THE NEED FOR UNIQUE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMMES IN RURAL MULTI-GRADE SCHOOLS IN SOUTH-AFRICA: PRINCIPALS’ VIEWS AND OPINIONS

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The purpose of this current study is to determine the need for, features and criteria of a parental involvement programme for rural multi-grade schools in South-Africa, and then to design, develop and test unique parental involvement programmes. As part of phase one, data was obtained from the principals of 147 purposefully sampled multi-grade schools in three rural educational districts in the Western Cape. In this part of phase one the data obtained statistically describes principals’ views and opinions on the current state and problems of parental involvement, the need for and requirements of a unique parental involvement programme for rural multi-grade schools. The data showed a lack of sufficient support for principals in rural multi-grade schools. The principals agreed that the socio-economic status and the unique circumstances of parents of multi-grade learners are detrimental to parental involvement. The majority of principals felt that a practical parental involvement programme that takes the unique circumstances of these parents into consideration can enhance effective parental involvement.

Keywords:
Rural, Multi-grade schools, Parental Involvement Programmes, Principals

References:
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