

Students' Sad Stories about Trafficking: A Scourge in Curriculum Implementation

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ABSTRACT Students' trafficking is a human rights violation that rises to the level of slavery. Trafficking is the purchase and sale of human beings for the purpose of exploitation of forced labor, such as sex work or participation in armed conflict. This study seeks to explore the root causes of students' trafficking in Southern African universities and its implications in curriculum implementation. Related literature was reviewed and both interviews and questionnaires were used as research instruments in the study. Thirty- six participants were purposefully sampled. On analysis of data, it became evident that traffickers target students because of their vulnerability and gullibility. Results suggested that trafficking presents grave risks to the physical, psychological, spiritual and emotional development of students. The following themes oil the machine for students' trafficking: economic plight, prostitution and domestic abuse. Implications for curriculum implementation, in terms of prevention and psychosocial rehabilitation of students who have been victimized were also presented. A multi-faceted strategy was necessary to make inroads in combating the multi-dimensional causes of students' trafficking.