**INTRODUCTION**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) 90,000 People die annually due to that brew related problems while 20% are left helpless globally. The WHO is funding and encouraging Scientific Studies designed to understand, mentor and control it because of its raising effects. (Dalu 2009)

Locally four people, a father and his three sons lost their lives after drinking what was suspected to be poisoned illicit brew (Daily Nation 2/8/2010)

President Uhuru ordered a crackdown of all bars and drinking dens. The crackdown has been focused on Central Kenya and the capital Nairobi where at least so many people died and dozens blinded by the concoction laced with the methanol, a chemical used for manufacturing antifreeze and used by manufactures to increase alcohol content. (Monday Nation 4/7/2015).

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Illicit brew is a major social, economic and public health problem it accounts for 20% of the family disputes. Most of the consumers though of its negative consequences still continues consuming it. Only 15% of those with dependants problems seek treatment for this disease. Relapses after this is common so it is important to maintain support system in order to cope with any slips and ensure that they don’t turn into complete reversal. Treatment progress has varying rates but many people with alcoholic dependants have full recovery. Mosby (2005)

**RESEARCH QUESTION**

1. What is the social economic status of the youth aged 18-40 in Sivilie Sub location Bunyara East, Kakamega County?
2. What is the level of awareness about effect of illicit brew consumption among the respondents?
3. What are the contributory factors associated with the illicit brew consumption among the respondents?

**ABSTRACT**

A descriptive study of cross sectional design to examine the effects of illicit brew consumption among the youth age 18-40 in Sivilie Sub location Bunyara East, Kakamega County. The broad objective was to establish the effects of illicit brew consumption among the respondents. The specific objectives were to investigate the social economic of the respondent, to find out the level of awareness about the effects of illicit brew consumption among the respondents and to determine the contributory factors to illicit brew consumption amongst the respondents.

The sample size was 360 respondents. Non probability sampling technique-snow ball sampling procedure was used to collect data where a few respondents were identified by the research assistance who then helped to identify other respondents. Structured interview questionnaires were used to collect data which was analyzed and presented in tables, figures and pie charts.

The study revealed that 37.5 % of the respondents were aged between 31-35 years 75% of the respondents were males 43.5% were educated up to primary level, 50% of the respondent were married. 65% belonged to the Christian religious sect and 37.5% were farmers.

Majority 95% of the respondents were aware of the existence of illicit brew and 37.5% they knew about changaa and busaa respectively. 50% of the respondents were introduced to the brew by the their peers. 75% of the respondents were aware about the negative effects of the brew and 50% indicated that this consumption lead to divorce and separation among the social problems while 50% said that consumption of this brew brought about blindness.

The study concluded that most of the respondents were farmers and most of them were aware of the illicit brew and were aware of the effects of the illicit brew and they said it brought about separation and divorce and also associated with blindness. Factors that are associated with its consumption are availability and affordability. The study recommended that the Government/ NGOs introduce more projects that will provide more employment to the youth so that they get employed and earn a living in order to stop consuming this cheap illicit brew. The Government and local authority to take stern measures against people who are involved in brewing/consumption of the illicit brew.

The Government should make the legal alcohol affordable for the low social economic level individual so that they stop consuming the illegal/illicit brew.

**SAMPLE SIZE DETERMINATION**

Yemen’s formula- for population below 10,000

n = N

1+N ( e )2

Where

n=sample size

N=Target population

e=level of precision at 95% confidence level 0.05

n = 4000

1+400 x 0.052

n = 4000

1+ 4000 x 0.0025

n = 4000

1+10

n = 4000

11

n = 363.36363

n = approximately 360

**STUDY DESIGN**

**A cross sectional design**

**Study setting**

The study was done in Sivilie Sub location Bunyala East location, Kakamega County. According to the economic survey (2009) Sivilie Sub location covers an area of 22,962 sq kilometers with a total population of 11,000 people who occupy 2,400 households. Among these 4,000 are youth aged 18-40 4,200 are aged below 18 years, 2,800 are above 40 years of age. Majority of the respondents are farmers and others are employed in Government and private sectors while other are unemployed.

**Sampling procedure**

Snowball sampling procedure was used to where by research assistant identified a few respondents who then lead them to the rest of the respondents

**Data collection tools**

Structured interview questionnaires pens, pencils, scientific calculators, erasers were used to collect data.

**Pre-test**

It was done one day before using a small sample of people from same population to determine the appropriateness of the data collection tools.

**Data collection Procedure**

On the material days the research assistance went out on foot and sometimes on motor cycle and identified a few respondents in the area who in turn helped to identified other respondents and so on until they managed to get the required respondents. The exercise took three days.