

Child Support Grants and Poverty Reduction in Hill Crest Community, Eastern Cape Province of South Africa

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ABSTRACT The South African Social Security System was discriminatory during the pre-apartheid era, however this was readdressed post-1994 to be non-discriminatory in nature. This paper sought to explore the effectiveness of child support grants in poverty alleviation. A qualitative research design underpinned this study. The data collection methods used were interviews with social workers and focus group discussions with recipients and beneficiaries of the grant. An interview guide was used in gathering data. The data collected was analyzed into themes that were responding to the research questions of the study. The findings revealed that child support grants are contributing a lot in providing basic needs such as food and clothing to the wellbeing of children. The paper concluded that child support grants are an effective mechanism in alleviating poverty. A number of recommendations were made from the conclusions for the Department of Social Development.