

“Telling the Story” The Educators Perspective on HIV/AIDS Education in Schools

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ABSTRACT The purpose of the study was to evaluate the impact of life skills as a strategy to combat HIV/AIDS among school-going young people and listen to the educator's stories regarding their experiences. Life orientation programme was included as part of the revised national curriculum statement and is offered as a compulsory subject from Grade R to 12. One secondary school in Free State Province in Motheo District was chosen to participate in the study. From the chosen school ten life orientation educators were selected to participate in the study. The respondents comprised 60% female and 40% male educators, teaching from Grade 10 to 12. A life history and story-telling approach was chosen as a method to obtain data. The results showed that most educators were not trained on the subject, although they were teaching for more than 3 years. Learners' absenteeism as results of either being affected or infected did have a negative impact towards schooling. Although the subject is taught well teenage pregnancy seems to be on the high, therefore to a certain extent learners are not implementing what they have been taught.