



An Exploration of the Effectiveness of Social Workers in Empowering Victims of Crime in Alice, Eastern Cape of South Africa

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ABSTRACT The aim of the study is to explore the effectiveness of social workers in empowering victims of crime in Alice community. The study used a qualitative research design to collect data from seventeen (17) participants. The findings discovered that people living in rural areas are vulnerable because they do not get the necessary support from the government, social workers and other professional's bodies. However, the role played by social workers to assist victims of crime is not enough because they are few and they had not enough resources to execute their work. The study reveals that most of the victims of crime were females, others were employed and few of them were unemployed. The study recommends that policy makers must evaluate the overall impact of different criminal activities by measuring the extent to which dependence changes as policies are changed. Debates should be centred on discussion of how best to design programs in order to achieve developmental objectives since it is evident that criminal activities grow day by day in South Africa.