

**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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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

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

**ORIENTATION, STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM AND GOALS OF
THE STUDY**

1.1.	Background	01
1.2.	Analysis of the Problem	03
	1.2.1. Awareness of the Problem	03
	1.2.2. Investigation of the Problem	05
	1.2.3. Statement of the Problem	09
1.3.	Aims of the Research	10
1.4.	Research Method	10
1.5.	Demarcation of the Research	11
1.6.	Clarification of Concepts	11
1.7.	Research programme	12

CHAPTER 2

RESPONSES TO HIV/AIDS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE WORLD, AND THEIR IMPACT IN CHANGING ATTITUDES AND RISK BEHAVIOURS

2.1.	Introduction	13
2.2.	The global response to HIV/AIDS	13
2.3.	South Africa's response to HIV/AIDS	13
2.4.	The Education sector's response to HIV/AIDS in South Africa	15
2.4.1	Schools as educational institutions	15
2.4.2	South African tertiary institutions' response to HIV/AIDS as part of the education sector	17
2.5.	Responses from other role players in education in South Africa	19
2.5.1	Educator unions' responses	19
2.5.2	Non-governmental Organizations' (NGOs) responses to HIV/AIDS in South Africa	20
2.6.	Current research findings with regards to HIV/AIDS and education	22
2.6.1	Legislation and training	22
2.6.2	A global perspective on educators' and learners' attitudes and behaviours with regards to the HIV/AIDS pandemic	26
2.6.2.1.	International research findings regarding educators' attitudes and behaviours	26
2.6.2.2.	International research findings regarding learners' attitudes and behaviours	30
2.7.	Evaluating the current status regarding HIV/AIDS in South African Schools	33

2.8.	Theoretical foundations of Health Behaviour	39
2.8.1.	Models of Health Behaviour	39
2.8.1.1.	Social Cognitive Theory	40
2.8.1.2.	Health Belief Model	40
2.8.1.3.	Theory of Reasoned Action	41
2.8.1.4.	Piagetian Cognitive Developmental Perspective combined with the Intuitive Theories' Approach	41
2.8.1.5.	Third Person perception and "Optimistic Bias"	43
2.8.1.6.	AIDS Risk Reduction Theory	45
2.8.1.7.	Redefining Actions and Decisions Model	45
2.8.2.	Concluding remarks regarding the theoretical foundations of HIV/AIDS-related behaviour	46
2.9.	Conclusion	47

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH DESIGN

3.1.	Introduction	49
3.2.	Problem statements and hypotheses	50
3.3.	Research design	53
3.3.1.	Research instrument: Questionnaire	54
3.3.1.1.	Structure of the questionnaire	54
3.3.1.2.	Composition of the items for the questionnaire	55
3.3.1.3.	Procedure with regards to the administering of the questionnaire	55
3.3.1.4.	Key to the questionnaire	55

3.3.2. Selection of the sample	56
3.3.2.1. Sampling method	56
3.3.2.2. Composition of the sample	56
3.3.3. The pilot study	57
3.4. Validity and reliability	57
3.4.1. Validity	57
3.4.1.1. Content validity	57
3.4.1.2. Face validity	57
3.4.2. Reliability	58
3.5. Conclusion	59

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF DATA 59

4.1. Introduction	59
4.2. Findings	59
4.2.1. Demographic data	59
4.2.1.1. Occupation of respondents	59
4.2.1.2. Ethnic groups	60
4.2.1.3. Gender	60
4.2.1.4. Age groups	61
4.2.1.5. Source of AIDS-related information	61
4.2.2. Problem statement 1	62
4.2.3. Problem statement 2	73
4.2.4. Problem statement 3	74
4.2.5. Problem statement 4	75

4.2.6. Problem statement 5	76
4.2.7. Problem statement 6	77
4.2.8. Problem statement 7	77
4.2.9. Open questions	79
4.3. Conclusion	86

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

5.1. Introduction	87
5.2. Conclusions	88
5.2.1. Conclusions from literature study	88
5.2.2. Conclusions from empirical investigation	90
5.2.2.1. Problem statement 1	90
5.2.2.2. Problem statement 2	92
5.2.2.3. Problem statement 3	92
5.2.2.4. Problem statement 4	93
5.2.2.5. Problem statement 5	93
5.2.2.6. Problem statement 6	93
5.2.2.7. Problem statement 7	93
5.2.3. Conclusions from literature study and empirical investigation	94
5.3. Recommendations	98
5.3.1. Recommendations regarding HIV/AIDS responses	98
5.3.2. Recommendations for future research	99
5.4. Limitations of the study	100
5.5. Summary	100

Bibliography

102

Appendices

110