NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

THE ADOPTION OF DEVELOPMENTAL BIBLIOTHERAPY AT KUSHINGA PHIKELELA POLYTECHNIC, MARONDERA, ZIMBABWE

BY

BERT LEO BRUCE NYABADZA

(N01311079Z)

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE

IN

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

ACADEMIC SUPERVISOR   **MR. L.R. FUSIRE**

BULAWAYO, ZIMBABWE

YEAR: 2016

ABSTRACT

The research looked at developmental bibliotherapy as an 'incremental innovation' to be integrated with the existing polytechnic system. Developmental bibliotherapy programme would be used to equip patrons with literature based on resolving social psychological challenges that may affect them. The Diffusion of Innovation Theory was used to explore the possible adoption of developmental bibliotherapy as an innovation in an academic institution. The philosophical premise of pragmatism was used to guide the research methodology. The deductive approach was used to answer the research questions. A case study strategy was used to limit the study to a single institution.

The Researcher made use of a non-random sampling technique due to a limited time frame. The convenience sampling technique was used to capture data from the people available during the term holiday. The research tools used included face-to-face interview, focus-group interview, questionnaire, content analysis, and documentary analysis. The findings of the study showed that 'mild bibliotherapy' was practiced at Kushinga Phikelela Polytechnic, bibliotherapy was viewed as a new innovation that could be adopted by the institution, and the books read mainly consisted of literature taught. The recommendations included the use of developmental bibliotherapy to encourage students to develop their cognitive skills; open debate to redefine the role of the library in education; and testing of innovations like bibliotherapy towards shaping student values.