

Teachers' Strikes and the Right of Learners to Education in South Africa: A Critical Literature Review

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ABSTRACT This review was motivated by the incessant teachers' strikes in South Africa and the poor academic performance as well as poor quality education, which is a general concern in many circles. Therefore, literature review critically examines teachers' strikes and the right of learners to education in South Africa, with some emphasis on the Eastern Cape Province. The literature shows that the impact of teachers' strikes on learners' academic performance, especially in the Eastern Cape Province is enormous. This was gauged through the number of years learners took to complete the Matric studies, the number of times they wrote Matric, intimidation and loss of motivation during teachers' strikes among other factors. Closely related to this is the poor quality of education that students received, not only because of teachers' strikes but also because of factors such as infrastructure problem and lack of teachers. It was also found out that the cost of teachers' strikes was a drain of both national and provincial government resources.