

Probing Alcohol Abuse amongst the Youth of Musina Community in Limpopo Province of South Africa

Tsoaledi Thobejane¹ and Raymond Raselekoane²

University of Venda, South Africa

E-mail: ¹<daniel.thobejane@univen.ac.za>, ²<Raymond.Raselekoane@univen.ac.za>

KEYWORDS Alcohol Abuse. Depressants. Family Dysfunctionalism. Poverty. Substance Abuse

ABSTRACT This paper was influenced by the study recently conducted in a small community that resides in Musina Village in Limpopo, about 200 miles away from Tshwane, South Africa. The study sought to establish the causes of alcohol abuse and how this scourge can be addressed. The study further sought to show that alcohol consumption amongst the youth turns to disrupt their studies and goals in life and also alters their physical appearance, and leads to teenage pregnancy and increased drop-out rates at school as well as sexually transmitted diseases. This study used both qualitative and quantitative methods of collecting data. The instruments used in the process of collecting data were questionnaires, checklist and scales. A focus group was also established in order to gather qualitative data from the participants. The quantitative data was measured by specific variables that could be quantified by rating scales and generalized findings from a large population where the sample was drawn from. Tables, numbers and percentages presenting the responses of the respondents were used. The findings of this research are that most of teenage mothers fall pregnant at the age of 18 years. Lack of parental guidance is the main factor that influences teenage pregnancy.