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DISTRIBUTION OF THE HANSARD TO THE PUBLIC BY THE PARLIAMENT OF
ZIMBABWE

BY

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A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
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ABSTRACT

The continuous visits done by the Hansard seekers triggered the researcher to carry out this study. A survey was adopted in assessing the distribution of the Hansard to the public by the Parliament of Zimbabwe. The purpose of this study was to determine the perceptions of the Hansard readers and the Parliament of Zimbabwe concerning the distribution of the Hansard. The main objective of the study was to investigate the distribution system of the Hansard to the public by the Parliament of Zimbabwe evaluating the accessibility of the Hansard to the Zimbabweans, identifying strategies (currently being) used by the parliament of Zimbabwe to distribute the Hansard to the public, identifying factors that hinders the effective distribution of the Hansard to the public and finally to find measures that can improve the distribution of coverage of the Hansard. The study therefore selected the most appropriate literature that addressed the variables that were highlighted by the specific objectives of the study; this gave a clear account of all past theoretical undertakings that tried to address the factors that hinders effective distribution of the Hansard and the strategies that are being employed by the Parliament in distributing the Hansard to the public. The researcher used quantitative approach considering that it is very straightforward and not complex when presenting data. Judgemental sampling technique was used for the members of the public and purposive sampling for the selected three departments of the Parliament of Zimbabwe, namely Hansard, Public Relations and Information systems department. Interviews and questionnaires were employed in this research as the major data collection tools. Primary data presents the actual data that was obtained for the purpose of the research study from the answered questionnaires and interviews. Problems that the Hansard readers encountered were mostly related to accessibility of the Hansard and resources. Recommendations were made to improve the members of the public's access to the Hansard and there is a need for the Parliament of Zimbabwe to improve the overall distribution of the Hansard. The Parliament of Zimbabwe should encourage people to subscribe to Hansard in order to build a subscriber base that can enable the Parliament of Zimbabwe to develop proper tracking systems to see the if the Hansard is going to the Public. It will be very easy for the Parliament of Zimbabwe to develop a systematic that can enable it to see if the Hansard is reaching the public in Zimbabwe.