

An Evaluation of the Role of Theatre in Disseminating Information about the Scourge of HIV/AIDS in South Africa (SA)

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ABSTRACT The scourge of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Disease Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) has continued unabated in most parts of the world. Attempts to stem the tide of the pandemic have not achieved success. Lack of success is seemingly attributed to the non-centrality of theatre in the dissemination of information on HIV/AIDS. In South Africa, two groups came into being, which use theatre to spread information about HIV/AIDS. The theatrical groups formed the focus of a doctoral study by Chijioke Uwah. This paper's aim is the dissemination of his research findings. The two theatre groups' history constitutes the source of the findings and recommendations. The findings include details on how can theatre be used to disseminate HIV/AIDS information to illiterate and semi-literate people. Generations of indigenous people of Africa have used theatre and indigenous artifacts to disseminating information. The qualitative method plus an extensive reading of pertinent literary formed the bedrock of this paper.