

Risky Sexual Behaviors among Rural Teenagers in Vhembe District, South Africa

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ABSTRACT This paper investigated the prevalence of risky sexual behaviors among rural teenagers of Vhembe district, South Africa. The paper adopted a quantitative approach using a descriptive survey design. Data was collected from a total of 331 randomly selected learners, aged 14-18 years from 10 secondary schools that make up Vhumbedzi Circuit in the Vhembe District using a self-administered questionnaire. Validity and reliability of the instrument were ensured. Permission to enter the schools was obtained from the Circuit Manager. Parents/learners informed consent was obtained prior to data collection. Statistical package for Social Sciences was used to analyze data in terms of frequency and percentages. The results of the study revealed that risky sexual behavior such as unprotected sex with multiple partners exists among rural teenagers with some being victims of unwanted pregnancy and Sexual Transmitted Infections.