

14/010/SWCD/TP

**THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF POVERTY ON  
WOMEN**

**A case study of Lumbwa Location Machakos District.**

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## ABSTRACT

The aim of the study was to investigate the economic effects of poverty on women in Lumbwa location Machakos district. The research took place in Lumbwa location Machakos district in Eastern Province about 150 Km to the east side of Nairobi. The researcher gathered and collected data through the use of questionnaires, interviews, observation which were used in the presentation of results and analysis of discussion. The interviews and questionnaires enabled the researcher to know the main economic effects of poverty on women and the measures that ought to be taken in the control of poverty in the area. The analysis showed that the location is really stricken by poverty economically supported by 75% of the respondents saying that feeding their families has really become a nightmare to them. However 25% of the respondents didn't admit that they are stricken by poverty economically because according to them they have lived with poverty for so long and they are used to living in such conditions, and they believe nothing can be done to change the situation. From the results the researcher discussed on the economic causes of poverty which included lack of economic activities, population increase, lack of shared responsibility, underutilization of the available resources and lack of skills. The researcher also discussed on the challenges involved, and the measures that can be put in place to reduce the economic effects of poverty on women. The researcher summarized the findings and concluded that with the population increase inserting a lot of pressure on the available resources like money, most of the families cannot afford a single balanced meal hence children have dropped out of school because of lack of food and school fees.

The possible solutions recorded included introduction of economic activities, planning and budgeting, provision of education, population control measures, provision of subsidies, men to re-examine their role and creation of awareness programmes .The researchers recommendation were to take a study on how to educate women to empower them economically to reduce poverty by providing free and mandatory education for the illiterate and ignorance cases ,creating awareness of their rights to the available wealth, humanizing the issue of gender imbalance ,importance of good governance, the need to save and population control measures