

Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape

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Dissertation submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the
degree *Magister (Atrium/ Scientiae/ Social Work)* in
Psychology/ Social Work at the Potchefstroom Campus of the
North-West University

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DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to my sons, Francois and Thomas, who are the apple of my eye and my strength to carry on.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my Saviour and Father for His grace, love and wisdom in the last two years. Thank you for making this dream come true.

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- My dearest husband, Tom for your support, love, motivation, wisdom and late night tea. You are my best friend and I love you.
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- All the participants who contributed and participated in the study.
- The North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus for financial support.
- Mrs. Charka for the language editing. (**Annexure 7**)

STATEMENT

I, Maritha Fouché, identity number 7205300040084 and student number 25675303, do hereby declare that this research submitted to the North-West University, for the MA study: Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape, is my own independent work; and complies with the Code of Academic Integrity, as well as other relevant policies, procedures, rules and regulations of the North-West University; and has not been submitted before to any institution by myself or any other person in fulfilment (or partial fulfilment) of the requirements for the attainment of any qualification.

.....
M Fouché

.....
Date

SUMMARY

Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape

Keywords: Adolescent, awareness, knowledge, sexual abuse, rural area

Adolescent youth in most countries of the world such as America and South Africa are at risks which results from issues such as poverty, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. There are many factors such as culture, family structure, poverty, pornography and substance abuse that may play a role in adolescents being sexually abused. As a social worker in the Hartswater district, the researcher discovered that no organisation in the area render any services or programmes in preventing adolescents from being sexually abused over the last six years. Due to this and because no research has been done specifically on this topic in the rural areas of the Frances Baard areas of the Northern Cape, **the aim** of the study was to explore and describe adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse.

The researcher used the simple descriptive design (Botma, Greeff, Mulaudzi & Wright, 2010:111). The population was made up of adolescents between the ages 15 and 17 years (in grade 9 to grade 12), of any gender and who attended schools in the Frances Baard area which consists of areas in Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp (including Ganspan), Pampierstad and Hartswater. The adolescents' parents or legal guardians were on the caseloads of social workers from the Department of Social Development, Caritas Community Focus and Child Welfare.

A self-administrated questionnaire was developed. The questionnaire consisted of two sections namely Section A: Biographical details of the adolescent and section B: Knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse. The questionnaire measured particular adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse and environmental circumstances under which sexual abuse might occur in a rural area of the Northern Cape Province. The questionnaire was send to the Statistical Consultation Services of the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University for testing and clarification.

The results of this research indicated that the adolescent's knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse is limited in the rural areas of the Northern Cape.

OPSOMMING

Adolesente se kennis en bewustheid van seksuele misbruik in 'n landelike gebied van die Noord kaap

Sleuteltermes: adolessent. Bewustheid, kennis, seksuele misbruik, landelike gebied

Adolesente in meeste lande soos Amerika en Suid-Afrika loop die risiko om blootgestel te wees aan kwessies soos armoede, seksuele misbruik en seksuele uitbuiting. Daar is baie faktore soos kultuur, familie strukture, pornografie en dwelmmisbruik wat 'n rol speel in die seksuele misbruik van adolessente. As maatskaplike werker in die Hartswater distrik, het die navorser ervaar dat geen organisasie in die gebied enige dienste of programme lewer in die voorkoming van seksuele misbruik van adolessente in die afgelope ses jaar nie. As gevolg hiervan en omrede geen navorsing gedoen is oor die onderwerp in die landelike gebied van die Frances Baard distrik van die Noordkaap Provinsie nie, was die doel van hierdie studie om adolessente se kennis en bewustheid rakende seksuele misbruik te verken en te beskryf.

Die navorser het die enkelvoudig beskrywende ontwerp vir hierdie studie gebruik (Botma *et al.*, 2010:111). Die deelnemers het bestaan uit adolessente tussen die ouderdomme 15 en 17 jaar (van graad 9 tot graad 12), van beide geslagte en wat skole in die Frances Baard distrik wat insluit Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp (insluitende Ganspan), Pampierstad en Hartswater bywoon.

Die adolessente wat geselekteer was en aan die navorsing deelgeneem het se ouers of wettige voogde was op die gevallelading van maatskaplike werkers van die Departement Maatskaplike Ontwikkeling en Kindersorg. 'n Self-gedadministreerde vraelys is ontwikkel. Die vraelys bestaan uit twee afdelings, naamlik Afdeling A Biografiese besonderhede van die adolessent en Afdeling B Kennis en bewustheid rakende seksuele misbruik. Die vraelys meet die adolessent se kennis en bewustheid rakende seksuele misbruik asook die omgewingsomstandighede waaronder seksuele misbruik in 'n landelike gebied van die Noordkaap Provinsie kan voorkom.

Die vraelys is na die Statistiese Konsultasie Dienste van die Potchefstroom Kampus van die Noordwes Universiteit vir toetsing gestuur. Die resultate van hierdie navorsing het aangedui dat die adolessente se kennis en bewustheid ten opsigte van seksuele misbruik beperk is in die landelike gebiede van die Noordkaap.

FOREWORD

The article format was chosen in accordance with regulations A.7.5.7.4 applied to the degree MA in Social Work: Forensic Practice. The article will comply with the requirements of the journal *Social Work/Maatskaplike Werk*.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE AUTHORS

SOCIAL WORK/MAATSKPLIKE WERK

The journal publishes articles, brief communications, book reviews and commentary articles already published from the field of Social Work. Contributions may be written in English. All contributions will be critically reviewed by at least two referees on whose advice contributions will be accepted or rejected by the editorial committee. All refereeing is strictly confidential. Manuscripts may be returned to the authors if extensive revision is required or if the style of presentation does not conform to the practice. Commentary on articles already published in the Journal must be submitted with appropriate captions, the name(s) and address (es) of the author(s), preferably not exceeding 5 pages.

The entire manuscript must be submitted, plus one clear copy as well as a diskette with all the text, preferably in MS Word (Word Perfect) or ASSII. Manuscripts must be typed, doubled spaced on the one side of the A4 paper only. Use the Harvard system for references. Short references in the text: When word-for-word quotations, facts or arguments from other sources are cited, the surname(s), year of publication and the page number(s) must appear in parenthesis in the text. More details concerning sources referred to in the text should appear at the end of the manuscript under the caption "References". The sources must be arranged alphabetically according to the surnames of the authors.

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ADOLESCENTS' KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS REGARDING SEXUAL ABUSE IN A RURAL AREA OF THE NORTHERN CAPE

(Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape)

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Keywords: Adolescent, knowledge, Northern Cape, rural area, sexual abuse,

CONTEXTUALIZATION

Childhood sexual abuse, mostly against girls below the age of 18 years, is a global health and human-rights problem and a growing concern in Sub-Saharan Africa (Yahaya, Ponce de Leon, Rothmann, Soares & Nacassa, 2014:1). Adolescent youth in America and South Africa are also at risk, which results from issues such as poverty, child and sexual abuse and neglect, sexual exploitation and alcohol and drug abuse (Du Bois & Miley, 2005:399; Madikizela, 2013:1; Van der Westhuizen, 2011:49-59).

Professionals from a range of disciplines and in a spectrum of work settings need to determine whether or not a child such as an adolescent has been sexually abused (Faller, 2007:3). Forensic investigators such as social workers form part of these professionals and must realize that they have a responsibility towards vulnerable people such as adolescents (Smith, 2013:4). According to Du Bois and Miley (2005:399) factors "that enhance resilience and promote competence appear to offer important sources of protection and resources for ensuring opportunities for positive life choices". As a result of this, attempts have to be made to identify adolescents' knowledge of sexual abuse in order to conduct service delivering, such as meaningful prevention and intervention programs (Epstein, Baily, Manhart, Hill & Hawkins, 2014:722-725; Fletcher, Ward, Thomas, Foust, Levin & Trinh, 2015;

Goodyear-Brown, 2012:10-20 & Kotchick, Shaffer, Forehand & Miller, 2001:493). Research done by Mamabolo (2014:48) in the rural village of Marshite in the Limpopo Province and Ngaphi (2013:25-26) in rural areas around Queenstown in the Eastern Cape Province, both came to the conclusion that adolescents' knowledge of sexual abuse is limited and therefore more research has to be done in order to explore, especially in rural areas of South Africa, adolescents' knowledge regarding sexual abuse in order to prevent them from being victims of sexual abuse (Mamabolo, 2014:27).

According to discussions with social workers in the Frances Baard areas no prevention programmes exist in the Department Social Services and other organisations that test the knowledge of specifically adolescents, regarding sexual abuse. Programmes that are implemented are done mostly with children in the age groups 3-5 and 6-11. As a social worker working at both a Primary and Secondary School, it was experienced in the last six years that no organisation rendered services or programmes in this regard.

No research has been done specifically on adolescents' knowledge regarding sexual abuse in the rural areas of the Frances Baard areas of the Northern Cape. The researcher would like to explore and describe the adolescents' knowledge regarding sexual abuse. This will enable the researcher to make recommendations to the managers of Caritas Community Focus Organisation, Child Welfare and The Department Social Services offices in the Frances Baard area in order to assist these organisations in service delivering to adolescents, preventing them from being victims of sexual abuse.

This study will serve as a preliminary study to the researcher's PhD study in future.

1. PROBLEM STATEMENT

South Africa is a country that promotes democracy and a culture of human rights, but according to Dunn (2011:155) "violence against women and children has unfortunately reached epidemic proportions in South Africa". In research done by Madikizela (2013:1), Mamabolo (2014:25) and Ngaphi (2013:17-31) in rural areas of South Africa, it was experienced that adolescents think they know what sexual abuse is, but their answers indicated they were ignorant as to what sexual abuse is all

about and therefore they need more knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse. According to Kenny and Wurtele (2010:494) adolescents' ability to distinguish between good and bad touch is essential to determine the understanding that the adolescents have regarding sexual abuse. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007 (South Africa, 2007) defines child sexual abuse as assault of a child or allowing a child to be sexually abused or assaulted; encouraging, inducing or forcing a child to be used for the sexual gratification of another person; procuring or allowing a child to be procured for commercial sexual exploitation or in any way participating or assisting in the commercial sexual exploitation of a child; using a child in or deliberately exposing a child to sexual activities or pornography.

In contrast, becoming sexually active is a normal and healthy part of adolescents' growing up (Coleman & Hagell, 2007:64). Campbell (2007:224) mentioned that adolescence is a distinct developmental period and it is characterized by enormous physical, emotional and psychological shifts that can and often does manifest in quite dramatic changes in behaviour. Although we regard sexual experiences and experimentation as part of normal adolescent development, there is concern that adolescents are not able to distinguish between these normal developmental practices and sexual abuse and that these two are often confused with each other (Coleman & Hagell, 2007:76-84). There is also concern that adolescents, because of their lack of knowledge, are not able to identify common risk factors contributing to their vulnerability towards harm such as sexual abuse (Coleman & Hagell, 2007:64). According to Tomlinson and Philpot (2007:68) adolescents that are sexually abused may not see the abuse as unusual and therefore they experience the abuse as the norm, as they have nothing else to compare it with. Research done by Mamabolo (2014:31) the conclusion was reached that adolescents should be able to accurately identify situations that expose them to sexual abuse.

Recent surveys of youth across South Africa on sexual abuse indicate that a high proportion of both boys and girls have experienced coerced sex and sexually aggressive behaviour as well as being sexually abused (Gogela, 2013; Loffel, 2007; Nqaphi, 2013; Madikizela, 2013; Mahura, 2013). During a survey by Richter, Dawes and Higson-Smith, (2007:55) 30 percent of adolescents reported that their first

sexual encounter was forced. An adolescent, according to the Children's Act, Act 38 of 2005 (South Africa, 2005) is a person under the age of 18 years. In a study by Heeren, Jemmott, Madeya and Tyler, (2012:1030) the conclusion was made that it is necessary to improve the quality of sexual and health knowledge of students in rural areas in South Africa, because from their data it was clear that the students lack basic knowledge regarding sexual matters and are not aware of the risk factors that may lead to sexual abuse. Research done by Strydom, Wessels and Strydom, (2010:175-183) in the Heuningvlei area of the North West Province they noticed that the rural areas are confronted with a number of challenges, such as higher food and transport prices, retrenchment and isolation from services such as clinics, doctors and educational programmes. The importance of education is highlighted throughout the literature as a significant preventative action against sexual abuse (Kang, 2005:5; Ragsdale *et al.*, 2014:557; Cromer & Goldsmith, 2010:633; Meyer, 2011:40). According to Kang (2005:21), adolescents are in a significant phase and sexual education plays an important role as it assists in transitioning into adulthood. Researchers such as Delport (2010:37), Mahura (2013:35), Madikizela (2013:43), Mamabolo (2011:29-31) and Meyer (2011:19) came to the conclusion that adolescents perform risky sexual behaviour due to a lack of information regarding sex and sexual abuse. They recommend more research in South Africa on adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding the role aspects such as poverty, substance abuse, peer pressure, cultural beliefs, overcrowded households, bad relationships with parents and low self-esteem may play in the sexual abuse of adolescents. With this background in mind the researcher wants to explore adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse, especially in a rural area mostly isolated from support services.

From the discussions above, the research question to be answered with this study is:

- *What is the extent of knowledge and awareness of adolescents in the Frances Baard rural area of the Northern Cape regarding sexual abuse?*

2. RATIONALE FOR THE STUDY

Social researchers draw on a variety of perspectives to explain the complex range of risk factors contributing to a phenomenon such as child sexual abuse. One of these

assessed to be most suitable for explaining both interactive and environmental factors, is the Ecosystem's perspective. It aims to: "...understand the interrelationship between people and their physical and social environment (DuBois & Miley, 2005:59). By identifying adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse and their knowledge and awareness of circumstances or factors in their environmental context that may lead to them being sexually abused, the researcher, by means of the ecosystems perspective (DuBois & Miley, 2005:42), might be able to support adolescents and enhance their knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse and how to deal effectively with sexual abuse in the Frances Baard area. This research can serve as a preliminary study to improve service delivery of organisations in the Frances Baard area to adolescents. It will equip them with knowledge and awareness regarding prevention of sexual abuse. This research can also serve for more in-depth research in other organisations and areas of South Africa regarding adolescents' vulnerability of being sexually abused. The study may furthermore contribute towards a better understanding of prevailing environmental contributing factors in the given context.

3. AIM OF STUDY

The aim of the study is to explore and describe the extent of knowledge and awareness of adolescents in a rural area of the Northern Cape regarding sexual abuse.

4. CENTRAL THEORETICAL ARGUMENT

If social workers in the Frances Baard area in the Northern Cape Province has a better understanding of adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse, social workers can improve their service delivery to adolescents and their legal guardians regarding sexual abuse in this area.

5. ANALYSIS OF THE LITERATURE

The literature study focused on gathering information on similar previous research that had been carried out, both locally and internationally. This step in the research process is thus based on secondary sources. According to Fouché and Delport (2011a:73) an in-depth literature study on the subject is important to select a

theoretical perspective, research design, data collection methods and definitions of central concepts, as well as selecting and constructing the measuring instruments. Fouché and Delport (2011c:134) also suggested that by reviewing the literature, it contributes to a clearer understanding of the nature and meaning of the problem that has been identified. It puts the researcher's efforts into perspective, situating the topic in a larger knowledge pool (Fouché & Delport, 2011c:173). This guided the process and contributed to the outline of the problem that was studied. The literature review was based on sexual abuse, incidents of sexual abuse of adolescents in South Africa, the adolescents' development stages and the risk factors that contributed to the sexual abuse of especially adolescents. A detailed analysis on literature was done by the researcher on adolescents' knowledge regarding sexual abuse.

Kincaid, Jones, Gonzalez, Payne and DeVellis (2012) mentioned in their studies done with African American girls that information processing impairments associated with externalizing problems increase the risk for sexual behaviour and sexual abuse. Much research has been done regarding sexual abuse with African American youth, focusing on demographic and parental factors predicting sexual risk behaviours, but less research has been done about the youth's knowledge on factors predicting sexual health and sexual abuse (Epstein, *et al.*, 2014:722-725; Fletcher, *et al.*, 2015; Goodyear-Brown, 2012:10-20; Rithwood, *et al.*, 2014:1369-1371; Weiten, 2004:165). Limited research has been done on adolescents' knowledge about sexual abuse and the risk factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents in South Africa (Heeren *et al.*, 2012; Khoza, 2004; Madu & Peltzer, 2000:263-264; Mamabolo, 2014:29-31). No research has been done specifically on adolescents' knowledge of sexual abuse and the risk factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents in a rural area of the Northern Cape. International and national literature were used to ensure accurate and comprehensive information and findings. Examples of these databases included: EBSCO Host Web, South African and International Journals and Books, Sage Publications and Google Scholar. Other sources that were consulted were research reports, statistical reports and Departmental reports. These secondary sources included academic journals, dissertations, textbooks and the Internet. It was important to analyse the most recent and relevant publications available. The information gathered in the literature study contributed to the

development of the questionnaire. The following key words played a vital role in searching for information: sexual abuse, adolescents, developmental stages of adolescents, knowledge of adolescents of sexual abuse, risky sexual behaviour of adolescents.

6. EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION

6.1 Research context

The research was done in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa. Although the Northern Cape is the largest province, at almost a third of South Africa's land area, it is an arid region with the smallest population. The Northern Cape consisted of 1 145 861 people according to Stats 2011 (South Africa, 2011:1). The province populations are as follows:

- Black people – 50,4% of the population
- White people – 7,1 % of the population
- Coloured people – 40,3 % of the population
- Asian people – 0,7% of the population
- Male – 48,7% of the population
- Female – 51,4% of the population

The Northern Cape is divided into five district municipalities, Namakwa, Pixley KaSeme, Siyanda, Frances Baard and John Taolo Gaetswe. The research was only conducted in the Frances Baard district and consists of the following towns: Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp (including Ganspan), Pampierstad and Hartswater. Kimberley is the administrative centre of the Sol Plaatjie local municipality and consists of 248 041 people. Warrenton is the administrative centre of the Magareng municipality and it accommodates approximately 24 204 people and is 75km North of Kimberley. Phokwane local municipality incorporates Hartswater, Jan Kempdorp (including Ganspan) and Pampierstad. The municipality has a total of 61 321 people of whom the majority is found in the peri-urban areas of the municipality. A significant characteristic of this population is the youth who account for 33% (ages 15-34) of the total population. The dominant languages in the area are Afrikaans, English, Setswana and IsiXhosa (South Africa, 2011:1).

6.2 Research approach

The researcher used the quantitative research approach during this research process which can be described as a method that is descriptive in nature, and as a method focused on quantifying the research problem. Fouché and Delport (2011a:64) describe quantitative research as an inquiry into a social or human problem, based on testing a theory or theoretical statement composed of variables measured with numbers and analysed with statistical procedures in order to determine whether the predictive generalisations of the theory or theoretical statement holds true. The researcher sampled a profile of adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in order to draw conclusions and make recommendations.

6.3 Research design

The researcher used the simple descriptive design. This design in quantitative research according to Botma *et al.* (2010:111) is used to examine characteristics of a single sample. Surveys are an example of a typical simple descriptive design. In survey research, questionnaires are frequently used to gather data (Botma *et al.*, 2010:111:133). The survey in social sciences can be used for all types of studies such as exploratory and descriptive studies (Fouché, Delport & De Vos, 2011:156). Surveys according to Punch (2005:75) cited in Fouché *et al.* (2011:156) are done mainly to explore and describe samples in terms of simple proportions and percentages of people who respond in some way to different questions. Explorative research is conducted to gain insight into a situation (Fouché & De Vos, 2011:95-96; Kreuger & Neuman, 2006:23). With this research the researcher aims to explore quantitatively adolescent's knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse that may contribute to the sexual abuse of adolescents in a rural area of the Northern Cape Province (Botma *et al.*, 2010:111; Fouché & De Vos, 2011:95-96; Thyer, 2001:131). This study was non-experimental and hypothesis generating in that its results may contribute to further study in this area. The researcher wanted to sample a profile of adolescents' knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse in order to draw conclusions regarding the adequacy of knowledge and awareness of adolescents regarding sexual abuse and to make recommendations to organisations with directions regarding focus areas in the prevention of sexual abuse risk.

6.4 Population and sampling

The population that forms part of this study was adolescents between the ages 15 to 17 years (from grade 9 to grade 11) from both gender and who attended school in the Frances Baard area which consists of areas in Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp (including Ganspan), Pampierstad and Hartswater. The adolescents' legal guardians were on the caseloads of social workers from the Department of Social Development, Caritas Community Focus Organisation and Child Welfare. These adolescents' reading levels were on standard, according to the "Stimulus Maksima" (2015) reading programme and they were cable of answering all the questions. The adolescents' families who were on the caseloads of social workers were mostly foster parents who live in communities characterised by poverty, unemployment and overcrowding, which can place the adolescent at risk of sexual abuse (Townsend & Dawes, 2007:69).

The adolescents were sampled using a non-probability sampling technique, namely the purposive sampling technique. According to Strydom (2011a:323) purposive sampling is based on the judgement of the researcher and is composed of elements that contain the most characteristic, representative attributes of the population that best serve the purpose of the study. The sample was selected from the caseloads of social workers. This implies that potential respondents are receiving or have recently received social work services at the agency, depending on specific circumstances. Since the researcher is not familiar with the respondents at the time of introduction, except for knowing they are clients in some way, the respondents were already depersonalized.

Because the sample size was relatively small, all adolescents who comply with the inclusion criteria were asked to be part of the research. Since the research population was geographically demarcated and limited to clients of three welfare organizations, the analysis was limited to frequencies, percentages and averages, and did not rely on inferences or generalization which was not emphasised in the results. A power calculation was performed by means of statistics indicating that a minimum sample size of 62 was required for Alphas of 0.05 and a 90% power goal under the above specified survey conditions.

6.5 Sample inclusion criteria

- Adolescents between 15 and 17 years (from grade 9 to grade 11), males and females from all racial groups, whose primary caregivers were on the caseloads of social workers from the Department of Social Development and Child Welfare and who could speak Afrikaans and/or English, were included. The adolescents' families were on the caseloads of social workers were mostly foster parents who lived mostly in communities characterised by poverty, unemployment and overcrowding, could place the adolescent at risk of being sexually abused.
- Adolescents whose reading levels were on standard according to the "Stimulus Maksima" (2015) reading programme and who therefore were able to answer questions on a questionnaire.
- Adolescents whose legal guardians gave written informed consent that allowed them to be approached and included in the research.
- Adolescents who gave written informed assent to be part of the research.

6.6 Sample exclusion criteria

Adolescents, who were in therapy as a result of them being sexually abused.

6.7 Research process

The following research process was followed:

- The research proposal was submitted for approval to the Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of the Faculty of the North-West University of the Potchefstroom Campus. After approval was given, the proposed study started. **(Annexure 1)**
- The researcher wrote a letter to the social workers' managers in the Department of Social Development, Caritas Community Focus and Child Welfare of the Frances Baard area, which consists of Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp (including Ganspan), Pampierstad and Hartswater, to do the research with adolescents whose legal guardians are on the caseloads of these organisations. They were informed that participation in the study is voluntary and no-one must feel

obligated to participate. Refusal of participation will carry no consequences.

(Annexure 2)

- The researcher asked the social work managers of the mentioned organisations in the Frances Baard area to assist the researcher with the names and details of the social workers.
- After the social workers, as mediators between the researcher and adolescents, were identified, appointments were made by the researcher and an informative interview was conducted regarding the aim of the study, the advantages and disadvantages of the research, the process to conduct the research, as well as the ethical aspects regarding the research.
- The researcher then compiled an information leaflet (in which she asked the adolescents between 15 to 17 years from grade 9 to 11) of the above mentioned organisations to list their names and details for the social workers of these organisations known to them and who acted as mediators, if they are interested to be part of the research. The list had the full details of the participants such as their names, addresses and contact details.
- After the researcher received the list of names and details of the adolescents from the social workers, the researcher arranged a meeting with the adolescents and their legal guardians to explain to the guardian that their adolescent wants to be part of the research. The researcher then discussed the aim of the study with them, the advantages and disadvantages of taking part in the research, as well as the ethical aspects regarding the research concerning the adolescents. This ensured that the adolescents and the legal guardians made an informed choice on whether the adolescents could take part in the research.
- Enough time (about a week) was given to each adolescent and their legal guardian to go through the details on the consent and assent forms before signing the forms.
- Before obtaining written informed consent and assent, the researcher explained to the adolescents and the legal guardians that should a participant disclose sexual abuse of him- or her selves or another child, disclosure must be reported to the social worker for further investigation. **(Annexures 5 and 6)**

- Confirmation of dates and times for the questionnaires to be completed in one of the offices of the organisations, where privacy could be assured, was discussed with each adolescent and their legal guardian by the researcher.
- A self-administrated questionnaire was developed with the inputs of the study leader, co-study leader, members of the Subject Division of Social Work, as well as the ethics committee in the Faculty of Health Sciences COMPRES. **(Annexure 7)** The questionnaire was also submitted for qualitative appraisal to a small panel (six members) of knowledgeable experts recruited from the current Forensic Social Work class, of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus. These members judged formulated items for item difficulty, appropriateness for the target group and test fit to the knowledge and awareness construct “sexual abuse knowledge and awareness” as methods of ensuring content validity. Thereafter pilot testing was done with eight adolescents between the ages 15 to 17 years who would not be part of the research. It was also sent to the Department of Statistical Consultation Services of the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University for testing and clarification.
- The researcher was not present in the room while the adolescents completed the questionnaire. The questionnaire was completed individually by each adolescent.
- The completion of the questionnaire spanned approximately 15 to 30 minutes.
- After the completion of the questionnaire, the researcher collected the questionnaire and put it in a locked cabinet in her office.
- After receiving all the completed questionnaires, the researcher took the questionnaires to Dr Ellis at the Department of Statistical Consultation Services of the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University to be analysed.
- The report was completed in a mini-dissertation with recommendations after which it will be submitted for approval to be published in an accredited journal.

6.8 Data collection

A questionnaire **(Annexure 7)** for adolescents was compiled and used as a tool to collect data with some questions adapted from two questionnaires of Halpérin, Bouvier, Jaffe, Mounoud, Pawlak, Laederach and Rey, (1996) and Winchester (2009) in this research. In the research of Halpérin *et al.* (1996) a total of 1193 ninth

grade pupils in 68 classes were randomly selected from the 201 ninth grade classes of the public school system in Geneva. The adolescents could complete it within 30 to 45 minutes. In the research of Winchester (2009) conducted by the EKOS Research Associates with students ranging from grades 7 to 12 attending English and French, Catholic and public schools located in the Cornwall area, the self-administered questionnaire centred on the prevention of sexual abuse and examined knowledge that pertain to helping the community move forward with the appropriate educational programs, activities, resources and support. A total of 188 questionnaires were completed. Both questionnaires were not standardised, which means that measurement errors may be present.

The questionnaire used in this research will be an essential part of this study. This questionnaire has the same questions for all subjects and can ensure anonymity (McMillan & Schumacher, 2014:211). A questionnaire is defined as a document which contains questions and or other items to collect appropriate data for analysis (Babbie, 2007:246); Delport & Roestenburg (2011:186). The questionnaire regarding this research consisted of two sections and was anonymous, thus no adolescent was identified. Section A: Biographical details of the adolescent: This data is needed to evaluate the circumstances in which adolescents lived that might place the adolescent at risk of being sexually abused. Section B: Knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse. The questionnaire measured particular adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse and environmental circumstances under which sexual abuse might occur in a rural area such as the Frances Baard area of the Northern Cape Province, whose families are on the caseloads of social workers. The questionnaire was administrated by the researcher. Each adolescent whose legal guardians were on the caseload of the abovementioned social workers known to them, completed it in solitude in one of the offices of the organisations mentioned (Kincaid, *et al.*, 2012) where privacy was assured. A social worker represented each organisation, if the adolescent should be affected by problems due to the research experience. A debriefing session was arranged by the social worker for the adolescent to work through troubled emotions. If the adolescent needed more therapy, the adolescent will be referred to a therapist without paying for the service (Babbie, 2011:475; Patton, 2002:405). No adolescent needed debriefing sessions or therapy.

Validity and reliability indices of the questionnaire

The researcher used partially self-constructed knowledge and an awareness test derived from existing knowledge tests from Halpérin *et al.* (1996) and Winchester (2009) and a literature review. In both cases the questionnaire was not validated prior to the study. Thus no known psychometric properties for these measures could be identified. Therefore prior to the empirical application of this newly constructed test, the researcher employed the following techniques in establishing basic measurement properties of this test: **Firstly** face validity was established by submitting the knowledge and awareness test to the Statistical Consultation Services of the North-West University Potchefstroom Campus in order to establish whether the instrument indeed fulfils the requirements of a knowledge and awareness test. **Secondly**, as a method of establishing content validity, the newly developed test was submitted for qualitative appraisal to a small panel (six members) of knowledgeable experts recruited from the current Forensic Social Work class, of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus who judged formulated items for item difficulty, appropriateness for the target group and test fit to the knowledge and awareness construct “sexual abuse knowledge and awareness” as methods of ensuring content validity. **Thirdly**, to further confirm content validity, the newly developed knowledge and awareness test was pilot tested on eight adolescents who were not part of the research to ensure that errors of whatever nature can be rectified.

6.9 Data analysis

Quantitative data were transformed into statistical accessible forms by counting procedures (Fouché & Bartley, 2011:254-257). The Statistical Consultation Services of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus quantitatively analysed the data. The purpose of this analysis was to compile a description of the sample in terms of their knowledge and awareness levels. For this purpose frequency distributions for the different items in the knowledge test were used. In order to increase the validity of findings, the researcher firstly established whether the

measurement instrument used measured respondents knowledge and awareness levels has sufficient construct validity. This allowed appropriate establishment of knowledge levels.

7. ETHICAL ASPECTS

Strydom (2011b:114) defines ethics as a set of moral principles which is suggested by an individual or group and which is widely accepted and offers rules and behavioural expectations about the most correct conduct towards experimental subjects and respondents, employers, sponsors, other researchers, assistants and students. Ethics relates to moral standards that should be upheld by the researcher in all stages of the research. Ethical permission was obtained from the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the North-West University, (Potchefstroom Campus) to conduct the study. **(Annexure 1)** Ethical aspects pertaining to this study were dealt with in the following manner:

- **Actions and competence of the researcher and mediators**

According to Botma *et al.* (2010:56) and Mnisi (2012:8) researchers are obliged to ensure that they are competent and skilled to undertake research investigations. The researcher has been working with children and adolescents for the last 10 years and at the Hartswater High School for the last three years where she conducted various interviews with young children and adolescents. The researcher is trained to use questionnaires to determine needs of people not only in social work practice, but also during her training in the Master's degree. She continues to keep abreast of knowledge pertaining to different aspects of research.

As a registered social worker, the researcher is obliged to obey the codes of ethics and rules for the social workers of the South African Council for Social Service Profession. The researcher informed the managers of the organisations and the social workers who were also registered social workers beforehand about the potential impact the research may have on the adolescents as participants.

- **Written informed consent**

Babbie (2011:480) mentions that informed consent is a norm in which the subjects base their voluntary participation in the research project and to have an understanding of the possible risks involved. Regarding written informed consent, according to Strydom (2011:117) emphasis “must be placed on accurate and complete information, so that subjects will fully comprehend the details of the investigation and consequently be able to make voluntary, thoroughly reasoned decisions about their possible participation”.

The researcher arranged a meeting with the adolescents and their primary caregivers to explain the aim of the study, the advantages and disadvantages of taking part in the research as well as the ethical aspects regarding the research. This ensured that the adolescent and the primary caregiver made an informed choice on whether the adolescent could take part in the research. Enough time (about a week) was given to the adolescent and the primary caregiver to go through the details on the consent form before they decided to sign it. Before obtaining written informed consent, the researcher explained to the adolescents and the primary caregiver that should a participant disclose sexual abuse of him- or herself or another child, disclosure must be reported to the social worker for further investigation.

- **Voluntary participation**

Permission to participate in the study was obtained by the social work managers in the different organisations. The researcher explained prior to the research study that participation is voluntary and that no-one is obliged to participate (Strydom, 2011b:116). The adolescents were also informed that they may end their participation in the study at any time, unless data has been gathered. The letters with information regarding the study were handed out in advance, to give the prospective adolescents and their primary caregivers enough time to decide whether they want to participate.

- **Confidentiality**

Babbie (2011:482) and Strydom (2011b:119) mention that confidentiality is about privacy and that there should be an agreement between the researcher and participants that the responses of the participants can be given to the public, but no private information of the participants. The completion of the questionnaires took place in a safe environment in one of the offices of the organisations where privacy could be assured. Each participant was allocated a number beforehand such as participant 1, participant 2 et cetera, instead of using their names to maintain confidentiality.

Data received from the Statistical Consultation Services of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus was stored on a password protected computer of the researcher. All questionnaires were safely stored in a locked cabinet in the researcher's office where no-one has access to it, and thereafter it was stored in a room at the Social Work Division of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus prohibiting all people, including the researcher and study leader, from having access to the material. After five years the University will destroy all the questionnaires.

- **Debriefing**

During preparation the respondents were informed that if they were affected by problems due to the research experience, debriefing sessions could be arranged to work through their emotions by the social workers who were known to them (Babbie, 2011:475; Patton, 2002:405). It is emphasized by Strydom (2011b:122) that subjects should never be exposed to situations that may cause them harm. If there was any secondary trauma experienced by any participant they were given the opportunity to work through their secondary trauma with an appropriate therapist. There was no need for debriefing sessions.

- **Benefits and risks**

There were no direct benefits for the adolescents. Indirect benefits for the participants in this study were that the researcher drew conclusions and made recommendations to the managers of the Department of Social Development,

Caritas Community Focus and Child Welfare offices of the Frances Baard area in compiling empowerment programmes. With these programmes adolescents, will be empowered with knowledge and awareness regarding the factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents. These programmes will play a role in preventing adolescents from being sexually abused. Another indirect benefit for the participants in this study, was the knowledge on sexual abuse that may be gained from completing the measurement tool during data collection. Completing the questionnaire sensitized respondents regarding the possibility of sexual abuse and this may lead to disclosure and appropriate follow-up services. Knowledge and awareness attained from the study will assist social workers in dealing with sexual abuse of adolescents and their role and responsibilities regarding legislation and social services.

Risk, according to Botma *et al.* (2010:22) “equates to harm or injury and implies it is something detrimental that will occur in the future.” Emotional discomfort may occur due to the completion of the questionnaire by the adolescent. The participants were given an opportunity to work through their embarrassments by means of debriefing sessions by the social worker, who acts as mediator and were known to the adolescents or an appropriate therapist (Strydom, 2011b:122). The research was of minimal to moderate risks, because there could be adolescents who were sexually abused. If there were adolescents who were sexually abused and who experienced emotional discomfort, the social workers who acts as mediators would assist them or referred them to another therapist, if needed. No adolescent in this research experienced any discomfort.

The benefits outweighed the risks, not only for the adolescents and their primary caregivers, but also for the community, because they will be able to identify the factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents. With this knowledge the sexual abuse of adolescents can be prevented.

- **Right to withdraw**

The respondents’ right to withdraw at any time when they wish to do so, were also considered.

- **Remuneration**

Remuneration is not a benefit, because it is compensation for inconvenience incurred by participating in the research (Botma *et al.*, 2010:21). There were only refreshments given to the adolescents from the researcher's own budget. If necessary they were reimbursed if they used transport and this was paid by the researcher from her own budget. There was no remuneration for the legal guardians or the organisations.

- **Release and publication of the findings**

The researcher gave the results to the adolescents by means of a written report. With the permission of the adolescents, the researcher also gave these results through to the managers of the organisations where prevention programmes could be developed. The findings of the study were introduced to the reading public in written form by means of a dissertation and will also be introduced as an article in an accredited journal.

8. LIMITATIONS OF THE RESEARCH

The researcher received permission from the Health Research Ethics Committee on a very late stage and this restraint caused a major delay and hindered the process and progress of the research.

Caritas Community Focus in Kimberley did give permission to conduct the research at their organisation, but due to the fact that they only render services in the urban parts of Kimberley, they were not included in the research at the end due to the fact that only rural areas were sampled.

9. DEFINITIONS OF TERMINOLOGY

9.1 Adolescent

According to Zastrow and Kirst-Ashman (2004:221) the adolescent phase is between childhood and adulthood. An adolescent, according to Bezuidenhout and Campher (2006:24) is an individual who is in the developmental phase that occurs from puberty to maturity and between ages 12 and 18. Adolescence as a development

phase is characterized by discovery, experimentation and exploitation, which are brought about by a myriad of physical and emotional changes (Nefale, 2001:3). Adolescence can be identified by physical changes, development of socially acceptable behaviour, development of moral concepts and values that guide behaviour (Louw, Van Ede & Louw, 1998:389; Zastrow & Kirst-Ashman, 2004:221). For the purpose of this research the researcher included adolescents between the ages 15 to 17 years.

9.2 Awareness

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary (2015a) describe awareness as, “knowing that something (situation, condition or problem) exists and the feeling experienced or taking note of something (such as a sound, sensation or emotion) and knowing and understanding a lot about what is happening in the world or around us.” The Oxford Dictionary (2015a) describes awareness as, “the knowledge or perception of a situation or fact and to raise public awareness of the issue.” The aim of this research was to determine if adolescents are aware of the dynamics of sexual abuse and to determine if there is a lack of awareness and risks regarding sexual abuse.

9.3 Knowledge

Knowledge according to the Oxford Dictionary (2015b) is, “facts, information and skills acquired through experience or education, the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject” and the Merriam-Webster Dictionary (2015b) defines knowledge as, “information, understanding or skill that you get from experience or education.”

9.4 Rural area

Gxulwana (2010:2) cited in Mamabolo (2014:21) indicate that no exact universally agreed upon definition of a rural area exists because defining rural is a contentious matter influenced by the realities of a nation’s development and needs. It is also characterised by country life or country people (Anon, 2015). According to the National Geographic Education’ definition (2015) a “rural area is an open swath of land that has few homes or other buildings, and not very many people. A rural areas’ population density is very low. Many people live in a city, or urban area. Their homes

and businesses are located very close to one another. In a rural area, there are fewer people, and their homes and businesses are located far away from one another”.

9.5 Sexual abuse

The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007 (South Africa, 2007) defines child sexual abuse as assault of a child or allowing a child to be sexually abused or assaulted and encouraging, inducing or forcing a child to be used for the sexual gratification of another person. Procuring or allowing a child to be procured for commercial sexual exploitation or in any way participating or assisting in the commercial sexual exploitation of a child. Using a child in or deliberately exposing a child to sexual activities or pornography. Child sexual abuse according to Meyers (2011:215), “involves any sexual activity a child below the legal age of consent, which is typically 14 to 18 years. Sexual abuse includes sexual penetration, sexual touching, and noncontact sexual acts such as exposure or voyeurism”.

10. RESEARCH RESULTS

The researcher sampled a profile of adolescents’ knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse in order to draw conclusions about the adequacy of knowledge and awareness of adolescents regarding sexual abuse. An adapted questionnaire (**Annexure 7**) for adolescents was compiled and used as tool to collect the data. Two questionnaires from Halpérin *et al.* (1996) and Winchester (2009) were adapted for the questionnaire in this research. The questionnaire consisted of two sections: Section A: Biographical details of the adolescent and Section B: Knowledge on sexual abuse. For this purpose frequency distributions for the different items in the knowledge and awareness test were used.

10.1 Biographical details of adolescent

The following findings reflect the biographical details of the adolescents.

10.1.1 Home language of the adolescent

Table 1: Home language

Language	Frequency	%
English	2	2.3%
Tswana	27	31.0%
Afrikaans	58	66.7%
	N=87	100

The participants were all adolescents on the caseloads of the Department Social Services in Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp and Hartswater and Child Welfare in Pampierstad. From the results above, it is obvious that 2 (2.3%) of the 87 participants were English speaking, 27 (31.0%) were Tswana speaking, who could understand English and Afrikaans. The majority 58 (66.7%) were Afrikaans speaking. This was expected as the dominant language in the Northern Cape is Afrikaans.

10.1.2 Age and gender of adolescents

The age of the adolescents is reflected in Table 2.

Table 2: Age in years

Age	Frequency	%
15 years	39	44.8%
16 years	28	32.2%
17 years	20	30.00%
	N=87	100

According to Strong *et al.* (1998:289) adolescence is the “years of puberty, between ages 12 and 18”. In the social worker’s caseloads, only adolescents between the ages of 15 to 17 years were selected to take part in the survey. From Table 2 it becomes clear that 44% of the participants were 15 years old and only 30% were 17 years old. There were 23 (26.4%) males and 62 (71.3%) females in this research.

10.1.3 Highest school grade completed by the adolescents

The adolescents completed the following grades:

Table 3: School Grade

Grade	Frequency	%
Grade 9	59	67.8%
Grade 10	23	26.4%
Grade 11	1	1.1%
Missing	4	4.6%
Total	N=87	100

As indicated in the table above, 59 (67.8%) of the participants were in Grade 9, 23 (26.4%) were in Grade 10 and only 1 (1.1%) was in Grade 11. The majority of the participants' highest grade completed was Grade 8 and according to the "Stimulus Maksima" (2015) reading programme, they were all able to answer the questions on the questionnaire.

10.1.4 Rural area or town the adolescents resided in

Table 4: Place of residence

Rural area/town	Frequency	%
Warrenton	17	19.5%
Jan Kempdorp	21	24.1%
Pampierstad	6	6.9%
Hartswater	43	49.9%
Total	N=87	100

The research was conducted in the Frances Baard district and consists of the following towns: Warrenton, Jan Kempdorp (including Ganspan), Hartswater and Pampierstad. Warrenton has approximately 24 204 people and the rest of the towns incorporates a total of 61 321 people of whom the majority is found in the peri-urban areas and the population of youth account for 33%. All the adolescents in the survey were from rural areas with 43 (49.9%) who resided in Hartswater.

10.1.5 Type of house the adolescents live in

Table 5: Type of house

Type of house	Frequency	%
Traditional hut	4	4.6%
Makuku (shack)	8	9.2%
Brick house	74	85.1
Other	1	1.1%

Total	N=87	100
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From Table 5 it becomes clear that the majority of the participants, 74 (85.1%) live in a brick house and only 4 (4.6%) in a traditional hut and 1 (1.1%) in a “makuku”. The other one (1.1%) did not indicate what type of other house he/she lives in. Although most of the adolescents lived in brick houses, these houses did not have mostly more than 3 rooms as indicated in Table 6.

10.1.6 Amount of rooms in the house the adolescents live in

The participants reside in the following houses:

Table 6: Rooms in the house

Amount of rooms	Frequency	%
1 Room	3	3.5%
2 Rooms	25	30.0%
3 Rooms	26	30.2%
4 Rooms	21	24.5%
5 Rooms	5	5.8%
6 Rooms	5	5.8%
7 Rooms	1	1.2%
	N=86	100

Missing=1

From the results in the above table, only 11 (12.8%) participants live in a house with five or more rooms that is according to the Frances Baard district mostly houses with three bedrooms, a kitchen and living room. The other 75 (87.2%) participants live in houses with one to four bedrooms with 54 (62.8%) in houses between one and three bedrooms. According to the Frances Baard district, houses with two rooms consist mostly with one bedroom and a kitchen.

10.1.7 Number of people in the house

The adolescents indicated the number of people who live with them in their houses:

Table 7: Number of people

Adult per house	Houses	Frequency	Children	Houses	Frequency
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1 Adult	7	7	1 Child	11	11
2 Adults	54	108	2 Children	21	42
3 Adults	16	48	3 Children	23	69
4 Adults	4	16	4 Children	17	68
5 Adults	1	5	5 Children	8	40
6 Adults	1	6	6 Children	3	18
7 Adults	2	14	7 Children	2	14
	N=85	204		N=85	262

Missing=2

Data received from the above mentioned table indicated that a total of 466 people resided in the houses of the 85 adolescents who answered this question. Adolescents who live in houses with three to seven adults are 24 (28.3%) and adolescents who live in houses with three to seven children are 53 (62.4%). According to the results above, all the 85 adolescents thus live in a house with at least one adult who is available and who could, as primary caregiver, look after the adolescent.

10.1.8 People the adolescents share a sleeping space with

The adolescents shearing a sleeping space with the following people:

Table 8: People shearing a sleeping space

Person with whom a sleeping space is sheared	Frequency	%
Mother	14	13.6%
Father	3	2.9%
Sister	34	33.0%
Brother	11	10.7%
Uncle	4	3.9%
Aunt	4	3.9%
Sleep alone	29	28.2%
Other	4	3.9%
	N=103	100

The adolescents indicated that 14 (13.6%) of them share a sleeping space with their mothers and 3 (2.9%) with their fathers. The majority share a space with either their

sisters 34 (33%) and 11 (10.7%) with their brothers. Only 29 (28.2%) of the adolescents indicated that they sleep alone.

When one compares the results in Tables 6, 7 and 8 with each other, one may come to the conclusion that most of the adolescents in this research live in over-crowded households. According to Townsend and Dawes (2007:71), Dawes (2002) noted that a pertinent structural feature of poverty environments that arises the risk of child sexual abuse, are overcrowding. According to Townsend and Dawes (2007:71) overcrowding households limit the possibility of separation between adults and teenagers and children which could lead to sexual abuse of these children. Poverty and overcrowding can also lead to adolescents sharing a sleeping space with somebody else. This situation can expose adolescents to sexual behaviours of adults and also the sexual abuse of themselves (Van Niekerk, 2006:104).

All these adolescents' caregivers were on the caseloads of social workers which indicate that some of the adolescents in this research could be in foster care. According to the experience of Spies (2006:274) in South Africa most substitute caregivers such as foster parents have a little or no knowledge of sexual abuse, which could place these adolescents in danger of being sexually abused because they do not know the implication of overcrowded households have on the sexual abuse of a child.

10.1.9 Sexual abuse of a child in the adolescents' community

The researcher wanted to explore if the adolescents are aware that children in their community are victims of sexual abuse.

Table 9: Sexual abuse in communities

	Frequency	%
Never	15	17.6%
Yearly	22	25.9%
Monthly	13	15.3%
Weekly	13	15.3%
Daily	22	25.9%
	N=85	100

Missing=2

In the table above adolescents reflected their thoughts on how often a child is sexually abused in their communities. A total of 15 (17.6%) adolescents think that children are never sexually abused in their communities, 22 (25.9%) indicated that they think children are being abused yearly. Only 13 (15.3%) participants indicated that sexual abuse in their community happens on a weekly basis and 22 (25.9%) think that children in their communities are being sexually abused on a daily basis. From the answers received it is clear that only 25.9% of the adolescents in this research are aware that a child in their community is being sexually abused on a daily basis. Child sexual abuse, also in the rural areas of South Africa, is a huge problem today (Calitz, 2011; Dondolo, 2013; Mahura, 2013; Meel, 2008; Nqhapi, 2013). According to Strydom (2014) cited in an article written by Wilkinson (2014) a child is raped every three minutes in South Africa. When one looks at this information it is obvious that most of the adolescents in this research do not realise the problem of sexual abuse in their communities and in their age group, as well as their vulnerability of being a victim of sexual abuse. According to Tomlinson and Philpot (2007:68) children that are sexually abused may not always see the abuse as unusual and that may be the reason why they don't tell other children about the abuse.

10.1.10 Adolescents in own age group being sexually abused

The researcher also wanted to explore if the adolescents are aware that adolescents in their community are also victims of being sexually abused.

Table 10: Sexual abuse of adolescent in own age group

	Frequency	%
Never	11	12.6%
Yearly	21	24.2%
Monthly	18	20.7%
Weekly	15	17.2%
Daily	19	21.9%
Missing	3	3.4%
	N=87	100

Only 39.1% of the adolescents are aware that a person in their age group could be sexually abused. Research done by Buchanan (2015:43) with adolescent boys in the Free State Province and research done by Meyer (2011:19), experienced that

the adolescents have a limited view regarding sexual abuse, misconceptions still persist and that adequate knowledge and a deeper understanding of sexual abuse are lacking. According to UNICEF (2012) South Africa's levels of violence against children are among the highest in the world. Tens of thousands of children are victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation every year and offenders often go unpunished.

10.2 Knowledge and awareness of adolescents regarding sexual abuse

The aim of section B in this research was to explore adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse. Question 12 was an open-ended question where the participants needed to define sexual abuse in their own words.

10.2.1 Definition of sexual abuse

A majority of participants indicated that sexual abuse is when sexual acts against youths happen under force and with no agreement. The other participants defined sexual abuse as rape, when children do not listen, where physical abuse occurs, trafficking of children as well as environmental influences. Five (5) participants did not know what to answer.

Some of the answers of the participants regarding sexual abuse were:

- "Maybe your parents are not taking care of you and he/she let you do whatever you want".
- "When you do things that you don't want to do".
- "Slaap saam wanneer jy dronk is of wanneer 'n persoon dwelms rook".
- "Sexual abuse is like teenagers who are pregnant and also older people spend money for younger people to have sex with them sometimes they don't use condoms".
- "Ek dink baie dat 'n kind nie luister na die regte goed nie".

According to Winchester (2009:13) participants are aware that sexual abuse is non-consensual in nature, but many also suggest that in its common form, sexual abuse

involves an act of physical violence such as rape. In the study of Winchester (2009) a majority of the participants indicated that sexual abuse is multi-dimensional and suggested that it may also involve not only acts of physical violence, but also verbal and emotional abuse. Winchester (2009:13) mentioned that a few students added that drugs and alcohol occasionally facilitate to sexual abuse. Research done by Buchanan (2015:29) and Mamabolo (2014:25) in rural areas of the Free State and North-West Provinces they also came to the conclusion that the adolescents in their research have limited knowledge regarding sexual abuse.

10.2.2 Statements of adolescents regarding sexual abuse

The researcher wanted to explore more the adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse and for that reason asked questions adapted from research done by Halpérin *et al.*, (1996) to explore whether the adolescents have enough knowledge and awareness regarding certain situations which put adolescents in danger of being sexually abused. The researcher also wanted to explore their general views regarding sexual abuse.

Table 11: Statements on child sexual abuse N= 87

Statement	True F	False f	Don't know f	Missing	%
1. Some children are sexually abused by older children	77 (88.5%)	1 (1.1%)	9 (10.3%)	0 0	100
2. Most of the time children are sexually abused when they are alone at home	58 (66.7%)	15 (17.2%)	13 (14.9%)	1 (1.1%)	100
3. Most of the time children are sexually abused when they are outside their home	55 (63.2%)	13 (14.9%)	17 (19.5%)	2 (2.3%)	100
4. Most of the time children are sexually abused at night	65 (74.7%)	14 (16.1%)	7 (8.0%)	1 (1.1)	100
5. It is against the law to have sex when you or your partner is younger than 16 years old.	45 (51.7%)	19 (21.8%)	21 (24.1%)	2 (2.3%)	100
6. Only girls are victims of sexual abuse	11 (12.6%)	68 (78.2%)	7 (8.0)	1 (1.1%)	100
7. Sexually abused boys are homosexual	19 (21.8%)	41 (47.1%)	26 (29.9%)	1 (1.1)	100
8. Children from rich families are not victims of sexual abuse	5 (5.7%)	70 (80.5%)	11 (12.6%)	1 (1.1%)	100
9. All children can be victims of sexual abuse	63 (73.4%)	12 (13.8%)	12 (13.8%)	0	100
10. Only children under 12 years are victims	6	73	7	1	100

of sexual abuse	(6.9%)	(83.9%)	(8%.0)	(1.1)	
11. Boys are not victims of sexual abuse	6 (6.9%)	70 (80.5%)	10 (11.5%)	1 (1.1%)	100
12. The majority of sexual abuse perpetrators are mentally ill or retarded	19 (21.8%)	28 (32.2%)	39 (44.8%)	1 (1.1%)	100
13. In sexual abuse the child is never responsible for the abuse	29 (33.3%)	19 (21.8%)	38 (43.7%)	1 (1.1)	100
14. It is against the law to send naked photos of yourself to other adolescents or adults	44 (50.6%)	22 (25.3%)	19 (21.8%)	2 (2.3%)	100

No definition of sexual abuse was given to the participants in this study and these statements were answered according to the adolescents' knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse. A total of eight (8) statements were factually true statements and six (6) statements were false.

According to the results from the abovementioned table, there are many signs that the adolescents in this research do not have enough knowledge of sexual abuse. The "don't know statements and the missing (did not answer)" is also an indicator that the adolescents do not have knowledge regarding the dynamics of sexual abuse and therefore it can have an influence on their awareness and it opens them to a vulnerable state. This, to some extent was also found in the studies of Halpérin *et al.* (1996). The participants in the research of Halpérin *et al.* (1996) were not always sure about the correct answers to the different statements made on the questionnaire.

The responses of adolescents in this research indicated that little knowledge exist regarding the legal aspects of sexual abuse. Only 45 (51.7%) of the adolescents knew that it is against the law when you are younger than 16 years of age and 44 (50.6%) of the adolescents indicated that it is against the law to send naked photos of yourself to other adolescents or adults. According to Chapter 3 of The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 38 of 2007, (South Africa, 2007), is it a sexual offence. Although children are sexually abused when they are alone at home and when they are at other places than their home, most sexual abuse of children take place when there are people at home and while they are in bed. Research done by Nqaphi (2013: 22-24) in the Eastern Cape Province, he found that some of the participants were sexually abused while they were in bed while there were other people in the house. The sexual abuse of a child by a family

member is not unusual. According to Dedel (2010:1), Friedman (2013:1) and Lewis (2005:101) the home can be the most dangerous place where a child can be sexually abused and most of these abuses are committed in family homes and by those known to the victims such as fathers, uncles, brothers, mothers, and step-fathers. According to Spies (2006:3-22) incest is considered to be a restitutive attempt to maintain family integrity while addressing anxieties and conflicts about abandonment and sexuality. Sholevar (2003:695) cited in Spies (2006:3-22) was of the opinion that incestuous behaviour may develop when coping mechanisms of the family can no longer manage family conflicts without violating the integrity of the system. The respondents in some of these cases told even their mothers about the sexual abuse.

10.2.3 Situations contributing to sexual abuse

The researcher also wanted to gain an understanding as to what extent are adolescents aware of those environmental factors that can contribute to the incidence of sexual abuse in the Northern Cape area.

Table 12: Situations that may contribute to the sexual abuse of an adolescent

Situation	To no extent	To a small extent	To a large extent	Don't know	Missing	%
1. Drinking a lot of alcohol	10 (11.5%)	18 (20.7%)	52 (59.8%)	5 (5.7%)	2 (2.3%)	100
2. Taking drugs	11 (12.6%)	10 (11.5%)	62 (71.3%)	2 (2.3%)	2 (2.3%)	100
3. Parents who are absent from home	6 (6.9%)	29 (33.3%)	37 (42.5%)	15 (17.2%)	0	100
4. Pressure from friends and others your age	10 (11.5%)	23 (26.4%)	48 (55.2%)	4 (4.6%)	2 (2.3%)	100
5. Adolescents walking alone in the street	9 (10.3%)	29 (33.3%)	32 (36.8%)	14 (16.1%)	3 (3.4%)	100
6. Being poor	13 (14.9%)	27 (31.0%)	22 (25.3%)	23 (26.4%)	2 (2.3%)	100
7. Bad family relationships	15 (17.2%)	28 (32.2%)	34 (39.1%)	8 (9.2%)	2 (2.3%)	100
8. Acting according to one's cultural beliefs	20 (23%)	22 (25.3%)	17 (19.5%)	28 (32.2%)	0	100
9. How one is dressed	16 (18.4%)	25 (28.7%)	39 (44.8%)	7 (8.0%)	0	100

10. Thinking bad about oneself	21 (24.1%)	25 (28.7%)	28 (32.2%)	11 (12.6%)	2 (2.3%)	100
11. Not worrying about having sex with boys/girls	9 (10.3%)	14 (16.1%)	42 (48.3%)	22 (25.3%)	0	100
12. Watching sex on Internet or TV	10 (11.5%)	19 (21.8%)	44 (50.6%)	14 (16.1%)	0	100
13. No discipline in the house	18 (20.7%)	18 (20.7%)	45 (51.7%)	5 (5.7%)	1 (1.1%)	100
14. Bad relationship with parents	8 (9.2)	29 33.3%	41 (47.1%)	8 (9.2%)	1 (1.1%)	100
15. Excessive interest in sex	8 (9.2%)	11 (12.6)	46 (52.9%)	21 (24.1%)	1 (1.1%)	100

16. To be part of a gang	16 (18.4%)	20 (23.0%)	31 (36.6%)	20 (23%)	0	100
17. No or minimal sexual education	11 (12.6%)	21 (24.1%)	27 (31%)	27 (31%)	1 (1.1)	100
18. Households run by a child/ adolescent	8 (9.2%)	18 (20.7%)	38 (34.7%)	22 (25.3%)	1 (1.1%)	100
19. Thinking lowly of oneself	15 (17.2%)	27 (31%)	30 (34.5%)	15 17.2%	0	100
20. No friend support	21 (24.1%)	32 (36.8%)	17 (19.5)	17 (19.5%)	0	100
21. Parental separation	16 (18.4%)	28 (32.2%)	24 (27.6%)	19 (21.8%)	0	100
22. Living with a single parent	31 (36.6%)	25 (28.7%)	12 (13.8%)	19 (21.8%)	0	100
23. Living with step-father or step-mother	20 (23.0%)	21 (24.1%)	26 (29.9%)	20 (23.0%)	0	100
24. Parents who do not talk about sexual abuse	19 (21.8%)	16 (18.4%)	31 (35.6%)	20 (23.0%)	1 (1.1%)	100
25. Over-crowded households	21 (24.1%)	22 (25.3%)	21 (24.1%)	23 (26.4%)	0	100
26. Other situations (Please explain)	8 (9.2%)	6 (6.9%)	10 (11.5%)	42 (48.3%)	21 (24.1%)	100

From the above mentioned table it is clear that the adolescents have limited knowledge regarding what situations can contribute to sexual abuse. Only 52 (59.8%) participants mention that drinking alcohol can contribute to a large extent to sexual abuse. According to Du Bois and Miley (2005:399) and Van Niekerk (2006:112) substance abuse amongst adolescents has become a widespread problem around the world and many sexual offences are committed while the offender is under the influence of alcohol and that it may inhibit responsible

behaviour. In the research of Madikizela's (2013:42) it was confirmed that, "the problem of sexual abuse among adolescents while being intoxicated blights individual lives, undermines families and damages whole communities, especially the future of those adolescents."

Townsend and Dawes (2004:69) mention that social factors like poverty, unemployment and overcrowding can place a child at risk of abuse and increase the opportunities for abusers to abuse. Only 22 (25.3%) of the adolescents indicated that social factors like poverty contribute to large extent to sexual abuse and 38 (34.7%) indicated that households run by a child contribute to a large extent to sexual abuse. Mamabolo (2014:37) mentions in his research that due to the HIV epidemic many young adolescents are forced into a premature parenting role and take responsibility as caregivers and guardians and these situations lead to the possibility for the child or children being sexually abused by members in the community or family. The adolescents indicated that bad family relationships, parents who are absent from home, bad relationship with parents and living with single parents, don't have a large influence on sexual abuse, but according to Mamabolo (2014:37-39) and Nqaphi (2013:20) children become susceptible to sexual abuse by persons, other family members and outsiders without the protection and care of a mature adult in the household. Where children are unsupervised, sexual abuse should be considered as high risk.

The participants indicated that being part of a gang, does not contribute to a small or large extent to sexual abuse. Zastrow (2010:305) mentions that delinquent gangs are created because the needs of "youths are not being met by family, neighbourhood or traditional community," and therefore they are more vulnerable to be sexual exploited and abused. Ncanywa (2014:45) concluded in her studies that in gangs there is the misuse of drugs and alcohol that may cause children and adolescents to be vulnerable to sexual abuse.

10.2.4 Typical victim of sexual abuse

The researcher used questions of Winchester (2009) to explore participants views on what a typical victim of sexual abuse may look like. In Table 14 the researcher

explores the views of the adolescents by giving them a variety of appropriate victims of sexual abuse.

Table 13: Typical victim N=87

Victim	Frequency	%
Boys	34	39.1%
Girls	52	59.8%
Children (1-9 years old)	30	34.5%
Pre-teens (9-11 years old)	27	30.0%
Adolescents (12-17 years old)	44	50.1%
Specific racial groups	18	20.7%
Specific income groups	11	12.6%
Other	5	5.8%
Do not know	19	21,8%

A total of 52 (59.8%) adolescents indicated that they believe a “typical” victim of sexual abuse are girls and 44 (50.1%) indicated that victims are between the ages (12-17 years). Only 34 (39.1%) indicated that boys can be “typical” victims of sexual abuse and 2 (30.0%) indicated that victims can be between the ages of 9-11 years. A total of 19 (21.8%) suggested that they “don’t know” what a typical victim of sexual abuse looks like and therefore it raises concerns regarding the adolescents knowledge and awareness regarding who can be victims of sexual abuse. Five (5.8%) adolescents mention that there are other typical victims and mention that “adults” and “anybody” can be a victim of sexual abuse. Winchester (2009:15) in his research found that a typical victim according to the participants in his research is more often assumed to be a girl, but pre-teens and adolescents are both seen to be fairly stereotypical targets as well. According to Advocates of Youth (2013:4) females are more likely than males to experience child sexual abuse, but boys are also vulnerable of being sexually abused. According to Pretorius and Pheifer (2010:72) sexual abuse affects most children of both genders. A few of the participants believe that boys can be a typical target and therefore boys may be more vulnerable, since they are not considered a likely target.

10.2.5 Sources of information regarding sexual abuse

The researcher attempted to determine with this research where the adolescents learn about sexual abuse and what their sources of information are.

Table 14: The best sources of information N=87

Source	Yes F	No F	Missing	%
1. School	75 (86.2%)	12 (13.8%)	0	100
2. Parents	53 (60.9%)	34 (39.1%)	0	100
3. Youth groups like at church/clubs	50 (57.5%)	36 (41.4%)	1	100
4. Local community clinic	57 (65.5%)	30 (34.5%)	0	100
5. TV	67 (77.7%)	20 (23.0)	0	100
6. Radio	59 (67.8%)	28 (32.2)	0	100
7. News paper	53 (60.9%)	34 (39.1%)	0	100
8. Magazine	62 (73.3%)	24 (27.6%)	1	100
9. Internet	53 (60.9%)	34 (39.1%)	0	100
10. Friends	61 (70.1%)	24 (29.6%)	2 (2.3%)	100
11. Any other resources (Please explain)	20 (23%)	38 (43.7%)	29 (33.3%)	100

According to Table 14, the most important sources of information the adolescents want to receive their information from are the schools 75 (86.2%), then the TV 67 (77.7%), magazines 62 (73.3%) and 61 (70.1%) from their friends. The other important sources are from their parents (60.9%), youth groups (57.5%), local community clinics (65.5%), the radio (67.8%), newspapers (60.9%) and internet (60.9%). According to Winchester (2009:20) most adolescents described that they learn about sexual abuse mostly from the media, conversations with friends and family, and from school, but the extent to which they learn about sexual abuse from the mentioned sources varies. Winchester (2009:20) mentions that general knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse is derived from media sources, for example television, magazines, newspapers, the internet and this information obtained from the media tend to be detailed, graphic and specific. Winchester

(2009:21) found that youth expressed a desire for more opportunities to find out about sexual abuse and discuss it in a school setting.

10.2.6 Sharing information regarding sexual abuse

To determine adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse, it is important to determine what the best approach practice is to share information with adolescents on sexual abuse. In Table 15, the adolescents indicated what they believe the best approach is to make them aware of sexual abuse and expand their knowledge base.

Table 15: The best approach for sharing information n= 87

Approach	Yes f	No f	Missing	%
1. Presentation in the class	70 (80.5%)	15 (17.2%)	2 (2.3%)	100
2. Role-playing	56 (64.4%)	28 (32.2%)	3 (3.4%)	100
3. Presentations in church	38 (43.7%)	45 (51.7%)	4 (4.6%)	100
4. Website information	46 (52.9%)	36 (41.4%)	5 (5.7%)	100
5. Showing a film (either documentary or drama)	60 (69.0)	25 (28.7%)	2 (2.3%)	100
6. Information pamphlets	46 (52.9%)	34 (39.1%)	7 (8.0%)	100
7. Other (please explain)				

Most of the adolescents (80.5%) indicated that presentation in the class is the best way to share information, 60 (69.9%) believe that by showing a film (either documentary or drama) is the best way for sharing information and 56 (64.4%) want to receive their information from role-playing. From Winchester (2009:24) studies it shows that by showing a film or presentation at the school the most popular choices are to share information on the topic of sexual abuse. The study also indicated that in-class presentations in the community and pamphlets do not resonate well due to the fact that it may be too impersonal and youths are also not comfortable with this type of information given in an unfamiliar environment. (Winchester, 2009:24).

In research done by Buchanan (2015:30) in a rural area, the adolescents received their information regarding sexual abuse mostly (37%) from the school. Only 12 % received their information from their parents. According to Buchanan (2015:31) and Meyer (2011:22) teachers are experiencing more challenges when providing sex education than providing HIV and AIDS education. This is also what the researcher experienced in the rural areas of the Frances Baard area of the Northern Cape Province.

11. RESEARCHER'S OBSERVATION

During the study the following became apparent to the researcher:

- The parents and legal guardians of the adolescents were eager to participate in the research and indicated that there are only a few opportunities in the rural area for their children to expand their knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse.
- The adolescents who took part in the survey all had a positive attitude during the survey and wanted to share their knowledge and perceptions on sexual abuse. They were comfortable while they completed the survey and few asked questions. After the completion no reports were received of any trauma or victimization while they completed the survey.
- Sex education programs in the communities and rural areas take place mainly in school settings and during Life Orientation classes. They focus mainly on anatomy and physiological information is given to the adolescents. There is definitely a lack of information given to the adolescents regarding sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, sexual beliefs and values.
- The Department of Social Services in the rural areas consist of one to two offices and their caseloads are overwhelming and therefore there is minimum program implementation regarding the topic of sexual abuse.
- Social workers working in the field indicated that no prevention programmes exist in the Department Social Services and other organisations that test the knowledge and awareness of specifically adolescents, regarding sexual abuse. Programmes that are implemented are done mostly with children in the age groups of 3-5 years old and 6-11 years old. As a social worker working at both a

Primary and Secondary School, the researcher can testify, in the last six years no organisation rendered services or programmes in this regard.

12. SUMMARY

The research centred on the completion of a questionnaire to examine the views of adolescents to determine the knowledge and awareness of the adolescents in the Frances Baard rural areas of the Northern Cape and to help the service deliverers in the communities to move forward with appropriate educational programs, resources and support. Youths between the ages of 15-17 years took part in the survey from both genders and who could speak and read Afrikaans and English.

The research results show that there is concern in the lack of knowledge that adolescents have regarding sexual abuse and that more should be done to broaden their knowledge and awareness on the topic of sexual abuse and that information regarding sexual abuse should be given to the adolescents not only at schools, but also in their communities.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the findings obtained in this research study, the following recommendations are made:

- There should be a flow of information from primary school level to secondary school level and it should be age appropriate and have context on prevention and awareness strategies. Schools are the main source of information regarding sexual education and sexual abuse and it is recommended that schools re-evaluate their curriculums and that sexual education will consist of not only physiological information, but also the dynamics of sexual abuse.
- It is important that adolescents of all ages are aware of sexual abuse and information programmes should be kept up to date with new and appropriate sexual education information. These programs need to be tailored for different age groups.
- Parents should be made aware of the dynamics in which their children grow up and the different risk factors that make them more vulnerable towards being

sexually abused. Parents should firstly be educated of the dynamics of sexual abuse and they need to communicate this information to their children.

- Churches, youth clubs, youth organisations in the communities and other stakeholders should be educated regarding the dynamic of sexual abuse and they should be supported to roll out programmes in their organisations.
- Social workers at the different departments and non-government organisations in the communities have to initialize empowerment programs for not only adolescents, but also parents and other adult caregivers. They should be motivated to communicate with adolescents regarding sexual abuse and other risk factors that make them vulnerable.
- Programs need to be designed and implemented and should consist of information, training, awareness and knowledge regarding sexual abuse and the dynamics of sexual abuse. These programmes should be developed for specific rural areas and organisations that work with adolescents and facilitation on discussions on the topic need to be motivated and monitored (Winchester, 2009). These programs and education should be an integration of formal and informal education of stakeholders and community members.
- It is also important to raise awareness of specific resources that are available in the rural areas, consisting of Hartswater, Jan Kempdorp, Warrenton and Pampierstad, on community level as well as schools to assist those individuals who are being sexually abused.
- A broad base awareness campaign in each rural town could help to promote programmes in communities and schools, but also to assist in broadening the knowledge of not only the adolescents but also the communities. These awareness campaigns can be interlinked with programs of the Department Social Services and the Department Education and rolled out in the different schools in the rural area. The stakeholders in the communities should take responsibility to be part of these campaigns where they can roll out their responsibilities to youths and assist the adolescents and other children to make a stand against sexual abuse in their schools and communities.
- More research in rural areas is needed in not only sexual abuse and the effect it may have on the adolescent but, also the effect it has on the social systems and interpersonal relationships in the households and the communities.

14. CONCLUSION

The researcher concluded that adolescents in the rural areas of the Northern Cape have limited knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse. A contributing factor is that no research in the Frances Baard area has been done specifically on adolescents' knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse and minimal educational programs are implemented in communities and thus result in adolescents being at risk of sexual abuse. It is important to educate adolescents on sexual matters so that they can make informed decisions and protect themselves against sexual abuse and sexual exploitation and help them to form positive sexual relationships and attitudes.

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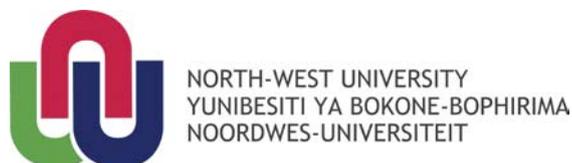
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ANNEXURE 1: ETHICAL APPROVAL



Private Bag X6001, Potchefstroom
South Africa 2520

Tel: (018) 299-4900
Faks: (018) 299-4910
Web: <http://www.nwu.ac.za>

Institutional Research Ethics Regulatory Committee

Tel +27 18 299 4849
Email Ethics@nwu.ac.za

ETHICS APPROVAL CERTIFICATE OF PROJECT

Based on approval by **Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC)**, the North-West University Institutional Research Ethics Regulatory Committee (NWU-IRERC) hereby approves your project as indicated below. This implies that the NWU-IRERC grants its permission that, provided the special conditions specified below are met and pending any other authorisation that may be necessary, the project may be initiated, using the ethics number below.

Project title: Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape.															
Project Leader: Dr AA Roux															
Ethics number:	N	W	U	-	0	0	1	9	3	-	1	5	-	A	1
	Institution			Project Number						Year		Status			
<small>Status: S = Submission; R = Re-Submission; P = Provisional Authorisation; A = Authorisation</small>															
Approval date: 2015-11-25	Expiry date: 2016-10-30				Risk				Children Cat. 3						

Special conditions of the approval (if any): None

General conditions:

While this ethics approval is subject to all declarations, undertakings and agreements incorporated and signed in the application form, please note the following:

- The project leader (principle investigator) must report in the prescribed format to the NWU-IRERC:
 - annually (or as otherwise requested) on the progress of the project,
 - without any delay in case of any adverse event (or any matter that interrupts sound ethical principles) during the course of the project.
- The approval applies strictly to the protocol as stipulated in the application form. Would any changes to the protocol be deemed necessary during the course of the project, the project leader must apply for approval of these changes at the NWU-IRERC. Would there be deviations from the project protocol without the necessary approval of such changes, the ethics approval is immediately and automatically forfeited.
- The date of approval indicates the first date that the project may be started. Would the project have to continue after the expiry date, a new application must be made to the NWU-IRERC and new approval received before or on the expiry date.
- In the interest of ethical responsibility the NWU-IRERC retains the right to:
 - request access to any information or data at any time during the course or after completion of the project;
 - withdraw or postpone approval if:
 - any unethical principles or practices of the project are revealed or suspected,
 - it becomes apparent that any relevant information was withheld from the NWU-IRERC or that information has been false or misrepresented,
 - the required annual report and reporting of adverse events was not done timely and accurately,
 - new institutional rules, national legislation or international conventions deem it necessary.

The IRERC would like to remain at your service as scientist and researcher, and wishes you well with your project. Please do not hesitate to contact the IRERC for any further enquiries or requests for assistance.

Yours sincerely

Prof LA
Du Plessis

Digitally signed by Prof LA Du Plessis
DN: cn=Prof LA Du Plessis, o=North-West University, ou=Campus Rector, email=Linda.DuPlessis@nwu.ac.za, c=ZA
Date: 2015.12.10 12:21:53 +02'00'

Prof Linda du Plessis

Chair NWU Institutional Research Ethics Regulatory Committee (IRERC)

ANNEXURE 2: LETTER TO MANAGERS



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
YUNIBESITI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA
NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT
POTCHEFSTROOMKAMPUS

The Manager

Enquiries: Dr AA Roux

Department of Social Development

Tel: 018 290 5760

Frances Baard District

Kimberley

Cell: 082 704 3922

29 May 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

**RESEARCH PROJECT: MRS MARITHA FOUCHÉ MA-STUDENT IN MAGISTER IN SOCIAL WORK:
FORENSIC PRACTICE**

We would like to establish whether Mrs Maritha Fouché, a registered social worker would be in a position to conduct a research project with the title: ***Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape***

Purpose of the research

The purpose of this research is to explore adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape.

Data collection method

An adapted questionnaire (Annexure 1) for adolescents will be compiled and used as tool to collect data. The questionnaire will consist of two sections: Section A: Biographical details of the adolescent; Section B: Knowledge on sexual abuse (Annexure 4). The Questionnaire will measure particular adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in the Frances Baard rural area of the Northern Cape Province whose families are on the caseloads of social workers. The questionnaire will be evaluated and send for approval to the Subject Division of Social Work, the ethics committee in the Faculty of Health Sciences COMPRES, the Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Department of Statistical Consultation Services of the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University. The questionnaire will also be pilot testing by eight adolescents who are not part of the research to determine the clarity of the questions.

Benefits and risks of the research

The participants will not receive payment for participating in the research. They will only receive snacks during the completion. Indirect benefits for the adolescents will be the development of services (such as prevention programmes) where adolescents will be empowered with knowledge and insight in the factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents. These services will play a role in preventing adolescents of being sexually abused. Knowledge and insights attained from the study will assist social workers in dealing with sexual abuse of adolescents and what their role and responsibilities are regarding legislation and social services.

Emotional harm may occur due to the completion of the questionnaire by the adolescent. The participants will be given an opportunity to work through their embarrassments or trauma by means of debriefing sessions by the social worker who is known to them or an appropriate therapist. Should an adolescent disclose sexual abuse of him- or her-selves or another child, disclosure must be reported to the social worker for further investigation. The benefits will outweigh the risks not only for the adolescents and their primary caregivers but also for the community because they will be able to identify the factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents. With this knowledge the sexual abuse of adolescents can be prevented.

Confidentiality

Each participant will be allocated a number, beforehand such as participant 1, participant 2 et cetera, instead of using their names to maintain confidentiality. Data received from the questionnaires will be stored on a password protected computer of the researcher. All questionnaires will be safely stored in a locked cabinet in the researcher's office, where no one has access to it, and after the study it will be stored in a room at the Social Work Division of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, prohibiting all people, including the researcher and study leader from having access to the material. After five years the University will destroy all the questionnaires.

Consent

The impact of the study will be discussed with the adolescents and legal guardians by the researcher before the study is conducted. This will ensure that the adolescent and the legal guardian make an informed choice on whether the adolescent can take part in the research. The researcher undertakes to treat all adolescents and their legal guardians with respect during the process. Before obtaining informed consent, the researcher will explain to the adolescents and their primary caregivers that should a participant disclose sexual abuse of themselves or another child, the disclosure must be reported to the designated social worker for further investigation. The participants will be informed that they may freely participate in the study and that they are able to withdraw from research anytime without any consequences. If there are any further enquiries the following persons can be contacted:

Researcher: Mrs Maritha Fouché (071 605 4081)

Study Leader: Dr AA Roux (018 290 5760) (082 704 3922)

We want to thank you for your kind consideration of our request.

Kind Regards,

.....
MrsMaritha Fouché

.....
DrAdrie Roux

Student: MA in Forensic Practice

Study Leader

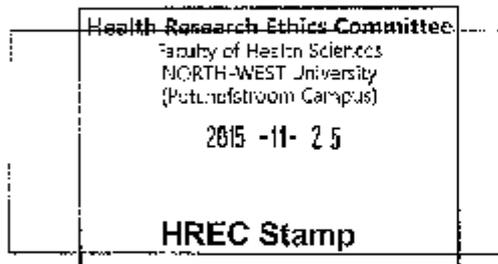
SUCH A LETTER WILL ALSO BE WRITTEN TO THE OTHER ORGANISATIONS

ANNEXURE 3: ASSENT ADOLESCENTS

ATTACHMENT 5: INFORMED ASSENT FORM FOR ADOLESCENT



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
YUNIBESITHI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA
VOORWILDSHUIS VLAS F.S.
POTCHEFSTROOM CAMPUS



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET AND CONSENT FORM

TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT: *Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape*

REFERENCE NWU-00193-15-S1

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Mrs Maritha Fouché

ADDRESS: Small Holding 6L6, Mogagang.

CONTACT NUMBER: 071 605 4081

You are invited to take part in a research project that forms part of my Master study (in **Forensic Social Work**). Please take some time to read the information presented here, which will explain the details of this project. Please ask me the researcher any questions about any part of this project that you do not fully understand. It is very important that you are fully satisfied that you clearly understand what this research entails and how you could be involved. Also, **your participation is entirely voluntary** and you are free to decline to participate. If you say no, this will not affect you negatively in any way whatsoever. You are also free to withdraw from the study at any point, even if you do agree to take part without being penalised. If you decide to terminate participation you can do it at any time without explain why.

This study has been approved by the **Health Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the North-West University (NWU-00193-15-S1)** and will be conducted according to the ethical guidelines and principles of the international Declaration of Helsinki and the ethical guidelines of the National Health Research Ethics Council. It might be necessary for the research ethics committee members or relevant authorities to inspect the research records.

What is this research study all about?

This study will be conducted in the Frances Baard area and will involve the completion of questionnaires with experienced health researchers trained in Forensic Social Work. Between 100 to 120 adolescents ages 15 to 17 years will be involved in this research.

The objectives of the research are:

- *To gain understandings to what extent are adolescents aware of those environmental factors that contribute to the incidence of sexual abuse in the Frances Baard rural areas?*
- *To make recommendations to the managers of the Department of Social Development, Caritas Community Focus Organisation and Child Welfare in assisting social workers with a better understanding of the adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in order to improve their service delivery to adolescents by empowering adolescents with knowledge in preventing them from being sexually abused.*

Why have you been invited to participate?

- You had been invited to participate because you are living in the Frances Baard area and we want to explore your knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in the Northern Cape. Your experiences as an adolescent can make a valuable contribution to this study.
- You have also complied with the following inclusion criteria:
 - You are an adolescent between **15 and 17** years.
 - Your **legal guardian** is on the caseloads of the social worker fromand your parent/legal guardian gave written permission that you can be included in the research.
 - You also gave written consent to be part of the research.
 - You are able to speak and understand Afrikaans or English.

What will your responsibilities be?

*You and your legal guardian will be expected to sign the **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET AND ASSENT FORM** to give permission and assent that you are willing to participate in the research. The information received from the questionnaire will be used to complete a Master degree in Social work Forensic Practice at the North-West University Potchefstroom Campus. **It is expected from you to complete a questionnaire with 8 questions regarding your personal details and 7 questions regarding your knowledge of sexual abuse. The questionnaire will be completed in one of the offices of the welfare organisation known to you. You will complete this individually in the office. After completing the questionnaire you have to put it in the envelope given to you and give it to the researcher Mrs Maritha Fouché who will wait in an office shown to you when you enter the welfare organisation. Your name will not be on the questionnaire only a number. No one else will be able to identify which questionnaire is yours. The answers given by you are confidential.***

Will you benefit from taking part in this research?

- The *direct benefits for you* as a participant will be to give your views regarding adolescents' knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse. You will also receive snacks and cool drinks after completing the questionnaire.

- *The indirect benefits* for you will be the development of services (such as prevention programmes) where you and other adolescents will be empowered with knowledge and insight in the factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents. These services will play a role in preventing you and other adolescents of being sexually abused. Knowledge and insights attained from the study will assist social workers in dealing with sexual abuse of adolescents and what their role and responsibilities are regarding legislation and social services

Are there risks involved in you taking part in this research?

The risks in this study are:

- Emotional harm may occur due to the completion of the questionnaire by you. If this happens you will be given an opportunity to work through your embarrassments or trauma by means of debriefing sessions by the social worker who is known to you or an appropriate therapist without any costs.
- **Should you disclose sexual abuse of yourself or another child the disclosure must be reported to the social worker for forensic assessment.**

The benefits in this study outweigh the risks.

What will happen in the unlikely event of some form of discomfort occurring as a direct result of you taking part in this research study?

Should you have the need for further discussions after completing the questionnaire, you will be given the opportunity to talk to the researcher or the social worker known to you who will handle the discomfort. Should you need more help you will be referred to another social worker or therapist.

Who will have access to the data?

- *Anonymity will be ensured because* no private information of you will be given to the public. You will be allocated a number, beforehand such as participant 1, instead of using your name. Reporting of the findings will be anonymous and only the researcher, the researchers' study leader and co-study leader who will be all registered social workers and who signed a letter of confidentiality will have access to the data on the questionnaires.
- *Confidentiality will be ensured* by locking questionnaires in a locked cupboard in the researcher's office and electronic data will be password protected. As soon as data has been analysed, it will be deleted from the computer.
- Your right to decide when, where, to whom, and to what extent, you disclose your views and experiences will be respected.

What will happen with the data/samples?

- *This is a once off collection and data* will be kept safe and secure by locking the completed questionnaires in a locked cabinet in the researcher's office. The data will be analysed in South Africa by the Statistical Consultation Services of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus. *Data on the questionnaires will be stored* in a room at the Social work Division of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus for five years, prohibiting all people, including the researcher and study leader from having access to the material. After five years the University will destroy all the data. The findings of the study will be introduced to the reading public in written form by means of a dissertation as well as an article in an accredited journal.

Will you be paid to take part in this study and are there any costs involved?

No, you will not be paid to take part in the study but refreshments will be available after the completion of the questionnaire. Travel expenses will be paid for those participants who have to travel to the site. There will thus be no costs involved for you, if you do take part.

Is there anything else that you should know or do?

- You can contact the researcher at the contact number provided above or the research study leader Dr AA Roux if you have any further queries or encounter any problems at 018 290 5760 or 082 704 3922. Email address: adrie.roux@nwu.ac.za.
- You can also contact the Health Research Ethics Committee via Mrs Carolien van Zyl at 018 299 2089 or carolien.vanzyl@nwu.ac.za if you have any concerns or complaints that have not been adequately addressed by the researcher.
- You will receive a copy of this information and consent form for your own records.

How will you know about the findings?

The researcher will:

- **First give the results of the research project through to you as adolescent and if you want to discuss it with your legal guardian.**

Who else will have access to the results of this research?

- **With your permission the results will be sent to the managers of the organisation who will discuss the results with the social workers so that a programme can be developed with knowledge regarding sexual abuse and how to prevent adolescents from being sexually abused.**

The results of the research will be completed in the form of a mini-dissertation and will also be published as an article in an accredited journal. The social worker known to you will discuss the details of the programme obtained from the results of the research with you and your legal guardian in motivating you to attend the sessions of the programme. No names or other details of any participant will be disclosed to anyone.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Fouché

Cell no. 071 605 4081

Email address: marithafouche@yahoo.com

Declaration by the adolescent

By signing below, I agree to take part in a research study titled:

I declare that:

- I have read this information and consent form and it is written in a language with which I am fluent and comfortable.
- I have had a chance to ask questions to both the person obtaining consent, as well as the researcher and all my questions have been adequately answered.
- I understand that taking part in this study is **voluntary** and I have not been pressurised to take part.
- I may choose to leave the study at any time and will not be penalised or prejudiced in any way.
- I may be asked to leave the study before it has finished, if the researcher feels it is in my best interests, or if I do not follow the study plan, as agreed to.
- **The results of this research can be sent to the managers of the organisation known to my legal guardian without any names or other details of me as a participant.**

Signed at (*place*) on (*date*)20....

.....

Signature of the adolescent

.....

Signature of witness

Declaration by person obtaining consent

I (*name*) declare that:

- I explained the information in this document to
- I encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.
- I am satisfied that he/she adequately understands all aspects of the research, as discussed above
- I did/did not use an interpreter.

Signed at (*place*) on (*date*) 20....

.....

Signature of person obtaining consent

.....

Signature of witness

Declaration by researcher

I (*name*) declare that:

- I explained the information in this document to
- I encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.
- I am satisfied that he/she adequately understands all aspects of the research, as discussed above
- I did/did not use an interpreter.

Signed at (*place*) on (*date*) 20....

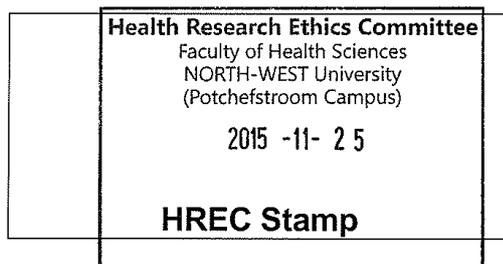
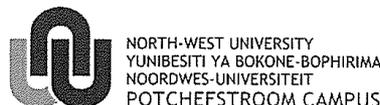
.....

Signature

.....

ANNEXURE 4: CONSENT LEGAL GUARDIAN

ATTACHMENT 5: CONSENT FROM LEGAL GUARDIAN



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET AND CONSENT FORM

TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT: *Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area of the Northern Cape*

REFERENCE NWU-00193-15-S1

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATER: Mrs Maritha Fouché

ADDRESS: Small Holding, 6L6, Magogang.

CONTACT NUMBER: 071 605 4081

Your adolescent indicated that he/she wants to take part in a research project that forms part of my Master study (in Forensic Social Work). Please take some time to read the information presented here, which will explain the details of this project. Please ask me the researcher any questions about any part of this project that you do not fully understand. It is very important that you are fully satisfied that you clearly understand what this research entails and how your adolescent could be involved. Also, **your adolescents' participation is entirely voluntary** and **he/she is free to decline** if he/she does not want to participate anymore. If **he/she** says no, this will not affect **him/her** negatively in any way whatsoever. **He/she** is also free to withdraw from the study at any point, even if **he/she does** agree to take part without being penalised. If **he/she** decides to terminate participation **he/she** can do it at any time without explain why.

This study has been approved by the **Health Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the North-West University (NWU-00193-15-S1)** and will be conducted according to the ethical guidelines and principles of the international Declaration of Helsinki ad the ethical guidelines of the National Health Research Ethics Council. It might

What is this research study all about?

This study will be conducted in the Frances Baard area and will involve the completion of questionnaires with experienced health researchers trained in Forensic Social Work. Between 100 to 120 adolescents ages 15 to 17 years will be involved in this research.

The objectives of the research are:

- *To gain understandings to what extent are adolescents aware of those environmental factors that contribute to the incidence of sexual abuse in the Frances Baard rural areas?*
- *To make recommendations to the managers of the Department of Social Development, Caritas Community Focus Organisation and Child Welfare in assisting social workers with a better understanding of the adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in order to improve their service delivery to adolescents by empowering adolescents with knowledge in preventing them from being sexually abused.*

Why have you been invited to participate?

- Your adolescent has been invited to participate because he/she is living in the Frances Baard area and we want to explore his/her knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse. His/her experiences as an adolescent can make a valuable contribution to this study.
- He/she has also complied with the following inclusion criteria:
 - He/she is an adolescent between 15 and 17 years.
 - His/her **parent/legal guardian** is on the caseloads of the social worker fromand you as his/he parent/legal guardian gave written permission that he/she can be included in the research.
 - He/she also gave written consent to be part of the research.
 - He/she is able to speak and understand Afrikaans and or English.

What will your adolescents' responsibilities be?

He/she and you as parent/legal guardian will be expected to sign the PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET AND CONSENT FORM to give permission and consent that he/she is willing to participate in the research. The information received from the questionnaire will be used to complete a Master degree in Social work Forensic Practice at the North-West University Potchefstroom Campus.

Will your adolescent benefit from taking part in this research?

- The *direct benefits for your adolescent* as a participant will be to give his/her views regarding adolescents' knowledge and awareness of sexual abuse. He/she will also receive snacks and cool drinks after completing the questionnaire.
- The *indirect benefits* for your adolescent will be the development of services (such as prevention programmes) where he/she and other adolescents will be empowered with knowledge and insight in the factors contributing to the sexual abuse of adolescents. These services will play a role in preventing him/her and other adolescents of being sexually abused. Knowledge and insights attained from the study will assist social workers in dealing with sexual abuse of adolescents and what their role and responsibilities are regarding legislation and social services

Are there risks involved in your adolescent taking part in this research?

The risks in this study are:

- Emotional harm may occur due to the completion of the questionnaire by him/her. If this happens he/she will be given an opportunity to work through his/her embarrassments or trauma by means of debriefing sessions by the social worker who is known to him/her or an appropriate therapist without any costs.
- **Should he/she disclose sexual abuse of him-/herself or another child the disclosure must be reported to the social worker for further investigation?**

The benefits in this study outweigh the risks.

What will happen in the unlikely event of some form of discomfort occurring as a direct result of your adolescent taking part in this research study?

Should he/she had the need for further discussions after completing the questionnaire, he/she will be given the opportunity to talk to the researcher or the social worker known to him/her who will handle the discomfort. Should he/she needs more help he/she will be referred to another social worker or therapist.

Who will have access to the data?

- *Anonymity will be ensured because no private information of your adolescent will be given to the public. He/she will be allocated a number, beforehand such as participant 1, instead of using his/her name. Reporting of the findings will be anonymous and only the researcher, the researchers' study leader and co-study leader, who will be all registered social workers and who signed a letter of confidentiality, will have access to the data on the questionnaires.*
- *Confidentiality will be ensured by locking questionnaires in a locked cupboard in the researcher's office and electronic data will be password protected. As soon as data has been analysed, it will be deleted from the computer.*
- Your adolescents' right to decide when, where, to whom, and to what extent, he/she disclose his/her views and experiences will be respected.

What will happen with the data/samples?

- *This is a once off collection and data will be kept safe and secure by locking the completed questionnaires in a locked cabinet in the researcher's office. The data will be analysed in South Africa by the Statistical Consultation Services of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus. Data on the questionnaires will be stored in a room at the Social work Division of the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus for five years, prohibiting all people, including the researcher and study leader from having access to the material. After five years the University will destroy all the data. The findings of the study will be introduced to the reading public in written form by means of a dissertation as well as an article in an accredited journal.*

Will you be paid to take part in this study and are there any costs involved?

No, your adolescent will not be paid to take part in the study but refreshments will be available after the completion of the questionnaire. Travel expenses will be paid for those participants who have to travel to the office of the social worker. There will thus be no costs involved for him/her, if he/she does take part.

Is there anything else that your or your adolescent should know or do?

- You and your adolescent can contact the researcher at the contact number provided above or the research study leader Dr AA Roux if you have any further queries or encounter any problems at 018 290 5760 or 082 704 3922. Email address: adrie.roux@nwu.ac.za.
- You can also contact the Health Research Ethics Committee via Mrs Carolien van Zyl at 018 299 2089 or carolien.vanzyl@nwu.ac.za if you have any concerns or complaints that have not been adequately addressed by the researcher.
- You will receive a copy of this information and consent form for your own records.

How will your adolescent knows about the findings?

The findings of the research will be shared with your adolescent and only if he/she give permission it will be shared with the managers of the organisations. Thy will share the data with the social workers.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Fouché

Cell no. 071 605 4081

Email address: marithafouche@yahoo.com

Declaration by the parent/legal guardian

By signing below, I agree to take part in a research study titled:

I declare that:

- I have read this information and consent form and it is written in a language with which I am fluent and comfortable.
- I have had a chance to ask questions to both the person obtaining consent, as well as the researcher and all my questions have been adequately answered.
- I understand that taking part in this study is **voluntary** and I have not been pressurised to take part.
- I may choose to leave the study at any time and will not be penalised or prejudiced in any way.
- I may be asked to leave the study before it has finished, if the researcher feels it is in my best interests, or if I do not follow the study plan, as agreed to.

Signed at (*place*) on (*date*)20....

.....

Signature of the parent/legal guardian

Signature of witness

Declaration by person obtaining consent

I (*name*) declare that:

- I explained the information in this document to
- I encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.
- I am satisfied that he/she adequately understands all aspects of the research, as discussed above
- I did/did not use an interpreter.

Signed at (*place*) on (*date*) 20....

.....

Signature of person obtaining consent

Signature of witness

Declaration by researcher

I (*name*) declare that:

- I explained the information in this document to
- I encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.
- I am satisfied that he/she adequately understands all aspects of the research, as discussed above
- I did/did not use an interpreter.

Signed at (*place*) on (*date*) 20....

.....

Signature

ANNEXURE 5: QUESTIONNAIRE



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
YUNIBESITI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA
NOORDWES-UNIVERSITEIT

RESPONDENT NUMBER:

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ETHICAL NUMBER: NWU-00193-15-S1

TITLE: Adolescents' knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse in a rural area

With this questionnaire the information received from you will assist the researcher to identify adolescent's knowledge and awareness regarding sexual abuse.

The questionnaire will take you about 15 to 30 minutes to complete. Here are some instructions on how to fill out the questionnaire:

- Sometimes you will be asked to cross (x) **only one number** that corresponds to an answer, like this:

Q. Do you have access to a computer or laptop at home? [Cross(x) only one answer]

Yes	X
No	

- In some cases there is a scale with numbers from 1 to 3 where there are labels of what the end and middle points mean. In these, you are being asked to cross one option, like this:

Q. To what extend are you able to do the following: [Cross(x) all that apply]

	A lot	Sometimes	Not at all
Communicate my feelings with my parents		x	
Like myself	x		
Socialize with my friends			X

- Please answer now all questions by putting a cross (x) in the block next to your answer.
- All questions will be dealt with anonymously. It is therefore not necessary to include your name.

SECTION A: BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF ADOLESCENT

1. YOUR HOME LANGUAGE (CROSS ONLY ONE)

English	1
Tswana	2
Afrikaans	3
Other	4

2. YOUR AGE IN YEARS (CROSS ONLY ONE)

15 years	1
16 years	2
17 years	3

3. YOUR GENDER (CROSS ONLY ONE)

Male	1
Female	2

4. WHAT IS THE HIGHEST GRADE YOU HAVE COMPLETED (CROSS ONLY ONE)

Grade 9	1
Grade 10	2
Grade 11	3
Grade 12	4

5. IN WHICH RURAL AREA/TOWN DO YOU RESIDE? (CROSS ONLY ONE)

Warrenton	1
Jan Kempdorp	2
Ganspan	3
Pampierstad	4
Hartswater	5

6. WHAT TYPE OF HOUSE DO YOU LIVE IN (CROSS ONLY ONE)

Traditional hut	1
Makuku (shack)	2
Brick house	3
Other (name the type of your house)	4

7. IN HOW MANY ROOMS IN THE HOUSE DO PEOPLE SLEEP IN?

Rooms	
-------	--

8. WITH WHOM DO YOU SHARE A SLEEPING SPACE? [Cross all that apply]

	Yes 1	No 2
1. Mom		
2. Dad		
3. Sister		
4. Brother		
5. Uncle		
6. Aunt		
7. Sleep alone		
8. Other, specify		

9. HOW MANY PEOPLE INCLUDING YOU, LIVE IN THE HOUSE?

Adults	
Children	

10. HOW OFTEN DO YOU THINK A CHILD IN YOUR COMMUNITY IS SEXUALLY ABUSED? [CROSS ONLY ONE NUMBER]

Never	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
1	2	3	4	5

11. HOW OFTEN DO YOU THINK A CHILD IN YOUR OWN AGE GROUP IS SEXUALLY ABUSED? [CROSS ONLY ONE NUMBER]

Never	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
1	2	3	4	5

SECTION B: KNOWLEDGE ON SEXUAL ABUSE

12. DESCRIBE IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHAT YOU UNDERSTAND SEXUAL ABUSE IS.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

13. WHO WOULD YOU CONSIDER TO BE A TYPICAL VICTIM OF SEXUAL ABUSE? [CROSS ALL THAT APPLY]

1. Boys	
2. Girls	
3. Children (1-9 years old)	
4. Pre-teens (9-11 years old)	
5. Adolescents (12-17 years old)	
6. Specific racial groups (White, Black, Coloured, Indian) (specify please)	
7. Specific income group	
8. Other (Please explain)	
9. Do not know	

14. HERE IS SOME GENERAL STATEMENTS ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE. (ANSWER ALL WITH A "TRUE" A "FALSE" OR "DON'T KNOW")

Statement	True 1	False 2	Don't know 3
15. Some children are sexually abused by older children			
16. Most of the time children are sexually abused when they are alone at home			
17. Most of the time children are sexually abused when they are outside their home			
18. Most of the time children are sexually abused at night			
19. It is against the law to have sex when you or your partner is younger than 16 years old.			
20. Only girls are victims of sexual abuse			
21. Sexually abused boys are homosexual			
22. Children from rich families are not victims of sexual abuse			
23. All children can be victims of sexual abuse			
24. Only children under 12 years are victims of sexual abuse			
25. Boys are not victims of sexual abuse			
26. The majority of sexual abuse perpetrators are mentally ill or retarded			
27. In sexual abuse the child is never responsible for the abuse			
28. It is against the law to send naked photos of yourself to other adolescents or adults			

15. TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU THINK THE FOLLOWING MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF AN ADOLESCENT?

Situation	To no extent (1)	To a small extent (2)	To a large extent (3)	Don't know (4)
27. Drinking a lot of alcohol				
28. Taking drugs				
29. Parents who are absent from home				
30. Pressure from friends and others your age				
31. Adolescents walking alone in the street				
32. Being poor				
33. Bad family relationships				
34. Acting according to one's cultural beliefs				
35. How one is dressed				
36. Thinking bad about oneself				
37. Not worrying about having sex with boys/girls				
38. Watching sex on Internet or TV				
39. No discipline in the house				
40. Bad relationship with parents				
41. Excessive interest in sex				
42. To be part of a gang				
43. No or minimal sexual education				
44. Households run by a child/ adolescent				
45. Thinking lowly of oneself				
46. No friend support				
47. Parental separation				
48. Living with a single parent				
49. Living with step-father or step-mother				
50. Parents who do not talk about sexual abuse				

51. Over-crowded households				
52. Other situations (Please explain)				

16. FROM WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING SOURCES DID YOU GET YOUR INFORMATION ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE? (ANSWER ALL WITH A “YES” OR A “NO”)

Source	Yes 1	No 2
12. School		
13. Parents		
14. Youth groups like at church/clubs		
15. Local community clinic		
16. TV		
17. Radio		
18. News paper		
19. Magazine		
20. Internet		
21. Friends		
22. Any other resources (Please explain)		

17. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST APPROACH FOR SHARING INFORMATION WITH PEOPLE YOUR AGE ON THE TOPIC OF SEXUAL ABUSE? [CROSS ALL THAT APPLY]

Approach	Yes 1	No 2
8. Presentation in the class		
9. Role-playing		
10. Presentations in church		
11. Website information		
12. Showing a film (either documentary or drama)		
13. Information pamphlets		
14. Don't know		
15. Other (please explain)		

18. ANY OTHER REMARKS?

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THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY

MRS MARITHA FOUCHE

MA-STUDENT IN SOCIAL WORK: FORENSIC PRACTICE

NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY, POTCHEFSTROOM