



Hotspots for Crime and Terror: The Need for Revamped Safety Systems in Higher Education Institutions in Kenya

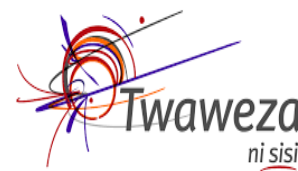
EE4A

Evidence-based Education Reforms for Sustainable National Transformation

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Presentation Outline

- **Human Security and Safety-Overview**
- **Security and Safety legislations /Guidelines –Kenyan perspective**
- **Safety and Security Threats in Campuses in Kenya – Incidences and Patterns**
- **Study Purpose and Objectives**
- **Methods and Procedures**
- **Results /Discussions /Interpretation**
- **Policy implications for Higher education management and delivery**

❖ Human Security and Safety

- ❑ Safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease and repression and protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life – whether in jobs, in homes or in communities.
(UNDP, 1994)

‘Safety’ - state of being safe/ exemption from hurt or injury and freedom from danger and
‘Security’ - condition of being protected from or not exposed to danger

- ✓ are oriented rights (or claim rights)”.
✓ ‘not a concern with weapons.....but human dignity” ’
✓ ‘labels given to the highest priority issues in human development ”
✓ ‘Two things men and women anywhere in the world cherish most’ (Owen, 2004; Harvard Human Security Project, [2002](#)).



Safety and security Legislations and Regulations

- Security is an integral and indispensable component in learning environments to both learners and staff....
- “A corner stone of any institution offering quality education and should be emphasized with equal zeal as academic matters.
- Security and safety (a) advances constitutional right of all learners “to an environment that is not harmful to their health and well-being and safety of persons ...“to be protection from neglect, abuse or degradation” (Constitution of Republic of Kenya, 2010).
- Campus violence go against universally accepted norm.....
 - *Everyone has inherent dignity and the right to have his/her dignity respected and protected... learners to be protected to learn, work and thrive*
 - *Everyone has the right to be free from all forms of violence from either public or private sources*
- Constitution engenders implementation of legislative provisions and behavioural practices aimed at keeping campuses safe and secure.
- Section 5 (1) of the Universities Act, 2012, Commission for University Education (CUE) is mandated to ensure that all universities and constituent colleges install security systems, safety features and also to guarantee safety of learners and property and to operate within the Standards and Guidelines of Security and Safety eg *install biometric data capture systems , CCTV's guarantee safety of learners and property*

□ Legislation Cont'd ..

□ The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA)

- created through an Act of Parliament, No. 35 of 2011 to respond to serious violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the then Kenya Police Force (KPF) and the Administrative Police Force (APF),
- Created under the repealed Caps 84 and 85 under the National Police Service – NPS Act, No. 11A of 2012.
- IPOA's creation part of the legal and policy agenda for transformation of the NPS into an efficient and accountable service, capable of providing and ensuring security for all Kenyans whilst observing the highest standards of professionalism and respect for the constitutionally guaranteed fundamental freedoms and rights for all, especially the principles set forth in Articles 238, 239 and 244 of the Constitution of Kenya (2010).
- Objectives :
 - ✓ to hold the police accountable to the public in the performance of their functions;
 - ✓ To give effect to the provision of Article 244 of the Constitution that NPS shall strive for professionalism and discipline and shall promote and practice transparency and accountability; and to ensure independent oversight of handling complaints by the NPS

❖ Why focus on Campus Security /Safety?

Protecting the wellbeing of students, staff, faculty, and guests is not only simply the right thing to do but ,any failure to adequately protect these rights

- ✓ infringes on dignity, safety and health- the best interests of students
- ✓ Reduces chances of students to reach their full potential
- ✓ Denies Rights to positive experience and excellent learning environment
- ✓ Increases risks and exposure of institution
- ✓ Increases costs(eg legal fees) associated with incidents of extremely high levels
- ✓ Undermines reputation/reduces chances of choice
- ✓ Leads to fear/perceived threat of danger.... effect on students' emotional health ... limit their personal and educational success
- ✓ Robs students valuable academic time –Quality of Education



Campus Security Sudden shifts/ Tensions

- Campuses have been hubs with responsibility of producing knowledge, skilling next generation of nation's workforce and steering socio-economic and political advancement of nations and human society/ spaces for teenagers to gain educational and social experiencesdevelop into self-sufficient adults
 - Fresh obligations to keep students safe have emerge/ priority on security to enable students to study, learn and recreate in a safe environment that fosters their potential
- Environment fundamentally been regarded as safe havens filled with young vibrant populations with lots of freedom to associate and move
 - Horror and threats in the form of 'high-risk drinking', vandalism, burglary, hazing, and robbery, stalking and rioting etc
- . Parents expect their children to experience social differences, cultural differences, peer pressures, academic challenges and relationship issues within a secured environment
 - Parent send teens to spaces where they are exposed to acts of violence/threats and crimes but have no alternative
- Decision-making process historically consisted of academics, athletics, location, cost, and social activity offerings
 - Tragic events/ increase in perceived risk has caused safety and security to receive much more attention of prospective students and parents

□ How does it affect campus life ...?

Students sent home as JKUAT closes indefinitely

MONDAY NOVEMBER 11 2019

By SIMON CIURI

- Unrest in JKUAT leading to indefinitely closure students protesting about security and safety within campus environments
 - Loss of valuable instructional time
 - Wastage of resources for parents and institutions of HE
- Running battles during the demonstration sparked by a gang's stabbing of a student as he headed to a hostel at the main campus in Juja, Kiambu County.



Campus Crime, violence and threats... patterns

- A. Campus Safety-threats, crime and violence are widespread in all HEIs – students directly or indirectly affected
- B. Previously ‘safe and secure’ town–suburban campuses now hotspots for crime and terror
- C. On and out of campus environs-eg hostels and residential areas turned into hideouts and convergence points for criminals/campus village
- D. Students as masterminds , perpetrators and victims of terror and organized gangs / security personnel and others
- E. Parents, college administrators and innocent students are more than ever before concerned
- F. A pressing issue demanding attention of campus and government law enforcement personnel and campus community as a whole based on **viable models, new efforts and approaches for mitigating incidents eg geo-fencing, tip lines and safe walks**

G .Universities are faced with challenges of creating safe environments where students and staff can learn, work and thrive. **(eg leveraging modern technology to create a more connected and safe campus**

H . Persistent coverage of crime and threats in form of ‘high-risk drinking’, vandalism, burglary, hazing, robbery, stalking and rioting and in the recent times, more horrible high profile cases of gun violence, murder, suicide, and various forms of violence against women

I. Attributes of a college campus/ college market progression is most visibly displayed in websites eg sports programs, buildings, endowments, successful graduate placement and campus activities, but it never easy to find information regarding criminal and violent activity on campus/statistics.

J .Most of these go unreported.: reluctance ,uncertainly , lack of a supportive safety culture and institutional reputation

□ Campus violence and Insecurity...manifestation

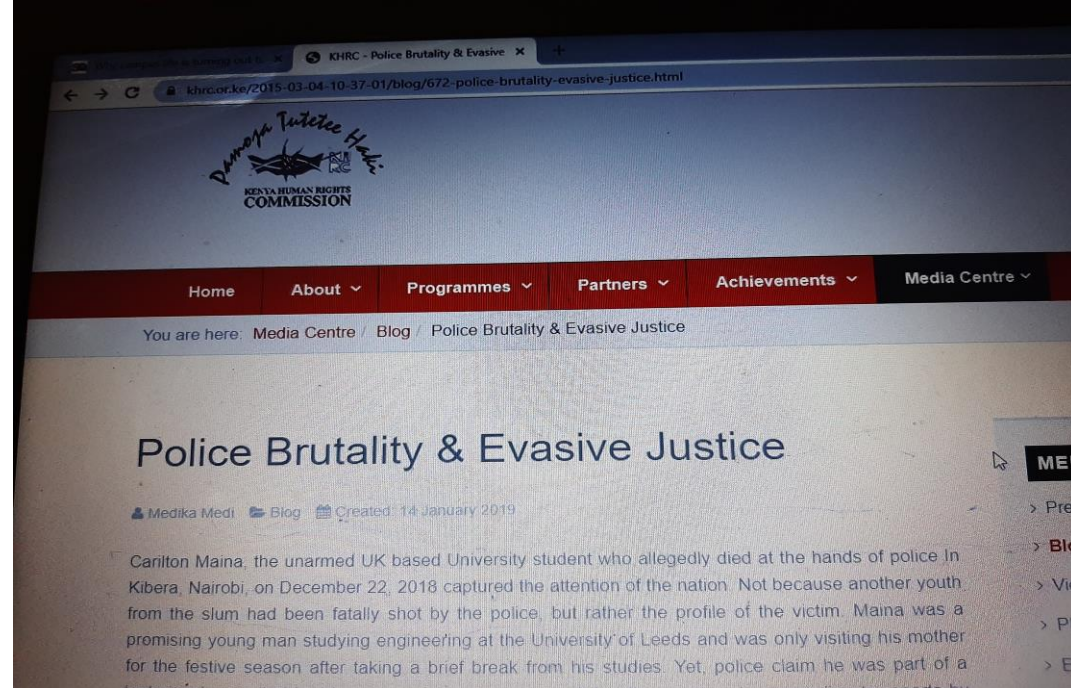


- “The macabre **killing** of sixth year Moi University medical student Ivy Wangechi .

Horrific death part of a pattern of dangerous and suicidal climate that campus students have to put up with every day [By Hezron Mogambi](#) 12th April, 2019

- Kenyans condemned the manner in which they handled the students’ protest by [Japheth Ogila](#) 12th Nov 2019
 - .
 - .
- JKUAT students protest against rising insecurity in Juja main campus closure of institution indefinitely
- Fatal shooting of KU student Vincent Kiplangat , a fifth year engineering student by a police officer on June 7 , 2019 at the university’s Annex venue during a fresher’s bash





☐ Police Brutality and Evasive Justice

- Carilton Maina, unarmed engineering student in the UK based University of Leeds died in police hands in Kibera, Nairobi, on December 22, 2018
- Police claimed he was part of a ‘notorious’ gang that had been terrorizing residents

By Medika Medi



Members of the Civil Society hold a peaceful march protesting the high rates of extrajudicial killings in Nairobi, Kenya



- **Felix Otieno** a fifth year Kenyatta University student life cut short in , **shot dead in girlfriend's house at** Kahawa Wendani at 11pm \
- Reported as a victim of a love triangle or a deal gone sour.
- Followed after shocking killing Peter Kahugi –a fourth year UoN student's body was found dumped along the Globe Cinema round about.

Story by Kamore Maina on 30th Jun 2019



Students safety worries amid chilling murders

• [by Fredrick Oginga](#) 21st Mar 2019

Death of UoN student leader, Samuel Ragira, alias OCS Ragira, **Campus politics to blame...** Mr Ragira accused police for entertaining gangsters of terrorizing students at Klabu 36

Followed discovery of two second-year students at Egerton University lying in City Mortuary in Nairobi, two weeks after they went missing.

The duo shot dead amid claims of mistaken identity by the police



Varsity Students Protest Over **Rape** of Fresher

WYCLIFF KIPSANG October 9th, 2017

MUSO leader Towett Ng'etich addressing the press at main campus in Eldoret condemning the incident and accusing of raping a first year student.

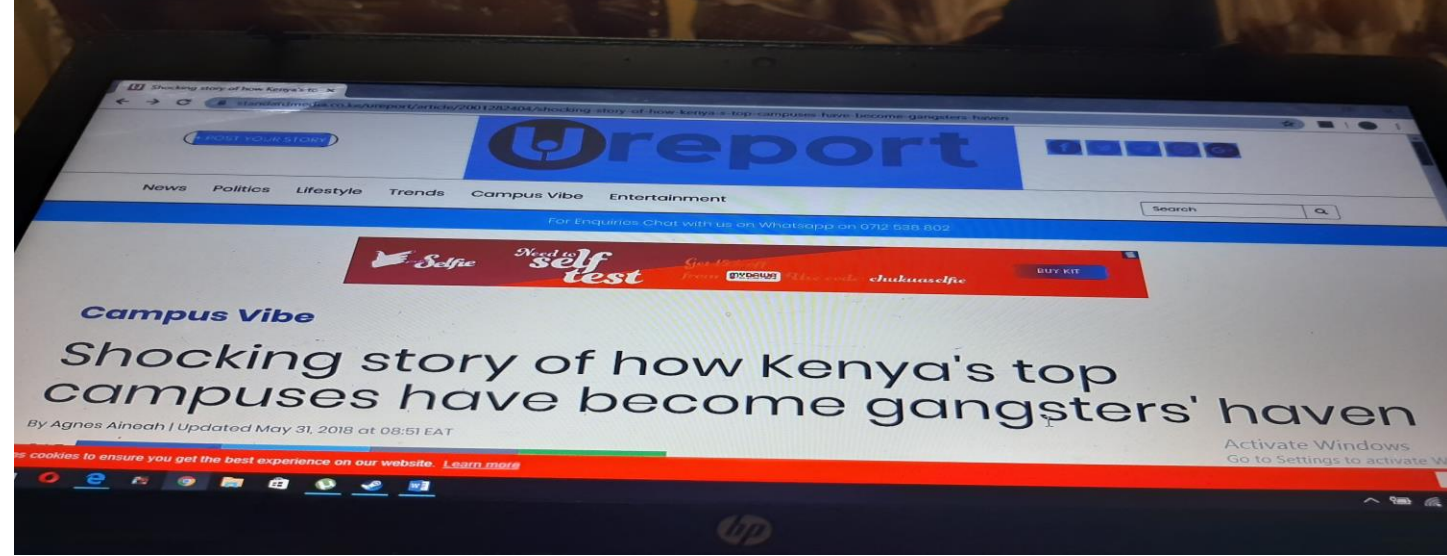
Students condemned incidences that were on the rise since 2015, when a female student was raped and killed within the campus

Students vowed to mobilise students to flush out /deal with security personnel in the campus and summon the university administration

Registered displeasure that guards supposed to protect students are turning against his call of duty and sexually assaulted the helpless student.

Campuses have become a den of gangsters' and hotspots for crime and terror while hostels have been turned into hideouts and convergence points for criminals.

by [Agnes Aineah](#) on May 31, 2018



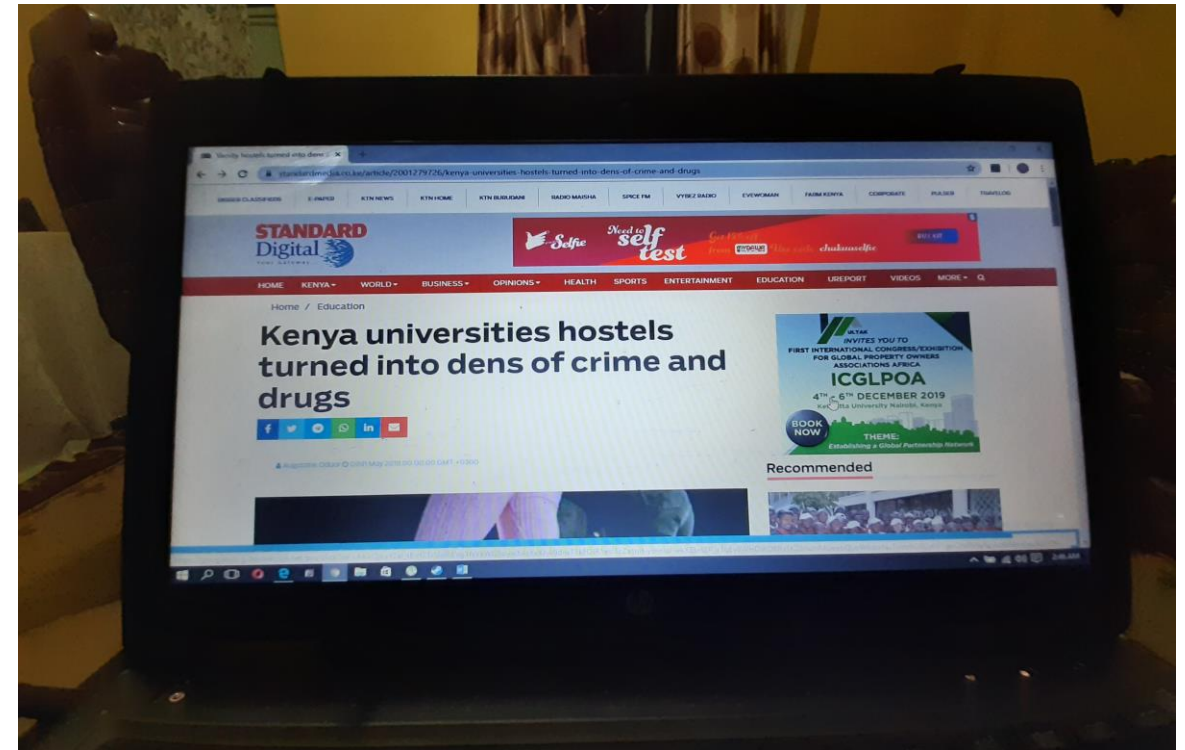
JKUAT student (unnamed) heading to the university library on Sunday met his attackers (six well-built youth) who pounced on him and knocked him down stabbed in the stomach after he refused to surrender his laptop .

Followed a **vicious attacks and killings reported at the Juja-based University and barely a week after Sydney Aomba, was stabbed to death moments after he alighted from a matatu coming from Nairobi Central Business District**

Kenya universities hostels turned into dens of crime and drugs

By Augustine Oduor 09th May 2018

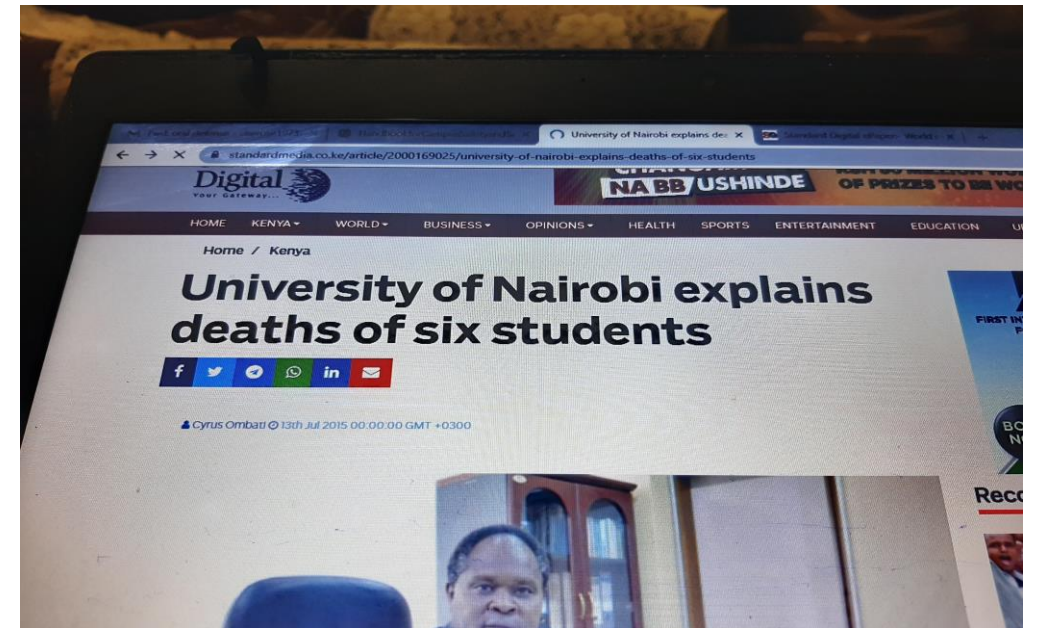
- CUE damning verdict on state of the country's institutions of higher learning.
- Report read: **“University hostels have become dens of criminal gangs, prostitution, and drug abuse, hideouts and convergence points for criminals”**
 - Blamed on poor collaboration between universities/colleges and the National Security Council, cover up of criminal activities, active radicalisation in campuses, political and ethnic alliances, budgetary constraints and less attention to security concerns by college administrators



UoN students tell of brush with death at varsity hostels

[By Gloria Aradi](#) 21st Jan 2019

- University of Nairobi Chiromo campus, Riverside Drive hostels **blast and terror attacks** left scores of students injured, traumatized and five dead.
- February, 2019 Egerton University student Edmond Ruto stabbed his girlfriend Cynthia Chelagat to death and attempted **to commit suicide**.Rocky relationship
- Feb 2019, Fridah 'Velma' Makena, a Second Year business management student at Meru National Polytechnic. She committed suicide when her boyfriend reportedly left her for another woman.



❑ Campus crime blamed on accommodation crisis

By Elvis ondieki on June 12th, 2016

Student leaders in PU attributed upsurge in crime to limited accommodation facilities inadequate surveillance in off campus residence criminals conniving in these perfect hideouts.

At Moi University, Maseno University, JOOUST and Kisii universities, rampant form of crime in campuses is theft of laptops and phones, which most students consider a “normal” offence a crime that they believe is organized by their colleagues

KU students blaming it on the rental facilities at Kenyatta Market, which borders the main campus.

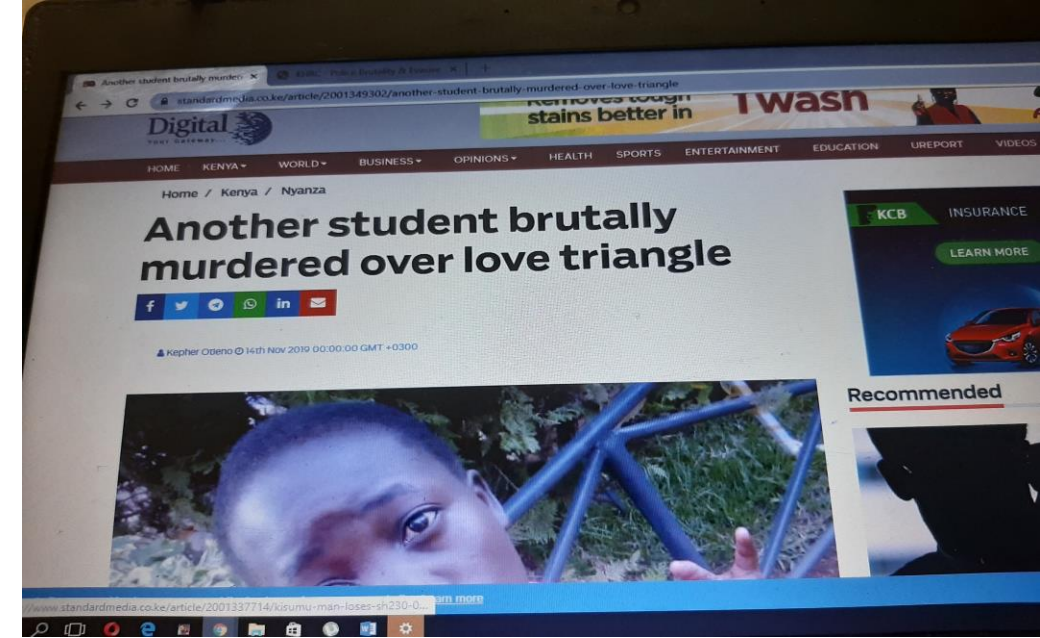


Pictured :Some of the University of Nairobi students arrested on suspicion of organized robbery.

University deaths: Did they have to die in college?

[Stephen](#)

[Mburu](#) 08th Mar 2019





■ The Study :Purpose, Design and Procedure

□ Research Objectives

- a. Effectiveness of the implementation of safety and security measures at MMUST campus?
- b. Extent to which students are satisfied with security and safety features and security services offered at MMUST main campus
- c. Explore specific MMUST campus safety and security hotspots and security measures

□ Methodology

- Concurrent mixed method design- quantitative survey and qualitative interviews was used for data collection “providing a more comprehensive and complete picture of data by converging data analysis methods and offsetting strengths and weaknesses”
- Questionnaire survey “Survey of Student Perceptions of Campus Safety,” was distributed to 121 college men and women of MMUST (on and off campus residents) and was followed by qualitative interviews
- Reliability and validity of the questionnaire items was tested and it yielded a Cronbach Alpha coefficient (0.928980)
- Approaches adhered to the Human Research Subject Regulations and were approved by the MMUST University Institutional Review Board.

- This is a non-experimental, descriptive study based upon the information gathered via a survey designed to gather data related to particular factors

Residential status ..

- ✓ Residential place and gender was a significant factor in explaining safety and safety within varied with campus spot
- ✓ A majority (66%) of those who registered extreme dissatisfaction (otherwise termed neglect) resided off campus.

		current housing location			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	on-campus housing	24	19.7	19.8	19.8
	off-campus housing	97	79.5	80.2	100.0
	Total	121	99.2	100.0	
Missing	System	1	.8		
Total		122	100.0		

□ Perception of Campus safety

- ✓ Significant (46%) felt either unsafe, very unsafe or somehow unsafe on walkways, parking lots and within halls of residences(within and outside campus)
- ✓ A majority (76%) felt extremely unsafe within Kakamega streets and within off campus residences .
- ✓ More than 50% the respondents felt safe on campus especially during the day but a lot more reported that they felt extremely unsafe at the off campus residential areas and especially at dark in the walkways leading to their abodes
- ✓ More than half (57%) felt safety and security measures at MMUST campus were either defective , reactive and skewed
- ✓ Significant (34%) felt extremely dissatisfied and not satisfied with security, safety features and security services offered at MMUST.

How safe are you generally inside campus					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	very unsafe	2	1.6	1.6	1.6
	unsafe	12	9.8	9.8	11.5
	neutral	44	36.1	36.1	47.5
	safe	57	46.7	46.7	94.3
	very safe	7	5.7	5.7	100.0
	Total	122	100.0	100.0	

□ Level of satisfaction by safety features on campus

■ Safety Features on campus

- More than half (57%) were satisfied with campus lighting, campus police, internal security officers' alertness, location of gates, screening in the reading spaces, security seminars, external security services and campus access control and surveillance. However, slightly more than half indicated that they were either not satisfied or extremely dissatisfied with campus phone / emergency call lines .
- A majority(63 %) registered displeasure with campus fencing, lighting features and surveillance for those residing off campus. Some of the common strategies students used for personal safety included walking with others, avoiding being lonely in certain safety hotspots at dark

Safety Ratings in campus points

Location	Mean Ratings
Walkways	3.45
Parking_slots	4.02
Campus_buildings	4.04
Campus_environment	3.53
Kakamega_street	2.44
Halls_residence	3.53



□ Results ... Incidences at MMUST campus

- More than half (51%) reported being victims or have witnessed situations of
 - sexually harassment,
 - personal threats
 - and violent relationships.
- Half of students surveyed (56%) had experienced
 - physical space threat,
 - felt they lack adequate protection,
 - are always concerned with their personal safety and are therefore feeling unsafe .
- Further ,Nearly half (46%) reported that they have either been victims of / experienced
 - Murder on campus(political and relationship instigated)
 - Forced into sex/rape
 - Gender based violence
 - Aggravated assault
 - Vehicle theft,
 - Arson,
 - Suicidal attempts
 - Dating violence
 - burglary,
 - hate crime and stalking.
- More than half (57%) reported that cases of drug induced violence, robbery theft and dating violence was the most rampant crime on campus



□ Spaces of horror in the campus....

- Students reported that they are more concerned about their safety
 - Within recreational facilities clubs around campus and town
 - Streets of Kakamega
 - Walkways and bushy paths leading to their residential places,
 - Residential halls and spaces
- They felt more secured in the the parking lots, students' centers and reading areas within the campus.



Safety and Security Measures at MMUST ..

- Slightly a half (51%) felt that the university has put moderate attempts to:
 - create anti violence , drug bullying polices and regulations –Students handbooks
 - campus surveillance control and movement control mechanisms
 - Screening and identification
 - awareness platforms about crime on campus.
- More than half (56%) reported that the university had neglected off campus students and has no concern with them .
- Lack of surveillance/screening , lack of security personnel within off campus residences was attributed to high incidences of violence and crime.
- Emergency response units , lines for use by off campus students and provision of residential supervisors was indicated as a measure of the least priority in MMUST.
- A majority of students (63%) felt that if university worked with other security agencies and tried to improve on surveillance on off campus residence then they would be feeling safe.



❑ Perpetrators of campus violence and Crime



❑ The following were reported :

- Fellow students
- Security guards
- Policemen
- Student acquaintances
- Bodaboda Men
- Property Owners / Land lords and caretakers
- Criminal /Organized gangs
- Neighbourhood communities
- Ex- friends



☐ Crime and violence on campus ..common causes.....

- a. Individual / Personal factors –Alcoholism , aggression, health conditions
- b. Hostel crisis – Poor /disorganized neighborhoods
- c. Relationship good sour/ poor relationships/love triangles /Dating disagreements
- d. Police Brutality
- e. Tensions between local communities and students during strikes
- f. Political alignments and campus politics
- g. Tensions between university administrations and students governing bodies
- h. Negligence and laxity by Universities
- i. Unkempt University spaces

□ Policy implications for HE security and safety Management

- University communities like MMUST , administrators , Security agencies , Ministries , governments and all development partners in HE should ensure that that staff and students thrive in a nurturing a positive, caring and inclusive learning environment for all students .In so doing , they must stick to the following principles
 - ✓ **Student Centered** - Students cannot reach their full potential when impeded by issues affecting their safety, security and well-being.
 - ✓ **Responsiveness** : HEIs have a duty to develop and implement appropriate policies, processes and procedures that support student safety, security and well-being.
 - ✓ **Partnership** : Ensuring safety, security and well-being of students requires a ‘joined-up’ approach across the student experience – partnership is essential. **Police service University administration the County Government , Local communities etc**
 - ✓ **Well-founded intelligence** :Effectively tackling issues of student safety, security and well-being requires well-founded intelligence.
 - ✓ **Best Interest** - :Students must live in dignity free from fear, violence, enjoy safety as enshrined in the constitution .Thriving in a nurturing a positive, caring and inclusive learning environment for all students and staff is linked to positive mental health and enhanced productivity

□ The End ..



Thank you

