

Exploring the Ethics and Impact of Slum Tourism in Kenya: A Critical Examination on the Ethical Implications, Legalities and Beneficiaries of This Trade and Long-Term Implications to the Slum Residents

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Abstract : Kibera is a division and neighborhood of Nairobi, Kenya, 6.6 kilometers (4.1 miles) from the city center and is the largest slum in Nairobi and the largest urban slum in Africa. In 2009, a survey conducted by the French Institute for Research in Africa found that the average Kibera slum resident lives in extreme poverty, earning less than US\$2 per day. Delving into the intricate landscape of slum tourism in Kenya, this study critically evaluates its ethical implications, legal frameworks, and beneficiaries. By examining the complex interplay between tourism operators, visitors, and slum residents, it seeks to uncover the long-term consequences for the communities involved. By exploring ethical considerations, legal parameters, and the distribution of benefits, this examination aims to shed light on the broader socio-economic impacts of slum tourism in Kenya, particularly on the lives of those residing in these marginalized communities. To assess the ethical considerations surrounding slum tourism in Kenya, including the potential exploitation of residents and cultural sensitivities, examine the legal frameworks governing slum tourism in Kenya and evaluate their effectiveness in protecting the rights and well-being of slum dwellers. To identify the primary beneficiaries of slum tourism in Kenya, including tour operators, local businesses, and residents, and analyze the distribution of economic benefits. Explore the long-term socio-economic impacts of slum tourism on the lives of residents, including changes in living conditions, access to resources, and community development. To understand the motivations and perceptions of tourists participating in slum tourism in Kenya, assess their role in shaping the industry's dynamics, and investigate the potential for sustainable and responsible forms of slum tourism that prioritize community empowerment, cultural exchange, and mutual respect. To provide recommendations for policymakers, tourism stakeholders, and community organizations to promote ethical and sustainable practices in slum tourism in Kenya. **Ethical Awareness:** By critically examining the ethical implications of slum tourism, the research can raise awareness among tourists, operators, and policymakers about the potential exploitation of marginalized communities. **Legal Insights:** The research can provide insights into the effectiveness of existing legal frameworks governing slum tourism in Kenya, informing potential regulatory improvements to protect the rights and well-being of slum residents. **Beneficiary Analysis:** By identifying the primary beneficiaries of slum tourism, the research can inform discussions on a fair distribution of economic benefits and potential strategies for ensuring that local communities derive meaningful advantages from tourism activities. **Socio-Economic Understanding:** By exploring the long-term socio-economic impacts of slum tourism, the research can deepen understanding of how tourism activities affect the lives of slum residents, potentially informing policies and initiatives to improve living conditions and promote community development. **Tourist Perspectives:** Understanding the motivations and perceptions of tourists participating in slum tourism can provide valuable insights into consumer behavior and preferences, informing the development of responsible tourism practices and marketing strategies. **Promotion of Responsible Tourism:** By providing recommendations for promoting ethical and sustainable practices in slum tourism, the research can contribute to developing guidelines and initiatives to foster responsible tourism and minimize negative impacts on host communities. Overall, the research can contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of slum tourism in Kenya and its broader implications. It can also offer practical recommendations for promoting ethical and sustainable tourism practices.

Keywords : slum tourism, dark tourism, ethical tourism, responsible tourism

Conference Title : ICDT 2024 : International Conference on Dark Tourism

Conference Location : Paris, France

Conference Dates : July 18-19, 2024