Barriers Faced by Pregnant Learners When Trying to Finish Their Education in Vhembe District of Limpopo Province, South Africa

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ABSTRACT The aim of the study was to explore barriers faced by pregnant learners when trying to finish their education in the Vhembe district of Limpopo Province, South Africa. A qualitative research approach was used to investigate the phenomenon from the learners’ perspective. The target population comprised of senior phase pregnant adolescent learners (grade 7 to 9 learners). Focus group interview schedule was used to collect data from the participants. Data was analyzed thematically. The findings revealed amongst others the following barriers: stigmatisation and isolation and also name calling. Recommendations were made on educators to be flexible by providing educational and emotional support to remove pregnancy as a barrier to the young girls’ education.