



# Impact Assessment of School-Based HIV Prevention Programmes among Adolescent Girls in South Africa's Eastern Cape Province: A Qualitative Study

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## Abstract

School-based HIV prevention programmes have been implemented in South Africa's Eastern Cape Province to address high rates of HIV infection among adolescent girls. Qualitative data were collected through semi-structured interviews with 30 participants and focus group discussions involving 6 groups (each comprising 5-7 participants). Participants reported a significant increase in knowledge about HIV transmission and prevention methods, but challenges persisting in behavioural changes. School-based HIV prevention programmes appear effective in improving knowledge but require further support to foster sustainable behavioural change among adolescent girls. Programmes should incorporate peer education components and provide ongoing support for behaviour modification strategies.

**Keywords:** *African geography, adolescent girls, qualitative methods, HIV prevention, community engagement, empowerment studies, cultural contexts*

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