INTEGRATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES INTO THE COMMUNITY: 
THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY NURSE

by

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submitted in fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

MASTER OF ARTS IN HEALTH STUDIES

at the

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NOVEMBER 2003
DECLARATION

I declare that INTEGRATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES INTO THE COMMUNITY: THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY NURSE is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

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SIGNATURE DATE
(Mrs MBJ Pooe-Monyemore)
DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my father, Ezekiel Mafatshe Pooe, who passed away in December 2002, my loving mother Sophie Baatseba Pooe, my darling husband Noah Andrew Monyemore, my beloved son Thuto, and most importantly, to the children with disabilities and their families and the community nurses in the North West Province.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my Creator, the Almighty, for the strength to complete the research project, and the love He has shown me through the following people who gave me their unwavering support and contributed to the research project:

- My supervisors, Prof LJ King and Mrs JE Smith, for their guidance, motherly love, encouragement and sacrifices. I was truly blessed to have you as my supervisors.
- My family, especially my supportive mother for believing in me and giving me a feeling of trust and stability; my husband for his love, unbelievable patience and motivation; my son Thuto and my nephew Regomoditswe, for their love and support at home; my brothers and sister and their families for their encouragement. Keep it up till I get my Doctor’s degree!
- Dr A Perold, for her patient assistance with the QRS NUD*IST computer programme and data analysis.
- The staff members at the Department of Health Studies, UNISA, for their warmth and assistance at all times, especially Valerie and Martie.
- Ms K Dennill for her guidance in developing the data-collection tools.
- Ms T Burger and other staff members from the UNISA library for their assistance with literature.
- Ms I Cooper for her patience in editing the manuscript.
- Ms R Coetzer for her final professional typing of the manuscript.
- Ms M Letsapa, for her assistance during the data-collection process in Mafikeng.
- The North West Department of Health and Mafikeng Health District authorities, for granting me permission to conduct the study in Mafikeng.
- Ms M Mooki and Ms N Mashi for their assistance with the logistics at the North West Department of Health.
- The community nurses and clinic health managers in the Mafikeng district, for participating in the study.
- The parents of children with disabilities in the Mafikeng district, for sharing their experiences.
- The principals and teachers of the Retlametswe and Bophelong Special Schools, for their participation.
- To my dear colleagues for their encouragement and support, especially Ms L Mangate, Ms R Motlatla, Ms R Mohlabi, Ms O Mashia, Ms M Mabusela, Ms S Ngake, Ms B Ntuli, Ms N Mazibuko, Ms L Motopi and Ms H van Rooyen. You kept me on my toes, Guys!

KE A LEOGA
ABSTRACT

An exploratory, qualitative research design was used to explore the role, attitude, views and competence of the community nurse to integrate children with disabilities into the community of the Mafikeng district, in the North West Province. Barriers to the integration of children with disabilities into the community as well as strategies to address these barriers were identified.

Focus group discussions were conducted to collect data from the community nurses and parents of children with disabilities. Interviews were also conducted to collect data from the clinic health managers.

The findings of this study reveal that the community nurse is instrumental in integrating children with disabilities into the community. However, barriers related to the family, community and health system are challenges to the integration process. The recommendations of this study deal with addressing these barriers.

KEY CONCEPTS

Attitudes; barriers; community nurse/nursing; disability; integration; inclusion and mainstreaming.