



Policy Consideration and Socio-economic Impact of Learner Transportation in Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo Province of South Africa (PS-LETRA)

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ABSTRACT Travelling on the back of the bakkie, pick-up truck or open-bed trucks is inherently dangerous, but common in South Africa which is proving to be difficult for the government to tackle. The aim of this study is to better understand socio-economic impact and policy consideration concerning the practice. The study was a cross-sectional survey, conducted in Vhembe District Municipality. Five research sites were visited and a total number of 45 participants (10 LDVs operators, 25 passengers, 5 administrator and 5 senior law enforcement agencies) were interviewed. The knowledge about policy is low amongst the participants and the socio-economic impact was high in the researched area. Limited awareness and knowledge of policy pertaining transportation of passengers on the back of the bakkies[†] which is common in South Africa contributes immensely in the high death rate (the death rate per 1,000 fatal vehicle accident) of those associated with vehicle crashes. Legislation that prohibits such practice is weak and rarely enforced.