

The Personal Career Planning Needs of Secondary School Learners in Botswana

Nnananyana K.E. Mekgwe¹ and Almero Kok^{2*}

¹*Matshekge Hill Senior Secondary School, Botswana*

²*Unit for Open Distance Learning, Potchefstroom Campus, North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa, 2520*

¹*E-mail: nnamekgwe@yahoo.com*

KEYWORDS Career Guidance. Career Counselling. Career Path. Senior Public School. Youth. Individual Needs

ABSTRACT In order to achieve Botswana's 2016 vision, career guidance must empower learners with the career skills needed to live up to the demands of a challenging and changing world, life and career path. A survey was undertaken to determine whether the Guidance and Counselling Program in secondary schools provides for the personal career planning needs of learners. Cluster sampling was used to select three hundred and thirty three learners from four senior public secondary schools in Gaborone, Botswana. A quantitative ex post facto research design was used. The survey brought to light that these learners indeed had a number of personal concerns regarding their choice of career and also regarding the school guidance program. Notable matters of concern are issues relating to consultations with the school guidance counsellor, availability of technological resources for job searches, preparation for interviews, knowledge of job-seeking skills, available careers and the need to expose learners to the world of work through job-shadowing and career field-trips/excursions.