

Challenges Experienced by Life Orientation Teachers with Regard to Grade Nine Learners on Learner Bullying in Gauteng West

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ABSTRACT The study focused on grade nine learners who were bullying one another even though they were taught Life Orientation. The purpose of the study was to explore the experiences of Life Orientation teachers on how they dealt with issues regarding bullying amongst grade nine learners. This was a qualitative study conducted in Gauteng West district in five Secondary schools. The participants were purposely chosen and these were Life Orientation teachers who had an experience in teaching the Subject not less than three years. Interviews were conducted after lessons at their schools and ethical considerations were observed. The findings of the study revealed that school policies and code of conduct were not taken seriously by learners. Teachers needed a thorough training on issues regarding counselling and how they should handle the bullies and the victims of bullying. The paper further addresses the issue of family background and its ripple effect in society.