FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DROP-OUT OF THE YOUTH FROM
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH: A CASE OF KIAMBENE PARISH, NYAHURURU
DIOCESE

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spirituality.

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STUDENT DECLARATION

I the undersigned, declare that this paper is my work, achieved through my personal experience and reading. It is submitted in partial fulfilment of a certificate course in Spirituality. All sources have been cited in full and acknowledged.

Signed

Name of the student

Date

This integrated paper has been submitted for examination with my approval as the institute supervisor

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1.0 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The study is basically about the factors contributing to the drop out of the youth below the age of 27 years from the Catholic Church in Kiambene parish. The purpose of this study is to find out what causes the drop out of the youth from Catholic Church in Kiambene parish and find a solution to help the youth in the development of their faith spiritually, socially, physically and psychologically. The study presents the background of the study, the statement of the study and the purpose of the study. The main objectives of the study is to identify the role and the challenges of the youth in Kiambene parish, determine what causes of the drop out of the youth the church and establish possible measures and practices to be taken to prevent the drop out of the youth from Kiambene parish and finally will be the conclusion.

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

The drop out of the youth from the Catholic Church continues to be a major challenge that hinders the growth of the church especially in kiambene parish. Kiambene is located in Olkalou town in Nyahururu Diocese. In this parish majority of the youth between the age of 12 and 27, disappear from the church and few who are left become inactive in church activities.

The term youth is generally used in a broader way meaning young generation, including adolescents, teenagers and young adults. “The youth is perceived as the phase of life where there is teeming energy from an individual with great motivation to discovery and experimentation.”

A youth is a stage in life with so many crisis that the young people find them challenging trying to adopt to the new changes (physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological changes) that happens in their life transiting from childhood to adulthood. “These changes have enormous

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1 Cf E. RASTELLO, - G. ROLANDI, SDB, Bringing The Church To Youth Or Youth To The Church, 19
implications for the individual’s sexual, social, emotional and vocational life.” During this stage, the youth experience many changes in their lives. The youths also experience many voices directing them to do what they desire in life and if the young adults aren’t guided well they find themselves trapped in following their peer’s friends.

At this stage of transition from childhood to adulthood, the society expect a lot from the youth and due to mixed up feelings, the young adults opt to follow their own whims. Teenagers are especially vulnerable to crises in that during the adolescent years rapid and dramatic changes occur in so many areas of their lives.

As a missionary congregation, sisters of our lady of charity of the good shepherd (OLCGS) have experienced the challenge of their houses being closed up in America and Europe due to lack of vocation which is a threat to the growth and development of the future church. Finding out the real factors that contributes to the drop of the youth from church will help in prevention of more drop outs from the Catholic Church therefore, shaping and establishing a firm foundation for the formation of the future church.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The drop out of the youth in the Catholic Church continues to be a major social problem that hinders growth of the church and the spread of the gospel in our churches today.

Pope Francis in his homily to the youth on the 30th world youth day emphasized and urged the youth to be ready to respond to any question of Faith hence not to be passive. This study will then focus on the factors contributing to the drop out of the youth in Kiambene parish.

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2 A. SHARMA, Stages of Development of Psychology.
3 FRANCIS I Homily to the youth.
1.3 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The main purpose of the study is to find the factors contributing to the youth drop-Out from the church in Kiambene parish and how it affects the spread of the gospel and the growth of Christian faith in Kiambene parish.

1.4 STUDY OBJECTIVES

1. To investigate the role of the youth in Kiambene parish.

2. To find out factors that contributes to the drop out of young people from Kiambene Catholic Church.

3. To formulate the measures to be taken to prevent the level of drop out of the youth in Kiambene Catholic Church.

1.5 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the role of the youth in kiambene parish?

2. What are the causes of the youth dropping out of Kiambene parish?

3. What are the measures to be taken to prevent the level of drop out of the youth from the Kiambene parish?

1.6 THE VIEW OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ABOUT THE YOUTH.

The Second Vatican Council describes the Church as the real youth of the world, “The Church is the one who possesses what constitutes the strength and the charm of youth, the ability to rejoice with what is beginning, to give oneself unreservedly, to renew oneself and to set out again for new conquests.”⁴ Pope John Paul II in his letter to the youth he encouraged the young people saying, “May you, young people, be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to

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⁴ Cf E. RASTELLO, - G. ROLANDI, SDB, Bringing the Church to Youth or Youth to the Church.
account for the hope that is in you. The future depends on you. Do not be passive; take up your responsibilities in the world."\(^5\)

A youth needs to be supported and to be affirmed especially in decision making and being helped to face life challenges with prudence. Catholic church as stated in Gaudium et spes No 4 is at all times carrying the responsibilities of reading the sign of the times and interpreting them in the light of the gospel in language intelligible to every generation, the church should be able to answer the ever recurring questions which men ask about the meaning of this present life and of the life to come and how is related to the other. \((Gaudium et spes 4)\)

The Catholic Church through the leadership of the Pope supports the presence of the youth in the church and due to modern technology the church is changing with signs of time. “The church sees herself in young people and has done it so since apostolic time hence the youth are the future of the church.”\(^6\) The church involves the youth in various youth seminars, encouraging them to have a get together yearly hence safeguarding the future of the youth. The presence of responsible youth matrons and patrons helps the youth in the process of discovering their identity and in self-awareness. The church also involves the elected leaders in church activities such as church committee and also having their representatives in every occasion of the church.

1.7 THE ROLE OF THE YOUTH IN THE KIAMBENE PARISH.

The youth at kiambene parish have their roles as individuals and as a group. The youth being the future church of tomorrow they have to safeguard their personal identity and the church's identity. “The young should become the first apostles of the young in direct contact with them,

\(^5\) Cf R. Aladics, summary of Dilecti Amici, 2
\(^6\) Cf E. Rastello, - G. Rolandi, SDB, Bringing The Church To Youth Or Youth To The Church.
concentrating their apostolic efforts within their own circle, according to the needs of the social environment in which they live” (Apostolicam Actuositatem 12)

It is the role of the youth to be fully involved in the liturgy not only being a regular Sunday worshippers, but also being fully involved in weekly activities such as reading the word and active vibrant singing. It is the responsibilities of the youth to involve themselves in faith based organization forum where they share their challenges and success stories.

Young people are the source of joy in church and they should make the church lively and vibrant. Therefore, it is the role of the youth participate in charity works such as visiting the sick in the parish and involving in teaching the children in Sunday school classes hence being a good role model to the young ones in matters of faith and social life by empowering them.

In matters of the leadership of the church, it is the role of the youth members to select their leaders who will represent them in the church meetings and leaders who are visionary and willing to take the youth a far mile in achieving their set goals in life. By being firm in faith and being a good role models, the youths are able to change the mentality of the society where the society is able to view them as young people with morals. “Teenagers need guidance to grow into the leaders they are destined to become and if we change the way we view the youth, we change the way we utilize their capabilities and recognise their rich input”7 As a way of motivating the young ones in the church it’s the initiative of the church leaders to organise exchange programs from other churches and fully support the youth in their spiritual formation.

Despite that the youth are our future they need to be empowered and be encouraged to make use of their capabilities today and in the future. In giving them responsibilities as a way of empowering them without first preparing them it’s like abandoning them in the work they can’t

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7 K. CURTIS, M.S. Empowering the youth, 60
deliver fully. Self-awareness is a vital aspect in the preparation of the young people as they discover who they are.

1.8 CHALLENGES FACING THE YOUTH

In the fifth stage of psychosocial stages of human development, Erick Erickson in his theory claims that, “the adolescents may feel uncomfortable about their bodies for a while until they can adapt and grow into the changes.”\(^8\) During this stage in life, the adolescent wants to belong and fit in the society. While the young adults are discovering their identity, they may fall into a trap of conforming to the society. "They can also fall into the trap of materialism and self-centeredness, of valuing persons according to what they possess and produce and not for who they are,"\(^9\)

As the youth transit from childhood to adulthood, the redeemed teenagers start becoming more aware of themselves and desire to be independent materializes and they begin to look the future in terms of careers, relationships and families. Because of the many changes the youths experience, the need to have a mentor or a spiritual guide in life is very important.

Mentor or a spiritual guide helps the youth in all aspects of their life in understanding themselves and appreciating their uniqueness and their giftedness. "Human development and Christian formation are so intimately related that there cannot be Christian maturity without human maturity,"\(^10\) hence it’s by understanding our lives and healing our past life that we are able to integrate the spiritual and social life. Christian formation in young people should focus on facilitating the process of sexual integration which is influenced by the other aspect of human development from birth.

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\(^8\)A. SHARMA, Stages of Development of Psychology
\(^9\)C.M. CERVANTES, eds., Prophets of hope\(1\), 24
\(^10\)C.M. CERVANTES, eds., Prophet of hope\(1\), 43
Spiritual hunger or spiritual dryness is a challenge that causes the youth to distance themselves in the affairs of the church. A young adult who is not well developed finds it hard to quench the desires of peer pressure and those who drop out of the church lack first hand faith- a faith that was instilled by their parents and guardians and also that faith that was instilled to them through the teaching of the Catholic Church. When the young people fail to understand well their responsibilities they tend to follow their own whims which is deceiving. The youth should be made aware of their identities and their role to participate in shaping the future of the church. Young people who are alive in their faith give hope with their very lives by being good role model to others.

Due to poverty and illiteracy early marriages has become a rampart in the community of Kiambene people which is a challenge that discourages the young children in the society. Some parents and guardians have neglected the needs of the teenagers and use forceful practices to get bride price whereby forcing their children especially for a girl child to get married at a tender age. This parents are using early marriages as a form of raising money through dowry payments so as to supports the rest of the family thus blindly ignoring the needs of the teenagers.

Poverty is global challenge in our society which is a major issue that influences the growth of the church. Poverty is defined as lack of a necessity in one's life and when young adults lack basic needs in life, their spiritual, social and psychological formation is much affected. This causes stigmatization, discrimination and classification of various social classes in the society. Thus, in search for a better life the uninformed teenagers are at risk of involving themselves in unaccepted activities in the society such as use of drugs. The level of poverty in kiambene parish has gone high and because, those affected cannot afford advanced education they tend to pull out of the church and others go to search for jobs in urban areas.
In search for more knowledge of what the science and technology is offering, majority of the young people are much affected and the church has become an option. The unhealthy use of internet has promoted the youth in engaging in online groups chats than in physical faith sharing group. The internet sources provides everything that one searches, but when used in the wrong motive it spoil its importance.

Due to modernized society the parents have left their responsibilities of guiding their children and the youth to others. Guardians and parents have neglected the existence of their children thus allowing them freely to engage in technology searching for answers to satisfy their curiosity in the process of discovery of one’s identity. A family that stays together prays together and enjoy the presence of each other with ease but when the parents are not relating well the children are also affected. “Children and adolescents need discipline, security and affection exhibited in strong families and when these characteristics are not present, loneliness, alienation, stress and frustration are likely to emerge.”

1.9 CHALLENGES FACING THE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS IN NURTURING THE YOUTH.

Parents and guardians find it hard to create time for dialogue with their children since they are busy working so as to sustain and maintain their living standards. Because of the differences in the centuries, technology is not understood the same, for adults of 20\textsuperscript{th} century, technology means convenience and entertainment and for the teenagers of 21\textsuperscript{st} century, technology means life. “Every part of existence of 21\textsuperscript{st} century teenagers is informed and shaped by technology from the way they socialize to the way they learn.” The aspect of community life has been

\begin{footnotesize}
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\item[11] H. ATKINSON, Ministry with youth in crisis, 15
\item[12]Cf, C. COMBI, Parenting Teenagers in the 21 century.
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interchanged with aspect of individualism hence technology taking over in nurturing the young generation

Illiteracy affects all the levels of life and those with low literacy skills are likely to live in poverty and face healthy problems due to high level of ignorance. Ignorance and lack of awareness of the parents is another challenge that makes the parents to abandon their role in nurturing the young adults and illiterate parents and guardians who are nurturing the young generations fail to meet the standards of 21st century demands. This is because life has gone digital and every young person who is digitalized wants instant gratification.

Alcoholism in the families has contributed to parents being unable to play their role as good model for the future parents. Alcoholism has also promoted the breakups of many marriages in the society and therefore, the increase of many dysfunctional families especially in Kiambene locality.

2.0 CAUSES OF THE YOUTH DROPPING OUT FROM KIAMBENE PARISH.

2.1 PHYSICAL FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DROP OUT OF THE YOUTH IN KIAMBENE PARISH.

2.1.1 Age differences

Some youths are in secondary schools, others are in colleges and others are working and when the youth are generalized and grouped as one group without considering their age differences the esteem of minority group is devastated. "The age difference in a group, influences the thinking capacity and the decision making of its members since they have differences in values and in
experiences.”¹³ Those who are working can’t be grouped with those in secondary schools because in matters of reasoning they are more mature. In the election of their leaders, the mixing of age differences helps in affirming the weak to find their identity and grow more mature. If the presence of every member in the youth group is not recognised and appreciated many opt to come out and search for places where they will be appreciated.

2.1.2 Poor involvement in church liturgy

If the patrons and matrons are inactive and disinterested in what the youth are doing, they leave the youth with no option but to be like sheep without the shepherd. The teenagers who come from dysfunctional families lack enthusiasm to uphold the entire church since they aren’t well established in matters of faith. The family is a small church where harmony and unity are developed and it is in the family that the good values of a person are nurtured and then this values are taken to the church. The aspect of the sense of belonging and the passion to fully participate in the church is not vividly felt for the teenagers coming from dysfunctional families because they lack unity and love from their parents.

“Adults help the young people to discover their innate potentiality and motivation so as to help others.”¹⁴ If the youth are not involved fully in the church activities and their ideas are not heard they give up easily and disappear from the church. “Adults have the benefits of life experience and a sense of which projects are more likely to be successful while on the other hand, young people know what’s meaningful to them and what will make an impact and inspire them.”¹⁵ So the two groups, adults and the youth in the church should work together in harmony learning from one another.

¹³ C.M. Cervantes, eds., Prophets of Hope 1, 25
¹⁴ K. Curtis, M.S. Empowering The Youth, 82
¹⁵ K. Curtis. M.S. Empowering The Youth, 62
2.2 SOCIAL FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DROP OUT OF THE YOUTH IN KIAMBENE PARISH.

2.2.1 Stigmatization due to lack of basic needs.

People are labelled depending on what they have or what they can afford. Due to modernize society every youth feels to own everything owned by the other youths and if one fails to comply with society rules, one is evicted from the group hence high level of stigmatization. Stigmatization due to lack of basic needs is a challenge to the Society. Young adults with low self-esteem fail to recognise the beauty of their giftedness and appreciate their uniqueness in the society. "When the young adults are being discriminated their self-esteem diminishes, increases their frustration and reduces their personal expectations and vocational opportunities."16

Youth in Kiambene church forms social classes according to their family status hence creating more gap between the poor and the rich in the church. When the youths realize their role and contribution towards the development and shaping of the future church they are able to affirm each in the group.

2.2.2 Lack of motivation.

In any organisation, motivation is major components for successful organisation. When the youths are not appreciated and supported by their elders they end up seeking for other option to motivate them such as use of drugs. When the ambitions and sense of belonging in the church is not well integrated into the spirit of the church, the spiritual and psychological development of the young adults loses its essence. The youth are easily distracted by what goes on around them and when youth in kiambene become passive, they move out searching for spiritual fulfilment.

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16C.M. CERVANTES, eds., Prophets of Hope, 1, 43
The lack of spiritual mentor for the youth also has influenced the vocation choice in that very few young people are choosing the right vocation. The chaplains and spiritual mentors are the pillars in the formation of the young adults and when the youth are neglected, their spiritual growth declines thus weakening the passion and the ambitions of the youth.

2.3 SPIRITUAL FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DROP OUT OF THE YOUTH IN KIAMBENE PARISH.

2.3.1 Poor discernment of their vocation

Days are gone when young people used to be taught by their grandparents or their uncles and aunts. Today the society has changed and things have gone digital affecting the means of communication between the young and the adults. “The youth face a disheartening challenge of giving themselves totally to Christ,”17 due to the mixed up of life changes and being unable to understand themselves better of who they are and what is expected of them.

Youth who come from families with minimal religious spirit or practice, have a very limited contact with church’s belief and their spiritual life is not strongly grounded. “Young people need to discover and experience the greatness of God and of human person and they need to find life within the salvation offered through Jesus Christ.”18 In the vocation choice, the Catholic Church gives various different choices of vocation where one can decide depending on how the spirit is leading that person.

For a youth to make concrete choice, spiritual discernment is needed which is nourished by personal life of prayer. The chaplain, youth matrons and youth patrons are entrusted by the

17S. M. SCHNEIDERS, I.H.M. Religious life in a new millennium 2, xxi.
18C.M. CERVANTES, eds., Prophets of Hope. 1, 125
church to nurture the spiritual life of the young adults. It is the responsibilities of the young adults to appreciate and trust those who are entrusted to their spiritual affairs.

2.3.2 Lack of First Faith and spiritual guidance

The first faith instilled in us during our early years of our life is the foundation of our spiritual life and if it’s nurtured well, the young adult is able to face the current challenges of faith. This faith is either from our guardians or from the teaching of the Catholic Church. In Pope Francis homily to the youth he urges the young to stand firm in faith and be strong and if one is not spiritually equipped, one cannot overcome the snares of the devil.

“But those who desire to be rich fall into a snare, into many senseless and hurtful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have wondered away from the faith and pierced their hearts with many pangs” (1Tim 6: 9-10)

2.3.3 Modernized technology

Instead of encouraging one on one meetings and sharing, the youth have opted for online social media chats groups. The sense of togetherness in a group has lost the meaning and this makes the group more weak spiritually hence diminishing in faith. Time for personal reflection is replaced with long hours in the internet and the use of mobile phones and this has greatly affected the individual prayer life.

The technology has contributed negatively in the discernment of young people since the majority are more attached to the technologies. “Unfortunately the mass media frequently alienate and depersonalize young people cutting them off from reality by opening immoral programs loaded
with violence, hateful and cultural stereotypes,”\textsuperscript{19} thus, brain washing the minds of young people.

3.0 THE MEASURE TO BE TAKEN TO PREVENT THE DROP OUT OF THE YOUTH FROM THE KIAMBENE CHURCH.

3.1 Pope JOHN PAUL II Apostolic letter to the youth.

“Youth is the period for the conscience to be formed so that that young people can become people who are clear-sighted in life, people of principle, people who inspire and trust and are credible.”\textsuperscript{20} It is through rightness of conscience that young people make the most important contribution in the world and in the Church. The youth have to utilize their potentiality in a positive way by mobilizing a well-organized social groups for their mates in the society. Like his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI also took the opportunity given at the beginning of his pontificate to show his closeness to the younger generations. His words were in complete harmony with Pope John Paul II: “Dear young people: Do not be afraid of Christ! He takes nothing away, and he gives you everything. When we give ourselves to him, we receive a hundredfold in return. Yes, open, open wide the doors to Christ, and you will find true life”.\textsuperscript{21} Young people have to accept with love the message of Christ in the process of evangelizing to themselves first and then taking the message of Christ to others.

3.2 The view of Vatican II “Apostolicam Actuositatem”

As youth become more conscious of their own personalities, they are impelled by a zest for life and a ready eagerness to assume their own responsibilities, and they yearn to play their part in

\textsuperscript{19}C.M. CERVANTES, eds., Prophets of hope. 1, 112
\textsuperscript{20} R. ALADICS, summary of Dilecti Amici, 2
\textsuperscript{21} Cf BENEDICT XVI, Homily for the inauguration of pontificate at St. Peters square.
social and cultural life. If this zeal is imbued with the spirit of Christ and is inspired by obedience and the love for the church, it can be expected to be very fruitful.

The church is a mystical body of Christ where Christ is the head of the church and the entire church is the body of Christ and according to Vatican II council ‘Apostolicam Actuositatem’, “The Catholic Church was founded for the purpose of spreading the kingdom of Christ throughout the earth for the greater glory of God the father so as to enable all men share in his saving redemption and salvation and through them the whole world might enter into a relationship with Christ. No part of a structure of a living body is merely passive but has a share in the functions as well as the life of the body; so, in the body of Christ which is the church, the whole body achieves full growth in dependence on the full function of each part” (Apostolicam Actuositatem 2)

Young persons exert very important influence in modern society. “There has been a radical change in the circumstances of their lives, their mental attitudes, and their relationships with their own families. While their social and even their political importance is growing from day to day, they seem to be unable to cope adequately with their new responsibilities. The growth of their social importance demands of them a corresponding apostolic activity, but their natural qualities also fit them for this activity” (Apostolicam Actuositatem 12)

3.3 Measure to be taken to prevent the drop out of the youth from Kiambene church.

A young adult is an individual who always craves for encouragement and support of caretakers and peer groups. If they are successful they develop a sense of self identity and if not, they suffer from role / identity confusion. The church plays a vital role in the Christian formation of the lives of the young adults which is done through seminars on self-awareness, career and vocational
choices. Young adults need to know themselves, be able to identify their feelings and talents and discover their limitations and strengths. By discovering their identity the youth are able to internalize the acquired spiritual values in their daily life.

Reviewing of the norms and the regulations of the youth in Kiambene parish will help in accommodating the new members. Some of the norms and rules in any existing group stays for many years without being revisited again and they might be outdated. Reviewing of the norms also helps the group in moving with signs of time. Creating of small groups among the big group in order to solve the issues of age differences will motivate even the youth to fasten their faith and support one another positively.

The election of new leaders and new registration of the youth members as a way of starting a new faith journey, will give a new group a chance to share their giftedness and their capabilities in leading the group. All members have a right to take part in the leadership and they should be made aware and be encouraged to freely take part in the leadership election. By setting up a fixed ruling term for leaders, it will give them more opportunities in the exchange of ideas and growth of the group.

The motivation of the members. In any group where members are not motivated, they regress and growth becomes an issue. By its nature, young adults are in a stage of discovery and they need to be supported to adventure more from others through the exchange programs. The exchange programs helps the group to re-examine its way of doing things, discover more potential within, realize and accept the challenges that hinders the growth of the group and as they appreciate the achievements they come up with possible solution to their challenges. They
also need to be motivated spiritually by holding spiritual talks, having a common recollection day and a common retreat.

Young people need to be listened to and be appreciated since they are gift of God to our church and to our world today. "It is encouraging to see that many of these young people have the support of their families or the youth ministers." When there is a conducive environment for dialogue between adults and the young people in the church, the physical and spiritual growth is nurtured and the spread of the faith becomes a paramount importance in the mission of the church. “Adults ought to engage in such friendly discussion with the young people that both age groups, overcoming the age barrier, may become better acquainted and share the special benefits each generation can offer the other.”

The more the youth and the adults participate in sharing ideas, the stronger they become. “Adults should stimulate young person first by good example to take part in the apostolate and if the opportunity presents itself, by offering them effective advice and willing assistance.” By the same token young people should cultivate towards adults respect and trust, and although they are naturally attracted to novelties, they should duly appreciate praiseworthy traditions.

CONCLUSION

The church represents the body of Christ where it has to safeguard the welfare of its members as Elena says "The church is the visible family of God in which there is care solidarity, warmth in human relationships, acceptance, dialogue and trust which encourages reconciliation of its members and true communion between different age groups." Hence, if the church is seen as one family of God, the youth must therefore find themselves not as spectators, but as active

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22 C. M. Cervantes, eds., Prophets of Hope, 1, 19
23 K. Curtis, Empowering the Youth, 83
24 K. Curtis, Empowering the Youth, 65
25 Cf E. Rastello - G. Rolandi SDB, Bringing The Church To Youth Or Youth To The Church
participants into this mystery of salvation. Young people must confront the challenges that today's youth brings to the church therefore, the youth in kiambene catholic church need to participate and cooperate fully in the formation and in nurturing of their faith.

It is also the role of the church through its members in Kiambene Parish to support its youth by involving them fully in church activities and providing a conducive environment for their faith to grow and mature. During the teenage years, young people face many crisis trying to discover who they are, how they fit in the society and find out their roles to play in life, therefore it is the role of the church which is the body of Jesus Christ to safeguard the future of its member through vibrant involvement of its members.

When young people are encouraged and supported by more experience adults, they will be able to fulfil their role and renew their zeal and function in the church, as pope Paul VI indicated: “We think that we have every reason to have confidence in Christian youth. Youth will not fail the church if within the church there are enough older people able to understand it, love it, guide it, and to open up to it future by passing on to it with complete fidelity, the truth which endures.”, (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 20)

A deeper evangelization targeting the youth has to aim at the personal conversion of individuals, manifested not just in emotional feelings nor in the practice of devotional habits alone but a deeper convictions leading to attitudes that govern the whole integral body, mind and soul in all circumstances. Through the a deeper evangelization the youth in kiambene catholic church need to sensitize the parents, guardians and their peer group on the importance of being a youth member.

“Evangelization must begin with involved young people, but it also must go out to reach those young people who have not received the message of Christ.”

26 C.M. CERVANTES, eds, Prophets of Hope, 19
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