



Mentoring and Principal Preparation: The Case of Kwazulu-Natal Women

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ABSTRACT The purpose of this paper was to explore experiences of women primary school principals in relation to mentoring. The research design was qualitative in nature. Women school principals' views, experiences, hopes and fears were described through in-depth interviews. The study was located within KwaZulu Natal Province in South Africa. Data analysis was an on-going process, of identifying key issues and emerging themes. Findings revealed that some women were empowered through the training and mentoring programmes that were offered. Others experienced challenges as no mentoring or assistance was rendered to them on their initial entry into leadership positions. Findings from the research reflected the need for more workshops on mentoring as it helps to develop skills and knowledge for managing effectively.