FACTORS THAT LEAD TO CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN THE
SLUMS OF NAIROBI

A PROJECT IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE
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This is my original work and has not been presented to any other University for examination

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This research project was done with my permission as a supervisor of the University of Nairobi

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to investigate the factors that lead to crime and violence in the slums of Nairobi. The study was concerned with slum violence and crime and the validation of measures suggested by the government to curb crime and violence in the slums. Issues such as alcohol and drug abuse as influencing behavior, peer pressure, enforcement of rules to deal with criminal issues, the role of the government in controlling crime, the role of communication in helping curb crime and violence and the role of guidance and counseling in crime management and in shaping individual behavior, were investigated in the study. To achieve this, the researcher adopted descriptive survey design. Random sampling technique was used to identify the target and the slum residents in the selected areas. Data was collected by means of questionnaires to the targeted respondents from the sample. A cross-section of the measures suggested by the government to curb crime was presented to the respondents for validation. Data collected was analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The results were presented in forms of frequency distribution tables and discussions.

The researcher validated the lists of measures for curbing crime and violence in the slums of Nairobi. The study also captured measures which were omitted by the state. The measures suggested by the state which were lowly rated have been presented for review. The results of the study show that the slum residents from the targeted population of the study, far more improved means of dealing with the crime menace. However, they agreed with some measures which they thought were effective. The individuals also gave their views on how crime and violence can be contained in the slums. A new list of measures therefore emerged and it is hoped that the policy makers will go through it and discuss it with a view to incorporating what they find agreeable.

Based on the above, the study made recommendations as having peace campaigns and that guidance and counseling should be strengthened. Another recommendation from the study was that the state should increase investment in the slum areas so as to increase opportunities for the slum residents. Administrative staff in the slums should go for training on dealing with crime-related issues so as to enhance the fight against crime and violence in the slums. Some of the new recommendations added from the findings of this study can be used by stakeholders to curb crime and violence across Kenya.