

Exploring the Extent to Which the Distance to Centers of Social Services Affects the Quality of Life of the RDP Residents: The Case of 2013 RDP Golf Course Study, Eastern Cape, South Africa

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ABSTRACT The present research sought to explore the effects of distance to centers of social services to the quality of life of the RDP residents. The study utilized mixed methods approaches, with qualitative approach being the dominant approach. The qualitative approach used an interview guide with unstructured questions to administer in-depth interviews with the study participants; while a questionnaire was utilized to gather quantitative data. The findings indicated that most participants were not happy with the long distances to social services and this could be one of the primary factors contributing to higher crime levels targeted to the residents; affected their children's schooling, recreation, and made life very boring to the extent of luring the youth to engage in illicit activities. The researchers among other things recommend to the government to consider putting up infrastructures in the RDP housing estates so that people can have a better life. Improving the lives of the RDP residents through equipping them with skills of various categories; or considering giving them business grants has been recommended.