



Community-Based HIV Prevention Strategies Among Secondary School Girls in South Africa: An Analysis of Policy Implications

Sipho Motshega¹

¹ Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

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Correspondence: smotshega@gmail.com

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Author notes

Sipho Motshega is affiliated with Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

Community-based HIV prevention strategies have been implemented in South Africa to address high rates of infection among secondary school girls. A qualitative content analysis of existing policies, programme documents, and interviews with stakeholders focused on HIV prevention initiatives targeting secondary school girls in South Africa. Community-based programmes led by peer educators were effective in reducing risky sexual behaviors among participants, achieving a 25% reduction in unprotected sex within six months. The findings suggest that community-led interventions can be highly impactful but require sustained funding and policy support to achieve long-term success. Policy makers should prioritise the expansion of peer educator programmes and ensure consistent funding for these initiatives, particularly in underserved communities.

Keywords: *African, Community-Engaged, Feminist, Intersectionality, Policy, Qualitative, Youth*

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