violent crime because it enhanced low self-esteem among the youth especially those who had dropped out of school (Becroft, 2004).

#### 4.4.1.5 Influence of employment status on selfness toward violent crime



**Figure 16: Influence of employment status on selfness toward violent crime**

For those youths who were employed permanently, 31.1% strongly disagreed, 65.6% disagreed and 3.3% were neutral. Those youth, who had been employed temporarily, 10.4% strongly disagreed, 75% disagreed, 12.5% were neutral and 2.1% agreed on the fact. To those who were employed on contract basis, 26.3% strongly disagreed, 50.9% disagreed, 21.1% were neutral and 1.8% agreed. Lastly, those youth who were unemployed 15.7% strongly disagreed, 50.7% disagreed, 24.6 were neutral and 9% agreed on influence of employment level on their selfness toward crime.

**Table 7 Employment level on Self Concept toward violent crime**

Employment level on Self Concept toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	35.689	3	11.896	9.123	.000
Within Groups	385.991	296	1.304		
Total	421.680	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	34.885	9	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.262	300	.000		

According to table 7 the significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 9.123$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). It showed that there was a significant influence of level of employment on selfness of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for

the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 34.885$ ,  $df = 9$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). There was an association between employment level and self-concept toward violent crime. Youth without employment ended up in crime due to depressions that associated with unemployment back in their society (Short, 2007). The only way of redeeming their self-esteem was through criminality. Pearson Correlation revealed weak linear interaction ( $r=0.262$ ,  $p=0.00$ ) between employment level and self-concept toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.

#### 4.4.1.6 To determine the influence of family structure on self-efficacy toward violent crime

**Table 8 Self-Efficacy toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics**

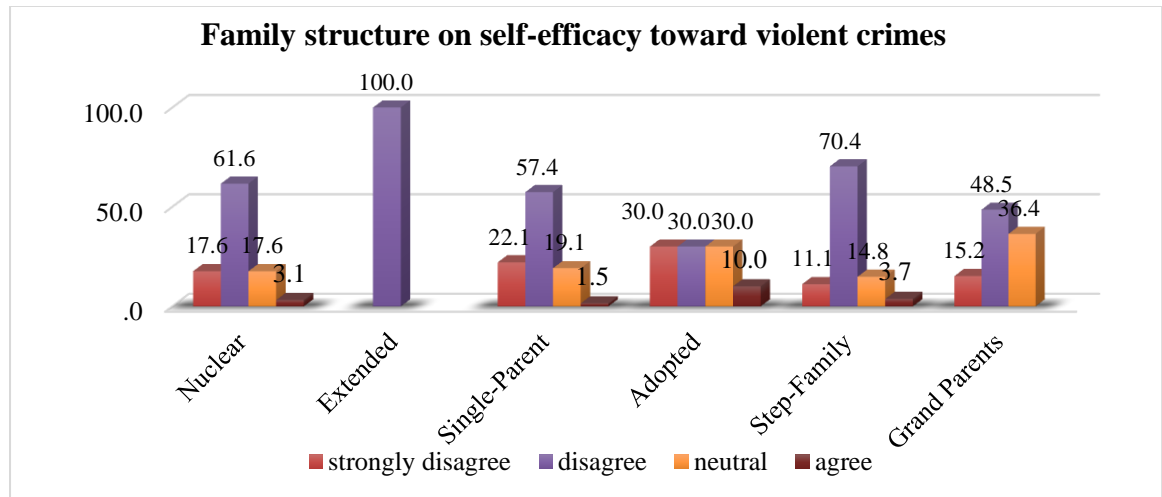
Self-Efficacy toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics				
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Skewness
• I normally feel proud after committing crime	300	1.94	.888	.499
• I normally feel safe whenever I carry a weapon	300	2.45	1.227	.477
• I can feel myself energetic again to indulge in crime whenever I get an opportunity	300	1.85	.786	.901
• Crime normally becomes easier whenever I use force to subdue my victims	300	1.84	.759	.692
• I do not feel any challenges in crime	300	1.83	.794	.556
• I feel criminal activities is enjoyable and interesting	300	1.96	.878	.741
• I can take any shortest time possible to carry out a crime	300	1.84	.732	.568
• I may not have all the skills it takes that is why I normally engage in crime	300	1.96	.940	.937

From table 8 findings majority of the respondents disagreed that they normally felt safe whenever they carried a weapon (mean = 2.45), followed by they had all the skills it takes to engage in crime (mean = 1.96), they normally felt proud after committing crime (mean = 1.94), they felt themselves energetic again to indulge in crime whenever they got opportunity (mean = 1.85), crime became easier whenever they used force to subdue their victims (mean = 1.84), they could take shortest time

possible to carry out a crime (mean = 1.84) and finally they did not felt challenges in crime (mean = 1.83).

The distribution of the responses data on the Self-efficacy toward violent crime showed all of the attributes had positive coefficients of Skewness this indicated that the distribution of the responses was to the right (positively skewed).

#### 4.4.1.7 Influence of family structure on self-efficacy toward violent crime



**Figure 17: Influence of family structure on self-efficacy toward violent crime**

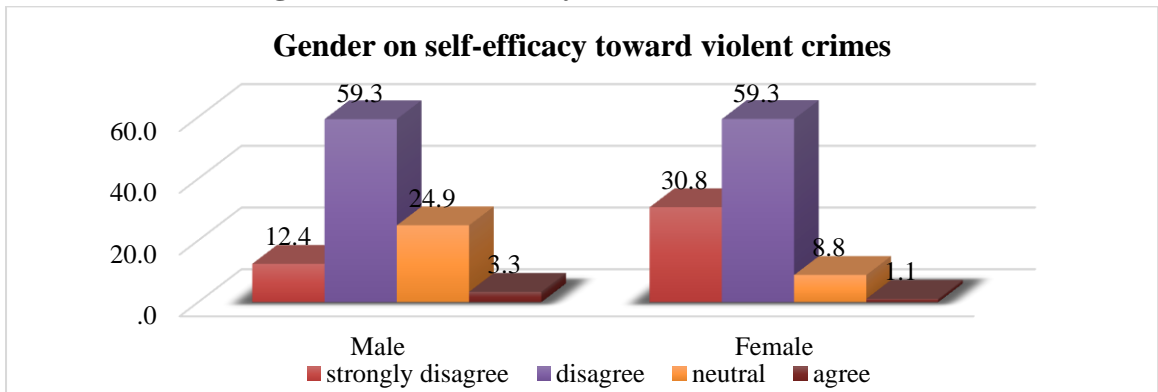
Those youth from nuclear family background 61.6% disagreed, 17.6% strongly disagreed, 17.6% were neutral and 3.1% agreed. For those in an extended family background 100% disagreed. For those youth from single parents' background, 21.1% strongly disagreed, 57.4% disagreed, 19.1% were neutral and 1.5% agreed. Those from step family's background, 11.1% strongly disagreed, 70.4% disagreed, 14.8% were neutral and 3.7% agreed on the same. Lastly for those youth from grandparent's family background, 15.2% strongly disagreed, 48.5% disagreed and 36.4% were neutral on whether influence of family structure had an adverse effect on their self-efficacy toward violent crime.

**Table 9 Family Structure on Self Efficacy**

<b>Family Structure on Self Efficacy</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	11.202	3	3.734	1.152	.328
Within Groups	959.585	296	3.242		
Total	970.787	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	16.467	15	.352		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	.055	300	.000		

According to table 9 significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 1.152$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.328$ ). Therefore it confirmed a significant influence that emanated from family structure on self-efficacy of the youth. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 16.467$ ,  $df = 15$ ,  $p = 0.352$ ). There was no association between family structure and self-efficacy. Pearson Correlation established weak linear connection ( $r=0.055$ ,  $p= 0.00$ ) between family structure and self-efficacy toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. It meant that an influence in family structure led to an increase in self-efficacy of the youth toward crime such as thefts, kidnapping among other crime activities since they provided them with high earning and very low risks (Ekpo, 2000).

#### 4.4.1.8 Influence of gender on self-efficacy toward violent crime



**Figure 18: Influence of gender on self-efficacy toward violent crime**

A bigger proportion of the male youth, 59.3% disagreed, while 24.9% were neutral, 12.4% strongly disagree and finally 3.3% agreed. Whereas for the female youths 59.3% of them disagreed, 30.8% strongly disagreed, 8.8% were neutral and finally 1.1% agreed on influence of gender on their self-efficacy toward crime.

**Table 10 Gender on Self Efficacy**

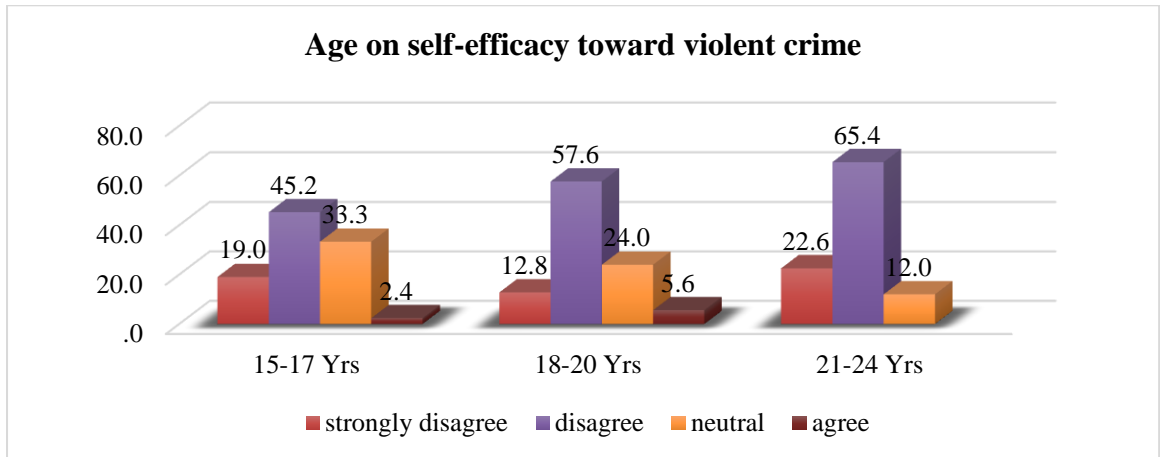
Gender on Self Efficacy					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	4.489	3	1.496	7.519	.000
Within Groups	58.908	296	.199		
Total	63.397	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	21.242	3	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	-.258	300	.000		

From table 10 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 7.519$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Therefore influence of gender on self-efficacy of the youth toward violent crime was revealed. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 21.242$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p =$



0.00) was less than 0.05. Therefore there was also an association between gender and self-efficacy of the youth toward violent crime. Pearson Correlation depicted negative linear correlation ( $r = -0.258$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ) between gender and self-efficacy toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. It depicted that for every increase in the number of females and males, there was a decrease in their self-efficacy toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.1.9 Influence of age on self-efficacy toward violent crime



**Figure 19: Influence of age on self-efficacy toward violent crime**

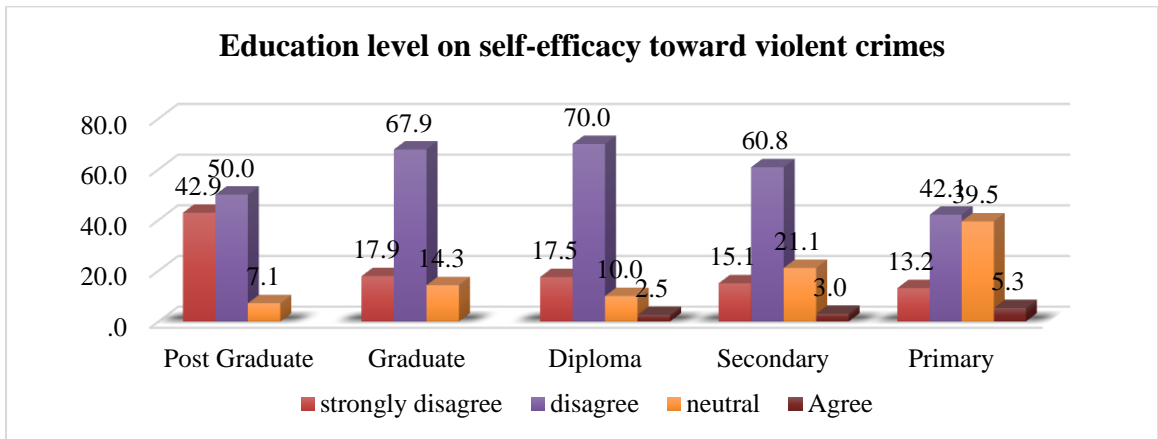
Youth between 15-17 years old, 45.2% disagreed, 19% strongly disagreed 33.3% were neutral and 2.4% agreed on the question of influence of age on self-efficacy toward violent crime in Murang'a. Those youth between 18-20 years old, 57.6% disagreed, 24% were neutral, 12.8% strongly disagreed and 5.6% agreed. Lastly, for those youth aged between 21-24 years old, 65.4% disagreed, 22.6% strongly disagreed, while 12% were neutral on the same.

**Table 11 Age on Self Efficacy toward violent crime**

<b>Age on Self Efficacy toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	7.529	3	2.510	5.311	.001
Within Groups	139.868	296	.473		
Total	147.397	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	22.286	6	.001		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	.205	300	.000		

According to table 11 ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 5.311$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ). It clearly indicated a statistical influence of the youth age attainment on their self awareness toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 22.286$ ,  $df = 6$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) there was also an association between age groups and self-efficacy. Pearson Correlation established weak linear connection ( $r = 0.205$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) between age groups and self-efficacy. This meant that for every increase in age there was an increase in self-efficacy toward violent crime among the youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.

#### 4.4.2.0 Influence of education level on self-efficacy toward violent crime



**Figure 20: Influence of education level on self-efficacy toward violent crime**

Youth, who had post graduate level of education, 42.9% strongly disagreed, 50% disagreed and 7.1% were neutral on whether influence of education level had an impact on their self-efficacy toward violent crime. Graduates, 17.9% strongly disagreed, 67.9% disagreed and 14.3% were neutral. Diplomas, 17.5% strongly disagreed, 70% disagreed and 10% were neutral and 2.5 agreed. Those with secondary education level 15.1% strongly disagreed, 60.8% disagreed, 21.1% were neutral and 3% agreed.

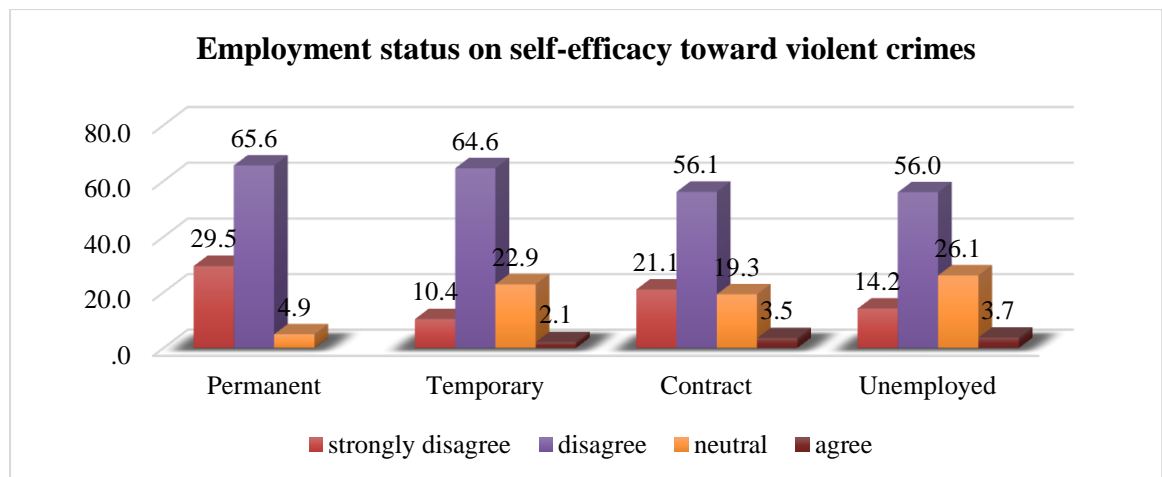
**Table 12 Education level on Self Efficacy toward violent crime**

Education level on Self Efficacy toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	23.279	3	7.760	6.534	.000
Within Groups	351.508	296	1.188		
Total	374.787	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	29.002	12	.004		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.197	300	.001		

According to table 12 ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 6,634$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Therefore there was a significant influence of education level on self-efficacy

of the youth toward violent crime in Murang'a. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 29.002$ ,  $df = 12$ ,  $p = 0.004$ ) there was an association between education level and self-efficacy. Pearson Correlation showed a weak positive linear relationship ( $r=0.197$ ,  $p= 0.001$ ) between education level and self-efficacy. School systems sometimes have known to contribute crime among youth especially after they have dropped out, their self-esteem gets low thereby ending up in crime (Ruther et. al. 1979).

#### 4.4.2.1 Influence of employment status on self-efficacy toward violent crime



**Figure 21: Influence of employment status on self-efficacy toward violent crime**

Those youth, who had been employed permanently, 29.5% strongly disagreed, 65.6% disagreed and 4.9% were neutral pertaining with their level of employment status and crime. Those employed temporarily, 10.4% strongly disagreed, 64.6% disagreed, 22.9% were neutral and 2.1% agreed. Those on contract basis, 21.1% strongly disagreed, 56.1% disagreed, 9.3% neutral and 3.5% agreed. Lastly for those youths, who were unemployed, 14.2% strongly disagreed, 56% disagreed, 26.1% were neutral and 3.7% agreed.

**Table 13 Employment level on Self efficacy toward violent crime**

Employment level on Self efficacy toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	19.324	3	6.441	4.739	.003
Within Groups	402.356	296	1.359		
Total	421.680	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	20.454	9	.015		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.205	300	.000		

According to table 13 the significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 4.739$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.003$ ) there was a significant influence of employment level on self-efficacy of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 20.454$ ,  $df = 9$ ,  $p = 0.015$ ) also there was an association between influence of employment level and self-efficacy. Pearson Correlation deduced weak linear relation ( $r = 0.205$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ) between employment level and self-efficacy toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24. Therefore it meant that those without employment got challenges in their lives and the only option of enhancing self-esteem was through crime (Wanjohi, 2012).

#### **4.4.3. To examine the influence of family structure on attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.**

The section below discussed the descriptive statistics in explaining the influence of family structure on attributes of attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Appropriate inferential statistics were used to explain the influence of family structure on attributes of attitude toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.

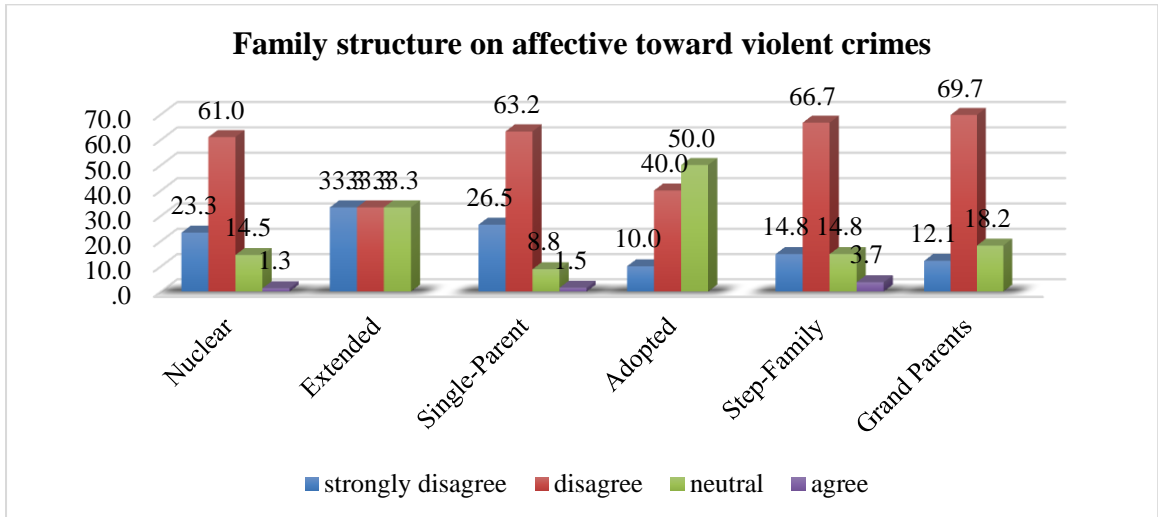
**4.4.3.0 Examine the influence of family structure on affective toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.**

**Table 14 Affective toward violent crime Attributes Descriptive Statistics**

<b>Affective toward violent crime Attributes Descriptive Statistics</b>				
	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>	<b>Skewness</b>
• I dislike those youth who do not engage in any crime	300	1.88	.863	1.012
• I dislike places that are not prone to crime	300	1.85	.837	.661
• I dislike religion that is why I participate in crime	300	1.76	.737	.861
• I disliked school that why I resorted to crime life and organized gang life	300	1.82	.737	.652

According to table 14 the distribution of the responses data on the affective toward violent crime showed all of the attributes had positive coefficients of Skewness. From the findings most of the respondents disagreed that they disliked those youth who did not engage in any crime (mean = 1.88), followed by they disliked places that were not prone to crime (mean = 1.85), they disliked school that is why they resorted to crime life and organized gang life (mean = 1.82) and finally they disliked religion that is why they participated in crime (mean = 1.76).

#### 4.4.3.1. Influence of family structure on affective toward violent crime



**Figure 22: Influence of family structure on affective toward violent crime**

For those youth who were in a nuclear family background, 23.3% strongly disagreed, 61% disagreed, 14.5% neutral and 1.3% agreed on the fact that family structure had an influence on their feelings toward violent crime. Those from extended background all of them reported the same. For those in single parents 26.5% strongly disagreed, 63.2% disagreed, 8.8% were neutral and 1.5% agreed. Those in adopted family background, 10% strongly disagreed, 40% disagreed and 50% were neutral. Those in a step family background 14.8% strongly disagreed, 66.7% disagreed, 14.8% were neutral and 3.7% agreed. Lastly for those youth who were in grand parent family 12.1% strongly disagreed, 69.7% disagreed and 18.2% were neutral.

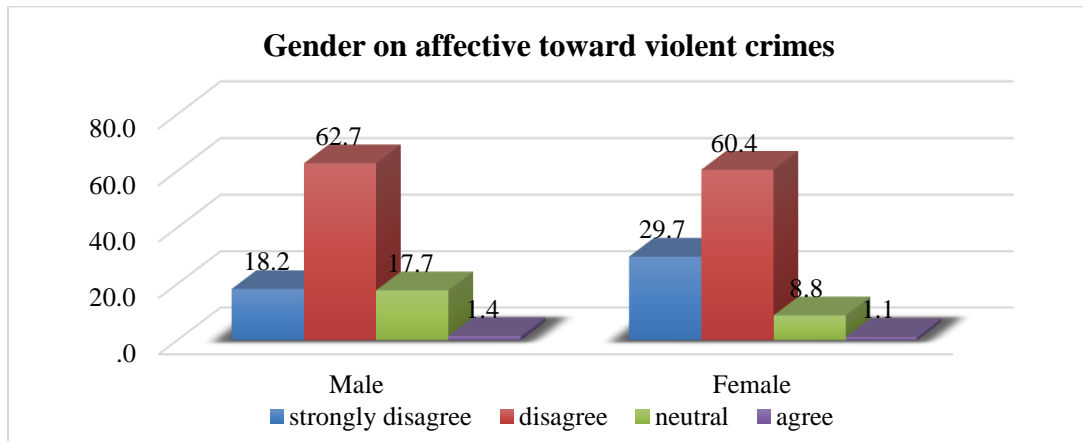
**Table 15 Family Structure on feeling toward violent crime**

Family Structure on feeling toward violent crime							
ANOVA							
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.		
Between Groups	8.101	3	2.700	.830	.478		
Within Groups	962.686	296	3.252				
Total	970.787	299					
Chi-Square Tests							
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)				
Pearson Chi-Square	17.922	15	.267				
Pearson Correlation							
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)				
Pearson Correlation	.079	300	.171				

According to table 15 the significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 0.830$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.478$ ) it depicted that there was no significant statistical significance of influence of family structure on feelings of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 17.922$ ,  $df = 15$ ,  $p = 0.267$ ) was greater than 0.05 and there was no association between family structure and feelings of the youth. Pearson Correlation indicated that still was weak linear connection ( $r=0.079$ ,  $p=0.171$ ) family structure and feelings toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Therefore majority of the youth who came from low socio-economic family background ended up in crime due to unstable emotions toward life, which sometime forced them to engage in deviances (Sibena, 2015).



#### 4.4.3.2 Influence of gender on feelings toward violent crime



**Figure 23: Influence of gender on feelings of the youth toward violent crime**

For the male youth 18.2% strongly disagreed, 62.7% disagreed, 7.7% were neutral and 1.4% agreed on the influence of gender on their feelings toward violent crime. On the side of female 29.7% strongly disagreed, 60.4% disagreed, 8.8% were neutral and 1.1% agreed.

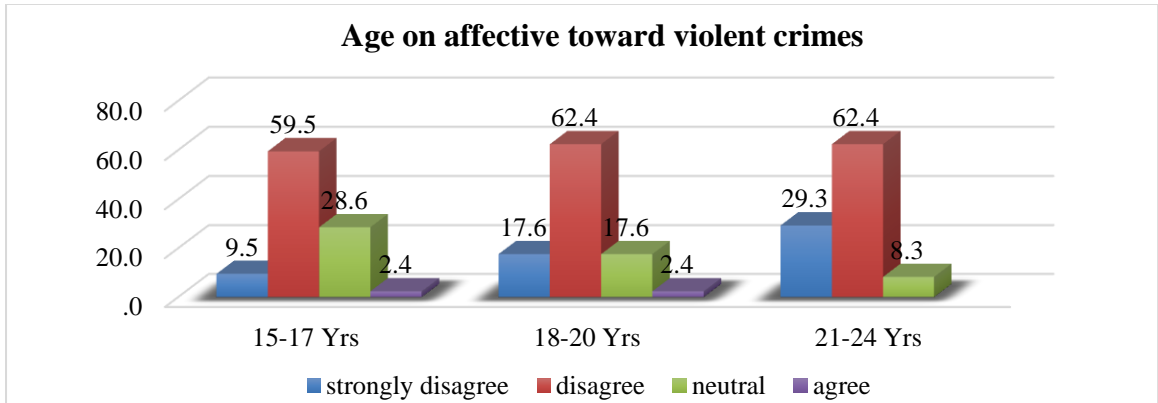
**Table 16 Gender on feelings toward violent crime**

Gender on feelings toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.548	3	.516	2.469	.062
Within Groups	61.849	296	.209		
Total	63.397	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	7.324	3	.062		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	-.150	300	.009		

According to table 16 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 2.469$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.062$ ) was greater than 0.05 and therefore there was no statistical significant influence of gender on the feelings of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 7.324$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = 0.062$ ) also there was

no association between gender and feelings of the youth. Pearson Correlation showed indeed there was a weak negative linear relationship ( $r = -0.150$ ,  $p = 0.009$ ) between gender and affective toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This meant that for every increase in the number of females or males there was a decrease in their feelings toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.3.3. Influence of age on feelings toward participating in violent crime



**Figure 24: Influence of age on feelings toward participating in violent crime**

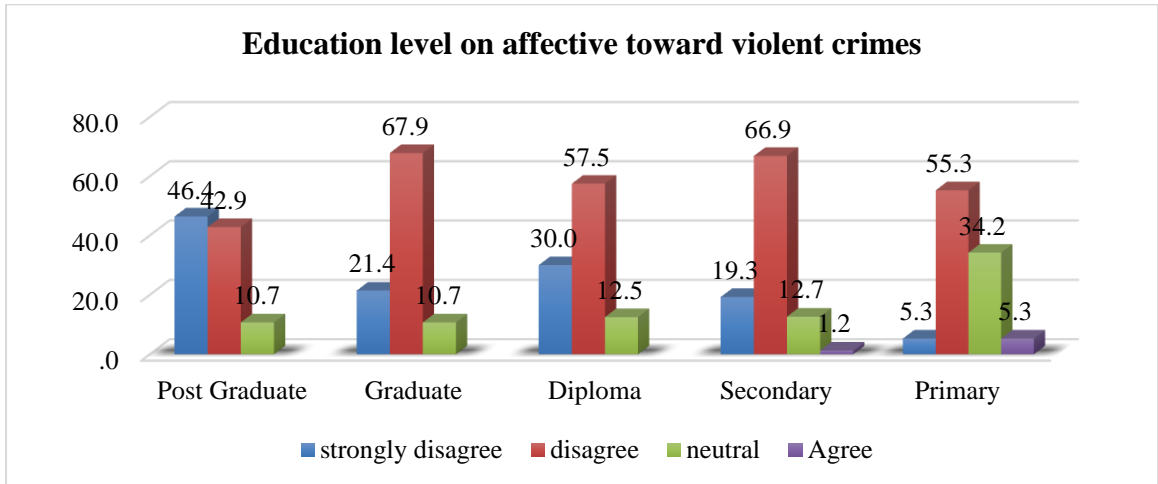
For those youth who were in an age bracket of 15-17 years, 9.5% strongly disagreed, 59.5% disagreed, 28.6% were neutral and 2.4% agreed on influence of age on their feelings toward criminality. For those youth aged 18-20 years, 17.6% strongly disagreed, 62.4% disagreed, 17.6% neutral and 2.4% agreed. Lastly those youth aged 21-24 years 29.3% strongly disagreed, 62.4% disagreed, and 8.3% were neutral.

**Table 17 Age on affective toward violent crime**

<b>Age on affective toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	9.601	3	3.200	6.875	.000
Within Groups	137.796	296	.466		
Total	147.397	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	20.381	6	.002		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	-.253	300	.000		

From table 17 ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 6.875$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ). Therefore there was a significant influence of age on feelings of the youth. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 20.381$ ,  $df = 6$ ,  $p = 0.002$ ) there was an association between age groups and feelings of the youth toward violent crime in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation depicted a weak negative linear relationship ( $r = -0.253$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) between age groups and feelings toward violent crime. Therefore it meant that for every increase in age there was a decrease in feelings toward violent crime. Age of the youth who engaged in crime did not correspond with their feelings.

#### 4.4.3.4. Influence of education level on feelings toward violent crime



**Figure 25: Influence of educational level on feelings of the youth toward crime**

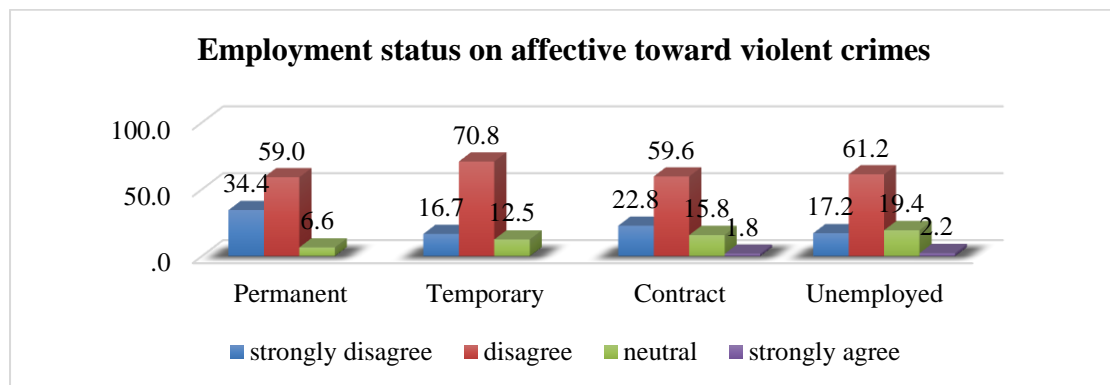
Those in post graduate level 46.4% strongly disagreed, 42.9% disagreed and 10.7% were neutral on the influence of education level on feelings towards violent crimes. Graduates 21.4% strongly disagreed, 67.9% disagreed and 10.7% were neutral. Those in diploma, 30% strongly disagreed, 57.5% disagreed and 12.5% were neutral. Those youth who had secondary education 19.3% strongly disagreed, 66.9% disagreed, 12.7% neutral and 1.2% agreed. Lastly for those who had primary education, 5.3% strongly disagreed, 55.3% disagreed, 34.2% were neutral and 1.3% agreed.

**Table18 Education level on feelings toward violent crime**

Education level on feelings toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	23.175	3	7.725	6.503	.000
Within Groups	351.611	296	1.188		
Total	374.787	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	33.731	12	.001		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.241	300	.000		

According to table 18 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 6.503$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Therefore there was a significant influence of level of education on feelings of the youth aged 15-24 toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 33.731$ ,  $df = 12$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) it concluded there was an association between education level and feelings toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation revealed there was weak linear correlation ( $r=0.241$ ,  $p= 0.000$ ) between education level and affective toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This showed that delinquent behavior among young people emanated from school-related problems such as low grades, and suspension which directed them to delinquency (Hawkins, 1998).

#### 4.4.3.5. Influence of employment status on feelings of the youth toward violent crime



**Figure 26: Influence of employment status on feelings toward violent crime**

For those youth who had been employed permanently, 34.4% strongly disagreed, 59% disagreed and 6.6% were neutral on the influence of employment on their feelings towards violent crimes. For those who had been employed on a temporary basis, 16.7% strongly disagreed, 70.8% disagreed, and 12.5% were neutral. For those on contract 22.8% strongly disagreed, 59.6% disagreed, 15.8% were neutral and 1.8% agreed. Lastly those unemployed 17.2% strongly disagreed, 61.2% disagreed, 19.4% neutral and 1.2% agreed.

**Table 19 Employment level on feelings toward violent crime**

<b>Employment level on feelings toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	15.442	3	5.147	3.751	.011
Within Groups	406.238	296	1.372		
Total	421.680	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	14.389	9	.109		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	.189	300	.001		

From table 19 significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 3.751$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.011$ ) it depicted that there was a significant influence of employment level on feelings toward violent crime among the youth aged 15-24. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 14.389$ ,  $df = 9$ ,  $p = 0.109$ ) there was no significant association between employment level and feelings toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation showed a weak positive linear relationship ( $r=0.189$ ,  $p= 0.001$ ) between employment level and feelings of the youth toward crime.

**4.4.3.6. To examine the influence of family structure on behavior toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a.**

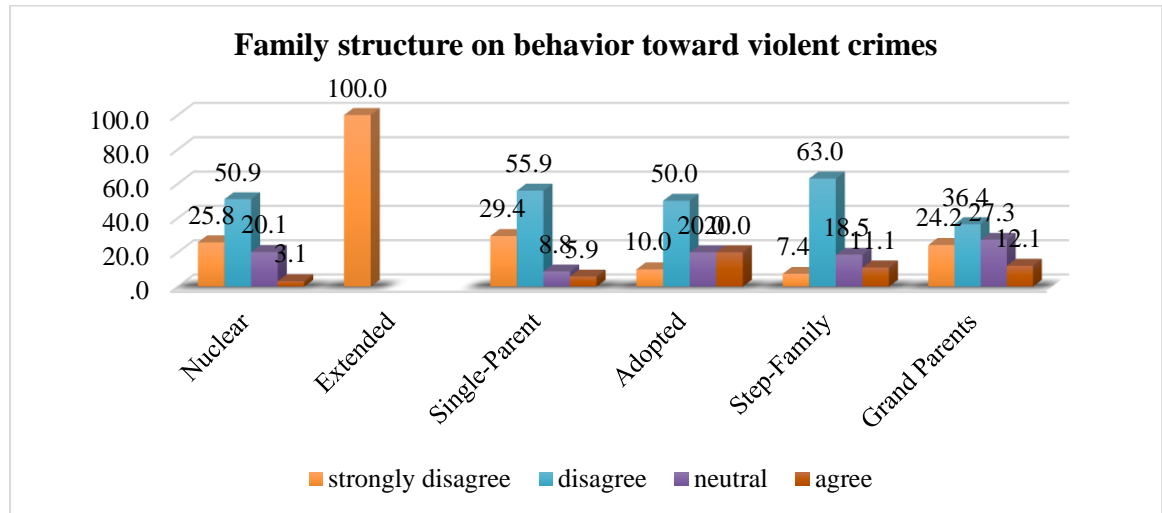
**Table 20 Behavior toward violent crimes attributes Descriptive Statistics**

<b>Behavior toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics</b>				
	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>	<b>Skewness</b>
• I like to get involved in criminal activities because of my poor relation with other family members	300	1.98	.952	.656
• I like to participate in violent crimes because of little money I get from my job	300	2.08	1.102	.876
• I like to participate in criminal activities mostly in urban areas	300	1.92	.883	.737
• I like to engage myself in crime while under influences of drugs such as alcohol, bhang, Miraa and cocaine	300	2.15	1.131	.750
• I like to participate in violent crimes because of my past criminal history background	300	1.90	.885	.831
• I firstly participated in crime due to my low level of education	300	1.82	.766	.851
• I like committing violent crime because I normally copy it from mass media or my friends	300	2.30	1.141	.630

According to table 20 the distribution of the response data on the behavior toward violent crime showed all of the attributes had positive coefficients of Skewness which indicated that the distribution of the responses were to the right (positively skewed). From the findings most of the respondents disagreed that they liked committing violent crime because they copied it from mass media or their friends (mean=2.30), followed by they liked engaging themselves in crime while under influence of drugs such as alcohol, bhang or miraa (mean = 2.15), they liked participating in violent crime because of little money they were. getting from their job (mean=2.08), they liked involving themselves in criminal activities, because of their poor relation with

other family members (mean=1.98), they liked participating in criminal activities mostly in urban areas (mean=1.92), they liked participating in violent crimes because of their past criminal history background (mean=1.90) and lastly they firstly participated in crime due to their low level of education (mean=1.82).

#### 4.4.3.7 Influence of family structure on behavior toward violent crime



**Figure 27: Influence of family structure on behavior of the youth toward violent crime**

For those youth in a nuclear family background, 25.8% strongly disagreed, 50.9% disagreed, 20.1% were neutral and 2.1% agreed on influence of family structure on their behavior towards violent crimes. Extended both of them strongly disagreed by 100%. For those in a single parent background, 29.4% strongly disagreed, 55.9%t disagreed, 8.8% were neutral and 5.9% agreed. Those in adopted family 10% strongly disagreed, 50% disagreed and 20% were neutral and agreed too. For those youth in step family 7.4% strongly disagreed, 63% disagreed, 18.5% neutral and 11.1% agreed. Lastly for those in grand parent family 24.2% strongly disagreed, 36.4% disagreed, 27.3% were neutral and 12.1% agreed.

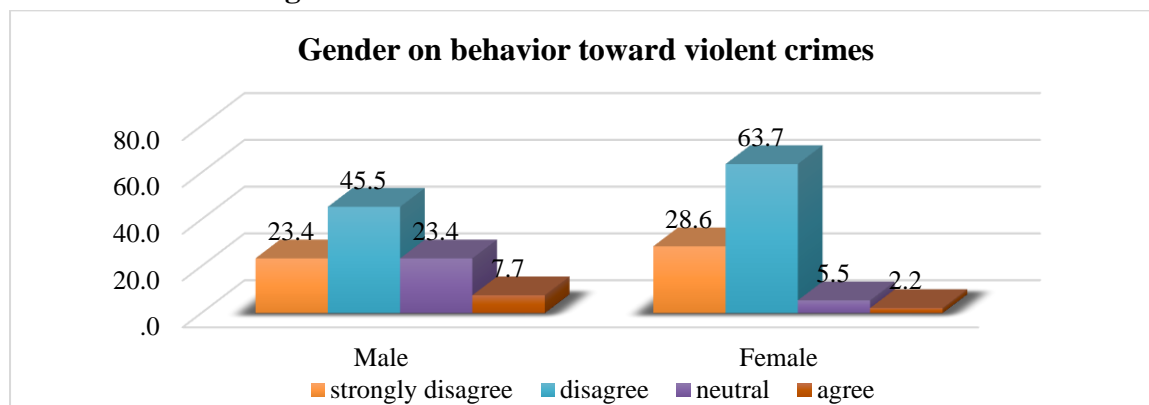


**Table 21 Family Structure on Behavior toward violent crime**

<b>Family Structure on Behavior toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	25.200	3	8.400	2.630	.050
Within Groups	945.586	296	3.195		
Total	970.787	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	30.131	15	.011		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	.134	300	.021		

According to table 21 the significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 2.630$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.05$ ) therefore there was a significant influence of family structure on behavior of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 30.131$ ,  $df = 15$ ,  $p = 0.011$ ) it concluded that there was an association between family structure and behavior toward violent crime. Pearson Correlation established that still there was weak linear relation ( $r = 0.134$ ,  $p = 0.021$ ) family structure and behavior toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This meant that an increase in influence of family structures, there was also an increase in behavior toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.3.8. Influence of gender on behavior toward violent crime



**Figure 28: Influence of gender on behavior toward violent crime**

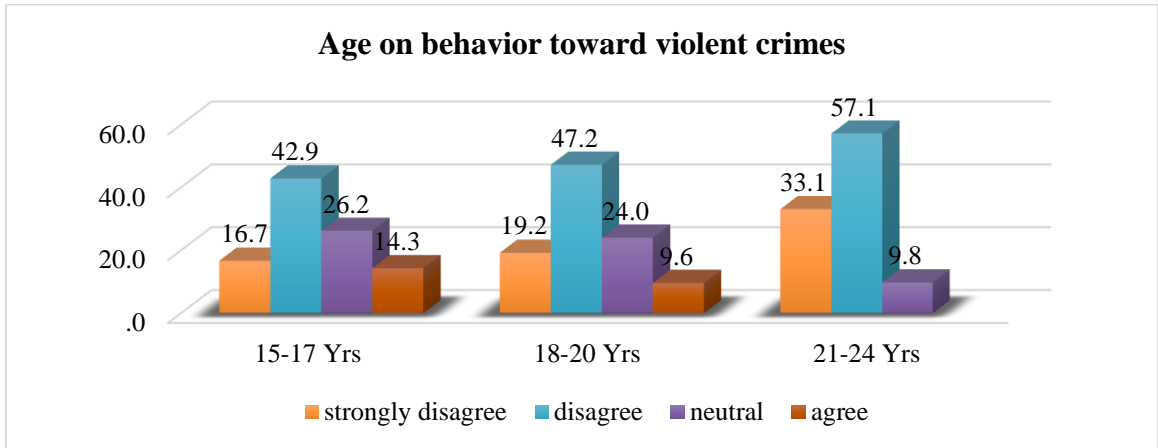
Male youth 23.4% strongly disagreed on whether influences of gender had an impact on their behaviors towards crimes. 45.5% disagreed, 23.4% were neutral and 7.7% agreed. On the side of the female 28.6% strongly disagreed, 63.7% disagreed, 5.5% were neutral and 2.2% agreed.

**Table 22 Gender on Behavior toward violent crime**

Gender on Behavior toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	4.082	3	1.361	6.790	.000
Within Groups	59.315	296	.200		
Total	63.397	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	19.317	3	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	-.191	300	.001		

According to table 22 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 6.790$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) this deduced a statistical significant influence of youth gender on their behaviors toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 19.317$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) depicted that there was an association between gender and behavior. Pearson Correlation therefore showed a weak negative linear relationship ( $r = -0.191$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) between gender and behavior toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This explained that for every increase in the number of females or males, there was a decrease in behavior toward criminality.

#### 4.4.3.9 Influence of age on behavior toward violent crime



**Figure 29: Influence of age on behavior toward violent crime**

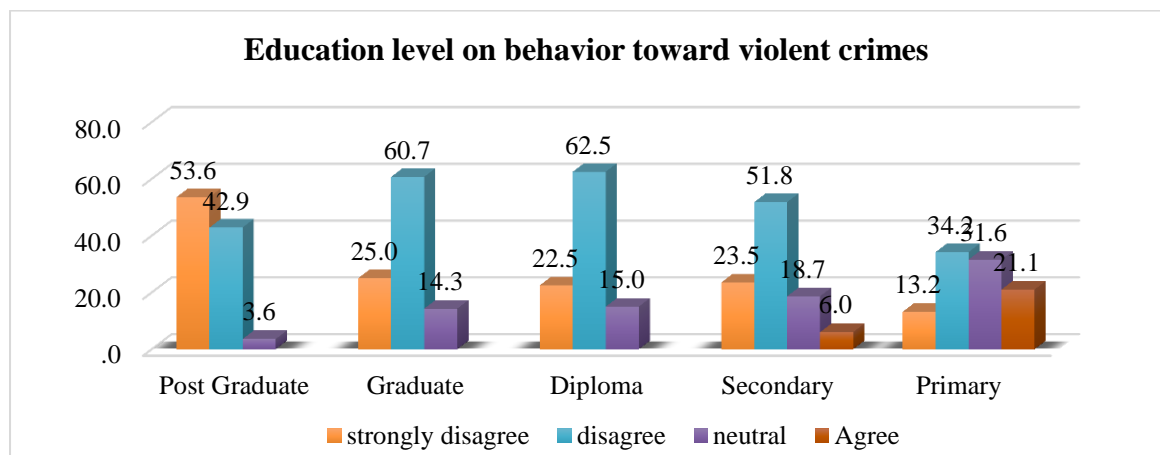
Youth who were in an age bracket of between 15-17 years old, 16.7% strongly disagreed, 42.9% disagreed, 26.2% were neutral and 14.3% agreed that influence of age had an impact on their behaviors toward crime. Those in an age bracket of 18-20 years old, 19.2% strongly disagreed, 47.2% disagreed, 24% were neutral and 9.6% agreed. Lastly those in an age bracket of 21-24, strongly disagreed were 33.1%, 57.1% disagreed and 9.8% were neutral.

**Table 23 Age on Behavior toward violent crime**

Age on Behavior toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	14.711	3	4.904	10.939	.000
Within Groups	132.686	296	.448		
Total	147.397	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	32.759	6	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	-.300	300	.000		

According to table 23 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 10.939$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ). Therefore there was a significant influence of age on the behaviors of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 32.759$ ,  $df = 6$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) revealed a clear indication of an association between age attainment and actions of the youth toward criminality. Pearson Correlation showed a weak negative linear relationship ( $r = -0.300$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) between age and behavior toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Therefore it depicted that for every increase in age, there was a decrease in behavior toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.4.0. Influence of education level on behavior toward violent crime



**Figure 30: Influence of education level on behavior toward violent crime**

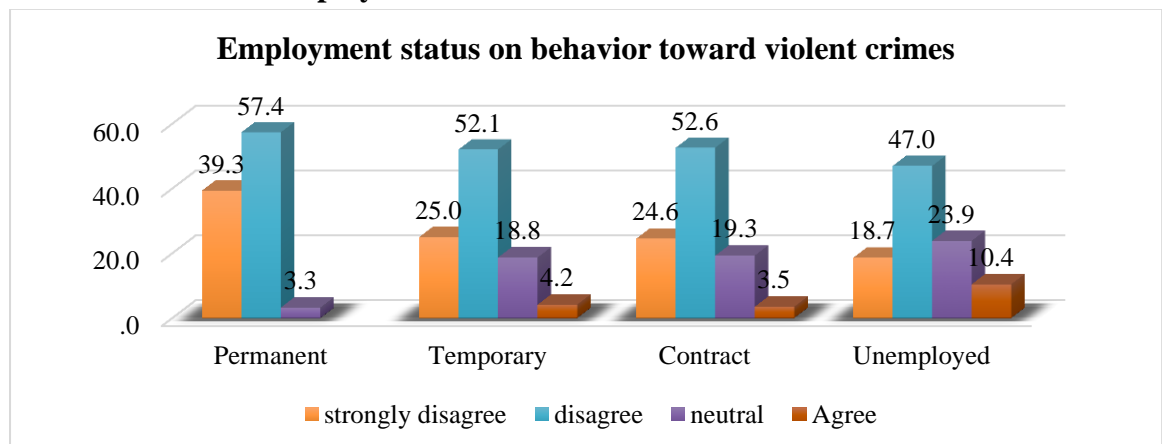
For those youth who were in post graduate educational level 53.6% strongly disagreed, 42.9% disagreed and 3.6% were neutral on influence of education on their behaviors and criminal actions. Those who were graduate 25% strongly disagreed, 60.7% disagreed and 14.3% were neutral. Those youth in diploma level 22.5% strongly disagreed, 62.5% disagreed and 15% were neutral. Youth with secondary level of education 23.5% strongly disagreed, 51.8% disagreed, 18.7% were neutral and 6% agreed. Lastly those who were in primary level 13.2% strongly disagreed, 34.2% disagreed, 31.6% neutral and 21.1% agreed.

**Table 24 Education level on Behavior toward violent crime**

Education level on Behavior toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	33.673	3	11.224	9.740	.000
Within Groups	341.114	296	1.152		
Total	374.787	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	43.264	12	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.296	300	.000		

According to table 24 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 9.740$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Therefore there was a significant influence of educational level of the youth on behaviors toward crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 43.264$ ,  $df = 12$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) there was an association between education level and behavior toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation indicated there was weak linear correlation ( $r = 0.296$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) education level and behavior toward violent crime among youth. This therefore meant that for every increase in education level there was an increase in understanding matters pertained with crime since poor educational system affected their attitude toward life (Bachman et.al. 1997).

#### 4.4.4.1 Influence of employment status on behavior toward violent crime



**Figure 31: Influence of employment status on behavior toward violent crime**

Those youth who were employed permanently 39.3% strongly disagreed, 57.4% disagreed and 3.3% were neutral on influence of employment status on their behaviors toward crime in the area. Those who were on temporary basis 25% strongly disagreed, 52.1% disagreed, 18.8% neutral and 4.2% agreed. Youth that were on a contract basis 24.6% strongly disagreed, 52.1% disagreed, 19.3% neutral and 3.5% agreed. Lastly those unemployed youth 18.7% strongly disagreed, 47% disagreed, 23.9% were neutral and 10.4% agreed.

**Table 25 Employment level on behavior toward violent crime**

<b>Employment level on behavior toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	33.391	3	11.130	8.485	.000
Within Groups	388.289	296	1.312		
Total	421.680	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	27.050	9	.001		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	.275	300	.000		

From table 25 significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 8.485$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) there was a significant influence of employment level on behaviors of the youth toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 27.050$ ,  $df = 9$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) it meant an indication of an association between level of employment and behavior of the youth toward crime. Pearson Correlation deduced weak linear connection ( $r = 0.275$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) employment level and behavior toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This depicted that for every increase in unemployment level there was increase in behavior toward violent crime since lack of stable job exerted a lot of misery and depression to the youth (Williamson et.al.2009).

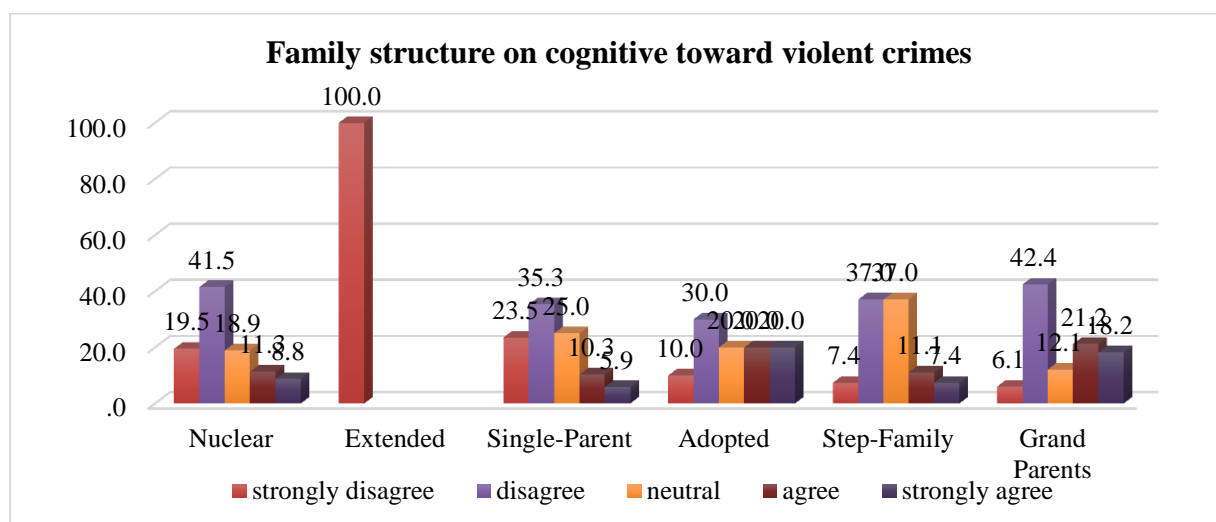
**4.4.4.2 To examine the influence of family structure on perception toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang’a.**

**Table 26 Cognitive toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics**

Cognitive toward violent crime attributes Descriptive Statistics				
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Skewness
• I like to revenge whenever any of my gang member or family member is attacked	300	2.38	1.301	.566
• I like to be influenced by my friends into committing a crime	300	2.31	1.166	.528

According to table 26 the distribution of the responses data on the cognitive toward violent crime showed all of the attributes had positive coefficients of Skewness. From the findings respondents disagreed on whether they could have liked to revenge whenever any of their gang members or family member was attacked (mean=2.38), followed by they liked to be influenced by their friends in committing crime (mean=2.31).

**4.4.4.3. Influence of family structure on cognitive toward violent crime**



**Figure 32: Influence of family structure on cognitive toward violent crime**

Those youth, who were in a nuclear family background, 19.5% strongly disagreed, 41.5% disagreed, 18.9% neutral, 11.2% agreed and 8.8% strongly agreed on influence of family structure had an impact on their perceptions toward crime in Kandara. Those from extended family all of them strongly disagreed by 100%. Those in a single parent family background 23.3% strongly disagreed, 35.5% disagreed, 37% neutral and 11.4% agreed. Youth in adopted family background, 10% strongly

disagreed, 35.3% disagreed and both those who were neutral, agreed and strongly agreed were the same with 20%. In a step family set-up 7.4% strongly disagreed, 37% disagreed, 37% neutral and 11.4% agreed. Lastly, in grand parent family 6.1% strongly disagreed, 42.4% disagreed, 12.1 neutral, 21.2% agreed and 18.2% strongly agreed.

**Table 27 Family Structure on Cognitive toward violent crime**

<b>Family Structure on Cognitive toward violent crime</b>					
<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	20.798	4	5.200	1.615	.171
Within Groups	949.988	295	3.220		
Total	970.787	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	33.563	20	.029		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	.139	300	.016		

According to table 27 significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 1.615$ ,  $df = (4, 295)$ ,  $p = 0.171$ ) therefore it showed statistical significant influence of family structure on cognitive of the youth toward crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 33.563$ ,  $df = 20$ ,  $p = 0.029$ ) was less than 0.05 and thus there was an association between family structure and cognitive toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation showed a weak positive linear relationship ( $r=0.139$ ,  $p= 0.016$ ) between family structure and cognitive toward violent crime. This meant that an increase in the family structure, led to an increase in cognitive toward violent crime.



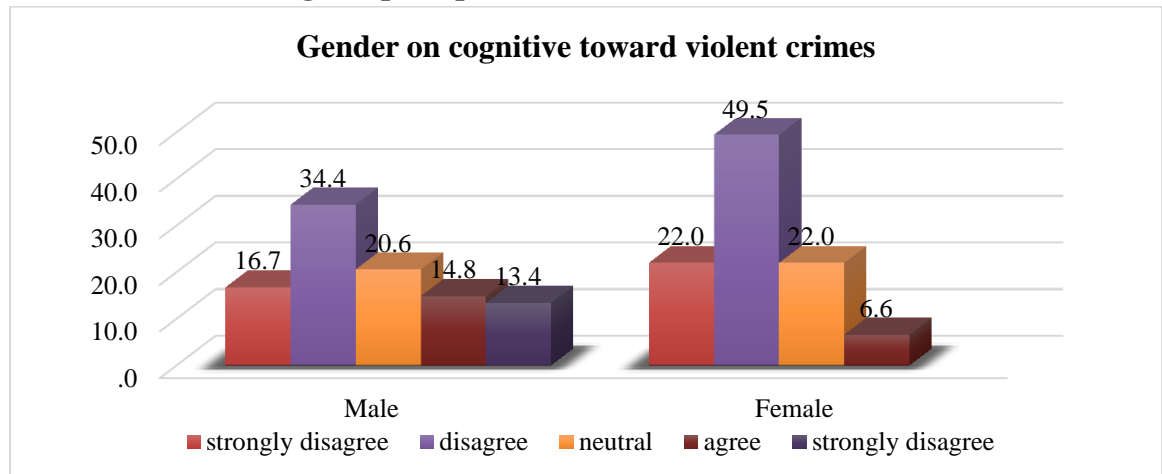
#### 4.4.4.4 Influence of gender on perceptions of the youth toward violent crime

**Table 28 Gender on Cognitive toward violent crime**

Gender on Cognitive toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	4.299	4	1.075	5.365	.000
Within Groups	59.097	295	.200		
Total	63.397	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	20.345	4	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	-.233	300	.000		

From table 28 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 5.365$ ,  $df = (4, 295)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) depicted a significant effect of youth gender on their perceptions toward crime in Murang'a. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 20.345$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) also there was an association between gender and cognitive toward violent crime. Pearson Correlation deduced negative linear attraction ( $r = -0.233$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) between gender and cognitive toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This meant that for every increase in the number of females or males, there was a decrease in cognitive toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.4.5. Influence of age on perceptions toward violent crime



**Figure 33: Influence of age on perceptions toward violent crime**

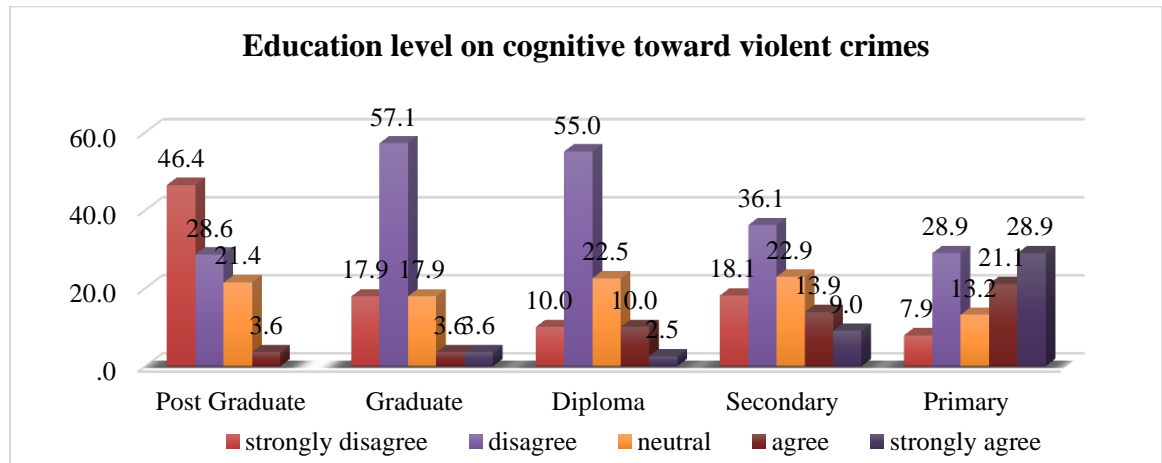
Those who were in an age bracket of between 15-17 years old, 11.9% strongly disagreed, 35.7% disagreed, 14.3% were neutral, 19% agreed and also strongly agreed on the influence of age on their perceptions toward violent crime. Those in an age bracket of 18-20 years, 14.4% strongly disagreed, 31.2% disagreed, 24% neutral, 16% agreed and 14.4% strongly agreed. Lastly, those in an age bracket of 21-24 years old, 24.1% strongly disagreed, 47.7% disagreed, 20.3% neutral, 6.8% agreed and 1.5% strongly agreed.

**Table 29 Age on Cognitive toward violent crime**

<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	13.656	4	3.414	7.531	.000
Within Groups	133.740	295	.453		
Total	147.397	299			
<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)</b>		
Pearson Chi-Square	32.963	8	.000		
<b>Pearson Correlation</b>					
	<b>Value</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		
Pearson Correlation	-.289	300	.000		

According to table 29 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 7.531$ ,  $df = (3, 296)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) this concluded there was a significant statistical influence of age on perceptions toward violent crime. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 32.963$ ,  $df = 8$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) there was also an association between age and cognitive toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation showed that there was a moderate negative linear relationship ( $r = -0.289$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) between age and cognitive toward violent crime among youth. It therefore meant that for every increase in age, there was a decrease in cognitive toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.4.6 Influence of education level on perception toward violent crime



**Figure 34: Influence of education level on perception toward violent crime**

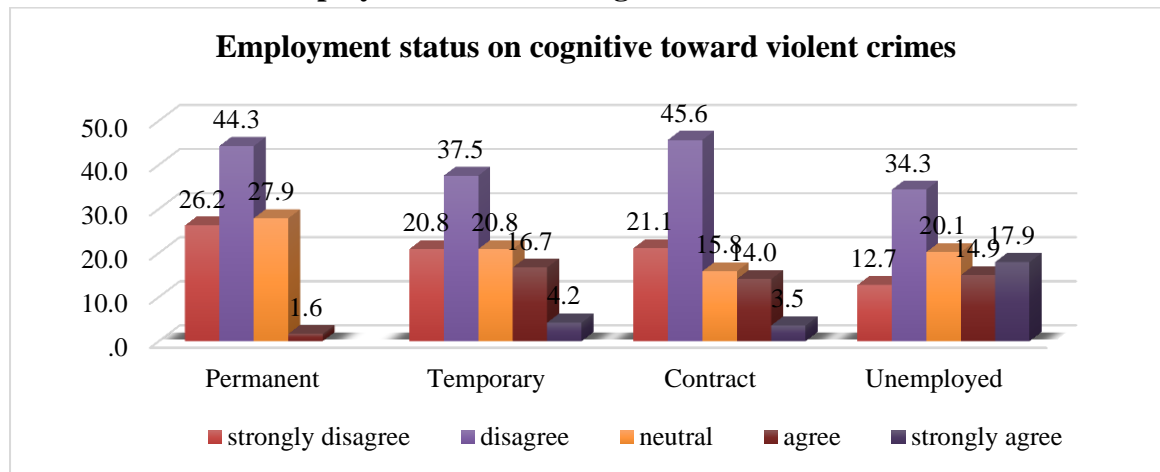
Those youth in post graduate level, 46.4% strongly disagree, 28.6% disagreed, 21.4% were neutral and 3.6% agreed. Youth who were graduates 17.9% strongly disagreed, 57.1% disagreed, 17.9% neutral, 3.6% both agreed and strongly agreed on influence of education level on their perception toward crime. Diploma youth, 10% strongly disagreed, 55% disagreed, 22.5% neutral, 10% agreed and 2.5% strongly agreed. Those who were in secondary level, 18.1% strongly disagreed, 36.1% disagreed, 22.9% neutral, 13.9% agreed and 9% strongly agreed. Lastly, those who were in primary level 7.9% strongly disagreed, 28.9% disagreed, 13.2% neutral, 21.1% and 28.9% strongly agreed.

**Table 30 Education level on Cognitive toward violent crime**

Education level on Cognitive toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	35.175	4	8.794	7.639	.000
Within Groups	339.611	295	1.151		
Total	374.787	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	52.119	16	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.297	300	.000		

From table 30 the ANOVA test significance value was ( $F = 7.639$ ,  $df = (4, 295)$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). It showed a significant influence of educational level on cognitive of the youth toward violent crime between the different education levels. The significance value for the chi-square test was ( $\chi^2 = 52.119$ ,  $df = 16$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ) it showed there was an association between education level and cognitive toward violent crime. Pearson Correlation indicated weak linear correlation ( $r=0.297$ ,  $p= 0.000$ ) of education level and cognitive toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. This meant that for every increase in education level there was an increase in cognitive toward violent crime.

#### 4.4.4.7 Influence of employment status on cognitive toward violent crime



**Figure 35: Influence of employment status on cognitive toward violent crime**

Those youth who had been employed permanently, 26.2% strongly disagreed, 44.3% disagreed, 27.9% neutral and 1.6 % agreed on influences of employment level on their perception toward violent crime. Those who had been employed on a temporary basis, 20.8% strongly disagreed, 37.5% disagreed, 20.8% neutral, 16.7% agreed and 4.2% strongly agreed. Those in contract basis, 21.1% strongly disagreed, 45.6% disagreed, 15.8% neutral, 14% agreed and 3.5% strongly disagreed. Lastly, those who were unemployed 12.7% strongly disagreed, 34.3% disagreed, 20.1% neutral, 14.9% agreed and 17.9% strongly agreed.

**Table 31 Employment level on Cognitive toward violent crime**

Employment level on Cognitive toward violent crime					
ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	37.397	4	9.349	7.177	.000
Within Groups	384.283	295	1.303		
Total	421.680	299			
Chi-Square Tests					
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		
Pearson Chi-Square	35.754	12	.000		
Pearson Correlation					
	Value	N	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Pearson Correlation	.269	300	.000		

According to table 31 the significance value for the ANOVA test was ( $F = 7.177$ ,  $df = (4, 295)$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ). It deduced a statistical influence of level employment status on perception toward crime. The significance value for the chi-square test ( $\chi^2 = 35.754$ ,  $df = 12$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). It showed a connection between levels of employment status and cognitive toward violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. Pearson Correlation depicted weak linear correlation ( $r=0.269$ ,  $p= 0.000$ ) employment level and cognitive toward violent crime among youth. This depicted that for every increase in unemployment level there was an increase in perception of the youth toward criminal activities.

#### **4.5 Summary of Hypothesis**

This study established that Null hypothesis provided insufficient explanation of the outcome, and there was an evidence of rejecting it. Therefore statistically family structure influence on selfness and attitude of the youth toward violent crime was depicted in the study. This study ended up supporting (Ha) (Alternative hypothesis) which had stated that there was a positive influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude of the youth aged 15-24 toward crime.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter has been offered with summary, conclusion and recommendations in line with the findings of the study. Recommendations for proposed policy action and further research have also been made.

#### 5.2 Internal Validity

This study internal validity would have been affected by testing effect (order effect) since some of the respondents who would have participated in the study would have been aware of the purpose of the study after pilot testing had been done on them. This was resolved by a researcher taking a longer period of time interval between the pre-test and post-test compared with when the interval would have been shorter between the two.

Instrumentation bias could be another threat to internal validity of this study due to reduced confidence in the differences in the score on the dependent variable due to instruments used and not the independent variables. This was resolved through formulation of standardized questions that were on a likert scale.

Selection bias was another predicament to this study due to differences from respondent's behavior, height, gender and intelligence. This was solved through using random stratified sampling technique (probability sampling) specifically on youth aged 15-24 years old.

The study could also have been affected by experimenter effects because of the personal characteristics of the researcher which would have influenced the choices made during the study. This was solved by researcher remaining objective with the study.

#### 5.3 External validity

The findings of this study would only be applied to the youth aged 15-24 in Kandara, Murang'a due to differences in cultural aspects between Murang'a and other parts of the area in Kenya.

The findings cannot be generalized to the youth above 24 years old. Since age factor between the respondents (15-24) seems a challenge for the findings to be generalized to other people such as adults or other age groups.

The way this study was conducted through sending the questionnaire to the respondents which were on a “five scale basis” like “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” it further limited the generalization of this findings to other youth in other parts of the areas apart from Kandara due to personal differences in opinion, level of health (depression) and other factors during filling in the questionnaire.

In conclusion the findings would only be generalized to the youth aged 15-24 in Kandara, Murang’a County.

#### **5.4 Summary of Findings**

It explored family structure influences of the youth’s self-esteem and attitude toward violent crime in Kandara, Murang’a County. It was guided by three specific objectives;

##### **5.4.1 Determine influence of family structure on self-esteem toward violent crime.**

The study found that majority of the respondents ( $F=9.189$ ;  $Mean=1.800$ ) came from a step-family background and engaged in crime due to poverty and low self-esteem. This is confirmed findings by Boden and Forgusson (2007) that poverty led to an upsurge of poor self-reliance among the youth who ended up indulging in crime as a way of eking a living. It also established that most of the respondents were unemployed ( $F=9.123$ ;  $Mean=11.896$ ) the issue which made them to have low self-esteem toward life hence engaging in crime. This is confirmed findings by Vivian and Schniever (2006) that unemployment among the youth was linked to boredom, poor self-esteem and poor self-confidence that led them to crime (Short, 2007). Further the study found out that low level of education among some of the respondents ( $F=6.634$ ;  $Mean=7.760$ ) who had not gone past secondary level had low self-esteem toward education hence ended up in crime. This is confirmed findings by Harlow (2003) that low level of education and lack of proper skills amongst the youth lowered their self-esteem toward life hence making them feel like failures in life the only way they enhanced back their self- esteem was through crime (Becroft, 2004 & Geltredson, 2001).



Most of the respondents (60%) with past criminal history background according to the study had low self-esteem compared to those without and were more likely to re-offend. This is confirmed findings by Farrington (1983) that those youth who had been convicted and released from correction facilities had low self-esteem and did not refrain themselves from criminal activities (Laub et.al. 1998). Additionally, this study revealed there was some kind of personality traits such as psychopath and sociopath which manifested among the respondents that directed them to crime. This is confirmed findings by Gluecks (1950) that such kind of personality traits were main predictors of crime within the youth which included self-assertiveness, defiance, extraversion, narcissism and suspicion that manipulated self-esteem of those youth.

#### **5.4.2 Examine influence of family structure on attitude toward violent crime.**

This study revealed that most of violent gang crime ( $F=2.630$ ; Mean=8.400) were committed by male respondents and emanated through learning from their friends, mass media and gang groups (Mungiki). This is confirmed findings by Bandura (1977) that youth were not born with violent disposition in them but through observing their peer groups and family members as they engage in crime they ended imitating. The study also established that low socio-economic status of the respondents between an age brackets of 18-24 years old ( $\chi^2=30.131$ ; Asymp.sig (2-sided) =0.011) ended up being associated with criminal activities. This is confirmed findings by Sibena (2015) that poverty and influence from poor family background of the youth aged 18-30 years contributed to their attitude toward violent crime such as stealing, terrorism, killings and kidnapping as a way of pulling themselves out of poverty.

The study also found out that majority of the respondents ( $F=7.693$ ; Mean=8.794) who had not made it up to higher level of education had negative attitude toward education and school related programs. This is confirmed findings by Hawkins (1998) that those youth with school related problems directed their feelings toward delinquency behaviors and crime due to negative attitude toward schools (Barnes et.al. 2006). Further it established that those who were unemployed ( $F=7.177$ ; Mean=9.349) ended up in crime due to negative perception toward life. This is confirmed findings by Wetzel and Baron (2009) that the effect of unemployment

among the youth led them to negative subjective perception and emotional desires thereafter indulging themselves in crime (Wetzel et.al. 2009). Additionally, it found out that those respondents (60%) with past criminal background history involved in crime due to negative attitude toward life and the rest of society members. This is confirmed findings by Roe (2008) that youth with past criminal history background engaged in delinquent behaviors more compared to their counterparts, since they exhibited negative attitude toward life and had unstable emotional connection with the rest of the society members.

#### **5.4.3 Establish whether influence of family structure had relationship with self-esteem and attitude.**

The study established that low socio-economic status of the respondents ( $F=1.615$ ;  $Mean=5.200$ ) affected their self-esteem hence directed their attitude toward crime such as terrorism. This is confirmed findings by William (1983) that low socio-economic status of the family influenced personality diversion of extraversion, emotional distress and unhealthy thinking among the youth thereby lowering their self-esteem and attitude toward crime. In order to enhance their self-efficiency, crime was necessary to them (Cortez et.al. 1998). It also found that those respondents ( $F=3.751$ ;  $Mean=5.147$ ) who had no jobs exhibited low signs of self-esteem and had negative attitude of feelings toward life. This is confirmed findings by Rosenbaum and deCharms (1962) that self-esteem acted as “a mediating response that determined expectations of success or failure among the youth”, it clearly showed that those who had negative anticipation toward life were more insensitive and prone to crime. The study also established that those respondents ( $\chi^2=43.264$ ;  $Asymp.sig (2-sided) =0.000$ ) with poor academic level of education deemed failures in the society hence associating with crime. This is confirmed findings by Rhodes (1999) that there was association between effects of meeting good grades among the youth that were molded through proper parental style and competency in school rather than depicting negative attitude toward education (Grossman et.al 1999). Additionally, this study established that some of the male respondents ( $F=6.790$ ;  $Mean=1.361$ ) with past criminal history background exhibited a personality trait of psychopath that associated with crime. This is confirmed findings by Porter (2004) that male youth who scored higher in PCL-YC score connected greatly with delinquent behavior and in term of

criminality were positively associated with psychopathic trait people (Campell & Sanitor, 2004).

### **5.5 Conclusion**

The study concluded that violent crime was still rampant in Kandara, more so among the respondents aged 15-24. This was a clear indication that influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude was largely responsible to those who involved in criminality. Most of the respondents were male and majority had not gone past secondary education level, a good indicator that those majorities were still illiterate on crime related matters. Further it established that although a large proportion of the respondents got arrested, a small proportion committed non-violent crime and majority of them were unemployed in an age bracket of 18-20 years old. Furthermore most of them who engaged in criminal activities as youth did not became adult criminals. Additionally, both serious crime and developmental risk factors of the respondents were highly concentrated within that area. They were characterized by concentrated poverty, unemployment, drug abuse, poor parenting styles, low level of education and peer group pressures. The combination of these characteristics on self-esteem and attitude of the respondents contributed to high rates of violent crime. The study therefore concluded that an increase in monitoring those influence would in turn lead to a decrease in crime cases.

### **5.6 Recommendations**

From the findings the study recommended that:

1. Guidance and counseling programs should be organized in the community, learning institutions, churches and other faith based institutions to sensitize, educate and empower parents on various parenting issues.
2. There should be programs to address family problems before they become manifest in youth delinquent behaviors. This would include ways of making families to be safe havens of love and care in order for family members to develop a sense of belonging, hence buffer disruptive behavior.
3. The study also recommends empowerment of youth who have dropped out of school or wayward youth to provide an alternative direction other than engaging in criminal activities. The engagement of the youth themselves in

these initiatives would be more productive rather than enforcing programs on the youth.

4. The study also recommends that the sentiments of hopelessness among the youth can be generated to positive energy through communication which would eradicate such issues as the victimization of youth which are detriment to the efforts of reducing youth crime.

### **5.7 Areas of further Study**

The researcher recommends for further study as follows:

1. Study on youth engagement in crime on a regional and national basis to establish crime trends and factors influencing crime. The study was limited to the Kandara Sub County but there is need for a further and extensive study in order to address these looming issues.
2. The researcher recommends for further study on the socio-economic influence on youth participation in crime comparing urban and rural areas. This research could focus more on the empowerment of youth in terms of education, training and employment opportunities in their community.
3. The researcher recommends for further research on community initiatives in reducing youth engagement in crime such as community policing. There is evidence of research on initiatives supported by NGOs and external actors. However, there is need to evaluate the programs initiated by the community in reducing youth crime in Kandara Sub County.

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**APPENDIX I: A MAP OF MURANG'A COUNTY**





## APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire has been prepared in relation to the objectives of this study. It seeks to assess the influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude towards violent crime among youth aged 15-24 in Murang'a. The information provided in the questionnaire will only be used for academic purposes and will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Please answer all the questions provided as honestly as possible, to the best of your knowledge.

**Section A: Social and Demographic information** (Tick ( $\surd$ ) the appropriate option (bracket)

- Please tick against your gender

### Gender

a) Male [ ] b) Female [ ]

]

2. What is your highest academic qualification?

### Level of education

a) Post Graduate [ ] b) Graduate [ ]

c) Diploma [ ] d) Secondary [ ]

e) Primary [ ] f) Others (specify) [ ]

- What is your current marital status?

### Marital status

a) Single [ ] b) Married [ ]

c) Divorced [ ] d) Widow / widower [ ]

4. What is your employment status?

### Level of employment

a) Permanent [ ] b) Temporary [ ]

c) Contract [ ] d) Unemployed [ ]

5. What is your age attainment?

**Age**

- a) 15 – 17 [ ]
- b) 18 – 20 [ ]
- c) 21 – 24 [ ]

6. Past criminal history background.

**Have you ever been?**

- a) Arrested [ ]
- b) Fined [ ]
- c) Sentenced [ ]
- d) Pardoned [ ]
- e) Served full term [ ]
- f) Put on probation [ ]

7. What is your Religion?

- a) Christian [ ]
- b) Muslim [ ]
- c) Hindu [ ]
- d) Atheist [ ]

8. Substances abuse

**Have you ever used?**

- a) Alcohol [ ]
- b) Bhang [ ]
- c) Miraa (Khat) [ ]
- d) Heroine [ ]
- f) Cocaine [ ]
- g) Other (Specify) [ ]

**FAMILY STRUCTURE**

• Who do you live with

- a) Biological parents (Mother and father) [ ]
- b) Only mother [ ]
- c) Only father [ ]
- d) Biological father and Step- mother. [ ]
- e) Biological mother and step father [ ]
- f) Grandparent [ ]

g) Other guardian(s) [ ]

2. If happen to live with one biological parent or in (single – parent) family, what made them to be single.

- a) Divorce [ ]
- b) Death [ ]
- c) Separated [ ]
- d) Distance [ ]
- e) Adoption [ ]

3. Type of family structure you live in

- a) Nuclear [ ]
- b) Extended [ ]
- c) Single - parent [ ]
- d) Adopted [ ]
- e) Step – family [ ]
- f) Grand – parent [ ]
- g) Others specify [ ]

**B: Respond to the following statements in regard to your agreement on the influence of family structure on self- esteem and attitude towards violent crimes by ticking your appropriate response on the Likert scale. Use a scale of 1-5 where 1-Strongly Disagree, 2- Disagree, 3- Neutral, 4- Agree and 5- Strongly Agree.**

Please tick appropriately

	1	2	3	4	5
I can see myself committing a violent crime in five years to come					
I can see myself joining a gang – crime group (Mungiki sect) in order to assist my family					
I normally feel proud after committing crime					
I normally feel safe whenever I carry a weapon					
I dislike those youth who do not engage in any crime					
I like to get involved in criminal activities because of my poor relation with other family members					
It is easier for me to participate in petty crimes rather than violent one					
I like to participate in violent crimes because of little money i					

get from my job					
I like to revenge whenever any of my gang member or family member is attacked					
I normally feel happy after indulging in crime					
I like to participate in criminal activities mostly in urban areas					
I like to engage myself in crime while under influences of drugs such as alcohol, bhang, miraa and cocaine					
I dislike places that are not prone to crime					
I have a lot of common or we share same views with other youth who break the law					
I like to participate in violent crimes because of my past criminal history background					
I dislike religion that is why I participate in crime					
I like to be influenced by my friends into committing a crime					
I can see myself not quitting organized gang group					
I firstly participated in crime due to my low level of education					

	1	2	3	4	5
I normally feel afraid whenever I see security personnel around the area					
I disliked school that why I resorted to crime life and organized gang life					
I normally participate in crime because it is the only way of getting rich quickly and fame					
I can feel myself energetic again to indulge in crime whenever I get an opportunity					
Crime normally becomes easier whenever I use force to subdue my victims					
I do not feel any challenges in crime					

I feel criminal activities is enjoyable and interesting					
I can take any shortest time possible to carry out a crime					
I can see myself relying on new technology in order to improve my criminal techniques in future					
My youthfulness encourages me to engage in crime better than any one else in our gang group					
I may not have all the skills it takes that is why I normally engage in crime					
I like committing violent crime because i normally copy it from mass media or my friends					

**Thank you for your participation**

### **APPENDIX III: KEY INFORMANT GUIDE**

Does income of the family affect the youth to engage in violent?

1. Do youths from low-income family tend to be overwhelmed by diminished self-esteem, depression and a sense of powerlessness?
2. How does unemployment among the youth affect their psychological makeup and self-esteem towards life and criminal behaviors?
3. Does unemployment affect the feelings and self-esteem of youths compared to those of who are employed?
4. Does low socio-economic status result to behavior problems and concentrated emotions that leads to violent crimes?
5. Is there positive correlation between poverty and attitudes towards violent crimes among youth?

## APPENDIX IV: WORK PLAN

	Jan – Feb 2017	Mar – Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun – Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017
Proposal writing /literature review								
Proposal submission and defense								
Pilot study								
Data collection and analysis								
Project writing								
Project defense								
Project submission								

## APPENDIX V: BUDGET

	Unit Measure	Quantity (Unit No.)	Unit Cost	Amount
<b>Proposal Development</b>				
<b>Stationery</b>				
Laptop	Pc	1	46,000	46,000.00
Printer	Pc	1	6,000	6,000.00
Printer cartridge	Pc	1	1,500	1,500.00
Modem	Pc	1	3,000	3,000.00
Flash disk	Pc	1	2,000	2,000.00
Internet services during literature review	Months	3	3,000	9,000.00
<b>Proposal Writing</b>				
Typing and printing 50 pages @KES 20	Pc	1	50	1,000.00
Photocopying the proposal @ KES 5*50 pgs	Pc	8 copies	5	2,000.00
Binding the proposal	Pc	8	50	400.00
<b>Sub – total</b>				<b>69,400.00</b>
<b>Piloting the data collection tools (transport and subsistence)</b>				
Travelling costs for pilot testing/ project	Trips	15	200	3,000.00
Photocopying data collection tools	Units	5	50	250.00
<b>Data collection</b>				
Typing, printing and photocopying data collection tools.	Units	5	169	845.00
Transport during data collection	Trips	5	200	1,000.00
Subsistence for supervisor during data collection	Trips	3	8,000	24,000.00
<b>Data analysis</b>				
Project report writing and presentation	Units	1	5,000	5,000.00
Typing and printing the report	Pages	100	60	6,000.00
Photocopying and binding /defense/binding copies	Pages	300	60	18,000.00
<b>Sub – Total</b>				<b>58,095.00</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>127,495.00</b>

**Source of funding: Self**

**Research Authorization Permits**





**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE,  
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

Telephone: +254-20-2213471,  
2241349,3310571,2219420  
Fax: +254-20-318245,318249  
Email: dg@nacosti.go.ke  
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when replying please quote

9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Utalii House  
Uhuru Highway  
P.O. Box 30623-00100  
NAIROBI-KENYA

Ref. No. **NACOSTI/P/17/30205/17096**

Date: **8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**

John Bwire Wanyama  
University of Nairobi  
P.O. Box 30197-00100  
**NAIROBI.**

**RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION**

Following your application for authority to carry out research on *“Influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude towards violent crimes among youth aged 15-24. A case study of Kandara in Murang’a County,”* I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in **Murang’a County** for the period ending **5<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.**

You are advised to report to **the County Commissioner and the County Director of Education, Murang’a County** before embarking on the research project.

On completion of the research, you are expected to submit **two hard copies and one soft copy in pdf** of the research report/thesis to our office.

**GODFREY P. KALERWA MSc., MBA, MKIM  
FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO**

Copy to:


The County Commissioner  
Murang’a County.

The County Director of Education  
Murang’a County.


*National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation is ISO 9001: 2008 Certified*

**CONDITIONS**

1. You must report in the County Commissioner and the County Education Officer of the area before embarking on your research. Failure to do that may lead to the cancellation of your permit.
2. Government Officers will not be interviewed without prior appointment.
3. No questionnaire will be used unless it has been approved.
4. Excavation, digging and collection of biological specimens is subject to further permission from the relevant Government Ministries.
5. You are required to submit at least two(2) hard copies and one (1) soft copy of your final report.
6. The Government of Kenya reserves the right to modify the conditions of this permit including its cancellation without notice.



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



**National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation**

**RESEARCH CLEARANCE PERMIT**

Serial No. **13986**


CONDITIONS: see back page

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:**  
**MR. JOHN BWIRE WANYAMA**  
 OF UNIVERSITY OF NAROBII; 1-200  
 MURANGA, has been permitted to  
 conduct research in Muranga County

on the topic: **INFLUENCES OF FAMILY STRUCTURE ON SELF-ESTEEM AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS VIOLENT CRIMES AMONG YOUTH AGED 15-24. A CASE STUDY OF KANDARA IN MURANGA COUNTY**

for the period ending:  
**5th May, 2018**

Applicant's Signature



**G. Kalerwa**  
 Director General  
 National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation

Permit No: NACOSTI/P/17/30205/17096  
 Date Of Issue: 8th May, 2017  
 Fee Received: Ksh 1000



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION**

**Email: [cdemuranga@gmail.com](mailto:cdemuranga@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 060 2030227  
When replying please quote**

**COUNTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION  
P.O BOX 118 - 10200  
MURANG'A**

**REF: MGA/CTY/GEN./64/VOL.II/30**


**22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2017**

John Bwire Wanyama  
University of Nairobi  
P.O.Box 30197-00100  
**NAIROBI**

**RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION**

The County Education office is in receipt of your request and authority letter from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, reference No. NACOSTI/P/17/30205/17096 dated 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 to carry research on **“Influence of family structure on self-esteem and attitude towards violent crimes among youth aged 15-24. A case study of Kandara in Murang’a County”**.

Authority is hereby granted to carry out research in **Murang’a County** for a period ending **5<sup>th</sup> May, 2018**.

  
Charles Khayira  
County Director of Education  
**MURANG’A**

