

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

**HIV AND AIDS KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND UTILISATION BY COLLEGE STUDENTS
AT THE SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM (SCHOTO), BULAWAYO**

BY

**Keresi Rusakaniko
(N01311073P)**

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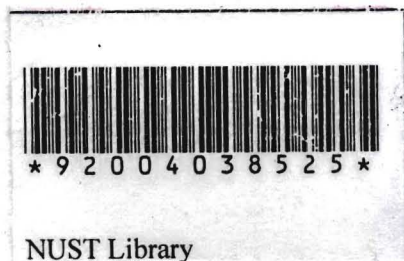
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Academic Supervisor

Mr T. Matingwina

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ABSTRACT

Given the issue of the high prevalence of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) among youths, the study sought to investigate HIV and AIDS knowledge sharing and utilisation at School of Hospitality and Tourism (SCHOTO). The study was conceived against a background of high HIV and AIDS prevalence among college students in the Southern Region and Zimbabwe is among them. The researcher assumed that the high HIV prevalence among the youths may be attributed to a lack of sharing and utilisation of HIV and AIDS knowledge and information. There is unmet need for HIV and AIDS knowledge, sharing and utilisation among students at SCHOTO despite the efforts made by different stakeholders to disseminate HIV and AIDS Information. According to past studies, the response of most tertiary institutions across Southern Africa to HIV and AIDS is passive. The study was guided by Ipe (2003) knowledge sharing framework. The survey descriptive method was used and it employed the self administered questionnaires and focus group discussions (FGDs) as instruments to gather qualitative and quantitative data from a total of 238 students. Convenience sampling was used to come up with the total sample of participants. The data collected was analysed, coded and presented on tables, bar graphs and pie charts. Based on self-administered survey and focus group discussions (FGDs) conducted at the campus of SCHOTO, it was found out that majority of the students are aware or have knowledge about HIV and AIDS. However students pointed out that the school has not done much in providing opportunities to share the knowledge hence resulting in them not fully utilising the knowledge. Most common source of the student's knowledge was health professionals and media platforms such as internet, television, magazines and newspapers. However the students were not motivated to share HIV and AIDS knowledge within the campus as the study found out that there are no platforms or opportunities share HIV and AIDS. The research concluded that knowledge by students was high but there were barriers in sharing the knowledge and utilisation by students. Many respondents grieved for improved opportunities, platforms and programmes to share knowledge. The study recommends that SCHOTO develop knowledge sharing policy and create platforms, activities and opportunities for students to share HIV and AIDS knowledge.