

Kenya - Laws, Policies, and Guidelines Addressing School-Related Gender- Based Violence in Kenya: A Systematic Review, SR-GBV

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Overview

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Overview

ABSTRACT
Laws, Policies, and Guidelines Addressing School-Related Gender-Based Violence in Kenya:

A Systematic Review

ABSTRACT

School-Related Gender-Based Violence (SRGBV) affects millions of children globally, with nearly half of Kenyan adolescents experiencing physical violence and many facing sexual or emotional abuse. Despite an increasingly robust legal and policy framework, SRGBV remains prevalent in Kenyan schools, highlighting persistent implementation challenges. This systematic review analyzed 43 policy and legal documents using the SOCT framework and Sabatier and Mazmanian's policy implementation model. Findings show that Kenya has developed a comprehensive SRGBV policy architecture encompassing constitutional protections, sector laws, operational guidelines, and multi-sectoral frameworks. Implementation is supported by whole-school approaches, teacher training, and partnerships but constrained by inadequate resources, weak reporting systems, fragmented coordination, and socio-cultural norms. Strengthening SRGBV prevention requires consolidating existing policies, improving implementation, ensuring equitable resourcing, and enhancing evidence-to-policy feedback mechanisms.

Keywords: school-related gender-based violence prevention; Kenya; education policy implementation; child protection

UNITS OF ANALYSIS
Institutional policies on School-Related Gender-Based Violence in Kenya

Laws, Policies, and Guidelines Addressing School-Related Gender-Based Violence in Kenya

Scope

NOTES

The paper addresses the problem of persistent prevalence of school-related gender-based violence in Kenyan schools in spite of an increasingly robust legal and policy framework, highlighting persistent implementation challenges. School-Related Gender-Based Violence (SRGBV) remains one of the most pervasive threats to adolescent wellbeing globally, with an

estimated 246 million children experiencing violence in or around schools each year.

KEYWORDS

School-related gender-based violence prevention, Kenya, Education policy implementation, Child protection

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

UNIVERSE

Laws, Policies, and Guidelines Addressing School-Related Gender-Based Violence in Kenya

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

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Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Table 1. SOCT Framework for Determining Document Eligibility	
Dimension	Inclusion Criteria Exclusion Criteria
Subject	Official measures (policies, laws, bills, SOPs, guidelines) related to SRGBV prevention or response. Documents addressing general violence not specific to GBV in schools, or focused on individual projects rather than formal policy frameworks.
Objectives	Materials describing or providing guidance on SRGBV prevention, response, and reporting within primary and secondary education in Kenya. Documents that analyze or critique SRGBV programs without referencing formal policy or procedural guidance.
Coverage	Publications focused on Kenya at national or subnational level (county or school-level), 1963 to present. Documents focused on pre-primary or tertiary settings, or countries outside Kenya.
Type of Sources	Government documents, legislative publications, policy reports, peer-reviewed articles, institutional reports, and credible organization blogs. Non-retrievable, non-official, or non-credible materials (editorials, letters, commentaries, publications without full-text access).

Deviations from Sample Design

N/A

Response Rate

100%

Weighting

N/A

Questionnaires

Overview

Web scrapping

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2025-08-22	2026-01-27	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Internet [int]

Questionnaires

Web scrapping

Supervision

The work was led by the Principal Investigator with a clear inclusion and exclusion criteria

Data Processing

Data Editing

The work was led by the Principal Investigator with a clear inclusion and exclusion criteria

Other Processing

N/A

Data Appraisal

Estimates of Sampling Error

N/A

File Description

Variable List

Documentation

Reports

(RQ3 A) _ Opportunities for Uptake.docx

Title	(RQ3 A) _ Opportunities for Uptake.docx
Author(s)	African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)
Date	03/07/2026
Country	Kenya
Language	ENGLISH
Contributor(s)	Lucy Wakiaga
Publisher(s)	African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)
Filename	(RQ3 A) _ Opportunities for Uptake.docx

List - A Desk Review of School Gender Based Gender Violence Policies and Guidelines in Kenya .xlsx

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(RQ2 B) _ Actual Implementation Strategies.docx

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Codebook - A Desk Review of School Gender Based Gender Violence Policies and Guidelines in Kenya.docx

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Figure 1_Sabatier and Mazmanian's (1980) Theoretical Framework.docx

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(RQ1 A) _ Chronological OR historical review of SRGBV policies and guidelines since 1963 to date.docx

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(RQ1 A) _ Key Policy or Guideline Name.docx

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Research Data.docx

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Figure 2 PRISMA 2020 flow diagram.docx

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Table 1-SOCT framework.docx

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