



Enforcement Strategies in Kenyan Domestic Courts: An Anthropological Analysis of Human Rights Law Compliance

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Abstract

This study explores the application of human rights law in domestic courts within Kenya's legal system. Qualitative research methods were employed, including participant observation, interviews with judges, court staff, and litigants, and document review of court records. The analysis reveals that while there is significant variation in the implementation of human rights laws across different courts, a notable theme emerged regarding the effectiveness of community-based mediation as an informal enforcement strategy. Despite challenges, communities are increasingly engaging with informal mechanisms to support compliance with human rights laws. Public awareness campaigns and training for judges on alternative dispute resolution could enhance adherence to human rights standards in Kenyan courts.

Keywords: *Kenya, Human Rights, Legal Anthropology, Compliance Studies, Judicial Activism, Customary Law Integration, Qualitative Research Methods*

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