



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of Development Studies

**AN INVESTIGATION OF THE DRIVERS AND OUTCOMES OF
TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND HOW THESE IMPEDE EDUCATIONAL
ATTAINMENT: A CASE OF GWELUTSHENA IN NKAYI NORTH**

SITHANDWEYINKOSI SIBANDA

L012 0346A SUPERVISOR: MS K DUBE

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT THE
REQUIREMENTS OF A BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE SPECIAL
HONOURS DEGREE IN URBAN MANAGEMENT STUDIES IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AT LUPANE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

MAY 2016

ABSTRACT

The study investigates the drivers and outcomes of teenage pregnancy and how these impede educational attainment at Gwelutshena. Poverty, peer pressure, family disorganization, sexual abuse and age at first intercourse amongst other things have contributed to high rate of teenage pregnancy. Teenage pregnancy has its negative outcomes which include poverty, absenteeism, poor performance in school work and dropping out of school hence impeding educational attainment. The research employed a qualitative research whilst utilizing a case study approach. Data was collected using semi-structured questionnaires and semi-structured interviews using tables, charts and bar graphs to analyze the data. Data from the respondents was presented and analysed. The major drivers of teenage pregnancy at Gwelutshena include education and socioeconomic status, age at first intercourse and peer pressure were analyzed and presented. Furthermore, the outcomes of teenage pregnancy were likewise identified and some matching the assumptions. The distribution of respondents according to level of study and age were analysed along with rate of responses to questionnaires and interviews. The study therefore presented data that addressed the research questions that informed this study. There is therefore a pressing need to address teenage pregnancy at both community and national level to combat poverty and to assist teenagers to meet basic educational needs.