This study has been presented in order of introduction of the study, background of the garbage problem at various levels, analysis and findings, and then recommendations and conclusions. This study critically examines the nature of garbage management practices in a low-income area (Dandora Settlement) and high-income estate (Plainsview) in Nairobi and the resulting problems. It consequently gives suitable recommendations to resolve the problems. Viable garbage management alternatives have been considered and they include measures such as privatization of garbage services, and garbage collection by scavengers with a view to reducing the current phenomenon of rapidly accumulating garbage heaps in the study areas, which the Nairobi City Commission (NCC) cannot handle effectively.

Besides, the study has also examined the various benefits arising from using the alternative garbage management techniques. In the case of garbage collection by scavengers, the social and economic benefits that arise such as creation of employment opportunities and income generation have been analysed besides examining the lifestyles, habitats, and saving and investments patterns of the garbage collectors. Appropriate recommendations to enhance this activity have been given. In general the study established that the problem of garbage management in Dandora area is escalating with the increasing population of the area and falling garbage handling capacity of the Nairobi City Commission's Cleansing Section. The result has been increasing uncollected garbage heaps in the study areas whose adverse effects if not remedied immediately will seriously affect the quality of life of the residents and the environment. Proposals to the problems both in short and long term have been given to attempt to improve the situation and hence make contribution to further development of the economy of Nairobi.