

HIV and AIDS, Gender Violence and Masculinities: A Case of South Africa

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ABSTRACT This paper aimed to examine an adapted Stepping Stones curriculum, which is used on church going couples. The purpose was to see if it promotes behavioral change in the area of communication about sexuality, fidelity and gender based violence. The study's population, consisting of church going couples from Slangspruit and Mpumalanga Townships, comprised of 53 respondents. In order to achieve the paper's objective, the researchers used a quantitative questionnaire and collected and analyzed the data using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Notes from the workshops formed qualitative data, which was used to validate or reject the qualitative data. The findings of this study confirmed a significant increase in communication among couples about their sexuality and a decrease in gender based violence. It raised concerns about issues of fidelity in monogamous and polygamous relationships. It also confirmed the need to re-examine the theology of marriage in the context of African Instituted Churches.