

**PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS INFLUENCING DEVIANT BEHAVIOURS AMONG  
MALE PRISONERS IN KIAMBU COUNTY, KENYA**

**BY**

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**NOVEMBER, 2020**

**DECLARATION**

I declare that this research thesis is my original work and has not been presented in any other university.

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## **DEDICATION**

I would like to dedicate this thesis to my family, classmates and friends.

## ABSTRACT

A lot of studies have established that deviant behaviours are on the upward trend among prisoners. Studies done on deviant behaviours among inmates have focused on social factors. This study sought to establish the influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviors among male prisoners in Kiambu County, Kenya. The study specifically focused on how selected psychosocial factors; demographics, peer pressure and coercion, influence deviant behaviours among the prisoners. Two theories namely; deprivation and social learning theories were used to explain the link between the study variables. The study utilized descriptive research. Simple random sampling was used to select 323 male prisoners from a total of 1078 male prisoners who had served a term of more than 15 years. Data were collected using questionnaires. The validity of research instrument was established by observing content validation. Reliability was established by ensuring that the cronbach value was at least 0.7. Data were analyzed by use of means and standard deviations by use of SPSS version 23 and presented in form of charts and tables. The study findings revealed that peer pressure, with the highest mean of 4.170 and standard deviation of 0.788, coercion, with the highest mean of 4.271 and standard deviation of 0.677, and demographic factors, contributed to deviant behaviors among male prisoners in Kiambu County. The findings also established that interventions such as vocational training, farming, formal learning and pastoral training were used to engage the inmates so as to empower them with skills as they get paroled. The study concluded that social affiliations within prison contributed to peer pressure which was a great contributor of deviant behaviours. The study recommended on the need for professional counselors to offer guidance and counseling so as to help inmates deal with deviant behaviours.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

<b>GK</b>	:	Government of Kenya
<b>NACOSTI</b>	:	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
<b>SPSS</b>	:	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
<b>UK</b>	:	United Kingdoms
<b>USA</b>	:	United State of America

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Criminal activities among prisoners in Kiambu County prison are evaluated concerning inmate engagement in deviant behaviour. The chapter introduces the topic under research by sharing key information on its background, exploring the problem hence the need for the study and its objectives. The chapter further provides the research questions, benefits that will be obtained from conducting this study, the limitations, delimitations and assumptions of the study are pointed out.

#### **1.1 Background to the Study**

The Kenyan prison population is on the rise owing to several factors. According to Omboto (2013), to safeguard the society from deviant behavior, rehabilitate offenders, and provide restitution to victims of a crime and the society at large, the criminal justice system continuously sentences offenders to incarceration. This is per the Kenyan Prisons Act (Cap 90) and also the Borstal Act (Cap 92). However, putting the criminals behind bars and rehabilitating the prisoners through a penal sentence does not always result in rehabilitation. According to Omboto (2013), sentencing generally exposes inmates to several factors that propel them to continue engaging in deviant behavior, even while in prison. Deviant behavior is considered abnormal or antisocial because society does not accept or condone the behavior. Thus, deviancy is a deviation from what society expects. This idea is supported by statistical analysis that demonstrates socially accepted behaviors fall into a normal distribution curve, while deviant behaviors are outliers to the normal distribution curve (Berger et al., 2015).

Research has revealed that behaviors are a manifestation of the environment in which an individual develops (Cless & Lukas, 2017). It was found that social factors, the

psychological make-up of an individual, and their personalities also play a significant role in behavioral adaptations of individuals. Thus, deviant and criminal behaviors are manifestations of the physical and psychological environment an individual encounters. Criminals and deviants have been found to engage in risky behaviors that underline most criminal actions such as criminal patterns, including robbery, drug abuse and gang affiliation. A significant contributor to deviant behaviors is the declining social values and the dissemination of values that are not founded on the continuity of society. That is, in modern society, a trend has arisen where traditional deviant behaviors are no longer subject to social and institutional reprimands. Consequently, a complex interaction of eroding social values, ineffective social institutions, emerging environments encouraging deviancy, and lacking rehabilitation methodologies have resulted in increased deviancy and criminal activities in the society. Thus, while prisoners have responded to existing social measures to guard against deviancy, for an increasing number of prisoners, traditional approaches are ineffective in rehabilitating them and regulating their behavior.

Deviant behavior poses a real threat to an individual's physical and social survival in certain social or collective environments. Deviancy is characterized by breaches of social norms, moral norms, and cultural values. The origins of deviant behavior are related to upbringing circumstances, physical peculiarities. According to Berger et al., (2015) growth in deviant behavior appears to mirror the current state of the society, which is marked by a growing concern of individual wellbeing instead of the society's wellbeing. Consequently, deviancy goes unchecked, and over time, previously unaccepted norms and behaviors are becoming part of social institutions. For instance, alcohol and drug consumption were traditionally considered as deviant behavior. However, in modern society, recreational drug use is no longer viewed as a deviant behavior with the behavior being depicted in the mass media. Consequently, one can demonstrate that fading and evolving social

institutions have not only encouraged individuals to engage in deviancy, but these institutions are now influenced by the deviancy. Social institutions, such as the family unit, are unable to safeguard and prevent deviancy. At the same time, these institutions are now being molded by individuals who have come to view previously unacceptable behaviors as acceptable, further exacerbating the problem of deviancy. Within prisons, deviant behavior is characterized by assaults, violent attacks, and infractions which negatively affect the security of the inmates, the correctional officers, prison warders, and the entire facility. Deviant behaviors hinder the success of any prison and correctional facility, hence the need to explore the factors that make some prisoners deviant.

The role of peers in influencing delinquency and criminal activities among adolescents cannot be ignored as shared by Agboola and Salawu (2011), who also noted that socialization effect and having delinquent friends is likely to lead one astray. According to Bernburg and Krohn (2003) peer influence is dependent on the proximity of the people, frequency, duration, and intensity of the relationship. Those peers who spend a lot of time together and refer to themselves as close friends are likely to influence the behavior of each other, which is similar to social learning theory. In the correctional and prison setting, then these antecedents make emphasis on peer pressure as the prisoners have the opportunity and space to influence each other.

Social interactions in a prison setting often translate to the population of the prison engaging in deviancy. Since the population is dominated by offenders and people who behaved in a manner contrary to society's expectations, there is a high probability of prisoners being inducted into deviancy. Prisoners are often coerced by their peers to engage in deviancy, which the current research demonstrates to be a side effect of prisoners scrambling for limited resources. Prison gangs and groups often compete with each other for the meager resources, requiring most inmates to engage in deviancy such as

violence and sexual assault. Any human being according to Maslow's theory of motivation, desires to be accepted to a group. As such, inmates in their quest to fulfill some of these needs, are coerced by the group to engage in deviant behaviors to gain acceptance. Some have participated in violence, resistance, and other misconduct within the prison facility, as they seek to fulfill the needs of participation in group work and gaining acceptance. Peer pressure and coercion have led several people to astray and encouraged them to participate in deviant behaviors. The case of such factors within the Kenyan prison facility has not been fully explored, hence the need to draw conclusive a report on the same (Avey et al., 2011).

In India, Ronald (2011) demonstrated how individual psychological characteristics influence how an individual assigns meaning to social situations and how the resulting world perspective affects an individual's mental state. Some of the personality factors the author noted as pertinent to criminal behavior include extraversion, neuroticism, and psychoticism. At the same time, some social factors like lacking social institutions, peer pressure, poor education quality, awareness, and financial challenges contribute to criminal activities. The environment can also contribute to a person engaging in criminal behavior since there is no moral core and good mentors to emulate. In Turkey, Solakoglu et al., (2018) noted that high neuroticism makes individuals highly persistent in their behaviors. When neuroticism is coupled with deviancy, the individual then persistently pursues the deviant behavior, resulting in a cycle that reinforces deviancy. When a neurotic individual shows preference to deviant behavior and the individual also demonstrates traits of extraversion, such an individual tends to portray a high affinity for criminal behavior. Thus, psychoticism can increase a person's tolerance for deviancy and reduce feelings of remorse and guilt that often serve as internal mechanisms for preventing deviancy.



Additional traits that increase an individual's propensity for deviancy include aggression, egocentrism, and lack of empathy, creativity, tough-mindedness and narcissism.

In Taiwan, Kuo et al., (2014) uncovered that victimized male prisoner's often demonstrated high deviancy. The authors explored several theories that suggested individual psychological make-up and social structures can promote deviancy. The above findings were justified by the fact that social structures can serve as modes of victimizing individuals in the society. For instance, social institutions such as the church facilitate social labeling such that people who do not conform to the institution's stipulations in regards to behavior are seen as social outliers. The labeling can then lead to individual-level revolt against the society, and when the affected individual possesses the psychological traits that promote deviancy, then probability of the individual to engage in deviant behavior is high. Criminal behavior thus emerges to be both a choice and a creation of the social and psychological environment a person encounters. At the same time, people who suffer from personality disorders, experience bipolar affective disorders, schizophrenic, and adjustment disorders are likely to exhibit deviant behaviors in the open society as well as when they are in prisons and correctional facilities.

According to Blowers and Blevins (2015), these psychosocial behavior factors create a deeper understanding of the changes in societal norms and its changes, since, in the initial stages, the people exhibiting such characteristics are stigmatized and orchestra sized. But as more people in society show such character, the norm and behavior eventually become socially acceptable. As such when considering, deviant among prisoners, what was once an unacceptable behavior, overtime is socially accepted within the prison facility walls. Looking at the case of delinquent peer groups in their actions and undertaking delinquency, Alias et al., (2013) argues that the youths who exhibit delinquent behavior while out in the society due to peer pressure, when they are incarcerated, the prison and

correctional facilities become a breeding ground for criminal behavior. Furthermore, the use of substances and drugs is highly increased within the prison facility, as the youths are placed in closed settings that increase the chances of pressuring each other. As such it has become clear that more than half of the inmates in many correctional facilities across the USA have a high substance dependence which is a result of peer pressure from their fellow inmates. Substance abuse not only changes the psychological make-up of a person, but it also subdues the affected person's sensitivity to the rest of the society. Prison settings not only accommodate drug abuse, a coping mechanism prisoners result to, but the setting also enables inmates to develop and cement social ties and social networks that have deviancy as a common denominator, translating to high rates of deviancy and criminal behaviors.

In South Africa, Mehrabi et al., (2016) looked at juvenile delinquency, the decision-making processes of these juvenile offenders, as well as non-offenders and the rationality of the entire process. With the intentions of maximizing individual pleasure while minimizing pain, a person can engage in deviant behavior more readily, unless there is a direct mechanism that negates the pleasure of deviancy. Punishment, on the other hand, minimizes pleasure. Individual choices within the confines of social and psychological environments are pertinent to the personal development of cognitive abilities, and thus can serve as mitigating factors for deviancy, as earlier demonstrated. The cognition of criminals is largely impacted on by a wide range of emotions such as self-indulgence, lacking inter-personal relationships and a chronic desire to violate social norms.

In Zimbabwe, Mok et al., (2018) sharing that deviant behavior has considerable detrimental effects on academic abilities. A majority of teachers, according to the authors, engage in corporal punishment as a means of suppressing deviant behavior in schools. The teachers also resulted to exclusion as a last measure to suppress deviancy among pupils. Deviant behavior can be regarded as any behavior that leads to the violation of the social

norms and expectations of a particular organization or society. Deviant behavior is posing a serious threat to the government as many criminals find ways through which they engage in violent activities thereby causing insecurity in most countries all over the world. In Nigeria, Bolu-steve and Esere (2017) noted that one of the ways of managing deviant behavior in school-going adolescents is through using school counselors. According to the study, deviant behavior comes as a result of lacking effective parental upbringing hence counselors should continue providing the right information to in-school adolescents regarding the negative effects of deviant behaviors.

In Kenya, Muandu et al., (2015) revealed that deviant behavior is considered atypical or socially harmful when it occurs, and incompatible with the social expectations. Socio-economic factors were found to be of statistical significance to the deviant behavior of the youths in the study area. On socio-psychological factors, those who had stayed in the slum for six years or more perceived the deviant behavior to be low among the slum youth. The primary challenge prisoners' face is a itemization of the process of transmitting accepted social values and norms. Furthermore, Omboto (2013) revealed that crimes have become a major problem in most countries around the world. The rate of crime has been increasing and most of the criminals have been found to have behavioral problems. Some of the common behavioral problems include depression, peer pressure, anxiety among others. Many criminal offenses are related to drug abuse and excessive use of alcohol.

Deviant behaviors among criminals can be attributed to many factors and there is a need to analyze and determine the best practices that can be used to change the affected ones. Kabiru et al., (2014) explored adverse life circumstances and events that contributed to juvenile delinquency. The cross-regional study that sampled the Kenyan adolescence population, also explored the role of parenting, monitoring, religion, and self-esteem on the development or onset of deviancy. Kabiru et al., (2014) uncovered that deviancy and

violence were highly damaging to social order and the moral fabric. As such, crime rates are often adopted as a measure of a nation's safety as crime is often interpreted as reflection of failing social values and norms. Fluctuations in global crime rates often foster public apprehension and anxiety, especially when the rate increases.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The escalation of deviant behaviours for prisoners remains a central issue. As a social phenomenon, deviance creates a set of problems and issues connected with contemporary society (Michel & Hargis, 2017).

A lot of attention has been focused on social factors influencing deviance in the prison set up. For instance, Ayar et al., (2012), conducted a study on how social factors affect crimes using a case study of Darehshahr prison in Iran and their findings indicated that the high rates of crime were linked to the finances and politics. In Taiwan, Kuo et al. (2014) found that victimized male prisoner's often demonstrated high rates of deviance. The study also realised that individual psychological make-up and social structures can promote deviance. A study carried out in Nigeria by Esiri (2016) on influence of peer pressure on criminal behaviour among adolescents revealed that peer pressure is the main determinant of juvenile delinquency and adulthood crime in the society. A study done by Rutere, (2003), on factors influencing recidivism in Kenyan prisons, showed that most of the respondents were youths, singles and unemployed, and these demographics played a role in deviance.

From the aforementioned, there are few studies done on influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviours among inmates worldwide and also in Kenya. In order to bridge these gaps, the present inquiry sought to bring out the influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviours among male prisoners and the interventions being used to deal with deviance in Kiambu County, Kenya.

### **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

This study addressed how demographic factors, peer pressure and coercion contribute to deviant behaviour among prisoners in Kiambu County prisons which are Thika, Kiambu and Ruiru.

### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

#### **1.4.1 Specific Objectives**

The study was guided by the following objectives.

- i. To find out the influence of demographic factors on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County.
- ii. To investigate the influence of peer pressure on deviant behaviors among male prisoners in Kiambu County
- iii. To determine the influence of coercion on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County
- iv. To establish the interventions used to help prisoners deal with deviant behaviours in Kiambu County.

### **1.5 Research Questions**

The study attempted to answer the following questions.

- i. What is the influence of demographic factors on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County?
- ii. What is the influence of peer pressure on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County?

- iii. What is the influence of coercion on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County?
- iv. What interventions are being used to help male prisoners to deal with deviant behaviours in Kiambu County?

### **1.6 Justification of the Study**

The interplay of psychosocial factors and how they influence deviant behavior among inmates is critical area that requires a lot of attention. Understanding the Psychosocial factors that contribute to deviant behavior in prisons is crucial for any effective interventions. However, it is only through empirical investigation that this can be actualized. Thus, the present inquiry was set out to bring out the link between demographic factors, peer pressure and coercions with deviance among the prisoners in Kiambu County.

### **1.7 Limitations of the Study**

While the data analysis and discussion in this study resolved the research problem outlined, it may not allow for generalization in the entire Kiambu County given the specific nature of the scope. Respondents were concerned on whether their feedback was disclosed and that the information given was to be handled with privacy. However the researcher guaranteed that the information will be handled only by the respondent and researcher. The research was did not pose a challenge in the sense that the manner in which data was collected or the ways in which variables were measured will limit the ability to conduct a thorough analysis of the results.

### **1.8 Delimitations of the Study**

The study aimed at determining the influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviors among male prisoners in Kiambu County, Kenya. The study sought to assess the influence

of demographic factors, peer pressure, coercion and prisoners' interventions in dealing with criminal activities in Kiambu County. The respondents of the study included 283 prisoners in Kiambu County who had been in jail for more than 15 years and 6 Prison superintendent officers.

### **1.9 Significance of the Study**

The findings of the study may provide information that can benefit persons charged with the responsibility of formulation, implementation and enforcement of rules and regulations among male prisoners in Kiambu County, Kenya. The policy makers can utilise the interventions used in prisons in Kiambu County in curbing deviant behaviours among prisoners. The study may be of help to counsellors helping prisoners deal with deviant behaviours as they can address demographic factors, peer pressure and coercion which are some of the influencers of crime. The study may also act as a springboard for further research.

### **1.10 Assumptions of the Study**

The assumptions of the study were as follows;

1. That demographic factor affects deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County.
2. That peer pressure affects deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County
3. That coercion affects deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County
4. That there are interventions that can be used to help male prisoners deal with deviant behaviours in Kiambu County

### **1.11 Operational Definition of Terms**

**Demographic Factors:** In relationship to this study the demographic factors generally illustrate information regarding, age, marital status, highest level of education and length of service in prison.

**Peer Pressure:** According to this study peer pressure is copying other inmates behaviour so that they behave the same, act the same as other inmates so that they can fit in the social group and be recognized or get some respect from the other inmates.

**Coercion:** Pushing an inmate to commit an offence by applying force or threats aimed at satisfying his/their needs.

**Deviant Behaviours:** Refer to actions that inmates do which are contrary to the rule and regulations of prisons and they are considered as unlawful by the prisons authorities.

**Interventions:** In relationship to this thesis, interventions are strategies which are aimed at improving or changing inmates behaviours that are not acceptable by the prison authorities and the community at large.

**Single men:** In this context refer to those individuals who have never married and those that were divorced.



## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter reviewed empirical studies on Influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County, Kenya. It focussed on influence of demographic factors on deviance, influence of peer pressure on deviance, influence of coercion, interventions to help prisoners deal with their deviant behaviours, theories that guided the study and conceptual framework.

#### **2.2 Empirical Review**

##### **2.2.1 Influence of Demographic Factors on Deviance among Prisoners**

Demographic factors shape the world perspective on an individual. Demographic factors generally illustrate the socio-economic conditions the individual is exposed to, thus defining the social environment of that individual. As already demonstrated, the social environment of an individual is pertinent to the behavioral characteristic of the individual; consequently, the demographical positioning of an individual can contribute to the propensity of an individual to engage in deviant behavior. In this context, demographic factors are considered to be age, education, and marital status. These demographics were chosen as they directly impact on the social environment of an individual, and thus, the individual's behavior (Gallupe et al., 2020).

In an investigation on the correlation between demographics and criminal behavior, Vickers and Ziebarth (2016) observed that the average age of offenders increased substantially. The authors concluded that the increase in average age of offenders in London could not be explained by increased life expectancy. Moreover, the authors found that the increase in the average age of the offender was positively correlated to an increase

in crimes committed for economic gains. The authors arrived at the above conclusion by analyzing data of felony convictions between 1835 and 1913 in London. From the above findings, it is evident that the average offender is an adult, concerned with their socio-economic status. Therefore, the age of an individual is a function of the probability of that individual to engage in deviancy. The majority of prisoners are indeed adults, confirming the findings of Vickers and Ziebarth (2016) that offenders tend to be older individuals in the society.

Hansen and Waddell (2018) provide another perspective on the interaction of age and criminal behavior. According to the authors, age was a significant factor in the tendency to engage in criminal activities, owing to the ability to legally access drugs (Hansen & Waddell, 2018). Adults in the society are able to legally access alcohol by the age of 18 or 21. Legal access to alcohol and drugs, according to the authors was a significant determinant of the propensity of an individual to engage in deviancy, especially when the individual was already exposed to other risk factors like lacking socialization, psychopathy, and neuroticism. In that regard, age thus acts as a gateway to criminality and deviancy, especially in individuals who are not privy to mechanisms that safeguard against deviancy.

The propensity of adults to engage in crime was also investigated by Manninen et al., (2017) in a study on adult criminality among former residential school adolescents. In the study, the authors observed that former residential school adolescents who would later engage in criminality in adulthood manifested deviant characteristics when they were younger. However, these individuals did not engage in criminality during adolescent, indicating that age played a significant factor in deviant tendencies. As adults, the study participants were not confined by the authority of their parents and guardians. Therefore, they were no longer of the socialization that initially prevented them from engaging in

deviancy. Once they attained adulthood and gained independence, the safeguard that once acted to restrict their deviancy disappears, allowing the study participants to engage in deviancy.

On the other end of the spectrum, young individuals are also at risk at developing deviant behaviors and criminality. Mok et al., (2018) demonstrated that exposure to adverse socioeconomic environments at a young age was a primal indicator of the individual's propensity towards deviant behavior. The authors arrived at the above conclusion following an investigation of early child-parent separation on deviant behavior. From the study, it emerged that early child-parent separation was a common trait in a significant percentage of the study's participants (Mok et al., 2018). It would then appear that lacking the guidance of a parent from an early age directly impacts on the socialization of an individual. The above observation is crucial as it links childhood experiences with behaviors at adulthood. Most criminals have a history of deviant behavior going back to their childhood. To sufficiently address the challenge of deviancy among prisoners, it is necessary to take the childhood of the inmate into consideration, allowing for the formulation of effective interventions that are not susceptible to recidivism.

Literacy and education achievements of an individual are also key to determining whether the person will engage in deviant behavior. There is a significant disparity between educational attainment of criminals and non-criminals. Prison population statistics from the United States in 2000 demonstrated that only 32% of prisoners had an education beyond high school level. In a demonstration of how education can affect subsequent crime, Lochner and Moretti (2004) observed that education increased the returns of legitimate work, thus making an individual less likely to engage in crime. The author also observed that education also increases the opportunity costs of engaging in deviancy and crime. Educated individuals are more apprehensive of the consequences of engaging in

crime, especially incarceration, as it would translate to a significant loss to them. They would lose out on the substantial returns they would have gained by applying themselves to legitimate ventures facilitated by their economic background (Lochner & Moretti, 2004).

Lastly, the author observed that education had direct psychological and financial gains from criminal activity. That is, an individual with sufficient education would not attain considerable reward from criminal activities due to the high opportunity costs. On the other hand, a less educated individual experiences greater reward from engaging in criminal activities as it might reward them with financial gains they could otherwise not attain. Therefore, education attainments can act as a safeguard against inmate recidivism and tendencies to engage in criminal activities. Owing to the inverse correlation between education and crime, most criminal justice systems have introduced educational courses that facilitate offenders to acquire viable economic skills. The educational programs in most correctional institutions are meant to facilitate the rehabilitation of offenders by allowing them to engage in a viable vocation. Inmates engaged in educational activities are less likely to engage in deviant behavior, as it presents a high opportunity cost to them.

Lochner and Moretti (2004) provide more insight into the correlation between education and crime. The author draws in the economic theory stating that the theory demands a negative correlation between educational attainment and crime. An increase in educational attainment translates to an increase in economic viability. Individuals with higher educational attainments are thus unlikely to engage in criminal activities as they fear the loss of their financial viability once incarcerated. The economic theory, as developed by Lochner and Moretti (2004) can be used to formulate interventions that reduce the propensity of inmates to engage in deviancy in prison. By facilitating inmates to gain new

skills through education, the inmates consequently develop an economic motivation to disengage from deviancy.

More evidence of the ability of education to mitigate deviancy was presented Cutrín et al., (2017) in a study of crime and compulsory schooling laws. The authors uncovered statistics demonstrative of the fact that since the introduction of compulsory schooling, the United States experienced a considerable decrease in criminal convictions between the 1960s and the 1970s. From the statistics, Cutrín et al., (2017) concluded that educational attainments had a casual impact on crime in that fewer people were exposed to environments that would otherwise facilitate them in engaging in deviant behavior. Compulsory school laws, consequently, meant that individuals in the society not only gained an education that would increase their economic viability, but the individual was committed to a school reducing the chances of exploring deviancy and criminality. It was observed that early childhood education was inversely correlated to criminal propensity in the past. Individuals exposed to intensive early-childhood education programs characterized by long-term follow-up were less likely to engage in deviancy compared to their peers. Consequently, establishing educational programs in prisons that facilitate inmates to acquire viable economic skills is a viable means for reducing deviancy in inmate populations. The above assertion is well documented in literature. Ellison et al., (2017) documented the effectiveness of prison education on recidivism and economic viability. The authors engaged in a Rapid Evidence Assessment (REA) of prison education programs. They evaluated the vocational training, academic training, basic skill acquisition, and the effects of accreditation in prison education programs with employment as an outcome. The assessment, which involved a review of existing literature, demonstrated that education in prison settings had a positive impact on employment and a negative impact on recidivism. Thus arming inmates with a viable education that would

facilitate gainful employment after the prison sentence is an effective means of combating deviancy in prison.

Lastly, the marital status of an individual is a significant factor in recidivism and the inclination to engage in deviancy. Literature demonstrates that marriage can reduce crime. While contemporary research indicates that marriage may not have a significant bearing on deviant behavior, it is generally accepted that high levels of marital attachment are positively correlated with low rates of offending. Marriage attachment essentially means that an individual is rooted in the society as marriage and family is the primary unit of the society. Consequently, unmarried individual faces greater risk in offending compared to married individuals. Just like an educated individual, the married person's cost of opportunity is considerably high when they contemplate to offend. Therefore, marital attachment can guard against crime and recidivism (Apel, 2016).

While investigating the interactions between marriage and crime, Bersani and DiPietro (2016) observed that stable marriages can serve as a deterrent for a criminal to reoffend. The emotional attachment common in most marriages is essential for preventing criminal behavior as the individual fears the emotional turbulence that might accompany incarceration. In that regard, marriage can be seen as a passive factor in reducing crime and deviancy, even among prison populations. Apel (2016) demonstrated the emotional turbulence associated with prison sentences on married individuals. In the research, the author illustrated that jail confinement had a negative correlation between cohabitation and marriage. Individuals who are incarcerated often experience the dissolution of their marriages or cohabitation arrangements, thus demonstrating the fact that marital attachment can serve as a motivator to disengage from crime and deviant behaviors.

### **2.2.2 Influence of Peer Pressure on Deviance Among Prisoners**

Peer pressure is among the key forces of criminal behavior especially among those young and adolescent prisoners. Peer pressure can come in the early age of around 5 years among these adolescents. The peer associations have a greater role to play with regard to the living conditions of the members. The associations within peer groupings would shape and predict how the members socialize with each other (Cornish & Clarke, 1987). An inquiry was conducted by Blowers and Blevins (2015) to bring out the link between peer pressure and the rate of crime in the prisons. It was noted that there exists peer pressure within the prisons and the ability of the prisoners to be involved in criminal activities and delinquency. The study raised the need for the officials and the management of the prisons to have in place programs and planning efforts with regard to the prisoners who are nearing their release from the prisons. Such programs may have a positive contribution to the wellbeing of the prisoners so that they are to have relevant contribution back to the society. It was noted that grass root approaches should be adopted in enhancing the ability of the prisoners to cope well when they have been released from the prisons after successfully completing their jail terms.

Blowers and Blevins (2015) sought to bring out the link between peer pressure and its link with the criminal behaviour. The specific focus of the inquiry was on peer pressure and its link with the ability of the prisoners to abide by the available laws. It was noted that exists peer pressure within the prisons which is consistent with the criminal behaviour and codes. The recommendation raised by the inquiry was the need for urgent and grass root interventions by the government in the efforts to solve these issues. It was shown that peer pressure is a phenomenon that keeps on recurring especially among the teenage prisoners. It was also noted that peer pressure may set in when the child is at the age of 5 years.

McGuire (2012) did an inquiry into social media and its link with the behaviour of deviance. The focus of this undertaking was on the students at the secondary school level within the county of Nairobi. The study did not show some prevalence of social media among the school going children which stood at 90%, largely among the students in form one and in form, three, the prevalence stood at 98%. The highly adopted and used platform of social media noted by the inquiry was WhatsApp. It was noted that due to use of social media, the sexual activities of the school going students were highly affected. The implications raised by the inquiry were the need for the government to control the use of social media among school going students.

An inquiry conducted on the deviance behaviour at the workplace in the young Malaysian generation by McGuire (2012) shared that there exists an inverse link between the ethical climate at the organizational level and the deviance behaviour. However, the citizenship behaviour at the organizational level and the behaviour of deviance were not linked with each other in significant terms. It was noted that compared to generation Y, more people with generation X are likely to be engaged in deviance at the workplace. The study raises the contextual gap having been done in Malaysia and not in Kenyan context. A study on perceived factors that shape the behaviour of deviance was done regarding sharing that the youths who were employed had positive perceptions on existence of behaviour of deviance. On the other hand, it was shown that the youths who were not employed had negative perceptions on whether deviance existed. There existed a significant link between social-economic conditions and the ability to be involved in deviance behaviour. At the same time, the individuals who had stayed in slums for a longer period had perceptions that the level of deviance was relatively low. There were several challenges with regard to those who were in marriage include their ability to remain faithful.



Vickers et al., (2016) did a study on economic development and the demographics of criminals in Victorian England. It was shown that there was a high rate of misuse of drugs including alcohol within the prisons especially among the juvenile as compared to the adult inmates. Thus, it was shown that the key psychological factors that predict how the individuals engage in deviance behaviour include the behaviour of taking part in abuse of drugs especially alcohol. Mehrabi et al. (2016) conducted an inquiry into social structures and the role in deviance behaviour. It was noted that existence of low social support systems for instance being unemployed, inadequate social welfare programs can have an influence on the health of the prisoners in social terms.

### **2.2.3 Influence of Coercion on Deviance Among prisoners**

Bersani and DiPietro (2016) argued that the new comers are usually coerced by those inmates that are older. Such coercion leads them into behaviour of deviance. The prisoners who have gone through relevant rehabilitations programs are likely to have a relevant and informed implication to the community where they are released to. At the same time, Hansen and Waddell (2018) did share that a rise in the rates of arrest are not linked with a reduction in criminal activities at the neighbourhood. This assertion is in line with some theoretical underpinnings where through reduction of the criminal activities, the rate of coercion is likely to decrease. A rise in the rates of arrests may have an implication on participation via other mechanisms include a drop in the rates of crime and a reduction in the risks covering the perceptions of being victimized.

Day et al., (2015) did a study on the role that coercion and socially established support among those in the prisons. It was shown that there are experiences of violence in the prisons that are linked with the ability of the prisoners to engage in misconducts that are of violent attributes. However, there is a consistent link between socially established support

and the rate of resistance. It was also noted that the staff working within the prisons can lower these reactive behaviour through promotion of a high safety level within the prisons with the need to reduce violence. A survey that largely focused on prisoners the Mid-western states noting a significant portion of them had ever been forced to engage in sexual activities contrary to their will. In most case, majority of the prisoners have limited education, low ability to understand the language and the norms in place beside the various disorders and this limits their ability to engage in trials for drugs. As noted by Andorno et al., (2015), prisoners usually make decisions under the influence other forces including duress.

It is easier for one to ensure that the prisoners have been manipulated into compliance with the direction that those in power wish. As such, they are often subjected to sexual violence and threats including being assaulted. Because of the institutional pressure, the prisoners are not free to identify the relevant study where they can take part in. Butler et al., (2013) did an inquiry focusing on the women that live in mid-western states arguing that the female staff could be cornered and fondled by their male counterparts more easily. At the same time, the staff of the female gender may leverage on the position of their authority to blackmail and victimize other staff.

#### **2.2.4 Interventions to Help Prisoners Deal with their Deviant Behaviours**

Whenever the prisoners are serving their sentence in custody, an assessment is usually done to bring out the relevant intervention to them. Such interventions may cover the need to offer education to them or the opportunities for employment (Fielder & Carey, 2010). Ronald (2011) focused on social work role in the context of the prisons, arguing that a wider range of programs and interventions are delivered by the prisons to the prisoners. Such interventions that the prisons deliver are meant to bring about a behavioural change

of the prisoners. There exists variations in these programs on the basis of their intensities and they largely focus on elimination of the probable risk of reoffending among the participants from the prisons. The participants have an option to voluntarily choose the type of program that is relevant to them. There are programs for maintenance that offer opportunities for improvement among the participants.

Walters (2017) also shared that there are different programs of training that are offered by the prisons. The essence of such programs is to enhance the skills of the participants who are mostly the prisoners. These programs are meant to enhance the skills of the prisoners so that they are productive when they have been released out from their prisons. The training received could enable the prisoners to work either from within the prisons or in other outside industries. Such training programs within the prisons largely focus on numerical and literacy skills, the need for secondary level education or even learning at the tertiary level.

With respect to the role that reforms play as far as the need to rehabilitate the offenders is concerned; Hansen and Waddell (2018) noted that different interventions and programs have been implemented by the prisons for helping the prisoners. It was shown that chaplains and some other highly religious individuals were in place to grow faith and religion of the prisoners. Various efforts are made by the prisons to ensure that the prisoners are able to adhere to their religion while serving sentence in the prisons. The elders of the church drawn from various communities do access the local prisoners. It was also noted that in the event that the prisoners are about to end their jail term, efforts are made by the prisons to ensure that they have prepared for their release so that they have relevant contribute and impact back to the society they go.

## **2.3 Theoretical Framework**

The study utilized deprivation theory and social learning theory to understand psychosocial factors influencing deviant behaviours among male prisoners.

### **2.3.1 Deprivation Theory**

This theory was developed by Walker and Pettigrew (1984). It suggests that prisoner's socialization is a response to the losses they suffer or the pains of imprisonment. The deprivation model suggests that life in prison is degrading and also stigmatizing. As a way of responding to the oppressive condition, the inmates act in an aggressive manner.

The deprivation theory is aimed at understanding the situation the inmates found themselves when they are imprisoned, considering that, they felt that the authority has degraded them. The prisoners feel that they are wasting their time in prison taking in consideration that, they have economically and other social issues being deprived while they are in prison. When this is taken into consideration the inmates start engaging with other prisoners and in the process the inmate recognise the importance of obtaining peer social approval, and this increases peer influence and is heightened in deprivation theory. This theory underpinned the study and also instigated the second research objective that sought to find out the influence of peer pressure on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County.

### **2.3.2 Social Learning Theory**

Social Learning Theory, theorized by Albert Bandura (1973), state that people learn from one another, through observation, imitation, and modeling. The theory has often been called a bridge between behaviorist and cognitive learning theories because it encompasses attention, memory, and motivation. In most cases, this behaviour is

incentivized by the desire to become socially accepted, attractive or otherwise well liked in the society Bandura, A. (1979).

The prisoners learn by watching others and as such they learn by observing them leading to peer pressure. This is the form of learning that doesn't need teaching and just comes naturally.

Albert Bandura (1973) claims that the observer could learn both positive and negative behaviours through observational learning. His theory also suggests that the individual's cognition, environment and behaviour all play a role in shaping up the mentality of the individual.

Individual behaviours have also been seen to be observed across a culture. This process, within observational learning, is referred as diffusion chain. The basic idea is that an individual learns behaviour by observing a model individual. Then, that individual serves as a model to other individuals who learn the behaviour, and so on.

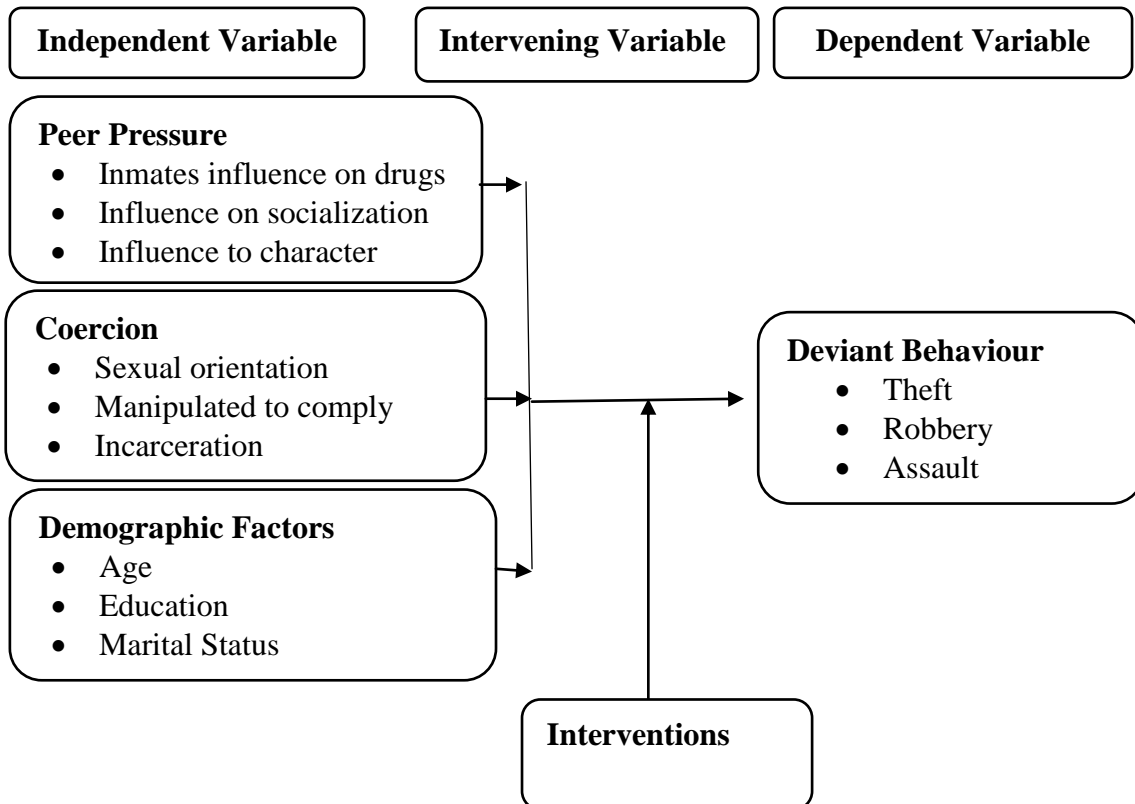
## **2.4 Conceptual Framework**

A conceptual framework is a diagrammatical representation of the study variables with clear lines of expected relationship. It identifies the various variables in the study including: independent variables and the dependent variable. It also identifies various parameters used to measure the study variables. The independent variables included peer pressure, coercion and demographic factors. The dependent variable on the other hand was deviant behaviour while the intervening variable was counselling. In most cases, the intervening variable helps in providing clarity between study variables.

The relationship between variables is as shown in Figure 2.1.

**Figure 2.1**

*Conceptual Frame Work*



**Source: Author (2020)**

**2.5 Summary of Literature Review**

In this chapter, three theories were used to describe the psychosocial factors influencing deviant behaviors namely Deprivation Theory and Social Learning Theory. Deprivation Theory was used to describe behavior in violation of social norms including a legally enforced law such as crime. This theory assumes that inmates feel degraded and intimidated by the power that be. They feel that, being incarcerated they have lost their

standing in society and they get despaired and frustrated. They do not have any attachment with the environment they find themselves in. In the process they start engaging in deviant behaviors. Social Learning Theory was used in explaining how peer pressure can lead to deviant behaviors among prisoners by copying each other behaviors. The past studies reviewed showed that demographic factors such age of inmates, education level and marital status, peer pressure and coercion influenced the prisoners' deviant behaviours.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The chapter covers the design adopted by the study, the targeted population and the methods of selecting the respondents. The means of gathering the view of the respondents with the related procedure is also demonstrated. The chapter also lays emphasis on how the views of the respondents will undergo processing to make them meaningful.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

The design of the inquiry helps to specific the key procedures and methods to use in gathering the views of the respondents as well as the analysis of this information. The inquiry adopted the descriptive design to actualize the stated objectives. Orodho (2005) indicate that a descriptive design helps in systematically providing a description of an area or circumstance in a way that is factual. Kothari (2004) shares that a descriptive design reports things the way they exist in their original state. Therefore, this descriptive design was adopted so as to describe the influence of demographic factors, peer pressure and coercion on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County, Kenya.

#### **3.3 Target Population**

The population for the study included all 4568 male prisoners in the three prisons within Kiambu County, Kenya, Prisons Service website (2018).

#### **3.4 Sampling Procedure and Sample Size**

According to the Kenya Prisons Service website (2018), there were 4568 male prisoners in the three prisons within Kiambu County (Thika, Kiambu and Ruiru). To get a manageable sample size, the researcher narrowed down to 1078 prisoners who had been in prison for



more than 15 years. This is because they had rich experiences to respond to the research questions bearing in mind they may have encountered a variety of psychosocial factors that contributed to deviant behaviours.

The study randomly selected 30 % of inmates in every prison out of the 1078. In descriptive study, 10-30% of the accessible population is adequate to provide information of interest to the researcher about the targeted population (Mugenda, 2007). Thus, the total number of respondents selected was 323 as shown in table 3.1:

**Table 3.1**

*Sample Size*

<b>Category</b>	<b>Target Population</b>	<b>Sample Size Proportion</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>
Thika Prisons	412	30%	123
Kiambu GK Prison	279	30%	84
Ruiru Prisons	387	30%	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>1078</b>		<b>323</b>

**Source: Author (2020)**

**3.5 Research Instruments**

Gathering of the views of the respondents was done with the aid of the questionnaires. Questionnaires were chosen for use as they are relatively cheap, quick and efficient way of obtaining large amounts of information from a large sample (Rowley, 2014). Data can be collected relatively quickly because the researcher does not need to be present when the questionnaires are being filled or completed.

The questionnaire contained open ended and closed ended type of questions. There was structuring of the items on the questionnaire into sections, A, B,C D, E and F, as informed

by the objectives. The items were rated on a five point Likert scale where 1=strongly disagree and 5=strongly agree.

### 3.6 Validity and Reliability

The tools of the inquiry are deemed to be valid when they measure what they are meant to measure. A test is valid when it measures what it is supposed to measure. The study used content validity in ensuring that the questions reflected the study objectives.

The tools of the inquiry are said to be reliable when they consistently yield the measurement over any successive attempt (Stupnisky & Pekrun, 2019). The study leveraged on test-retest method in determining that the tools were reliable. The results of the pilot test were as shown in Table 3.2:

**Table 3. 1**  
*Reliability Analysis*

Variable	Number of Items	Cronbach Coefficient	Alpha
Peer pressure	11	0.873	
Coercion	9	0.757	
Interventions to reduce prisoner's deviant behaviour	7	0.789	
Deviant behavior	9	0.705	

Table 3.2 shows the reliability coefficient of the variables; peer pressure ( $\alpha= 0.873$ ), coercion ( $\alpha= 0.757$ ), interventions to reduce prisoner's deviant behaviour ( $\alpha= 0.789$ ) and deviant behaviour ( $\alpha= 0.705$ ). The Cronbach alpha coefficients varied from 0.705 to 0.789 which was deemed as sufficient for this study

### **3.7. Pilot Testing**

According to Bersani and DiPietro (2016), the tools of the inquiry need to be piloted to ensure that they are valid and reliable. The authors indicate that about 5-10 respondents can be used for piloting the tools. In this study, 10 respondents were selected from the target population and used in the pilot test.

### **3.8: Data Collection Procedures**

Before data collection, the researcher distributed all the permits pertaining to the research. The permits were, NASCOTI, ethical clearance and introduction letter from KeMU and the letter from Prison headquarters.

The researcher introduced himself to the prison commandants and was given permission to collect data from each prison. The researcher established a rapport with the prisoners were and explained his mission detailing the purpose of the study. They were asked if they had any questions before the commencement of the data collection.

The researcher then distributed the questionnaires to the respondents with the help of the officer in charge and allowed them time to respond. The process of data collection took a period of three months; October 2018 to December 2018.

### **3.9: Data Analysis and Presentation**

After the questionnaires were returned, cleaning and editing was done making sure the contents were consistent. Data were coded on the excel grids after which they exported to SPSS tool for analysis. Descriptive statistics covering the means and standard deviations were used to determine the influence of the independent variable on the dependent variable. The study did not seek to draw any causal relationship between the outcome and independent variable other than describing the observed associations.

### **3.10: Ethical Considerations**

The researcher obtained permission from the university to undertake the study. This was done through the University ethical review committee. Thereafter, the researcher sought permission from NACOSTI to obtain a permit for collecting data from the prisons. The researcher also sought permission from the Prison Headquarters in order to be allowed to conduct the research in Kiambu County prisons.

The respondents were assured that they could withdraw their consent at any stage without any consequences. Those who were willing to participate in the study were given a consent form which they read, understood and signed.

To ensure privacy and anonymity, the respondents were requested to use codes in the questionnaires. The researcher assured respondents that the collected data was only to be used for academic purpose. The collected data was kept in strict confidence

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter details the analysis and presentation of findings of the collected data from the field by the researcher as guided by the following specific objectives:

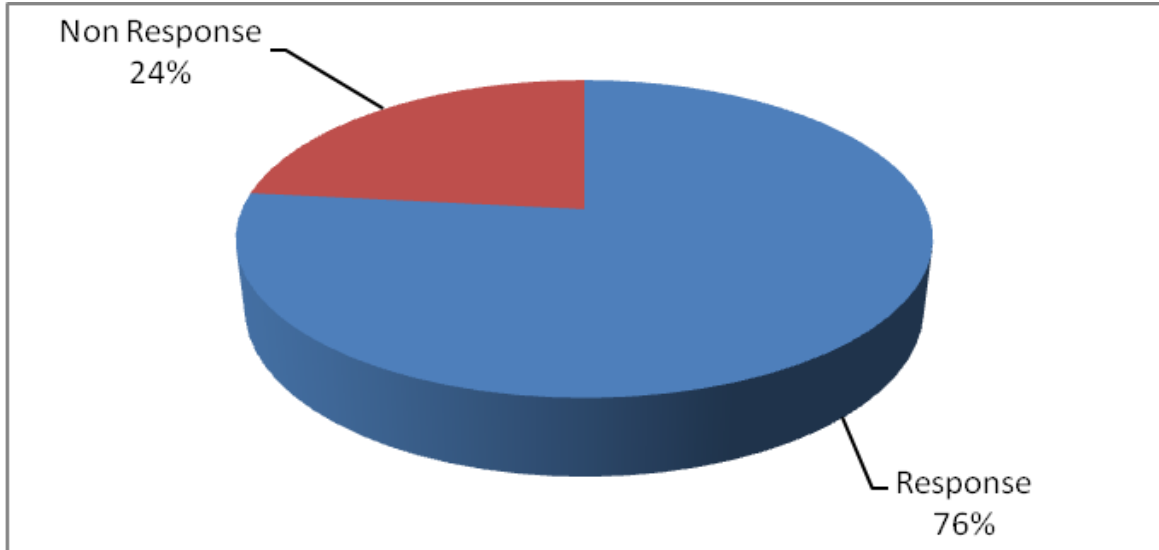
- i. To find out the influence of demographics factors (age, education and marital status) on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County.
- ii. To investigate the influence of peer pressure on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County
- iii. To investigate the influence of coercion on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County
- iv. To establish the interventions to help prisoners deal with their deviant behaviours in Kiambu County

##### **4.1.1 Response Rate**

The researcher distributed 323 questionnaires to prisoners drawn from Thika, Kiambu and Ruiru prisons in Kiambu County. From these, 247 questionnaires were dully filled up by respondents giving a response rate of 76% as shown in Figure 4.1.

**Figure 4.1**

***Response Rate***



The response rate was sufficient and concurred as response rate of above 70% is deemed to be sufficient for analysis and presentation of the results (Edmonds & Kennedy, 2016).

**4.2 Deviant Behaviour**

The descriptive statistics deviant behaviour as summarized using means and standard deviations are shown in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1**  
***Deviant Behavior***

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Dev</b>
Deviant behaviour have become common in our prison facility	3.866	.903
Most of us engage in vandalizing prison property	4.069	.854
We indulge in violent activities using crude weapons	3.712	.903
We participate in prison riots	3.163	1.131
We have tried to escape from prison several times when we get an opportunity	3.897	.649
Most of us take alcoholic drinks and drugs	3.423	.963
The prison rehabilitation program fails in curbing our deviant actions	3.720	.987
We have become jail birds as a result of multiple deviant behaviours	3.878	.976
The clusters of friends we keep influence our deviant activities	3.906	.640
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.737</b>	<b>0.890</b>

The findings in Table 4.1 established that deviant behaviours were common in their prison facility ( $M=3.866$ ,  $SD=0.903$ ). The research finding agreed that most of the inmate engaged in vandalizing prison property ( $M=4.069$ ,  $SD=0.854$ ). In the findings, the inmates agreed that they indulged in violent activities using crude weapons ( $M=3.712$ ,  $SD=0.903$ ). Day et al. (2015) on coercion and social support behind bars indicated that coercive experiences within prison are associated with engagement in violent misconduct as well as defiant and institutionalized forms of inmate resistance.

The study further pointed out that majority of the respondents moderately agreed that they participated in prison riots ( $M=3.163$ ,  $SD=1.131$ ). Majority of the respondents agreed that they had tried to escape from prison several times when they got an opportunity ( $M=3.897$ ,  $SD=0.649$ ). Majority of the respondents moderately agreed that they took alcoholic drinks and drugs ( $M=3.423$ ,  $SD=0.963$ ). Walters (2017) shared that there are numerous training and education facilities available to the prisoners. The prison rehabilitation program failed in curbing respondents' deviant actions ( $M=3.720$ ,  $SD=0.987$ ). The findings also found out that, inmates agreed that they have become jail birds as a result of multiple criminal activities ( $M=3.878$ ,  $SD=0.976$ ). In the study, inmates agreed that the clusters of friends they keep influenced their deviant activities ( $M=3.906$ ,  $SD=0.640$ ). It was indicated that deviant friends are accepting of each other and their deviant actions.

On overall, the mean score on criminal activities ( $M=3.737$ ; which indicate that majority of the respondents agreed on the statements provided under deviant behaviours. In other words, it probably shows that inmates had deviant behaviour and perhaps that was the reasons why they were in prison. The overall value of standard deviation ( $SD=0.890$ ); which is relatively lower than 1; an implication that respondents shared similar views and opinions as it regarded their criminal activities. Rehabilitating the prisoners would not be easy as there are some underlying factors and that is why they engage in deviant and

criminal behaviour even when still contained in the prison walls. Deviant behaviour considered abnormal or antisocial if it is uncommon, different from the norm and does not conform to what society expects. The major problem that leads to these criminal activities is a loss in social value and dissemination of values that should be driven by culture as well as the community. Deviant behaviour poses a real threat to an individual's physical and social survival in certain social or collective environments. Deviants are characterized by breaches of social norms, moral norms, and cultural values. The origins of deviant behaviour are related with upbringing circumstances, physical peculiarities. According to Berger et al. (2015), growth in deviant behaviour appears to be simply a mirror of society itself, marked by a growing concern about young people's status. Within the prisons, deviant behaviour are characterized by assaults, violent activities and rule of infractions which negatively affect the security of the inmates, the correctional officers and prison warders and the entire facility. Deviant behaviours hinder the success of any prison and correctional facility, hence the need to explore the factors that contribute to deviant behaviours among prisoners

### **4.3 Demographic Findings**

The respondents were asked to indicate their demographic information regarding, age, marital status, highest level of education and length of service in prison. The findings were as presented in subsequent sections.

#### **4.3.1 Age of Respondents**

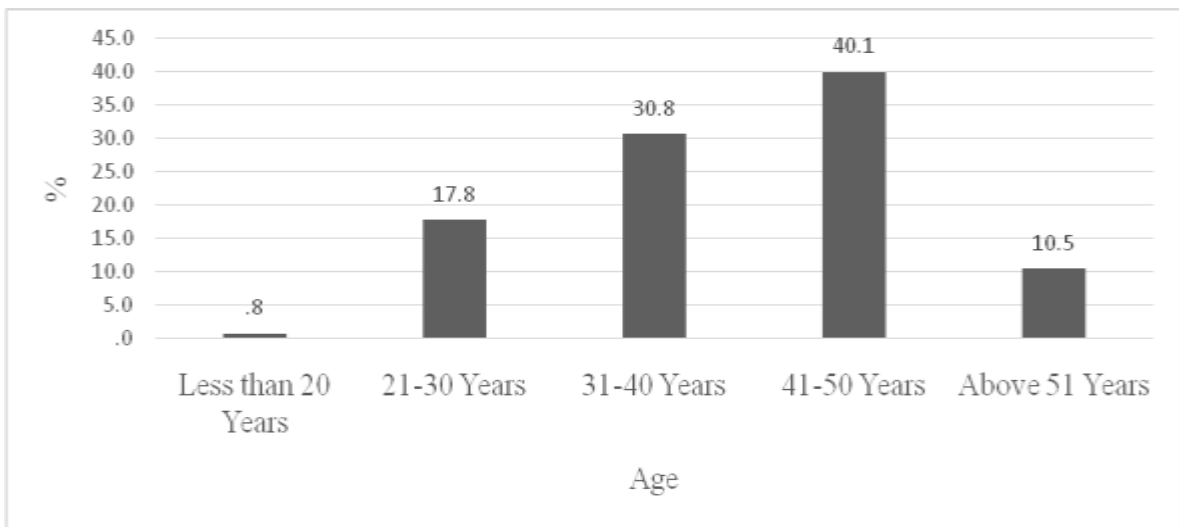
The age of the participants in an inquiry is among the key element that helps in getting an understanding of their concerns with regard to certain issues. Age also shapes and predicts the level of maturity of the participants of the inquiry.

Figure 4.2 gives a summary of the age of the participants in the inquiry.



**Figure 4.2**

*Age of Respondents*



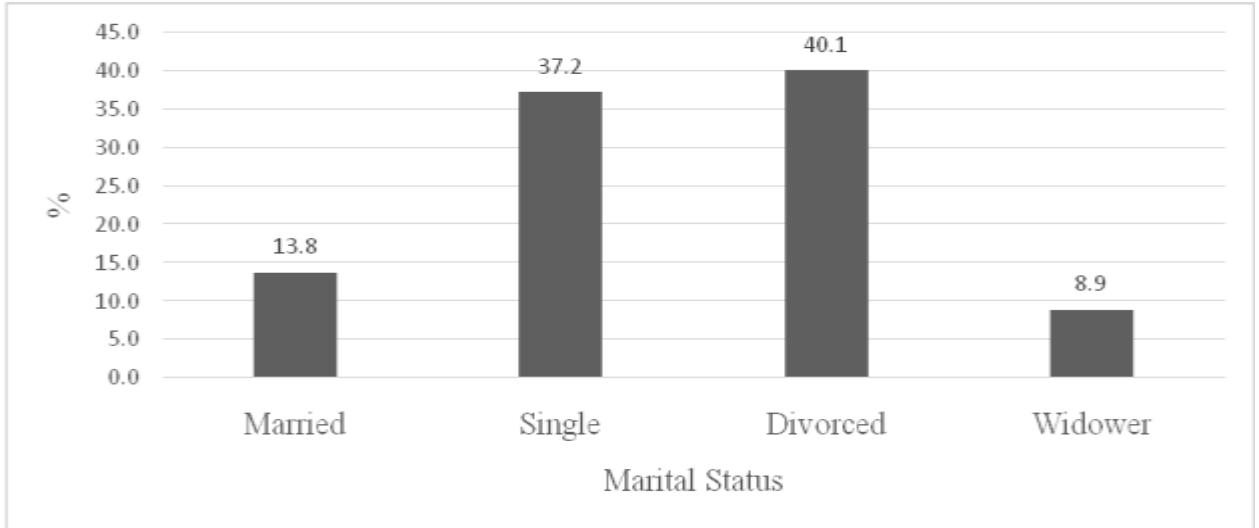
The findings show that 70.9 of the inmates were between 31 and 50 years. This probably indicates that most of the prisoners were in their youthful age. The findings are in line with Rutere,2003) and Kitaria (2014), whose findings established that majority of the respondents were youthful and middle aged prisoners aged respectively. This corresponds to the age when the adult is most active.

**4.3.2 Marital Status**

The respondents were asked to indicate their marital status and the findings were as shown in Figure 4.3:

**Figure 4.3**

*Marital Status*



A total of 40.1% of the participants were divorced, 37.2% were single, 13.8% were married and lastly 8.9% were widowers. The findings show that (70.3%) of the respondents were single men. This therefore implies that single men are more likely to engage in deviant behaviour as compared to married men. In this regard, it helps in expounding how lack of attachment with the family influences the prisoners into being deviant. For example, a prisoner with a family is less likely to engage in deviant behaviours which can lead to an extended stay in prison. This finding resonates in Rutere (2003) who found that single prisoners were mostly involved in recidivism.

**4.3.3 Highest Level of Education**

Figure 4.4 the respondents' level of education was viewed as a factor that could influence them into deviant behaviours. The respondents were asked to indicate their highest level of education.

**Figure 4.4**

***Highest Level of Education***

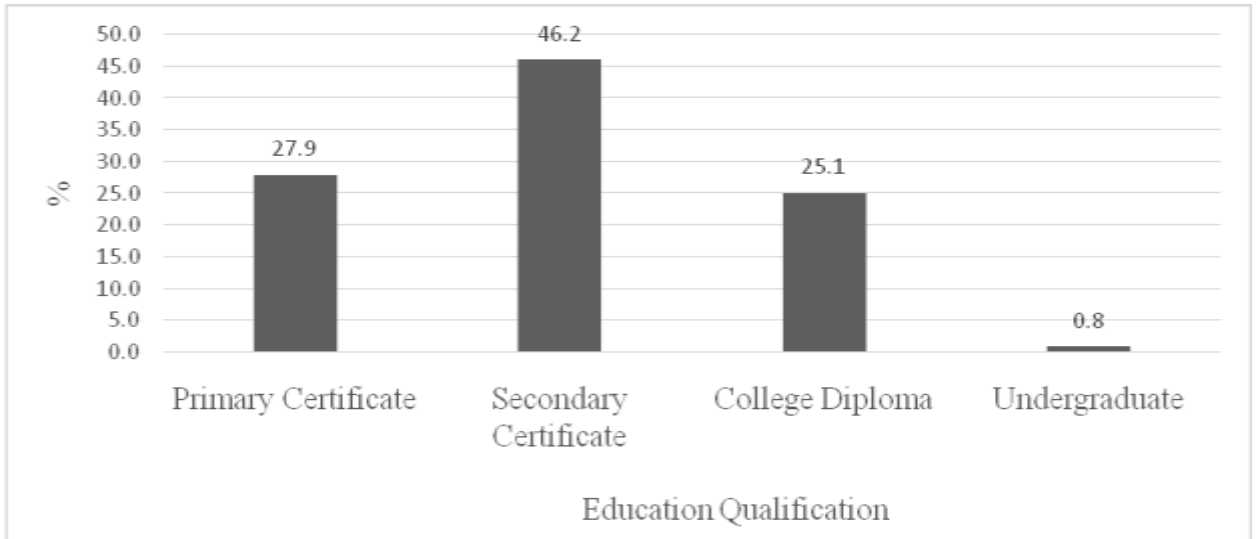


Figure 4.4 show that 46.2% of the inmates' highest level of education was secondary certificate education followed by 27.9% who had primary certificate, 25.1% had college diploma and 0.8% highest level of education was undergraduate. The findings show that 74.1% of the inmates had a secondary education and below as their highest level of education. This shows that deviant behaviour is high among prisoners with secondary certificate education followed and below. Past studies by Mbuthia (2013) among the youth in Njatha-ini community found that youths who were in employment perceived deviant behaviours negatively and vice versa. Additionally, Rutere (2003) realized that most of the male prisoners had low levels of education.

In most cases, meaningful employment goes hand in hand with the level of education; which implies that people with less education are probably less employed and thus engaging more in deviant behaviour.

#### 4.4 Peer Pressure and Deviance

The respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement on the existence of deviant behaviours and the responses were as shown in table 4.2:

**Table 4.2**

*Peer Pressure and Deviance*

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Dev</b>
In prison peer pressure is a dominant cause of deviant behavior	3.943	.752
Peer associates have a great influence on the lifestyle of their members	4.170	.788
Peers in prison help in socialization with codes to adopt	3.736	.869
It is difficult to restrain from opinions of your group peers while in this prison	3.717	.892
Deviant peers accept and accommodate each other	3.883	1.146
Peer pressure is a strong denominator among the determinants of adulthood crime	3.939	.928
Accessibility of drugs and alcohol from peers leads to deviance in our behavior	3.744	.455
Lack of social affiliations within prison leads to more harm to prisoners	4.202	.583
Opinions of other inmates encourages the prisoners to participate in criminal activities	3.846	.811
Guidance and counseling help in reducing deviant behaviour	4.081	.706
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.926</b>	<b>0.793</b>

Table 4.2 shows that in prison, peer pressure was a dominant cause of deviant behaviour (M= 3.943, SD= 0.752). The findings showed that inmates agreed that peers in prison helped in socialization with codes to adopt (M=3.736, SD=0.869). The research showed that, it was difficult to restrain from opinions of their group peers while in the prison (M=3.717, SD= 0.392). Their research found out that opinions of other inmates

encouraged the prisoners to participate in deviant behaviours ( $M= 3.846$   $SD= 0.811$ ). The findings concur with Blowers and Blevins (2015) study findings that established that existing peer pressure within the prisons determined behaviour and codes among prisoners. The research found that accessibility of drugs and alcohol from peers led to deviance in their behaviour ( $M=3.744$ ,  $SD=0.455$ ). The findings are in line with Walters (2017) observations that psychosocial factors leading to deviance among prisoners include drug taking behaviour of prisoners especially alcohol abuse. The finding further found that guidance and counselling helped in reducing deviant behaviour in prison ( $M=4.081$ ,  $SD= 0.706$ ). The finding is in support of Stupnisky et al. (2019) who indicated that guidance and counselling departments should be vocal in adoption of social media platforms so as to provide mentorship to the students.

On overall, the results in Table 4.2 indicate a mean score of 3.926; the implication of this finding is that majority of the respondents agreed on the statements provided under peer pressure. In other words, this probably implies that peer pressure was evident among the respondents who participated in the study and probably contributed to their deviant behaviour. The assertion is supported by low value of standard deviation of 0.793; which implies that respondents shared similar views and opinions as it regarded peer pressure

Respondents were further asked to indicate other factors of social integration that influenced criminal activities among prisoners in this prison. It was indicated that sublimation was a major influence of crime. The study further established that prisoners with immature defence mechanisms were highly affected prisoners in denial, passive aggression and immature coping mechanism. In support of the findings, Walker et al. (1995) argued that prisoner's socialization is a response to the losses they suffer or the pains of imprisonment. The deprivation model suggests that life in prison is degrading and

also stigmatizing. As a way of responding to the oppressive condition, the inmates act in an aggressive manner.

#### 4.5 Coercion and Deviance

The third objective of the study sought the influence of coercion on deviance and the findings were as indicated in Table 4.3.

**Table 4.2**

*Coercion and Deviance*

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Dev</b>
Increases in arrest and incarceration decreases our fear in participating in deviant behaviours	3.894	.628
Increases in arrest and incarceration decreases in the perceived risk of victimization	3.728	.772
Coercive experiences within prison are associated with engagement in violent misconduct in the prison	4.271	.677
We are normally coerced into doing criminal activities while in the prisons	3.789	.908
Prisoners are being forced by fellow prisoners at least once to have sexual contact against their will	3.147	.767
Prisoners with lack of educations inhibit their ability to understand the material relevant to their decision to participate in crime	4.036	.739
Prisoners make decisions under duress	2.945	1.009
Prisoners can be easily manipulated to comply with the directions of those who have authority over them	3.858	.349
The institutional pressure damages the ability of the participants to freely choose to participate in what they want in the prison.	3.939	1.012
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.734</b>	<b>0.762</b>

The findings pointed out that an increase in arrest and incarceration decreases their fear in participating in criminal activities ( $M=3.894$ ,  $SD=0.628$ ). The research finding showed that, respondents agreed that increases in arrest and incarceration decreases in the perceived risk of victimization ( $M=3.728$ ,  $SD= 0.772$ ). Hansen and Waddell (2018) shared that a rise or drop in incarceration and arrest may have an influence on how the prisoners take part in criminal actions in a given establishment. It was indicated that the experiences of coercion in prisons were linked with the ability of the prisoners to take part in activities that are rendered as violent ( $M= 4.271$ ,  $SD=0.677$ ).

It was established that participants were coerced into doing criminal activities while in the prisons ( $M= 3.789$ ;  $SD=0.908$ ). The finding found out that majority of the respondents moderately agreed that prisoners were being forced by fellow prisoners at least once to have sexual contact against their will ( $M= 3.147$ ,  $SD=0.767$ ). The finding found out that, majority of the respondents agreed that prisoners with lack of educations inhibit their ability to understand the material relevant to their decision to participate in crime ( $M=4.036$ ,  $SD= 0.739$ ). Day et al. (2015) were of the view that coercive behaviour in prisons is linked with the ability of the prisoners to take part in the behaviour that is violent in nature.

There was moderate agreement among the participants that prisoners made decisions under duress ( $M= 2.945$ ,  $SD=1.009$ ). It was noted that the prisoners were likely to be manipulated to abide by those who have more authority as compared to them ( $M=3.858$ ,  $SD=0.349$ ). This is consistent with Bernburg and Krohn (2003) who noted that it is easy to manipulate the prisoners to ensure they abide by those who are more empowered largely through coercion. It was further noted that due to institutional pressure, it is not possible for the prisoners to make a decision on what they desire to engage in ( $M=3.939$   $SD= 1.012$ ). This is supported by social control theory which states that: a state of lawlessness

leads to social disintegration which is likely to cause individuals committing deviant behaviour. This theory can be used to explain why the prisoners deviate from the norms of the prisons. Agboola and Salawu (2011) argues that this theory applies to people who break rules in the society when they don't have any attachments to the society or institution. In this regard, the theory helps in expounding how lack of attachment within the prison renders the prisoners into being deviant.

The overall findings in Table 4.3 give the overall score ( $M=3.734$ ,  $SD= 0.762$ ). This value of means indicate that majority of the respondents agreed on various statements provided under coercion. In other words, it suggests that coercion was an attribute of the respondents which probably contributed to their criminal activities. This assertion is supported by a low value of standard deviation; which shows that respondents had convergent views and opinions on coercion. A number of empirical studies have explored the role –played by coercion in criminal activities. For instance, a study by Day et al., (2015) shared that the experiences of coercion in prisons are linked with the ability to engage in violent behaviour. It was noted that the staff within prisons may show these behaviour of reactive

The respondents were asked to indicate how coercion played a role in prisoners' deviant behaviours. From the finding, over half of the respondents indicated that coercion led the prisoners to be more rebellious by acting contrary to the rules and regulations of the prison. These findings further indicated that prisoners remained in crime when coerced by the police officers. It was further established that prisoners felt unwanted and unwelcomed in the community which led to increased crime. These results are supported by importation theory which states that: psychosocial factors lead to crime among prisoners. This was a theory which was developed in response to deprivation theory. It views prison behaviour as an adaptation to pre-prison and socialization experiences. It suggests that the



prisoners take with them their behaviour and cultures into the prison. If they were deviant, which they were, they are less likely to change even when they get to prison. The inmate behaviour is just an extension of the values the inmate previously held. Therefore, if their past life had challenges of socialization, they led to crime in the prison. The theory helps elaborate the variables such as psychosocial factors originate from outside to the prison context in most cases, these factors cannot be manipulated by the correctional officials.

The study established that coercion had a major impact on deviant behaviour among male prisoners in Kiambu County. The findings pointed out that the institutional pressure damaged the ability of the participants to freely choose to participate in what they wanted in the prison, prisoners with lack of educations inhibited their ability to understand the material relevant to their decision to participate in crime and coercive experiences within prison were associated with engagement in violent misconduct in the prison. Day et al. (2015) was of the view that the experience of coercion is connected with the ability of the prisoners to engage in violent behaviour. The study further pointed out that increases in arrest and incarceration decreases their fear in participating in criminal activities. Hansen and Waddell (2018) share that a rise in the cases of incarnation and arrest may have an adverse effect on participation for instance a reduction in criminal fear and a slowdown in perceptions of the risks of being victimized.

The respondents were asked to indicate how deviant behaviours were influenced by coercion of other prisoners. The study established that coercive experiences within prison were associated with engagement in violent misconduct in the prison. Prisoners indicated that they were normally coerced into doing criminal activities while in the prisons and some prisoners made decisions under duress. The study further established that prisoners coerced by fellow prisoners committed crimes in and out of prison.

#### 4.6 Interventions to address Prisoner's Deviant Behaviours

The fourth objective of the study addressed the interventions that were being used to help prisoners deal with deviant behaviours. The findings were as indicated in table 4.4:

**Table 4.3**

##### *Interventions to address Prisoner's Deviant Behaviour*

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Dev</b>
We have an educational program for prisoners who even sit national exams	3.882	.887
The prison started an offending behaviour programs to reduce such behaviours among prisoners	3.935	.751
We have been given vocational training to equip us with everyday skills	3.967	.732
Those skilled are employed within the prison industries like construction work	3.918	1.015
We are offered pastoral care through chaplains and visiting pastors	3.870	.611
For those prisoners nearing their release date, they are linked to community-based counselling	4.097	.593
Counselling of inmates is always done to them in a scheduled program	3.923	.679
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>3.942</b>	<b>0.753</b>

Respondents noted that there were educational program for prisoners who even sat national exams (M= 3.882; SD=0.887). Ronald (2011) argued that there are several programs that are delivered to the prisoners for behavioural change for instance the need to avoid violence and sexual offense. Majority of the respondents agreed that the prison started an offending behaviour programs to reduce such behaviours among prisoners (M=3.935, SD=0.751). Ronald (2011) indicated that prisoners are encouraged to

participate in offender behaviour programs which are voluntary. Once the prisoners have served their sentence, recommendation is provided for them to be involved in programs of maintenance.

The study further established that majority of the respondents agreed that respondents with skills were employed within the prison industries like construction work (M= 3.918; SD= 1.015). The study found that, inmates were given vocational training to equip them with everyday skills (M= 3.967; SD=0.732. Walters (2017) shared that there are numerous training and education facilities available to the prisoners. The researcher found that inmates were offered pastoral care through chaplains and visiting pastors (M= 3.870; SD=0.593). Respondents agreed that the prisoners nearing their release date were linked to community-based counselling (M=4.097, SD=0.593). The finding is in support of Hansen and Waddell (2018) who indicated that if the prisoners are nearing the end of their sentence, the prison will help them to plan for their release into the community by linking them to community-based services. The study found out that counselling of inmates was always done to them in a scheduled program (M= 3.923; SD= 0.679). This is solely explained by the literature. A study on the effect of a brief cognitive behavioural intervention on criminal thinking and prison misconduct carried out by Walters (2017) argued that there are wide ranges of education and training opportunities offered to prisoners. These training ensure that the prisoners have been equipped with the relevant skills that would enhance their employability when they have been released from the prison. Before being released, the training received can help the prisoners to be employed within the prisons. The training opportunities that are offered to the prisoners have been recognized at the national level. It was shown that there are numerous training and education opportunities covering numerical and literacy, secondary level education and tertiary education.

On overall, the results in Table 4.4 indicate an average score ( $M= 3.942$ ,  $SD=.753$ ), which show that respondents agreed on the fact that there were interventions as far as addressing of deviance behaviour in the prison was concerned. When the prisoners are put into custody, they are better placed to establish relevant interventions that would bring about behavioural change. Such interventions may cover education programs, employment opportunities and training. Through these interventions, the cycle of reoffending can be broken such that the prisoners are released from the prisons. Ronald (2011) conducted a study on social work intervention with prisoners. The study indicated various programs are delivered by the prisons that aim to curb behaviour that are so offensive for instance the abuse of substances and violence behaviour. All the programs of the offenders operate on a voluntary basis. Once the prisoner has completed the programs covering the offending behaviour, recommendations may be raised for them to take part in programs covering maintenance. The programs of maintenance offer an opportunity where the prisoners can strengthen and improve on their skills.

Regarding the impact of prison reforms on rehabilitation of offenders in Kenya, Hansen and Waddell (2018) indicated that the prison has implemented intervention programs to help the prisoners. There are religious bodies and chaplains to offer pastoral care and services to the prisoners. Reasonable steps are undertaken by the prisons so that the prisoners are able to adhere to their identified religious affiliations. Church elder from different communities and denominations have regular access to support indigenous prisoners.

Respondents were further asked to indicate any other interventions measures which can be used to help prisoners to correct their deviant behaviours. The findings revealed that guidance and counselling, training and equipping the inmates with necessary skills and

integrating them to the community for acceptance by community were some of the measures that were employed.

The findings showed that the prisoners were asked to communicate their choices in a short and simple way regardless of how their peers took the answer. The prison management had set clear rules and regulations on prisoners coercing new and young prisoners.

The study established that prisoners nearing their release date were linked to community-based counselling, skilled prisoners were employed within the prison industries like construction work and inmates were given vocational training to equip them with everyday skills. The finding is in support of Hansen and Waddell (2018) who shared that on nearing their jail term, the prison always ensures that the prisoners have been given an opportunity where they are able to plan their future in efforts to be released back into the society. The prison had started an offending behaviour program to reduce deviant behaviours among prisoners. The findings are in support of Ronald (2011) who indicated that prisoners are encouraged to participate in offender behaviour programs which are voluntary.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

A summary of the findings is illustrated in this chapter. The conclusions as informed by the findings are also presented with recommendations informing the policy and practices are also presented. The areas that call for further research are also indicated in this chapter.

#### **5.2 Summary of the Findings**

The essence of the inquiry was to bring out the influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County, Kenya. The findings were as follows: demographic factors contribute to deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County, peer pressure influence deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County; coercion influence deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County, and there is need to establish the interventions to help prisoners deal with deviant behaviours in Kiambu County.

##### **5.2.1 Demographics Factors and deviance Behaviors.**

A majority of the respondents (40.1%) were aged between 41-50 years followed by a significant prison population who self-reported to be aged between 31-40 years (30.8%). Another significant group of respondents indicated that they were aged between 21-30 years (17.8%). On the other end of the spectrum, 8% of respondents indicated they were aged below 20 years, while 10.5% of respondents indicated they were above 50 years of age. Concerning marital status, the findings demonstrate that a significant number of offenders (77.3%) had no marital attachment. From the findings, 37.2% of respondents indicated they were single while 40.1% indicated they were divorced. Respondents who reported to have married constituted 13.8% of respondents while 8.9% of the sample self-

reported as widowed. Education was found to be inversely correlated with deviant and criminal tendencies. The vast majority of offenders (27.9%) indicated their highest educational attainment was a primary school certificate while 46.2% of them indicated their highest educational attachment was a secondary school certificate. Inmates who possessed a college diploma formed 25.1% of the sample population while those with a university education comprised only 0.8% of the sample size.

### **5.2.2 Peer Pressure and Deviance**

It was noted that, peer associates had a great influence on the lifestyle of their members. Majority of the respondents agreed that in prison, peer pressure was a dominant cause of deviant behaviour. Respondents agreed that peer pressure was a strong denominator among the determinants of adulthood crime. Respondents were in agreement that deviant peers accepted and accommodated each other. Respondents further agreed that opinions of other inmates encouraged the prisoners to participate in deviant behaviours. Respondents agreed that accessibility of drugs and alcohol from peers led to criminal activities. Respondents agreed that peers in prison helped in socialization with codes to adopt. Respondents agreed that it was difficult to restrain from opinions of their group peers while in the prison. This was supported by a mean of 3.943 and standard deviation of 0.752.

### **5.2.3 Coercion and Deviance behaviours**

The study noted that some of the prisoners were manipulated to follow a given direction based on those who had more influence. This means most of the respondents were normally coerced into doing criminal activities while in the prisons. This is supported by a mean of 3.734 and standard deviation of 0.762

#### **5.2.4 Interventions to deal with Prisoner's Deviant Behaviours**

It was noted that the prisoners nearing their release date were linked to community-based counselling. The findings showed that prisoners were given vocational training to equip them with everyday skills. The finding revealed that the prison started an offending behaviour programs to reduce criminal activities among prisoners. The study showed that counselling of inmates was always done to them in a scheduled program. The study also showed that prisoners with skills were employed within the prison industries like construction work. The findings showed that they had an educational program for prisoners who even sat for national exams. The study findings showed that inmates were offered pastoral care through chaplains and visiting pastors.

#### **5.3 Conclusions**

The study concludes that age, marital status of prisoners, education level and duration of stay in the prison were some of the demographics that played a significant a role in influencing prisoners to deviant behaviours.

Peer pressure was a dominant cause of deviant behaviour. Peer pressure was a strong denominator among the determinants of adulthood crime and deviant behaviours.

The study further concludes that coercive experiences within prison were associated with engagement in misconduct in the prison. The study further concludes that prisoners nearing their release date were linked to community-based counselling where they were given vocational training to equip them with everyday skills.



## **5.4 Recommendations**

The study recommends that the prison management ought to:

- 1) Ensure that counselling is professionally done to prisoners and especially the newly imprisoned to reduce the numbers likely to engage in deviant behaviours.
- 2) Separate prisoners who have been in prison for a long time from the newly sentenced inmates so as to minimise deviant behaviours through peer influence.
- 3) Allow the inmates to choose the vocational training they have interest in.

## **5.5 Suggestions for Further Studies**

- 1) Future research need to focus on other male prisons.
- 2) Future research ought to carry similar studies on female prisons.
- 3) Future research should do a comparative study on influence of psychosocial factors on deviant behaviors among male and female inmates.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix I: Introduction Letter

John Mathigu Gicharu

Nairobi, Kenya.

#### **RE: Request To Participate in an Academic Research**

I am conducting a study on **INFLUENCE OF PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS ON DEVIANT BEHAVIORS AMONG MALE PRISONERS IN KIAMBU COUNTY**. You have been selected to take part in the study by filling this questionnaire. Kindly consider responding to all the questions as honestly as you possibly can. Be assured that all the information you provide will be handled with confidentiality. I appreciate your anticipated co-operation to give your attention as a contribution towards this exercise.

Yours faithfully,

John Mathigu Gicharu

## Appendix II: Questionnaire

I am conducting a study on **INFLUENCE OF PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS ON DEVIANT BEHAVIORS AMONG MALE PRISONERS IN KIAMBU COUNTY**. I have specific questions to ask you related to psychosocial factors and deviant/deviant behaviours. All information shared will be strictly confidential and will be used for academic purposes only. Your participation in the exercise is highly appreciated.

### SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Indicate your age?

- a) Less than 20 Years [ ]
- b) 21-30 Years [ ]
- c) 31-40 Years [ ]
- d) 41-50 Years [ ]
- e) Above 51 Years [ ]

2. What is your marital status?

- a) Married [ ]
- b) Single [ ]
- c) Divorced [ ]
- d) Widower [ ]

3. What is your highest level of education?

- a) Primary Certificate [ ]
- b) Secondary Certificate [ ]
- c) College Diploma [ ]
- d) Undergraduate [ ]
- e) Post Graduate [ ]

4. How long have you been in this prison?

.....  
.....  
.....

## SECTION B: DEMOGRAPHICS

6. If you are married, how many children do you have?

- a. None [ ]
- b. One [ ]
- c. Two [ ]
- d. More than two [ ]

7. How often do you keep in touch with your spouse?

- a. Never [ ]
- b. Occasionally [ ]
- c. Frequently [ ]

8. How old were you when you got incarcerated?

- a. Less than 18 years [ ]
- b. 18 – 25 years [ ]
- c. 26 – 35 years [ ]
- d. More than 35 years

9. What is your highest educational attainment?

- a. I have never gone to school [ ]
- b. Primary level [ ]
- c. Secondary level [ ]
- d. College/University [ ]
- e. Graduate [ ]

10. If you went to school, how

would you describe your relation to students and teachers?

- a. Cordial [ ]
- b. Indifferent [ ]
- c. Volatile [ ]

11. Would you like to continue your education in prison?

- a. Yes [ ]
- b. No [ ]



12. If you would like to continue your education in prison, please give a reason why

.....

.....

.....

**SECTION C: PEER PRESSURE**

13. Rate how the following factors influence deviant behaviours among male prisoners in this prison. Use a Likert scale of 1-5 where 1 strongly disagree, 2 disagree, 3 do not know, 4 agree and 5 strongly agree.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
In prison peer pressure is a dominant cause of deviant behaviour					
Peer associates have a great influence on the lifestyle of their members					
Peers in prison help in socialization with codes to adopt					
It is difficult to restrain from opinions of your group peers while in this prison					
Deviant peers accept and accommodate each other					
Peer pressure is a strong denominator among the determinants of adulthood crime					
Accessibility of drugs and alcohol from peers leads to deviance in our behavior					
Lack of social affiliations within prison leads to more harm to prisoners					
Opinions of other inmates encourages the prisoners to participate in abnormal behaviors					
Guidance and counseling help in reducing deviant behavior in prison					

14. What other psychological factors influence deviant behaviours among prisoners in this prison?

.....

.....

.....

**SECTION D: COERCION**

15. Below are several statements on how coercion influences deviant behaviour among prisoners.

Kindly rate each of the factors on a scale of 1-5 where 1 strongly disagree, 2 disagrees, 3 do not know, 4 agree and 5 strongly agree.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Increases in arrest and incarceration decreases our fear in participating in criminal activities					
Increases in arrest and incarceration decreases in the perceived risk of victimization					
Coercive experiences within prison are associated with engagement in violent misconduct in the prison					
We are normally coerced into doing criminal activities while in the prisons					
Prisoners are being forced by fellow prisoners at least once to have sexual contact against their will.					
Prisoners with lack of educations inhibit their ability to understand the material relevant to their decision to participate in crime					
Prisoners make decisions under duress					
Prisoners can be easily manipulated to comply with the directions of those who have authority over them					
The institutional pressure damages the ability of the participants to freely choose to participate in what they want in the prison.					

16. How else does coercion play a role in prisoners' deviant behaviours?

.....

.....

.....

**SECTION E: INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE PRISONER'S DEVIANT BEHAVIOUR**

17. Below are several statements on the interventions to help prisoners deal and reduce deviant behaviours while in prison. Kindly rate each of the factors on a scale of 1-5 where 1 strongly disagree, 2 disagree, 3 do not know, 4 agree and 5 strongly agree.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
We have an educational program for prisoners who even sit national exams					
The prison started an offending behaviour programs to reduce such behaviours among prisoners					
We have been given vocational training to equip us with everyday skills					
Those skilled are employed within the prison industries like construction work					
We are offered pastoral care through chaplains and visiting pastors					
For those prisoners nearing their release date, they are linked to community-based counselling					
And Counselling of inmates is always done to them in a scheduled program.					

18. Are there any other interventions which can be used to help prisoners to correct their deviant behaviours?

.....  
 .....

## SECTION F: DEVIANT BEHAVIOUR

19. Kindly indicate the extent of your agreement on the following statements on deviant behaviour

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Deviant behaviours have become common in our prison facility					
Most of us engage in vandalizing prison property					
We indulge in violent activities using crude weapons					
We participate in prison riots					
We have tried to escape from prison several times when we get an opportunity					
Most of us take alcoholic drinks and drugs					
The prison rehabilitation program fails in curbing our deviant actions					
We have become jail birds as a result of multiple deviant behaviours					
The clusters of friends we keep influence our deviant activities					

**THANK YOU**

**Appendix III: Authorization letter from Prison HQT.**

**MINISTRY OF INTERIOR & CO ORDINATION OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT  
KENYA PRISONS**

Telegrams: "COMPRISONS" Nairobi  
Telephone: +254 02 2722900-6  
E-mail Comprisons@yahoo.com  
When



PRISONS HEADQUARTERS  
P.O.BOX 30175-00100  
**NAIROBI**

**Date 25/9/2018**

**PRIS 10/18/VOL.VIII/32**

John M Gicharu  
P.o Box 00901- 139  
Ngewa

**RE: PERMISSION TO CARRY OUT A RESEARCH PROJECT AT KIAMBU MAIN PRISON**

Following your application for authority to carry out research on "*Psychological factors influencing deviant behaviours among male prisoners in Kiambu County*". I wish to inform you that your request to conduct a research at the above institution has been approved by the Commissioner General of Prisons. The research will be relevant to assist us develop intervention.

For the period you will carry out your research, you will be expected to abide by the Rules and Regulations as laid down by the Kenya Prisons service.

Upon completion of your research for two months at Kiambu Prison from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> October , 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> at Ruiru Prison, and Thika Main Prison at 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018 you will be required to submit two copies of your report one to this office and another to the officer in Charge, Kiambu Prison, Ruiru Prison and Thika Main Prison.

By a copy of this letter, the officers in charge are requested to accord you the necessary assistance.

Thank you and good luck in your research.

**MARY KHAEMBA, (DIR OFFENDER CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION)  
FOR: COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF PRISONS**

CC:  
The Officer in charge  
Kaimbu Prison  
P.o Box 121  
**Kiambu**

The Officer in Charge  
Thika Main Prison  
P.o Box 95

**Thika**

The Officer in Charge  
Ruiru Prison  
P.o Box 363  
**Ruiru**

## Appendix IV: Introduction letter from University-Nrb

  
**Kenya Methodist University**  
P. O Box 267 - 60200, Meru, Kenya, Tel: (+254-020) 2118423-7, 064-30301/31229 Email: info@kemu.ac.ke , Website: www.kemu.ac.ke

---

January 9, 2019.

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

**RE: MATHIGU JOHN GICHARU      MCO-3-2205-1/2016**

This is to confirm that the above named is a student in the Department of Business Administration, in this university, pursuing a Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology.

As a requirement, the student is expected to undertake an independent **primary research** in their area of specialization.

The purpose of this letter is therefore; to introduce the student to you and request you to allow him undertake the research in your organization.

The student has been advised to ensure that all data and information from the organization is treated with utmost confidentiality and only used for academic purposes unless otherwise stated.

Any assistance accorded to him will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

  
Dr. Bernard Baimwera, PhD.  
Deputy Registrar -Academic Affairs

  
KENYA METHODIST UNIVERSITY  
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE  
RECORDS  
10 JAN 2019  
RECEIVED  
NAIROBI CAMPUS  
P.O. Box 45240-00100, NAIROBI

Nairobi Campus: Koinange Street, P.O. Box 45240-00100 Nairobi - Tel: +254-20-2118443/2248172/2247987/0725-751878 • Email: nairobicampus@kemu.ac.ke  
Nakuru Campus: Macha Plaza, 4th Floor, P.O. Box 3654-20100, Nakuru, Tel: +254-51-2214436 • Email: nakurucampus@kemu.ac.ke  
Mombasa Campus: Former Oshwal Academy, P.O. Box 89983, Mombasa. Tel: +254 - 041-2495945 / 8 • Email: mombasacampus@kemu.ac.ke

**The Future is Here!**

## Appendix V: Letter from KeMU-Ethical Board



# KENYA METHODIST UNIVERSITY

P. O. BOX 267 MERU - 60200, KENYA  
TEL: 254-064-30301/31229/30367/31171

FAX: 254-64-30162  
EMAIL: [info@kemu.ac.ke](mailto:info@kemu.ac.ke)

22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

John Mathigu Gicharu  
MCO-3-2205-1/2016

Dear John,

**RE: ETHICAL CLEARANCE OF A MASTERS' RESEARCH THESIS**

Your request for ethical clearance for your Masters' Research Thesis titled "**Psychosocial Factors Influencing Deviant Behaviours among Male prisoners in Kiambu County**" has been provisionally granted to you in accordance with the content of your project proposal subject to tabling it in the full Board of Scientific and Ethics Review Committee (SERC) for ratification.

As Principal Investigator, you are responsible for fulfilling the following requirements of approval:

1. All co-investigators must be kept informed of the status of the project.
2. Changes, amendments, and addenda to the protocol or the consent form must be submitted to the SERC for re-review and approval **prior** to the activation of the changes. The Proposal number assigned to the project should be cited in any correspondence.
3. Adverse events should be reported to the SERC. New information that becomes available which could change the risk: benefit ratio must be submitted promptly for SERC review. The SERC and outside agencies must review the information to determine if the protocol should be modified, discontinued, or continued as originally approved.
4. Only approved consent forms are to be used in the enrollment of participants. All consent forms signed by subjects and/or witnesses should be retained on file. The SERC may conduct audits of all study records, and consent documentation may be part of such audits.

5. SERC regulations require review of an approved study not less than once per 12-month period. **Therefore, a continuing review application must be submitted to the SERC in order to continue the study beyond the approved period.** Failure to submit a continuing review application in a timely fashion will result in termination of the study, at which point new participants may not be enrolled and currently enrolled participants must be taken off the study.

Please note that any substantial changes on the scope of your research will require an approval.

Yours sincerely



**DR. WAMACHI**

Chair, SERC

cc: Director, RI & PGS




## Appendix VI: Research Permit


**THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013**  
The Grant of Research Licenses is guided by the Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014.

**CONDITIONS**

1. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.
2. The License and any rights thereunder are non-transferable.
3. The Licensee shall inform the County Governor before commencement of the research.
4. Excavation, filming and collection of specimens are subject to further necessary clearance from relevant Government Agencies.
5. The License does not give authority to transfer research materials.
6. NACOSTI may monitor and evaluate the licensed research project.
7. The Licensee shall submit one hard copy and upload a soft copy of their final report within one year of completion of the research.
8. NACOSTI reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.

National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation  
P.O. Box 30623 - 00100, Nairobi, Kenya  
TEL: 020 400 7000, 0713 788787, 0735 404245  
Email: dg@nacosti.go.ke, registry@nacosti.go.ke  
Website: www.nacosti.go.ke

  
**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

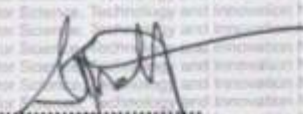
  
**National Commission for Science,  
Technology and Innovation**  
**RESEARCH LICENSE**

Serial No. A **22923**  
CONDITIONS: see back page


**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:**  
**MR. JOHN MATHIGU GICHARU**  
of **KENYA METHODIST UNIVERSITY,**  
**139-901 NGEWA,** has been permitted to  
conduct research in **Kiambu County**


on the topic: **PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS**  
**INFLUENCING DEVIANT BEHAVIORS**  
**AMONG MALE PRISONERS IN KIAMBU**  
**COUNTY**

for the period ending:  
**31st January, 2020**

  
Applicant's  
Signature

Permit No : **NACOSTI/P/19/68806/27796**  
Date Of Issue : **31st January, 2019**  
Fee Received : **Kshs 1,000**



  
Director General  
National Commission for Science,  
Technology & Innovation

## Appendix VII: Research Authorization Letter NACOSTI



### NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

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

NACOSTI, Upper Kabete  
Off Waiyaki Way  
P.O. Box 30623-00100  
NAIROBI-KENYA

Ref. No. **NACOSTI/P/19/68806/27796**

Date: **31<sup>st</sup> January, 2019**


John Mathigu Gicharu  
Kenya Methodist University  
P.O. Box 267 – 60200  
**MERU**

#### **RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION**

Following your application for authority to carry out research on “*Psychosocial factors influencing deviant behaviors among male prisoners in Kiambu County*” I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in **Kiambu County** for the period ending **31<sup>st</sup> January, 2020**.

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

Kindly note that, as an applicant who has been licensed under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 to conduct research in Kenya, you shall deposit **a copy** of the final research report to the Commission within **one year** of completion. The soft copy of the same should be submitted through the Online Research Information System.

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

Copy to:

The Commissioner of Prisons.

The County Commissioner  
Kiambu County.

The County Director of Education  
Kiambu County.