

Women Handling of Domestic Violence in Rural Township of Alice in South Africa

Pius Tangwe Tanga¹ and Priscilla Gutura²

*Department of Social Work / Social Development, University of Fort Hare,
 PB X1314, Alice 5700, South Africa*

*E-mail: ¹<ptangwe@ufh.ac.za, tanga8_2000@yahoo.co.uk>,
²<priscillagutura@gmail.com, pgutura@ufh.ac.za>*

KEYWORDS Domestic Violence. Women. Rural. Strategies. Effectiveness

ABSTRACT A quantitative survey was conducted in Eastern Cape in South Africa to explore the use and effectiveness of strategies used to address domestic violence. Fifty women who lived in Golf Course Community, in Alice town were administered questionnaires. The findings of the study highlighted that the women were aware of several strategies used to address domestic violence which included women's rights organizations, reporting perpetrators to the police and use of the Domestic Violence Act (DVA). Even though reporting to the police was the most strategy used, it was proven to be less effective because the police lacked vigilance and therefore this led to domestic violence cases to be left unreported. Additionally, it emerged that the strategies were to a greater extent less effective. Recommendations are proposed to find the best way of combating domestic violence.