THE EFFICACY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS IN
CHANGING EDUCATORS' AND LEARNERS’ RISK BEHAVIOURS

by

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DECLARATION

“I declare that the dissertation entitled ‘The efficacy of the Department of Education’s response to HIV/AIDS in changing educators’ and learners’ risk behaviours,’ 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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The efficacy of the Department of education’s response to HIV/AIDS in changing educators’ and learners’ risk behaviours

by

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Subject: M.Ed – with Specialization in Guidance and Counselling

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Summary

The aim of this study was to firstly examine via a literature study, the response of the South African Department of Education (DoE) to HIV/AIDS. This required contextualizing this response in national as well as global terms. South African policies that impact on HIV/AIDS and the role of stakeholders in Education were focussed on. The various models of health behaviours were also examined.

The efficacy of the Department of Education's response was then evaluated by conducting an empirical study at selected schools. Areas focussed on were: educators’ and learners’ knowledge of HIV/AIDS-related issues, their attitudes to HIV/AIDS and persons with HIV/AIDS, as well as their health behaviours.

Research findings indicated that HIV/AIDS-related policies in Education were in place since 1999. The DoE, however, had not communicated these policies effectively to educators and learners, who were therefore unaware of the Universal Precautions related to safer behaviour practices in respect of HIV/AIDS. The DoE had not been effective in its response to HIV/AIDS in changing educator’ and learners’ risk behaviours.

Key Terms

HIV/AIDS; Efficacy; Education; Responses; Educators; Learners; Risk Behaviours; Health Behaviour Models; Attitudes; Knowledge
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DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to the following people:

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