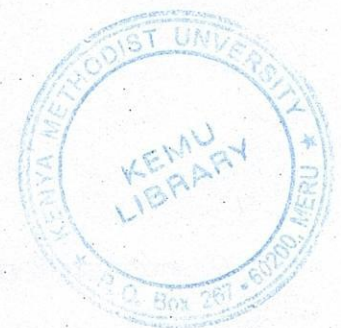


**Harambee as an Alternative Source of Financing Secondary Education in
Igembe South District, Kenya**

By

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ABSTRACT

Harambee is a community initiative to contribute money through a call over gathering of well wishers to support the bright needy students to continue education and also support infrastructure development in school. The study has tried to reveal the gap between the intended purpose of the Harambee and the actual allocation of realised funds to real purpose. The other purpose of this study was to investigate the 'Harambee' as an alternative source of financing secondary education. The study has attempted to determine the effect of Harambee on accessibility to secondary education in public secondary schools in Igembe South District, It has established the effect of Harambee on infrastructure development, it has explored other sources of funds for financing secondary education and also has determined the main areas of education development targeted by Harambee. The study was limited to Harambee as source of private funds for financing education and also limited to Igembe South district only. This study was based on the theory by Musgrave and Musgrave (1985) that financing of public education in general is by two main forces, that is public and private sources. This study employed descriptive survey design since the study was geared towards determining the extent to which institutional growth is influenced by Harambee and how the trend of disbursement affects public secondary schools' programmes. The study was also meant to establish whether the harambee funds were used for the intended purposes. The study drew a sample of 30 percent of the population in each category of the population. The used a total sample size of 36 respondents, these categories included; the principals who are school managers, the parent teacher association (PTA) chairpersons and the chairpersons of board of management (BOM) in each secondary school. The study utilised both primary and secondary data. Primary data was collected from Head teachers through questionnaire comprising of closed and open ended questions. In addition interview schedules were used for, Secondary data on enrolment of students per school was collected from school admission records and class registers. To establish the validity of the research instrument the researcher got opinions of experts in the field of study especially the researcher's supervisor and lecturers at Kenya Methodist University-Department of Education. Reliability of the research instrument was enhanced through a pilot study that was done on one of the school. Descriptive statistics was used to analyse the data collected using SPSS version 17.0 software. This study revealed that harambee has played a significant role in both increasing education accessibility and infrastructure development in the district. It was recommended that all secondary schools in Kenya to embrace harambee as financing mode incorporating all stake holders as well as identify different sources of funds. Schools to embrace investment approach by engaging in income generating projects to earn revenue for development.