An Evaluation Of Factors That Lead To Youth Exclusion And Vulnerability To Terrorism In Kiambu Sub County, Kenya

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Abstract: Youth exclusion according to the worldwide viewpoint is a type of social avoidance wherein youth are in a tough spot in joining foundations and associations in their social orders. Terrorism is one of the greatest worldwide difficulties of the 21st hundred years to be overwhelmed by created Western democracies, arising countries and nonindustrial nations the same. The analysis aimed to analyze the factors that lead to youth exclusion and vulnerability to terrorism in Kiambu Sub County, Kenya. The study was guided by theory of general strain theory of terrorism. The research employed descriptive research design. The review designated individuals that have been radicalized and have either noticed the public authority reprieve. The review utilized both purposive and compounding testing strategies to choose the respondents. The two surveys and interview plans were utilized to gather information. Quantitative and subjective information were gathered. Quantitative information was investigated, engaging measurements like means, rate and standard deviation with help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 26. They were introduced in tables, diagrams and pie outlines. Subjective information then again was broke down as indicated by topics and examples shaped. They were introduced in story and word for word citation structure. The findings of the study established that exclusion of the youths is primarily related to unemployment, behavioral, and psychological characteristics, poor family structure (lack of strong moral guidance), negative peer influence and drug abuse. In addition, the discoveries additionally uncovered that difficulties confronting legislatures and partners in diminishing youth avoidance incorporate the developing populace of jobless yet taught youth; absence of capital or pay creating exercises; areas of strength for an of destitution from guardians to youngsters; unfortunate support in gatherings or associations; and the media's view of provincial issues, lacking detailing; and unseemly mindfulness intercessions for young people. The study recommends that the legal framework for youth empowerment programmes should be put in place to enhance the effectiveness of such programmes. The study also recommends that local leaders, members of parliament in particular should be lobbied to increase the allocation of funds to youth empowerment programmes.

Keywords: Product development, product design, product functionality, product performance and performance.

I. INTRODUCTION

Young people are socially hindered from joining institutions and clubs in social order. Economic problems, lack of legislative projects, and barriers to education are examples of dysfunction within amicable institutions that contribute to youth rejection by making it difficult for youth to transition to adulthood. Therefore, young people are more vulnerable to attending radical rallies such as terrorist groups (Lynch, 2013). Youths' vulnerabilities to terrorist recruitment include geographical proximity to terrorist groups, economic vulnerabilities, attitudes towards social or political minimization, openness to forgive informal communities, and fundamental misunderstandings. It can be affected by a variety of variables, such as openness to publicity that leads to young people are powerless against a bunch of psychological oppressors who are very likely to join such radical groups (Kariuki, 2019).

In the United States, the collapse of the Twin Towers in New York on September 11, 2001 was a decisive indication of urban vulnerability to terrorist attacks. Of course, the dissatisfaction felt in one part of the world can be felt in many other parts of the world, and the more international the city, the more dissatisfaction can be echoed (Bartlett and Miller, 2012). This is clearly not inevitable. Unemployment, rejection and prejudice have angered and mistreated the world's youth because multiculturalism has not transformed into true cosmopolitanism. When settlers and exiles are allowed to open the door and treated with respect, the positive essence of Cosmopolis will almost certainly emerge. Nevertheless, if people are mistreated or disappointed, they can be fulfilled by standing up globally for causes that are somewhat in line with their thoughts and dissatisfaction (Sawalha, 2017).

At the onset of terrorism in Kenya, the government claimed that Kenya was an innocent victim of the (Somali) war against terrorism against the West, minimizing danger within the country's borders. In any case, al-Shabaab has stated that following the contribution of Kenyan troops in Somalia since October 2011, it will focus on each and every one of those who chose a national institution to deploy soldiers. This caused the rise of domestic terrorism in certain Kenyans arranging and executing ongoing attacks. Thus, the government cannot guarantee that terrorist attacks in Kenya are trivial, unfamiliar, and inherent in national procedures (Nelson, 2015).

Kenya's major refugee camps, such as Dadaab and Kakuma, have traditionally attracted terrorists. Recruitment is now widespread due to the increasing number of criminal and terrorist operations in the region. In particular, civil society organizations are afraid that young people will be nominated directly by radical groups and will be at the mercy of their offers without any protection. Regardless of their religious affiliation or ethnicity, boys and young men living in the ghetto are often approached by al-Shabaab's selective agents (Mohamed, 2021). Young people with little chance of training or full-time employees are especially easy prey. Recruitment is also clearly dynamic in national border areas. But those who know include young women, children of wealthy families, and university researchers, as in the case of the 2015 Garissa terrorist incident. The association is very good at targeting these different youth groups with different guarantees and messages.

Kiambu and Nairobi have been ranked as counties with the highest crime rate in the country, the National Police Service 2018 report has revealed. The report further shows that crime rate in the country increased by 12% in 2018 compared to the year 2017. According to the report 65,820 crimes were recorded in 2018 countrywide compared to 59, 029 in the year 2017. Kiambu County recorded 5,364 cases while Nairobi came second with a total of 5,212 criminal cases recorded. In Kiambu County, police identified Githurai, Kiamumbi, Muchatha, Wangige, Kinoo, Mutuini and Witeithie in Thika as the most dangerous areas (Arthur Edwin, 2018). Identification of Kiambu county as a potential hotspot to crime and violent behaviour makes it a high risk for youths leaving in these areas to join extremist groups and hence the need for the current study.

A. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Kenya in recent past has grappled with insecurities, terrorist attacks. The deadliest attacks in Kenya include the 1998 embassy bombings, the 2013 Westgate Mall attack, 2015 Garissa University College attack, 2015 Lamu and Tana River attacks and the 2019 DusitD2 attack. These attacks left hundreds dead, thousands injured and livelihoods destroyed. These attacks were largely perpetrated by youths who were recruited and radicalized by terrorist organization in East Africa (Kariuki, 2019). The participation of Kenyan youths in recent terrorism points to their vulnerability to extremist groups.

Vulnerability of youths to terrorist organization is linked to different factors. In Kenya vulnerability of youths to terrorism has been contextualized in two categories of studies. The first framework views vulnerability as connected to a youth bulge (Njoki, 2017). The second group of studies views vulnerability as a product of biographical and socialpsychological factors (Botha, 2015; Rink & Sharma, 2018); Mkutu & Opondo, 2021). Studies in the second group have investigated vulnerability as a factor of religion and economics at the exclusion of other factors such as political process. To address the above-mentioned gap, this study was conducted.

Given the vulnerability of youths to extremist groups such as Al-Shabaab, the government of Kenya in its counterterrorism efforts have sought to address youth exclusion factors, particularly among the unemployed who may easily fall prey to terrorist recruiters. The government empowerment programmes through youth enterprise fund, Uwezo fund, Women enterprise fund, Kazi Mtani, Kazi kwa Vijana (Mohammed, 2021). Despite all these efforts, cases of youths been recruited to terrorist organization in Kenya are still reported in counties and this warrants further investigation. It is from this background that this study sought to investigate youth exclusion and vulnerability to terrorism in Kiambu county and how this can be mitigated.

B. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study was to analyze the factors that lead to youth exclusion and vulnerability to terrorism in Kiambu Sub County, Kenya.

II. THEORETICAL LITERATURE REVIEW

This study was premised on the General strain theory. The classical stress theory was created by Robert K. Merton (1938), who promoted a major and important stress hypothesis in forensic medicine. The GST states that certain strains or stressors increase the likelihood of fraud (Parker and Sitter, 2016). People may seek to make monetary progress through immature channels such as robbery, drug trafficking, and prostitution. Merton's hypothesis advances other strain estimates such as Cohen (1955), Clawward and Olin (1960), and Agnew (1992) General Strain Theory (GST) of Crime and Misconduct (Agnew, 2010). Examples of such stress are parental abandonment, relentless discipline, peer abuse,

necessity, permanent unemployment, criminal exploitation, alienation by attribution, and failure to achieve financial achievement (Skoczylis & Andrews, 2022). This hypothesis understands why some people are almost certain to attend or form horror rallies and perform psychologically radical demonstrations, and understand the vulnerability of young people to terrorism in Kenya.

EMPIRICAL LITERATURE REVIEW

Economic vulnerabilities are the main reason for excluding young people. The relationship between financial vulnerability and exclusion is confusing and depends on attitude. While some country-specific surveys have shown a link between financial development indicators and terrorist attacks, subsequent cross-audience and research studies have questioned the potential link. In the Middle East and North Africa, studies ensure that financial variables are not the inspiration for radicalization and registration. A 2015 survey of Jordanians working with ISIS in Iraq and Syria and the Al-Nusra Front found no evidence of cash payments to newcomers. Undoubtedly, more than 80% of the Jordanian fighters surveyed were stationed as architects and doctors at the time of the draft (Drakos & Mueller, 2014).

These individual-level discoveries reflect national-level research that reveals the complex relationships between financial status, school education, and cooperation in fanatic rallies. Nevertheless, economic vulnerabilities continue to be widely known as a factor in helping young people avoid and recruit young people and young women to Boko Haram and al-Shabaab. Lack of employment opportunities and the inability to pay for secondary school have been abused by al-Shabaab informants (Bala & Tar, 2021). In a survey of the new United Nations Development Program, 13% of respondents who joined a violent radicalist group in Africa said they would open up business opportunities in their own right. The majority of teenage male warriors who attended ISIS in 2013 and 2014 were students, but when they were selected, almost 10% were unemployed. Economic weakness may continue to be an important factor behind youth bans and the registration of terrorists in regions or communities under more pronounced economic pressure (Öztop, 2021).

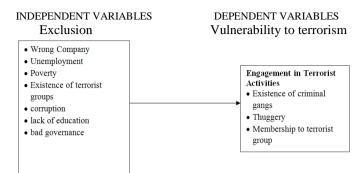
Alienation of young people has many aspects, as age, race, orientation, class, and lifestyle all influence the educational encounters of young people in a particular culture. This interrelationship affects the degree of rejection encountered by individual adolescents. In addition, youth exclusions are explicitly set. This means that young people are excluded from society in different ways depending on the social and spatial sectors (Githigaro & Kabia, 2022). The fundamental difference between an open door and the assets given to a space can create a division between the integrated youth and the youth excluded from the network. Another idea is that youth exclusion is social in that social avoidance involves two rallies, exclusive and banned. When it comes to youth exclusion, it often excludes experienced age groups who accept financial support from governments and organizations that help young people endanger their comfortable lifestyles. These segmental, social, spatial and social variables contribute to the general encounter with youth exclusion (Stephen, 2016).

Youth exclusion can be studied by narrowing down the causes to social and social factors. Structural reasons for exclusion include electricity inequality reflected in typical elements of the housing and labor markets. Delayed unemployment and low wages affect a person's ability to approach social design that moves people forward with the public eye, paving the way for new open doors and creating a sense of social acceptance and inclusion. Similarly, at a deeper level, young people are isolated from the wider society by school segregation and unfair government arrangements (Drakos & Mueller, 2014). Social variables that influence the exclusion of adolescents include responses to socially evolved classifications such as race and orientation. These agreements can also influence an individual's decision to be excluded from Some scholars argue that adolescents society. are underestimated given their isolation from mainstream societies and their preference for participating in selective lifestyles and subcultures. Others consider this choice to be a "compulsory choice" anyway, inspired by race, orientation, and fear of discrimination of various types (Merkulov, 2019).

Social or political marginalization is another important element of youth exclusion and vulnerability to terrorism. The sense of exclusion of people from the community and society (whether real or visible) plays a role in recruiting terrorists. Terrorist groups can position themselves as polling stations that guarantee young people the opportunity to participate in voice, sense of place, and options that may be more important than themselves (Abdulahi, 2020). Many global associations, including the World Bank and the United Nations, emphasize youth coordination in a dynamic cycle as a way to counter this feeling of irritation. A program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to combat radical extremism, including subway education programs, vouth authority exercises, preparatory stages for lobbyists and online entertainment, and public debates between youth and political pioneers. It also reflects unmistakable concerns. Regarding youth social or political alienation (Sawalha, 2017).

As a result, people become somewhat mainstream before going through the process of exclusion, and radicalization generally occurs within loose interpersonal organizations of friends and peers. The central perspective of radicalization is not only that mood, but also the event of fascinating people who can make powerful speeches at schools, colleges and even prisons. According to official sources, people from the California prison-style Jamiyat al Islam al-Sahi cell, convicted of the tactics of throwing themselves into the meetinghouse in 2007, and people from the Israeli Bureau of Los Angeles. Few local Muslims in the United States, including those who were overly radicalized during imprisonment in Los Angeles. The basic thing to think about is to abandon the informal community while spending time on radicalization. Social ties are important to the elements of the terrorist organization. The group phenomenon is a strength in the design of an organization, such as potential jihadists who may be close colleagues or family members while participating in a terrorist organization, but do so collectively rather than autonomously.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study employed a descriptive research design. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), descriptive design is chosen because of its rigorous level of presentation and the ease with which professionals can obtain member ratings descriptive each survey addressed a specific purpose and targeted congregation respondents who were tested. The plan used subjective procedures to give professionals significant experience with perspectives and emotions in order to focus on the problem.

A. TARGET POPULATION AND SAMPLE SIZE

This study population consisted of youths in Kiambu County that have been or are still a part of criminal gangs in the county and youths that have surrendered through government amnesty programmes. In addition, the police officers, parents of youths belonging to criminal gangs, religious leaders, local administration, prisoners and politicians also consisted the target population. Report from the National crime research centre (2018) indicates that approximately 898 youths belong to various criminal gangs in Kiambu County.

The study used both purposive sampling and snowballing sampling techniques. Snowballing sampling techniques was used in the selection of youth participants in the study. Snowballing was applied because of the sensitivity of the subject areas and the target respondents who belonging to various criminal gangs and their parents. Snowballing supported by strong referral from respondents who participated in the study allowed the researcher to realize the study sample size. Purposive sampling on the other hand was used in the selection of police officers, religious leaders, political leaders, local administration and prisoners. The study used Krejcie and Morgan sample size formula to calculate the sample size at 10% of the youths. Hence the study had a sample size of 90.

B. RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

The study had two instruments: questionnaire and interview guides. Questionnaires were utilized to gather data from youth. Structured questionnaires were used because they could allow for ease of data collection on the study objectives within the shortest time possible. Key informant interviews with the local administration and political leaders were used to gain more insights on youth exclusion and their vulnerability to terrorism. It allowed the research to explore some of the issues of the study in more detailed way.

C. VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE STUDY

Validity is a means of estimating what is intended to be quantified. Small pre-tests on the sample conducted in the Juja sub county. The pilot test lasted several weeks and involved 10 participants. Reliability is the consistency of a set of things to presume (Hair et al. 2000). Analysts used a commonly used internal consistency measure called Cronbach's alpha (α) generated by SPSS information research programming. A 0.7 reliability test is suggested for each researchable review.

D. DATA ANALYSIS

The review has two sorts of information: Quantitative and subjective information. Quantitative information was dissected utilizing engaging insights like rates, means and standard deviation with help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 26. They were introduced utilizing tables, diagrams and pie graphs. Subjective information was investigated by topics and examples shaped. They were introduced in account and word for word citation structure.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher dispatched 90 polls to the chosen participants. Be that as it may, 84 surveys were slowly filled and gotten back to the analyst. This gave a reaction pace of 93.3% which is considered adequate for the review. Mugenda and Mugenda (2008) battle that a reaction pace of half is satisfactory for investigation; reaction pace of over half is great while more than 70% is excellent.

A. FACTORS FOR YOUTH'S EXCLUSION IN KENYA

The study sought to determine the level of agreement on factors contributing to youth exclusion using a Likert scale. The findings are presented by mean and standard deviation in Table 1.

| | | | Std. |
|----------------------------------|----|------|-----------|
| Descriptive Statistics | Ν | Mean | Deviation |
| The relationship with wrong | | | |
| company leads to exclusion | 80 | 2.08 | 1.134 |
| Poverty limit youth access to | | | |
| education thereby exposing them | | | |
| to crimes | 79 | 2.01 | 1.098 |
| Existence of terrorism group | | | |
| which may confer diverse reward | | | |
| in its membership encourage | | | |
| youth to get into crimes | 77 | 2.53 | 1.231 |
| Lack of employment make youth | | | |
| vulnerable paths of crime | 81 | 1.54 | 0.909 |
| High cost of acquiring education | | | |
| limit the enrolment of youth in | 81 | 2.56 | 1.223 |
| | | | |

| higher institutions of learning | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|------|-------|
| exposing them to get into crime | | | |
| activities | | | |
| Limited resources limit the | | | |
| youths in engaging to self- | | | |
| employment making them | | | |
| vulnerable to crimes | 81 | 2 | 1.025 |
| High cases of corruption within | | | |
| the county limit opportunities | | | |
| available for the youths leading | | | |
| them to crimes | 81 | 1.91 | 1.227 |
| Different cultural beliefs from | | | |
| different ethnic groups misuse the | | | |
| youths to engage in activities that | | | |
| expose them to risks | 80 | 2.95 | 1.359 |
| Bad governance and negative | | | |
| political influence from leaders | | | |
| encourage youths to engage in | | | |
| crime activities | 81 | 1.95 | 1.203 |
| Source: Field Data (2021) | | | |

Source: Field Data (2021)

Table 1: Factors Contributing to Youth exclusion withinKiambu County

The researcher sought to examine some of the main factors that lead to exclusion of youths in Kiambu county. The respondents agreed that relationship with wrong company leads to exclusion (m=2.08). This implies that peer groupings are considered as one of the risk factors to youth exclusion. This is in agreement with Hattingh (2006) that peer pressure may indirectly leads to youth exclusion due to label that society gives to some of the youth groupings. They also agreed that poverty limit youth access to education thereby exposing them to crimes (m=2.01). This is in support of the assertion by Badurdeen (2018) that poverty is a deprivation factor that makes youths and children lack access to basic social services thereby exposing them to crime as a way of life. On average, the respondents were neutral to the role that existence of terrorism group plays in encouraging youth to get in crimes. This suggests that presence of terrorism groups in a region is not necessarily a pull factors for youth exclusion. This contradicts the study findings by Muindi (2019) in a study conducted in Mombasa. The study showed that existence of terrorism groups may act as a pull factors for youths to join terrorism. which may confer diverse reward in its membership encourage youth to get into crimes.

The results also indicated that on average the respondents were in agreement that lack of employment make youths vulnerable to paths of crime. These demonstrate that youth unemployment is driver to crime. This concurs with the findings by Gouda and Marktanner (2019) that youth unemployment in Muslim countries is a strong predictor of expat jihadism. From the findings it was also established that respondents were neutral to the role played by high cost of acquiring education on limiting the enrolment of youth in higher institutions of learning thereby exposing them to get into crime activities. This indicates that cost of education is not necessarily a factor in making the youth vulnerable. An explanation for this could be linked to the reason that basic education in Kenya is nearly free, with only tertiary education proving costly (Gitonga, 2018).

The study findings revealed that respondents agreed that limited resources limit the youths in engaging to selfemployment making them vulnerable to crimes. This imply that economic factors are predictors of youth exclusion and vulnerability to crime and terrorism. This is in line with the findings by Romaniuk et al., (2018) which showed that lack of economic resources is a push factor for some of the youths to join terrorism groups such as Al-Shabaab in East Africa. The study also showed that the participants were in agreement that high cases of corruption within the county limit opportunities available for the youths leading them to crimes. This suggests that poor governance issues may indirectly be a factor that excludes youth making the vulnerable to crime. Similar findings were established by Watheka (2015) who established that corruption is a potential push factor of youth involvement in terrorism. Findings demonstrated that on average the respondents were neutral to the influence of different cultural beliefs on youth exclusion and exposure to crime. This implies that culture belief is not necessarily a factor that contributes to youth exclusion and vulnerability. Finally, the study revealed that the participants agreed that bad governance and negative political influence from leaders encourage youths to engage in crime activities. This suggests that governance and poor leaderships is considered as contributor to youth exclusion and vulnerability. This aligns with the results by Hansen, Nemeth and Mauslein (2018) that poor leadership leads to political exclusion making individuals vulnerable to jihadism.

Townshend (2015) suggests, poverty is probably the only major contributor to the spread of youth rejection. Poverty is a state of discontinuity that affects social connections and the ability of individuals to engage in socially explicit activities to form networks. Individuals, families, and gatherings can be considered poor if their wealth is far below what is determined by a typical person or family and is in fact far from normal life, customs, and customs. increase. The need can affect the ability of individuals to participate in activities related to government issues, housing and labor markets, supplementary education, and mainstream societies. These movements can affect a wide range of adolescent interpersonal communication and, therefore, the future state of their compliance or ban in public.

Interviews with senior security personnel in the county revealed that there was general consensus amongst the interviewees, that lack of employment and income generating activities amongst the youths in Kiambu county.

This is seen in the statement by one security officer name John (not his real name) in the county who said: "I think that the problem of youth exclusion is because finding jobs or something meaningful to do is still difficult in Kiambu county. And because of this some youth readily join criminal activities like the work of Al-shabaab or criminal gangs". (Respondent No 4).

The interviewees, also observed that the frustration amongst the youth at social or political level has led some of the youths to feel excluded. At social level, it emerged from some of the participants that some of the youths feel neglected or abandoned at family level, and hence the find it easier to join terrorist groups or criminal activities. At the political level, youths who consists majority of the voters in the county are frustrated by political leaders. This is due to their failure to fulfill their election promises at the county level or national level. As a result, the youths feel that their voices are not heard or listened to thereby opting to joining criminal groups where they think their voices are heard.

Concerning this, one of the security officers name Pauline (not her real name) said that; "Frustration by the politicians I believe has caused some of the problems youth go through. Because they are not happy with the politician who they believe have failed them they end up joining criminal gangs where they feel they belong" (Respondents No 3).

The findings are supported by the findings of Backeberg (2018), who argued that it is essential that young people participate in formal political cycles and are involved in understanding current and future governance issues. increase. Comprehensive political cooperation is not only a core political and popular right, but also important for building a stable and peaceful social order and creating an approach that meets the specific needs of the younger age group. In order for young people to be fully addressed in political systems, cycles, independent leadership, especially race, they need to know their privileges and be able to take great interest in important information at all levels.

B. FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO YOUTHS PARTICIPATION IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

One of the consequences of youth exclusion is joining criminal gangs and participation in criminal factors. In light of this, this section sought to examine some of the factors that explain the participation of youths in criminal activities. The factors that drive adolescents to cheat can usually be complex, and the combination of variables can work together to interact and it can be difficult to unravel these negative effects. To reach the root of criminal activity, forensic scientists most often begin by understanding the wide range of friendly, political, and environmental variables that affect juvenile delinquency. Multiple- response were used to examine the reason behind the participation of youths in criminal activities. Results are presented in Table 2

| Criminal Activities | Ν | Percent |
|--|-----|---------|
| Lack of employment | 69 | 55.60% |
| Peer pressure | 20 | 16.10% |
| Drug abuse | 11 | 8.90% |
| Poverty | 8 | 6.50% |
| The need to get quick money | 8 | 6.50% |
| Poor parenting | 4 | 3.20% |
| Gambling | 2 | 1.60% |
| Lack of skills to engage in meaningful | 2 | 1.60% |
| money-making activities | | |
| Total | 124 | 100.00% |

Source: Field Data (2021)

Table 2: Reason's for Participation in Criminal Activities

The findings presented in table 2 above show that lack of employment was the major reason for youths to join criminal activities (55.60%) distantly followed by peer pressure (16.10%). Other reasons were all below 10%: Drug abuse (8.90%), poverty (6.5%), Need of quick money (6.50%), poor parenting (3.20%), gambling (1.60%) and lack of skills to participate in income generating activity (1.60%). This aligns with the findings by Nalugala (2017) that lack of employment is one of the main reasons that make youths vulnerable to join terrorism groups in Kenya. Likewise, the discoveries prove with the finding of Thuku (2017) who laid out that family qualities, for example, poor nurturing abilities, family size, home friction, kid abuse, and reserved guardians are risk factors connected to adolescent wrongdoing. Wasserman and Seracini, (2001) investigation of 250 young men found that among young men at age 10, the most grounded indicators of later convictions for fierce offenses were poor parental oversight, parental struggle, and parental hostility, including brutal, correctional discipline. A concentrate by Maroa (2018) uncovered that there is firmly connected with joblessness and neediness as financial variables. Family and companion impact add to youth commitment to wrongdoing, these variables are socio-mental.

V. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The purpose of this study was to analyze the effects of exclusion and youth vulnerability to terrorism in Kiambu Sub County, Kenya. The specific objectives of the study were: to establish the status of the youth in Kiambu, how many are unemployed, employed and how many are poor, examine factors that lead to exclusion and the effect of exclusion and youth vulnerability to and terrorism in Kiambu Sub County, Kenya, to determine challenges which the Government and other stake holders are facing owing to exclusion of the youth in Kiambu Sub County, Kenya, to identify strategies for mitigation of the youth exclusion and counter-terrorism efforts in Kenya.

A. FACTORS FOR YOUTH EXCLUSION IN KIAMBU COUNTY

Concerning the second objectives, the study revealed that the factors contributing to exclusion of youths were environmental, economic and governance-based factors. The findings revealed that economic factors are the main reason behind youth exclusion in the county. Furthermore, the findings reported that exclusion of youths is also linked to insecurity situation and the rise of various social problems in the county. The youths' exclusion was also primarily related to psychological, behavioral, and psychological characteristics, poor family structure (lack of strong moral negative influence, guidance), peer drug abuse, unemployment, among others. The findings showed that majority of the respondents believed that the exclusion of youths has led to rise of insecurity incidents as youths opt to join criminal gangs or terrorist groups.

B. CONCLUSIONS

From the findings the study concludes that; there is that significant portion or youths in Kiambu-sub-County who are unemployed which makes them vulnerable to terrorism. Thus, it can be concluded that unemployment is problem in Kiambusub-County. Youth association in equipped combat is arguably not another special feature. In any case, projects that fight brutal radicalism abroad can no longer threaten the weaknesses of young people to be hired by traders at the forefront of their efforts. This is especially true for young women and young women whose support in the fight against psychological oppression lags behind the support of their male partners. The study also concludes that environment, economic and governance-based factors contribute to youth exclusion in Kenya. The study concludes that youth exclusion in Kenya is occasioned by different factors. It can also be concluded that the consequences of youth exclusion are security related and socially constructed.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings showed that factors contributed to youth exclusion are mostly economic in nature. The study recommends the need for the government, in partnership with other non-state actors, to develop empowerment programmes for youths in the counties. The study also suggests that the root causes of youth exclusion be addressed holistically given the consequences of youth exclusion on human and national security.

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