

Black Fathers' Involvement in the Early Education of Their Children and Associated Factors: South African Context

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ABSTRACT Father's absence in their children's early lives is very prevalent in South Africa, especially among Black fathers. The purpose of this study is to examine the level of Black fathers' involvement in the early education of their children and other associated factors in South Africa. The paper has two main findings; firstly, with regard to non-involvement in their children's early lives, Black fathers have a high percentage due to their socioeconomic status and HIV/AIDS-related high mortality rate. Secondly, South Africa has acknowledged the criticality of the absent fathers' problem and is embarking on programs meant to address the internal and external causative factors as well as to promote father involvement through sharing of ideas on responsible fathering. Thus, it is recommended that to address this problem there is a need to undertake the following: research studies, benchmarking, community counselling, policy reviews and integration of responsible fathering ideology in the school curriculum.