

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

by

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**SUPERVISOR: PROF LJ KING**

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## 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.

.....

**SIGNATURE**

**(Mrs MBJ Pooe-Monyemore)**

.....

**DATE**

## **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.***

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**KE A LEBOGA**

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

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## **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.

