DEVOLVED GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC SECURITY IN SELECTED COUNTIES IN KENYA (2010-2018)

BY

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A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS, IN SECURITY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and to the best of my own knowledge, has not been presented for any academic award in any university or other learning institution.

Signed by……………………………   **Date…………22nd July 2020……….**

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This project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor

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DEDICATION

This work, I dedicate it to my mother, the late Adelaide Shikanga Khalwale, who despite putting on a brave fight, succumbed to multiple myeloma on 5th October 2020. It will remain my believe that had devolution been fully and effectively implemented by then, she might have stayed around a little longer.

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To GOD be the glory. I wish to acknowledge the strength and resources that the good lord availed to me in pursuit of the completion of this project and my degree in whole.

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This project would have been incomplete without the support and prayers from my immediate family members, friends and colleagues all through the period of my study.

May you be blessed abundantly.

ABSTRACT

Though the government of Kenya has been emphasizing on economic growth and development as a pathway to solving chronic poverty amongst the people of Kenya counties have continued to face economic insecurity thereby threating this agenda. Relatively little research has investigated the ways devolved governance can be used to enhance economic security. Accordingly, this study was designed to how examine devolved governance and economic security in selected counties in Kenya. The specific objectives were: to establish the role of County governance in enhancing economic security in Kenya, to examine the demerits presented by devolved governance to the economic security in Kenya and to establish the relationship between devolved governance and economic security in Kenya. The study was guided by the resource based theory and the fiscal decentralization theory. The study adopted a descriptive research design. The study target population was 4 Deputy Governors, 20 Members of the County (MCA) Assembly, and 5733 county staff comprising the management, senior management, middle management, and low management. The respondents were stratified into management, senior management, middle management, and low management. Proportionate and simple random sampling was used to select respondents who included 4, Deputy Governors, 20 MCA and 370 county staff. The data of the study was collected using the triangulation approach that involved questionnaires and interviews. The obtained data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics and qualitative thematic approach. Simple linear regression analysis was used to determine the prediction between the devolved governance and alternative management models and the enhancement of multiple intelligences among students. Data was presented in tables arising from the data analysis techniques utilized in the study. The findings indicated that devolved funds have a positive and significant relationship on county's economic Security ($\beta 1 = .170$, $P < 0.05$). Thus the hypothesis (H_{o1}) was rejected.

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

At hand there has been a tradition in the past of governments running a centralized system of governance that is absolute and hierarchical. This has led to activism that has resulted into diminishing of federal and one party state governance that has contributed to reduction in accumulation of power by the central government. This has been achieved through the introduction of devolved governments at the local and regional governments in what has come to be known as decentralization and by extension County government in Kenya. Cases to mention are in the United States of America where champions of the governance rights championed for disseminating power from the capital that is Washington D.C to the local governments. This was witnessed globally later on especially in countries such as France and the United Kingdom between the 1980s and 1990s.

Today many governments have reacted to this in various ways by delegating state responsibilities and roles to the lower tier governments at the County and Sub County levels as witnessed in Kenya. Other than United States of America, France, and the United Kingdom, devolution has been successful in places such as Sweden, India, Nigeria and South Africa where devolution has been critical in terms of economic development (Omari, Kaburi, Sewe, 2012). During the late 1980s France took the initial step of initiating the decentralization process by creating regional blocks across the country that were to be headed by the regional assemblies. These assemblies were mandated to work with the departmental councils to ensure that there was development of infrastructure, schools and highways were to be maintained and there was to be a requisite social spending.

These assemblies were charged with revenue collection that was to be done through taxation of property and provision of services. The assemblies were also given grants to enable them run. This was also witnessed in the United Kingdom whereby regionalized governments were generated after the national referendum that was done in Scotland and Wales in 1997 and then in London in 1998. This resulted in a difference to the way the governance was done. The three nations are now enjoying equality and equal power. Currently the constituent countries making up the UK (Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) have worked on their legislature that is fundamental in the running of the federalized government.

Out of this the UK parliament was to retain its autonomy, maintain a bindery one state and run legislative functions that are not federalized. The parliament was also mandated with the capacity to oversee the legislation of devolved roles but only under the agreement of the parties involved. It is important to note that the legislative functions of the devolved government are a constitutional basis the Acts of Parliament in the UK (Weller & Wolff, 2005). This is contrary to most developing countries of the African continent which has most of the countries with a centralized system of governance that is concentrated in the capital cities.

Despite this a flurry of activities happening on the global scene has forced most of the African countries to rethink their centralization policy. The African governments are now becoming receptive to the decentralization wave. The governments are delegating functions that were otherwise considered state functions to county governments and authorities. Other governments have gone a notch higher by apportioning financial resources and the prerequisite staff to manage these resources in a nutshell there are three forms of decentralization of state functions in most of the African nations. These are devolution, de-concentration and federalism (Mwenda, 2010).

The most preferred form of decentralization is the de-concentration in which responsibilities are transferred to staffs that work in various sub regions rather than delegating the financial, decision making and management to the regional units. Two factors have been put forth to explain the need for decentralization namely democratization and national development. The urge to decentralize was a threefold affair from the government, communal and worldwide benefactors (Omari, Kaburi & Sewe, 2012). These actors agitated for devolution of power that was concentrated at the capital and at the mercy of the president and the ruling party (Mwenda, 2010).

Several African countries are now practicing devolution. This includes The Eastern African Countries of Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya and the neighboring Eritrea and Ethiopia. Others include South Africa and Ghana. The practice though varies across the countries with Uganda practicing their devolution through kingdoms, Jimbos in Tanzania and through counties as seen in Kenya (Omari,Kaburi & Sewe 2012). The paradigm shift from centralized system to a decentralized form of governance in the wake of a new constitution in Kenya in 2010 presented the milestone in the legitimate government amendment in the Kenyan authority plan from the time when the country became self-governing about fifty years ago. The adoption led to there being a sigh of relieve among many Kenyans who were hoping and pushing for constitutional change in the country. It is an alteration of governance, in which the Kenyan state now consists of the national government and forty seven regional governments. There was great optimism from many Kenyan citizens who were optimistic that the new constitution that was hinged on decentralization will enhance service delivery by allowing the smallest regional unit to participate in the policy decision making, accounting for the resources, planning for their own resources, planning for their development and fulfillment of the goals and aspiration of the constituents thereby minimizing the inequalities that were inherent in the sub units (Abrahamsen, 2013).

The impact of devolution on economic security is a topic that has been extensively deliberated in economic literature. Economists such as (Oates, 2012; Njenga, 2013; Mugure & Gachunga, 2014) argue that devolution advances the efficacy of the public sector and it leads to economic growth. This study shall thus principally seek to understand and participate in the debate on how the decentralized devolved governance in Kenya has transformed the economic configurations system of governance in the 47 regional governments and the nation at large, putting into consideration the new aspects that have been presented, and the reorganization of the national and county economic structures in line with the constitution.

The Government of Kenya has been emphasizing on economic growth and development since independence. Speedy economic growth has been construed to be the pathway that will solve chronic poverty amongst the people of Kenya (Wambugu & Munga, 2009). Most of the critical public documents including the National Poverty Eradication Plan (1999 – 2015) and Vision 2030 put a lot of focus on speedy and continued economic growth as a panacea for eradicating poverty. Attaining high levels of economic growth is one of the chief goals of the government of Kenya (Kenya Vision 2030). In its effort to achieve economic security, the Government has over the years embarked on fiscal decentralization strategies with a bias towards devolved finance. The government has been doing this with an aim of achieving the twin objectives of achieving equitable development and addressing poverty in these areas. The expectation has been that with the attainment of these two goals, the resultant effect is economic security.

Elements of devolution such as responsiveness, equity, and economic efficiency are seen as the major components of making decisions that are geared towards making devolution next to the constituents and in the long run, cutting down on the expenses and protocol of the national government (Rodriguez-Pose & Gill, 2005). For a country that is aspiring to be creative and innovative in dealing with local matters it needs to embrace devolution as its vehicle to achieving creativity. The major task of the County Government is to facilitate development functions and change the processes of governance at the County Level. Importantly though decentralization is seen not to be a platform for equitable distribution of resources only but as a means of governance and administrative responsibility between the two tiers of government (Kirkham, 2010).

Devolution considers the economic factor as an instrumental factor in influencing the development of the country. The adoption of devolution has been viewed as being essential in ensuring that proper resource allocation is distributed across all counties (Dreher & Fischer, 2011). The researchers, Dreher and Fischer, argue that devolution is beneficial as it improves governance in public service delivery especially in ensuring resources are mobilized, allocated fairly and utilization is efficient. Devolved governments are more effective as people are moved closer to the government and vice versa, and needs are well attended to. The government on the other hand, has a better understanding of the preferences of the local people. Furthermore decentralization minimizes societal diversity and increases the variation in local preferences.

Economy is essential and instrumental in promoting the sustainability and feasibility of a nation. Economic stability may be achieved through the incorporation of measures that promote the integration of different economic constructs in the society (O'Neil, 2015). The integration of economic measures tailored towards promoting the level of economic growth of a region and nation is essential in ensuring the sustainability of the society and continued growth. The devolution system presents a structure that seeks to ensure that the resources are equally dispersed across different regions of the country (Weingast, 2014). The adoption of the system creates a split amongst the County and national governments. The development of a county government system is considered instrumental in ensuring that resources are adequately used in a manner that engages the identification of the existing county needs and the provision of funds and resources tailored towards meeting the county needs from a local level. The devolution system has been considered instrumental in promoting the level of economic growth of the state through the allocation of the existing resources to the local governments in a manner tailored towards catering to the local needs (Faguet, 2014).

The devolution system promotes economic growth through increased identification of local needs, the development of a system tailored towards meeting the needs and the promotion of the level of accountability concerning the identified needs presented in the society. Evaluation of community needs from a local level is instrumental in promoting economic growth as it promotes the involvement and engagement of the local community in adopting measures that promote economic sustainability and feasibility (O'Neil, 2015). The devolution system ensures that resources are equally distributed across all counties. Equal distribution of resources facilitates the viability of adopting devolution as a core component of the governance structure in place. Further, the adoption of devolution promotes the level of economic stability experienced in a nation as it promotes the cohesion between the local and national governments (Faguet, 2014). Devolution ensures that economic resources are spread at the home-grown level thus promoting the level of economic growth from the local level to the national level. This thus ends up promoting a suitable environment for economic growth.

Further, devolution presents a system whereby the county governments develop a sense of self-sustenance considered instrumental in promoting continued economic growth and development. The process provides an opportunity for employment for the local residents, which is instrumental in reducing the rate of unemployment levels experienced in the counties and by extension the country. The process results in a rise in employment and income per capita among individuals thus promoting continued economic growth (Weingast, 2014).

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

Kenya has progressively developed over the last fifty years with 2010 being notable for the promulgation of the constitution of Kenya that paved way for devolved governance that aimed at spurring socio-political and economic growth of the counties (Mwangi, Opongo & Whom, 2019). However, many parts of the country have experienced significant growth and development, as a result of devolved governance while others have remained marginalized thereby raising questions on the economic security sustainability of these regions. Gathu (2014) accents that while devolved governance strives for economic security there exists greater risk of determining optimality of how to devolve functions and resources as a result of nonexistence or weak institution within the counties, inefficiencies and economic enclaves that has continued to pose economic insecurity.

Economic security issues are critical to fiscal decentralization in any country and Kenya is no exception. Supporting the county governments maximize their revenue mobilization must be a high priority since this is one way of ensuring sustainability of devolved governance and making the county governments even more economically secure and accountable to local taxpayers. In moving toward devolved governance, the legal status and approach of the decentralization programs and policies have been stipulated explicitly in the constitution. Republic of Kenya (2013) states that, Article 215 of The Constitution of Kenya establishes the Commission on Revenue Allocation as a Kenya government Commission mandated under article 216 to recommend on the basis for equitable sharing of revenues raised nationally between the National and the County Governments as well as sharing of revenue among the County Governments. Though this is the case inequalities amongst counties have been witnessed thus threatening devolved governance. Article 217 on division of revenue further mandates the senate by resolution, to determine the basis for allocating among the counties the share of national revenue that is annually allocated to the county level of government. In determining the basis of revenue sharing under clause (1), the Senate shall- take the criteria in Article 203 (1) into account; by requesting and considering recommendations from the Commission on Revenue Allocation. In addition it will consult with county governors, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for finance and any organization of county governments. Alongside the division of roles between the national and county governments, the 2010 Constitution also addresses the financing of the activities of the two levels of government towards an equitable society based on openness, accountability and public finance management (Article 201 and 202). The taxation burden (Article 209) and resulting revenues are to be shared fairly across the two government levels for the attainment of inclusive equitable development. All government revenues must first be paid into the Consolidated Fund; before they are withdrawn through an Act of Parliament (Article 206).

This framework therefore sets out the structure and potential benefit of decentralized government in Kenya and, against that background, advocates, provides justification for, and also recommends a program of actions to build the required framework and institutions to underpin and support the on-going implementation of decentralized government structures. Previous research by Ngaruiya (2019) looked at the development failures as has been experienced in Kenya given the broader context of cutthroat competing political and economic typologies that has little in common with specific development needs of the people. Njuguna (2016) researched on impact of devolution on community development with reference to Githunguri constituency. Evidently, the previous researches in the Kenyan context provided a gap for this study because these studies have analyzed political and community development. As a result, there is need to have a closer look between the devolved governance and economic security. It is alongside this contextual explanation that this study sought to establish the impact of devolved governance and economy security.

1.3 Research Questions

This study was guided by the following research questions:-

i. What is the role of County governance in enhancing economic security in Kenya?

ii. What are the merits presented by county governance to the economic security in Kenya?

iii. What is the relationship between devolved governance and economic security in Kenya?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The overall objective of the study was to establish the impact of devolution on economic security in Kenya. Specifically the study sought to address the following objectives:-

i. To establish the role of County governance in enhancing economic security in Kenya.

ii. To examine the merits presented by devolved governance to the economic security in Kenya.

iii. To establish the relationship between devolved governance and economic security in Kenya.

1.5 Justification of the study

This study attempted to provide recommendations to policy, practice and academia.

The study was thus necessary for understanding the effect that the introduction of devolution has had on the economic situation on the country. Being a new concept in Kenya this study provides adequate knowledge on devolved governance both to the County and National governance. The central government can enforce clear and succinct policy that would help avoid conflicts.

The government and the citizens will now have a basis from which they can come up with policies that will ensure that there are measures to increase opportunities in formal employment, self-employment and open trade so as to promote an economic thrive in the counties which will subsequently impact the national government in the long run.

The policy makers and the government are hoped to benefit from the study through the identification of the role of devolution in managing economic growth in the country. Regulators and other professional bodies will also use the findings as a reference for policy guidelines on better ways of improving the laws governing devolution to better address measures or opportunities that will facilitate economic growth. A case to mention is the World Bank. The study provides capacity gaps in which the specific county government can address the needs of the County through the stakeholders. The counties can respond to this through service delivery, and citizens' engagements.

A study on devolved governance is admissible in regard to promotion of national unity. By decentralizing power equally to the 47 Counties the devolved system will in essence be promoting national unity. By promoting national unity a sense of self identity is created. Article 174 (b) of the constitution, under the objects of devolution stipulates that, devolution of government aims at fostering national unity by recognizing the multi-cultural diverse society. This is important in bringing mutual agreement, cohesion, coexistence and harmony in a country with many tribal inclinations. Simply the study is equipped in ensuring that devolution is well watered to enhance the complex cultural background of the society along racial lines, ethnic boundaries, religious affiliation, language and gender.

This study according to the objects of devolved government, will provide a cure to national unity as provided for under Article 174(g) through ensuring equitable sharing of national and local resources throughout Kenya. This will ensure that all regions throughout Kenya and more specifically the area under study experiences development regardless of whom and/or which ethnic group leads the country meaning devolution has to a large extent enhanced national unity in our diversity.

This study is justifiable to the general populace in terms of providing information regarding their role on the implementation of devolution. This is important in the achievement of community development. For instance through participatory budgeting County governments will be able to allocate a section of its estimated budget towards projects identified by the citizens.

Devolution and its impact on the economy of a country is a very interesting and diverse area of discussion and research for academicians and researchers, thus the study sought to contribute by providing additional literature. The identified gaps arising from the current study will also be a base for further analysis or future research. The results of this research will provide insight into the role of Counties in enhancing economic security. Data collected through this research will have the potential to be used to raise awareness of county concerns and challenges facing the counties. Furthermore the data will provide information for institution such as county assemblies, senate and other organizations such as local banks and World Bank to use in an effort to create and or improve economic security in the County. The data will be a basis for further training to workers and also colleges to streamline their courses regarding County governance.

1.6 Scope and Limitations of the study

The research was done in four counties in Kenya. These are Kericho, Uasin Gishu, Nandi and Transnzoia. The study was done between the month of January 2018 and March 2019. The respondents were equally selected across the counties. The study encountered some limitation that included refusal by some respondents to give out information that may have been useful in effectively resounding available the study. However, the investigator gained the confidence of the respondents by showing them an introduction letter from the university stating that he intended to use the data for research purposes. He also explained to the respondents that the information acquired shall be maintained as confidential. These two approaches gained the confidence of the respondents thus leading them to give out accurate information.

1.7 Literature Review

1.7.1 Introduction

This section interrogates critically the relevant literature surrounding the political governance, devolution, and economic reforms. It also addresses the theories that support the objectives of the study.

1.7.2 Role of Devolved Governance in Economic Security in Kenya

The adoption of the system creates a split amongst the national and the regional governments. The development of a county government system is considered instrumental in ensuring that resources are adequately used in a manner that engages the identification of the existing county needs and the provision of funds and resources tailored towards meeting the county needs from a local level. The devolution system has been considered instrumental in promoting the level of economic stability of the nation through the allocation of the existing resources to the local governments in a manner tailored towards catering to the local needs (Faguet, 2014).

The devolution system promotes economic security through increased identification of local needs, the development of a system tailored towards meeting the needs and the promotion of the level of accountability concerning the identified needs presented in the society. Evaluation of community needs from a local level is instrumental in promoting economic stability as it promotes the involvement and engagement of the local community in adopting measures that promote economic sustainability and feasibility (O'Neil, 2015). The devolution program ensures that resources are equally distributed across all counties. Equal distribution of resources facilitates the viability of adopting devolution as a core component of the governance structure in place. Further, the adoption of devolution promotes the level of economic stability experienced in a nation as it promotes the cohesion between the local and national governments (Faguet, 2014). The cohesion ensures that economic resources are disseminated at the regional level thus promoting the level of economic growth from the home-grown level to the national level.

The role of the County government is to develop a sense of self-sustenance which is considered instrumental in promoting continued economic growth and development (Weingast, 2014). The process provides an opportunity for employment for the local residents, which is instrumental in reducing the unemployment level rates experienced in the counties. The process results in a rise in employment and income per capita among individuals thus promoting continued economic growth.

The national government of Kenya has been assigned a tax obligation over most of the excises with sizeable tax bases including Value Added Tax, Excise Tax, Custom Duties and Income Tax (Constitution of Kenya, 2010). The four taxes combined constitute approximately 91% of the national revenue that is facilitated by the National Government (IEA, 2012). The regional governments on their part have been assigned responsibility over taxes with narrow bases such as property and entertainment taxes. The counties are therefore offered with little scope to raise their own revenue meaning that the counties will continue relying on the National Government to facilitate them with resources to finance their budgets. This failure by the constitution to give counties proper taxing powers can partly explain the desperateness we are observing in some counties where by some counties have been reported to have come up with contentious taxation laws taxing of the dead.

1.7.3 Relationship between Devolved Governance and Economic Security in Kenya

Economic stability is essential and instrumental in promoting the sustainability and feasibility of a nation. Economic stability may be achieved through the incorporation of measures that promote the integration of different economic constructs in the society (O'Neil, 2015). The integration of economic measures tailored towards promoting the level of economic growth of a region and nation is essential in ensuring the sustainability of the society and continued growth. The devolution system presents a structure that seeks to ensure that the resources are equally dispersed across different regions of the country (Weingast, 2014).

A study conducted by Burbrige (2017) determined that in accordance to the 2010 constitution, police services together with the courts are retained within the control of the national government. However, the National Police Service Act 2011 altered in 2014 in section 41 provides for the development of suggestions on significances, purposes and objectives for police presentation in the county under section 41. The subsection was tailored towards facilitating the monitoring of inclinations and outlines of wrongdoing in the region.

Kilonzo (2011) carried out a study on devolution and impact of access to financial services among investors in the counties of Kenya. The researcher asserts that devolution will increase access to financial services such as capital markets, banking, insurance and fund management. Additionally, he mentions that citizens will not struggle with financial services because devolution will attract investors who will offer such services at the county level. Kilonzo further describes the 47 counties as centers for growth whereby people have opportunities to invest. They attract both local and international investors who in turn create employment for unemployed citizens. As a result, regions that are at the back seat of national development will exploit their natural and human resources to the fullest.

Mwangi and Gachunga (2014) did a research on the effects of devolution on small and medium enterprises performance in Kenya. The aim of carrying out the study was to ascertain the impact of devolution on the performance of the Small and Medium Enterprises in Kenya. The study was conducted using descriptive survey research design. The study population comprised of representatives of the supermarkets, jua kali, matatu, and small manufacturing companies primarily based in Nairobi and its vicinities. The total number of the study populace was 1015. The study also applied stratified random sampling method to select 10% of all respondents and generated a sampling frame of 102 willing respondents. The study was also able to capture challenges faced across the Small and Medium Enterprises being the heavy exertion of fees and levies which tend to reduce their performance to moderate extents. Through the study it was established that County Government policies in regards to tax collection through charging of fees and levies generally is the main contributor of the effect in exemplary presentation of Small and Medium Enterprises in Kenya.

Studies have been carried out for the period of 1993- 2012 by (Njenga, 2014) to establish the influence of decentralization on economic growth. From the study's result, there were variants in economic growth that could be satisfactorily elucidated and linked to variables in the model. Regression results showed a negative growth contribution from both the decentralized capital finance and recurrent finance. It was also realized that inflation contributed significantly on economic growth as it tends to reduce efficiency of investments and subsequently slows down economic growth triggered by the high cost of production.

A study by Lin and Kiu (2000) focused on fiscal devolution and impact on the economy of China. The econometric model comprising the GDP per capita was used by the researcher to analyze through regression the proportionate of financial resources utilization by the government. Lin and Kiu found a positive and significant relationship between fiscal decentralization and per capita GDP. Literature further indicates that there was a relationship between decentralization and economy of the country. This is highlighted in a research done by Akai and Sakata (2002) which investigated the relationship that exists between fiscal decentralization and the country's economy. Akai and Sakata relied upon primary data that was real time. Furthermore the annual growth rate per capita was used.

Andrez Rodriquez and Anne Kroijer (2009) carried out a study to discover the association between fiscal decentralization and economic growth of Countries in the Central and Eastern Europe. The researchers used regression as the model. The results of this study found out that there was a negative correlation between fiscal decentralization and the economic growth in Central and Eastern Europe in those years that the study was done. However, in their methodology the researchers failed to factor in that during the time the study was conducted, the countries under study had not recently acquired a new constitution that had introduced devolution. This is the gap this study intends to fill since it is focussed on the effect on the economy of adopting devolution.

In Pakistan Khattak, Ahmad and Khan (2010) did a regression on the real per capita GDP and the decentralized regional government as a ratio of government revenue and transfer. The explanatory variables that were transfers, revenues taxation, and capital formation had a significant long term influence on the economic growth of the country. According to Oates (2006) there are about 30 public finance practices that recommends for policies that are to be utilised for purposes of infrastructure and education in the public service. These policies have been realigned to meet the local conditions of the regional conditions. According to Oates, these policies are effective in terms of enhancing growth unlike other policies that are national based and are bound to disregard regional geographical differences. In a nutshell the decentralized system is critical in provision of essential services than the centralized government in terms of providing rapid economic growth (Oates, 2006).

1.7.4 Merits Presented by County Governance

Devolution is essential in facilitating the economic efficiency, the promotion of equity, the inclusion of the public in decision making and the elimination of bureaucracy in seeking out measures tailored towards promoting the well-being of the community (Rodriguez-Pose & Gill, 2005). Further, devolution may be adopted as an experimental element that may facilitate the identification of innovative solutions to the existing community problems. However, the creation of efficient processes may contribute to an increase in the existing institutional burden in the society (Brancati, 2006). Also, the adoption of devolution may not necessarily translate to the elimination of inequality as the people in power may capitalize on the capacity to favor some over others. The challenge developing from the adoption of a devolved government has been experienced in the UK leading to the description of the system as uneven and flattering.

Devolution may influence an alteration in the balance of power emanating from the creation of opportunities, which may have been previously unattainable by others (Brancati, 2006). The development of the conception of ‘outsiders’ has been prevalent in Kenyan politics as people seek to confirm that local situations are seized by individuals from the local ethnicities (Wepundi et al., 2012). The process may promote regional identity. However, the situation may cause poor representation of the needs of the community resulting in conflict. The importance placed on ethnicity renders the question whether devolution contributes to the existing ethnic divide experienced in the nation. However, Ruteere (2013) argues that devolution provides the country with an opportunity to unite people beyond ethnic affiliations. Similarly, Techman (2005) argues that the devolution process provides the country with an opportunity to ensure equal distribution of resources and development nationally.

The importance placed on devolution and policing has been experienced across several nations. The 1998 Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland, devolution of the policing function of the government was a critical component of the agreement (Perry, 2011). The need for devolution of policing was considered essential to limit the level of oppression experienced by the police who remained aligned to the national government. The 1999 devolution of power plan instituted in Pakistan led to the devolution of policing to district levels (Kristiasen & Tronjon, 2005). The success attached to the plan was attributed to a structure that ensured power was not misused through the existence of a reporting system. However, devolution of the policing function may contribute to a challenge concerning the security structure and system in a nation. For instance, the process may result in role ambiguity between the state and counties resulting in a gap in the security function (Teichman, 2005).

There was lack of clarity during the policing of devolution in Indonesia this destabilized central control (Kristiansen & Tronjono, 2005). This situation is similar to Kenya, in the sense that the process of devolving the national roles and responsibilities took effect at a time when the nation was experiencing an economic crisis in which great joblessness and civilization frolicked an integral portion in delaying economic development. Empirical evidence capturing the impacts of devolution have generated mixed results to a point some of these results are regarded as inconclusive. A case study from the Indian Federal State is of the view that decentralization has been seen to promote government effectiveness in response to working to improve sectors of the economy (Besley & Burgess, 2002). Other Studies in Italy have indicated that devolution may worsen the present regional disparity in relation to public spending and the outcome subsequently is limited growth in a few areas of the economy (Calamai, 2009).

The existence of culture of mob violence in the Kenyan context explores on the challenge that may be experienced in the case of devolved policing (Botha, 2013). Also, devolution may influence a shift in the distribution of crime resulting in areas that previously had low crime rates being affected. The process may provide the security function with an opportunity for innovation, which will inform on new measures that may be adopted to promote crime control (Wepundi et al., 2012). Also, the process may promote the development of healthy competition that may inform on possible strategies to counter crime and grow the economy.

1.8 Theoretical framework

This section identified the different theories associated to the study. These theories include the Resource Based Theory and the Fiscal Decentralization Theory. The study has opted to use two theories since it is by combining the two theories that the objectives of the study shall adequately be realized. The resource based theory was developed by Wernerfelt (1984) as a foundation for the viable benefit for a firm which lies in the presentation of material and immaterial resources. The resource-based theory implies that the resources at a firm's disposal give a firm the ability to have a competitive advantage over the rest of the firms. In this case, we are emphasizing the resources available at a country's level that help to steer the economy to the right direction. The development of an analysis of the existent resources remains critical in facilitating the success of any economy. The theory contends that the identification of firm's potential key resources remains essential in facilitating the evaluation of the resources through the use of the VRIO criteria. Application of resource based theory in a large organization like in this research a large county in terms of revenue allocation may differ from the small organization or small counties in term of revenue allocation. This implies that if every firm does the same analysis it would end up with the same conclusions. Therefore the sustainable competitive advantage has to lie within the county's resources and the way they employ them. This call upon the county's to employ valuable, rare, inimitable and non-substitutable resources that may not be feasible.

These issues are addressed by the fiscal decentralization theory that is described in literature sin terms of a two perspective policy that engages a two way traffic where decentralization is seen as a taxation instrument to help the county government to raise the revenue or decentralization that helps local governments to have concerns on the implementing expenditure functions (Francesco Porcelli, 2009). Hamid Davoodi and Heng-fu Zou (1997) argues that the best measure of fiscal decentralization is the sub-national share of total government spending. Martinez-Vazguez and McNab (2003) it is possible to match the preferences of the local people and those of local governments given the fact that mobility of the population and the struggle among local governments for the delivery of public services (Tiebout, 1956). Regional governments are basically regarded to be better furnished in provision of services to the native populace than the national governments (Tiebout, 1956, Ebel and Yilmaz, 2002). Fiscal decentralization may thus develop greater economic equality across territories (Oates Wallace, 2006).

The theory that best fits the study is the Fiscal decentralization theory, as it provides concepts of improving resource allocation, fostering market development and consequently leads to promotion of economic growth.

1.9 Definition of Concepts

The ensuing terms and concepts have been operationalized in the following context provided:-

Devolution:

The United Nations Development Program has defined devolution as the process in which the government of a country delegates some powers to another state of governance (e.g. regional, state, or local governments) (UNDP 1999). This study used devolution to mean the transmission of power from the central government or the national government to a local administration which is the counties or states.

Economic growth:

In the event that a change has been occasioned on an aspect and results into an increase that is different from the initial set up then it can be referred to as growth. The same applies to economic changes occasioned by financial input to the economic concept "economic growth" (Herman, 2010).This study used the concept to mean the progression of a nation in terms of wealth increases in a given time.

Economic development:

Economic development has been regarded and explained as a static theory that records the state of any economy at certain or given time (Mansell & Wehn, 1988). In this study the term economic development has been used to show the progression and effect of how the lives of a nation are affected economically, politically and socio culturally to benefit the people.

County government:

A county government can be defined using the old French definition to mean a jurisdiction under sovereignty of a country to facilitate administrative efficiency (Onions, 1966)

Another definition which is not very different from the old French definition is the division of a country in districts and regions for purposes of independently administrating state laws and ensuring regional development and governance (Brookes, 2005).

National Government:

A national government as defined by Flint (2011) is the government, or political authority, that controls the entire nation in terms of resources and formulating policies to govern the country. In this study, national government means the organ that is responsible to give powers to regional governments known as counties.

Economic Security

Jonyo and Buchere (2011) while recognizing security as a critical pillar to statehood distinguishes security in varied dimensions including military security, political security, societal security, ecological security, food security and economic security. The authors cite economic security as one of the most difficult aspect of security to address. This is because of the highly risky and competitive nature of the market economy. The authors' points that the government being a key player to the economic security only complicates the matter at hand. What is emerging from this narrative is that the economic security is a complex socio economic concept that reflects the changing material production, conditions as well as external and internal threats to the county economy. Sviderske (2014) wades into this conceptualization pointing that a region may be at risk in the context of economic security and sustainability. Being a broader concept than other widely concepts the concept of economic security can be of special interest for a county as well as the national government. In this context the economic security can be operationalized to imply levels of unemployment rate within the county, school enrolment, poverty levels, rates of corruption with the county and percentage of people living below the poverty line.

1.10 Research Hypotheses

This study sought to use the alternative and null hypothesis. This is because the sample in the study presented a subset of the data in the population, and therefore it is not absolutely certain as to whether the null hypothesis is true or not. The hypotheses were as follows;

$H_{1:}$ There is statistically significant relationship between devolved governance and economic security (To be accepted at $p < 0.05$ using simple linear regression).

H_o: There is no statistically significant relationship between devolved governance and economic security (To be rejected at $p < 0.05$ using simple linear regression).

1.11 Research Methodology

This section describes the different phases and levels that were monitored in implementation of the study. Explicitly, it identifies the research design, the target population, the sample design, the data collection instrument and data analysis methods.

1.11.1 Research Design

The current research study utilized the descriptive design. According to Cohen and Manion (2002) descriptive design collects information depending upon the frameworks of time. Data is collected at a precise point in time so as to give an explanation on the nature of prevailing situation or recognizing settings contrary to the presumed condition that is relative to the situation on ground. The design was chosen owing to its strengths as it involves collecting data from the sampled counties, direct excerpts from the respondents and other sources, and it allowed for the use of manifold sources of data collection for purposes of triangulation. The several sources of data collection included the Deputy Governor Interview schedule and the county staff questionnaire. This design is better placed in attaining both qualitative and quantitative data with respect to the economic development in the selected counties. This research design engaged approaches of randomization so that inaccuracy might be assessed when maintaining populace features from the outlook of samples. Cohen and Manion (2002) have explained that this design are not limited to fact finding but can come up with grounded theories that can be used to add awareness and solutions to substantial difficulties. In backing up this opinion, the present enquiry helps to articulate philosophies of knowledge and the answer to substantial complications that contribute to poor economic development.

1.11.2 Target Population and sample size

This refers to the absolute unit in which the study will be undertaken in order to draw interpretations. Thus, the target population raises the concept of the rudiments that encounters with the benchmarks for annexation in a study (Burns & Grove, 2003). The respondents of the study included elected county representatives and county staff in four counties. The counties were objectively selected within the forty seven regional governments. The researcher field experience within this region led to the selection of the four counties. Additionally the researcher was interested in having a smaller range in area (km^2) and which were amalgamated to one county for ease in collection of data. As such Transnzoia (2,469 km^2), Uasin Gishu (2955 km^2), Nandi County (2884 km^2), and Kericho (2454 km^2) were selected based on the fact that they were amalgamated to Uasin Gishu County. Revenue allocation in the past was based on the size of the county thus there could have been an almost similar allocation to these counties. The study focused on the 4 counties of Uasin Gishu, Nandi, Kericho, Transnzoia. The respondents included 4 Deputy Governors and 5729 county staff as indicated in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Study Population

County	Respondents	Population	Stratum Population
Uasin Gishu	Deputy Governor	1	
	Management staff	15	
	Senior management staff	40	
	Middle management staff	445	
	Lower management staff	800	
	Members of the County Assembly	5	1306
Transnzoia	Deputy Governor	1	
	Management staff	20	
	Senior management staff	60	
	Middle management staff	550	
	Lower management staff	820	
	Members of the County Assembly	5	1456
Kericho	Deputy Governor	1	
	Management staff	10	
	Senior management staff	40	
	Middle management staff	350	
	Lower management staff	800	
	Members of the County Assembly	5	1206
Nandi	Deputy Governor	1	
	Management staff	44	
	Senior management staff	80	
	Middle management staff	600	
	Lower management staff	1055	
	Members of the County Assembly	5	1785
Target Population		5753	5753

Source: Uasin Gishu, Transzoia, kericho, Nandi County Government 2019

As indicated in Table 3.1, there were 4 Deputy Governors, 20 Members of the County Assembly and 5729 County staff. The researcher felt that Deputy Governors be given a chance because they have been in the county and are readily available to provide information relating to devolved funds in there counties. County staffs were opted for because they are involved in the planning and management aspects of the county in terms of providing data. Target population was based on both feasibility and generalizability, which are important aspects of determining the target population (Creswell, 2011).

1.11.3 Sample Size Determination

The study population is normally taken to be large and indiscrete therefore it is important that whereupon a determination is made on the resultant sample size it has to be assumed to be a normal distribution normally distributed at a confidence interval of 95% or significance interval of 5% (Israel, 1992). This study took as a consideration the Yamane (1967) formula as illustrated by Israel (1992) to estimate the sample size. The formula is as shown below;

$$\boldsymbol{n} = \frac{\boldsymbol{N}}{\mathbf{1} + \boldsymbol{N}^{(\boldsymbol{e})^{\mathbf{2}}}}$$

Where;

$\boldsymbol{n}$=Sample Size

$\boldsymbol{N}$=Population Size

e= Desired level of precision, which is at ±5% precision, where we desire a 95% confidence level

$$\boldsymbol{n} = \frac{\mathbf{5733}}{\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{5733}(\mathbf{0.05})^{\mathbf{2}}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{n} = 370$$

Additionally 4 Deputy Governors were selected thereby totaling to a sample size of 374 elements under study to be analyzed were distributed equally within the 4 counties in Kenya.

Counties were selected based on the 10% formula. This resulted in the selection of 4 counties based on the assumption described before. The 4 governors were selected purposively. Purposive sampling was opted for because Deputy Governors have critical information on matters related to economic development and devolution The county staff was stratified into 4 categories namely management staff, senior management staff, middle management staff and low management staff. Proportionate sampling and simple random sampling was then used to select individual staff from the strata. This was arrived at by calculating the staff in a particular category over the total population of all staff then multiplied by the sample size. All this led to the selection of 374 respondents.

1.11.4 Data Collection Instruments and Methods

The data collection process engaged the use of primary data. The data collection method was essential in ensuring that the essential data for the study was achieved. The study utilized the use of a questionnaire, which was dispersed to the study respondents. The questionnaire facilitated the analysis of the data collected through the study. The study adopted the usage of close-ended questionnaires that employed the likert scale with the options of strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree and strongly agree. Permission from the University's faculty and county governments in Kenya was sought and consent from individual citizens requested through a formal introduction letter. The researcher then presented the introduction letters to all the county administrators of the 4 county under study in order to be permitted to undertake the study. With the help of the public relation manager the researcher sampled the county staff as explained under sample size determination. The second day the researcher administered the questionnaire to the staff. The respondents were assured of confidentiality of their identities in dealing with responses. Questionnaires were then left with the respondents sampled, to be collected with the assistance of a research assistant on agreed day.

1.11.5 Validity and Reliability

The accuracy accrued from the meaning of inferences can be said to be validity. Kumar (2011) asserts that validity can refer to levels upon which instruments are set up to get the outcome which they intended to measure. In general terms validity is taken to be a critical element in social research. For this to be achieved there has to be an evidential interrelation of variables in the conceptual framework and the research methodology so as to have a perfect fit of whatever is going to be researched (Creswell, 2009).

Content validity was considered in this research. It focuses on how the various items in the instrument represent the various variables under the study. So as to validate content and face validity the researcher engaged in a broad overview of literature concerning the study topic so as to have a representative inclusion of the items in the research instrument. Mears (2009) further suggested that whatever that is summed as valid in an interview is the level at which it radiates what it aspires to enlighten, the credibility that it resonates and reflects the implication and consequence of characteristic applicants' outlooks on agreed actions and involvement. Creswell (2009) and McMillan (2012) distinguished the prominence of contributors re-checking the data and the construed denotations as this underwrites to cogency of those proofs. Respondent response is also imperative to substantiate how thriving the explanations is appropriate to their lived familiarity. This permits contributors a sturdier opinion in how they are untaken. King and Horrocks (2010) propose that it can be a valuable component in establishment of the value of examination.

The tools were piloted upon endorsement from the supervisors. Support from the specialists in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Education Media at Moi University was pursued to make necessary criticism that enabled relevant alterations and additional inputs. The validity of the instruments was also discussed by classmates.

When an instrument yields an outcome that is consistent whenever it is administered to the same respondent that instrument will be said to be reliable (Miller, 2012). Such an instrument will be reliable because it provides dependable outcomes or data after recurrent trials (Singh, 2007). According to Kumar (2011, p. 181) it is inherent that such an instrument will be stable thus consistent, in the end the tool will be foreseeable and precise. Literature indicate that the greater the level of consistency and constancy in an instrument, the greater its stability. Therefore as it concerns the ensuing statements the test will be reliable to such an extent that recurrence measurements that will be applied under same treatment will produce persistent results. As per this study the tools were piloted in two neighboring counties of Kakamega and Nakuru The split half technique of testing reliability was applied to test for reliability. This technique is carried out once unlike the test – retest that is administered twice after a period of some time. In this technique the researcher used one application in which half of the question was correlated with the other half in the questionnaire. Cronbach alpha was then used to give the coefficient value (Kumar, 2011).   A correlation coefficient of > 0.89 was found to be acceptable (Kumar, 2011).

1.11.6 Data Analysis and Presentation

The data analysis process involves the summarizing of the collected data in a manner that is applicable to the study. Data generated from the questionnaires was analyzed quantitatively by use of SPSS to facilitate descriptive statistics that involved frequencies and percentages and inferential statistics that include simple linear regression. Before commencement of the data the researcher cleaned the data by removing any completely blank responses, removing duplicates, removing any obvious errors – for example, someone ticking two boxes when they were asked to tick one. Later on a simple grid to collate the data provided in the questionnaire was prepared. The researcher designed a coding system for the closed ended questions. In order to evaluate open questions, categories were made into a sufficiently small set of broad categories, which were then coded. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. This entailed use of frequencies and percentages. Given that the data required correlation a Pearson Product Moment Correlation and simple linear regression were carried out to see whether a significant relationship between the county governance and economic security was. Given the large number of paper questionnaires a single grid was used to transfer the data.

Hypothesis was tested using simple linear regression. A P-value of less than 0.05 was then applied to reject or accept the null hypothesis. The relationship between the county governance and economic security was deemed significant if the significant level is below 0.05 using simple linear regression.

The results from the interview guide were analyzed qualitatively through content analysis. The data that obtained from the filled questionnaires and interview guides was then compared with what had been obtained from other documented sources so as to form a basis of conducting a comparative analysis of both sources

1.12 Chapter Outline

This section presents the background of the study by discussing the concept and context of the study. The various concepts discussed are devolution and economic development. It is in this section that the problem statement is provided showing the gap that leads to the objectives of the study. Justification and scope is also provided in this chapter.

Chapter one introduces the study by giving the background and stating the research problem. It further puts forth the research questions alongside the objectives. Literature and theoretical review is also contained in the same chapter. Finally it explains the methodology adopted in the study.

Chapter two underscores the historical perspective of the problem under investigation. In chapters three, four and five, the research findings and data collected are presented and elaborated. The same are analyzed and expressed in various forms. Chapter six provides the summary of the study, its conclusions and suggests recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

2.1 Historical Perspective of the Problem under Investigation

Majority of Kenyans have endured hard social and economic times since the country gained independence in 1963 as a result of marginalization. This has over time changed due to the creation of the new constitution in 2010 that highlighted on a delegated system of governance. Historically, the past governments had failed to assure Kenyans and even cater for their societal needs. This led to many of them being subjected to abject poverty over the years. There has been great expectation amongst Kenyans on the expected benefits of this new constitution more so on the elevation of the socio- economic and political status. This study comments on devolution in the Kenyan context and identifies the anticipated impacts of devolution on the country. It argues that, under the new system, various counties across the nation will be able to customize their policies and agendas to the needs and agenda of the counties will advance guidelines and ingenuities that address the needs and the agenda of its citizens. Under the new devolved system transparency and accountability can be put into focus given the close scrutiny of the citizens. This is under the femurs that they the citizens will be active participants in the decision-making organogram, of the public policies. However, devolution may transfer some of the vices practiced by the central government such as corruption. The major outcome of the decentralized system of governance is the equal and shared distribution of resources, improved invention of goods and services, improved service, public involvement and improvement of sidelined areas.

Since Kenya gained its independence in 1963, Kenyans have suffered because of the inefficiency of central governance. President Kibaki's government saw the need to address these inefficiencies by enacting a new dispensational order that was in support of devolution. Devolution in the Kenyan context entails delegation and autonomous transfer of managerial, governmental and fiscal management powers from the governing government to the county levels. These roles and responsibilities were to be transferred to the all 47 counties in the republic. It is imperative to note that devolution is not a rectilinear discourse in the sense that involves coordination amongst various levels of the national government working together with county government (Institute of economic Affairs, 2010). This cooperation will heighten national unity, coordination of socio-economic policies and harmonization of policy formulation (Omari, Kaburi & Sewe, 2013). Devolution provides the local governments with the opportunity to come up with their own strategic plans and establishing a blue print of implementing the plan to its ultimate conclusion. Kilonzo (2011) posits that decentralization is now the key component in the economic development of the country and the counties.

The constitution of Kenya Chapter 11, section 174 (a) explains that by devolving state functions to the local levels the country is bound to exercise democracy through exercise of power. The large populace has a lot of anticipation concerning the fruits of devolution in the various aspects that are bound to come along decentralization. One of the greatest impacts anticipated is the significant influence that will be accrued from the socio economic and political realignment. Regarding the constitution as earlier stated the major function of the constitution was to advance the social economic status of the populace across the counties. This anticipation is expected to be realized only upon enactment of sound policies that will be an advantage to the counties. This sentiment is in line with Kilonzo (2011) who stated that devolution is bound to provide the platform to counties upon which the said counties will mobilize their resources so as to promote investment and economic development. Kilonzo further states that it will offer chances for institutions to increase their capital bases in terms of debt and equity. On the other side the citizens have expectations that devolution will enhance equality in terms of resource mobilization and distribution. This is converse to the situation in the past whereby Kenyans at the local governance did not benefit from the resources that was reminiscence of corrupt leadership, nepotism and a unitary form of leadership.

The constitution further states that one major goal of decentralization is to ensure that there is an reasonable involvement of resources arising from an equitable distribution of resources. As a results of this Kenyans at large were optimistic that devolution will reduce corruption and favoritism that will pave way for the equal distribution of resources. The uneven development patterns that had been occasioned by the unequal distribution of resources through centralized governance was to be reversed by the new constitution through decentralization.

Other than fighting the ills of corruption and underdevelopment Kenyans hoped that there would be political transparency and expediency. This expediency involves varied aspects such as efficiency, equality, transparency, democracy and integrity (Ndichu, 2011). This is enshrined in the new constitution as regards matters concerning devolution. It is inherent to members of the public to take charge and be responsible so as to provide justifiable evidence to their actions. By being accountable literature indicates that the public will be exercising their rights in terms of governance. In addition to the aforementioned decentralization is bound to promote participation participatory and inclusive leadership. This was not practiced in the former regimes in which the public never had any say in whatever they discussed.

The imperial presidency of the past depended on the advice of cronies resulting to unequal allocation of national resources and social-economic development throughout the country (Kenya National Commission of Human Rights, 2012). This limited public participation in decision-making had tremendous adverse effects on the local citizenry. The new dispensational order is precise on the participation of the citizens in the affairs of the state. Herein the decentralized government gives power to the local citizens to enhance their participation in making decision to whatever will be applied to them (The Constitution, 2010).

The Kenyan law also identifies the civil rights of societies to accomplish their undertakings and heighten developments (The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, Section 174 (d). When county governments become operational, there will be many incentives and opportunities for social and economic development. Devolution will lead to an upsurge in resources, circulation and access to products and services (Kilonzo, 2011). This is possible because counties will advance and implement ventures that focus on the requirements of their citizens. The county government is close to the community. Therefore, it will be easy to identify the necessities that people rely upon like the basic requirements. In addition it is pertinent to the local government to identify investments such as industries that can do well and help the county flourish economically. A case to mention is that if a county has a favorable climatic condition then it will be prudent for the county to invest in agricultural industries. Many factors have been cited to explain the existence of county governments, one of which is the establishment of products and services that relies upon the county boundaries for consumption (Institute of Economic Affairs, 2010).

Kilonzo (2011) also asserts that devolution will increase access to financial services such as capital market, banking, insurance and fund management. Citizens will not struggle with financial services because devolution will attract investors who will offer such services at the county level. The 47 counties act as centers for growth whereby people have opportunities to invest. They attract both local and international investors who in turn create employment for unemployed citizens. As a result, regions that are at the back seat of national development will exploit their natural and human resources to the fullest. According to article 203 (2) of the constitution, not less than 15 percent of the national revenues will be allocated to counties (The Constitution of Kenya, 2010).

According to the recommendations of the Commission on Revenue Allocation, the criteria used for this allocation include poverty index, climatic conditions, historical injustices and economic status among others (KNCHR, 2012). In this case, the fifteen percent will correct the past skewed allocations of national resources and ensure equal development across the country. Devolution promises to meet the needs of marginalized communities. The new system of governance will provide networks for the countenance of provincial thoughts thereby encouraging national policies that are sensitive to regional variations. The excessive centralization of power in the previous system inevitably meant that the forerunner of an indigenous cluster that led the nation could govern a huge volume of assets (Institute of Economic Affairs, 2010). Consequently, allocation of resources followed unfair principles as leaders used criteria such as ethnic consideration, regionalism, idiosyncratic disposition and political loyalty. Leaders overlooked appropriate principles such as basic needs approach and economic criteria. Article 56 of the constitution provides for affirmative action projects for minority and sidelined communities. In this respect, Kenyans anticipate that county development plans will have certain procedures involving marginalized citizens in planning, budgeting and implementation process.

In the past, Kenya had no countrywide recognizable moral code that gave a sense of national purpose to guide the collective interests of Kenyans (Kenya National Commission of Human Rights, 2012). In the devolved system of governance, Kenyans expect to participate in the application of the law, planning and implementing of public policies. Platforms for public participation include vetting of county leaders, participating in county forums and monitoring the utilization of public resources (Kenya National Commission of Human Rights, 2012). Participation in county forums provides a pathway to publicize, assess and deliberate on social-economic matters of development at the county level. Moreover, it will offer a chance for Kenyans to evaluate their leaders.

In spite of the many expected positive impacts, devolution may not lead to improved economic performance and governance. There are fears that the devolution of power, resources and function of the local government will pass down corruption to the county governments (Kenya National Commission of Human Rights, 2012). Devolution may lead to increased corruption because the local government will share some functions with the central government. It may transfer the evils committed by the central system of governance to the county government (Omari, Kaburi & Sewe, 2013). It may reduce the national government's ability to redistribute resources. Consequently, the central government may not have the capacity to help the underdeveloped regions of the country (Institute of Economic Affairs, 2010). Moreover, it "may give way to the capturing of devolved governments by political class" in case of improper rules and systems (Institute of Economic Affairs, 2010, p.8). In this case, local political leaders may use their political power to take advantage of local resources. This may deprive the Kenyan citizen of these resources; hence, affect the economic performance at the county level.

Devolution in the Kenyan setup entails the absolute autonomy of counties that have been all the powers and roles from the central government. The Kenyan Constitution strongly supports this system of governance by outlining the key objectives of devolution. A devolved system presents economic, social, and political benefits to the county and its citizens. It creates sub-national entities that enhance accountability by reducing the concentration of power. Consequently, political and public officials will act responsibly. Through devolution, every region of the country can address its regional sentiments through inclusion and participation. In order to ensure an equitable distribution of the national cake, citizens must embrace the new opportunity to deliberate on issues affecting the county. Both local and external investors ought to take this opportunity to invest in counties because they are the new grounds for business. If this system of governance performs as expected, the country will improve its productivity in the next five years. Public services and resources will be close to the community and people will no longer cry of unemployment or poverty.

CHAPTER THREE

Role of Devolved Governance in Enhancing Economic Security in Kenya

3.1 Introduction

This section of the research presents outcomes that have been put together from the field. This has been utilized in the form of tables and graphs; analysis of data is also done through frequencies and percentages and presents interpretation of the data gathered from the respondents in the field. Analyzed data was collected from the Deputy Governors' interview schedule and County Staff questionnaires. It explicitly endeavored to respond to the following research questions: What is the role of County Governance in enhancing economic security in Kenya?

3.2 Study Respondents

The respondents that were utilized in the study totaled 354. This comprised of 4 Deputy Governors, 20 MCA and 5733 County staff. Out of these, 4 (100%) Deputy Governors were interviewed, and 350 county staffs were able to duly fill their research questionnaires. Thus the resulting number of respondents was composed of 354 (n = 354).

3.3 Demographic Distribution of Respondents

Section A, of the County Staff research tool consisted of the demography of study population. The demography was examined in relation to the respondent's gender, age and highest level of education. This respondents' demographic data is presented in the following sub sections:

3.3.1 Demographic Distribution of Respondent's by Gender

The aspects in the initial segment of the respondents' questionnaires (Appendix I) were intended at informing the reader on respondent's gender. The evidence attained is presented in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Demographic Distribution of Respondent's Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Males	152	43.4
Females	198	56.6
Total	350	100.0

Source: Author 2020

As shown in Table 3.1 the gender variable indicated that 152 (43.4%) County staffs were male. On the other hand 198 (56.6%) were female. The outcome designates that, female respondents were the majority in relation to staff personnel in the counties. This is accounted for by the fact that, many initiatives have been streamlined to ensure that women are represented in leadership roles thus the high numbers.

3.3.2: Demographic Distribution of Respondent's by Age

Further information in the initial segment of the research instrument was aimed at providing respondents age (Appendix I). The information is provided in Table 3.2

Table 3.2: Demographic Distribution of Respondent's Age

	Frequency	Percent
21 - 30 Years	60	17.1
31 - 40 Years	135	38.6
41 - 50 Years	120	34.3
Over 51 Years	35	10.0
Total	350	100.0

Source: Author 2020

The findings as specified in Table 3.2 shows that majority of the county staff were 31 – 40 years as represented by 135 (38.6%). A few staff were over 51 years 35 (10%). It can therefore be argued that, the age appearing to be the majority may be as a result of the establishment of the counties recently. This explains also why a few are above 51 years. They may have just worked a few years.

3.3.3 Demographic Distribution of Respondents Education Level

As Segment A of the questionnaire further illustrated evidence on the educational level of the participants was established as shown in (Appendix I). Information on the level of education was critical in order to establish the competency of the financial management team in handling of the county affairs at the county. The information collected on educational attainment is shown in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3: Demographic Distribution of Respondents Education Level.

	Frequency	Percent
High School	1	.3
College Level	138	39.4
University Level	161	46.0
Post Graduate	50	14.3
Total	350	100.0

Source: Author 2020

The results as specified in Table 3.3 demonstrates that majority of the county staff, 161 (46%), attained a degree from the university, while a few county staff 1 (0.3%) had attained a secondary certificate as the highest education qualification. From the results it can be inferred that majority of the respondents had at least a degree certificate and that they had the competence to manage activities within the county. It is critical to mention that complimentary to revenue mobilization that ensures economic security is the existence of staff with requisite financial management qualification and experience. The overall objective is to build and maintain strong financial management capacity so that the County government can manage resources that are transferrable to them and cope with the financial reporting requirements as demanded by the 2010 Constitution.

3.4 County Governance Roles

The first research question which was "What is the role of County Governance in enhancing economic security in Kenya?", was meant to respond to the following research objective: to establish the role of County Governments in enhancing economic security in Kenya. The findings are shown in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4 Devolved Governance Roles

	not at all	to a small extent	to a moderate extent	to a great extent	to a very great extent
Decision making	16 (4.6%)	27 (7.7%)	102 (29.1%)	4 (1.1%)	201(57.4%)
Policies	8 (2.3%)	48 (13.7%)	56 (16%)	113(32.3%)	125(35.7%)
Financial management	5(1.4%)	16 (4.6%)	14 (4%)	99 (28.3%)	216 (61.7%)
Internal controls	100	140 (40%)	40 (11.4%)	30 (8.6%)	40(11.4%)

	(28.6%)				
Budgetary control	12 (3.4%)	7 (2%)	7(2%)	15 (4.3%)	309 (88.3%)
Procurement	21 (6%)		11 (3.1%)	204(58.3%)	114 (32.6%)
Leadership	10 (2.9%)	20 (5.7%)	10 (2.9%)	260 (74.3%)	50 (14.3%)
Health	5 (1.4%)	25 (7.1%)	22 (6.3%)	165 (47.1%)	133(38%)
Education	30 (8.6%)	6 (1.7%)	15 (4.3%)	133 (38%)	166 (47.4%)
Agriculture	99 (28.3%)	140 (40%)	42 (12%)	28 (8%)	41 (11.7%)

Source: Author 2020

Finding in Table 3.4 designate that a majority of the respondents felt that the county governments were engaged in decision making. This is shown by 201 (57.4%) of the respondents. A few staff 16 (4.6%) felt that this role was not being done. These findings imply that the county leadership was engaged in making decisions at the county level that may impact on the overall development of the county. Such decisions if not well managed may lead to poor development within the county. It can be argued that some of the decision making involve resource mobilization and distribution that is critical in development process. These findings are consistent with Faguet (2014) findings which concluded that the devolution system has been considered instrumental in promoting the level of economic stability of the nation through the allocation of the existing resources to the local governments in a manner tailored towards catering to the local needs (Faguet, 2014).

Further findings indicate that majority of the respondents felt to a great extent that the county government was engaged in financial management. A few 8 (2.3%) felt that this function was not being performed. These finding implies that economic stability is bound to be achieved owing to the financial management role of the county. Economic stability is pegged upon a prudent financial management, thus the critical role of this function by the county government. This finding links with earlier studies by Mwangi and Gachunga (2014) who did a research on the effects of devolution on small and medium enterprises performance in Kenya. Through the study it was recognized that Regional Government policies in regards to tax collection through charging of fees and levies generally is the main contributor of the effect in exemplary performance of Small and Medium Enterprises in Kenya

Further conclusions in Table 3.4 demonstrate that majority of the respondents 100 (28.6%) felt that the county did not do any internal control, a few 30 (8.6%) felt that internal controls were done to a great extent. This finding implies that economic development may be slowed down as a result of reduced internal controls that are important in overseeing the effective running of the County governments. These findings are similar with Eko and Hariyanto (2011) sentiments which stated that all ministries in the mainstream government and organizations have the primary duty of ensuring that there are sufficient control systems such as control, audit and commitment from the staff. These mechanisms are important in the provision of good governance; in addition such a controlled design can provide information to administration about the corporations' improvement, or nonattendance of progression toward the achievement of their destinations (Vijayakumar & Nagaraja 2012).

Table 3.4 specified that majority of the respondents 309 (88.33%) felt that the county government played the role of budgetary control to a very great extent. A few 7 (2%) of the respondents indicated that the county government performed this role to a small extent. This finding indicates that economic security is likely to be achieved given the budgetary control role of the county. This finding is similar to Burger (2012) assertion that budgetary control systems can be utilized in the world over thereby they have been taken to be a basic tool for the overall organization planning and the ultimate performance. Burger further explains that these guarantees continuous audits over cumulative spending and create full particulars of financial performance statements on resource utilization but not concerned with long term development plans over the medium term activity. A similar caveat is given by Mutungi (2017), who asserts that all county governments in Kenya employ budgeting and budgetary control systems as a management tool to ensure effective control and accounting of public finances in a bid to enhance financial performance in the sector.

Table 3.4 further indicated that majority of the respondents 204 (58.3%) felt to a great extent that the county was playing the role of procurement accordingly. A few 11 (3.1%) felt that this role was being done to a moderate extent. This finding indicates that various services and goods were procured accordingly thus the possibility of economic security in the county.

Further findings in Table 3.4 indicated that majority of the respondents 260 (74.3%) felt to a great extent that the county performed the leadership role. A few 10 (2.9%) felt that the leadership role was not performed at all. This finding implies that the counties were playing this role thus economic development was bound to improve.

Further findings in Table 3.4 indicate that majority of the respondents 165 (47.1%) felt to a great extent that counties were performing the role of health. A few 5 (1.4%) felt that this function was not performed well. This finding implies that the county governance was performing this role effectively. This finding is in line with the baseline survey report for the amkeni Wakenya phase II (2015-2018) which pointed that County governments are required to develop County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) outlining the county's development priorities. In the report all of the 20 surveyed county governments had developed their plans. Eleven out of the 20 surveyed counties indicated that their CIDPs mention and/or discuss matters related to health. These included Nairobi, Kwale, Wajir, Garissa, Laikipia, Tana River, Nyeri, Nakuru, Turkana, Uasin Gishu and Lamu. A major concern though is that many counties have not mainstreamed disability in their plan which is a major anomaly (Infotract, 2017).

Further findings in Table 3.4 indicate that majority of the respondents 166 (47.4%) felt to a very great extent that counties were performing the role of education accordingly. A few 6 (1.4%) felt that this function was not performed well. This finding implies that the county governance was performing this role effectively. This finding is consistent with a study by Makau (2017) on "School Based Factors Influencing Management of Examination at Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education in Makueni County, Kenya" which found out that the Kenyan Constitution mandates the nominated regional governments to take the county investments and apply them towards achieving valuable free and compulsory education as envisaged in the constitution. It is however arguable that despite devolving the sector to county government's research has shown that there is still a concern of ineffectiveness in service delivery in various counties. For instance, Gichuki (2015) in his research reports that the Embu county government has low priorities for this sector of education as was indicated by low motivation exhibited by the teachers throughout Embu.

Findings in Table 3.4 indicate that a majority of the respondents felt that the county governments were not engaged in agriculture fully. This is shown by 140 (40%) of the respondents who felt that this role was being performed to a small extent. A few staff 28 (8%) felt that this role was being done to a great extent. These findings imply that the county leadership was not really engaged in agriculture development at the county level and this may impact on the overall development of the county. It can be argued that little focus is being placed on agriculture probably as a result of lack of fiscal policies. This finding is consistent with the several concerns raised by Were (2017), concerning agriculture. He asserts that there is no coordination amongst the two tier government structures. According to him there lacks clarity on which government should take the cue in running this sector. It is contradictory to note that whereas functions of agriculture are no longer been carried out the county on the other hand has been usurped.

CHAPTER FOUR

Merit Presented by Devolution to the Economic Development in Kenya

4.1 Introduction

This section of the study presents results from the field of study. This has been aided by the usage of tables and analyses that have been interpreted from the gathered data. The data analyzed was obtained through the Deputy Governor's interview schedule and County Staff questionnaires. What are the potential strengths and opportunities presented by devolution to the economic security in Kenya? The findings of this study are therefore presented in accordance to the question raised above.

4.2 Merit Demerits Presented By Devolved Governance

The second research question which was "What are the potential strengths and opportunities presented by devolution to the economic security in Kenya?" was meant to answer the following research objective: to examine the strengths and opportunities presented by devolution to the economic security in Kenya. The findings are presented in Table 4.1

Table 4.1 Merits Presented By Devolved Governance

	STRONGLY DISAGREE		DISAGREE		NEUTRAL		AGREE		STRONGLY AGREE	
Devolved governance is an opportunity to bring equity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources	140	40.0	120	34.3	15	4.3	35	10.0	40	11.4
Devolved governance is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people	10	2.9	20	5.7	10	2.9	70	20.0	240	68.6
Devolved governance is an opportunity to promote democratic and accountable exercise of power	8	2.3	18	5.1	8	2.3	74	21.1	242	69.1
Devolved governance is an opportunity to enhance	8	2.3	14	4.0	8	2.3	76	21.7	244	69.7

citizen participation										
Devolved governance is an opportunity to division of roles and responsibilities	5	1.4	25	7.1	20	5.7	170	48.6	130	37.1
Devolved governance is an opportunity to improve the living standards of people thus reducing the levels of poverty	9	2.6	11	3.1	8	2.3	79	22.6	243	69.4
Devolved governance is an opportunity to increase the numbers of schools thus raising the standards of education	6	1.7	24	6.9	20	5.7	163	46.6	137	39.1
Devolved governance is an opportunity for more allocation for infrastructural development	13	3.7	18	5.1	10	2.9	70	20.0	239	68.3
Devolved governance is an opportunity for increased investment opportunities	11	3.1	18	5.1	8	2.3	69	19.7	244	69.7
More employment opportunities have been created through devolution.	15	4.3	22	6.3	9	2.6	68	19.4	236	67.4

Source: Author 2020

Results in Table 4.1 indicates that 40 (11.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity to bring parity in growth chances and fair distribution of resources, 35 (10%) agreed, 120 (34.3%) disagreed while 140 (40%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may not be in a position of providing equity in the equitable provision of resources. This implies that some parts of the county are likely to develop faster than others. These finding agrees with Faguet (2014) who asserted that equal distribution of resources facilitates the viability of adopting devolution as a core component of the governance structure in place. Also, the adoption of devolution promotes the level of economic stability experienced in a nation as it promotes the cohesion between the local and national governments.

Findings in Table 4.1 further indicates that 240 (68.6%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is a prospect to bring power and involvement in governance closer to the people, 70 (20%) agreed, 20 (5.7%) disagreed while 10 (2.9%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may be in a position to bring governance closer to the people. This implies that the leadership will be in a position to know the development needs of its people thus the prospects of economic development being brought closer to the people. These findings are in line with O'neil (2015) assertion that evaluation of community needs from a local level is instrumental in promoting economic stability as it promotes the involvement and engagement of the local community in adopting measures that promote economic sustainability and feasibility.

Findings in Table 4.1 further indicates that 242 (69.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity to promote democratic and accountable exercise of power 74 (21.1%) agreed, 18 (5.1%) disagreed while 8 (2.3%) strongly disagreed. This result demonstrates that majority of the counties may be in a position to promote democratic and accountable exercise of power. This implies that the county management will be in a position to know the development needs of its people thus the prospects of economic development being brought closer to the people. These findings are in line with Lumumba (2011) and Dhurba (2001) who posited that over the years, matters development and access to public services were hindered by poor governance guidelines exhibiting themselves in benefaction, lack of democratic and participatory governance, lack of transparency and accountability in public expenditure among others To counter on these indicators of debauched authority, Kenyans, through the Constitutional evaluation development changed the system, design and structure of governance that moved away from a unitary governance to a decentralized form of governance in which the 47 counties shared resources amongst themselves through the coordination of the national Government. Supporters of devolution argue that, this presumption improves on the way services are delivered at the County level through getting resources closer to the constituents who are regarded to govern themselves.

Information in Table 4.1 further indicates that 244 (69.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity to enhance citizen participation, 76 (21.7%) agreed, 14 (4%) disagreed while 8 (2.3%) strongly disagreed. This result demonstrates that a large number of the counties may be in a position to promote citizen participation. This implies that citizens are given opportunity to participate in the development agenda of their counties. Citizens will be in a position to provide information on what is good and bad for them. This ensures development in areas such as education, infrastructure and health. These findings agrees with a study conducted by Mutuse (2016), on improving good governance under Kenya's devolved system of government that was carried out in Machakos County which listed the county among the counties that have provided adequate budget information as well as establishment of various structures to facilitate citizen participation. Of importance however, is that while it is appreciated that some forms of structures have been put in place as highlighted above, there is no mention of evidence of the structures being grounded in County legislation.

Information in Table 4.1 further indicates that 130 (37.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity to promote division of roles and responsibilities 170 (48.6%) agreed, 25 (7.1%) disagreed while 5 (1.4%) strongly disagreed. This outcome illustrates that majority of the counties may be in a position to promote division of roles and responsibilities. This implies that the county management will be in a position to utilise the varied potential and specialities among its staff for the benefit of the county.

Findings in Table 4.1 further indicates that 243 (69.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity to improve the living standards of people thus reducing the levels of poverty, 79 (22.6%) agreed, 11 (3.1%) disagreed while 9 (2.6%) strongly disagreed. This result illustrates that the bulk of the counties may be in a position to improve the living standards of people thus economic security.

Information in Table 4.1 further indicates that 137 (39.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity to increase the number of schools thus raising the standards of education, 163 (46.6%) agreed, 24 (6.9%) disagreed while 6 (1.7%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties are capable of improving the standards of education by increasing the number of schools. This implies that the county economic development may improve if schools were to be increased.

Information in Table 4.1 further indicates that 239 (68.3%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity for more allocation for infrastructural development, 70 (20%) agreed, 18 (5.1%) disagreed while 13 (3.7%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties are capable of improving the infrastructural development of the counties. This implies that the county economic development may improve with more roads, water line and electricity being developed in the county.

Information in Table 4.1 further indicates that 244 (69.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity for more increased investment opportunity, 69 (19.7%) agreed, 18 (5.1%) disagreed while 11 (3.1%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties are capable of increasing the investment opportunities in their counties. Such investments improve development of the counties. These finding are in line with a research done by Kilonzo (2011) on the devolution and its effect on access to financial services among investors in the counties of Kenya. The researcher asserts that devolution will increase access to financial services such as capital market, banking, insurance and fund management. Additionally, he mentions that citizens will not struggle with financial services because devolution will attract investors who will offer such services at the county level. Kilonzo further describes the 47 counties as centers for growth whereby people have opportunities to invest. They attract both local and international investors who in turn create employment for unemployed citizens. As a result, regions that are at the back seat of national development will exploit their natural and human resources to the fullest.

Information in Table 4.1 further indicates that 236 (67.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolution is an opportunity for more employment opportunities, 68 (19.4%) agreed, 22 (6.3%) disagreed while 15 (4.3%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties are capable of creating more job opportunities. This implies that with more job opportunities, counties are likely to develop. Such job opportunity creates openings for business among staff. This is in agreement with the findings by Weingast (2014) which concluded that the role of the County government is to develop a sense of self-sustenance which is considered instrumental in promoting continued economic growth and development. The process provides an opportunity for employment for the local residents, which is instrumental in reducing the unemployment level rates experienced in the counties. The process results in a rise in employment and income per capita among individuals thus promoting continued economic growth.

CHAPTER FIVE
Relationship between Devolved Governance and Economic Security in Kenya

5.1 Introduction

This section presents information that was collected from the field of study and presented in the method of frequency tables. Data analysis was through descriptive tests that used percentages and frequencies. The data analyzed was obtained through the Deputy Governor's interview schedule and County Staff questionnaires. What is the relationship between devolved funds and economic security in Kenya? This chapter further discusses the following hypothesis: **Ho1:** There is no statistically significant relationship between devolved governance and economic security in Kenya. The research findings are henceforth described in line with the research question raised above.

5.2 Relationship between Devolved Governance and Economic Security

The third research question was "What is the relationship between devolved funds and economic security in Kenya?" This was meant to answer the following research objective: To establish the relationship between devolved funds and economic security in Kenya. The data obtained is shown in Table 5.1 below:

Table 5.1 Relationship between Devolved Funds and Development

	Strongly disagree		**Disagree**		**Neutral**		**Agree**		**Strongly agree**	
Devolved funds has improved development through educational facility projects in the County	29	8.3	81	23.1	18	5.1	106	30.3	116	33.1
Devolved funds has improved development through health facilities and infrastructure projects in the County	65	18.6	65	18.6	20	5.7	68	19.4	132	37.7
Devolved funds has improved development through Water and electricity connection projects in the County	96	27.4	121	34.6	12	3.4	40	11.4	81	23.1
Devolved funds has built access roads and bridges in the County	100	28.6	130	37.1	18	5.1	79	22.6	23	6.6
Devolved funds has improved development through bursaries to	59	16.9	68	19.4	22	6.3	65	18.6	136	38.9

needy students in the County										
The health and nutrition projects facilitated by the devolved funds has improved development in the County	101	28.9	127	36.3	18	5.1	81	23.1	23	6.6
The security projects facilitated by the devolved funds have improved development in the County	95	27.1	121	34.6	26	7.4	85	24.3	23	6.6
The business and entrepreneurship projects facilitated by the devolved fund have improved development in the County	60	17.1	65	18.6	24	6.9	73	20.9	128	36.6
The award of tenders for supply of materials for the devolved funds projects to residents of this area has improved development of the County	95	27.1	125	35.7	27	7.7	77	22.0	26	7.4
The employment creation by devolved funds through direct employment has improved development in the County	97	27.7	118	33.7	28	8.0	83	23.7	24	6.9
The devolved funds initiated projects have brought fair distribution of resources for development of the County	98	28.0	119	34.0	27	7.7	82	23.4	24	6.9

Source: Author 2020

Findings in Table 5.1 illustrates that 116 (33.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolved funds has improved development through educational facility projects in the County, 106 (30.3%) agreed, 81 (23.1%) disagreed while 29 (8.3%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties have developed as a result of educational projects in the County. This implies that the funds that may have been directed towards school constructions have enhanced educational achievements in the county. Findings in Table 5.1 demonstrates that 132 (37.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolved funds has improved development through health facilities and infrastructure projects in the County, 68 (19.4%) agreed, 65 (18.6%) disagreed while 65 (18.6%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties have developed as a result of health facilities. This implies that the funds that may have been directed towards the health sector may have contributed to better services being offered to the people resulting into a healthy nation. A healthy population means a working and stable economic development. It is however arguable to say that a significant percentage of respondents did not agree to the fact counties have been developed as a result of health facilities. This may be credited to the point that some constituencies have been confronted with numerous strikes that may have obstructed upon the delivery of services. This may explain the disagreement.

Further findings in Table 5.1 illustrates that 81 (23.1%) of the participants strongly agreed that devolved funds have improved development through water and electricity connection projects in the county, 40 (11.4%) agreed, 121 (34.6%) disagreed while 96 (27.4%) strongly disagreed. This information shows that majority of the counties have not developed as a result of water and electricity connection. This finding shows that water and electricity may still be a big challenge to the county thereby becoming an obstacle to development. Water is essential for domestic, industrial and agricultural use. Therefore its absence or inadequacy may make counties not to develop. Further findings in Table 5.1 indicates that 23 (6.6%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolved funds have built access roads and bridges in the county, 79 (22.6%) agreed, 130 (37.1%) disagreed while 100 (28.6%) strongly disagreed. This information illustrates that majority of the counties have not developed as a result of access roads and bridges in the County. This finding shows that counties may be lacking access roads and bridges which are critical in the development process of the Counties.

Further findings in Table 5.1 illustrates that 136 (38.9%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolved funds have improved development through bursaries to needy students in the county, 65 (18.6%) agreed, 68 (19.4%) disagreed while 59 (16.9%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties have developed as a result of bursary allocation to needy students. This finding shows that some of these needy students may have pursued education and became successful thereby uplifting the standards of living of their families. It is critical to mention that a few respondents strongly disagreed that bursaries had not improved or rather contributed to economic development. This may have arisen from the fact that some of the needy students may have been left out during the awarding of the bursary. Further findings in Table 5.1 indicates that 23 (6.6%) of the respondents strongly agreed that devolved funds which facilitates the health and nutrition projects have improved development in the county, 81 (23.1%) agreed, 127 (36.3%) disagreed while 101 (28.9%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have been impacted negatively as a result of lack of health and nutrition projects. This finding shows that the devolved funds may not have been used effectively to implement these projects thereby affecting development.

Further findings in Table 5.1 indicates that 23 (6.6%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the security projects facilitated by the devolved funds have improved development in the county, 85 (24.3%) agreed, 121 (34.6%) disagreed while 95 (27.1%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have been impacted negatively as a result of lack of security services that should have been necessitated by the devolved funds. For any economic development to be achieved security plays a critical role in safeguarding peoples business and enterprises. This finding is consistent with Botha (2013) who concluded that the existence of the culture of mob violence in the Kenyan context explores on the challenge that may be experienced in the case of devolved policing. Also, devolution may influence a shift in the distribution of crime resulting in areas that previously had low crime rates being affected. The process may provide the security function with an opportunity for innovation, which will inform on new measures that may be adopted to promote crime control (Wepundi et al., 2012). Also, the process may promote the development of healthy competition that may inform on possible strategies to counter crime and grow the economy.

Further details in Table 5.1 indicates that 128 (36.6%) of the respondents strongly agreed the business and entrepreneurship projects facilitated by the devolved fund have improved development in the County, 73 (20.9%) agreed, 65 (18.6%) disagreed while 60 (17.1%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have developed as a results of the devolved funds that have been channelled to the business enterprises. Businesses thrive when a conducive environment is established. As such counties play a vital role in ensuring such an environment is created. Further findings in Table 5.1 demonstrates that 26 (7.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the award of tenders for supply of materials for the devolved funds projects to residents of the county has improved development of the county, 77 (22%) agreed, 125 (35.7%) disagreed while 95 (27.1%) strongly disagreed. This information illustrates that majority of the counties may have not developed as a result of issuance of tenders. It can be argued that many tenders are normally clouded with corrupt dealings. This may explain the reason behind majority of the respondent disagreeing to the fact that tendering may have improved development in the counties.

Table 5.1 further illustrates that 24 (6.9%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the employment creation by devolved funds through direct employment has improved development in the County, 83 (23.7%) agreed, 118 (33.7%) disagreed while 97 (27.7%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have been impacted negatively as a result of lack of employment opportunities within the county. This implies that other income generating related activities may not be triggered thus low development in the counties.

Lastly, Table 5.1 illustrates that 24 (6.9%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the devolved funds initiated projects have brought fair distribution of resources for development of the county, 82 (23.4%) agreed, 119 (34%) disagreed while 98 (28%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have been impacted negatively as a result of devolved funds initiated projects. This implies that some areas may be lacking devolved fund related projects that has led to unfair distribution of resources.

5.3 Dependent Variable Economic Security in the County

An attempt was made to measure the dependent variable economic security. Various indicators were used as indicated in Table 5.2 and discussed afterwards.

Table 5.2 Economic Security

	Strongly disagree		**Disagree**		**Neutral**		**Agree**		**Strongly agree**	
The unemployment rate has gone down.	150	42.9	125	35.7	15	4.3	40	11.4	20	5.7
School enrollment ratios has increased	50	14.3	35	10.0	20	5.7	120	34.3	125	35.7
The percentage of people living on less than $1.25 a day has reduced	148	42.3	119	34.0	20	5.7	39	11.1	24	6.9
The corruption rates have gone down	120	34.3	150	42.9	40	11.4	40	11.4		
The percentage of people living below the poverty line within a county has reduced.	116	33.1	142	40.6	39	11.1	48	13.7	5	1.4
Percentage of population in tertiary education has	30	8.6	35	10.0	5	1.4	135	38.6	145	41.4

increased.										
The infant mortality rate is low	35	10.0	18	5.1	10	2.9	132	37.7	155	44.3
There is healthy life expectancy	36	10.3	18	5.1	12	3.4	130	37.1	154	44.0
The gender inequality has reduced	100	28.6	80	22.9	20	5.7	60	17.1	90	25.7
The county human security is good	114	32.6	139	39.7	40	11.4	51	14.6	6	1.7
There is increased happiness Index.	70	20.0	80	22.9	65	18.6	70	20.0	65	18.6
Population has increased	16	4.6	122	34.9	16	4.6	131	37.4	65	18.6

Source: Author 2020

Findings in Table 5.2 illustrates that 20 (5.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the unemployment rate had gone down, 40 (11.4%) agreed, 125 (35.7%) disagreed while 150 (42.9%) strongly disagreed. This information shows that many counties may not have developed as a result of low employment rates. It is notable to state that when employment rate is high economic development is bound to be achieved. People will be able to build their houses, mobility will go up thus economic security will be achieved. Data in Table 5.2 indicates that 125 (35.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the school enrolment ratio has increased, 120 (34.3%) agreed, 35 (10%) disagreed while 50 (14.3%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties are witnessing development associated with increased school enrolment. This implies that a population which is educated brings developmental changes in the society. This finding is similar to Dancer, Diane, and Anu Rammohan (2007) conclusion that evidence in Egypt showed a strong correlation between the educational attainment of the household head and the accumulated wealth. This implies that families whose members have enrolled massively in educational institutions are likely to amass a lot of wealth. .

Findings in Table 5.2 demonstrates that 24 (6.9%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the percentage of the populace who were surviving on less than 1.25 dollars a day has reduced, 39 (11.1%) agreed, 119 (34%) disagreed while 148 (42.3%) strongly disagreed. This demonstrates that many of the counties may not have developed as a result of devolution as a result of the low number of people living on less than 1.25 dollars a day. This implies that such a population will be relying heavily on consumption with nothing left for investment resulting into low economic development in the counties.

Findings in Table 5.2 further illustrate that 40 (11.4%) of the respondents agreed that corruption rates have gone down, 150 (42.9%) disagreed while 120 (34.3%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may not have developed as a result of corruption in the counties. This implies that funds that could have been used for developmental purposes like building of roads, schools, hospitals and setting up industries are channeled to other uses resulting into low economic development in the counties. This finding is consistent with Harrington et al. (2012), who posited that corruption has embedded on many aspects and facets of the day to day activities in Kenya. This has seen corruption cascade from the citizens to the police officers and government officers who interact freely to solicit bribes amongst themselves. Furthermore, it is projected that bribery in the government offices and the interactions named explains up to 8% of the nation's GDP. The treasury report of 2012 by the central bank estimated huge amounts of money that was being lost through corruption. The report indicated that corruption eats into the national budget by 20-30 percent as reflected in procurement and supply chains.

Findings in Table 5.2 illustrates that 5 (1.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the percentage of people living below the poverty line within the county has reduced, 48 (13.7%) agreed, 142 (40.6%) disagreed while 116 (33.1%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may not have developed because of devolution as a result of the low number of people people who were eking a living below the poverty line. This implies that such a population will be relying heavily on consumption with nothing left for investment resulting into low economic development in the counties. Findings in Table 5.2 indicate that 145 (41.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the percentage of people in tertiary education has increased, 135 (38.6%) agreed, 35 (10%) disagreed while 30 (8.6%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have developed as a result of devolution that has enabled more people joining tertiary institutions. This may be attributed to the increased bursary allocation that has led to high completion rates of education levels. This finding is in line with studies done by KIPPRA (2014) and UNICEF (2013) which concluded that development in education has been necessitated by the support that has been offered to the basic education sector that primarily involved the pre-primary education and also the tertiary level of education that entailed specifically the TVET. These two levels had been neglected by the government over a long period of time. The two studies noted that substantial development has accrued in terms of the investment in infrastructure and human resource especially after the county government took over that responsibility. The public has witnessed great change in the construction of Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centers and Polytechnics.

Findings in Table 5.2 illustrate that 155 (44.3%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the infant mortality rate is low, 132 (37.1%) agreed, 18 (5.1%) disagreed while 35 (10%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have developed as a result of devolution as a result of the low infant mortality. This implies that devolved funds have improved health facilities.

Findings in Table 5.2 indicate that 154 (44%) of the respondents strongly agreed that there is healthy life expectancy among the population, 130 (37.1%) agreed, 18 (5.1%) disagreed while 36 (10.3%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have developed as a result of devolution that has enabled more people to have a healthy life expectancy. This may be attributed to the better health facilities in the counties. This implies that the populace will be working towards economic development owing to their better health status. This finding is in line with Alexis Savage and Linda Lumbasi (2016) study which concluded that there has been evidence of growth in infrastructure, growth in health care and deployment of many health workers throughout the country and more specifically in areas covering Turkana and Kajiado. Further findings in Table 5.2 indicate that 90 (25.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the gender inequality has reduced, 60 (17.1%) agreed, 80 (22.9%) disagreed while 100 (28.6%) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties have gender inequality that may be contributing to underdevelopment in the counties. This implies that there is more gender in certain positions thereby impacting on the overall development across the gender.

Findings in Table 5.2 indicate that 6 (1.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the county human security is good, 51 (14.6%) agreed, 139 (39.7%) disagreed while 114 (32.6%) strongly disagreed. This report shows that majority of the counties may not have developed as a result of devolution owing to insecurity as perceived by the majority. This implies that people may be avoiding developing because of the risk associated with insecurity. Nonetheless, federalization has presented novel variables to the procedures that create safety and uncertainty as well as to the administration of safety universally. Counties are unswervingly affected by radicalization since uncertainty has direct concerns for occupation and growth.

Findings in Table 5.2 further indicate that 65 (18.6%) of the respondents strongly agreed that there is increased happiness index, 70 (20%) agreed, 80 (22.9%) disagreed while 70 (20%) strongly disagreed. It is arguable to say that the people were neither happy nor sad as a result of devolution as evidenced by the almost similar responses between those who agreed and disagreed. Lastly findings in Table 5.2 demonstrate that 65 (18.6 %) of the respondents strongly agreed that population has increased, 131 (37.5%) agreed, 122 (34.9 %) disagreed while 16 (4.6 %) strongly disagreed. This finding shows that majority of the counties may have developed as a result of devolution that has enabled an increase in population. This implies that economic development is bound to improve because of the large number of people who engage in various economic activities that enhances economic security.

5.4 Inferential Statistics

5.4.1 Correlation Analysis

The study utilized the Pearson's product correlation coefficient to give an analytical explanation of the effect of linearity amongst the variables. The association shown in the Table 5.3 below presents bivariate correlations between the study variables (devolved funds and economic security).

Table 5.3 Correlations Analysis between the Dependent and Independent Variable

Correlations			
		Economic Security	Devolved funds
Pearson Correlation	Economic Security	1.000	.170
	Devolved Funds	.170	1.000
Sig. (1-tailed)	Economic Security	.	.001
	Devolved Funds	.001	.
N	Economic Security	350	350
	Devolved Funds	350	350

** Correlation is significant at 0.001 level (2 - tailed)

Source: Author 2020

As indicated in Table 5.3 when the correlation coefficient values (r) ranges from 0.09 to 0.30, it is reflected to be weak correlation, 0.310 - 0.50, medium while 0.51 -1.0 is taken to be a strong association (Wong & Hiew, 2005). Permitting Field (2009) assertions correlation coefficient ought not to surpass 0.9 to avoid multi-collinearity. Impact of devolved fund is positively and statistically significant ($r=0.170$, $p < 0.001$). This implies that all the study variable impact of devolved funds is correlated to economic Security. This finding is consistent with a study by Lin and Kiu (2000) which focused on fiscal devolution and impact on the economy of China. The researchers utilized an econometric prototypical with per capita GDP as the tool to measure and regress the proportion of finance resources devolvement of the administration's expenditure. The researchers found that fiscal decentralization had a positive significant relationship with the per capita GDP. Another research in the USA by Akai and Sakata (2002) discovered the connection between fiscal decentralization and monetary association. The researchers used the real time data series. The researchers used yearly progression rate per capita gross product and found that there was a positive and statistically significant relationship between decentralization and economy of the country.

5.4.2 Simple Linear Regression

A simple linear regression model was run to show the regression between diversity management and organizational performance. The outcomes are accessible in Table 5.4

Table 5.4: Regression Analysis Model Summary of Impact of Devolved Funds and Economic Security

Model Summary[b]				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.170[a]	.029	.026	5.80265
a. Predictors: (Constant), Devolved governance				
b. Dependent Variable: Economic Security				

Source: Author 2020

As revealed in Table 5.4 R^2 x 100 = .029 x 100% = 2.9 % demonstrating that 2.9 % of the alteration in the dependent variable is described by the independent variable in the study. The R-square value shows that this model thrives in forecasting up to 2.9% of the variable in economic

Security in counties under study. Up to 2.9 % of the disparity realized in the study area is accredited for by devolved funds.

5.4.3 ANOVA Analysis

The Analysis of Variance was greatly significant (0.000) demonstrating that the association between the independent variable and dependent variable is very strong. Anova considers the general significance of the model and since $p < 0.05$, the simple linear regression model assumed in this study is applicable for the examination. The ANOVA outcomes of the simple linear regression analysis show that the regression equation is statistically suitable to scrutinize the relationship ($F = 10.404$; df =1; $p = 0.05$) at 0.05 level of significance. The model summary showed that the model can explain 2.9 % variation in economic Security that was occasioned by any changes in the devolved governance devolved. This is indicated in Table 5.4

Table 5.4 Anova Output Analysis

ANOVA[a]						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	350.325	1	350.325	10.404	.001[b]
	Residual	11717.415	348	33.671		
	Total	12067.740	349			
a. Dependent Variable: Economic Security						
b. Predictors: (Constant), Devolved Funds						

Source: Author 2020

5.4.4 Coefficients

Table 5.4 further presents the coefficient arising from the analysis. The simple linear regression analysis was conducted so as to determine the relationship between devolved funds and economic Security. The equation $\mathbf{Y = \alpha + \beta 1X_1}$ generated from this model therefore become:

$$Y = 31.240 + 1.22\,X_1$$

Where Y is the dependent variable (economic Security) and X_1 devolved funds. According to the regression equation established, taking all other factors constant at zero, economic Security will be 31.240. The data findings analyzed also show that taking all other variables at zero, a unit increase in devolved funds will lead to a 1.22 increase in economic development. This finding is contrary to the study done having been carried out for the period of 1993- 2012 by (Njenga, 2014) on the impact of decentralization on economic growth. From the study's result there were variations in economic growth that could be sufficiently explained and linked to variables in the model. Regression results showed a negative growth contribution from both the decentralized capital finance and recurrent finance. It was also realized that inflation contributed significantly on economic growth as it tends to reduce efficiency of investments and subsequently slows down economic growth triggered by the high cost of production.

Table 5.4 The Coefficients

Coefficients[a]						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	31.240	1.224		25.518	.000
	Devolved funds	.122	.038	.170	3.226	.001
a. Dependent Variable: Economic Security						

Source: Author 2020

5.4.5 Hypothesis Testing for Objective Three

H_{01}. There exists no relationship between devolved governance and economic Security in Kenya.

The null hypothesis was to be rejected at a $p < 0.05$ significance level using the simple linear regression analysis. This is discussed in the following paragraph;

The null hypothesis (H_{o1}) stated that there exists no relationship between devolved funds and economic Security in Kenya in the county under study. However findings in Table 5.4 showed that devolved funds have a positive and significant relationship on a county's economic Security ($\beta 1 = .170$, $P < 0.05$). Thus the hypothesis (H_{o1}) was rejected.

CHAPTER SIX
SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Introduction

The research findings in chapter three, four and five are further discussed and summarized to shape up the critical findings of the research in relation to the research objectives. The researcher drew conclusions based on the findings in order to answer the objectives and hypotheses of the study and thereafter provide recommendations on what should be implemented to improve economic Security in the counties under study.

6.2 Summary of the findings

To explain the impact of devolved funds in economic Security in the counties under study three thematic issues were analyzed grounded on the objectives and hypotheses of the study. These aspects included: role of the county governance, strengths and opportunities and the relationship between devolved funds and economic Security in the county. .

The research findings of this research study have been based on the objectives and hypotheses of the study. This study sought to answer the following research objectives: -

i. To establish the role of County governance in enhancing economic Security in Kenya.
ii. To examine the strengths and opportunities presented by devolution to the economic Security in Kenya.
iii. To establish the relationship between devolved funds and economic Security in Kenya.

6.2.1 Role of County Governance

The first research question dealt with the role of County Governance in enhancing economic Security in Kenya. Findings indicated that the county governments were engaged in decision making, financial management, budgetary control, procurement, leadership role, the health function and education function effectively as represented by majority of the respondents. On the contrary though, the counties were not performing internal control and agriculture fully.

6.2.2 Merits Presented by County Governance on the Economic Security in Kenya

The second research question dealt with the potential strengths and opportunities presented by devolution to the economic Security in Kenya. Findings indicated that the counties had opportunities in bringing impartiality in the improvement of prospects and rational delivery of properties, bringing control and influence in leadership closer to the people, promoting representative and responsible application of power, enhancing citizen participation, promoting division of roles and responsibilities, enhancing, the living standards of people thus reducing the levels of scarceness, increasing, the numbers of schools thus raising the standards of education, allocation for infrastructural development, increased investment opportunity and more employment opportunities.

6.2.3 Relationship between Devolved Governance and Economic Security in Kenya

The third research question dealt with the relationship between devolved funds and economic Security in Kenya. Findings indicated that devolved funds have improved development through educational facility projects in the County, devolved funds have improved development through health facilities and infrastructure projects in the County, devolved funds have improved development through water and electricity connection projects in the county, devolved funds have built access roads and bridges in the county, devolved funds have improved development through bursaries to needy students in the county, devolved funds which facilitates the health and nutrition projects have improved development in the county, security projects facilitated by the devolved funds have improved development in the county, business and entrepreneurship projects facilitated by the devolved funds have improved development in the County, counties may have not developed as a result of issuance of tenders. It can be argued that many tenders are normally clouded with corrupt dealings. This may explain the reason behind majority of the respondent disagreeing to the fact that tendering may have improved development in the counties. Findings show that majority of the counties may have been impacted negatively as a consequence of non-existent employment prospects within the county. This implies that other income generating related activities may not be triggered thus low development in the counties. Devolved funds initiated projects have brought fair distribution of resources for development of the county.

6.2.4 Analysis of Impact of Devolved Governance on Economic Security

Impact of devolved fund was positively and statistically significant ($r=0.170$, $p < 0.001$). This infers that the study variable impact of devolved funds is positively correlated to economic Security. Simple linear regression indicated that the regression model thrives in forecasting up to 2.9% of the variable in economic Security in counties under study. Up to 2.9 % of the disparity realized in the area under study is accredited to devolved funds. The Analysis of variance of the simple linear regression analysis show that the regression equation is statistically suitable to scrutinize the association ($F = 10.404$; $df = 1$; $p = 0.05$) at 0.05 level of significance. The model summary showed that the model can explain 2.9 % variation in economic Security that was occasioned by any changes in the devolved funds. The simple linear regression analysis was conducted so as to determine the relationship between devolved funds and economic Security. The equation $\mathbf{Y = \alpha + \beta 1 X_1}$ generated from this model therefore become: $Y = 31.240 + 1.22 X_1$ Where Y is the dependent variable (economic Security) and X_1 devolved funds. According to the regression equation established, taking all o t h e r factors constant at zero, economic development will be 31.240. The data findings analyzed also show that taking all other variables at zero, a unit increase in devolved funds will lead to a 1.22 increase in economic Security.

The null hypothesis was to be rejected at a $p < 0.05$ significance level using the simple linear regression analysis. The hypothesis (H_{o1}) stated that there exists no relationship between devolved funds and economic Security in Kenya in the period under study. However findings showed that devolved funds have a positive and significant influence on county economic Security ($\beta 1 = .170$, $P < 0.05$). Thus the hypothesis (H_{o1}) was rejected. Based on this finding the alternative hypothesis which stated that there is a statistically significant relationship between devolved funds and economic Security was accepted.

6.3 Implication of the Findings to Theory and Practice

Operational devolved governance implies many incentives and opportunities for social and economic development that results into economic security. As stated by Kilonzo (2011) devolved governance will lead to an increase in supply, distribution and access to products and services. This is possible because counties will develop and implement projects that focus on the needs of their citizens. The county government is close to the community. Therefore, it will be easy to identify the needs of people such as water, food, shelter and energy as stipulated in the resource based theory. Furthermore, the local government can identify the industries that can do well and help the county prosper economically. For instance, if the county has adequate rainfall, the county government can direct its funds and other resources to agriculture to make itself competitive as stated in the resource based theory. Devolved governance have their reason for existence in the provision of products and services whose consumption depends on their jurisdictions. Since the output of such products and services is contingent to the preferences and circumstances of each constituency,

Devolved governance will increase access to financial services such as capital market, banking, insurance and fund management. Citizens will not struggle with financial services because devolution will attract investors who will offer such services at the county level. The 47 counties act as centers for growth whereby people have opportunities to invest. They attract both local and international investors who in turn create employment for unemployed citizens. As a result, regions that are at the back seat of national development will exploit their natural and human resources to the fullest. According to article 203 (2) of the constitution, not less than 15 percent of the national revenues will be allocated to counties (The Constitution of Kenya, 2010). According to the recommendations of the Commission on Revenue Allocation, the criteria used for this allocation include poverty index, climatic conditions, historical injustices and economic status among others (KNCHR, 2012). In this case, the fifteen percent will correct the past skewed allocations of national resources and ensure equal development across the country.

Devolution promises to meet the needs of marginalized communities. The new system of governance will provide channels for the expression of regional sentiments and encourage national policies that are sensitive to regional variations. The excessive centralization of power in the previous system meant that the leader of an ethnic group that led the nation could control an enormous amount of resources (Institute of Economic Affairs, 2010). Consequently, allocation of resources followed unfair principles as leaders used criteria such as ethnic consideration, regionalism, idiosyncratic disposition and political loyalty. Leaders overlooked appropriate principles such as basic needs approach and economic criteria. Article 56 of the constitution provides for affirmative action projects for minority and sidelined communities. In this respect, Kenyans anticipate that county development plans will have certain procedures involving marginalized citizens in planning, budgeting and implementation process.

6.4 Conclusion

Grounded on the discoveries, this study concludes that counties play several roles that include economic, social and cultural aspects in there counties. Besides these critical roles the counties have numerous strengths and opportunities that range from education, national unity, health, security and infrastructure that can be utilized to uplift the living conditions of the counties.

A devolved system presents economic, social, and political benefits to the county and its citizens. It creates sub-national entities that enhance accountability by reducing the concentration of power. Consequently, political and public officials will act responsibly. Through devolution, every region of the country can address its regional sentiments through inclusion and participation. In order to ensure an equitable distribution of the national cake, citizens must embrace the new opportunity to deliberate on issues affecting the county. Both local and external investors ought to take this opportunity to invest in counties because they are the new grounds for business. If this system of governance performs as expected, the country will improve its productivity in the next five years. Public services and resources will be close to the community and people will no longer cry of unemployment or poverty.

Lastly, the study concludes that the devolved funds have an impact on the economic Security of the counties though weak.

6.4 Recommendations

The study found that there was poor administrative capacity in terms of internal controls and corruption activities. This study recommends that County Governments should ensure an increased use of modern technology in service delivery and in procurement. This will help to improve efficiency of service delivery in regional governments. This will also help to reduce collusion and corruption in public procurement in County governments.

Devolved governments should improve governance at the local level with positive externalities for national governance. Residents should be encouraged to participate in decision-making, monitoring and evaluation.

To meet both immediate and longer-term needs, training and re-training of personnel will have to be undertaken and this should best be done in the context of the role of county governance. Most of this training needs to be directed at the potential local (county) government personnel level. Training can cover the following areas; understanding the Kenya 2010 Constitutional Mandate on Devolved Government; local government system, roles and responsibilities, functional relationships, and accountabilities; local government finance; local government budgeting and accounting and project implementation.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Introduction Letter to the Respondent

Sonister Timboi

Tel. 0725214044

Email: sonister.timboi@gmail.com

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: <u>REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH AS A RESPONDENT</u>

My name is Sonister Timboi a post graduate student at University of Nairobi. Am currently undertaking a Master's Degree from University of Nairobi as part of the requirements. The study will assess the Impact of Devolution on Economic Growth and Development in Kenya**.** I kindly request your permission to obtain the necessary data that will be collected through the attached instruments. Your answers will be extremely precious in the process of analysis as it will go a long way edge to the understanding of the effect that the introduction of devolution has had on the economic situation in the country.

This research is entirely academic and the information provided will be confidential.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sonister Timboi

Appendix II: Research Questionnaire (1)

Information that will be provided here will be regarded confidential. It is advised that you should not write anything that can describe who you are. Honest opinions will be highly appreciated.

Code No: ………………………….. **Date:………………………………**

There are five parts of this questionnaire. Read the statements carefully and answer by putting a tick.

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1) Please indicate your gender?

   Male [ ] Female [ ]

2) Please indicate your age?

   21 to 30 years [ ] 31 to 40 years [ ] 41 to 50 years [ ] Above 50 years [ ]

3) What is your highest level of education?

   High school level [ ] College level [ ] University level [ ]

   Post graduate level [ ] Other (specify) [ ]

4) Designation

SECTION B: ROLE OF DEVOLVED GOVERNANCE IN ENHANCING ECONOMIC SECURITY

The statements in this section are about the roles of county governance to the economic development in Kenya. Kindly give your perception on the statements below based on the scale provided where; 1 = Not at all, 2 = To a small extent, 3 = To a moderate extent, 4 = To a great extent, 5 = To a very great extent

		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
1.	Decision making					
2.	Policies and procedures					
3.	Financial management					
4.	Internal controls					
5.	Budgetary controls					

6.	Procurement systems					
7.	Leadership					
8.	Health care services					
9.	Education					
10.	Agriculture					
11.	Transport					

SECTION C: POTENTIAL MERITS PRESENTED BY DEVOLVED GOVERNANCE TO THE KENYAN ECONOMIC SECURITY

No	Statement	SD	D	U	A	SA
1.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to bring parity in development opportunities and fair distribution of resources					
2.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to bring power and participation in governance closer to the people					
3.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to promote democratic and accountable exercise of power					
4.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to enhance citizen participation					
5.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to division of roles and responsibilities					
6.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to improve the living standards of people thus reducing the levels of poverty					
7.	Devolved governance is an opportunity to increase the numbers of schools thus raising the standards of education					
8.	Devolved governance is an opportunity for more allocation for infrastructural development					
9.	Devolved governance is an opportunity for increased investment opportunities					
10.	More employment opportunities have been created through devolved governance.					

SECTION D: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEVOLVED GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

		SD	D	U	A	SA
1.	Devolved governance has improved development through educational facility projects in the County					

2.	Devolved funds has improved development through health facilities and infrastructure projects in the County					
3.	Devolved governance has improved development through Water and electricity connection projects in the County					
4.	Devolved f governance has built access roads and bridges in the County					
5.	Devolved governance has improved development through bursaries to needy students in the County					
6.	The health and nutrition projects facilitated by the devolved funds has improved development in the County					
7.	The security projects facilitated by the devolved funds have improved development in the County					
8.	The business and entrepreneurship projects facilitated by the devolved fund have improved development in the County					
9.	The award of tenders for supply of materials for the devolved funds projects to residents of this area has improved development of the County					
10.	The employment creation by devolved funds through direct employment has improved development in the County					
11.	The devolved governance has initiated projects have brought fair distribution of resources for development of the County					

SECTION E: COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

Rate the development of the County in the various listed areas as a result of devolution

		SD	D	N	A	SA
1.	The unemployment rate has gone down.					
2.	School enrollment ratios has increased					
3.	The percentage of people living on less than $1.25 a day has reduced					
4.	The corruption rates have gone down					
5.	The proportion of people surviving under a dollar within a county has reduced.					
6.	Percentage of population in tertiary education has increased.					
7.	The infant mortality rate is low					
8.	There is healthy life expectancy					
9.	The gender inequality has reduced					
10.	The county human security is good					

11.	There is increased happiness Index.					
12.	Population has increased					

Appendix III: Interview Schedule

The following questions attempts to answer the research related to the study. You are hereby requested to respond to them to the best of your ability. The research will put into consideration confidentiality. Your truthful opinion will be highly regarded.

1) What are the roles of county government?
2) If so, what is your official position?
3) From the records at the county government, is there any improvement in the services offered to the public?
4) What economic opportunities are available at the county level to spur economic growth and development?
5) In your opinion what can be done better or differently to guarantee there is better service delivery to the public?