

programme's 21,000 Kenya pounds (GoK 1978)[61], this was in spite of the large number of jobless youth.

Development is for the youth and their prosperity. Therefore, education should enable them to appreciate and appraise the government. The nation spends over 30% of national budget on education. In 1984, the government introduced pre-university National Youth Service, to give university students a practical training. Its main aim were to upgrade the insight and outlook of the students towards sharing national viewpoint, and a joint responsibility to help youth focus their energies towards national building (Moi, 1986)[62]. The youth not joining the university did not receive as much attention. One wonders, was the purpose of the National Youth Service program to tame university students, at a time characterized by frequent student unrest?

The era saw the erection of expensive monuments in different parts of Kenya that mainly symbolized the authority of the government (Aseka 1992)[63]. These were funded by the national kitty, while at the same time, many children flocked the streets and dumping sites in such for basic needs. Towards the end of this era, the legislature meant to protect the interest of children awarded itself hefty pay increments despite the outcry of the citizens against this selfish gesture. At the same time, children from slums and poor homes continued migrating from homes to the streets. At the sunset of this era, street children were a serious menace that made streets unsafe day and night such that people had to hide to answer calls on their cell phones. Otherwise, street children be snatched cell phones in broad daylight, and threatened rescuers with faecal matter carried in hidden containers.

The 1984-1988 Development Plan GoK, (1983)[64], considered poverty a national phenomena existing in cities and rural areas at varying degrees throughout the nation. Allocation of resources to the public sector received first priority, this was meant to improve the incomes of the poor by engaging them more productively in the national development. It is however unfortunate that throughout this period people continued languishing in poverty and the gap between the rich and the poor became wider.

In addition, this era experienced large-scale tribal clashes in some parts of the country. These conflicts rendered some children orphaned while others experienced violence first-hand having witnessed people murder. Some of these children found their way into the streets in towns and Nairobi the capital city where they felt more secure and led a street life.

Moi (1986)[65], says there is over-concentration of industries in urban area. He blames this on the colonial mismanagement of development. However, Ochieng (1985)[66] contrasts this argument, he states that though the origin of Kenya's industrialization is traced to the colonial period, it was in the period after independence that substantial progress in industrial development was realised. He firmly states that many manufacturing firms came up particularly in the second half of the 1970's. His argument is supported by the fourth national development plan that estimated that 317 Kenya pounds were required for

industrial investment for the period 1979-1983 (GoK 1978)[67]. This means that the Moi government had the opportunity to decentralise industrialization and ease congestion in towns and the related side effects on children.

4.3 The third government (2002-2009)

The entry of this government was dubbed the second liberation. It was ushered in by the constitutional exit of the Moi regime (second government) that saw in place a new government and a new democracy anchored by freedom of expression. Kenyans applauded a second liberation. This government introduced free primary education and saw many children removed from the street life in urban areas and back into the classrooms - this was the major achievement of the government (GoK, 2000)[68]. However, for nine years of its existence, secondary education remained out of reach for the poor.

The government introduced many types of funds including the constituency development fund, youth development fund and women's fund all of which were meant to better the lives of Kenyan youth particularly those in self employment. The government attempted to address problems of children but failed to tackle increasing levels of juvenile delinquency in Kenya.

5. Conclusion

The past governments dealt with the symptoms of juvenile delinquency and provided short-lived solutions. The menace of juvenile delinquency can only be solved by addressing the causes through preventative measures.

Past governments have accentuated juvenile delinquency through construction of more facilities, establishment of slum dwellings and inability to engage out-of-school youth. Consequently, juvenile delinquency always been on the rise since independence.

In conclusion, the writers state that the governments are aware of the causal factors of juvenile delinquency, and if they are not aware, they have the necessary machinery to find out. The government should therefore stop treating the offenders as parasites for extermination by warehousing them in exclusive rehabilitation schools to ensure the safety of the society as noted by Hirschi, (1969)[69], WYR, (2003)[70].

This kind of treatment is labelling and may result to recidivism in accordance to the self-fulfilling prophecy (Goffman, 1963)[71]. It is high time that government changed tact, to enhance the welfare of children, and ensure that none of them is engage in delinquent behaviours or even risk being enticed into terrorism.

6. The way forward on juvenile delinquency

- The government should establish a Children's fund for children who experience adversities.
- The judiciary should come up with a bond for parent whose children are offenders. Such parents should be given compulsory parenting classes.

- Children's courts should reconsider ruling in on institutional rehabilitation.
- Rehabilitation institutions should be reconstituted to take on a community based approach to rehabilitation.
- Give teachers skills on emotional and behavioural disorders.
- The government should set up an education commission to address juvenile delinquency and provide possible solutions to the problem.
- Government through the new county governments should facilitate devolution of industrialization and development to ease congestion and slum life.

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