UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

THE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ABUSE ON AGRICULTURAL PLANTATION WORKERS.
A CASE STUDY AT KERITOR TEA ESTATE IN NYAMIRA DISTRICT.

BY

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AUGUST 2007

A Project paper presented in partial fulfillment of the award of masters of Arts degree in sociology specializing in counseling
THE DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS MY ORIGINAL WORK AND HAS NOT BEEN SUBMITTED IN ANY OTHER UNIVERSITY FOR AWARD OF A DEGREE.

ONGAGA MONG'ARE KENNEDY

SIGN: ........................................

DATE: ...01-08-07........

DECLARATION BY THE SUPERVISORS

This project has been carried out under supervision and submission is hereby for examination with our approval as the University supervisors.

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SIGN: ........................................

DATE: 14/08/07

2. PROF. EDWARD MBURUGU

SIGN: ........................................

DATE: 03/08/07
I would like to give thanks to God for granting me the ability to perform this challenging task. I owe special gratitude to my wife Mrs. Zipporah Mong’are for her prayers and moral support. I owe my parents Mr. Ongaga Nyaigoti and Teresia Ongaga gratitude for taking me to school.

I thank my children for their understanding support and cooperation during my study schedule.

Thanks to the Ministry of Education Science and Technology for granting me permission to carry out this study. I am also grateful to Bundi I. Mosoba and Tom R. MOsoba (cousins) for their moral and material support during the study.

I thank all the informants who spared time for the interviews and filling of questionnaires despite their busy schedules.

I would also like to thank my supervisors Mr. Allan Korongo and Prof. Edward Mburugu for their guidance and their timely advice and correction of my report.
DEDICATION

TO:

My sons Max, Alex and Nickson
My wife Zipporah Mong’are and
My parents Mr. Ongaga G Nyaigoti
and Mrs. Teresia N. Ongaga
ABSTRACT

Alcohol is the oldest and most widely intoxicating substance known to man. Alcohol consumption has evolved over time. In early times, it was preserved for elderly men who drank it with order and at a specified time. Alcohol abuse was rare at that time. The purpose of this research was to find out the social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate Nyanira district.

The objectives of this research included:-

1) To find out the contributions of alcohol abuse towards anti-social behaviours among the workers at Keritor tea estate.
2) To examine the manner in which alcohol abuse affects labour output at Keritor tea estate.
3) To establish the extent to which abuse accounts for family disintegration among agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate.

The key methodology of this research was the case study approach, and the topic researched was the social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate. The sample frame ranged between 1500-500 as the number of workers fluctuated due to seasonal changes of weather. A hundred respondents were selected which consisted of 10% of the entire population. The study established that the commonly abused drug at the estate was alcohol because it was cheap, easily available and there was constant supply from the nearby Ikonge market for both legal and illegal brews.

Domestic violence as evidenced by reports at the police post; workers refusing to pay school fees for their children and extra marital affairs formed part of the anti-social behaviours experienced at the estate. At the same time illegal selling of alcohol was a profitable but risky business at the estate as it is outlawed by the management and the government.

Most permanent consumers of alcohol were affected by this drug resulting to absenteeism, weakening of the body and eventual attack by various opportunistic diseases like malaria and typhoid. This has lowered labour output at Keritor tea estate.
To large extent most of alcohol abusers incurred debts to supplement their leisure activities at the estate. The repayment affected their families as they were unable to meet other financial requirements. This brought conflict between partners and sometimes resulted to separation.

In conclusion alcohol was the most commonly abused drug at the estate and it was a problem which needed attention from both the management and the government. The study recommends that:

a) Few workers should be selected and taken for training so that they would educate others on the effects of alcohol abuse for better progress of the company.

b) The management should identify and take serious action against dealers of illegal brews and tighten security around the estate.

c) Salary of workers should be regularly reviewed to reflect the inflation rate in the country.

d) The health centre should be equipped so that it can effectively deal with problems associated with alcohol abuse.
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<td>AIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immune-deficiency Virus</td>
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<td>STI</td>
<td>Sexually Transmitted Infections</td>
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<td>RTI</td>
<td>Research Triangle Institute</td>
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<td>NIAAI</td>
<td>National Institute on alcohol abuse and alcoholism</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHTSA</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Alcohol is a substance with religious, social, economic and political significance. It has virtually universal potential as an object of exchange and leverage. It is the oldest and most widely used intoxicating substance known to man. Not only historical documentary evidence but also archaeological artifacts reveal that the use of alcohol beverages has roots that go back to the earliest stages of man’s development. From the earliest recorded times, alcohol has been used as an integral part of significant social occasions i.e. in religious rituals, in rites of passage from birth to funerals, in public and medicine. But a recurrent feature of the literature on alcohol and drinking is the conflict between its beneficial and its harmful effects.

Alcohol is ubiquitous part of every day life particularly in rural communities where its production and distribution are closely intertwined with consumption. As a medium for communication with the ancestors it has always had a central place in African religious beliefs. In urban and rural areas alike drinking of alcohol provides a focal point for relaxation and socializing. Indeed the range of human emotions kindled by alcohol from celebratory happiness, to dark despair, and from bonhomie to violent revenge impacts drama and enigma to the case study of alcohol usage. And to this alluring cocktail can be added the calculating maneuvers of the alcohol industry and state officials maximizing sales and fiscal revenue from alcohol. Alcohol abusers argue that, drinking locations are ideal nods for meeting people without considering the adverse impacts associated with alcohol abuse. Besides alcohol is associated with insecurity and upsurge of crimes that are organized in drinking dens (Daily Nation July 8th 1999:22).

Historically, alcohol has provided a medium of exchange, facilitating economic reciprocity within the community in the form of barter. In Kenya exchange of beer for
labour was a very common affair although the exact exchange rate was difficult to quantify. From early period in South Africa spirits and later wine tots were used as a method of payment for manual labour (Deborah 2002, 26-27).

Structural adjustment and liberalization policies implemented by African governments at the insistence of international financial institutions have inadvertently accelerated the erosion of local municipal and national controls on alcohol production. Within the informal sector in rural communities across the continent small holder cash cropping has become less remunerative and farming households have turned to nonagricultural income diversification notably brewing and distilling to make up for the shortfalls. The traditional authority figures who safeguarded community values have been increasingly discredited as the local agrarian order experienced the upheaval of market liberalization. The overturn of the local community’s ritual and economic order was termed democratization by youthful men who enjoyed greater authority and leisure.

Alcoholic drinks are used to celebrate important occasions. Alcohol drinks are seen to strengthen social ties with family ancestors and within extended family. But the usage at a special event is usually quantitatively surpassed by every day use.

Alcohol in whatever amount is dangerous to human health in totality. Both in the physical health mental health, spiritual health and social health. It is well known, that alcohol enters the body through the digestive organs from there it passes so readily through all the membranes of the human body (Hershom, et-al 1994. 63)

Alcohol damages the human body, raises susceptibility to infectious diseases, decreases the body’s defense against bacteria and viruses, main cause of various diseases like liver cirrhosis, obesity, heart attack, stroke and decreases sexual function. Alcohol depresses the human brain; it affects the higher centres to the brain and nervous system. Alcohol degrades the human spirit and character. Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant, since it affects learning, judgment, memory and perception. It deprives a person of self-control and removes restraints, which govern behaviour. This may lead to broken relationship, loss of jobs and ultimately loss of self-esteem and corporate respect.
Alcohol use leads to staggering impact in loss on the economy of the work place. The economic cost of alcohol use leads to anonymous loss of billions of shillings annually in reduced productivity, absenteeism and treatment.

My research focused on social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate.

1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The quest for satisfaction in man often compels him or her to consume alcohol although people know about consequences attributed to alcohol. Anticipation to pleasure lures many people to alcohol.

However, alcohol abuse has caused untold sufferings both to the user and the people directly or indirectly depending on them. According to the research done by Kenya Medical Research Institute, alcohol abuse affects 70% of families in Kenya, which have forced the government to formulate a comprehensive alcohol policy in the country (http://ww.921.net/Africa 113.html).

Although alcohol benefits a small percent of population, it causes harm to many people either directly or indirectly. Some of the effects include domestic violence, divorce, promiscuity, and diseases like Typhoid, malaria, HIV/AIDS, and STIs.

Today alcohol is not only the most abused drug but also the cheapest tranquillizer that people can buy freely or use openly. Daily Nation (July 22nd 1999:24) concurs and adds that alcohol is also the most dangerous drug to date. Alcohol is also the most common intoxicant or sedative that is readily available to willing and gullible people world over.

Some of the worst alcohol related incidences in Kenya include the Nov. 2001 occasion when over 140 people died and scores of others lost their eye sight after consuming an illegal ethanol laced alcoholic drink. In June 2005, illegal brew laced with industrial alcohol caused 49 deaths and more than 174 people were hospitalized after consuming home made brew in Ukambani in Eastern province. No wonder then, that women in...
Kangemi, Murang’a and Limuru have raided local brew dens as well as regular bars complaining that their men are constantly becoming economically lazy and sexually inactive (http://ww.921.net/Africa 113.html).

My study therefore uncovered the extent to which alcohol abuse has affected agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate in terms of output, family disintegration and how it has contributed to ant-social behaviours.

Alcohol has not been researched on greatly compared to other drugs like cocaine, tobacco, heroin, bhang, khat and many others. Most governments have put more pressure in controlling drugs like cocaine, bhang, heroin and tobacco, forgetting alcohol despite its consequences. Mugambi (2005) on the effects of Khat on Meru community shows the intensity of drug abuse. She says that, khat chewing has invaded homes, schools, working places and villages. According to the Daily Nation of June 21st 2004 Miraa industry continues to exploit young boys in Miraa growing areas as they harvest and transport the commodity to the collection centers at the expense of schooling. Mugambi says that, there has been high school drop out rate among the youth and concludes that khat affects nearly all aspects of life, social, economic, medical and psychological.

Miano (1999), on abuse of cannabis sativa (bhang) among secondary school students laments that; cannabis taking has undermined the academic ability and performance of students. According to him cannabis is a common drug among secondary school students and this has raised concern among parents, teachers and the wider community including the government. He recommends that, efforts should be geared towards understanding why students indulge in this practice, the effects and the means of controlling its spread.

There are few studies that have been undertaken on alcohol. Kukonya (1981) touches on laws governing liquor consumption. The researcher discussed the history of the laws against local liquor from 1897 to 1980. In general the enactments of laws concerning the banning of illicit brews have tended to increase the consumption of these traditional liquors, than it was before. The persistence of poverty in Kenya has tended to increase the consumption of illegal brew as the government continues licensing more bars which cater
for small population. He concludes that consumption of the illegal brew will not stop in the near future but instead the government should consider regulating the industry.

Omukoko (1987) on the demand on illegal commodity (chang’aa) touches on the underground economic activities associated with chang’aa business. He says that consumption of cheap illicit brews like chang’aa deprives licensed liquor producers of sales thus depressing the amount of excise duty paid to the government. The trade in illicit liquor remains largely unexplored though it is thought to provide a livelihood for a large number of households especially in major urban areas like Nairobi. At the same time it ties down resources that could be utilized in more directly productive activities. On the demand side chang’aa is a commodity whose consumption has inherent risks but this could not seem to have deterred its demand from increasing over time.

Muriithi (2002) who focused on the influence of alcohol consumption on behaviour pattern of the youth said that the effects of alcohol on behaviour cannot be overlooked. He says that alcohol may appeal to the youths as a form of consolation due to fears of failure to achieve in life. This is more the case when a goal or an ambition is apparently unattainable. Alcohol indulgence can be a resort as an escape mechanism from feeling inadequate. He suggests viable intervention strategies to be introduced such as family life education programmes in order to promote responsible behaviour in youth.

The studies quoted above show that the area of alcohol and other psychoactive substances with similar effects on human kind have been conducted although their focus have been directed towards different social environment and targeting people of diverse social economic characteristics. For instance Mugambi focused on effects of khat on Meru community while Miano was interested on the influence of Cannabis Sativa on youths in secondary schools.

Although Omukoko and Muriithi dealt with alcohol consumption, their interest lay on the underground economic activities and influence of alcohol on behaviour patterns of the youth respectively. Their concern was mainly in urban settings. I have undertaken the
research on how alcohol abuse affects the drinkers' social economic aspects in terms of health, family neglects and drives people into anti social behaviour.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

a) How has alcohol abuse contributed to anti-social behaviours among the agricultural plantation workers?

b) Has alcohol abuse affected labour output among agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate?

c) How has alcohol abuse affected family life among the workers at Keritor Tea Estate?

1.3 OBJECTIVES

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To find out the social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the impact of alcohol abuse towards anti social activities among the workers at Keritor tea estate.

2. To examine the manner in which alcohol abuse affects labour output at Keritor tea estate.

3. To establish the extent to which alcohol abuse accounts for family disintegration among agricultural workers at Keritor tea estate.

1.4 RATIONALE (JUSTIFICATION)

Alcohol is a source of government earnings. In Kenya it generates about Kshs 12 billions yearly towards the economy but much of the earnings is used to treat people with alcohol abuse related ailments. (Source; Internet http: www.g 12. net/ Africa 112.html).
Agricultural plantation workers form part of labour force for development in the country. But alcohol abuse has become a problem facing them as it has ruined their careers. Media advertisement of alcohol has influenced the consumption of beer by capturing only the positive side of alcohol and ignoring the negative one which is more destructive to workers.

Alcohol has ruined workers' families and left some jobless and brought suffering both to the consumer and those depending on them.

Alcohol abuse is a contributor to the spread of S.T.I and HIV/AIDS as it alters the state of the mind leading to individuals making a wrong moral judgment.

Alcohol abuse is also a cause of other related diseases like liver cirrhosis, cancer, heart attack, stroke, etc.

Absenteeism from work is always a common feature among the alcohol abusers, which always leads to low productivity. The research focused on social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers at Keritor tea estate.

1.5 SCOPE OF RESEARCH

The study was conducted at Keritor tea estate in Nyanza province Nyamira district. The tea estate covers total land area of 1542 acres which is used for the production of tea and gum trees. The tea estate has one factory which processes both its own tea and out growers. In my visit to the site I was informed that the average daily output of tea was approximately 30,000-50,000 kgs and is supplemented by about 70,000-100,000 kgs from out growers. The estimated working force was around 1500 which is subject to adjustment due to seasonal fluctuation of tea leaves. The workers are mostly from Nyanza and rift valley provinces.

In the problem statement it was observed that alcohol has diverse effect and although some positive contribution have been observed in the alcohol production and trading at the national level, some individuals may also claim to be earning their livelihood through alcohol abuse, however, negative effects have been seen to outweigh positive contributions.
This study specifically focused on alcohol abuse and its socio-economic effects on workers at Keritor tea estate. The sample of my study consisted of all categories of workers who included unskilled semiskilled and skilled workers in various professions at the estate.
CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Background Information on alcohol abuse

The consumption of alcoholic drinks in general has been seen by different scholars to be of ancient origin. MacCarthy (1979) says that the origin of alcohol brewing and drinking is traced as far back as the beginning of agriculture.

Douglas and Meredith (1972) have argued that abuse of alcohol may occur when consumption by an individual exceeds the limits that are accepted by his culture, when he consumes alcohol at times that are deemed inappropriate within that culture, or when his intake of alcohol becomes so great as to injure his health or impair his social relationship.

2.1.2 Historical Development of Alcohol abuse in Africa

According to Fa•ty and Bennets (1998) alcohol has featured prominently in our continent's social and political history. Sorghum millet beers and palm wine dominated and they were usually of low ethanol content. Traditional African beer played an important role in the cultural and religious lives of people for many centuries. Songree (1962), Colson and Scudder (1988) and Ambler (1991) say alcohol production and consumption was highly seasonal, especially with respect to the grain based beers. The pattern of ceremonial festivities and drinking occasions was based on the agricultural cycle. The peak came in the wake of a successful grain harvest when there was real cause for celebration and giving thanks to the ancestors.

Colson and Scudder (1988) stressed that the amount of grain allocated to brewing would have been constrained by practical consideration of the community's grain requirements until the next harvest. Many family and community celebrations such as weddings and
puberty rites were deliberately scheduled to take place in the post harvest period when availability of ingredients for alcohol production was assured. The traditional drinking modality was strongly associated with male elders, who held the highest status in Africa's rural communities. Sangree (1962) stressed that the relevance of special drinking modality faded as colonialists invaded the African traditions.

2.1.3 Colonial Period

Deborah (2000) focused on alcohol changes during the colonial period. With the introduction of maize which replaced sorghum, millet and palm, brewing became more commercialized. Women producers were at the centre of the growth of alcohol as a cottage industry; first in urban areas and later throughout rural Africa. Lentz and Green (1999) notes that the introduction of sugar enhanced ethanol production and further boosted the production of alcohol in Africa. Akyeampong (1996) argues that distillation processes of alcohol spread throughout Africa by Europeans during slave trade in West Africa, and returning soldiers and contract labourers who had learned the techniques when they were outside Africa.

2.1.4 Post Colonial Period

Ngindu (1982) says that after the first two decades since independence, the industrial production of alcohol expanded rapidly throughout the continent. State monopolies figured prominently. The official thinking of the time saw industrialization as the lynchpin of rapid economic development. Alcohol production offered reliable and quick profits despite innumerable handicaps faced by African industry. All these activities promoted alcohol abuse among the urban dwellers and later to the rural population. Alcohol consumption increased in terms of widening availability and array of alcoholic drinks.

According to Haworth et al (1981), some of the major types of brews consumed are shown on the table below:
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Alcohol Content (% Alcohol Volume)</th>
<th>Relative Economic Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Home brewed bear and sap wine</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Non monetized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Commercial cottage Industry brew</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>Very cheap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Commercial Manufactured opaque beer</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Cheap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Commercial Manufactured bottled beer</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Expensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Commercial cottage Industry distilled beer</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>Cheap per unit of alcohol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Commercial distilled Imports</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>Very expensive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Haworth, Mwanalushi and Todd (1981: 28)

Haji (1985), who was mainly interested on Khat consuming communities, focused on the social economic factors related to Khat use and abuse in Kenya. He says Khat is legal in many countries including Kenya and Britain, and it has been accepted as a substitute for alcohol among Muslims, especially during the month of Ramadan. Although Khat can be
abused, it is often used in a social context similar to the manner in which coffee is consumed in other parts of the world. Khat socially can be used to produce excitation, banish sleep and promote communication. It was used as a stimulant to suppress feelings of hunger and fatigue. Khat is a source of revenue to communities which produce and trade on the commodity. It is widely accepted as a social drug in Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia, where special rooms are set aside for Khat chewing. Usually large numbers of people come together "for Khat party" during which ideas are exchanged. Among the Muslims, Khat chewing accompanied Koran reading and singing praises to prophet Mohamed. Among the Meru people Khat chewing sessions took place after long days work and were usually accompanied by traditional beer. This was usually in celebration of a long day or season.

Kalix (1987) Khat users commonly divert their income into Khat chewing neglecting their families' needs. The average family income can sometimes be halved to support the habit. Khat has been implicated as a causal factor for family instability, divorce, encouragement of prostitution and criminal behaviour; Elmi (1983)

Nationally, diversion of resources towards the production or importation and marketing of Khat has a negative impact on the economics of Khat consuming countries; (Baasher 1980).

The cultivation of Khat results in decreased production of other essential crops like cereals, promoting malnutrition and disease; Murad (1983) and leads to low productivity due to absenteeism and the after effects of its use; Halbach (1972), Kalix (1987).

During chewing period, there is generation of disagreements and fights, hence has a negative social effect; Eddy et al (1965), Halbach (1979).

Sometimes Khat produces depression and sleeplessness. In rare occasions the user becomes aggressive and over excited; Lewin (1931).

Miano (1999), drug abuse is a school problem because it undermines a student's ability and performance. UNDCP (1992) shows that students who abuse cannabis sativa
regularly are twice as likely to receive below average marks or failing grades. School dropouts are twice as likely to be frequent on drug abusers.

When many students in a class are under the influence of drugs or absent because of drugs, the progress of all students is impeded, also the pressure is increased on those students who do not abuse drugs. In addition, drug abuse bring to school environment the illegal activities connected with drug abuse, theft, prostitution, selling of drugs to other students and destruction of school and individual property.

Miano (1999) the major ideological task of the adolescent is to form a stable identity so that one can successfully pass into adulthood. This period is characterized by conflicts between parents and adolescents mostly on issues like sex, alcohol and drugs. He says that cannabis sativa is mostly concentrated on secondary school students which raise great concern among parents, policy makers and institutions. Because it has a chilling implication on health, social, psychological, physical, and spiritual status of the youth, therefore a lot of effort should be geared towards understanding why the students indulge in this practice, the effects and the means of controlling its spread.

The above two researches clearly show that a lot of concentration has been done on other drugs rather than alcohol. Even present day governments have tried to control drugs like cocaine, bhang, heroin and have gone ahead to license the production of alcohol despite its consequences. So, there is need to carry out research on alcohol abuse and its implications to assist the government to come up with effective policy on alcohol abuse.

Donde (1984), he classifies brewing among the informal sector. A good majority of those who have been forced out of school for reasons like getting pregnant, for girls, or who have been unable to further their education due to lack of school fees, or failing of examinations, flock to urban areas to join relatives and try to look for any kind of job, though some of them come with pre-determined minds as to what they want to do, their failure to obtain what they had aspired for according to Todaro (1977) drives them into the informal sector to start their own business.
The unlucky lot of dropouts at all levels without qualifications, have even more uphill task to face. In urban areas they become ayahs, matatu conductors, kiosk attendants, shamba boys or become street hawkers selling goods like sweets, cigarettes and fruits. And many others roam streets day and night contributing to congestion, pick pocketing and pilferage.

Brewing of illegal alcohol falls under this category of people. The actual brewing, or distillation is done by mainly those who are young under supervision of their parents. The younger ones act as scouts on the lookout for the police or participate in fetching water or firewood necessary for the activity. David says that not all those in the informal sector have been pushed there by circumstances. Some can engage themselves in brewing of chang’aa as part time activity or supplementary to their incomes.

Donde (1984) argues that chang’aa business requires capital with which to buy all the necessary equipment, though borrowing is allowed at a fee. Many brewers prefer to buy their own equipment. Often teachers and civil servants join in the business by offering the necessary capital as loans. These may be repaid at any convenient time after the sale of the liquor.

Mwangi (1975) in her study of the unmarried women of Mathare, found that they operate a multiple number of businesses that include urban farming, prostitution and brewing. The influx of people into such business increases year by year due to the inability of the formal sector to provide job opportunities for increasing population. He also says that the majority of those engaging in brewing illegal brands of beer are women. In the rural areas, this might not be the case as both sexes are well represented. As for drinkers there is a clear male dominance.

Donde (1984) says that large numbers of people are forced to migrate from the rural areas to urban areas to look for jobs because they do not have land to support themselves. Lack of inadequate supply of land drives many rural folks, whether young or old, to seek direct source of cash. Brewing of traditional beers offers jobless people direct cash required to survive. Clayton (1974) also contributes to the question of land. According to him,
however, it is not so much the issue of lack of land, but the unequal distribution of it. This actually is the case for our Kenyan context. It is well known that there are people in Kenya with fertile chunks of land enough to be sub-divided into plots which can be utilized by other hundreds of citizens. Some do not even cultivate them, yet in other places there are squatters with hardly a plot to build a house. Though this unequal distribution of land is one of the aspects of our economy or mode of production, it has led to many negative social, economic and even political effects on Kenyans.

Donde (1984) argues that since the closure of Busaa clubs by President Moi in 1979 increase in brewing of chang'aa as ever continued (Daily Nation newspaper - 14/04/1979). Since legalized beer and whisky are expensive, the only other cheap alternative brand of beer available in most rural or urban areas was chang'aa. Many people, despite the fact that distillation of chang'aa was illegal, turned to brewing and drinking of chang'aa. At the same time chang'aa was more profitable to the brewers compared to busaa.

Asikoye (1984) has elaborated various advantages and disadvantages:

The business of chang'aa brewing and drinking on a reasonably moderate scale may have one or two positive contributions to development. Unfortunately these are normally overlooked since there are rarely any moderate drinkers for the development of an alcoholic is slow and sure. Brewing of chang'aa has provided some income to unemployed women with a source of income and employment such that they can lead a normal life of enjoying the basic amenities, rights and privileges. Indeed many people have benefited by getting their education via this business.

Chang'aa may be used as a tranquilizer to make people forget the frustrations even though for brief moments. Such people would otherwise be aggressive, violent or suicidal. It also brings people together and eases social tensions.

The physical and mental consequences of excessive alcohol consumption include loss of life. Such a loss in the country like Kenya, where labour intensive techniques of
production are prevalent, is dysfunctional. Human resources constitute the ultimate basis for the wealth of nations. Human beings are the active agents who accumulate capital, exploit natural resources, build social economic and political organizations and carry forward national development Todaro (1976).

Excessive drinking of chang'aa makes people forget their responsibilities. Workers who have to nurse hangovers in the morning cannot work to produce their optimum. This is due to lateness, absenteeism and generally planning how to get their next drink and thus loose interest in the job.

Excessive drinking of chang'aa may lead to break up marriages. This harms the well being of the children who may end up abusing alcohol. It generally ruins people's health, filters off financial resources that could be more useful elsewhere. In general, excessive drinking harms the whole nation.

2.2 Closure of Clubs

It was with the foregoing problems in mind that the President of Kenya gave orders for the closure of clubs for traditional brew. He vowed to fight drunkenness which he said was a "cancer" that wrecked the society, the biggest enemy of development and that could cause the collapse of the nation, His Excellency Daniel Arap Moi (Daily Nation newspaper - 20/12/1978).

The closure of the busaa clubs unfortunately intensified the drinking of chang'aa as the only alternative because legalized commercial brews were expensive. Illegal brewers, often operating under very unhygienic conditions, continue to flourish.

Asikoye(1984) laments that chang'aa consumption at Botsotso location has reached alarming proportions and warrants a study. Government's effort to raise standards of living has been hampered by such obstacles as chang'aa drinking.

Maritim (1984) the vast majority of teenagers in America have experimented with alcoholic beverages. A recent analysis of 120 teenagers drinking surveys in America practices from 1941 to 1975 shows that more than 70% of today's teenagers have had a drink.
Milgram (1982), the initial drinking experience usually takes place around 13 years of age and usually in the home with parents or other adult authority figures present. The number of teenagers who reported ever having been intoxicated has increased dramatically from 19% in 1966 to 45% by 1975.

The United States department of justice statistics for 1976 indicate that 9,679 youths under the age of 15 were arrested in liquor law violations and 271 of the children were 10 years of age or younger.

According to 1978 National Survey of Adolescents conducted by the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAI), 87% of senior high school students reported they had tried drinking at least once. Approximately 20% reported drinking at least once a week. Williams reports that these figures have remained high and relatively constant over the past several years, making alcohol the drug most widely used by American youth.

In 1982, the First Lady of the United States, Nancy Reagan, reported to the American Medical Association her concerns about alcohol and youth. In her speech, she indicated that alcohol and drug abuse was still high and that one out of every three youngsters between the ages of 12 and 17 were abusing liquor.

It is estimated that there are approximately 17 million young people in the 14-17 age bracket in the United States. Approximately 19% or 3.3 million of them are problem drinkers. It should not be surprising therefore, that we should have a special concern for young people. Smart (1978) poignantly commented that; quote:

"We have a special concern for young people because they represent extensions of ourselves. They come fresh and with little experience to the unsolved problems of the last generation. Since they are both the carriers of biological and cultural life, it is essential that we take a special interest in their problems and general behavior. In a real way they represent whatever hope exists for the future of our individual countries and for mankind in general."
We must realize that today's young people are raised in drinking societies where per capita consumption of alcohol and other drugs are constantly increasing. Without proper methods of helping the youth to deal with these problems, further increases are expected to create even more problems for the future generations.

**Drinking, Driving and Traffic Fatalities**

According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of disabling injuries caused yearly by drunk drivers has been a major reason for current concern about alcohol abuse. Approximately 50,000 Americans are killed by highway accidents each year. One third of all traffic injuries are related to alcohol. These figures say nothing about the immense costs in wage losses, medical expenses, property damage and insurance costs.

Besides motor vehicle accidents, alcohol has also been strongly implicated in deaths and injuries resulting from home, recreational and industrial accidents.

Alcohol has also been implicated in up to 44% of civilian aviation accidents in which the pilot died. Problem drinking and alcoholism cost the nation $46 billion in 1979, a cost that is still rising.

Karpf and Williams (1983), teenage drivers contribute substantially to motor vehicle related deaths, both their own and others. Teenage drivers have elevated rates of fatal crashes, perhaps the greatest concern is the fact that a great deal of teenage drinking among moderate to heavy drinkers takes place in or around cars. The major health problem for teenagers in the United States is injuries associated with drinking and motor vehicle use.

A research project paper by Omukoko (1987) on the demand on illegal commodity (chang'aa) touches on the underground economic activities associated with chang'aa business. He says that consumption of cheap illicit brews like chang'aa deprives licensed liquor producers of sales thus depressing the amount of excise duty paid to the government. In fact the question of revenue was one of the most overriding reasons for
placing an import ban on "Uganda Waragi" (chang'aa). It was stated that the importation of this gin from Uganda would:

- Have serious effects on the annual revenue earned from high quality liquor imported from overseas.
- Affects the production of Kenya's distillery which produced high quality gin and brandy.
- Give many illegal distillers of Nubian gin more opportunities to bottle their own product and in that way deprive the Kenyan government of even more revenue.

The trade in illicit liquor remains largely unexplored though it is thought to provide a livelihood for a large number of households especially in the major urban areas like Nairobi. At the same time it ties down resources which could be utilized in more directly productive activities.

On demand side chang'aa is a commodity whose consumption has inherent risks but these do not seem to have deterred its demand from increasing over time. The importance of demand-side analysis of the chang'aa trade is due to the noticeable ineffectiveness of legal and administrative effort in curbing the trade by emphasizing on supply-side related measures. Examples of such measures include raids and destruction of distilling factories, heavier fines and longer custodial sentences for producers and retailers.

An individual perception of the risk of arrest and punishment would to a large extent determine whether or not he participates in illegal activity. It is to be expected that the higher the risk of arrest the lower the propensity to commit an offence. The studies concentrate on the individual's perception of the legal risk of drinking illicit brews and its significance in explaining his or her consumption.

Kakonya (1981) touches on the laws governing liquor. The researcher discussed the history of the laws against local liquor from 1897-1980. His research proved that people who virtually earned their living from chang'aa brewing and selling were mostly the
landless especially those living in slums in various towns and around the countryside. In general the enactment of laws concerning the banning of illicit brews has increased the consumption of these traditional liquors, than it was before. The persistence of poverty in Kenya has increased the consumption of the illegal brews as the government continues licensing more bars which cater for small population. He concludes that the consumption of illicit brews would never stop in the near future instead the government should consider regulating the industry.

Kakonya (1981) articulated the history of laws governing liquor consumption in Kenya, and gave a workable solution towards regulation of liquor. My area of concern will be how liquor has affected people socially and economically in Kenya.

Muriithi on his research project paper, he says that effects of alcohol on behaviour of the youth cannot be overlooked. Edwards (1992: 15) warns that alcohol is a dangerous depressant, which dulls mental faculties and cause mood swings. It is important that youths are counseled and guided about what transpires when they come into contact with intoxicating substance principally alcohol. He suggests viable interventions strategies to be introduced, such as family life education programmes, in order to promote responsible behaviour in youths in regard to alcohol consumption patterns.

Muriithi talked about the youths and suggested viable solutions towards intoxication of alcohol. My concern will be on plantation workers and how they have been affected economically and socially by alcohol abuse.

Sourmia (1990: 112), points that these poor bases of information in society allows many social miseries to permeate every aspect of social life, including how we relate with family members.

Recent study on the state of HIV/AIDS in Kenya attributes 40% of the pandemic to irresponsible alcohol indulgence. Even if alcohol is a lubricant in many social ceremonies or religious festivals, it adds to the toll of social problems that are rampant in the society at a time.
Recent economic changes in Kenya have adversely affected the standards of living of most Kenyans. In fact, Kenyans are said to be poorer and less nourished than at independence. The priority of most Kenyans is to fend for basic livelihood and to eke a living in order to make ends meet. Bahemuka et al (1998). With exacerbating levels of poverty, alcohol seems to be a momentary mechanism of escape from frustrations and alienation characterising modern living.

Edwards (1981: 56), agrees that alcohol is a resource in an economy. Alcohol brewing industry provides employment and is a source of income to the people as well as earning a country foreign exchange. This benefits do not accrue to the rural people as most of the manufacturing industries are urban based.

Donde (1984) who focused on the impact of closure of Busaa clubs talks of unemployment of the youth which has driven them into informal sector. The cheapest employment which requires little capital according to him is brewing. He says there is influx of people to this business increasing year by year due to the inability of the formal sector to provide job opportunities.


The above researchers are mostly urban based and have dealt with different issues as enumerated above. My research therefore which is rural based targeted the social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

The basic aim of science is theory. It aims to find general explanation of natural events. Kerlinger (1964) defines a theory a set of interrelated constructs concepts definitions and propositions that presents a systematic view of phenomena by specifying relations among variables, with the purpose of explaining and predicting the phenomena. This means that the very nature of theory lies in its explanation of observed phenomenon. The theories,
which I used in my study, included the social exchange theory and observational learning theory.

2.3.1 Social Exchange Theory

Social exchange theory holds that learning is brought about through reward and punishment, with the principles of classical economics. Thus according to this theory people enter into exchange relationship because they derive rewards from doing so. In the case of alcohol people enter into exchange relationship as they are rewarded with pleasure, way of escape from economic and social problems, relaxation, meeting with friends, peer pressure, and recognition, e.t.c.

In everyday life individuals from time to time give to and receive things from one another. This process of giving and taking is termed as exchange. The exchange may be composed of tangible items or non-tangible items or both. The tangible items may include money, food, cards and clothing, while the non tangible ones may consist of greetings, appreciative glances, attention and love.

The proponents of the exchange theory are George C Homans (1974), Peter Blau (1964) and Scheneider. While the proponents of the rational action theory are Adam Smith and Jeremy Bentham. These social scientists have helped to define social exchange theory.

Homans (1974) definition of the exchange theory is more elaborate and it encompasses all activities regardless of whether rewards are accepted or not. While Peter Blaus(1964) definition of the exchange theory is limited to reward cost and profit.

The social exchange theory views reciprocity as the most basic form of human interaction. The social exchange theorists Peter M. Blau (1964) and George C. Homans(1974) argue that a wide range of social behaviours is composed of processes of exchange. Most forms of social exchange whatever forms they take are usually guided by the principle of reciprocity Gauldner (1973). The purpose of reciprocity is to strengthen the social bond and keep the interaction alive by creating new social obligations. Peter M Blau (1964) argues that manual reciprocation being the basic form of human interaction, it can be observed everywhere. Not only in market relations but also in friendship and even in love; as in many social relations between these extremes of intimacy.
In addition, Blau and other social exchange theorists see reciprocity as partly giving social life order and predictability. In alcohol consumption reciprocity takes a central stage between the consumer and the seller. It is very common to find a drunkard person sharing and reasoning perfectly with the seller who is sober. Reason being the bonds and trust the seller and the consumer have created between them make them understand each other. That is why sellers of alcohol maintain specific set of consumers while laying traps to capture new ones.

The theorist portrays human life as social endeavor because in most cases individuals can satisfy their needs only through or in cooperation with others. The fact is that all behavior involves costs, though people anticipate that their actions will achieve rewards to reduce costs. Many people are willing to commit themselves to long term relationships and to make continuing investments with no immediate returns, so long as they expect that they will eventually be able to obtain more favorable outcomes.

George Horman, (1974) is one of the most outstanding exponent of current exchange theory, he believes in the following propositions:

a. **Success Proposition**

This proposition emphasizes that for all actions taken by a person, the more often a particular action of a person is rewarded, the more likely the person is to perform the action. The more pleasure a person derives from alcohol, the more likely he/she would continue to consume.

b. **The Stimulus Proposition**

States that, if past occurrence of particular stimulus or set of stimuli, has been the occasion on which a person's action has been rewarded, the more likely the person is to perform the action or similar action. The social bonds created at the drinking dens would always influence individuals to continue going back to the same place. The social bonds
include, the services offered by attendants, type of entertainment experienced at the den e.g. music and the type of friends commonly found at the drinking den play a big role in maintaining alcohol consumers.

2.3.2 Observational Learning Theory

Observational learning theory is a theory which emphasizes a form of learning in which individuals acquire both information and new forms of behaviour through observing others. (Bandura (1977). Such learning plays a role in a very wide range of human activities. In essence any time that a human being observe others, they can learn from them these experiences, and such learning can then play an important part in their own behaviour. Human beings can observe and acquire both negative and positive experiences. Individuals can become aggressive through observation learning through the media. People tend to observe and imitate models either as advertised in the media or role models on the surroundings.

Most culprits of beer drinking observe others when drunk and eventually end up taking it. The youth observe and learn how their parents abuse alcohol eventually they would do the same. Plantation workers observe their colleagues or their seniors and as a result learn to drink later.

The effects of observational learning on our behaviour can be indeed be powerful and not always for good. For example, observational learning may contribute to the development of unhealthy behaviours, including smoking, taking of alcohol especially among adolescents. Observing peers who smoke or drink contributes to teenagers own decision to start drinking of alcohol and smoking.

As plantation workers live together in estates, they keep on observing and learning others every time and again. During leisure time, many workers find themselves taking alcohol because of the influence of others.
2.4 Conceptual Framework

Cost Benefits of Alcohol to Public and Private Sectors

Nachamias and Nachamias (1996) define a model as an abstraction from reality which orders and simplifies our view of reality by representing its essential characteristics. The reality of alcohol consumption in terms of its cost and benefits to the public and private sector is shown in the diagram below.

The diagram below shows how alcohol negatively and positively affects people both in the public and private sectors. As people are negatively affected as shown on B1-B5 on the diagram, others gain as shown in C1-C5 on the diagram.
COST BENEFIT OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES TO THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

**Costs**

B1. Loss of tax receipts when wages and salaries decrease because employees are either absent from work or their productivity declines due to alcohol consumption.

B2. Expenditure on:
   a) Publicly financed health care to treat illness/injuries involving alcohol consumers and victims of their actions.
   b) Publicly financed police/court/penal system for situations where alcohol consumption is a contributing factor.

B3. Opportunity loss resulting from the use of land for producing input grains for commercially produced beer which could have been used to produce agricultural foodstuffs of higher nutrition value.

B4. Reduction in earnings income following a decline in health or loss of life of the consumers and or their victims.

B5. Household expenditures to treat those misusing alcohol or those affected by their actions.

**Benefits**

C1. Taxes on the private incomes of private persons involved in the commercial production of alcohol (and related industries, e.g. trucking and advertising).

C2. Excise taxes on the purchase of alcohol products. Fines from courts.

C3. Proceeds from producers who purchase government supplied resources (e.g. water and electricity).

C4. Physical/social pleasure from consuming alcohol.

C5. Generation of employment and income-earning opportunities to workers, producers and suppliers of other resource inputs.

### 2.5.1 Operationalization of Variables

A variable is anything that can take on differing or varying values. According to Singleton, et al (1988: 72), dependent variable is that which the researcher is interested in explaining and predicting. The independent variable is that which explains or predicts changes in the dependent variable(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent Variable</th>
<th>Dependent Variable</th>
<th>Variable Indicators</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| **Alcohol abuse**    | Anti social activities | Not taking children to school  
|                      |                    | Promiscuity, arson  
|                      |                    | Abusive language  
|                      |                    | Stealing  
|                      | Lower labour output | Lateness, irresponsibility at work, Absenteeism at work,  
|                      |                    | low morale at work, lack of cooperation, inability to perform a signed task due to sickness  
|                      | Family disintegration | Divorce/ separation, violence among spouses, children rebellion/ drug use/ alcohol abuse, drop out of school going children, poverty at family level.  

Any irresponsible beverage which may lead to misconduct, unacceptable social behaviour, or impairment of an individual’s performance of duty, physical or mental health, financial responsibility or personal relationships. e.g. Family quarrels, fighting on slightest provocation, Lack of cooperation.
CHAPTER THREE

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction - Research Design

This chapter focuses on the research design that was used in this study. Kerlinger (1964: 275) defines a research design as a plan, structure and strategy of investigation conceived so as to obtain answers to research questions and to control variance. A research design guides the research in collecting or gathering, analyzing and interpreting observed facts. The Chapter covers site description, target population, unit of analysis and observation, sampling procedure, data collection procedures and data analysis techniques.

3.2 Site Description

My study was conducted at Keritor Tea Estate in Nyanza Province, Nyamira District. The tea estate covers total land area of 1542 acres which is used for the production of tea and gum trees. The estate has one factory which processes both its own tea and out growers. Keritor tea estate was purposively selected from other tea estates in Nyamira District.

The estate provides the uniqueness and the variability required in this study. First, transport network is better as the tea estate is near Kisii, Chemosit, tarmac road which eased my transport to and from the estate. Second, the population involved originates from divergent areas. Different tribes coexist with each other at the estate. This factor allowed me to obtain information from different backgrounds and traditions.

The estate boarders the low and high density population areas. There is a settlement scheme surrounding the estate which provides vegetables and cereals to the plantation workers. The estate neighbours Ikonge Market with high population density which is the source of both labour and other substances like Chang'aa which is consumed at the estate.
The research site is appropriate because no such activity has been undertaken in Keritor Tea Estate in spite of the consequence alcohol is associated with. The means of transport and communication has facilitated the consumption of alcohol. The tarmacked Kisii Chemosit road and the advent of mobile phones have enhanced the distribution of alcohol.

Due to the limitation of time, materials and financial resources, I considered Keritor Tea Estate, which was among the Kipkebe group of companies, as it is strategically located and is easier to connect using road transport. I was also familiar with the area and therefore I required few guides and this reduced my research costs. The findings were used to generalize on other tea estates.
Keritor tea estate housing settlement

The photograph below shows the housing settlement camp for tea pickers. Some of the houses are grass thatched. As you rise in grade at the estate the better the house you are provided with. This is one among the nine camps found at the tea estate.

Map of Keritor tea estate
3.3 Unit of Analysis

According to Schuff (1996: 593), unit of analysis is the level of social life on which the research question is focused. The unit of analysis is thus the category across which the study's variables vary.

Singleton further sees a unit of analysis as what or who is to be described or analyzed. Units of analysis can therefore be individuals, people, social roles, positions or even relationships.

Based on these definitions therefore my unit of analysis was the "social economic effects of alcohol abuse on agricultural plantation workers". And my unit of observation was the "agricultural plantation workers" at Keritor tea estate.
3.4 Sampling

Sampling is taking any portion of the population from the universe as representative of that population or universe. This definition implies that, a sample is not representative of the total population but rather taking a portion of that population as representative. Kerlinger (1964: 52). The sample of the study was derived from the list of plantation workers at Keritor Tea Estate. Due to constraint of time, budget and human resources, not all elements in the sampling frame were interviewed. Probability and non probability sampling techniques were employed to select units of observation that eventually formed the sample population.

Cluster sampling

There were nine camps with different population sizes grouped into nine clusters. The criteria I used to identify the respondents was based on the work performed as workers lived in various camps according to the work they performed i.e. tea pickers, factory workers, clerks, and managerial staff.

Out of nine camps three belonged to clerks, managerial staff and factory workers, while the rest were occupied by tea pickers. Because I wanted to obtain divergent views from workers I purposively selected the first three, while I did random sampling among the six camps and obtained one which I included among the three.

I randomly selected six workers each from a camp. Five pieces of papers written No and one written Yes were given out to six respondents. The one who chose Yes was traced to the camp he came from, and that is how I came up with Soweto camp.

The total population from the four camps was 284 workers. From this sample frame I used both purposive and random sampling to obtain the respondents.

From Soweto camp 52 pieces of paper written Yes and 98 written No were given out. Those who chose the 52 Yes pieces of paper were selected and formed part of my respondents. I did the same to camp factory where I ended up choosing 38 respondents. For the last two I used purposive sampling to select the respondents. From the clerks camp I obtained 8 respondents who included 4 clerks, two police officers and two nurses, and finally from managerial camp I included the two managers. In total I selected 100
respondents who constituted 10% of entire working force which fluctuated from 500-1500 due to seasonal variation of weather.

3.5 Sources of Data

3.5.1 Primary data sources

The primary data was sourced by targeting the plantation workers using questionnaires, key informant interviews, and observations. The primary source was obtained directly from the informants.

3.5.2 The Secondary data sources

The secondary data was reviewed from published and unpublished literature. These materials were sourced through electronic websites and libraries. I reviewed relevant information in order to give more information that might not have been captured by the techniques of primary data collection.

3.6 Methods of Data Gathering and Collection

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were applied

3.6.1 Qualitative techniques

Qualitative methods were used to gather information from the field. The methods included interview schedules, face to face interviews with the management.

3.6.2 Quantitative techniques

It included the use of questionnaires, oral interview and observation. I also obtained other information from the secondary sources which included Journal, books website (Internet) e.t.c.

3.7 Data Analysis

Data analysis is the process of bringing order, structure and interpretation to the mass of gathered or collected data. Both qualitative and quantitative data was analyzed.
Quantitative Data Analysis
Data was mainly obtained from structured questionnaires. Before processing the responses, the completed questionnaires were edited for completeness and consistency. The data was coded to enable the responses to be grouped into categories. Descriptive statistics was used to summarize the data using SPSS programme. The descriptive statistics was to enable me to meaningfully describe a distribution of scores or measurements using a few indices or statistics.

Qualitative Data Analysis
Interview schedules were given to obtain data from the managerial staff, police, clerks and nurses. It was supplemented by face to face interviews. The obtained data was organized into themes and sub-themes based on objectives for purposes of analysis.
CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION
This chapter presents the findings of the study. It provides the general information concerning alcohol abuse at Keritor tea estate. The section presents both qualitative and quantitative data.

4.2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Response rate
The questionnaire administered to the workers who were the main respondents was 100 copies. Eighty five (85) respondents returned the questionnaires.

4.2.1 District of origin for the respondents
Respondents originated from various districts as shown in the pie chart 1. Sixty eight percent (68%) were from Nyamira, 18 % from Kisii Central, 6 %, Buret, Transmara; Bomet; and Kisumu accounted for 4 % respectively. Smaller percentages of workers came from other districts.

The main source of workers at Keritor tea estate was Nyamira district. This is mainly because of low wages paid as most workers supplement their incomes by growing food crops on their farms which are nearby or by leasing farms which are near the estate to cultivate food crops for their upkeep. At the same time unemployment is Nyamira district, which is also a common problem in the country encourages employers to give low wages because of oversupply of labour. New workers from far districts will automatically require to be housed at the estate since transport cost is a problem. Most of the houses in the estate are occupied by permanent workers, and it becomes difficult for new workers to operate from outside the estate with the type of wages offered, and so workers from far are easily discouraged and that why they are few.
4.2.2 Gender of the respondents

Eighty three percent of respondents were men while 17 % were women as shown in pie chart 2. This is partly attributed to the culture of the Kisii’s and Kipsigi’s communities who believe that it is the responsibility of men to look for employment to feed and educate their children.

Culture allows man to be the bread winner and he must go out to look for employment. Most women do household chores which are commonly found at the homestead.

Pie chart 2  Gender of the respondent
4.2.3 Duration one has worked in the tea estate
Nearly eighty five percent of the respondents had worked at 'the estate for more than 5 years, 7.1% had worked between 3-4 years, 3.6 % had worked between 1-2 years and only 4.8 % had worked below one year as shown in graph 1. This shows that most workers know how systems operate at the estate. For example consumers of alcohol understand how illicit brews are brought to the estate, where to find the commodity at safe areas, since the management and the government are against the selling of this illegal brews. They may also know the law enforcers and how to deal with them when caught red handed. All this may have implications for alcohol consumption.

Graph 1 - Duration One Has Worked In the Tea Estate

4.2.4 Marital status of the respondents
As illustrated in pie chart 3 most respondents (83%) were married, while 9.5% were single, 3.5% were widowed, 2.4% widowers and only 1.2% were separated. The high percentage of married people was attributed to culture. Being a rural based society where most traditions are upheld, marriage is one of the highly recognized norms which are still in force even today. The unmarried groups are likely to be influenced to consume more alcohol since women are likely to deter men from excessive drinking.
4.2.5 Age distribution of the respondents

The graph below shows that respondents below 30 years of age constituted 29.8 % while those between 31-40 years were 42.9 % and above 41 years were only 27.4 %. Most workers at the estate are below 40 years. Most of their children are in public primary schools where payment of the school fees is nearly free. Most of their income may easily be spend on leisure activities including alcohol consumption.

Graph 2 Age distribution of the respondents
4.2.6 Education levels of respondents

Table 1 below shows that the working population is skilled. 27.1% of respondents had completed primary education and 53% of the respondents had completed secondary education, 12.9% had post secondary education while only 4.7% never completed primary education. This research established that workers were capable of defending their rights as many of them were enlightened. Some of the rights included the freedom to associate with others to have leisure activities provided at the estate, including bars where liquor is sold. At the estate two bars exists for selling legal brews at specified period. Enlightened workers operate systems at the estate which are difficult to detect by the management. For example the consumption of illegal brews which is prohibited by the management still goes on and rarely are the culprits caught.

Table 2 Percentage distribution of respondents by level of education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of education</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Never completed primary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed primary school</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Education</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>55.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate/Diploma/Degree</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: field data

4.2.7 Religion of the respondents

Most respondents (83%) were Christians. Only a small proportion were Muslims. The rest (16%) did not belong to any religion. The pie chart 4 below summarizes the findings. Religion plays an important role in deterring people from consuming alcohol as it is against their believes. But there are some denominations which allow the taking of
alcohol example Catholic. The allowance can easily lead to alcohol abuse. In this case religion may not contribute in a negative way to the consumption of alcohol.

Pie chart 4 - Religion of the respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any other</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.8 Distribution of workers in the estate
The working population (68%) is mainly composed of tea harvesters and factory workers. Other workers form a small percentage as shown in the graph 3 below. Majority of workers are unskilled and semi skilled and always obtain their skills through on-job training. Because their pay is low, this may force the alcohol drinkers to resort to illegal brews as the legal ones are expensive.

Graph 3 Workers Occupation,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Factory worker</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea picker/ Harvester</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2.9 Household size

Twenty percent have less than 2 children, 35.3% have between 3-4 children as shown in table 2 below. Most workers at the estate have less than 4 children as they are aware of family planning. There is a health centre which offers free services to the workers on various methods of family planning. The lesser responsibility on children may encourage workers to participate on leisure activities found at the estate, i.e. games and alcohol consumption. As majority of the respondents have families/children who are bound to be affected by the tendency of parents consuming alcohol which may lead to lack of education and family disintegration.

Table 3: Household size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of children</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>23.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 and above</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: field data*

4.3 MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM OF ALCOHOL ABUSE

4.3.1 Prevalence of alcohol consumption

Eighty one percent (81%) of respondents noted that alcohol was the commonly abused drug at the estate as shown in pie chart 5. This was because alcohol was cheap, easily available and easy to make. There was also easy supply of the liquor from Ikonge market which is nearby for both legal and illegal brews.
Alcohol consumers at the estate

Thirty six (36%) of respondents admitted to the consumption of alcohol while 64% reported to be abstaining from it. However this may not necessarily reflect the true nature because some respondents may not readily admit that they take alcohol. Pie chart 6 below shows the findings.

Pie chart 6 Alcohol consumers
Duration of alcohol consumption

Out of 36% of respondents as indicated at the pie-chart above 9.4% of the workers were below one year, 3.1% were between 1-2 years, 25% were between 3-5 years and the rest (62.5%) have consumed alcohol over 6 years. The graph 4 below summarizes the findings. Nearly 63% are dedicated consumers who have maintained alcohol market at the estate for quite sometime.

Graph 4  Duration of Alcohol Consumption

Alcohol business

Graph below shows nearly 20% of respondents agreed that alcohol business in and around the estate was profitable. Sixty five percent of respondents said that the business was risky but paying as the management and the government was against the selling of illicit brews.

A small percentage of 3 noted that alcohol business was not profitable. Twelve percent observed that there were very little or no returns while 22.4% never responded to the question.
In general about 85% of respondents agreed that the business of alcohol was profitable implying that the business had dedicated consumers at the estate. A worker who is a businessman in the estate commented the following.

"Alcohol selling is a delicate business which requires careful management if you expect to obtain profits. You must maintain good relationship with the management and drinkers, since debtors can easily be advised or forced to pay up by the management on previous accumulated debts and preserving constant supply of customers".

The quote above implied that alcohol dealers enhanced the consumption of the drug as they balanced the relationship between their customers and the management. They were even ready to give their customer credit to enhance consumption.

Graph 5 Alcohol business
4.3.2 Contributing factors to alcohol consumption at the estate

The research established that about 41.2% of respondents argued that peer influence was the greatest cause of alcohol consumption. Twenty one percent were influenced by individual companies through advertisement, 7.2% attributed their consumption to personal desires, while the rest gave various reasons which included a meeting point to discuss with friends, stimulated relaxation and refreshment and provided solutions to various problems affecting them. The clerk at the estate had the following comment:

"Many new employees indicate that they do not consume alcohol but with time at the estate they end up being influenced by others to consume alcohol."

From the quote above it indicated that new workers who joined the estate were not alcohol takers, but later were influenced by other workers to consume alcohol as they continued working at the estate.

4.4 CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL ABUSE

4.4.1 Alcohol and anti-social behaviour

The study established that 85% of workers took their children to school. There were various reasons attributed to this, which included the free primary education provided by the government, a well established primary school built by the company and encouragement by management. Few workers around 9% were reluctant to take their children to school with all the incentives provided above. As one of the clerk lamented.

Table 4: School going children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do your children go to school</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Per cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Most of these few workers who do not take their children to school are troublemakers at the estate. They have a don’t care attitude towards life and do not value education as most of them are alcohol abusers”.

It can be deduced from the above that alcohol abuse is a contribution to one of the anti-social behaviour of not taking children to school.

There were various misconduct experienced at the estate which was captured by the clerk in the following quote

“A worker burned a grass thatched house at the estate as a result of alcohol abuse. There were also some incidents which were mainly caused by alcohol abuse, which included fighting others on slightest provocation, quarrelling, spending night outs without knowing e.t.c”.

Such incidents quoted above comprised the misconduct committed as a result of alcohol abuse and formed part of the anti-social behaviours experienced at the estate. It was not easy for families living in the estate to disclose the various domestic problems experienced. Most of them said that they were living happily with their partners. But there were cases which were reported concerning domestic violence at police post which serves the estate.

Some of the cases included, battering of women by men, workers refusing to pay school fees for their kids and extra marital affairs. (The information was confidential, figures and names were not provided). Some of the cases were solved through mutual understanding between the concerned parties, other were pending while others were referred to higher authorities. It was also not easy for the workers to disclose various types of diseases which affected them. But visiting the dispensary which serves the estate, I found out that there were several diseases which were common among the workers at the estate. The most common ones were malaria, typhoid, flu, HIV/AIDS.

A nurse had the following to comment

“Alcohol consumers are mostly affected by these diseases because of unhygienic condition under which the illicit brews were stored and consumed. Some of the alcoholic brews had high contents or percentage of alcohol which led to consumers to be intoxicated easily and ended up spending night outs and hence being attacked by mosquitoes, rapists or thugs. At the same time it was after
consuming alcohol that individuals ended up making wrong moral judgment at engaging in unprotected sex eventually resulting into HIV infection".

Spending night outs without knowing, immorality and excessive consumption of illicit brews constitute part of the anti-social behaviours experienced at the estate.

There were other anti-social behaviours as told by the estate clerk

"Few fights were experienced at the end of the month as debtors refused to pay up what they owed others as a result of accumulated debts due to consumption of illegal brews. It was difficult to report the debts to the management for settlement hence physical confrontation".

From the above quotation, I deduced that few individuals who abused alcohol incurred debts which were mostly cleared at the end of the month. Workers who refused to pay encouraged fighting among them. This constituted the anti-social behaviour experienced at the estate.

4.4.2 Alcohol and Labour Output

Alcohol abuse directly and indirectly affects the production of tea negatively as it was captured by this worker who said

"I started taking small quantities of beer but lately I am spending up to half of my salary on alcohol. I am defeated on how to leave this habit. This days I have lost my appetite towards food and when drunk I can only manage to eat food which contains meat, which is obvious expensive to buy".

Individuals who don’t eat well because of alcohol abuse would not have the energy required to produce to their maximum, hence lower labour output.

It was evident that alcohol abuse contributed to lower production of tea at Keritor tea estate.
Table 5 below shows the actual amount of tea produced at the estate 2006.

Table 5: Actual amount of tea produced 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Quantity produced</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Quantity produced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>528425</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>257765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>505245</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>460400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>260260</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>383970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>112450</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>280370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>19380</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>573235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>231130</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>311995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were a lot of fluctuations in tea production as a result of droughts and hailstones. Many workers were laid off due to this decline. This promoted the consumption of illicit brews as workers were idle and lacked cash to buy legal brews. This promoted promiscuity, quarrels among workers, creation of debts anticipating paying after re-employment, lack morale and cooperation to work effectively to produce to his/her maximum. This habitual taking of alcohol seasonally will weaken the individual workers not to produce to his/her maximum.

At the mid and end of every month, workers consumption of alcohol goes up. This was captured by a paying clerk who said:

"Most of the workers when paid go home to attend to family financial matters. Other enjoy overnight with alcohol and other leisure activities at the estate on outside. The following day, those who traveled could have not returned and those who enjoyed overnight have hangovers and that is why production of tea is always low the day following the pay day".
The consumption of excessive alcohol during pay day contributed to lower production of tea as shown in table 6 below.

Table 6: Actual amount of tea produced on month of August at Keritor tea estate 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26840</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16880</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>29015</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>33510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>26865</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24660</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>32885</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28600</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>28625</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19750</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>27050</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27190</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5685</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19380</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23995</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22440</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>18635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6060</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14400</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4955</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17095</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17905</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11600</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To some extent alcohol abuse make workers not to attend to their normal duty. They absent themselves form work due to hangovers and illness caused by alcohol abuse. Illegal consumption of alcohol at the estate is a secretive activity as it is at outlawed by the government and the management. This consumption is a problem to be managed as elaborated by the factory manager

"Alcohol abuse is a manageable problem at the estate. It is a secretive activity done by workers and whenever we discover them drunk at the factory we warn and take stern action against them like suspending them for two weeks. But still the problem persists as you cannot clear it completely. Alcohol makes workers to be careless at the factory and sometimes causes accidents which leads to litigations against the company and hence loses to the whole company".

The irresponsibility of workers as a result of alcohol abuse causes accidents in the factory and leads the company to incur various costs which include the costs of the cases until they are finalized and the awards given if the company loses the cases. This lowers production output of the company in general.
Table 7 below shows the actual cases the company has faced since 2000-2007

Table 7: Number of cases instituted against the company

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of cases</th>
<th>No. of won cases</th>
<th>No. of lost cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Still pending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many cases were won by the company as a result of effective defense put forward by the company lawyers. But those lost costed the company large sums of money in compensation to loss of work and injury. However the large amount ended up in the pockets of lawyer who represented the clients. This has discouraged the aggrieved workers not to launch new cases as clients ended up coming to the company for assistance. This has increased the cost of production in the company and contributed to lower output.

At the same time, the irresponsibility of workers as a result of alcohol abuse forces the sober workers to work excessively to cover or compensate those who are drunk. This arrangement cannot produce the same result and interferes with the quality of the end product and eventually cause low prices at the International Markets.

From the perception of respondents it was agreed that alcohol consumption negatively affected the consumers.
The table below shows the extent to which alcohol affected the consumers.

Table 8: Perception of Alcohol Consumption

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extent of alcohol by ranking</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (No effect)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (Extensive effect)</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>38.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearly 3.5% of the respondents argued that there was no effect caused by alcohol. Around 39% of respondents said that alcohol moderately affected them while 39% agreed that alcohol negatively affected the consumers, 19% never responded. This perception of respondents concurred with the above factors that alcohol affected labour in terms of production.

4.4.3 ALCOHOL AND FAMILY DISINTEGRATION

Some few families have disintegrated as a result of alcohol abuse. Financial mismanagement which has been associated with alcohol consumption by respondents at the estate caused misunderstanding between partners and eventually disintegration. Table 8 gives the responses on how financial situation in the families is experienced by respondents. Most respondents who were alcohol consumers incurred debts which were hard to pay.
Table 9: Financial situation of workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Situation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worse</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slightly worse</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total</strong></td>
<td><strong>85</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This scenario was captured by the paying clerk who said:

"It is quite unfortunate that few workers end up paying bill incurred for drinking alcohol at the end of the month as they had consumed liquor on credit. The amount which remains is hardly enough to feed and pay school fees for their kids".

From the above quotation I deduced that few individuals who abused alcohol incurred debts which were mostly cleared at the end of the month, exposing them into financial difficulties unable to meet family basic needs requirements like food cloths and school fees for their kids. This resulted into soar relationship among partners and sometimes resulted into separation or divorce.

The table below shows response on how debts were paid by respondents

Table 10: Response of payments of debts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers who do not have debts</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>64.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying installments in end month</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unwilling to pay</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of monthly expenses</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishment of other business</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange of business with debts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willing to pay with no time limit</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-operative loans to pay debt</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: field data
From the table 4.8% of respondents were unwilling to repay their debts as they did not have enough resources to put towards the repayment. These groups expected various repercussions from the debtors including being reported to the management, to the police at the estate or clan elders for action. This subjected families to insecurity form debtors and constantly their families lived in fear of being attacked. This sometimes forced married partners to separate.

These incidents were captured by the estate manager, who said,

"It is common to find petty cases concerning workers owing other workers some cash. Few cases are reported to us as management and we certainly take action depending on the weight of the case".

There were few workers who owed debts to other workers and fearing that they could be reported to the management for action exchanged their debt with their business. This was a crude way of paying one’s debt as this lowered persons status in the community and promoted the spread of diseases like HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections.

One female worker observed the following:-

"I cannot stomach a husband who consumes most of his salary on alcohol having extra marital affairs and is not able to satisfy her family needs like clothes, food and fees.

From the above quotation, I deduced that alcohol consumption was a cause to family disintegration.

Nearly 5% of the respondents were willing to pay debts but because they were alcohol abusers as quoted above, they kept postponing the repayment as most of their cash went to alcohol consumption. Their social status is highly affected in the society and this directly affects his/her family. A small percent of respondents contemplated searching for greener pastures to enable them repay their debts as they attributed their debts to low pay. Generally, this was the group which did not budget for their salaries as money has never been enough to any individual. This group of workers do not offer adequate services to the company as their minds are thinking on how to acquire alternative jobs. This action puts a family in hope of achieving better lives. Failure to achieve alternative job would eventually result into conflicts and sometimes might cause eventual disintegration of families.
CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary and conclusions

Introduction
The following section reiterates the key findings from the study, showing the extent towards which the study objectives were fulfilled, before making recommendations.

Key findings

5.2 Magnitude of alcohol abuse
The study established that alcohol was most commonly abused drug at the estate. Other drug included marijuana and cigarettes smoking. It affects around a quarter of total labour force at Keritor tea estate. Various factors have contributed to the consumption of alcohol which include, peer influence, advertisement by beer companies, family on which one was brought up, relaxation and refreshment and easy to discuss with friends on personal matters.

5.3.1 Anti-social behaviours
There were incidents of arson (burning a grass thatched house), not taking children to school, quarrelling, fighting and others which were as a result of alcohol abuse. Majority of the workers accepted that there was alcohol abuse in the estate. Information from the police post indicated that domestic violence was prevalent at the estate. For example, reported cases like battering of women, workers refusing to pay school fees for their kids and extra marital affairs occurred. Some of the cases were solved through mutual understanding between the concerned parties; others were bending while others were referred to higher authorities. This finding support the study objective 1 which stated that alcohol abuse is a cause of anti-social activities among the agricultural plantation workers.

5.3.2 Alcohol and lower labour output
Information obtained form the health centre which serves the estate showed that malaria, typhoid and HIV/AIDS were common even if they affected a small percentage of
workers. The diseases affected labour output of individual worker. The irresponsibility of workers as a result of alcohol abuse causes accidents in the factory and leads to the company to incur various costs which include costs of the cases until they are finalized and the awards given if the company loses the cases. Another way of reducing output of the company’s production was through sober workers helping alcohol abusers at work as they understand each other, when drunk. This arrangement cannot produce the same result and interferes with the quality of the end product and eventually cause low prices at the international markets.

Alcohol abuse is associated with hangovers, weakens an individual not to perform assigned tasks and making individuals always to think of alcohol. Absenteeism, lateness to work is common features associated with alcohol abuse. All this affect the production of tea at the estate and the support objective 2 which states that alcohol abuse accounts for lower labour output among agricultural alcohol and family disintegration plantation workers.

5.3.3 Family Disintegration

To a large extent, alcohol abuse encouraged family disintegration. The alcohol abusers misused financial resources on alcohol at the expense of family’s basic needs. This brought conflicts among married partners and sometimes led to separation. There were various examples articulated in the report which caused misunderstanding between partners. Some of them include:

Unwillingness of debtors to repay their debts. These groups of workers expected various repercussions including being reported to the management, to the police post at the estate or clan elders for action. This action subjected families to insecurity and constantly their families lived in fear of being attacked. Sometimes this forced married partners to separate. Some workers suggested that they would exchange their debt with his/her business. This was a crude way of paying ones debt as this lowered persons status in community and promoted the spread of diseases like HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. This was one of the common reasons given which led to family breakups.
The findings support the study objective 3 which state that alcohol abuse contributes to a large extent towards family disintegration among workers at Keritor tea estate.

5.4 Recommendations

The following are my recommendations in solving some of the problems caused by alcohol abuse:

1. The company should strengthen the counseling services in the estate in combating the problem.
2. The management should introduce training programmes to educate workers on the effects of alcohol.
3. Few workers should be selected and taken for training so that they would educate others on the effects of alcohol abuse for better progress of the company.
4. The management should identify and take serious action against dealers of illegal brews and tighten security around the estate.
5. The health centre should be equipped so that it can effectively deal with problems associated with alcohol.
6. Salary of workers should be regularly reviewed to reflect the inflation rate in the country.

5.5 Suggestion for further research

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher wishes to make the following recommendations for further research.

1) More research should be done on natural calamities like hailstones drought which lead to lay-offs of workers thus accelerating consumption of liquor as they become idle.
2) Research should be done on payments of workers as most of them associated low pay with consumption of illicit brews.
3) Research should be done on various common diseases like malaria, typhoid; HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases to establish the causes and effects to workers as they were commonly associated with alcohol abuse.
Appendix A

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Appendix B

Questionnaire

My names are ONGANGA MONG'ARE KENNEDY  M.A. Sociology University of Nairobi. I am currently carrying out a research on the social economic effects of alcoholism on agricultural plantation workers for my M.A. project.

I kindly request you to give your honest responses to help me collect or gather authentic data (genuine data). The information given will be treated with strict confidence. Thank you in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Name</strong></td>
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<td>------------------------------------------</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. Duration of residence in the tea estate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) less than 1 year □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) 1-2 years □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) 3-4 years □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Over 5 years □</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>3. What is your gender?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Male □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Female □</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. What is your status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) married □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) single □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) widow □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) widower □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) separated □</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>5. What is your age?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Below 18 years □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) 18-30 years □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) 31-40 years □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) 41-55 years □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) above 56 years □</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6. Highest level of education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Never completed primary education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Completed primary school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Secondary education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Certificate/diploma/degree</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>7. Religion/ denomination</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Don’t belong to any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Catholic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Protestant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Muslim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Any other</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>8. What is your occupation?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Tea picker (harvester)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Clerk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

60
9. i) Do you have any children? (a) Yes □ (b) No □ 
   ii) If yes, How many? ________________________ 
   iii) What is the number of dependants do you have in your homestead. 

10. i) Do your children go to school (a) Yes □ (b) No □ 
     ii) If No, why? 
         a) School fees □
         b) Lack of guidance □
         c) Use of drugs □
         d) Any other, please specify

11 (a) Are you living with your spouse? (a) Yes □ (b) No □
     (b) If No where does She/ He live?
         a) At rural or urban home □
         b) Separated or divorced □
         c) Died □
         d) Others, please specify

Awareness of Alcohol Abuse

12. In your opinion do you think that there is an alcohol problem in your tea estate? 
   (a) Yes □ (b) No □ 
   If yes, to what extent Please rank. 
   5 4 3 2 1  Non existent

13. In your opinion, who mostly influences the workers to use alcohol? 
   a) Peer □ b) Management □ c) Advertisements □
14. Which is the most commonly used drug in your tea estate?
   a) Alcohol □
   b) Marijuana □
   c) Cocaine □
   d) Others please specify

15. (i) Do you take alcohol? (a) Yes □ (b) No □
(ii) If yes which brand of alcohol do you prefer?
(iii) Why do you prefer the above alcohol?
   a) Cheap □
   b) Tastes good □
   c) Readily available □
   d) All the above □
(iv) In what unit is the above type of alcohol sold?
   a) Bottles of 500 Milliliters □
   b) Bottles of 1 liters □
   c) Cups of 500 Milliliters □
   d) Bottles of 300 Milliliters □
   e) Others please specify
(v) For how long have you been drinking the above type of alcohol?
   a) Below 1 year □
   b) 1-2 years □
   c) 3-5 years □
   d) Over 6 years □
(vi) What is the current price per unit?
(vii) How many units of the above type of alcohol satisfy you?

(vii) Why do you take alcohol?
   a) To kill boredom  □
   b) To socialize with friends  □
   c) To quench your thirst  □
   e) To overcome frustrations  □
   d) To acquire concentration for daily work  □
   e) All the above  □
   f) Others, please specify ____________________________

16. (a) If No do you see others taking alcohol?  (a) Yes □ (b) No □
    (b) If yes, in your opinion what makes them take alcohol?

    (c) How prosperous is the business of selling alcohol?
       a) Quite booming  □
       b) Quite risky but paying  □
       c) Not booming  □
       d) Very little or no returns  □

    (d) In your opinion do you think alcohol has done more harm to the consumers? Please
        Rank.

        Extensive harm 5 4 3 2 1  No harm

        Satisfaction

17. Are you satisfied in life?  (a) Yes □ (b) No □
18. Do you enjoy drinking beer?  (a) Yes □ (b) No □
19. Do experience financial difficulties in your family?  a) Yes □  b) No □
If yes, to what extent? a) Worse □  b) Slightly worse □  c) Moderate □
   d) Better □
20. Are you credit worthy in both rural SACCOs and other Banks?  (a) Yes □
    (b) No □
21. Have you ever secured any credit facilities from any financial institution? a) Yes □
    b) No □
22. i) If yes, what project was it intended for? a) school fees □  b ) Development
    c) To buy land □  d) others please specify.
    ii) Did you put that money to the intended project?
    iii) If no, why
23. (a) Do you have people bothering you on debts incurred previously? a) Yes □  b) No □
    (b) if yes what plans have you put in place to make sure that you have paid them
24. i) Do other members of community owe you some money? a) Yes □  b) No □
25. Are some of the creditors’ alcoholics? a) Yes □  b) No □
26. i- Does your tea estate have alcohol/ drugs selling dens? a) Yes □  b) No □
    ii- If yes, is the tea estate management aware of their existence? a) Yes □  b) No □
    iii- If yes, what action have they taken?
    iv- Is it bearing any fruits? a) Yes □  b) No □
27. Does your tea estate have alcohol and drugs education programs? a) Yes □ b) No □
    If any, do you attend their training programs? a) Yes □ b) No □
    If yes, have you benefited from their training programs? a) Yes □ b) No □
    Please list the areas that have been covered during this training?

    __________________________________________________________

    What would you recommend to be done to enhance this training?

    __________________________________________________________

28. In your opinion has the program been effective rank.
    Very effective 5 4 3 2 1 Not effective

29. Please give any other suggestion?

    __________________________________________________________
    __________________________________________________________
    __________________________________________________________
KEY INFORMATION GUIDE

1. Give a brief history of Keritor tea estate.

2. Describe administrative structure of the tea estate.

3. According to your opinion is alcoholism one of major problem affecting the tea estate?

4. What are the problems experienced by workers in this tea estate?

5. What are the causes of the mentioned problems?

6. Give suggestion on the best way of dealing with those problems?
7. Do you think that alcoholism has affected tea production in this estate?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

8. If yes, why is it difficult to stump out the selling of illicit brews in the estate?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

9. Other than the illegal brews is the legal one availed at the estate?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

10. How do you rate the consumption of legal and illegal brews at the estate?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

11. Do worker engage themselves to other businesses other than that of tea?
    a) Yes □
    b) No □
    (c) If yes are the businesses legal or illegal,

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

12. What do you expect the management can do to other than using force to stop the habit?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

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