

Identification of Causes of Criminal Behaviour among Youth of Muledane Village, Vhembe District Municipality

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ABSTRACT Crime is one of the major problems in South Africa. It is popular to associate criminal behaviour with the poor physical and social conditions of the impoverished segment of the population. This study was conducted with the purpose of identifying the causes of youth criminal behaviour at Muledane village. A quantitative design was utilised for the study. The research population included Tshivenda - speaking youth residing at Muledane village under Thulamela Municipality. Participants comprised of 60 youth at Muledane village male and female who were selected by means of simple random sampling method. Data were collected using a self administered questionnaire. Results were analysed using descriptive statistics. The findings indicated that peer pressure, family problems, poverty and unemployment were major causes of criminal behaviour among the youth.