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Transformation and Empowerment of the Disadvantaged Township Women through Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET)

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ABSTRACT Practices in most African communities deprive women of their right to education. It has been a social and cultural prejudice in many African families that only boys are privileged to be educated. Although literacy is a basic human right according to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, there are still alarming numbers of illiterate women in the country. Feminist theory of bell hook and critical pedagogy of Paulo Freire on transformation and development of adults underpinned this study. The purpose of this study was to investigate which community development programmes that would assist in empowerment and transformation of disadvantaged women. Through qualitative research design data was collected engaging three focus groups with twelve participants in each group. Major findings of the study led to the development of self-help projects that led to poverty reduction and creation of employment.