

## **East African Water and Sanitation Inequities: Activism for Maternal and Child Health**

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### **Abstract**

In developing countries, one of the current issues for populaces in both urban and rural areas deals with the percentage of people who have access to quality water and sanitation facilities. Research suggests that there is a major disparity in the distribution of improved water and sanitation facilities based on geography and the effects that it has on its' people. This research considers the existing socioeconomic, political, and environmental state of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in relationship to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Through an extensive literature review, meta-analysis and comparative analyses across countries using Demographic and Health Surveys and World Health Organization statistics, this paper will focus on water and sanitation technologies in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Here it is argued that childhood morbidity and maternal health disparities cannot be fully understood without the inclusion of research regarding their health and environmental resources. Through an Africana feminist lens, the benefits and drawbacks of the present water and sanitation technologies in East African countries are analyzed for further insight to health and environmental anomalies. Finally, the goal is to unveil suggestions for future policy implementation and possible variables affecting maternal and child health.