AN INVESTIGATION INTO FACTORS AFFECTICTING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PUPILS IN SPORT IN RUWA AREA IN GOROMONZI DISTRICT

BY

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ABSTRACT
The purpose of the study was to highlight the factors affecting the participation of children with physical challenges in sporting activities.

It is a mis-norma to appreciate the availability of resources in the education system. There is a critical shortage of resources and materials in the education system which hinders the performance of teachers and students in every department of the education system including sports. Inadequate provisions in schools also demoralize and thwart the teacher’s creativity and innovativeness. It is against this background that physically challenged students’ needs (provisions) were looked into.

The study was carried out in five selected schools, that is three primary schools and two secondary schools in Ruwa in Goromonzi District for the period between September 2014 to June 2015. In order to get an insight from those who work with the disabled, five administrators and fifty teachers who were coaches of various sporting disciplines in the selected schools participated in the study. Questionnaires and interview schedules were used as research instruments. The descriptive survey method was used in the research study as it is considered an effective and efficient way of soliciting original information from the respondents. The data was presented in a series of tables and figures.

The study was carried out by acquiring information on teachers’ experiences and problems encountered during the professional execution of duties and their feelings towards the provision offered to the physically challenged pupils in schools to enable them to participate in sport.

The study recommends that sporting facilities and special equipment be provided in mainstream schools at all cost. Teachers should be provided with adequate and relevant training and resources to execute their duties effectively and efficiently. The study also recommends that schools should seriously consider physically challenged pupils’ participation and development in sport. Finally, it is recommended that further research be undertaken in order to establish how best the government can help physically challenged pupils in a national educational policy.