# THE ETHICAL AND QUALITY IMPLICATIONS OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN KENYA

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#### INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Kenya's population is estimated at 44, 000,000.
- History of legal education can be traced to the University of Dar-es Salaam.
- Legal Education has been of high ethical and quality standards.
- Recent two decades have witnessed several contestations in terms of ethical and quality standards.

### CAUSES OF CONTESTATIONS

- Financial constraints among the institutions offering Legal Education and student's financial challenges (Fee paying students).
- Competition for Legal Education.
- Massive growth of Legal Education.
- ▶ UNESCO studies in 2005 and 2010 identified the problems identified above.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE PAPER

- Main question is whether training of Legal Education in Kenya is in tandem with the expected ethical norms and quality standards. If not, What are the quality implications?
- Endeavors to assess the management strategies towards promotion of ethical and quality standards.
- ▶ To examine the correct trends.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA SOURCES

- Employed mixed method research design.
- Combination of primary and secondary data from government and institutional documents.
- Interviewing staff and students from UON, Kenyatta and Mt. Kenya Universities.
- Study left out Kabarak, Moi, Africa Nazarene, CUEA and JOOUST.

## ETHICAL AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

#### **IDENTIFIED**

- Improvement of staff capacity through staff development strategies.
- Enhancement of module two classes in an effort to deal with run away financial capacity.
- Promotion of judicial attachment and internships.
- ▶ Embodiment of ICT in Legal Education.
- > Systematic monitoring and evaluation of Universities adherence to ethical values and quality standards.

## ETHICAL AND QUALITY ISSUES IDENTIFIED

- Staff and student absenteeism.
- Poor syllabus coverage.
- Proliferation of legal schools with inadequate resources.
- Massive student enrollment against few resources.
- Budgetary constraints.

#### **CONCLUSION**

- Exists plethora of unmet ethical and quality issues.
- Despite the challenges, Kenya has produced some of the finest legal minds and scholars.
- The disproportionate lecturer/student ratio is a big challenge to ethical and quality Legal Education.

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