

FACTORS AFFECTING CHURCH NUMERICAL GROWTH IN AFRICA
INLAND CHURCH NDEIYA SOUTH DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL
OF AFRICA INLAND CHURCH LIMURU, KENYA

ISAAC MWAI NJERI

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DECLARATION AND APPROVAL

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree or any other award in any other University.

Sign: _____ Date: _____

Name: Isaac Mwai Njeri

Admission Number: 11042MAOL

This work has been supervised and approved by the University Supervisors

Sign: _____

Date: _____

Primary Supervisor: Prof. Beatrice Warue

Sign: _____

Date: _____

Associate Supervisor: Dr. Godfrey. Mwamba

Sign: _____ Date: _____

External Examiner: Dr. Gillian Mwaniki

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to study the factors affecting church growth in A.I.C Ndeiya South D.C.C. The study targeted five churches namely A.I.C Thigio Church, A.I.C Gitutha Church, A.I.C Ngirubi Church, A.I.C Muhia Church and A.I.C Kiriri Church. The study objectives were to assess whether leadership styles affected church growth in A.I.C Ndeiya South D.C.C, to determine whether financial management practices affected church growth in A.I.C Ndeiya South D.C.C, to examine whether church conflicts affected church growth in A.I.C Ndeiya South D.C.C and to determine how congregational participation affected church growth in A.I.C Ndeiya South D.C.C. The target population was 124 respondents drawn from the five churches pastors, church leaders and the congregation. This research problem was studied through the use of a descriptive research design. Questionnaire were used for data collection. Data was analysed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences and be presented inform of pie charts, graphs and tables. The study found out that there was a strong relationship between leadership style and church numerical growth suggesting that effective leadership styles significantly impact church numerical growth in a positive manner with 0.431 regression coefficient. The study established that there was a strong relationship between financial management practices and church numerical growth implying that effective financial management practices significantly impact church numerical growth in a positive manner with 0.364 regression coefficient. On the effect of church conflict, the study findings indicated that there was a strong relationship between church conflicts and church numerical growth with 0.09 regression coefficient. The study findings showed that there was a strong relationship between congregational participation and church numerical growth with 0.279 regression coefficient. On leadership styles, the study recommends that in order to enhance leadership several issues need to be addressed such as training all leaders and church members on management and leadership skills, church leaders should strive to have consultative decision making so as to accommodate the views of church members, the leaders should focus on discipleship and mentorship so as win and retain more souls which will enhance church growth, timely decision making in addition to fair representation in church committees are critical aspects which will strengthen leadership in the church, contributing to church growth. Regarding financial management practices, training should be conducted on financial management to provide the necessary skills to those who are involved in handling church finances so that they do it effectively, the church should develop short term budgetary plans, for instance three months which on their review will assist in making necessary adjustments to cover future budgetary plans. In addition, the church needs to strengthen the weak financial systems of the church to safeguard church funds, involve all church departments in budgetary process to allow the departments to provide their budgetary estimates on expenditure and revenue which will assist the church in drawing the main church budget hence making the budgeting work process easier. The study recommends that since conflict is part and parcel of human relations, church leaders and member should be trained on conflict management.