

Exploring the Underpinnings Weighing Down the HIV/AIDS Campaign in Botswana and South Africa: A Literature Review

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ABSTRACT Although huge attention has been given to policy and programmatic implementation to arrest the HIV/AIDS epidemic especially in the Southern African countries hard hit by the epidemic such as South Africa and Botswana, the process has faced arduous and uphill task. This paper through a literature review methodology, seeks to investigate the underpinnings weighing down the HIV/AIDS campaign in South Africa and Botswana, as well as some few examples from other African countries. The following underpinnings have been identified for weighing down the success of the HIV/AIDS campaign-State of moral decadence; culture of condoning multiple and concurrent partners; patriarchy that condones men's unfaithfulness; pervasiveness of illicit risky sexual behaviours such as prostitution; pervasiveness of broken families and condomisation as a process of increasing risky sexual behaviours. The paper recommends the following to strengthen the HIV/AIDS campaign: strengthening behaviour modification processes, mainstreaming of social and cultural education; zero tolerance against sexual relations before marriage; and diluting cultures that condone multiple and concurrent partners.