



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2009/2010

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF
PHILOSOPHY (EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY)

PSY/PHD/818: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF EDUCATION

DATE: THURSDAY, 29TH JULY 2010

TIME: 9.00 A.M. - 12.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: The paper has five (5) questions.

Attempt any three (3) questions.

Question One

- a) Define the concept social psychology showing its relevance to the educational process.

(5 marks)

- b) Discuss how you would use the following methods to study various problems in the school setting.

- i) Observational methods
- ii) Correlational methods
- iii) Experimental methods

(18 marks)

Question Two

- a) Explain what the concept social cognition refers to relating your explanation to the school environment.

(5 marks)

- b) Discuss what the following concepts are showing how they are likely to influence social interactions in the school environment.

- i) Schema
- ii) Central traits
- iii) Biases

(18 marks)

Question Three

- a) Describe the concepts internal versus external attribution. (5 marks)
- b) Attitudes both positive and negative are acquired and they can also be changed.
Discuss how each of the two processes occur bringing out the role the teacher
may play in both attitude acquisition and change. (18 marks)

Question Four

- a) Discuss any four theoretical explanations of prosocial behaviour. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss how the following factors can operate in a school or educational
setting.
- i) Bystander effect
 - ii) Empathy altruism
 - iii) Increasing helping behaviour
 - iv) Situational determinants of prosocial behaviour
- (10 marks)
- c) Comment on the gender differences in prosocial behaviour. (3 marks)

Question Five

School administrators have raised concern over the escalating incidences of aggressive behaviour in schools. They would like to understand the phenomenon in order to come up with strategies to put in place to make schools more peaceful environments. The school heads have therefore invited you to give a talk on aggression. As you plan your talk factor in the following issues.

- i) What aggression is and if it has negative and positive effects.
- ii) Theoretical explanations of aggressive behaviour.
- iii) Aggression and culture
- iv) Bandura's Experiment
- v) Reducing aggression

(23 marks)
