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**RAMIFICATIONS OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG FEMALE ADOLESCENTS IN  
MISSION LOCATION, MNQUMA MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE.**

**BY**

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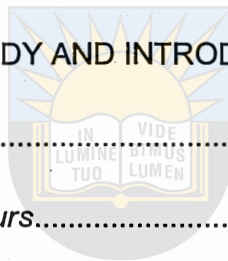
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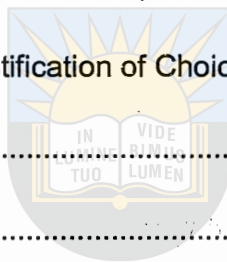
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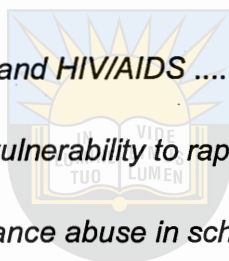
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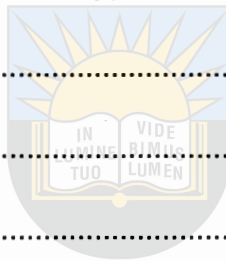
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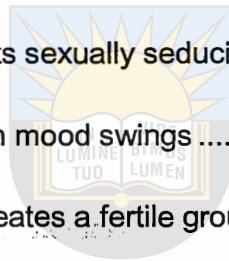
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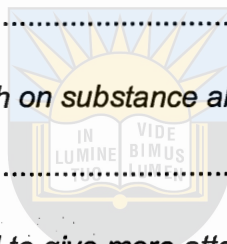
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## DECLARATION

I declare that "Ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mquma Municipality, Eastern Cape" is my own work and that all sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

Signature: *S. Bala*

Date: November 2016



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## DEDICATIONS

I dedicate this research project to my late father, Mr Sizwe Bala who passed away in 2002, to my Mother Nokaya Bala for being there as both a friend and a parent, and to my late young sister who passed away in 2015, to my grandmother who has made me who I am, Further dedications go to my siblings for their full unconditional support despite up and downs; and lastly to all my growing nephews, whom I hope they will one day read this research. Last but not least to my brother, Zimasa Bala for assuming a father figure in my life.



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## ABSTRACT

Substance abuse among adolescents is a major problem in South Africa and the whole world. The trend of using substances among adolescents in both genders is increasing in South Africa. Currently in South Africa, the females are also abusing substance equally to their male counterparts. This study explored the ramifications associated with substance abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location at Butterworth. The study intended to achieve the following specific objectives: (i) to document the types of substances used by female adolescents; (ii) To establish the behaviours associated with excessive substance abuse among the female adolescents; and (iii) To examine socio-emotional and psychological disorders caused by substance among the female adolescents.

The study used a qualitative approach, was explorative and descriptive in design used a case study as the specific research design. For data collection, the study employed in-depth interviews, focus groups, secondary data and key informants methods. The study used non-probability methodology of sample selection, but specifically, purpose sampling technique, and sampled (26) participants, which comprised of (7) female adolescents, (9) guardians or parents and community members, and (10) key informants. Data was analysed qualitatively through content thematic analysis.

The study revealed the following findings: high preponderance of substances among the female adolescents; alcohol being the most widely abused substances by adolescents of both gender divide; alcohol largely undermining the health of the youths of both gender divide to an extent that some youths were dying from it; nyaope drug being the most commonly abused drug; substance abuse causing most

adolescents to be sexually active when under influence of substance regardless of the consequences; adolescent's drug abusers being no longer in control of their states of mind or feelings; adolescents using substances being at a high risk of being harassed in many different ways.

The study made the following recommendations: A need for further research on substance abuse among female adolescents in rural areas rather than only focusing on males. A need for the government to balance its attention and equally consider focusing on rural schools rather than focusing only in townships. Perhaps, there are no NGOs serving most rural areas. Pin the youth to take responsibility for the future Government should strengthen its monitoring and evaluation machinery or mechanism to rural areas and schools. Role of social workers is needed critically, and their engagement on teaching people about negative effects of substances. The need of instituting awareness programmes. Government need to strengthen early prevention components. Role of parents is critically they should not abandon their role of teaching guiding the youngsters.

In this study's conclusion, the researcher hopes that all the objectives were adequately handled as they attempted as much as possible to lay bare all the possible ramifications associated with substance abuse.

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

**UNDC:** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**STDs:** Sexually Transmitted Diseases

**CDC:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**HIV:** Human Immunodeficiency Virus

**HCV:** Hepatitis C

**WHO:** World Health Organisation

**SUD:** Substance Use Disorder

**AIDS:** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

**NGO:** Non-profit Organisation

**SANCA:** South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence

**SACENDU:** South African Community Network on Drug Use

**CDA:** Central Drug Authority

**SACEN:** South African Community Epidemiology Network

**NPSs:** Novel Psychoactive Substances

**IDU:** Intravenous Drug Use

**SAPS:** South African Police Service

**DSD:** Department of Social Development



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## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AND INTRODUCTION

Notably, the world has been weighed down by the rapid increase in the consumption of substances among the adolescents and especially amongst school learners (Hser and Schulte, 2014). Seemingly, females are competitively taking substances as much as their male counterparts and this is becoming a major problem facing many different governments in Africa (Mohasoa, 2010). This change of events pertaining to substance abuse among the female adolescents has become one of the most disturbing health related phenomena in many countries of the developing world with South Africa being one of the most affected. However, the economic consequences associated with substance use or abuse among the adolescents of both gender divide have largely been documented by United Nations bodies (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2015).

Actually, the phenomenon of illicit practices such as increased substance abuse has sprung up as people embrace the changes that were ushered in after the 1994 democratic change dispensation. This is after a long stretch of oppression, and racial isolation (Owo, 2011). Notably, this spate of freedom has carried with it a considerable measure of political, monetary, and social change. While many feel liberated and are as yet basking in the euphoria of opportunity, others have mistakenly immersed themselves with the negative episodes of drug abuse that has resulted in many hazardous ramifications in their lives. This is because many who are caught in the trap of excessive substance intake face a lot of challenges, whether social, financial, and even enhancement of their psychosocial functioning (Sheafor and Horejsi 2008).

Today, it is gravely perturbing that South Africa is globally being regarded as the drug capital of the world as all kinds of precarious substances whether alcohol, dagga, Nyaope or whoonga, Tik, mandrax and cocaine are immensely being traded and abused, even in the institutions of higher learning (Mokwena and Huma, 2014). Observably, the consumption of these substances appears to have more perfidious effects to the females than to male adolescents (Mothibi, 2014).

Actually the most perturbing situation is that the past decade and a half has seen an increase in easy access and use of nyaope in South Africa as well as the devastating impact on the users of both gender divide. Such includes heightened anxiety, aggression, potentially deadly stomach cramps, sexual activity and pangs of sleeplessness (Kyei and Ramagoma, 2013). Shockingly, their substance abuse propensity additionally affect their parents and the significant others. The phenomenon, for example, jeopardizes their parent's public image as though they are the ones who have neglected to raise them well (Lai, Graham, Caldwell, Smith, Bradley, Vergnani and Wegner, 2013)

UNODC (2015) proposes that besides substance use disorder and complications, what people become of in their adult life is influenced by the choices they made in their adolescent stage. Perhaps this might determine to a large extent their future, their educational attainment and life skills development.

Since in many countries the problem of substance abuse has been gendered, this could perhaps have affected the interventions to deal with the challenge. This turn around reality, therefore, needs new focus so that the interventions towards mitigating substance use can disregard gender. However, the extent and reality to which females are competitively taking substances as much as their male

counterparts need more investigation and more awareness (Masombuka, 2013). It is critical, therefore, that interventions towards mitigating the quagmire become gender neutral.

Though substance abuse among the adolescents has been caused mainly by an array of challenges, socio-economic challenge being one of them, it is worrying in South Africa in that the institutions of higher learning face the greatest challenge of the rise in the abuse of substances by the adolescents (Renes and Strange, 2010). This has been noted to cut across both gender divide. Realistically, some female adolescents are involved in illicit substances as compliance to the lifestyles they desire to mimic especially from media (Shumba and Makura, 2014). This is largely due to peer pressure (Mothibi, 2014).

Despite South Africa's concerted efforts to control substance use among the adolescents, recent national survey data indicate that the use of substance is still on the rise (UNDC, 2015). This is despite the government's heavy investment in its fights as well as running and managing the rehabilitation centres. This researcher wishes this problem is sorted out timeously so that the money used in the substance campaign can be directed to other important development niches (Mohasoa, 2010). Approaching and putting in place interventions that would bridge the gender divide would be a sure way of addressing the substance consumption behaviour by the female adolescents in institutions of higher learning.

## **1.1 Preliminary Literature Review**

### **1.1.1 Adolescents Mal-Behaviours**

Eclectic literature on substance abuse among female adolescents suggests that they frequently engage in risky sexual behaviours. Among sexually active high school students, 22.1 percent reported having used substances prior to their most recent sexual intercourse (Hser and Schulte, 2014). In South Africa, the increase of the use of illegal drugs in schools such as alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and nyaope has been documented to result in the high failure rate at the end of academic year, with female adolescents apparently being affected more than their male counterparts (Jeram, 2011). Among the adolescent females, for example, substance consumption is also associated with myriad socio-emotional, psychological challenges such as adolescent stubbornness, deviance, lack of confidence and low self-esteem. Across both gender divide, it is assumed that there is a close link between the phenomenon of increased substance use and high rate of truancy, poor homework responses and lack of concentration by students during classes, aggression towards teachers and school drop-out (Mothibi, 2014).

Although substance abuse for both genders is believed to increase sexual conduct, but it appears to leave the female adolescents more vulnerable than their male counterparts. For female adolescents who abuse the substances, whether in or out of school, they are more pliable to engage in sex trade, but usually pseudo-prostitution. Largely also, female adolescents who abuse substances are likely to be easy prey for rape and other kinds of sex related abuses. This is because they may not adequately be able to negotiate for decent sexual engagement. Substances also

make them to expose themselves at the expense of their security (Wechsberg, Jones, Zule, Myers, Browne, Kaufman, Luseno, Flisher, and Parry, 2010).

### **1.1.2 Vulnerability to diseases**

Consequently, substance abuse among the female adolescents and their corresponding risky sexual behaviours has shown consistently strong associations with sexually transmitted disease (STDs) among female teens (Mothibi, 2014). Unprotected sex and history of sex with multiple partners is more likely among female adolescents (Samson, Karuki, and Nwenje, 2013). Recent data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show the magnitude of the risk, with young people accounting for over quarter of new HIV infection cases; and with almost 60 percent of those infected not knowing their HIV status (U.S. Department of Justice, National Drug Intelligence Centre, 2014).

Besides not using condoms, substance and needle sharing practices can lead to infection of HIV, hepatitis C and the other blood-borne pathogens. HIV and HCV infection rates specifically among crack cocaine users are also accounted for by sharing of pipes especially among users with open mouth sores (Makura and Shumba, 2014).

### **1.1.3 Psychological disorders**

It is an incontrovertible fact that an inextricable relationship between substance abuse and psychological disorders exists. Observably and realistically, drugs affect development of mental characteristics or the attitudes of an individual (Jeram, 2011). There are psychological developments which occur during the adolescence period of life, which can be expressed based upon the interplay between a set of three basic and universal changes and the context in which these changes are experienced

(Gunnarsson, 2012). These three sets of changes are biological, cognitive and social transition. Subsequently, substances can destroy such development (World Health Organisation, 2015). Female teens with substance use disorder (SUD) have been found to be about three times more likely to attempt suicide as compared to non-drug using adolescents (UNODC, 2015). Not surprising, substance abuse causes major psychological disorders including hallucinations, amnesia, delirium, and anger etc (Maguire, 2002).

## 1.2 Problem statement

Undeniably, societies especially those of developing part of the world have been overwhelmed by escalating issue of substance abuse among female adolescents. Alarmingly, alcohol and drug abuse in schools is becoming major problem the government is facing currently. Essentially, South Africa has an elevated rate of substance abuse among the adolescents in the globe, making it to attain the title the drug capital of the world. In fact, what is more perturbing is the unprecedented increase in the number of female adolescents abusing substances of different kinds, but hugely alcohol. While in many societies of the developing part of the world, drug and substance abuse has been a behaviour associated with males, the phenomenal increase in South Africa of female adolescents abusing the substances is worrying and pathetic. Actually, this is an indicator of rising incidences of moral decadence that does not augur well in the society. Disregarding gender divide, the preponderance of substance abuse by female adolescence just like the male adolescents has been associated with increased truancy, school drop-out; being victims of rape and other sexually related crimes, being vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and other diseases, prostitution, losing family attachment and other psychological and

emotional experiences as well as fatality risk associated with substances. Gravely, many female adolescents fall prey in unwanted pregnancies, usually resulting in other health perfidious acts such as unsafe abortion, a phenomenon that carries serious health spinoffs that may bring untold and grievous consequences in their future. The Mission location area is one of the areas cornered by the high obnoxious incident of substance abuse among adolescent females. Its proximity to Butterworth town has made easier access to the drugs of various kinds.

Furthermore, after my young sister died of drugs and because of the striking and painstaking phenomena pertaining to increase in female adolescents' abuse of substances in mission location, this researcher feel compelled to conduct a research study to contextually investigate the situation in a rural setting. He hopes that the paper will optimistically be a platform to raise the bell to all organisations, non-governmental and governmental organizations to vigorously consider looking into those prevalent gaps. The results also may be useful to the policy environment that caters to discourage substance abuse to the adolescents.

### **1.3 Aims and Objectives**

#### **1.3.1 Aim**

To explore ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mnquma Municipality, Eastern Cape.

#### **1.3.2 Specific objectives**

1. To document the types of substances used by female adolescents in mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.

2. To establish the behaviours associated with excessive substance abuse among the female adolescents in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.
3. To examine socio-emotional and psychological disorders caused by substance among the female adolescents in Mission Location, at Butterworth Eastern.

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

1. What types of substances are generally abused by the female adolescents in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?
2. What kinds of behaviours are associated with excessive substance abuse among the female adolescents in Mission Location in at Butterworth Eastern Cape?
3. What are the socio-emotional and psychological disorders are associated with female adolescents' substance abuse in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?

#### **1.5 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Welman, Kruger and Mitchell (in Van de Westhuizen, 2010), state that the research methodology explains the logic behind the methods and techniques employed in research study. Babbie and Mouton (2001) elaborates that research methodology focuses on the research process and kind of tools and procedures to be used on the study. Under methodology, the researcher discussed, research paradigm, research approach, research design, method of data collection, and data analysis.

### **1.5.1 Research Paradigm**

This study has applied a qualitative research paradigm. The qualitative approach has the following characteristics, ontologically, the research process is subjective, epistemologically, the researcher and the participants interact freely; axiological, the research process is value laden; methodologically, the research process is inductive; and rhetorically, the language used is personal. Qualitative approach assisted the researcher to get insight, feelings and personal views from participants about ramifications of substance abuse among female adolescents.

### **1.5.2 Research Approach**

The research approach enables the researcher to gain first-hand information from the participants. It is explorative and descriptive. The study used a qualitative research approach. Through this approach, the participants gave opinions, thinking, and perceptions about the phenomenon under the study. In this case participants have described their daily experiences about their children, or sibling's addiction to substances. This approach also allows the researcher to probe more into the participant's world. Qualitative approach also provides the researcher with an opportunity to assemble a detailed description of social reality from the participant's point of view.

### **1.5.3 Research Design**

Maree (2010) explains that the research design is the plan or strategy that the researcher uses to implement his or her study. He further explains that this plan is based on the researcher's approach. The concept "research design" refers to a plan or a blueprint of how one intends to conduct a research (Babbie and Mouton, 2001). The current study used a case study design. The case study method helped to

make direct observational in mission location and collect data from a few samples to generate more information in a natural setting.

#### **1.5.4 Method of Data Collection**

The following are the methods that were used in this study for data collection.

##### **1.5.4.1 In-Depth interview**

In-depth interview is a qualitative research technique that involves conducting intensive individual interviews with small number of participants to explore their perspectives relating to the study (Babbie and Rubin, 2013). For example interviewing people with experience and expectations related to drug phenomenon.

##### **1.5.4.2 Secondary Data**

Secondary data is that data that have been already collected and recorded by someone else and readily available from other sources (Babbie and Mouton, 2001). Secondary data has been used to strengthen the data. The researcher considered available data from journal articles, reports, policy papers commission and conference document papers.

##### **1.5.4.3 Key Informant method**

Key informant interviews are qualitative in-depth interviews with people who know what is going on in the community. Key informant method supplements the primary data (Babbie and Mouton, 2001). The researcher consulted people with better knowledge and experience in the study, specialists of the area and other relevant researchers.

#### **1.5.4.4 Focus Groups**

The focus group method which is also called group interviewing is essentially a qualitative method. It's based on structured, semi-structured and unstructured interviews (Babbie, 2014). It allows researcher or interviewer to question several individuals systematically and simultaneously.

#### **1.5.5 Instrument of data collection**

This refers to the tools used by the researcher to collect from informants. The researcher used an interview guide with structured questions (Mothibi, 2014).

#### **1.5.6 Data collection process**

The data collection process was cross-sectional. The researcher has collected the data within a short time frame, or is a once-off data collection process.

#### **1.5.7 Sampling methodologies and techniques**

There are two types of sampling methods namely: probability and non-probability. For the purpose of this research study, the researcher used non-probability sampling methodology. The non-probability sampling means not all the people in the population have equal chance or the same probability of being selected. Specifically he will use purposive technique (Babbie, 2007).

#### **1.5.8 Research domain and Justification of Choice**

The research was conducted in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape. Mission location is the rural area that is situated next to town and many of the youths especially the females are observably and increasingly abusing drugs.

### **1.5.9 Population under study**

A population is the electorates from which the researcher selects participants for the study (Van de Westhuizen, 2010). The research population was drawn from mission Location at Butterworth in Eastern Cape. The population was comprised of female adolescents who are currently abusing the substances, ex victims of substances, parents whose female children are abusing drugs, social workers, parents who are relatives of children taking substances, key personalities who know about the substances, community members, a few community leaders as well as church leaders and NGOs serve mission location.

### **1.5.10 Sample size**

A sample is made up rudiments or division of population considered for actual inclusion in the study. The participants are 26 in total.

### **1.5.11 Sample selecting criteria of inclusion and exclusion**

The researcher has included parents whose children previously abused substances residing in Mission Location at Butterworth in Eastern Cape, parents who are willing to participate in the study, female ex victims and current victims of substances abuse and the other family relatives who have female adolescents abusing substances in their homes; and also community leaders and, faith based organization leaders. Therefore, the parents who are not relative of the female substances abusers, children who are not taking substances, or those who never used to tackle substances, and parents who don't have female adolescents who are abusing substances in their homes were excluded.

### **1.5.12 Data analysis**

The study has adopted qualitative data analysis therefore the data was analysed in the form of thematic analysis. Data analysis is the process of bringing order, structure and meaning to the mass collected data (De Vos, 2005) Qualitative data analysis involves categorization, grouping rearrangement and ordering of data through coding (Babbie, 2014).

### **1.6 Significance of the study**

The findings of this study were used to educate female adolescents and their parents on the ramifications associated with the abuse of substances in Mission location and other rural areas in South Africa. Furthermore, the findings of this study helped educators, health care professionals, and other professional involved with adolescents to understand the prevalence of the adolescent substance abuse, associated morbidities and most importantly, to develop effective evidence-based strategies and policies that could be used to control the substance abuse phenomenon. The study has also widened the horizon of data in the domain.

### **1.7 Ethical Considerations**

Ethics in Social work research are defined as a set of moral principles which are suggested by an individual or group and are subsequently widely accepted, and which offer rules and behavioural expectations about correct and appropriate conduct towards experimental subjects and participants, employers, sponsors other researchers assistants and students (De Vos et al, 2005).

There are additional ethical issues that must be addressed in doing participant observation because of the close and sustained relationship between searcher and

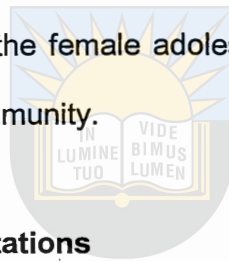
research (Babbie and Rubin, 2013). The informed consent of all those involved, it is crucial to attend what is required to prevent adverse consequences. Beyond this, there is issue of level of information participants in reference to the roles during the study personal information should be disclosed. Wherever possible the research participants are included as co-partners in the research study in as open and as equal. Disclosure range on a continuum from fully covert no one in the field setting is aware of the study to fully disclose everyone knows the specifics of the study. The participants should be informed and know how the data will be stored and used (Babbie, 2014). Feminist ethic is a way to deal with morals that expands on the conviction that generally moral speculating has underestimated or potentially undervalued women ethical experience and it in this way decides to rethink morals through an all encompassing women's activist way to deal with change it (Babbie and Rubin, 2013).

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### **1.8. Study Assumptions**

According to Tulu and Keskis, (2015) Study assumptions are the acknowledged data as sure to happen without proof about what is being researched. Importantly, assumptions are necessary and essential elements in proposal, because they enable the researcher to conduct the study. However, it is important for the researcher not to just assume what cannot be proven. Pragmatically also, the researcher must justify each assumption will likely to be met and was probably true, without that the study will have no value (Florence and Koch, 2011).

- Presumably, drug abuse among the adolescents can compromise their future of becoming better citizens in the society.
- Substance abuse is likely to compromise the academic progress of the students and therefore their lives.
- Substance abuse increases the chances of having fatherless children and compromises their human dignity.
- Substance abuse may create a fertile ground for the adolescents to be prone to HIV/AIDS contraction.
- Substance abuse among the female adolescents causes family conflict and promotes chaos in the community.



### **1.9. Study limitation and delimitations**

Limitations are constraints that are to a great extent outside the researcher's ability to control yet could influence the study result (Manu, Maluleke and Douglas, 2016). There are many factors that could lead to study limitations during the research process such as environment, refusal of participants to release certain information or because of the researcher's abilities to engage with participants (Mudavanhu and Schenck, 2014). The following are the limitations of this study:

- The major constraint in this study was the issue of finding female adolescents who were willing to participate in the study. Some participants were protective to release certain personalized information. To overcome this, the researcher used snowballing approach to reach out to the requisite female adolescents.
- Most of the parent participants preferred to answer all the questions in Xhosa language. The researcher, therefore, had to translate the questions and that

took some unexpected time. The researcher extended collecting time to overcome this.

- Most of parent participants were females and so the results of the study were gender skewed.
- Due to insufficient funds to adequately carry out the research study, the researcher used personal cell phone as a tape recorder.

### **1.10. Envisaged Chapters lay out**

An arrangement or plan stating how the research is organized. This research dissertation is organized into the following chapters:

**Chapter 1:** introduction to the research this chapter included the background regarding the study, aims and objectives, research questions, significance of the study)

**Chapter 2:** Literature and theoretical approach to the study (detailed literature review)

**Chapter 3:** Research methodology (this entails research design, methods of data collection, methods of data analysing and interpreting data and presentation of findings).

**Chapter 4:** Data analysis (this entails Comprehensive discussion of data analysis and presentation of findings).

**Chapter 5:** Discussion of findings, conclusions and e recommendations.

**Appendixes:** (this entails the map of study area, questionnaire used for data collection, interview guide and check list, ethical clearance certificate among any other relevant material)

**Reference:** This shows the books, articles, journals and other cited sources in this study

### **1.11. Summary of the chapter**

This chapter focused on an introduction and general orientation of the research in manner of proposing topic to be studied, including objectives, questions, and significance of the study. The next chapter provide an overview literature on ramifications associated with substance abuse among adolescent females.



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## **CHAPTER TWO: Literature review**

### **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

Undeniably, substance abuse is gradually becoming a norm in our society today. The problems arising from its use are numerous, leading to a crackdown in many spheres of lives in the society. Moreover, substance abuse affect individuals' thinking ability, making one to do things irrationally and cause change in an individual's body, interest, emotions or perceptions. In this chapter, literature relating to adolescent substance abuse will be discussed. However, although the idealised desirable literature should target the female adolescents as they are the gist of this research, unfortunately the domain in South African and African suffers dearth of literature on female adolescents, or it is little. Therefore, the literature on adolescents of two gender divide will be considered suffice to cater for female adolescents. Largely also, the presented literature review will be used to identify relevant concepts for defining the research problem, lay the foundation for this study, inspire new research ideas, and determine any gaps or inconsistencies in the body of research (Pilot, Beck and Hungler, 2004). The literature review will focus on the following aspects: a dichotomy of substances abused in South Africa; behaviours associated with excessive substance abuse by female adolescents and ramifications such as the socio-emotional and psychological disorders associated with substance abuse especially among the female adolescents.

#### **2.1. A Dichotomy of Substances Abused in South Africa.**

Largely, South African adolescents abuse different kinds of illegal substances whether alcohol, cannabis or dagga, nyaope or whoonga, tik, mandrax, and cocaine (Kang'ethe, 2014)

All these substances are extremely traded and abused by adolescents in South Africa. However, it is good to give caution against their use because these substances are legally prohibited making their use, possession or trading in any one of them a criminal offence (Mokwena and Fernandes, 2014). Seemingly, all these kinds of substances are known by different names in different areas in the country (United Nation Office on Drugs, 2010). These illegal substances will be discussed later in the chapter.

### **2.1.1. Prevalence of substance abuse among the adolescents**

The abuse of alcohol and other drugs among South African female adolescents has become serious concern in schools. According to the Central Drug Authority, the substance abuse rate in South Africa among adolescents is spiralling out of control (UNODC, 2010; South African Community Network on Drug Use (SACENDU) 2010). In fact, one in two school children have already experimented with drugs. In most cases, South African central Drug Authority (CDA) contends that children start dabbling in drugs at age twelve.

A study published in the Lancet Medical Journal found that more than 60 % of teenagers aged 18 years regularly drink alcohol (Gosh, 2013). This is worrying considering that these teenagers drink alcohol in taverns while they should be at school. The problem with drinking alcohol during one's teenage years is that it increases the likelihood of developing alcohol dependency later in life (Mokwena, and Huma, 2014). Perhaps the use of cannabis tops all the drugs in South Africa and among the teenagers, its use ranges between 2% and 9%. Additionally, figures from the YRBS show that the number of teens who abuse prescription drugs stands at

16%, while a further 0.2 % to 11.1% abuse inhalants (Lebese, Ramakuela and Maputle, 2014).

There is no doubt that substance abuse rate in South Africa is rising every year. Besides cannabis, some of the other widely available and abused drugs include heroin, marijuana, methamphetamines, and cocaine. Another increasingly popular drug is "Nyaope" which is a mixture of marijuana and heroin (Government Gazette South Africa, 2014).

### **2.1.2. Alcohol**

South Africa has one of the highest alcohol consumption rates per capita of any country in the world (Seggie, 2012). Realistically, alcohol remains an extremely potent substance that is used mostly during ceremonies and parties, resulting in high alcohol health related problems. Because of its social acceptability, alcohol is easily accessed by consumers even the adolescents of both gender divide (Masilo, 2012). Perhaps why many adolescents access alcohol is its assumed sense of inculcating happiness among the abusers, believed to take away shyness and bringing a feeling of well being. In many institutions of higher learning, students are away from parental supervision which often means they have a false unrealistic sense of freedom, during which they engage in attending bashes and parties where they feel pressured to also drink (Mogotsi, 2011). According to 2012-2016 National Drug Master Plan (Department of Social Development, 2013), alcohol remains the primary abused substance among the female adolescents. This is a huge concern because of the apparent result of its consumption such as the probability of one when he/she is tipsy engaging in unplanned sexual endeavours that can result in unprotected sex. This may also be a fertile ground for one to contract sexually transmitted diseases leading

to HIV/AIDS. Perhaps it is this phenomenon that has made the students in institutions higher learning of to be the most vulnerable segment of the population to HIV/AIDS in the country. This poses a huge challenge in institutions of as those who are caught in the melee of alcohol experiences modular failures, always having to take supplementary examinations and even repeating. This, undoubtedly defeats the vision and mission of the university to prepare students to be good citizens of the country (Kang'ethe and Mutopa, 2014; Kang'ethe, 2013).

### **2.1.3. Cannabis (dagga)**

According to the findings by the South African Community Epidemiology Network (SACEN) on Drug use (2010), cannabis (dagga) is still the most common illicit substance used in South Africa, especially among the adolescents. Cannabis or marijuana is an addictive hallucinogenic drug, which tends to be smoked. Largely, cannabis is more than any other drug likely to be the primary drug abused mostly by adolescents such as the high school students. Largely, it is most often smoked in rolled cigarettes ("joints") or in pipes, but some ingests it with food. In fact the consumption of cannabis in it is almost becoming an epidemic as the adolescents who use marijuana has geometrically increased over the years.

### **2.1.4. Methamphetamine (tik)**

Recently, crystal methamphetamine (known locally as "tik") is the second most widely abused substance in South Africa (Masombuka, 2013). It is a highly addictive synthetic psychostimulant that increases energy and feelings of euphoria, among other physiological effects (Panenka, Procyshyn, Lecomte, MacEwan, Flynn, Honer, and Barr, 2013). In South Africa, methamphetamine is primarily smoked using improvised glassware and is known as tik due to the ticking sound produced when smoked (Peltzer, Ramlagan, Johnson and Phaswana-Mafuya, 2010).

Globally, methamphetamine is the second most widely abused illicit drug after cannabis (dagga) (UNODC, 2012). It is a highly addictive synthetic psychostimulant that increases energy and feelings of euphoria, among other physiological effects. Thus, adolescents using it have lasting energy to stay whole night for bashes (Panenka et al., 2013). Methamphetamine first emerged in South Africa in the early 2000s, fuelled by economic, social and political changes after the end of apartheid (Peltzer et al., 2010; UNODC, 2012). Its use has increased steadily in the past decade, showing only a slight decline in recent years (Seggie, 2012). The prevalence of methamphetamine ("tik") use is highest in the Western Cape Province, with its epicentre in the city of Cape Town (Peltzer et al., 2010).

Clinical and epidemiological research in the United States (U.S.) has documented the deleterious physiological impact of methamphetamine use. Acute symptoms of use typically include increased wakefulness and physical activity, decreased appetite, hypervigilance, arousal, restlessness, aggression and violent behaviour, sleeplessness and reduced appetite (Panenka et al., 2013).

Methamphetamine is highly addictive, and over time, many methamphetamine users become dependent (UNODC, 2012). Chronic methamphetamine use has been associated with physical effects including extreme weight loss, severe decay and loss of teeth; cardio-pulmonary complications (Gosh, 2013), and complications related to pregnancy and childbirth (Jenness, 2011). Additionally, methamphetamine use has been associated with increased risk of mental health problems, including anxiety, depression, and psychotic symptoms, and global neuropsychological impairment, particularly of memory, attention, and executive functioning

(Government Gazette South Africa, 2014). Studies have also documented behavioural and affective changes associated with methamphetamine

#### **2.1.5. Nyaope (whoonga)**

Nyaope is a novel psychoactive product commonly abused by adolescents in South Africa whose unprecedented dependency is not fully understood. Diverse literature shows that South Africa has also experienced an increase in the prevalence of wider range of Novel psychoactive substances (NPSs), among which “nyaope” a relatively new South African illicit cocktail drug. Thus, many adolescents of both gender divide find it cheaper and attractive to consume. Perhaps a scaring growing phenomenon is the increased abuse by the female adolescents (Government Gazette South Africa, 2014). Household’s products such as rat poison, detergents, antiretroviral medications and paracetamol are reported to be added as it is believed that these make the drug to be more potent (Nyabadza and Hove-Musekwa, 2010). This, in South Africa, largely explains the high incidences of thieves ambushing many clients on their way back from the clinics where ARVs are dispensed (Kang’ethe, 2014).

However, the past decade and a half has seen an increase in an easy access and use of nyaope, as well as the devastating impact on the users. The uniqueness of nyaope or whoonga is that is largely and immensely consumed by South Africans and is not known in other countries. Racially also, its consumption is largely confined and almost limited to the black young people (Peltzer and Ramlagan, 2009). Seemingly, the dealers continue to decrease the quantities per fix and therefore sell a fix with little amount, in order to ensure and increase sales. This makes nyaope to be the cheapest illicit drugs in South Africa and easily accessible to many young people who are fascinated by the rush and euphoria that is provided by the drug, the

most popular way of using this drug in South Africa is smoking, traditionally called chasing dragon (Gosh, 2013).

Evidently, nyoape makes the users feel high and happy, prompts the users to feel euphoric usually followed by drowsiness and a feeling of relaxation. Observably also, continued use requires addicts to take increasingly stronger mixtures or increase the uptake frequency in order to get high. The phenomenon usually leads to them to be trapped by the intake and develop dependency on it. This is usually the turning point of one's life because becoming dependent means that one cannot continue in life without taking it. He/she then has to make sure he/she is always with those who have it and can use all mechanisms to ensure money to buy it is there. This also breeds a culture of petty crime. One's personality becomes weak and one may not be able to think rightly about important things in his/her life (Mokwena and Huma, 2013).

According to several South African media publications, the drug is known by different names in different areas of the country, including 'sugars' in Kwa Zulu Natal province, 'Ungah' in the Western Cape province, 'Pinch' in Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces, and 'Kataza' in Johannesburg and Eastern Cape (United Nations Office on Drugs, 2010). All the names refer to a cocktail that contains some amount of heroin and other substances, which is rolled with cannabis and smoked. (South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug use (SACEND) 2010).

However, due to the paucity of any formal studies on *nyaope*, scientific literature is unavailable and much of the information about it is obtained from media publications, workshops and awareness campaigns, or other materials from non-governmental organizations. Since *nyaope* is manufactured, mixed and sold illegally, there are no

specifications for the drug components and their amounts vary in composition, as well as the amounts of the various additives (World Health Organization, 2015).

## **2.2. Behaviours Associated with Excessive Substance Abuse**

Hugely and gravely, substance abuse has profound social consequences. But perhaps an unbridled consequence of substance abuse is that the phenomenon affects not only individuals who abuse them, but also their families, friends, various businesses and government resources (Singh and Singh, 2011). Perhaps a dangerous trend in South Africa is the increasing indulgence in substance abuse by the female adolescents. Observably, female adolescents become more temperamental when they are under influence of substances and are more likely to neglect their hobbies and interests that were once important to them (Mokwena and Huma, 2013). They for example are likely to engage in careless sexual encounters, be unable to keep stable relationships, and pursue other important life events such as doing ones institutional assignments. They are also likely to be rebellious and lose focus about their future. The phenomenon may also lead them to have unplanned pregnancies, engage in unlawful activities such as to procure abortion and become a subject of multiple and concurrent partners. This is largely because drugs make one tipsy and that creates a fertile ground for engaging in sexual encounters without serious thinking about the consequences. Perhaps this is why there is an inextricable relationship between drug abuse and the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS (Sonjani, 2014; Chatikobo, 2015).

### **2.2.1. The effect of substance abuse on moral decadency**

Perhaps a grievous state unshared by the consumption of drugs is that individual's sense of judgement is impaired making them to abandon or neglect what is expected of them. This implies that they weaken their grips on social norms and undermine both their ethical and moral position in life. This can easily lead them to slip into a state of moral decay and moral decadence (Allen, Chango, Szvedo, Schad, and Marston, 2012). This is where they completely do the opposite of what societies expect of them. Such people become rebellious, do not respect the rights of others, can be abusive, do what is shameful, become social burden and neglect even their personal responsibility completely. They largely neglect all aspect of the societal cultures that is expected of a normal person. This is serious because literature from Kang'ethe (2015) indicates a strong inextricable relationship between higher prevalence of HIV/AIDS in South Africa and the state of cultural attrition. Indubitably, an inextricable relationship exists between one's state of cultural attrition and states of moral decadence.

Apparently, South African societies are increasingly losing out on their ethical and moral standards, with increased abuse of substances contributing to the quagmire. The situation is more worrying because of increased abuse of substances by the female adolescents especially those in institutions of higher learning (Kang'ethe and Mutopa 2014). They are largely accepting states of moral decadence as a normative process in their lives.

Nyabadza and Hove-Musekwa (2010), however, believe that female adolescents do not show respect to elders when they are under influence of substances, they engage in all sorts of anti-social behaviours like kissing their boyfriends in public and sleeping over to their boyfriend's house as young as they are. These behaviours

according to Xhosa cultural constitutes immorality and serious aspect of cultural attrition that Kang'ethe indicates could be one of the factors largely driving higher prevalences of HIV/AIDS in many African countries with South Africa leading the pack (Kang'ethe, 2015). Jenness (2011) emphasizes that though alcohol is legal, but it is still embarrassing and shame to see young female drunk or walking around holding bottle of beer. Thus, when they are under alcohol influence, they consider the much societal morals and norms as both outdated and barbaric. Perhaps according to this researcher, this is the situation that the South African societies are heading to with no one raising eyebrows to the states of both moral decadence and cultural attrition (Kang'ethe, 2015).

The phenomenon of truancy especially among the female adolescents in institutions of higher learning has largely increased due to the increased habit of the youths of both gender divide largely indulging in substances. This usually manifest in students deliberately missing one or more classes. To this end, Lebese, Ramakuella and Maputle (2014) emphasize that a truant female student leaves home but does not get school or escapes from school (Foster, Caravelis, and kopak, 2014).

Student's non-attendance to classes is a problem that extends much further than the school. It affects the students, the family and the society on very high levels.

In South Africa, truancy has been identified as the most powerful predictor of delinquency and indiscipline among female adolescents who are involved in drugs (Lakhanpal and Agnihori, 2007). Absenteeism is detrimental to students' achievement, promotion, graduation, self-esteem and employment potential (Gunnarsson, 2012).

As a matter of fact, this truancy threatens students' academic performance, progress, and can serve as an indicator of dysfunction in many other areas of human endeavour (Department of social development Limpopo Province, 2013). If the matter is left unaddressed, truancy will contribute to a myriad of problems for young people during the school years and into adulthood. This is a phenomenon that makes the country defeats its goal to achieve Millennium Development Goal number two that envisages countries' general population achieving universal education (Bassey, Makinde, Ajani, and Olumide 2013)

Substance abuse is very expensive endeavour and can prompt female adolescents to lie, cheat and steal to finance their habit (Singh and Sing, 2011). Additionally, substance abuse is associated with misconducts that disrupt the maintenance of an orderly and safe atmosphere conducive to learning among adolescents. Most of female adolescents who abuse substances create a climate of apathy, disruption and disrespect for others (Panenka et al., 2013). They transform schools into market place for dope deals, which is associated with the disruption of school property and class disorder. Diverse literature contends that many female adolescents involved in substance abuse have impaired abilities to make health choices and decisions according to acceptable norms (Nyabadza and Hove-Musekwa, 2010; Chatikobo 2015; Sonjani 2014).

### **2.2.3. Sexual risk behaviours and HIV/AIDS**

It is naked truth that female adolescents experience age-desperation sex earlier than their male counterparts (Seggie, 2012). This phenomenon becomes worse when they have consumed substances. This term "age-desperate sex" refers to a relationship in which the age gap between sexual partners is five or more years (Mothibi, 2014). Eclectic literature on substance abuse among female adolescents

notes that substances drive or strengthen the drivers of sexual promiscuity (Mukaamambo and Ntseane, 2012). Being promiscuous exhibit an environment in which sex lacks intimacy and one becomes a subject of engaging in episodes of multiple partners (Graham, Caldwell, Smith, Bradley, Vergnani and Wegner, 2013). This can be explained by the fact that when females have consumed the drugs they become tipsy, makes wrong sexual oriented judgements and become subjects of sexually engaging with as many individuals as possible whom they will not accept in the event they are not dosed. The state does not allow an opportunity for negotiating for safer sexual practices. This largely heightens chances of one becoming infected with a sexually transmitted disease (Sonjani 2014; Jenness, 2011). Studies by Mokwena and Morejele (2014) indicate the behaviour one embraces under the impact of drugs usually has undesirable consequences, such as infection from sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea, syphilis, Candida and herpes.

It is an incontrovertible fact, therefore, that substance abuse continues to be a major factor in the spread of HIV/AIDS pandemic, and that female adolescents who drink alcohol are more likely to engage in risky sexual behaviours than those who do not (Masombuka, 2013). For example, Tik use contributes to greater risk behaviours of both heightened sexual energy while one is dosed. As a consequence, an alarming proportion of sex exchange for money or substances is very common among Sub-Saharan Africa in countries such as South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Mozambique, and Nigeria. Largely also, female adolescent girls in the above countries are involved in cross-generation sex (Mohasoa, 2010). When university female adolescents are dependent on substances, they may also take to pseudo-prostitution as means of making easy money to sustain their drug taking habits.

Undoubtedly, other young females engage in relationship with lesbians and wealthy older men and these decisions are influenced by alcohol consumption (Mohasoa, 2010). According to Chesang (2013) such female adolescents usually desire most expensive substances more especially alcohol that leads to transactional sex. Cruz et al (2012) stipulate that provision of financial resources to buy such substance introduces a power imbalance into sexual relationships, which for adolescent females, often means being less able to influence the timing and nature of sex. With diminished power because of their financial dependence, then these female adolescents have little power to insist on using condom.

Josephine (2014) emphasizes that adolescent females, even sleep with married men and they are more likely to get infections from these older people. Largely also, due to their immature genital tracts, they are more likely to be damaged during sex since age-desperate sex power dynamics makes it difficult for them to negotiate condom when they are drunk.

Undeniably, female substance abusers are likely to experience worse ramifications than males (Foster, Caravelis and kopak, 2014). For instance, female adolescents are more vulnerable to HIV infection because of the large area of mucous membrane around vagina (Maponyane, 2012). This therefore explains the phenomenon that women are more vulnerable to sexually transmitted infections such as HIV/AIDS than their male counterparts. The state of feminization of HIV/AIDS is even made grave by the empirical validation that men are five times more promiscuous than women (Kang'ethe, 2009). This then explains the phenomenon of feminization of HIV/AIDS as one of the hugest drivers of the epidemic in many Sub-Saharan countries such as South Africa (Kang'ethe, 2015; Kang'ethe and Chikono, 2014; Kang'ethe and Munzara, 2014).

Perhaps it is good to note the mythical believe harboured by the majority of female adolescents that consuming alcohol before sex motivates their sexual pleasure, increases and heightens their enjoyment or improve their sexual performance and hence they are even able to sleep with two or more partners in one night (Josephine, 2014).

Furthermore, the acute intoxicating effects of substance may increase impulsivity and cause inhibition, altering normal patterns of sexual behaviour and contraceptive use (Singh and Sing, 2011). Alternatively, both higher alcohol intake and higher rates of sexual behaviour reflect a general underlying predisposition to engage in reckless, impulsive behaviour (Seggie, 2012), and it may be possible that more general predisposition to recklessness explains the link between alcohol intake and sexual risky behaviour (Sonjani, 2014)

However, it is good to state that increasing levels of alcohol use may be related to the consequences of risky sexual behaviour amongst female adolescent such as the tendency for them to be victims of unplanned pregnancy (Mokwena and Morejele, 2014). While on the other hand several studies have shown links between increasing substance abuse and increased risk pregnancy, it needs to be noted that many women upon falling pregnant and unsure of the father of the child usually result in procuring abortion. Perhaps due to lack of finances to procure in a safe and hygienic way, some adolescents do back street abortion. This in many countries has been a receipt of health hazards and even deaths. Largely also, such a phenomenon carries trauma, despondency, normlessness and demeans the adolescent's ethical and moral standing (Kang'ethe and Khayundi, 2014). Furthermore, the adolescents may also be susceptible to cervical cancer or birth defects during delivery since their bodies are still not developed to carry the baby for 36 weeks (Weiten, 2011).

Other studies have shown that increased substance abuse among female adolescents was associated with decreased risk of pregnancy, possibly due to alcohol interference with fertility (South African National HIV Prevalence, Incidence and Behaviour Survey, 2012).

Largely and poignantly, substance abuse can spread HIV/AIDS through many different routes, for example through intravenous drug use (IDU) (Mohasoa, 2010).

Largely also, injecting drug users are at great risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, as they share contaminated syringes or injecting paraphernalia (Masombuka, 2013).

#### **2.2.4. Substance abuse and vulnerability to rape**

Largely, alcohol consumption has long been considered to increase individual's vulnerability to sexual victimisation (Weiten, 2011). According to World Health

Organisation (2015), approximately 2 out of every 6 female adolescents in South Africa have been victims of either rape or attempted rape. Many of these incidents

are perpetrated by strangers, and at least half of all acquaintance sexual assaults involve alcohol consumption by the perpetrator, the victim, or, most commonly, both

(Foster et al., 2014). Unsurprisingly, substance abuse can make female adolescents vulnerable to sexual related crimes. This is because under the influence of alcohol,

one may fail to easily understand his/her immediate environment, may not know where they are, or what happened to them. This largely increases their risk of

becoming a victim of sexual assault (South African National HIV Prevalence, Incidence and Behaviour Survey, 2012).

When a female adolescent becomes severely debilitated from excessive drinking, she cannot effectively resist an assault. Some female adolescents have been raped

when they are unconscious due to alcohol consumption (Gunnarsson, 2012).

Predatory men look for vulnerable females to rape, and drinking female adolescents are often viewed as sexually available, and many of the female adolescents do not afford to buy substances and then look for men who can afford. On the other hand, men believe that getting a female drunk is just an easy way to increase their chances of having sex with them (World Health Organisation, 2015). This does not in any way imply that women are responsible for sexual assaults perpetrated against them; but rather their possible falling victim of rape could have been prevented from happening if one was sober.

Largely, settings that promote heavy drinking may encourage lack of restraint in other areas as well, including sexually (Seggie, 2012; AfroAidsInfo, 2013). This may partially account for the connection between the number of sex partners a female adolescent has had and an increased risk for being sexually assaulted when intoxicated, since intoxication may increase female's exposure to potential assailants. Frequency of drinking before sex has also been associated with alcohol-involved sexual assault (Singh and Sing, 2011).

Ondieki and Moku (2012) state that though many female adolescents wear provocatively when they are going to parties in order to seduce men, they do not deserve being raped, although the phenomenon make them vulnerable. Observably, also, how they dance with men in the parties and clubs when they under influence of substances can also put them under the risk of rape. Perturbingly, many female adolescents who are abusing substances are fearless to walk alone even at night more especially when they are going to places where they can get substances to relieve their substance cravings. This largely heightens their chances of being raped (Department of Social Development Limpopo Province, 2013).

### **2.2.5. The outcomes of substance abuse in school performance**

The United Nations Office on Drugs (2010) noted that alcohol is most widely used among the young people. This is corroborated by the National Master Plan of 2012-2016 (Department of Social Development, 2013) by agreeing that students as a subset of the youth population consume large quantities of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs compared to other population segments. Cruz, Emery, and Turkheimer (2012) posited that premarital sexual practices and drug abuse constitute social ills that have been age-long problems in the secondary school system. Chesang (2013) equally confirmed that drug abuse has been identified as a serious constraint to effective teaching and learning process in South Africa. Today, all over the world, the problem of alcohol and other drug use by adolescents, and especially amongst school learners is recognised as one of the greatest challenges of the contemporary South Africa.



Worryingly, for long time, South Africa as a developing country has been faced by a spate of poor academic performance (Owo, 2011). Regrettably, all these years, the blame has been levelled against the teachers for not doing their work properly, poor infrastructure and inadequate facilities at school. But however, there has been a realization that the phenomenon of the prevalence, substance abuse among the adolescents has been the underlying factor behind students' mal-performance (Tulu and Keskis, 2015).

Substances among female adolescent has been regarded as a cankerworm that has eaten deep into the fabrics of the educational programmes and has caused a lot of setbacks for secondary school and tertiary female adolescent students in their educational pursuit (Ajayi and Ekundayo, 2010). Observably also, students in South

African institutions of higher learning have become an embarrassing occurrence to parents, schools, government authorities and the society at large. Lebeso, Ramakuela and Maputle (2014), opined that any absence from school without an acceptable reason is truancy that leads to potential delinquent activity, educational failure that can result in school suspension or dropout.

A large number of studies have tried to investigate the direct and indirect causal links between consumption of addictive substances and poor educational attainment (Iwamoto and Smiler, 2013). Largely, alcohol and drug consumption may have some detrimental effects on female adolescent's cognitive abilities (Tuwei, 2014). Based on the findings of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2015), drug and alcohol consumption may for instance be responsible for shifting individuals' resources away from schooling through suffering from impairment of short-term memory and other intellectual faculties, impairment tracking ability in sensory and perceptual functions, generally impaired classroom performance.

More importantly, reduced cognitive efficiency leads to poor academic aspirations, resulting in a decrease in self-esteem and the adolescent may eventually drop out from schools altogether (Lakhanpal and Agnihori, 2007). Subsequently, adolescents who abuse drugs may undermine and neglect their schoolwork making them less likely to attend classes or keep up within their studies. They are less likely to value the academic achievements; they expect less academic success and do, in fact obtain lower grades (UNODC, 2015).

It is glaringly an incontrovertible fact that heavy drinkers among female adolescents have negative impacts on schooling achievement as they reduce the time spent while studying. This makes them reduce chances of graduating even from a high

school rather than receiving a general education diploma. In most cases, female adolescent students who abuse substances are more likely to be found cheating during examinations with some having to write notes in their body parts (Cruz, Emery, and Turkheimer, 2012).

### **2.2.6. Substance abuse and violent behaviour**

It is the most commonly known fact that substance abuse changes the behaviour of a person. Subsequently, violence among the female adolescents who are using substances has risen slightly (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2015). Even though the state of bullying and harassment are not new issues that students and schools face and has usually been associated with males, but recently even females bully each other, more especially those who are abusing substances. In most instances, violence among females can be verbal rather than physical. Further, other researches show that young girls have been involved in physical fight over a man when they are drunk (South African National HIV Prevalence, Incidence and Behaviour Survey, 2012). Masilo (2012) opined that female adolescents who are using marijuana and alcohol were almost twice likely to get involved in fights than those who are not using substances.

### **2.2.7. Behavioural aspect associated with fatality risk**

Although the scientific evidence is scanty, there is an inextricable link between substance abuse among female adolescents and suicidal behaviour. Diverse writing, however, contends that a large number of the female adolescents due to the effects and impacts of drug use have been found to harbour suicidal ideation, or even execute suicide (Florence and Koch, 2011).

Largely, some drugs such as marijuana and nyaope are more prone to facilitate suicidal ideation, or even drive them to execute suicide. However, excessive and persistent use of alcohol has also been found to have a negative impact on brain reasoning, make the adolescents be easily angered with a possibility of developing some suicidal ideation (Seggie, 2012). Inarguably also, there is an apparent inextricable relationship between adolescent alcohol abuse and suicide. Alternatively, it is possible that substance use is associated with higher levels of disinhibition, impulsivity and aggression that in turn are associated with conduct problems that promote risk for suicidal behaviours (Cuzen, Koopwitz, Ferrett, Stein and Yurgelun-Todd, 2015).

Equally important is the fact that excessive abuse of alcohol by the female adolescents is associated by a possibility of them sleeping with many different men in short space of time, or others easily becoming victims of rape. This raises their probability to contract sexually transmitted diseases. It is upon realizing the dangers they have put themselves later when they sober up that make them be depressed, a situation that can easily prompt suicidal ideation as a way of escaping public embarrassment (Florence and Koch, 2011).

Undoubtedly, excessive drug use cause different kinds of bad hallucinations which increase the probability of one to commit suicide. It is not uncommon for those drugged to unconsciously jump from higher heights after smoking marijuana. Perhaps the probability of committing suicide by those under the influence of drugs is exacerbated by incidences of the adolescents as well as adults losing hope of having a better life, especially after having encountered many episodes of embarrassment, poverty and other forms of discouragement that drives them into a state of apathy. For some adolescents, the incidences of persistently performing poorly in school

could also prompt suicidal ideation as channel to run away from facing the reality (Radović-Radovčić S, 2013).

Moreover, men also exacerbate the situation of female adolescents drug use by providing them with alcohol and other drugs so that they can easily sleep with them with ease (Josephine, 2014). Inarguably, it is more dangerous to mix different drugs or to mix drugs with alcohol. Evidently also, female adolescents using substances are at a greater risk of being abducted (human trafficking) for involuntary prostitution and for drug trafficking (Lutya, 2010).

### **2.3. Economic consequences associated with substance abuse among female adolescents**

Indubitably, the effect of substance abuse among female adolescents and its impacts on society pose horrendous and pinching effects in the economy (Lutya, 2010). Undeniably, substance abuse among the female adolescents inflicts immeasurable harm on public health and safety, and threatens the peaceful development and smooth functioning of South Africa (Onya, Tessera, Myers and Flisher, 2012). This is because the phenomenon of drug abuse requires societies to dedicate resources to evidence-based prevention, education and interventions, including treatment and rehabilitation.

On account of immense cases of drugs especially among the youths of both gender divide, currently South Africa is spending billions and billions to run and manage rehabilitation centres for those who have become abnormal and failed to psychosocially function (Florence and Koch, 2011). The phenomenon also paints the country bleak especially from the international community who may be an asset of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the country. Besides, South Africa is currently

producing few graduates in the world, and substance abuse could one of the possible underpinning (Owo, 2011).

## **2.4. Socio-Emotional and Psychological Disorders**

Perturbingly, South Africa is facing a massive increase in substance abuse making the country to be globally called the drug capital of the world (Mnyipika, 2014). Worryingly, substance abuse especially among the youths has been identified as important issue to be dealt with (Masombuka, 2013). Perturbingly also, adolescents' substance abuse holds a number of negative implications for the mental development as well as one's psychologically well being. On the other hand, adolescents are attracted to drugs because drugs help them to adapt to an ever-changing environment (Foster, Caravelis and Kopak, 2014).

### **2.4.1. Substance abuse and Cognitive development**

Largely, substance abuse interferes with good nutrients supply to the brain and may result in brain damage, which is done in cognitive and formal manner (Hendricks, 2015). Excessive alcohol use among many female adolescents cause the brain to be premature and the learner may lose up to 10 years life (Foster, et al, 2014). In the same way, substance abuse among female adolescents impairs their memory as well as their problem solving abilities (Jeram, 2011). This has grave consequences on scholastic and other academic achievement as well as appropriate life decisions that have to be made.

Additionally, substance abuse among many female adolescents has eroded their self-discipline necessary for learning. They usually experience problems with reading, calculating writing and incorporating new concept into knowledge structure (Tuwei, 2014). Mokwena and Morejele (2014) emphasize that female adolescent who abuse alcohol finds it more difficult to be cautious and to use good judgement to

protect themselves. It becomes difficult to think clearly because the more they drink, the more slowly their brain works. Sadly, dagga smoking causes memory loss, and users usually lack initiative, motivation and concern about the future (Tuwei, 2014). Stress reduction that occurs after consuming alcohol can result in part from alcohol's physiological effects on thought processes (Gautam, 2012).

#### **2.4.2. Substances and their psychological effects**

Chesang (2013) points out that it is important to note that all illicit substances are dangerous and any deliberate ingestion of drugs is harmful to individuals' psychological program. Largely, most female adolescents use substances with friends so that they can feel more sociable or pleasurable. However, once substance abuse becomes a fully-blown addiction, the individual may begin to find it damaging to their mood than being helpful. Incidentally, all female adolescents who abuse substances often experience battle with emotional instabilities (Basey, Makinde, Anjani and Olumide, 2013). Consequently, they may become hostile to their families, friends, lecturers and everyone around them.

Largely, alcohol among the female adolescents as they are still psychological developing, acts on the body primarily as a depressant and lowers their brain activity. To this end, Chesang (2013) further notes that female adolescents who have used alcohol excessively will damage or even kill body tissues including muscles and brain cells. Cannabis or marijuana is known to cause hallucination among many female adolescents. To this end, the National Master Plan of 2012-2016 (Department of Social Development, 2013) further emphasizes that some female adolescents who use cannabis usually experience impaired perception or reduce short term memory, disturbed judgement, mind disorders, a feeling of well-being and euphoria, pleasant feeling of excitement.

## 2.5 Theoretical Framework

Theoretical framework is a concept-mapping exercise used to illustrate how to theorize or make sense of the relationships between concepts or variables identified as important to the research problem (Babbie and Rubin, 2013). Theoretical framework refers to a set of interrelated constructs, definitions, and propositions that present a systematic view of phenomena specifying relations among the variables.

In order to explore the level of the study, certain theories need to be used. The current study will employ social learning theory. This theory is deemed appropriate as it seems to capture important aspects central to the current study. Moreover, social learning theory has been identified as playing an important role in the knowledge of substance abuse among the adolescents.

### 2.5.1 Social learning theory

The premise of social learning theory was the work of Albert Bandura (Schultz and Schultz, 2013). Social learning theory asserts that behaviours and attitudes develop in response to reinforcement and encouragement from those around us (Andersen and Taylor, 2008). This is perfectly applicable because substance use and their abuse in institutions of higher learning is a reflection of peer pressure where adolescents in the process of seeking group identity find themselves mimicking what the others are doing, irrespective of the consequences.

The emphasis in social learning theory is on the influence of the environment. This cannot be truer in a world of today where environments such as the media and the access of various organs of the information technology such as pornography have an immense influence on the adolescents' behaviours. Perhaps the media creates

idol characters that may be abusing substances. Then in trying to mimic and admire them, an adolescent easily adapts an undesirable behaviour such as substance taking and substance abuse.

Pragmatically also, easy access of alcohol and many other different drugs to the youth in South Africa provides a huge factor in wooing many to be entrapped in a cage of drugs and substance abuse. But parents also share some sizeable blame in the habit of their children of both gender divide. Regrettably and ironically, many parents have demonstrated tolerance to alcohol use among their adolescent children during parties and other occasions. In South Africa, there is an unfortunate culture of normalizing illicit behaviours, whether its abuse of substances, dating and other morally and ethically nauseating habits. The state of moral and ethical decadence appears to be taking a huge toll (Kang'ethe, 2015).

Bandura also emphasizes that behaviour can be changed by altering the social environment that encourages an undesirable behaviour (Engler, 2014). This is very applicable in this study because the government, NGOs and all the organizations that fight to discourage substances wish to advocate for change of the environment that motivates abuse of the substances. Perhaps this is why organizations such as SANCA (South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence) try to point out to the substance victims the need to change the environments such as one's spoilt peers as a way of reducing negative behaviour reinforcing factors. Bandura in his is work considers the formation of identity to be a learned response to external social stimuli (Andersen and Taylor, 2015). This is true and applicable to the current research because the picking of a substance consuming behaviour is indeed a result of external or extrinsic motivation. However, it need be pointed out that the strength of an external or extrinsic motivation reinforces or informs an intrinsic

response, especially when one becomes an addict and is engaged or trapped by the behaviour.

Social learning theory believe that crime is a product of learning the norms, values and behaviours associated with criminal activity, and social learning can evolve the actual techniques of crime (how to use and sell drugs) (Siegel, 2015). This is applicable because the abuse of substance in institutions of learning ends up making the consumers to get involved in various kinds of criminal activities such as stealing items in order to raise money to buy the substance. Importantly, some female adolescents would be involved in pseudo prostitution as a way to raise money.

## **2.6. Summary of the study**

This chapter focused on a literature review with specific focus on; prevalence of substance abuse among youth; behaviours associated with substance abuse, immoral decadence associated with substance abuse, violent behaviours and socio-emotional and psychological disorders associated with substance abuse. In the chapter to follow will describe research methodology.

## CHAPTER THREE

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.0. INTRODUCTION

This chapter outlines the research methodology used by the study. Creswell (2014) opined that the research methodology clarifies the rationale behind the strategies and procedures utilized in a research study. Bryant (2015) explains that research methodology concentrates on the examination procedure and a sort of apparatuses and systems to be utilized on the study. Under methodology, the specialist wishes to talk about research approach, research paradigm, research design, methods of data collection, and data analysis.



#### 3.1. Research Approach

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Research approach is the scientific method used to tackle certain research perhaps, research approach determine the whole research including its methodological procedure (Owo, 2011). There are two types of approaches qualitative and quantitative approach. Therefore, this research utilized qualitative approach.

##### 3.1.1. Qualitative approach

Indubitably, a research approach empowers the researcher to increase direct data from the participants. The current research used a qualitative research approach. This study applied a qualitative examination of worldview to discover the prevalences of substance abuse among the female adolescents in Mission Location, a rural area falling at Butterworth. In contrast to a quantitative approach, qualitative approach is personal and inductive in nature (Creswell, 2014). It is because the study espouses to tap the opinions, thinking, perceptions, insights of the participants on the

ramifications associated with the female adolescents abusing substances. It is what the participants will subjectively say that will constitute the findings of the research study. The study also fulfils the quality of induction because it is what the participants hold from their hearts that will constitute the research findings. This means that even if the researcher has a part to play in the outcome of the findings, it is fundamentally what the participants mean to the study through their views and insights that will constitute the findings.

This researcher further explained that qualitative approach has an adaptability that permits the researcher to accumulate information on points not at first recognized. Qualitative approach also focuses on qualities of human behaviour and not on the quantitative measurable aspects of human behaviour (Rubin and Babbie, 2010). In qualitative research, consideration is paid to the effect of the researcher's and others' values over the span of the investigation, instead of assuming the likelihood of worth free request. This approach is also sensitive to context, rather than seeking universal generalisations. Contrastingly, information produced does not sum up to other individuals or different settings, but discoveries may be exceptional to the moderately few individuals incorporated into the exploration study (Creswell and Clark, 2011).

Rubin and Babbie (2015) further expand that qualitative techniques might be more appropriate when adaptability is required to concentrate new wonder about which people know practically nothing, or when people try to pick up understanding into subjectivity of complex marvels to propel people's conceptualization of themselves and fabricate a theory that can be tried in future studies. This approach utilizes open ended questioning, questions that do not have restricted set of responses, but instead participants share their own responses in their own words (Engel and Schutt,

2010). Perhaps the quality of research is heavily dependent on the skills of the researcher and can be easily influenced by personal idiosyncrasies and biases of researchers.

Qualitative approach entails catching the individuals' perspective through point by point talking and perceptions (Bryant, 2015). As opposed to quantitative strategies, subjective reactions are basic discoveries, both in participants' reactions and observers' responses. In the current study, the encounters of members, including their motions and tone, were recorded utilizing a tape and field notes. Along these lines, qualitative technique is sensible in this study in light of the fact that the research questions required investigation of the event and complexities of substance use. Qualitative research method place primary emphasis on the saturation that means obtaining a comprehensive understanding by continuing to sample until no new substantive information is acquired. It respects the principle of saturation (Creswell and Clark, 2011).

In contrast to the aforementioned, Creswell and Clark (2011) contend that the very presence of the researcher may affect the validity of the data provided by subjects. When a new member is introduced into an interaction, reactive effect can be expected and participants may behave abnormally (Kendall, 2015). They may seek to reveal themselves in the best possible light or withhold or distort certain information. In other words, the researcher creates social behaviours in others that would normally not have occurred.

In the light of the previously stated depictions of qualitative research and its attributes, the researcher reached the conclusion that the qualitative examination philosophy is adaptable and non-sequential and in this way appropriate to answer

the research questions. It is considerably more appropriate when working with individuals, particularly if the researcher (as on account of this study) went about as a dynamic audience, whilst the participants as the "experts" shared their encounters and bolster needs in regards to their female children's dependence on substances.

Furthermore, in this study, the ridings of the searcher and the participants connected unreservedly in an attempt to discover new explanations of the phenomenon under study. The qualitative approach is usually explorative and descriptive. The study utilized qualitative examination approach (Rubin and Babbie, 2010). Through this approach, the participants made assessments, considerations, and observations of the phenomena under the study. In the current research undertaking, the female adolescents, some parents and community members and some key community members made the assessments of their drug taking phenomenon. This was to solicit data that was rich enough, valid and reliable (Creswell, 2014). For this situation, participants portrayed their day by day encounters about substance abuse as well as their kids, or kin's dependence on substances. This approach likewise permitted the researcher to test more into the participants' reality. Qualitative approach likewise furnishes the researcher with a chance to gather the nitty grittes and therefore portrayal of social reality from the participants' perspective (Wagner, Garner, and Kawulich, 2016). In this study, the researcher utilized an explorative and descriptive research configuration to gain understanding of participants about research study.

### **3.1.3. Explorative research**

Explorative examination tries to figure out how individuals get along in the setting being referred to, what implications they provide for their activities, and what issues concern them (Engel and Schutt, 2010). Creswell (2014) states that exploratory examination is utilized to research a domain where little learning exists. In this study, little was known about the female adolescents' experiences and consequences regarding their addiction to substances. As indicated by Neuman (in Grinnel and Unrau, 2011), the general objective of exploratory examination as clarified beneath pushes the researcher to become familiar with basic facts, people and concerns involved, in order to develop a well-grounded mental picture of what is occurring. In contrast, for explorative research, the data collection methods are informal and lack precision (Marlow, 2010).

### **3.1.4. Descriptive research**

Descriptive research is a study intended to depict the participants in a precise way, all the more basically, descriptive research is about depicting individuals who participate in the study (Creswell, 2014). Perhaps this type of research describes what exists and may help to uncover new facts and meaning.

In a clear qualitative study, the researcher watches and after that depicts what was watched. In qualitative studies, the researcher probably alludes to a thicker examination of wonders and their more profound implications (Marlow, 2010).

Qualitative depictions have a tendency to be more worried with passing on a feeling of what it's like to stroll in the shoes of the general population being portrayed giving rich insights about their surroundings, communications, implications, and ordinary lives than with summing up with exactness to a bigger populace (Rubin and Babbie,

2010). As per Engel and Schutt (2010), descriptive research normally includes the social affair of realities.

The study therefore described the underpinning background conditions that prompted female adolescents abusing substances, allowed them to describe their thinking. In the same measure, their parents and the key informants also described the meaning of adolescents' females abusing the substances and possibly what it meant in their lives, their societies and the country at large.

### **3.2. Research Paradigm**

Research paradigm can be defined as the wide structure, which comprises recognition, beliefs and understanding of a several theories and practices that are utilized to lead a research (Rubin and Babbie, 2012). It can likewise be portrayed as an exact technique, which includes different steps through which a researcher makes a relationship between the research goals and questions. According to the definition given by Gorand (2013) research paradigm is a state of mind about and directing a research. The study has applied qualitative approach and has the following characteristics:

#### **3.2.1. Characteristics of Qualitative approach**

Rhetorically, the study allowed the participants' personal voice to reveal the deeper things from their hearts. This was enabled by the researcher's strong rapport orientation that made the participants to trust him and therefore bring to the fore what they thought the phenomenon of drug abuse among the female adolescents meant. Perhaps this is clear because in qualitative study, the primary data gathering instrument is frequently the researcher himself/herself. This brings the need to guard and check the phenomenon of researcher bias and researcher competency,

because if unchecked, they could influence the trustworthiness of the data considerably (Engel and Schutt, 2010). Qualitative methodology is a means for exploring and understanding participants' emotions, attitudes, thinking. This study explored the attitudes and thinking of participants pertaining to the ramifications of substance abuse among female adolescents (Marlow, 2010).

The study also took care of ontological factors. Ontology refers to the way the participants see the reality of the phenomenon under the study. It is the reality that they come up that shapes the study findings in a qualitative research (Engel and Schutt, 2010). This implies that investigating ontological qualifications is a critical aspect of the research procedure since it empowers the researcher to reveal subjectivity in a study. This is because qualitative approach allows subjectivity of the participants.

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The study also recognized axiological values. Axiology means values attached to a study. Since the current study is qualitative, the results of the participants will be value laden, meaning that the final results must accommodate some biases from different participants (Yin, 2013).

The study's epistemological position is critical. This is because one's epistemological position mirrors the perspective of what is known about the world and how knowledge should be interpreted (Kendall, 2015). This being a qualitative approach study, it is good to indicate that the researcher as the primary data collection instrument has the authority to freely interact with the participants. This gives him/her an opportunity to make observations of some nuances that would be difficult to bring to the fore if one keeps a distance from the participants. Methodologically, qualitative

paradigm is hermeneutical; argumentative and logical variables are portrayed (Daniel, 2012).

### **3.3. Research Design**

Lichtman (2014) clarifies that the research design is the arrangement or methodology that the researcher uses to actualize his or her study. The idea "research design" alludes to an arrangement or a plan of how one expects to lead exploration (Engel and Schutt, 2010). The ebb and flow of the current study utilized a case study design. The case study technique enabled the researcher to make direct observations of the female adolescents in mission area and gather information from a few samples to create more data in a characteristic setting.

Case study is the research strategy empowers a researcher to nearly analyze the information inside a particular setting (Yin, 2013). Much of the time a case study strategy small geographical area or an extremely predetermined number of people as the subjects of study. defines the case study research method "as an empirical inquiry that investigates a contemporary phenomenon within its real-life context; when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident; and in which multiple sources of evidence are used (Grinnell and Unrau, 2011). However, case studies provide little basis for scientific generalisation since they use a small number of subjects, some conducted with only one subject (Daniel, 2012).

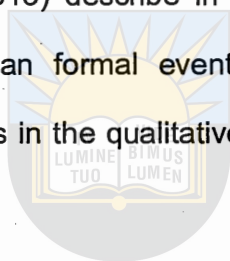
### **3.4. Method Data Collection**

Data collection method is the procedure of gathering and measuring data on focused variables in a built up deliberate design, which then empowers one to answer

applicable relevant questions and evaluate outcomes (Daniel, 2012). The following accompanying strategies were utilized:

#### **3.4.1. In-Depth Interview**

In-depth interview is a subjective examination strategy that includes leading escalated singular meetings with a little number of participants to investigate their points of view identifying with the study, for instance talking with individuals with experience and desires identified with substance abuse marvel (Babbie and Rubin, 2013). Maxfield and Babbie (2015) describe in-depth interviewing as typically a conversation with a purpose than formal events with predetermined response categories. Conversely, interviews in the qualitative method needs much more time than a questionnaire.



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#### **3.4.2. Secondary Data**

Secondary data is that information that has already been gathered and recorded by another person and promptly accessible from different sources. Auxiliary information is usually utilized to reinforce the information a researcher is interested in (Marlow, 2010). In the current study, the researcher accessed information from diary articles, reports, arrangement papers as well as archive papers. Nevertheless, secondary data often does not apply to the specific problem being investigated as it is a collection for other purpose. Largely also, the accuracy of secondary data is questionable as research errors are possible in data collection and analysis (Wiid and Diggines, 2015).

### **3.4.3. Key Informant Method (KIM)**

Key informant method constitute of subjective inside and outside meetings with individuals who comprehend what is happening in the group. Key informants who are usually personalities well-grounded with information about the domain being investigated supplements the essential information obtained during a research study (Bryant, 2015). The researcher investigated individuals who were considered knowledgeable and resourceful in the domain under investigation. The study enlisted those personalities who are adequately knowledgeable in matters of substance abuse. This included members of South African Police who are responsible for narcotics, and social workers who handle those who are vulnerable to substances.

### **3.4.4. Focus Groups**

A focus group could be defined as a group of interacting individuals having some common interest or characteristics, brought together by a moderator, who uses the group and its interaction as a way to gain information about a specific or focused issue (Wiid and Diggins, 2015). It depends on organized, semi-organized and unstructured meetings (Babbie, 2014). It permits specialist or questioner to scrutinize a few people methodically and at the same time. Ideally, a good focus group ought to accommodate somewhere around six and twelve members so that the gathering is sufficiently little for all individuals to talk uninhibitedly and share their idea, along these lines that will get more top to bottom data (Bryman, 2015).

Advantageously, focus group allows the researcher to collect an appropriate amount of data in a short period of time, in spite of the fact that one cannot contend with full conviction about the spontaneity of the contributions from the participants (Engel and Schutt, 2010). To the contrary, participants in focus groups might fear embarrassment, some participants may be self-conscious about expressing certain

opinions that are different from those of other members of the group, and a form of peer pressure may therefore be present, which may result in some group members giving answers that reduce the potential embarrassment rather than expressing their true thoughts or opinions (Wiid and Diggines, 2015).

### **3.5. Instrument of Data Collection**

This alludes to the devices or tools utilized by the researcher to gather from witnesses. The researcher utilized an interview guide with organized inquiries. According to Howell (2013) interview guide is an instrument conveying orderly arrangements of organized questions used to gather data from various participants.

Pragmatically also, interview guide help the researcher to direct the conversation toward the topics and issues which the research seeks to learn about (Rimando, Brace, Namageyo-Funa, Parr and Sealy, 2015). Interview guides vary from highly scripted to relatively loose, with features that help the researcher to know what to ask about, in what sequence, how to pose questions, and how to pose follow-ups. They provide guidance about what to do or say next, after interviewee has answered the last question.

### **3.6. Data Collection process**

The information accumulation procedure was cross-sectional. The researcher gathered information inside a brief timeframe, or the process was a once-off data collection process. Lichtman (2014) states that cross-sectional studies offer several advantages on a study, are cheaper and can be carried out faster, and also allow the researcher to examine multiple factors and multiple outcomes in one single study. The strength of cross-sectional studies is that when they are based on a

representative sample of the population, their results can be generalized to the overall population from which the sample came.

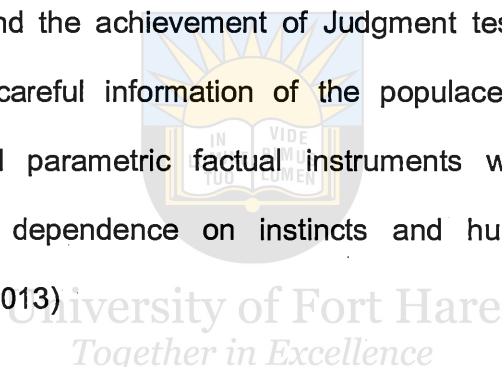
However, a cross sectional study might be inclined to non-reaction predisposition if members who agree to partake in the study vary from the individuals who don't, bringing about an example that is not illustrative of the populace (Yin, 2013). It is conceivable to record introduction to numerous hazard calculates and to survey more than one result in a cross sectional study. In any case, in light of the fact that information on each member are recorded as it were once, it would be troublesome to construe the fleeting affiliation between a hazard variable also, and the result (Wiid and Diggines, 2015).

### **3.7. Sampling Methodologies and techniques**

There are two sorts of sampling methodologies, probability and non-probability. In this current study, the researcher utilized non-probability sampling methodology. The non-probability methodology implies that the samples to be selected do not have the same chance of being selected. Specifically, the researcher utilized purposive technique (Babbie, 2014). Non-probability sampling is frequently utilized, in light of the fact that the aim of the study is not to generalise the discoveries. However, the researcher should strive to make sure that the sample is representative of the population under study, and that the outcome of the research can be depended on.

Marlow (2010) emphasizes that sometimes purposive sampling is not utilized to select typical cases, rather atypical ones. Rubin and Babbie (2010) further expounds that qualitative research is to purposefully select participants or sites that best help the researcher to understand the phenomenon under the study and adequately

answer the research questions. The strategy is to select participants that are information rich and illuminative, that is, they offer useful manifestations of the phenomenon (Maxfield and Babbie, 2015). Studying information-rich cases yields insights and understanding rather than empirical generalisation. In addition to knowledgeable and experienced, Cresswell and Clark (2011) note the importance of availability and willingness to participate; as well as the ability to communicate experiences and opinions in an articulate, expressive and reflective manner. However, there is uncontrolled variability and predisposition in the evaluations in Judgment inspecting and the achievement of Judgment testing technique that is exclusively reliant on careful information of the populace and disposal of the utilization of inferential parametric factual instruments with the end goal of speculation. Complete dependence on instincts and hunch is dangerous in Judgment testing (Yin, 2013)



In light of the previously stated portrayals of inspecting strategies, the specialist reached the conclusion that non-probability was appropriate for this study.

### **3.8. Research Domain and the Justification of choice**

Research domain is the particular geographical territory where sampling, population and participants are chosen (Chauke, Van Der Heever and Hoque, 2015). Perhaps, it is the area where the researcher observed the problem that is being studied.

The study was done in Mission Location at Butterworth town. Administratively, Mission location is located in the Eastern Cape Province at Butterworth in the former Transkei region. Moreover, and demographically, Mission location has 7000 people who are 100% Xhosa speaking and of the same cultural practice. It is a rural poverty

stricken region, where young people particularly the female adolescents are recognizably and progressively abusing substances.

### **3.9. Population under Study**

Yin (2013) characterize a population as the totality of all subjects that comply with a set of details, involving the whole gathering of persons that is important to the specialist and to whom the research results can be generalized. A population under the study constitutes the electorates from which the researcher chooses participants for the study (Bryman, 2015). The current research's samples were drawn from mission Location at Butterworth under Mquma region in Eastern Cape. The categories of the population that was investigated involved females abusing substances, ex casualties of substances, guardians of the female adolescents abusing the substances, social labourers, guardians who are relatives of the female adolescents abusing substances, key informants adequately knowledgeable about the substances, selected community members, Social workers, teachers, police (SAPS) and in addition church leaders and NGOs serving the mission area.

Mission location area is chosen based on the observably high number of reported cases of substance abuse among the female adolescents. Furthermore, this area was selected because even though the Department of Social Development (DSD) and South African Police Service (SAPS) have conducted drug awareness campaigns, substance abuse is still on the rise.

### **3.10. Sample size**

An example is made up fundamentals or division of populace considered for real consideration in the study. The study investigated 26 participants. The table below gives the number of samples and the method utilized.

Research method	Research instrument	Sample size
Qualitative	In-depth interview	5 guardians, 5 female adolescents abusing substances or ex users, 2 community members, 3 social workers, 2 teachers and 1 police
	Focus groups	4 families, 10 people
	Key informants	2 social workers, 2 Teachers and 1 members NGOs

### 3.11. Sample Selecting Criteria of Inclusion and Exclusion

Inclusion criteria are qualities that the samples must bear in order to warrant selection for inclusion in a study. On the other hand, exclusion criteria are those attributes that preclude planned subjects from consideration in the study (Moodley, 2012). Inclusion and exclusion criteria may incorporate variables, for example, age, sex, race, ethnicity, and habitation (Daniel, 2012). Silverman (2011) defines exclusion criteria as characteristics which a participant may possess, that could adversely affect the accuracy of the results. In this study, clients in the intense phase were excluded because the researcher felt that at this stage of their treatment, they

might probably not have enough information on their condition and treatment and might still be overwhelmed by their illness.

The following selection criterion was considered in selecting participants: the researcher selected the guardians whose female adolescents were abusing substances dwelling in Mission Location at Butterworth under Mnquma Municipality. These were the guardians who were willing take part in the research study. The study also selected, ex casualties of substances, as well as those who were current casualties of substances abuse. The study also selected community leaders and, religious association pioneers. Therefore, the guardians who were not related to the female adolescents abusing substances, female adolescents who never abused substances; and guardians who did not have female adolescents abusing substances, or related to some of them were excluded.

### **3.12. Data Analysis**

Data analysis in includes arrangement, gathering improvement and requesting of information through coding also discovering what is important and what is to be learned and deciding what needed to be divulged to others (Babbie, 2014).

#### **3.12.1. Thematic analysis**

The study embraced content thematic analysis that entailed breaking down crude information to categories through coding in order to arrive at themes and subthemes. Content thematic analysis is the procedure of bringing mountains of crude data into an orderly manner usually through structuring, arranging and rearrangements (Miles, et al, 2014). Simply put, thematic analysis is a process for identifying, analysing and reporting patterns and themes within the data. It negligibly sorts out and portrays information into subtle elements (Silverman, 2011). Thematic analysis seeks to

unearth the themes salient in a text at different levels and thematic networks aim to facilitate the structuring and depicting of these themes. It also involves interpretation of the corrected information in order to reveal the meaning of the participants (Babbie, 2014).


### 3.12.2. Coding the material

The transcripts entail dissecting the crude data into manageable and meaningful segments such as quotations and single words with the use of a coding framework (Bryman, 2015). The coding framework is based on the theoretical interests guiding the research questions and on the basis of salient issues that arose in the text itself (Miles et al., 2014).



### Research methods linked to research question

Research Question	Data sources and methods	Justification
What types of substances are generally abused by the female adolescents in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape	Qualitative; in-depth interview; Key Informant and focus groups	The participants will state types of drugs are abused by female adolescents in mission location. This will be possible through in-depth interviews, focus groups and key informants.
What kinds of behaviours are associated with excessive	Qualitative; in-depth interview; key informant;	The participants will share their information about behavioural

<p>substance abuse among the female adolescents in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape</p>	<p>and focus groups</p>	<p>changes among female adolescents abusing drugs in mission location. This can be obtained through in-depth interviews, focus groups, and key informant.</p>
<p>What are the socio-emotional and psychological disorders associated with female adolescents substance abuse in Mission location Eastern Cape</p>	<p>Qualitative; in-depth interview; key informant; and focus groups.</p> 	<p>Participants will share information based on the psychological and socio-emotional impact of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission location. This will be possible through, in-depth interview, focus groups and key informant.</p>

### 3.13 Significance of the study

The findings of this study could be used to educate female adolescents and their parents on the ramifications associated with the abuse of substances in Mission location and other rural areas in South Africa. Furthermore, the findings of this study could possibly help educators, health care professionals, and other professionals involved with adolescents to understand the prevalence of the adolescent substance abuse, its associated morbidities and most importantly, to develop effective

evidence-based strategies and policies that could be used to control the substance abuse phenomenon. The study will also widen the horizon of data in the domain.

### **3.14. Ethical considerations**

Lichtman, (2014) states that ethical practice in research is designed to prevent the researcher hurting the participants in any way. In order to ensure ethical practice in this study, the researcher considered the following:

#### **3.14.1. Voluntary participation**

Before conducting the interviews, the researcher made participants aware that participation in the study was voluntary, that they were free to withdraw from the study at any time if they wished to do so. However, the participants were informed that their participation was important for the study and that it was likely to contribute to a deeper understanding of the dynamics that surrounding the female adolescents abusing substances.

#### **3.14.2. Informed consents**

According to Rubin and Babbie (2010), a major tenet of the research ethics is that participation must be voluntary. They further state that participants must not be forced to participate and must be made informed of all the consequences of the study.

In order for the participants to make an informed decision whether or not to participate, the researcher ensured that all the participants were adequately informed about the goal of the research, what their participation would involve, their rights and what would happen with the information shared. After being adequately informed and

upon agreeing to participate, the participants were requested to give their consent in writing.

### **3.14.3. Privacy/Anonymity/Confidentiality**

According to Creswell, and Clark (2011) the right to privacy refers to freedom pertaining to the participants' information to be treated confidentially and anonymously. To ensure and guarantee this virtue, this researcher assured the participants that the information they were to give was only for research and it was not accessible to any other individual, other than the information being used to write journals. The researcher additionally ensured that participants' personality was withheld. Besides, the researcher ensured that the meeting venue was private. Code names were given and just the researcher knew who was connected to which code name.



### **3.14.4. Debriefing of participants**

Debriefing involves explaining the true purpose of the research study when (Grinnell and Unrau, 2011). Yin (2013) further expand that if there is mental trouble as a consequence of having been beguiled by the study, members must be offered satisfactory method for tending to this pain. The researcher ensured that the participants experienced questioning session straightforwardly after the meeting session. This was more centred on experiencing the encounters and feelings they experienced amid the procedure (Grinnell and Unrau, 2011).

### **3.14.5. Feminist ethic**

Feminist ethic is a way to deal with morals that expands on the conviction that generally moral speculating has underestimated or potentially undervalued women ethical experience and it in this way decides to rethink morals through an all

encompassing women's activist way to deal with change it (Creswell and Clark, 2011).

### **3.15. Summary of the chapter**

The researcher discussed and motivated the use of qualitative research paradigm. In addition, research approach, research design, method of data collection, sampling techniques, and method of data analysis were discussed fully. Details on ethical issues and ethical measures were addressed in depth. In the chapter that follows, analysis, interpretation and presentation of the research is presented.



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## CHAPTER 4

### ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION OF THE DATA

#### 4.0 INTRODUCTION

The goal of this research was to investigate the ramifications associated with substance abuse among female adolescents. This chapter focuses on the analysis, interpretation and presentation of the research findings. Creswell (2014) states that qualitative researcher typically gathers multiple forms of data from sources such as the interviews and observations. To this end, the researcher reviewed all the data, made sense of it, and organized it into categories to give birth to themes and subthemes. Where applicable, the findings were compared with theory. Also, the researcher sought the applicability of the different theoretical frameworks in order to bolster the findings.

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Before presenting the themes and subthemes that emerged from the aforementioned processes, the profile of the participants is presented in the next section.

#### 4.1. Profile of the participants

The profile was presented in terms of age, gender, race, educational qualification, employment status and socio-economic status.

##### 4.1.1. Table for Adolescent participants

Pseudo names	Age	Gender	Race	Sexual orientation	Educational status	Employment status
Olwethu	19	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 11 (dropout)	N/A

Siphesihle	18	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 11 (Dropout)	N/A
Mandisa	19	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 10 (dropout)	N/A
Zoleka	17	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 9 (At School)	Student
Nombuso	17	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 9 (At school)	Student
Nosipho	16	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 10 (At School)	Student
Nontombi	15	F	Black	Heterosexual	Grade 10 (At School)	Student

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**4.1.2. Table for Guardians and community member participants**

Pseudo names	Age	Gender	Race	Educational status	Employment status
Themba	50	F	Black	Certificate	Police
Nokulunga	55	F	Black	Grade 10	Unemployed
Funeka	50	F	Black	Grade 9	Unemployed
Busiswa	62	F	Black	Grade 10	Unemployed
Thokozile	50	F	Black	Degree	Teacher
Zikhona	61	F	Black	Grade 9	Unemployed
Nomagwa	63	F	Black	Grade 9	Unemployed
Nomaxhosa	59	F	Black	Grade 10	Unemployed
Noliitha	61	F	Black	Grade 11	Unemployed

**4.1.3. Table for Key informants: SAPS, Educators, Social workers, Community leader, Probation officers**

Pseudo names	Age	Gender	Race	Educational status	Employment status
Nosisa	40	F	Black	Degree	Police
Ntozonke	46	M	Black	Certificate	Police
Mlamleli	40	M	Black	Certificate	Probation officer
Thobeka	50	F	Black	Degree	Probation officer
Thumea	51	F	Black	Degree	Teacher (principal)
Lilitha	54	F	Black	Degree	Teacher
Unathi	35	F	Black	Degree	Social worker
Fundiswa	40	F	Black	Degree	Social worker
Nomawethu	50	F	Black	Degree	Social worker (NGO member)
Makhaya	60	M	Black	Certificate	Community leader

**4.2. Response Rate**

Applaudingly, all the targeted samples targeted for investigations availed themselves. This implies that the study's response rate was 100%. This could mean that the researcher's sample selection criterion was very appropriate. It may also inform that the researcher's goals and objectives stood higher chances of being achieved. It could also mean that the study was likely to experience higher levels of credibility and trustworthiness, a characteristics espoused by good qualitative studies. Perhaps the phenomenon of response rate being 100% could further

indicate how the problem of female adolescents abusing substances was a topical and an important issue among the various stakeholders of the research domain.

#### **4.3. Age of participants**

The age of the female adolescents ranged from 15 to 19 years. These were all the adolescents who were the main study stakeholders. This means that the study was meeting its goal of investigating the ramifications associated with female adolescents who were abusing substance. Apparently also, adequately investigating this group as the main study participants meant that the study was likely to experience commendable characteristics of trustworthiness and credibility.

The parents' age varied from 50 to 63 years. Since all the parents targeted for investigations availed themselves, this could largely register their huge concern to the substance of substance abuse in mission location. However, this researcher also feels that perhaps at this age, most parents may not much be bothered by what could be happening around their adolescent children's development, and thus the adolescents may have taken advantage of the freedom of neglect and therefore abuse substances.

The age of the key informants ranged from 35 to 60 years. This possibly depicts that they had sample experience or were knowledgeable about the phenomenon of substance consumption among the female adolescents living in the research domain.

#### **4.4. Gender**

Findings indicated that the main stakeholder's gender was female and this conforms to the study's topic that aims to investigate the females' substance consumption. On the gender of the key participants, findings indicate more females than males.

Perhaps this mirrors the professional distribution in particular careers such as the social workers who were more likely to be females than the males (Mohasoa, 2010). However, other careers such as the police and community leaders were more likely to be males.

Perhaps a striking finding was that the guardians and the community study participants were all of female gender. This gives birth to a characteristic of being gender skewed. This may indicate a number of possible factors. Perhaps the possibility of most families being female headed, female parents being more concerned with their children's environment more than the males, or female guardians being more available for investigation more than their male counterparts.

This could further mean that the phenomenon of adolescent delinquency such as the consumption of substances among the female adolescents could largely be associated with the phenomenon of female headed households. This farther mirrors that perhaps there is a relationship between the father's involvement and children's behaviours at home. With children who are nurtured by fathers being associated with conformity to rules and positive moral behaviour.

#### **4.5. Race**

Butterworth is Xhosa dominated area so all the participants were blacks and Xhosa speaking people. This mirrors apartheid demographic segregation that pushed blacks to live in isolated contextual areas such as Transkei and Ciskei. Perhaps the consumption of drugs could be associated with poverty conditions that most blacks more than other races find themselves in

#### **4.6. Educational Qualification**

The findings indicated a relationship between school dropout and consumption of substances. However, the findings also indicate that younger female adolescents in secondary schools were also candidates of consuming drugs. This may mirror the socio-economic backgrounds that these adolescents come from with those from poverty stricken backgrounds being more likely to pick on the habits of consuming substances, usually because of lack of control and largely due to a lack of a father figure to impose discipline. Further, findings indicated that the vast majority of the guardians didn't achieve even grade 12. This could perhaps indicate that the less educated guardians may be having challenges to inculcate discipline to their children, perhaps largely also due to their poverty situation.

#### **4.7. Employment status**

The findings depict that greater part of participants were unemployed, with a score of them being retired. Largely, most guardians of the female adolescents and community participants were likely to be poor and relying on old pension and children's grant. The environment of their poverty, therefore, could herald a state of poor support and concern for their female adolescents and hence their probability to be delinquents increases.

#### **4.8. Socio-economic status**

The findings indicate that most guardians of the female adolescents and community participants were unemployed and therefore poor or of low socio-economic status, largely relying on state grants. This does not guarantee an environment of decent care to their female adolescents.

#### **4.9. Presentation and discussion of Findings.**

The discussion that follows is a narrative analysis of the findings that emerged from all the 26 participants living in Mission Location of Butterworth.

#### **4.9.1. Preponderance of Substances**

Study findings reflected a high preponderance of substances among the female adolescents in Mission location. This was surprising in that Mission is a rural town and it is not expected that adolescents especially the females could be abusing substances immensely. The availability of all kinds of substances also mirrors a serious substance delinquency that could be driving to the state of moral decadency in the community.

Below are sentiments that most participants gave:

*"Siphehile started drinking alcohol during Christmas and other special ceremonies.*

*Upon asking her why she was walking strangely, she lied to me that she was feeling dizzy and subconsciously"*

*"Our children are using many drugs we don't even know all of them"*

*"These girls are surprisingly abusing alcohol hugely. No wonder they cannot pass in their examinations. It appears it is a normal thing to them"*

The finding above indicates a deeply entrenched behaviour of substance consumption in the study domain and was largely associated with poor performance in school. This should make the government to consider launching substance abuse campaign in Mission Location. Perhaps sensitizing the schools to put in place substance education clubs is critical. This is to ensure that children grow knowing all the dangers associated with substance abuse. The NGOs should also strengthen their efforts towards campaigning against substance consumption.

#### **4.9.2. Alcohol remained the most abused substance**

Study finding indicated that alcohol was the most widely abused substances by both the adolescents of both gender divide. Perhaps higher levels of poverty and unemployment formed fertile grounds for the behaviour. The finding was supported by the following sentiments

*"They drink every weekend from Friday to Sunday"*

*"Most youths here are largely exposed to the culture of drugs"*

Largely, the youth's exposure to alcohol posed various ramifications such as making the students perform poorly in schools; increasing their risks to diseases such as HIV/AIDS and drifting to various other vices such as prostitution. The phenomenon was also likely to make them compromise their opportunity to prepare themselves for a good future; as well as being good and law abiding citizens. This could mean that alcohol is accepted as a norm in mission location.

#### **4.9.3. Abuse of alcohol undermining the health of the female adolescents**

Study findings revealed that heavy abuse of alcohol was undermining the health of the youths of both gender divide to an extent that some youths were dying from it. The heavy toll of alcohol abuse indicates that the female youths were at risk of losing out in life. The following verbatim statements support the finding:

*"Alcohol causes many internal damages in lungs"*

*"Excessive alcohol consumption is fatal. Many youths have died in the past in various circumstances."*

This researcher thinks that the fate of the youths of Mission Location and generally the South African youths stands to be largely robbed of their future if there are no

strong interventions, either from the government, NGOs or other community friendly organizations to dissuade the youths from excessively abusing alcohol.

#### **4.9.4. Nyaope the most dangerous abused drug in Mission Location**

Study findings indicated that nyaope was the most commonly abused drug in Mission township. This was probably because of its potency and effectiveness in fast drugging the users, and the fact that it was also cheaper. It had made many youths to lose their life direction and exposing them to many ramifications such as facing road carnage etc. Many youths had to even steal money in order to afford the drug.

The following comments support the findings:

*"I was called at school by the principal telling me that my child had severe stomach cramps after smoking this nyaope"*

*"These children are stealing even from their neighbours in order to afford nyaope. It is driving the users to become delinquents or status offenders."*

*"They are causing too much chaos in the area, stealing and breaking houses"*

The findings above indicates that nyaope posed various ramifications to the community of Mission Location, with the users turning into delinquents or criminals as they have to get money through hook and crooks in order to afford the drug. The phenomenon should compel government to be proactive in prevention strategies rather than being reactive to issues of substance abuse in many rural areas of the country. Importantly also, the Department of Health department officials need to go to schools especially in the rural areas to teach about the ramifications associated with the consumption of substances to the youths lives in the country.

#### **4.9.5. Nyaope, the youth's future killer**

Findings opined that nyaope is an exceedingly terrible drug that negatively impaired the minds of the users and thereby slowing their psychosocial functioning. It was robbing of the youth's future as many drops out of school. Worryingly, that crushes their fate of being able to shape both their social and economic aspects of their lives in their future. Further, findings indicated that nyaope had made the youths to neglect their sanitary and hygiene to the detriment of the quality of their citizenship. The following comments support the findings:

*"This new nyaope drug is dangerous and results in youth's dropping out or performing badly in schools. It impairs the user's state of mind functioning."*

The researcher thinks it is imperative to challenge the government of the day to consider launching serious campaigns especially in the rural areas in order to stop the wave of the drugs hugely consuming drugs such as the nyaope. This is because the drugs hugely stood to rob them of their future and therefore compromise the quality of their citizenship. The government needs to stop its reactive nature to challenges such as the substance consumption. The above findings should compel parents not to depend on government in prevention of substance abuse, but rather also take responsibility to initiate early prevention efforts through teaching and admonishing them against the habits.

#### **4.9.6. Substance consumption associated with sexual immorality**

The research findings reflected that substance abuse cause most adolescents to be sexually active. This mirrors the reality of the inextricable relationship between drugs and sexual misconduct among the teenagers. Further, this infers that adolescents abusing drugs are likely to engage in many sexually related offences. For example

driving the user to multiple and concurrent partners, failure to use prevention contraceptives during sexual endeavours. It is very clear that utilization of substances can be connected to serious danger of contracting sexually transmitted infections.

The following quotes support the above finding.

*"Because of these drugs and alcohol our children unashamedly have sex on the street"*

*"Our children don't respect us. They can even engage in sex in front of us during the day"*

*"The bad thing about the impact of this drug consumption is that they don't use condom when engaging in sex."*

*"Sometimes at school in toilets you would find two or more boys queuing to have sex with one girl"*

The above findings indicate how the Mission Location youths have embraced acts of immorality due to substance consumption culture. The location has turned to be a fertile ground for moral decadence. This largely sends the message to the government to consider launching out strengthening substance abuse awareness interventions if the youths of the Mission Location are ever going to be good and productive citizens. Importantly, shops, clubs and tavern owners who sell substances to underage pupils should be punished or banned in the community. Parents should talk about sex to their children so that they would tell them about using protective devices during sexual engagements.

#### **4.9.7. Substance abuse associated with sexual- related diseases**

The findings suggested that adolescent females on the basis of their exposure to substances were largely at a huge risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS. This is because they become easier sexual prey to the men who were providing them with the drugs or money to buy the substances, especially alcohol. The drugged position of the females has been exploited by men who wish to engage with multiple and concurrent partners. Perhaps this brings the realization that it would not be easier to adequately combat HIV/AIDS if the current environment of the youth's exposure and engagement in substances is not going to be annihilated or controlled significantly. This also hugely indicates an arduous challenge for the country to adequately address Millennium Development Goal number six that envisages to address HIV/AIDS and other sexually related debilitating diseases.

The support above finds support from the following sentiments:

“Our children have sex with people they don't know in exchange of alcohol”

“As young as they are, they sleep with working man because they want transport and alcohol”

The researcher believes that South Africa is still going to face the escalation of teenage pregnancy and a rise of sexual related diseases if the current of female adolescents' exposure to substance abuse environment is not going to be turned around. The above findings should also compel the parents in partnership with the government to work hard to teach their adolescents children earlier about how substance abuse can compromise their future. Faith based organizations also need to stretch their muscle to strengthen the campaign against youth's substance abuse.

Importantly also, the youths themselves need to challenge themselves to refrain from substance abuse and make the country an enviable drug country.

#### ***4.9.8. Female adolescent students sexually seducing their teachers.***

The study findings depicted that some female adolescents on account of being drugged were sexually seducing their male teachers for possible sexual engagement so that they can get money for drugs. This largely casts doubts about these adolescents seriousness in school and their chances of passing their examinations. The situation also puts trouble to the male teachers as the female adolescents become a sexual trap for them.

The following verbatim statements support the above finding:

*“These students using drugs are seducing male teachers”*

*“One student called Nosipho came to my office and sexually seduced myself in return of getting good marks”*

The researcher thinks that the adolescents' sexual culture may turn their schools into a den of moral decadence. The finding should prompt the schools in partnership with the government to make sure that no student enters the school premises with any drugs. There should be a thorough check at the school's entry point for the students. Further the researcher worries that the opportunity of some students abusing the drugs also imposes huge danger to even other students. This is because at the phase of adolescence, the youths like to largely learn from their peer's more than adult figures. The schools need to strengthen substance refraining clubs where faith based organizations officials as well as substance knowledgeable personnel can be invited to reason with the youths. The youths need to know how the culture of substance abuse is likely to compromise the quality of their future.

#### **4.9.9. Substance abuse associated with mood swings**

Study finding revealed that the female adolescents on account of being influenced by the substances were no longer able to control themselves as they habitually get overwhelmed by mood swings. The environment, therefore, largely compromised their capacity and motivation to study and also relate with others in the school environment. This state of mood swings; it was revealed also affected their functioning even at their homes. The following sentiments support the above findings:

*“My child Olwethu sometimes just Laugh without any significant reason”*

*“Sometimes Mandisa does not talk to anyone at home. She becomes illusionary treading in her own world”*

The above finding should challenge parents to assess their children’s behaviours that are not normal. But perhaps of importance is to ensure that they discourage the adolescents from taking the substances.

#### **4.9.10. Substance consumption creates a fertile ground for conflict**

The study findings suggested that the use of drugs can compromise the state of peace and tranquillity to one’s friends, community friends, and significant others. Plainly, this means the abuse of substance among adolescents is bringing conflicts within the family members. Perhaps this is because substance users cannot be trusted even by their family kins. This is probably because the substance abusers pick bad habits such as asking for money to buy the substances and sometimes pilfer money in order to satisfy their addictive habits. Further, the guardians of the adolescents have to be called to the schools because of the wrongs committed by their children.

The following quotes depict the expression of participants:

*"She is hugely loathed by her siblings because of her pilferage nature. She steals everything at home"*

*"I am always asked to come at school by the principal because of her behaviour"*

*"My grandchildren's behaviour caused me to engage in endless conflicts in this community. It is an awful thing to engage in substances"*

The researcher thinks that the culture of substance abuse could largely be contributing to the South Africa culture of crime and violence. The above findings challenge the government to monitor access of substances among adolescents through fully engaging different stakeholders including the non-governmental organizations. It would be important if the causative environment of drug taking culture is dealt with other than waiting to react to the aftermaths of the substance abuse culture.

#### ***4.9.11. Substance consumption driving the youths into a state of hallucination and delusions***

The findings showed that female adolescents using substances get confused, suffer states of hallucinations and delusions. This affects their state of mind to an extent of negatively stifling their mind functioning. Largely also, revelation indicated that sometimes substance consumption among the adolescents results in them being engulfed by fantasies. For example they would hear or see things that don't exist. This means that they lose reality and the phenomenon can result in mental confusion that impairs social functioning and result in weird behaviour.

The following sentiments from the participants support the above finding:

*“At some point in class they only laugh all of a sudden”*

*“I was called at school by teacher telling me that my child see things that don't exist”*

*“One my friends after we smoked rode on a cow”*

The above research finding send a ringing bell to the government and whole South African citizens to work together to eradicate substance abuse among the youths as that can poses danger to the country. Further, this researcher thinks that the drug victims can also be at risk of facing other dangers such as falling victim of the road accidents. This is because of and fantasies that make them misguide even the distance of the car from them.



#### **4.9.12 the effect of female adolescent's substance abuse on Parents and whole family**

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The findings showed that substance abuse among female adolescents also affect their families. The act was seriously depressing their parents making them feel irresponsible and helpless. The following verbatim statements illustrates the expression of participants;

*“It is heart-breaking to us parents seeing them killing their future in front of us”*

*“We always pray and hope that somehow they will realize that what they are doing is destroying them”*

*“How bad it is to know that your child will never be something in life because of these drugs”*

*“It is difficult carrying this pain and feeling helpless for support as parent”*

The above research findings indicate that substance abuse among adolescents results in disharmony and disequilibrium in the family as it affects the normal functioning of the family system. This means that the act presents a feeling of despair and helplessness that negatively affects their social functioning.

#### **4.10. Summary of the chapter**

This chapter provided an introduction and focused on the following: the profile of the participants, and analysis, interpretation and presentation of the findings. The next chapter focuses on the discussion of the findings, recommendations and conclusions.



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## **CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.0. INTRODUCTION**

As indicated by Masombuka (2013), this chapter is perhaps the most important in a researcher's thesis because it presents the end product of the researcher's research endeavour. This chapter discusses the findings from the previous chapter, discusses the study's conclusions, and end with making some recommendations from the study, literature review in tandem with the researcher's intuition on the domain. Ultimately, an overall study's conclusion ends the chapter. In this chapter, the findings from the previous chapter form subheadings and their discussions thereof.

#### **5.1. Preponderance of substances**

Study findings reflected a high preponderance of substances among the female adolescents in Mission location. The findings finds a correlation with some other findings by Tshitangano and Tosin (2016) who revealed that in South Africa, substance misuse is to a great degree genuine, with drug use reported as being at double the world consumption standards. Further, local studies have shown evidence of drug abuse amongst high school learners in various part of the country. This is affirmed by Ramsoomar, Norris, Manda, and Morojele, (2015) who established that in the country, a greater part of the learners that misuse substances begin amid the adolescent's stage. This finding also finds support from the work of Plüddemann and Parry (2012) who established that the time of introduction of substance use for the majority of the learners falls inside the adolescent period. In this researcher's reflection, the phenomenon of substance use by the school learners in their adolescent stage is dangerous in that this is the stage they need to

determine their future through concentrating in their school work. Perhaps this in South Africa could be the reason why matric performance across many schools in the country has been bad. This should ring the bell to the parents, the government and other bodies such as the NGOs and the private sector to work synergistically towards strengthening the battle against substance abuse by the adolescents. Otherwise, the country stands to lose this energetic demographic segment through their future demeaned contribution to the country's GDP (Kang'ethe, 2014).

## **5.2. Alcohol remains the most abused substance among the adolescents**

Study findings indicated that alcohol was the most widely abused substances by both the adolescents of both gender divide. To this end, Ramirez, Hinman, Sterling, Weisner and Campbell (2011) confirm that the most dominating substance among the youth is alcohol. Perhaps this is because alcohol remains the most socially acceptable substance whose perfidious effects have been socially accommodated in many societies of the world. Although the ramifications of excessive alcohol intake have richly been documented, it is unfortunate that several studies have affirmed that the adolescents drinking problem has become an acceptable cultural norm in South Africa (Kang'ethe, 2014). Grobler and Khatite (2012) support that, alcohol is the most easily accessible substance in South Africa as in many other countries because in most ceremonies like in the traditional male circumcision one, the adolescents are allowed to drink freely (Nomngcoyiya, 2015). Perhaps the challenge has been that after these ceremonies, many communities in South Africa appear not to have any cultural restraints to curb the practice. This needs to be debated and thought across because the country of South Africa appears to suffer so many

ramifications associated with excessive alcohol intake as well as heavy indulgence in a constellation of drugs (Kang'ethe, 2014)

### **5.3. Abuse of alcohol was undermining the health of the female adolescents**

The above study findings revealed that heavy abuse of alcohol was undermining the health of the youths of both gender divide to an extent that some youths were dying from it. This is due to excessive intake of it. Perhaps today due to a preponderance of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, alcohol was believed to be predisposing the adolescents to an array of these diseases. Grobler and Khatite (2012) support that there is a probability of one when he/she is tipsy engaging in unplanned unprotected sex that can easily lead to a sexually related infection. With the country of South Africa probably reeling under the impacts of HIV/AIDS, the phenomenon of increased chances of further infections is hugely perfidious to the country (Ramphela, 2008; Kang'ethe, 2015)

Plüddemann and Parry (2012) confirm that besides sexual related diseases, alcohol damages body's essential internal organs such as lungs and kidneys. People are also prone to contracting diseases such as Tuberculosis. Largely, the government in tandem with the NGOs and private sector needs to collaboratively and corroboratively work to make a stronger campaign against alcohol abuse needs to introduced.

### **5.4. Nyaope the most dangerous drug abused in Mission location**

Study findings indicated that nyaope was the most commonly abused drug in Mission township. Chen and Jacobson (2012) affirm that in South Africa, there is

currently a new drug on the market known as “nyaope” which is being abused mostly by the adolescents. Shannon, Havens, Oser, Crosby and Leukefeld (2011) support that nyaope or some other drugs take away the sanity and the empathetic side of an individual to an extent that one fails to optimally function. It appears to seriously alter one’s reasoning and make one to behave both naively and strangely. Largely also, nyaope hugely debilitates one’s personality. This implies that school learners are not likely to cope with their studies one’s they abuse nyaope. Perhaps why nyaope is a dangerous drug is the fact that it is largely cheaper and one requires a little dose to get drugged. It is therefore affordable to even most poor youths.

Perhaps a notable characteristic of those who abuse is that most of them neglect their hygiene like forgetting to clean themselves. Tshitangano and Tosin (2016) confirm that individuals smoking nyaope more often than not cannot deal with themselves and some easily become street dwellers. Perhaps also because of its addictive characteristics, those who abuse nyaope are likely to turn to pilferage in order to raise money to quench their craving for the drug.

### **5.5. Nyaope, the youth’s future killer**

Findings opined that nyaope is an exceedingly terrible drug that negatively impairs the minds of the users and thereby slowing their psychosocial functioning. Ramirez, Hinman, Sterling, Weisner and Campbell (2011) Affirm that nyaope negatively affects the users state of the mind. When Nyaope is smoked, the users encounter experience extraordinary happiness, profound satisfaction and apparent bliss. The users feel warm when chilly, quiet when irate and filled when hungry. It tickles the whole one’s homeostatic balance (Maguire, 2002).

Largely also, abuse of nyaope prompts the users to engage in various criminal activities such as stealing, and burglary. Perhaps a more ramifying effect of the drug is that families of the users usually live in apprehension of their own kids largely due to the users' violent nature (Oser, Crosby and Leukefeld, 2011). There have been reports of gangs robbing HIV/AIDS facilities in Soweto to get ARVs in order to make Nyaope, and additionally dependent users mugging ARV patients to locally make the drug for themselves (Kang'ethe, 2014).

#### **5.6. Substances consumption associated with sexual immorality and exposure to sexually transmitted diseases.**

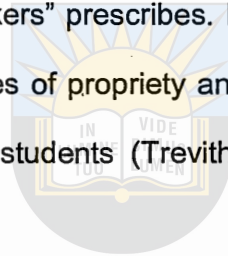
The research findings reflected that substance abuse cause most adolescents to be sexually active when under influence of substances regardless of the consequences. Carrico, Pollack, Stall, Shade, Neilands, Rice, Woods and Moskowitz (2012) confirms that studies have additionally reported behavioural and affective changes connected with substances, including expanded drive and impulsivity and lessened hindrances, which may prompt unsafe sexual behaviour and increase one's vulnerability to HIV and other sexually transmitted contaminations. Plüddemann, and Parry, (2012) support that the conduct one grasps under the effect of substances for the most part has undesirable outcomes, for example, contamination from sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea, syphilis, Candida and herpes. Jack 2013) agrees that studies have likewise documented behavioural and effective changes associated with substances like methamphetamine use, including increased libido and impulsivity and decreased restraint, which may prompt unsafe sexual conduct and build weakness to securing of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Findings suggested also that adolescents were sleeping with financially stable or working men to get money for alcohol. This is supported by Meade, Watt, Sikkema, Deng, Ranby, Skinner, Pieterse, and Kalichmann (2012) that substance abuse contribute greatly to sexual risk behavioural practices in light of both the increased sexual vitality while high, and also the routine of trading sex for the substances. Under the influence of substances, then, one's sexual vitality and libido increases rapidly (Colder, Scalco, Trucco, Read, Lengua, Wiczorek and Hawk, 2013). Perhaps the state of poverty environment of the adolescents could also be driving the adolescents to engage in transactional sexual encounters with relatively elderly men. These men are also instrumental in wooing the adolescent females into taking drugs so that they may give in to sexual engagement with ease. It is therefore of paramount importance that governments, NGOs and the private sector work both collaboratively and corroboratively to ensure they subdue poverty of the adolescent youths. They need to be kept busy. Perhaps increasing the government needs to invest in recreational settings for the youths in the rural areas if the youths can be wooed from engagement in substances.

### **5.7. Female Adolescent students sexually seducing their teachers**

The study findings established that on account of being drugged, the adolescent females seduced their male teachers that made learning a daunting experience. AfroAidsInfo (2013) affirms that surprisingly, there are many cases report of female adolescents abusing substances found seducing the male teachers. This researcher agrees that this environment presents a very trying moment for the teachers and could easily make them succumb to the sexual trap they may be wooed into. According to Jack (2013), the phenomenon of the learners abusing substances

makes it difficult for the students especially the female to uphold and maintain institutional related norms making it difficult for teachers also to work in that environment with such students wanting to exchange marks with sex so that they can also pass their examinations. As a social worker, students as well as the teachers need to be aware of the contents of code of ethics that guide the operations of especially the teachers and the workers in the face of clients who may want to be difficult and immoral. It is therefore important that social work teachers and workers are adequately guided by a constellation of social work skills that Pamela Trevithick, in her book "skills for Social Workers" prescribes. It is important that social workers are positioned to observe the rules of propriety and morals and ethics when facing difficult clients like the drugged students (Trevithick, 2005; Sheafor and Horejsi, 2008).



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#### **5.8. Drug abuse associated with mood swings**

The current study findings established that the female adolescents who were abusing substances were no longer in control of their states of mind or feelings. This means that their psychosocial functioning was at stake (Sheafor and Horejsi, 2008). To support this finding, Bassey, Makinde, Ajani, and Olumide (2013) state that psychoactive substances have the ability to change consciousness, mood, and thoughts. This is because these substances affect the emotional and motivational processes in the brain. Further support of the above emanates from the work of Mokwena and Fernandes (2014) who confirm that drugs make individuals' brain insane as they experience a glad feeling in the wake of utilizing them with some getting engulfed by some strange emotional episodes. The phenomenon can even cause suicidal ideation.

Jack (2013) also states that personality disorders are common among drug abusers. They become paranoid, secretive, stubborn and socially rigid. Some become socially withdrawn narcissistic self-centred, lacks empathy; easily flirts about, become attention seekers and are usually unable to maintain a close intimacy. Largely also, they embrace mood swings, become depressed, lonely, resist social contact, and are engulfed in pangs of hopelessness.

### **5.9. Substance consumption creates a fertile ground for conflict**

The study findings suggested that the use of drugs can compromise the state of peace and tranquillity to the user's community members, friends and significant others. Drug abusers were described by most as exhibiting anti-social behaviours such as unprovoked aggression, and lack of a sense of obligation and connection to others, and were ready to get drugs through by hook and crook method (Mnyipika, 2014). As a result, *tik* users seemed to exist on the margins of society and were characterized as lacking meaningful relationships and connections with others. Colder, Scalco, Trucco, Read, Lengua, Wieczorek and Hawk (2013) support that homes where drugs are used by these adolescents are usually sites of chaos. This is because users steal from their families and can sell anything however valuable in order to raise some money to buy the drugs to quench their craving (Bassey, Makinde, Ajani, Olumide, 2013). It is clear that the aggression, lack of respect, and the phenomenon of theft by the substance users against their families can result in a breakdown of trust and cohesion of the family unit. According to Mnyipika (2014), most drug

Abusers in their communities undermine a sense of community identity and cohesiveness. Also, the lives and the personalities of the young people who abuse

substances appear to be most emphatically affected by the presence of tik and nyaope. Consequently, they may become hostile to family, friends, colleagues, lecturers, constituted authority, and every one about them. Bassey, Makinde, Ajani and Olumide (2013) opine that drug abuse involves self-administration of drug in a manner that deviates from the approved medical and social patterns within a given culture.

#### **5.10. Substance consumption driving the youths into a state of hallucination and delusions**

The findings from the current study established that female adolescents using drugs sometimes act abnormal and have pipedreams in public. To this end, Hendricks (2015) contends that clearly drugs cause the users to suffer hallucinations and delusions. This is serious because one can do things that are very serious or even dangerous as the mind may not fathom it as it is (Maguire, 2002). The phenomenon is especially very serious for the adolescent students who need to see things in their right perspectives. Perhaps the users of nyaope are more at a risk of suffering undue hallucinations and delusions that make reality a daunting experience.

#### **5.11. The effect of female adolescent's substance abuse on Parents and whole family.**

Bassey, Makinde, Ajani, and Olumide (2013) Confirm that the parents with adolescent children abusing substance go through certain stage of pain with some parents experiencing trauma, and fear that their children are going to die.

Pragmatically also, many of the parents blame themselves for feeling that they are unable to fulfil their parental duties accordingly (Mnyipika, 2014).

## **5.12. Study's Conclusions**

Ascertaining whether the study met all its objectives and to what extent underlie this section. The section discusses whether the study has met its aim and all the objectives by pitting them against the study's empirical findings. Then the researcher also pits the study's assumptions and ascertains to what extent the study has fulfilled them. Largely also,

### **5.12.1. Discussion on the Study's aim**

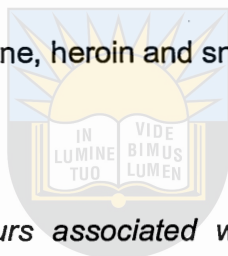
Ideally, it is pivotal to discuss to what extent the study has met its purposed aim. This would be important in order to validate the authenticity and importance of a study. The aim of the study was to explore ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mnquma Municipality, Eastern Cape. In this researcher's contention, he thinks that the study has adequately met its aim. This is because the participants were adequately able to bring out all the possible ramifications associated with female adolescents who abuse substances. This includes suffering from ramification hallucinations and delusions, their engagement in unprotected sexual endeavours, their poor performance in schools and being immorally inclined to an extent of female students sexually seducing their male teachers. They have also been a thorn in the flesh to everyone who comes close to them including their peers, guardians and the significant others. However, realization of the full aim rests in diagnosing and examining every research objective

### **5.12.2. Pitting the study's objectives against the empirical study's findings**

*The following discussion pits the study's objectives against the empirical findings*

1. *To document the types of drugs used by female adolescents in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.*

Largely, this objective has adequately been met because the study was able to highlight for the purposes of documentation the different kinds of drugs abused by the female adolescents residing in Mission Location of Butterworth, with alcohol abuse topping the list of them, but with nyaope being the most potent drug that appears to be more ramifying than the others. Other drugs identified includes tik (*methamphetamine*), dagga, cocaine, heroin and sniffing glue.



2. *To establish the behaviours associated with excessive substance abuse among the female adolescents in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.*

Ascertainly, this objective has also been adequately met because the study has established the various behaviours that are exhibited by the female adolescents who abuse the drugs. Such includes being anti-social, being aggressive to those around them, not able to uphold hygiene and state of cleanliness, failing to take their studies seriously and eventually falling miserably, female adolescents sexually seducing their male teachers, etc.

3. *To examine socio-emotional and psychological disorders caused by drugs among the female adolescents in Mission Location, at Butterworth Eastern Cape.*

This objective has also adequately been laid to rest in that substance abuse has been found to cause socio-emotional and psychological disorders. The abusers were found to suffer serious states of hallucinations and delusions and failing to see things the way they are normally. The adolescents were established to behave in a strange and bizarre manner to an extent of not achieving a psychosocial homeostatic balance. This has heralded their future desperation and no hope of achieving qualitative state of citizenship.

*4. To suggest prevention methodologies of mitigating female adolescents 'state of drug abuse.*

This objective has also been fulfilled because the recommendation section has come up with an array of strategies that if applied can help to contain the adolescents' substance abuse problem. Such strategies have also been suggested in the discussion section, especially challenging the government in tandem with the NGOs and the private sector to synergistically work towards combating substance abuse among the adolescents.

### **5.13. Discussing the study's Assumptions**

***5.13.1. Assumable, drug abuse among adolescents can compromise their future of becoming better citizens in the society***

This assumption has been validated to be true after the study has left no stones unturned to demonstrate that it is difficult for the female adolescents utilizing substances to make a meaningful progress in their learning at school. This implies that their chances of a promising future is daunting.

**5.13.2. Equally important, substances abuse might destruct their academic progress, and also compromises having successful life**

The findings of this study support this presumption to be fulfilled and have demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt that a large number of female adolescents utilizing substances are prone to dropout of school and therefore stifle their opportunities to mend their oncoming future. Further, numerous studies concurs that substance abuse poses a huge barrier to scholarly advance.

**5.13.3. Substances abuse increases the chances of having fatherless children, and compromises their human dignity**

This assumption has also been fulfilled as the current study has discovered that female adolescents utilizing substance get to be mothers at an early stage. This is because of their apparent carelessness in sexual endeavours that give birth to them having fatherless children.

**5.13.4. They may become more promiscuous when they are abusing substances that also may put them at risk of getting and spreading HIV/AIDS**

This assumption is also validated in that the research has demonstrated largely that female adolescents who abuse substances become a sexual prey to especially the elderly and men with a financial ability. This makes them be prone to contracting sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

**5.13.5. Substance abuse among young people causes family conflict and promotes chaos in the community hence it is a distressing circumstance more regrettable to guardians.**

Different writings have supported and proved this assumption to be true and the findings have largely demonstrated that substance abuse offers a fertile ground for conflicts through the female abusers engaging in activities and behaviours that compromise peace and tranquillity of their peers, family members and members of their society at large.

#### **5.14. Recommendations**

This study provides a significant base to prevent substance abuse among the adolescent females residing in Mission Location of Butterworth in Eastern Cape. The following recommendations have been drawn from the empirical findings, the literature review and also from the researcher's intuition. They are discussed here below.



##### ***5.14.1 Strengthening research on substance abuse among female adolescents in rural areas***

The study has revealed that female adolescents are at a huge risk of becoming addicts to substance abuse. This needs to be explored further through other, especially bigger triangulated research studies. This is especially important in the rural areas most research studies on substances have been done in urban settings and also targeting on males than the females

##### ***5.14.2 The government need to give more attention to the rural settings***

The study found rural settings to be wanting as far as the preponderance of substance abuse is concerned. It is therefore critical that the Government of the day consider to invest in equal measures its campaign machinery against substance

abuse. There is therefore a dire need to consider rural areas as possible havens of substance abuse proliferation.

#### **5.14.3 Encourage more substance abuse NGOs in the rural areas**

Importantly, more substance abuse NGOs are needed in order to mainstream awareness messages on the dangers and the ramifications associated with substance abuse among the adolescents. Perhaps this would ensure they refrain and understand the possible dangers while they are still young other face possible rehabilitation later in life and therefore fail to “strike the iron when it’s hot” and therefore fail to take their studies optimally.



#### **5.14.4 Role of social workers is needed critically and their engagement on teaching people about substances**

Importantly, the rural areas need the services of the social workers especially the ones who are competent in message dissemination and awareness creation on the dangers of substance abuse. This is because social workers are equipped with a constellation of skills and interventions to handle several of the social vices bedevilling the society.

#### **5.14.5. Mainstreaming substance abuse in the school curriculum**

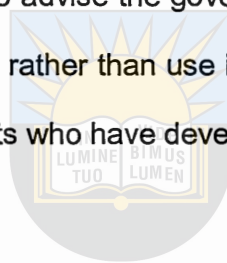
Importantly, the Government should ensure that substance abuse education is well curriculated in both the basic and institutions of higher learning so that awareness can be achieved while the students are young enough.

#### **5.14. 6 Role of parents is critically in admonishing their children**

All the problems of awareness should not be left to the government of the day, but parents also have a pivotal role of ensuring they admonish their children while they are still young. They should therefore “strike the iron when it is hot” meaning being handy and in time to advice and counsel their children against substance abuse.

#### **5.14.7. The government to adopt a proactive rather than a reactive approach to substance abuse menace**

This researcher takes this forum to advise the government to invest more resources on prevention of substance abuse rather than use immense resources to implement rehabilitation services to the addicts who have developed clinical challenges.



#### **5.14.8. Initiating substance abuse clubs in schools**

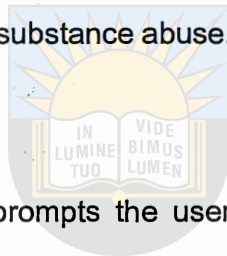
It would be very important if from the primary to institutions of Higher learning clubs dealing with substance education are recommended and initiated. Children need to establish the ramifications of drugs and substances early in their lives.

#### **5.14. 9. The government agents of control should strengthen their monitoring and surveillance of substance abuse dynamics**

Importantly, the South African Police service agents of control need to deal harshly with the drug peddlers so that the supply of the drugs can be controlled. While the users have to be dealt with also, this researchers thinks that more emphasy should be to control the supply side than the demand. The culture of dealing with the abusers does not appear to win the battle of substance abuse in the country.

### 5.15. Conclusion

Ideally, the research study has succinctly afforded to establish the preponderance of substance abuse among the female adolescents in a rural area. This calls for more research investigation into the problem. The government needs to launch strong awareness information dissemination to especially the adolescents in the schools. Schools are also urged to curriculate substance abuse modules so that awareness can be entrenched and make students ardently aware of the ramifications of substance abuse while they are still young. It is also important that NGOs and the private sector join the war against substance abuse.



Largely, also, abuse of nyaope prompts the users to engage in various criminal activities such as stealing and burglary. Perhaps a more ramifying effect of the drug is that families of the users usually live in apprehension of their own kids largely due to the users violent nature Nyaope (Oser, Crosby, and Leukefeld, 2011). There have been reports of gangs robbing HIV/AIDS facilities in Soweto to get ARVs in order to make Nyaope, and additionally dependent users mugging ARV patients to locally make the drug for themselves (Kang'ethe 2014).

The study has been an eye-opener to the communities, the government and other youth friendly bodies to put more energy in fighting against substance abuse especially among the youths. The country of South Africa risk facing a bleak future as the youths who should be instrumental in contributing to its apparent enviable economy stands to lose in their future endeavours due to their substance abuse behaviours. This researcher recommends that it is better for the government to spend a lot of resources in preventing and discouraging the behaviour other than

investing heavily in substance abuse rehabilitation centres. The study has also opened further doors for more research into the female adolescents as the research undertaking particularly on female adolescents' substance abuse suffer paucity of data.



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## ADDENDUM A (1)

I hereby declare that I am **aware** of potential conflicts of interest which should be considered by the UREC:

Signature: S Bala Date: 02-06-2016



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### Ethics Research Confidentiality and Informed Consent Form

Please note:

**This form is to be completed by the researcher(s) as well as by the interviewee before the commencement of the research. Copies of the signed form must be filed and kept on record**

I Samkelo Bala (0786657721), asking people from Mission Location in Butterworth Eastern Cape. The population will be comprised of females abusing the substances, ex victims of substances, parents whose female children are abusing drugs, social workers, parents who are relatives of children taking substances, key personalities who know about the substances, community members, a few community leaders as well as church leaders and NGOs serve mission location 26 participants, to answer some questions, which we hope will benefit Mission Location and possibly other communities in the future.

I am conducting research regarding **Ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mnquma Municipality, Eastern Cape**. I am interested in finding out more about ramifications associated with substance abuse

among females. I am carrying out this research to help educate female adolescents and their parents on the ramifications associated with the abuse of substances in Mission location and other rural areas in South Africa.

Please understand that you are not being forced to take part in this study and the choice whether to participate or not is yours alone. However, I would really appreciate it if you do share your thoughts with me. If you choose not take part in answering these questions, you will not be affected in any way. If you agree to participate, you may stop me at any time and tell me that you don't want to go on with the interview. If you do this there will also be no penalties and you will NOT be prejudiced in ANY way. Confidentiality will be observed professionally.

I will not be recording your name anywhere on the questionnaire and no one will be able to link you to the answers you give. Only the researchers will have access to the unlinked information. The information will remain confidential and there will be no "come-backs" from the answers you give.

The interview will last around 30-40 minutes. I will be asking you a questions and ask that you be as open and honest as possible in answering these questions. Some questions may be of a personal and/or sensitive nature. I will be asking some questions that you may not have thought about before, and which also involve thinking about the past or the future. I know that you cannot be absolutely certain about the answers to these questions but I ask that you try to think about these questions. When it comes to answering questions there are no right and wrong answers. When I ask questions about the future I am not interested in what you think the best thing would be to do, but what you think would actually happen.

If possible, I would like to come back to this area once I have completed my study to inform you and your community of what the results are and discuss my findings and proposals around the research and what this means for people in this area.

### **INFORMED CONSENT**

I hereby agree to participate in research regarding **Ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mngquma Municipality, Eastern Cape**. I understand that I am participating freely and without being forced in any way to do so. I also understand that I can stop this interview at any point should I not want to continue and that this decision will not in any way affect me negatively.

I understand that this is a research project whose purpose is not necessarily to benefit me personally. I have received the telephone number of a person to contact should I need to speak about any issues which may arise in this interview. I understand that this consent form will not be linked to the questionnaire, and that my answers will remain confidential.

I understand that if at all possible, feedback will be given to my community on the results of the completed research.

**Signature of participant:** *Funeke Magazi* **Date:** 02-06-2016

I hereby agree to the tape recording of my participation in the study

**Signature of participant** *Komazwa Sizayo* **Date:** 02-06-2016

**ADDENDUM B (2)**

**LETTER OF INFORMED CONSENT FOR PARENT/GUARDIAN**

MISSION A/A  
P.O. BOX 686  
BUTTERWORTH  
4960

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK  
SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE  
PRIVATE BAG X1314  
ALICE 5700



**LETTER OF INFORMED CONSENT**

*Nokulunga Dunez*, the Parent/Guardian of *Olwethi Dunez* grant permission for my child to participate in the Masters degree research investigation to be conducted by Mr S. Bala (0786657721), social work student (Department of Social Work), I am registered at the University of Fort Hare, under the supervision of Professor SM Kangethe. The title of the research is **“Ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mquma Municipality, Eastern Cape.”** The purpose of the research was to explore the ramifications associated with substance abuse among female adolescents at mission location in Butterworth Eastern Cape. The procedure in the study will include the use of unstructured interviews. The information will be treated as strictly confidential. Interviews will take approximately 30 to 40 minutes. There are no known medical risks or other discomforts associated with the research.

I agree that the results of this study may be published in Professional Journals and conferences but the records or identity will not be revealed and the participants will remain anonymous.

I understand what the study is about, how and why it is being done. I will receive a signed copy of this consent form.

(Signature of Parent/Guardian) *Nokulunga Dumez* Date: 02-06-2016

(Signature of Investigator) *S. Nala* Date: 02-06-2016



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**ADDENDUM C (3)**

MISSION A/A  
P.O. BOX 686  
BUTTERWORTH  
4960

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK  
SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE  
PRIVATE BAG X1314  
ALICE 5700



**LETTER OF INFORMED CONSENT**

*Helitha Gyman* the undersigned, consent to participate in the Masters Degree research investigation to be conducted by Mr S Bala (0786657721), Social Work student at Mission Location, I am registered at the University of Fort Hare, under the supervision of Professor SM Kang'ethe (Department of Social Work). The title of the research is "Ramifications associated with substance abuse among female adolescents in mission location". The purpose of the research is to explore **Ramifications of drug abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location, Mnquma Municipality, Eastern Cape.** The procedure in the study will include the use of unstructured interviews. The information gathered will be treated as strictly confidential. Interviews will take approximately 30 to 40 minutes. There are no known medical risks or other discomforts associated with the research. I understand that there are no personal benefits for me participating in the study, but the results of the study may help researchers and counsellors to gain a better understanding of

substance abuse among young females. It was made clear to me that I may withdraw from participating in the study at any time. I agree to it that there is no financial compensation for participating in this study.

I agree that the results of this study may be published in professional journals and conferences but the records will not be revealed and the participants will remain anonymous.

I understand my rights as a research subject and I voluntarily consent to participation in this study. I understand what the study is about, how and why it is being done.

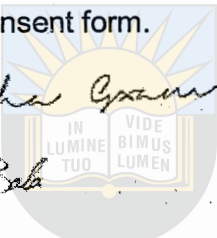
I will receive a signed copy of this consent form.

(Participant's signature):  (Date): 02-06-2016

(Signature of Researcher) 

Date: 02-06-2016

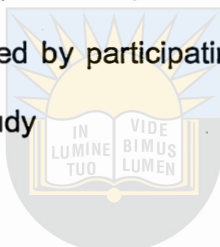
(Place): Butterworth

  
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## ADDENDUM D (4)

### Interview guide

In view of the fact that you are well-informed about the topic, I hereby approach you with the request to participate in the study. For you to decide whether or not to participate in this research project, I am going to give you information that will help you to understand the study (i.e. what the aims of the study are and why there is a need for this particular study). Furthermore, you will be informed about what your involvement in this study will entail (i.e. what you will be requested to do during the study, the risks and benefits involved by participating in this research project, and your rights as a participant in this study)



### SECTION A: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

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The following questions are for **statistical purposes only**

#### Q1. What is your age?

12-15years	
16-20years	
30-40years	
50-60 years and above	

#### Q2 gender

male	
female	

#### Q 3

<b>Asexual</b>	
<b>Bisexual</b>	
<b>Heterosexual</b>	
<b>homosexual</b>	

**Q4. Race**

<b>Black</b>	
<b>White</b>	
<b>Coloured</b>	
<b>Other</b>	

**Do you have child/children?**

<b>yes</b>	
<b>No</b>	



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**If so how many?**

<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3 and above</b>	

**Educational qualification**

<b>Grade 10 and below</b>	
<b>Grade 11</b>	
<b>Grade 12</b>	
<b>Certificate</b>	
<b>Other</b>	

**Are you currently at school or dropped**

Yes	
No	

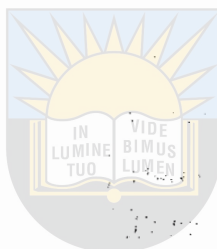
If ye what is the reason?

Employment (kind of job)

Employed	
Unemployed	

The amount earned

R1000-R3000	
R4000-R6000	
R7000-9000	
R10000 and above	



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What is your frequency of substance use?

Rarely

Rarely	
Often	
Sometimes	
Every weekend	

What is your history on substance?

1 year	
2 years	
3 years and above	

**What is your Socio-economic status?**

<b>Single parent family</b>	
<b>Both parents</b>	
<b>Working class</b>	
<b>Both unemployed</b>	

**SECTION B: KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES**

**1. Types of substances are generally abused by the female adolescents in mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.**

- ❖ To what degree is substance abuse prevalent among female adolescents at Mission location, Butterworth, Eastern Cape?
- ❖ What types of substances are commonly abused in mission location?
- ❖ What do you consider the most dangerous drugs available to teenagers today?

**2. Kinds of behaviours are associated with excessive substance abuse among the female adolescents in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.**

- ❖ What are the immoral behaviours associated with substance abuse among female adolescents in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?

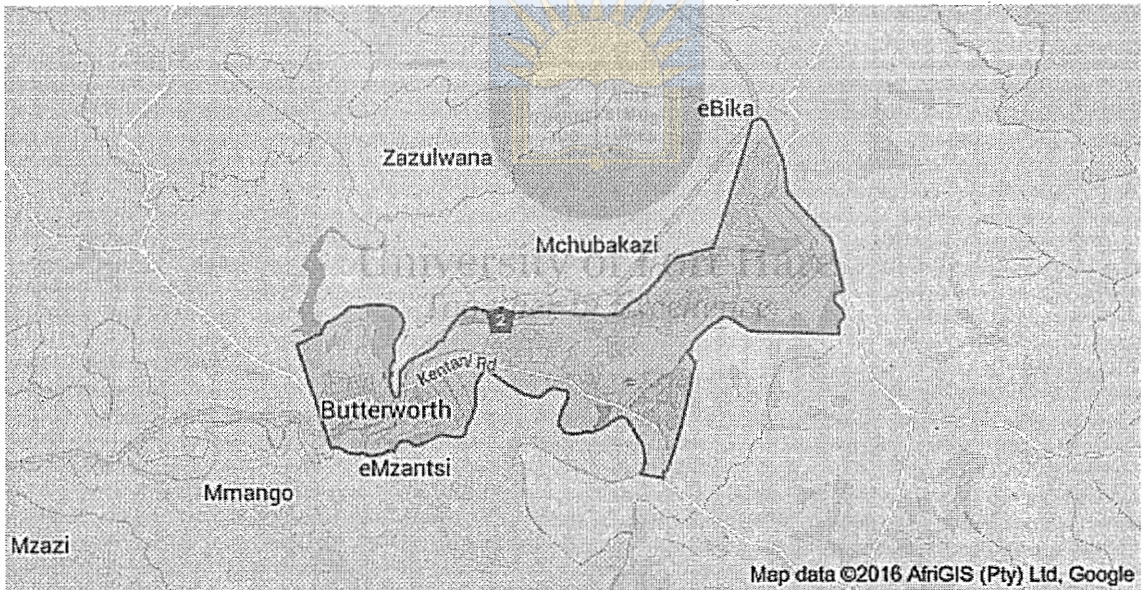
- ❖ What are the sexual risk behaviours associated with substance abuse among female adolescents in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?
- ❖ What kind of violence associated with substance abuse among female adolescents in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern cape?
- ❖ How does substance abuse make female adolescents vulnerable to rape in mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?
- ❖ How does substance abuse among female adolescents influence their academic progress, in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?

**3. The socio-emotional and psychological disorders are associated with female adolescents' substance abuse in Mission Location at Butterworth Eastern Cape.**

- ❖ What are the emotional changes occurs among female adolescents who are abusing substances in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?
- ❖ What are the psychological effects associated with substance abuse experienced by female adolescents in Mission location at Butterworth Eastern Cape?

**ADDENDUM E (5)**

**RESEARCH DOMAIN AND THE JUSTIFICATION OF CHOICE MAP**





University of Fort Hare  
*Together in Excellence*

### ETHICAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

Certificate Reference Number: KAN081SBAL01

Project title: **Ramifications associated with substance abuse among female adolescents: A case study of mission Location, Mquma Municipality, Eastern Cape.**

Nature of Project: Masters

Principal Researcher: Samkelo Bala

Supervisor: Prof S Kang'ethe

Co-supervisor: N/A

On behalf of the University of Fort Hare's Research Ethics Committee (UREC) I hereby give ethical approval in respect of the undertakings contained in the above-mentioned project and research instrument(s). Should any other instruments be used, these require separate authorization. The Researcher may therefore commence with the research as from the date of this certificate, using the reference number indicated above.

Please note that the UREC must be informed immediately of

- Any material change in the conditions or undertakings mentioned in the document
- Any material breaches of ethical undertakings or events that impact upon the ethical conduct of the research

The Principal Researcher must report to the UREC in the prescribed format, where applicable, annually, and at the end of the project, in respect of ethical compliance.

**Special conditions:** Research that includes children as per the official regulations of the act must take the following into account:

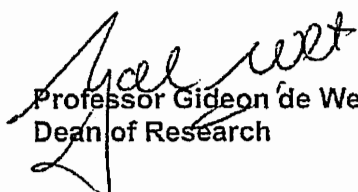
Note: The UREC is aware of the provisions of s71 of the National Health Act 61 of 2003 and that matters pertaining to obtaining the Minister's consent are under discussion and remain unresolved. Nonetheless, as was decided at a meeting between the National Health Research Ethics Committee and stakeholders on 6 June 2013, university ethics committees may continue to grant ethical clearance for research involving children without the Minister's consent, provided that the prescripts of the previous rules have been met. This certificate is granted in terms of this agreement.

The UREC retains the right to

- Withdraw or amend this Ethical Clearance Certificate if
  - Any unethical principal or practices are revealed or suspected
  - Relevant information has been withheld or misrepresented
  - Regulatory changes of whatsoever nature so require
  - The conditions contained in the Certificate have not been adhered to
- Request access to any information or data at any time during the course or after completion of the project.
- In addition to the need to comply with the highest level of ethical conduct principle investigators must report back annually as an evaluation and monitoring mechanism on the progress being made by the research. Such a report must be sent to the Dean of Research's office

The Ethics Committee wished you well in your research.

Yours sincerely

  
Professor Gideon de Wet  
Dean of Research

15 May 2016

05 Southdale Gardens  
119 Nelson Road  
West Turffontein  
Booyens  
2190  
22 November 2016

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

Dear Mr S Bala

**RE: RAMIFICATIONS OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG FEMALE ADOLESCENTS IN  
MISSION LOCATION, MNGUMA MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE.**

It is my pleasure to have been given the opportunity to edit your dissertation.

As per your request I did light editing to the document focussing on punctuation, idiomatic language use as well as formal and informal registers. Alternatively I would have focussed more on stylistics and layout, but because I am not familiar with the Department's style of writing I focused more on text. Also I could not alter the document more as it could have affected the context.

Below are the areas where I encountered some challenges:

- Sentences tend to be long- winded. To remedy the situation, I left the sentence structures as they were but added punctuations to cut them short without altering the intended meaning.
- Punctuation not properly applied.
- Formal register not always adhered to.


It is the prerogative of the client to accept or reject all or some of the suggestions made. It is also within the client's rights to seek clarity where needed.

I would also like to acknowledge that a payment of R1, 200.00 (One thousand two hundred rands) only was rendered as payment of services to the work done. The contact details of the Editor appear at the bottom.

Kind regards,

EDITOR

Thandiwe Matshikiza



Date:

22 Nov 2016

Thandizoe2003@yahoo.ca

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