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"AN EVALUATION STUDY ON CHILD SUPPORT GRANT, ITS IMPACT IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AT NGWELEZANE "

BY

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DEDICATION

I humbly dedicate this work to my family, my two late brothers Manqoba and Jabulisa, and my friends Zodwa Mtshali and the late Lindiwe Mbonambi.

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CHAPTER 1

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Women make up slightly more than half of the South African population. Their experiences are diverse and differ according to race and class, commonalities between them do exist regarding gender inequality. Black women have been severely disadvantaged by the policies of the past. Women in rural areas have been especially disadvantaged. They are isolated and do not have access to social and economic opportunities, which could improve their family. The well being of children depends on the ability of families to function effectively. Children are vulnerable, they need to grow up in a nurturing and secure family that can ensure their survival, development, protection and participation in family and social life (White Paper 1997: 42&54)

Individuals, families and households are particularly vulnerable to poverty in times of unemployment, ill health, maternity, child-rearing, widowhood and old age. While poverty is widespread throughout South Africa, African people are most affected. Women and children particularly in female-headed households. People with special needs, and those living in rural areas, informal settlements and on farms are most at risk (White Paper 1997: 7).

Poverty is often accompanied by additional social problems, such as family dis-integration, adults and children in trouble with the law and substance abuse. It is the combination of economic, social, and emotional deprivation which heightens the vulnerability of poor individuals and families. Poverty is one of the most important causes of hunger and malnutrition, which contribute to illness and disability. Poverty also places strains on household resources and on family and informal networks, which increases the need for formal social welfare services (White Paper 1997: 7).

Unemployment is a major source of social concern in South Africa. As a result of an accelerated increase in the numbers of unemployed people, government has responded with financial support (Child Support Grant). Thousands of young women are seen standing in long queues waiting to collect the Child Support Grant. The great concern is that this Child Support Grant does not cover all the needs of the children, because it is so minimal.

1.2 BACKGROUND

On 1 April 1998 a new law came into operation, called the Welfare Laws Amendment Act 106 of 1997. This Act allows for the payment of a Child Support Grant, to be given to a primary caregiver of a child under the age of seven years. The Child Support Grant is smaller amount of money than the previous maintenance grant, but it aims to reach a wider range of families. The Department of Social Development estimates that three million children will access it. The Child Support Grant is not limited to a specific number of children per family, but it falls away when a child turns seven years of age. The Child Support Grant is paid to the primary caregiver, that is any person who is taking care of the child on a day to day basis. This can be a parent, a grandparent, or anyone else who looks after the child. Such a person and the child must be permanent resident of South Africa.

The number of children receiving the Child Support Grant has increased from 348532 in April 2000 to 1574927 in April 2002. There has been an increase of 4400% during the period 1999 to 2002, but this still falls short of the target of 3 million children. In the 2003/4 budget the Child Support Grant was increased from R 140 to R 160 per month (National Guidelines for Social Services to Children Infected and Affected By HIV /AIDS 2003:28).

1.3 STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

The major concern of the researcher is the increasing rate of teenage and young adult pregnancy. Illiteracy and poverty are major obstacles to women's advancement. Female unemployment is higher than male unemployment. Women account for only 45% of those employed in the formal sector. Women are in the majority in informal sector employment where wages are generally lower and there are no social benefits. Female-headed households are financially vulnerable, as fathers do not always pay for the maintenance of their children (White Paper 2002: 73).

There are nearly 11 million people in South Africa who are between 16-30 years of age. They represent 32,5% of the potentially economically active population. Three million are unemployed and large numbers drop out of school. Poverty and social instability have resulted in high teenage parenthood, delinquency, crime and exposure to Sexually Transmitted Disease and violence (White Paper 1997: 50).

Unemployment has been severe among women, especially, those in rural areas as well as among young people under the age of 24. Nearly a third of black youth are unemployed and are under 20% of those aged 25 to 34 (White Paper 2002: 3).

More people are unemployed, there is lack of job opportunities. Some have no marketable job skills as a result they are no longer making a concerted effort to obtain employment. The number of children receiving the Child Support Grant in South Africa has increased from 348532 in April 2000 to 1574927 in April 2002 (Smart 2003: 28). The problem of unemployment leads to an increasing number of people receiving Child Support Grant.

1.4 MOTIVATION OF THE STUDY

The researcher targeted the Child Support Grant recipients from Ngwelezane Township. Ngwelezane is located about five kilometres from town Empangeni. Empangeni is a medium sized town.

Ngwelezane Township was established in 1962. Tenants were removed from South Africa Railways , Sugar mill compounds and private sectors dwellings . Conditions for accommodation were that a person had to be under Inkosi Zungu. Houses had no electricity and concrete slabs . Road were not tarred and there were no street lights until 1970.

Since the 1980's there has been a lot of improvements at Ngwelezane location , the road has been constructed, houses improved. Despite the improvements and changes in the area there are still increasing numbers of the unemployed .

There is an informal settlement on the boundaries of this township, with lots of people who have low education, some never been to school and that makes it difficult for them to get job opportunities. And due to the mentioned facts they rely on the Child Support Grant for the support of their children .

The researcher is a social worker and has attended to problems of more clients inquiring about the Child Support Grant. An increase of teenage pregnancy and single parenthood is apparent in Ngwelezane. As a Social Worker I have identified that lots of young women who drop out of school due to pregnancy and are depending on Child Support Grants. There is still a high rate of preschool children who are not attending crèches or preschool due to lack of finance. Children are still suffering from disease resulting from malnutrition and hunger.

1.5 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objective of the study:

- To identify the criteria utilized in assessing beneficiaries.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the Child Support Grant.
- To identify the shortcomings of the Child Support Grant program.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

- It is envisaged that this study will benefit the following groups of people and institutions.
- It will assist the policy makers in evaluating the effectiveness of Child Support Grant.
- It will encourage government to introduce more self-development programs, that eliminate dependency.
- It will sensitize the youth particularly about the problems associated with, associated survival for teenagers who get pregnant at an early age.
- It will help government / policy makers to introduce family planning services to help couples who do not want and cannot afford large-sized families.
- It will help to increase and improve public information and education about effects of irresponsible sexuality and unwanted pregnancy .

1.7 Definition of concepts

1.7.1 Child Support Grant

Child Support Grant is a smaller amount of money than the previous maintenance grant, but it aims to reach a wide range of families.

(National Guidelines For Social Services To Children Infected 1998: 23)

For the purpose of this study Child Support Grant refers to the amount given to a primary care giver of a child under 14 years.

1.7.2 Caregiver

Caregiver is any person who is taking care of a child on a day to day basis. This can be a parent, a grandparent or anyone else who looks after the child and such a person and child must permanently reside in South Africa (National Guidelines For Social Service Children Infected 1988: 23).

In this study caregiver refers to any person receiving the Child Support Grant on behalf of the child.

1.7.3 Child

A child is a person under the age of 18 years

(ABC Of Human Rights & Policing 2001 : 26).

1.7.4 ACCESS

This acronym stands for Alliance for Children's Entitlement to Social Security. It is a civil society movement that was established in March 2001, in order to ensure that all poor children are registered for poverty relief grants (Smart 2003: 34)

1.7.5 Lend a Hand

Lend-a-hand is a grants empowerment campaign by Soul City and ACCESS which is aimed at increasing grants by empowering communities, dealing effectively with obstacles and creating an enabling environment for optimal service delivery (Smart 2003: 34)

1.7.6 Mentors

For the purpose of this study mentors refers to the responsible adults who are appointed by the Law to supervise the children who are heading the families to manage finances left by parents, preferably a person related to the child (having both parents and have nobody to look after).

1.7.7 Phased in Plan

For the purpose of this study phased in plan refers to the re-registering of the children who are recipients of Child Support Grant from the age of 9 yrs those turned 9 before 1 April 2004 and were going to fall off the system by 1 April 2005. According to the phased in plan their caregivers had to register them on 1 April 2005, so that they will be eligible again. Phased-in plan was intended to bring clarity to the implementation of the extension of the Child Support Grant to children less than 14 years.

1.7.8 Means test

For the purpose of this study means test refers to the conditions that makes one to qualify for the Child Support Grant. e.g. the applicants financial position and the income, assets of the applicant and spouse or the concerned are assessed .(You and Your Grants 2002:4).

1. 8 LITERATURE REVIEW

The researcher is going to review literature in the next chapter in order to get background information on the Lund report and why the government made a decision to pay Child Support Grant to women with children from 0-7 years of age, initially.

1.9 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURE

In this study the researcher will use the qualitative method. The researcher will utilize the interview and hand out questions in collecting data. During the interviews open ended and closed questions will be utilized to gather information from the participants. Qualitative research method aims at generating theories and hypothesis from the data that emerge, in an attempt to avoid the imposition of a previous, and possibly inappropriate frame of reference on the subject researched.

1.10 POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The researchers target population will be recipients of Child Support Grant from Ngwelezane township. The researcher will interview 50 young women and teenagers. In this study the researcher will go to the pay point on the day when all the Ngwelezane Child Support Grant recipients are receiving the grant .The researcher will assign a number to each recipient. After that the researcher will pick numbers at random without following a certain pattern of numbers. Fifty numbers will be selected to make up a sample .

1.11 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The researcher will analyze data using micro soft and excel to draw tables.

1.12 DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS

One copy of dissertation will be kept at the library .The article prepared from this study will be published in a Social Work professional journal. The researcher will publish an article in the Zululand Observer (Local newspaper).

The research results will be disseminated through oral presentations during meetings and workshops. It will also be published in, newsletters and journals.

1.13 PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY

The study will be divided into the following chapters :

Chapter 1 Orientation to the study

Chapter 2 Literature Review

Chapter 3 Research Methodology

Chapter 4 Data Presentation ,Analysis and Interpretation

Chapter 5 Findings , Conclusions and Recommendations

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. The origin of child support grants from the system of maintenance grants

Under the previous social security system in South Africa, there were four categories of state support mainly for elderly, persons with disabilities, social relief, and child and family care . The main grant in the field of child and family care was the State Maintenance Grant . Women would be eligible for this means - test grant if they had applied for financial support from their partners or the fathers of their children through a magistrate's court . If that application had not been successful or if she was widowed, deserted or experiencing financial problems due to other conditions, she would apply for a child maintenance grant .

Although legally all South African women were eligible for the grant , African women were largely excluded from receiving state maintenance grants , or access and particularly in the former homelands , it was very uneven . In 1995 , about R 1,2 billion was spent on state maintenance grants . The results of these disparities are that a disproportionately high share of Indians and coloureds received state maintenance grants . Overall only 8 out of every 1,000 children received the grants but 48 and 40 out of 1,000 coloured and Indian children respectively were recipients and this compared with only 2 grants for every 1,000 African children . It has been estimated that it would cost between R5 billion and R20 billion to provide the current level of grants to all eligible women (Lund Report 1997:5).

While the then existing state maintenance grant was based on the nuclear family model , the traditional definition of family did not apply to many South Africans living in poverty . Many families were and still are headed by single women and more families are living outside of the conventional definition of a nuclear family . The fragmentation of families is to be seen as part of broader political policies which systematically disrupted family life particularly affecting African households (Report of the Lund Committee 1997: 2) .

2.2 Situational analysis

Women make up slightly more than half of the South African population. Their experiences are diverse and they differ according to race and class, although commonalities between them do exist regarding gender inequality .Black women have been severely disadvantaged by the policies of the past .Women in rural areas have been particularly disadvantaged .They were isolated and did not have access to social and economic opportunities which could improve their family lives .The well being of children depends on the ability of families to function effectively .Children are vulnerable they need to grow up in nurturing and secured families that can ensure their survival ,development ,protection and participation in family and social life (White Paper 2002:1997& 54).

For the fact that the children are depending on their parents for their development ,the failure of government to provide adequate support to black families led to poor progress in the whole South African black generation. Those who survived were from the families with strong and sound backgrounds .

Unemployment is a major source of social concern in South Africa. As a result of an increase in the numbers of unemployed people, government has responded with financial support, viz. Child Support Grant. This new supplementary benefit will assist poor families to raise their children. Through the Child Support Grant the government is hoping to reach ten times more children than the state maintenance grant reaches. The Child Support Grant is part of state social grant security which is just one part of the wider programs of government.

According to Welfare Update 1997: 5 the Child Support Grant was calculated according to the Household Subsistence Level, as one measure of the cost of living. Researchers had to go to shops in urban and rural areas, finding out how much basic goods cost. The purpose of this exercise was to determine how much each household spent on basic needs. After the findings the government would then decide as to how much to be given to those families who have got needy children.

This exercise seemed to be unfair because both Child Support Grant recipients from rural and urban areas receive same amount, yet food is very costly in the rural areas. The people from the rural areas also spend a lot of money when traveling to shops to buy groceries, as shops are very far.

The following are the main principles of the Child Support Grant stated Welfare Update 1997: 1

- The government cannot cover all the costs of rearing very poor children, but is able to assist by giving a small cash grant in the to supplement the income of poor families.
- The level of assistance will be linked to objective measure of need.
- The operation of the Benefit will acknowledge fiscal constraints.
- The focus of the Benefit is on children.

- The Benefit is one of several programs of government aimed at poverty relief and eradication.

2.3 South African children

There are almost 18 million children under the age of 18 in South Africa representing 40% of the total population. As many as 60% of these children live in poverty 3.2 million 0 to 5 year olds 10.2 million 0 to 18year olds using nutritional status as a proxy for poverty. Of the 2.3 million South Africans who are nutritionally vulnerable 39.9% are children aged 6 months to 5years.

Children are our most treasured assets and the future of our country, yet they are silent innocent casualties of poverty (Smart 2003: 9).

2.3.1 Children in difficult circumstances

Children in difficult circumstances refers to those children who are denied their most basic human rights and whose growth and development are consequently impaired.

The well-being of children depends on the ability of families to function effectively. Children are vulnerable they need to grow up in a nurturing and secure family that can ensure their survival, development, protection and participation in family and social life.

Families are faced with many new demands and challenges as they attempt to meet the needs of their members. Internal family problems such as alcohol and drug abuse, communication and relationship problems, marital conflict, a lack of preparation for marriage and family violence and family breakdown have been noted as some of the problems facing families. Children are also traumatised by violence in communities and natural disaster.

Preschool children from birth to 36 months old and in the three to six years age group are particularly vulnerable. There are an estimated 9,947,000 children up to the age of nine years who are in need of early childhood development services. About 60% of children of preschool age live in impoverished circumstances. Of these, 90% are Africans who live in poorly resourced rural areas.

Children from disadvantaged families are in particular need of early -childhood development services. At present approximately one in ten preschool children are in early childhood development programmes. There is a lack of services for the age from birth to three years old and for the disabled children(White Paper 2002 :42-43).

The Child Support Grant is so little, it cannot cover the impaired development of children which is caused by difficulties faced by the children and their families.

2.4 Unemployment

Unemployment levels in South Africa are dangerously high with little or no prospects of these levels going anywhere but up. Social security programs, such as child care grant bring limited relief to families. A grant for the unemployed has been advocated by some sectors of the society. The problem remains one of limited resources leaving the minority to care for the majority.

With a 2,7% annual population growth of job seekers in the shrinking market place unemployment increased rapidly. Those who are unable to find employment, therefore qualify for social service benefits. In South Africa, millions of children are being brought into the world without any prospect of enjoying a decent life (Mostert & Lotter 1990:177-178).

In terms of employment, according to the stats SA Labour force survey, in 2004, 993,000 people in the province were unemployed, this declined to 987,000 in 2005, improving the unemployment rate from 33,1% in 2004 to 31,8% in 2005. This decrease in unemployment was in fact faster than the national average, which declined from 27,9% to 26,5% over the same period. (People`s Budget 2006/2007).

White matriculants are the winners in the new South Africa as research reveals they are four times more likely to get a job after leaving school than their black counterparts. About 75% of white matriculants had found a job since 2001, while only 18% matriculants in the study had found work and 32% of Indian matriculants .

Other sobering figures showed that one in 20 of all of Africans could say the same. Some 45% of colored matriculants had simply given up looking for work. The most worrying implication is that when it comes to people looking for a job, clearly at the outset the majority of black people are disadvantaged which is likely to perpetuate employment inequity.

Statistics South Africans Labour force survey of 2002 in showed 44% of black matriculants were unemployed, compared with only 4% of whites 12.7% of coloureds and 28.5% of Indians (Sunday Times 2004:21).

2.5 The need for social security

It is the very process of development, which creates the need for social security. Economic development means industrialization and urbanization changes in structures and methods of production and migration from the rural areas to the towns. Workers become dependent on a money wage and leave behind the former means of subsistence and support within the village or tribe. When the wage is interrupted, through sickness or accident, old age or invalidity, the means of livelihood disappears. In the early stages after the transition from the country to the town, the victims of social accidents may look to the traditional protection of the extended family and the village community but the ties quickly weaken.

Some form of compensation is imperative that is when social security measures are introduced to meet these problems of insecurity and to give protection against the risks which impair or destroy the income of the individual and his ability to support his family.

Almost everywhere in the world with higher rates of industrialization and urbanization, there is a growing recognition that social security schemes should not be limited in the future to the modern sector but must be extended to reach the urban informal and the rural traditional sectors. As has been identified earlier, social security benefits (maintenance grants) were not extended to these groups.

With the shift in emphasis of development planning to basic needs strategies, much more attention is being given to the social security needs, particularly for health care of the poorest sectors of the population (Cockburn 1980: 343).

There could be great improvement if government can create job opportunities rather than giving people the hand outs e.g. food parcel. In most cases the government's free services are so minimal and of lowest quality, e.g. the health service is not of best quality. Since the government has introduced the free health service, the majority of the people are complaining about the decline in the quality and quantity of service delivery. Although the government was trying to improve the lives of people it seems as if things seem to be getting worse in the poorest sectors of population. Although the service has been extended to the people who are needy it is not solving the problem but somehow it is creating a lot of dependence.

2.7. The needs of most young people

- A secure family life and the recognition of different types of family units .
- Protection from violence and abuse .
- Opportunities to reach their full educational and human potential .
- Opportunities for career guidance.
- Basic amenities such as water , housing.
- A safe environment .
- Recreation and leisure (White Paper 1997 : 50).

If one looks at the needs of young people and children one can realize that most needs require parents to have money in order to be able to meet those needs. Most parents are unemployed it shows that the majority of children have some of their needs unmet. As a result the Child Support Grant is playing an important role to help parents meet some of their children's needs.

2.8 Poverty

Illiteracy and poverty are major obstacles to women's advancement. Female unemployment is higher than male unemployment. Women account for only 45% of those employed in the formal sector. Moreover, women tend to be employed at lower levels than men and therefore earn less than men do. Women are in the majority in informal sector employment where wages are low and there are no social benefits. Research indicates that households headed by women are significantly poorer.

Working women are faced with increasing pressures in reconciling parenthood with work responsibilities. Early childhood development programs to meet needs of working women are insufficient. Female-headed households are also financially vulnerable as fathers do not always pay for the maintenance of their children (White Paper 1997: 54).

2.9 Issues related to children and HIV/AIDS

Already the problems of children in this country are enormous, widespread abuse, neglect, rape, violence and poverty. HIV/AIDS add greatly to the burden of children. Children are infected, orphaned, abandoned due to lack of income to maintain them, traumatized, have no homes, hungry and pushed into adult roles and impoverished emotionally (Potgieter et al 2000; 26&27).

2.9.1. *Almost a million without mothers*

Dealing with orphans and households headed by children is one of the dilemmas facing Parliament's social development portfolio committee. During public hearing, children's institute at the University of Cape Town objected to the fact that the latest version of the Bill has done away with mentors for Children living alone.

Mentors were seen as useful in managing Child Support Grant on behalf of children living alone. Because of the AIDS epidemic, parents are dying at a rapid rate and more children are not being absorbed into communities and extended families.

Some children are choosing to remain alone, as they are afraid of losing their property. In some cases it might be in the best interests of the child, if the child headed households get recognized as a legal family form. Some children are not comfortable with the involvement of the mentors in supervising them with the management of the funds left by their parents.

The idea of mentors was included in the first draft of the Bill, developed by the South African Law Commission and handed to the Social Development Department in January 2003 after lengthy consultations. Around three out of 100 South African households are estimated to be child-headed at present, but the number is growing. By July 2003, 99000 South African children under the age of 18 had lost their mothers. The child heads of 45 households informed children's rights organization, Thandanani Children's Foundation that their biggest problems were hunger and secure places to live, the feared of being evicted and having possessions taken from them.

Legal recognition for child-headed households is one way of protecting the children's property but it would not enable all children to get state assistance as Child Support Grants can be given only to people over 16.

The mentor proposal was supposed to bridge this gap, but the current version of the Bill addressing the government's responsibilities to children and expected to be passed in 2004 has done away with the options of mentorship.

It is envisaged that Child Support Grant for households headed by children would be managed by social workers or non-governmental organizations. Mentoring should not just be about managing money. It could involve identifying people who live near the children who can give them care and support (Sunday Times: 2004-21).

The following cases prove the difficulties faced by young children who serve as heads of the families, as they have lost their parents through HIV/AIDS.

CASE 1

Thembeke Sibiya Enseleni Township, Empangeni, she is 11 years old. She looks after her younger brother Sandile and sister Lihle and Qunn.

" When my parents died we stayed in the room all by ourselves. We were given food by the neighbors. I carried messages for people to earn some money. In times when there was no food my sisters would beg for leftovers from our neighbours pots. Sometimes the wife of the reverend would bring us food, and now we have moved into her house. Before this we were living by ourselves for two years " (Mendel 2002: 30).

CASE 2

Zwelihle Madlala 15 year old boy lives with the grief of his mother's death and becomes father to his younger brothers Ndumiso 7 and Zamokuhle 11 as AIDS robs him of his childhood.

Zwelihle and his brothers live in Copesville (Pietermaritzburg). For 18 months Zwelihle has taken care of his younger brothers in their two-roomed home on the outskirts of Pietermaritzburg. Their mother died in January 2002. None of the boys have known their fathers. Their only known relative is an aunt who is always drunk. What keeps Madlala boys going is a monthly sponsorship of R800 from a government official who offered to sponsor a family (Sunday Times 2004: 21).

The above mentioned cases make it clear that with HIV/AIDS there are lots of orphans who are left behind. In a way it shows that there is great need for Child Support Grant. Most of the orphans rely on their neighbours for ongoing support. The government needs to consider extension of the age of the recipients of the child support grant, as most dependents are still of school going age or under 18 years old .

It is estimated that in 1990 there were 1034360 million orphaned children. There is a steady increase in population up to the year of 2010 when 2635205 children under the age of 15 years are expected to be orphaned, that is 16;87% of SA > s total child population .

The infant mortality rate in 1998 was 45% 1000;20%. Only 40%of children have birth certificates, 39% of households were headed by women and the poverty rate in these households is double the rate in male Bheaded households. Teenage pregnancy is one of the major reasons why girls leave school.

One in every 8 girls is forced out of the education system as a result of pregnancy.

Children living in child-head households on the street, or with families who regard them as an unwanted burden are particularly vulnerable to neglect, abuse and exploitation. Those subjected to sexual abuse or exploitation are increasingly at risk of becoming infected with the virus that killed many of their parents.

In households where a parent /parents are suffering from AIDS, older children are often responsible for supporting their families and providing care. Children of all ages struggle with the pain of losing a parent and the stigma of living in a family touched by HIV/AIDS.

As AIDS claims the lives of more and more adults, the traditional safety net for orphans were the extended families which has become stretched to the breaking point (Potgieter et al 2000:26-27).

2.10 Child support grant

2.10.1 Types of financial assistance available for the care of children

On the 1 April 1998 a new piece of legislation came into operation called the Welfare Laws Amendment Act 106 of 1997. This Act " allows for the payment of Child Support Grant to be paid out to a primary care-giver of a child under the age of seven years ".

2.11.2 What is a means test?

The most important factor when a person applies for social assistance is his/her financial position. The reason for this is that grants are only awarded if the applicants financial resources are below a certain prescribed level. In determining whether an applicant qualifies for a grant, and if so to what amount he/she would be entitled, the income and assets of the applicant and spouse or the concerned foster parent are assessed.

2.11.3 Where do you apply for a grant?

Applicants are submitted to the welfare office nearest to where the applicant lives. If the applicant is too old or sick to travel to the office to apply for a grant, then a family member or friend can apply on his / her behalf . The application form will be completed and he/she will be given a receipt. The receipt should be kept, as a proof of application .It is not necessary to pay any money to apply. If the welfare office does not approve the application, he/she must be informed in writing as to why his /her application was unsuccessful. The applicant has the right to appeal to the minister for welfare in Province by writing, explaining why he/she disagrees with the decision. This appeal must be lodged within 90 days of notification of the outcome of your application. If the grant is approved, payment will be effected retrospectively the date of initial application.

2.11.4 Methods of payment

Grants are paid through the following methods: cash payments, banks, post office and institution. Inability to collect the grant necessitates the appointment of procurator to regularly collect it and nominee on behalf of the recipient

(You and Your Grants 2003 ; 2-11).

2.12 Phased in extension of child support grant up to 14 years

The alliance for Children's entitlement to Social Security has been calling for the extension of the Child Support Grant to cover all children up to the age of 18, as the first phase to a basic income grant for everyone. It is the constitutional right of everyone to have access to appropriate social assistance if they are unable to support themselves and their dependants.

In the state of Nation address in 2003 the state President finally announced that the Child Support Grant will be extended to eligible children under the age of 14. This is in line with the decisions taken at the ANC Policy Conference in December 2002. ACCESS members were overjoyed at this victory, as some have been fighting for wider coverage for many years.

The thrill was short lived, for shortly afterwards, the minister for Social Development, announced that the extension to 14 years would be phased in over the next 3 years.

According to the Regulation, A The Child Support Grant will be extended progressively over three years to cover children under the age of 14. As of 1 April 2003, children under 9 qualify. As of 1 April 2004, children under 11 will qualify. As of 1 April 2005 children under 14 will qualify. (Government Gazette No. 24630, 31 March 2003).

2.12.1 Impact of phased in social grants program

The phased in - plan was intended to bring clarity to the implementation of the extension of the Child Support Grant to children under 14 years. However, much confusion still abounds due to the regulations being unclear, a lack of effective communication of the phased in extension to communities and social security officials in the province.

Since the announcement of the phased-in extension ACCESS has been monitoring the impact of the implementation of the extension on the ground. ACCESS has received many reports of massive confusion around the implementation plan amongst Child Support Grant recipients and officials alike.

2.12.2 Problems with the phased in scheme

The primary care-givers and their children have to travel back and forth to the nearest Social Development Office, which may not be so near, to register for grants according to this scheme. Families have to bear these extra, unnecessary costs in transport, documentation provision and time. Welfare Departments in some provinces are taking their own decisions not to register children who are between eight and nine years old. In Provinces like Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal, children who are eligible in terms of the Regulations are met with signs saying “ Only children under 8 and officials who still insist that they will not register children who are over 8 but less than nine years because of lack of capacity”.

The Department has said that children who turn 9 before 1 April 2004, will fall off the system and their care-givers will have to re-register them on 1 April 2004 when they would again be eligible. This means that care-givers will have to incur the extra cost, time and effort of registering their child twice. Children who are currently 12 and 13 years old will never see the light in social services offices across the country to register 10 to 14 olds because they don't know what is meant by the phased-in plan. Administration and delivery of social grants by the Department of Social Development are causing problems. These problems are being exacerbated and perpetuated by this complex and unreasonable phased - in scheme.

2.13 The problems being experienced by care givers

2.13.1 Provincial social development offices are not all applying the national policy

Provinces are deviating from the National policy and refusing to register children under 9 for various reasons. In Mpumalanga the officials are saying that the policy is to register only those children who were previously getting the grant but lost it when they turned 7. Therefore 7 and 8 year olds who were never registered for the grant are turned away despite being eligible in terms of the law because they are under 9. In the North West, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu Natal, Eastern Cape and Limpopo, we are receiving reports from officials turning away children who are eight years old (Child Support Grant Fact Sheet 2003: 1&3-6).

CASE ALERT: 1 The Story of Maropeng Of Ingwavuma In KwaZulu Natal

Twelve year old Maropeng lives with his very ill and unemployed mother and eight year old brother Siphon. They do not get any form of assistance from the Government. However, Maropeng 's brother, who is 8 years old does qualify for the Child Support Grant.

" There is no food and no money at home " says Maropeng " We are so hungry we have no time to go to school because we have to go and look for food in the neighbourhood." My mother tried to register Siphon for the children's grant early this year. She was told he (Siphon) does not qualify, said Maropeng. " Sometimes the neighbours give us some food if we do jobs for them like fetch water for them or chop wood and bring it to them. We hope the government can do something for us because we are suffering

" Despite the fact that Siphon qualifies for the Child Support Grant as amended early this year, his mother was turned away several times by officials saying he will only qualify next year " .

If government had taken a decision to immediately extend the Child Support Grant to all children under 14 years this year, at least Maropeng and his younger brother would be able to buy food for their family with the income from the grants .

CASE ALERT : 2 THE STORY OF XOLILE SIBEKO FROM LESLIE IN MPUMALANGA

Xolile Sibeko is unemployed and earns a disability grant of R 700 that she has to share with whole family. Her son Jabulane who was born in July 1995 will be turning 8 years this year. But Sibeko has been told by officials in Leslie that Jabulane will only qualify for the Child Support Grant next year because “it is only children who are under 8 years who qualify for the grant this year” I don `t know what to do” said Sibeko. “On the radio they say we must go and register our children but the social workers are saying we must come next year”. According to Sibeko there`s a big sign in the offices which says “ Only Children Under 8”. When you go there they just ask “ Didn`t you see the sign on the door ?” We just have to leave. The social workers don`t have time to explain why you should come next year. “If you keep on asking the people will shout at you and say you are wasting their time” (Child Support Grant Fact Sheet 2003:1&3-6).

2.13.2 Policy on Child Support Grant

The National Department of Social Development has issued a clear directive to all its officials across the country to register all children under nine years. All Children who qualify for the Child Support Grant according to the new regulation cannot be turned away in any social services offices for whatever reason . “The new policy position is that any children who are 8 years and less than twelve months old does not qualify for the Child Support Grant”.

It is the duty of each Province to make sure that they register all children under 9 years regardless of whether they have the capacity or not (Child Support Grant Fact Sheet 2003: 1& 3-6).

2.14 Main reasons for lapsing of grants

The following are the reasons for lapsing of grants:

- deaths
- admission to a state institution
- If the grant is not claimed for 3 consecutive months.
- When the grant receiver has been absent from the Republic for a continuous period longer than six months (You and Your Grants 2003 : 2-11) .

2.15 Problems that are commonly expressed regarding the child support grant

- Birth Certificates are a necessity for the application of Child Support Grant.
- There are barriers to accessing the grant represented by the services provided by the Department of Home Affairs .
- Awareness of the availability of grant is fraught with difficulties and the processing of applications is protracted (Smart 2003: 28) .

2.16 Progress in Child Support Grant

ACCESS was established as an alliance with the aim to improve access for children to social security entitlements.

- In 2002, the minister of social development travelled to all Provinces to evaluate ACCESS to social services (focusing on children) and subsequently Lend a Hand grants campaign was launched and is making progress in getting children registered for grants.

There are more and more success stories and the number of children accessing Child Support Grant is increasing dramatically, but access to grants remains an enormous challenge particularly when it involves the Department of Home Affairs. Most delays are caused by the requirement of birth certificates and Identity Documents that are needed when one is applying for the Child Support Grant.

In the 2003/4 budget the Child Support Grant was increased from R 140 to R 160 per month (Smart 2003:55).

2.17 Evaluation

Although people are benefiting from the little that is contributed by Government through the Child Support Grant, it is still inadequate, it should be brought in line with the inflation rate and extended to target all poor children under 18 years. The Child Support Grant is so limited or so little that it is impossible to rely on it to cover all basic needs. Maybe it would be better if children who are recipients of the Child Support Grant can be exempted from payment of the school fees. School fees on its own seem to be very expensive.

The government should have started by identifying the causes of poverty before considering the introduction of the Child Support Grant. Poverty is continuing despite the availability of Child Support Grant. There seems to be lot of dependency, which is caused by the Child Support Grant. As the Child Support Grant is very low, the government should have contributed this money in opening job opportunities and economic development projects.

Ever since the Child Support Grant was introduced some people have stopped looking employment as they know that if one is employed, one won't qualify for the Child Support Grant. Due to the spread of HIV/AIDS lots of children lost their parents and remain under the care of the relatives. In most cases those children are needy and qualify for the Child Support Grant, but you will find that they forfeit those benefits due to the number of documents, which are required, when one applies for the Child Support Grant. When both parents are dead, it becomes difficult to access the birth certificates, death certificates and other documents needed. The government needs to simplify the process so that it will be easier for the recipients.

Follow up sessions should be conducted with the families of the recipients of the Child Support Grant in order to ensure that the money is used to benefit the children.

The financial criteria for payment of Child Support Grant need to be revised in order to take into consideration that people from the rural areas spend a lot of money when traveling a long distance to buy their groceries and to reach other basic resources. If they are lucky enough to have a shop in their locality, the food will still be very expensive, whereas people from the urban areas access the basic needs easily at an affordable price. The pay points are so far away as a result the Child Support Grant recipients spend a lot of money on transport on the day of collecting the money.

Child Support Grant is received through different pay points e.g. post office and banks and this has made it difficult for the social workers to supervise and give guidance to the recipients of Child Support Grant. Nobody is available to motivate the recipients on engaging on small business and self-development projects, as it used to happen with the previous State Maintenance Grant.

There seem to be lots of factors that need to be considered by the government in terms of improving the efficacy of the Child Support Grant e.g. who qualifies and on whether R 160 can make one meet all the basic needs.

The Child Support Grant was introduced in 1998, and has been limited to very poor children under 7. The states primary child poverty alleviation programme now reaches 2,7 million of South Africans 14,3 million poor children targeted. Thousands of young women are seen standing in long queues waiting to collect the Child Support Grant, which does not cover all the needs of the children, because it is so minimal.

2.1.8 Summary

The researcher discussed the historical background /situation analysis of the government grants, and shortcomings of the Child Support Grant. The researcher also focused on problems and barriers of accessing the Child Support Grant. It is clear that lots of poor people are depending on the Child Support Grant. The government is trying its best to identify the extent of need of social security, against the background of family situations, the escalating rate of unemployment and against the odds of the economy, is trying to increase amounts paid out in Child Support Grants.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Research methodology means the philosophy of the research process. This includes the assumptions and values that serve as a rationale for research and standards or criteria the researcher uses for interpreting data and reaching conclusions.

(Bailey 1987:33)

Every study is conducted with an aim of investigating a research hypothesis or a research question. Data is collected from the subjects of our enquiry in order to solve the problem concerned. This study is directed at examining the effectiveness of child support grants in meeting the needs children. The focus will be on the child support grant recipients who reside at Ngwelezane Township.

3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

Appropriate research design has to be utilized in order to collect the relevant data required to accomplish the objectives of the study.

Grinnel (1988:249) defines research design as a blue print or detailed plan of how the study is to be conducted.

According to Babbie E.(1998:98) research design addresses the planning of scientific inquiry designing a strategy for finding out something .

3.3 EVALUATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN

Mckendrick (1987: 258) the principal objective of the evaluative research design can be regarded as a systematic use of research strategies to provide information concerning the effectiveness of social work program and practices.

Evaluation research is the research that seeks to determine how successful applied social programs have been, for example, antipoverty programs (Bailey 1987:463)

In this study researcher will utilize evaluative research design because she wants to measure the effectiveness of child support grants in meetings the needs of the children.

3.4 SAMPLING

Mckendrick 1987:268 defines sampling as the drawing of a small portion of elements from larger or total population.

3.5 PROBABILITY SAMPLING

Mckendrick (1987: 269) defines probability sampling as the one in which all elements of the population will be given equal chance of becoming the actual sample. In that way no element of the population will be excluded during the selection process. This will make the selection process to be fair and discriminating.

Ralph et al (1996: 411-412) defines probability sampling as a selection procedure in which every unit in the population has a known nonzero probability of being chosen.

3.6 SAMPLING / PROCEDURE TO BE UTILIZED

3.6.1 *Sampling Frame*

Bailey 1987: 302 defines sampling frame as a list of units from which the sample has to be drawn. In this study the researcher will use the Ngwelezane Welfare list of all the recipients of child support grant to select the sample.

3.6.2 *Random sampling*

Mckendrick B. W (1987: -269) defines simple random as the selection at random, of a specific number of persons from a complete list of persons in the population, usually according to a table of persons in the population, usually according to a table of random numbers.

In this study the researcher will go to the pay point at Empangeni rail where all the child support grant recipients from Ngwelezane location receives their grant (on the pay day). The researcher will assign a number to each recipient. After that, the researcher will pick numbers a random, without following a certain pattern of numbers. Fifty numbers will be selected to formulate a sample.

3.6.3 *Population*

Bailey (1987:468) defines population as the group from which the sample is taken.

In this study population will be all the recipients of child support grant from Enseleni Welfare list.

3.6.4 *Research Instrument*

Interview Schedule

Bailey 1987:466 defines interview schedule as list of questions read by an interviewer to a respondent, with the interviewer, then writing down the respondent's answers on the schedule. Interview schedule will be written in English. The researcher will translate the questions into Isizulu so that question will be understandable to the respondents

Respondents will have a chance to ask from the interviewer in case they don't understand questions. Interview schedule will minimize delays because the researcher will be able to be in control of the process of interviewing respondents e.g. she won't have to worry about whether or not respondents have posted the questionnaires.

One set of the interview schedule will be utilized to interview the recipients of the child support grant.

3.7 SUMMARY

This chapter briefly explains the research methodology utilized in this study. The following terms explained : research methodology, research design, evaluative research design, sampling, probability sampling, random sampling, population and interview schedule. This chapter indicates how information is going to be gathered and who is going to be involved in that phase. It is the main plan of the study to be followed.

CHAPTER 4

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the presentation of analysis and interpretation of data collected. The researcher will analyze data by using Microsoft and excel to draw tables.

4.2 PERSONAL BACKGROUND

The information regarding the respondents personal background was sought by the researcher, work status, age, marital status, highest standard passed .

4.2.1 Distribution of respondents' ages

AGE OF RESPONDENTS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
18-25	15	30%
25-35	18	36%
35-45	15	30%
45-55	12	4%
TOTAL	50	100%

The table shows that the majority of the respondents were adults of the age group between 25-35, 36%.

Table 4.2.2 Distribution of respondents marital status

RESPONDENTS

MARITAL STATUS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
SINGLE	37	74%
MARRIED	11	22%
DIVORCED	0	0%
WIDOWED	2	4%
TOTAL	50	100%

According to the reflection of this table the majority of the respondents are single.

Table 4.2.3 Highest educational standard passed

HIGHEST STANDARD	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
NEVER BEEN TO SCHOOL	2	4%
SUB A STD 1	3	6%
STD 2-STD 5	15	30%
STD 6 - STD 8	10	20%
STD 9 - STD 10	20	40%
TOTAL	50	100%

This table reflects that the majority of the respondents have completed matric as their standard passed. They have not studied further for the career.

Table 4.2.4 Respondents work status

EMPLOYMENT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
UNEMPLOYED	41	82%
TEMPORAL JOB	3	6%
PERMANENT JOB	1	2%
SCHOOLING	0	0%
SELF EMPLOYED	5	10%
TOTAL	50	100%

The above table shows the majority of the respondents are unemployed as a result they are solely dependent on the child support grant, they have no other source of income.

Table 4.2.5 distribution of child's father work status

WORK	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
UNEMPLOYED	24	48%
EMPLOYED	13	26%
DECEASED	13	26%
TOTAL	50	100%

About 48% of the fathers of children receiving the child support grant are unemployed,(due to the high unemployment rate) .

As both parents are unemployed child support grant is utilized to meet all the child's children basic needs.

4.3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE CHILDREN RECEIVING THE CHILD SUPPORT GRANT

The researcher will focus on whether the children receiving child support grant attend school or not, also how many per household receive child support grant.

4.3.1 Distribution of respondents children who are receiving child support grant, number of children attending school and those not attending school.

SCHOOL GRADE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
SCHOOL GOING	24	48%
ATTENDING CRECHE	10	20%
BELOW CRECHE/ NOT ATTENDING CRECHE	16	32%
TOTAL	50	100%

The majority of the children attend school, as a result the money is spent on the child/children education.

4.3.2 Distribution of the respondents expenses periodic expenses e.g

School fees per period

AMOUNT SPEND ON SCHOOL FEES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
R 50-R 100	30	60%
R 100-R 150	10	20%
R 200-R 250	10	20%
TOTAL	50	100%

4.3.3 Distribution of the monthly transport expenses of the respondents spent

Per child

TRANSPORT FEES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
R 50- R 100	40	80%
R 100-R 150	10	20%
R 200-R 250	0	0%
R 250 -R 300	0	0%
TOTAL	50	100%

4.3.4 Table distribution of respondents feedback on how they spend

The child support grant

CHILD'S NEEDS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
CLOTHING ONLY	3	6%
FOOD ONLY	19	38%
CLOTHING, FOOD AND EDUCATION	11	22%
EDUCATION & FOOD ONLY	8	16%
CLOTHING AND FOOD ONLY	6	12%
OTHER FAMILY NEEDS	3	6%
TOTAL	50	100%

The majority of the respondents expressed the view that Child Support Grant is very minimal, they cannot meet all their children's needs. They wish it could be increased. The following are their comments regarding increasing the Child Support Grant:

- Miss Zodwa Nhlenyama (34) stated that she has got two children, and she relies on Child Support Grant for their food, clothing and education. She further mentioned that R 180.00 is insufficient, although she has a small business at home, that gets her nowhere because food is very expensive. Sometimes she uses the grant to meet other family needs. She said she is not happy with the R10 added to the Child Support Grant, as reported in the 2006/2007 National Financial Budget. (Isolezwe 2006:3)

- Miss Khoni Ngcaphalala expressed her dissatisfaction with R 10 increment, she reported that R 10 is nothing , it would have been better if the Child Support Grant was increased by R 20. According to her report R 10 is too little it makes no Financial difference. She also expressed to be not satisfied with the 2006/ 2007 National Budget) (Isolezwe 2006:3).
- The above mentioned comments from the different recipients of the Child Support Grant shows that it is not only the respondents from Ngwelezane who are complaining about the grant being minimal as one can see with the above comments of the Child Support Grant from Mtubatuba and Mkuze .

4.3.5 Respondents view regarding what government should do to improve

The child support grant

AMOUNT TO BE INCREASED	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
R 50	3	6%
R 200	5	10%
R 250	1	2%
R 270	2	4%
R 300	3	6%
R 350	2	4%
R500	3	6%
R 600	1	2%
R 700	3	6%
NO SPECIFIC AMOUNT FOR INCREAMENT	13	26%
OPEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES	12	2%
FREE EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN	2	4%
TOTAL	50	100%

All the respondents appreciate the availability of the child support grant but they would like it to be increased. About 26% of the respondents want the grant to be increased, whereas 24% wants the government to create more job opportunities for them, so that they will be able to earn money and provide for their children.

4.3.6 Distribution of the number of respondents who are able to put some of the child support grant on bank saving

NUMBER OF RESENDENTS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
NOT SAVING PART OF CHILD SUPPORT GRANT	46	92
SAVING PART OF CHILD SUPPORT GRANT	4	8
TOTAL	50	100%

About 92% of the respondents report that child support grant is so little that they cannot meet all their children's needs, in that way they remain with nothing to save. Only 4% reported that they save as little as R20 per month.

4.3.7 Respondents view on whether child support grant is sufficient to meet all their children's needs

RESPONDENTS VIEW ON SUFFICIENCY OF CHILD SUPPORT GRANT	NUMBERS	PERCENTAGE
SUFFICIENT	13	26%
INSUFFICIENT	37	74%
TOTAL	50	100%

The majority of the respondents 74% expressed that the child support grant is insufficient, they would appreciate if it can be increased. They admit that it brings little change, they wish they would receive more.

They reported that there is high unemployment rate as result they cannot make ends meet. They solely rely on it to benefit the whole family e.g. they use it to meet the basic needs e.g. buy food for to the family.

4.4 SUMMARY

This chapter outlined data that has been analyses and interpreted from the total number of fifty respondents. Data was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. The study hypothesis is “ Child Support Grant , fails to meet the needs of children in Ngwelezane”.

CHAPTER 5

FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter looked at the restatement of the problem, the restatement of the objectives of the study, findings were based on the analysis of the study. Conclusions and recommendations were drawn from the findings.

5.2 RESTATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The major concern of the research was the increasing rate of teenage and young adult pregnancy. The researcher was also concerned about lots of young women who drop out of school due to pregnancy and are depending on Child Support Grant. The researcher was not convinced that the Child Support Grant is sufficient for all the children's needs because there is still a high rate of preschool children who are not attending crèches or preschool due to lack of finance. And children are still suffering due to lack of job opportunities to enable parents to earn money to support their families.

5.3 RESTATEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To evaluate the effectiveness of the Child Support Grant.
- To identify the short comings of the Child Support Grant
- To identify the criteria utilized in assessing beneficiaries.

5.4 FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The researcher has gone through the study and came out with the following findings:

5.4.1 Age

The researcher identified that the majority of the respondents were between 18-35 age group and they are single.

5.4.2 educational qualifications

About 40% of the respondents have Std 9-Std 10 as highest standard passed. They have not received further training, and as a result they have no career. They spend most of the time doing nothing as they have difficulty getting work due to lack of skills. About 82% of the fathers of children receiving Child Support Grant are unemployed. The majority of the fathers cannot afford to pay maintain their children due to unemployment.

5.4.3 Children's needs

Every child has got special needs like food, clothing and education. The researcher discovered that children's daily needs are very expensive .The majority of the children need transport when they go to school or crèches which is R100 or more per month .It does not end there they need pocket money /lunch box to carry everyday. Above that they need food , clothing and school fees .In that way R180 is really insufficient if you solely depend on it .

5.4.4 Employment

Most respondents are unemployed and reluctant to even try other means to generate income, due to fear that the Child Support Grant will be terminated. Social Security Officials state that one must be unemployed in order to qualify for the state support grant. Child Support Grant has created dependency.

5.4.5 Family planning

There is a rapid increase of the number of people receiving Child Support Grant, of which most of them are single. People are still engaging in unprotected /unsafe sex, they are putting themselves on high risk of HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Disease.

There are recipients of Child Support Grant who have got children who are not attending school because they cannot afford to register their children at school. The Child Support Grant is utilized for other family need e.g. buying food for the whole family.

5.4.6 Criteria for identifying child support grant recipients

The criteria for identifying the Child Support Grant recipients has got shortcomings. There are people who do not qualify to receive the Child Support Grant but they forge the system e. g If a person is working for the private sector .

5.5 CONCLUSION

There is still a lot which needs to be done in order to instill socially acceptable values to young people .The majority of the respondents are single, had children before marriage , others reported that the father of children disappeared . Young people both male and female need to be educated about family planning and high risk of HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Disease which are spread through unprotected sex .

The government needs to do something to enable everybody to access chances for self development. Due to lack of funds to pursue studies most of the youth end up engaging in love relationships which lead to unplanned pregnancy .The Child Support Grant seem not to bring an end to poverty but instead it create dependency. People need to be empowered with skill and knowledge which will lead to sustainable self development .

5.6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Youth should be discouraged to engage in premarital sex because most of the respondents were single and reported that boyfriends have left them with children.
- Youth should be educated about dangers of Sexually Transmitted Disease , HIV/AIDS transmission to discourage engaging on unprotected sex which lead to unwanted pregnancy .
- Bursaries should be provided for the youth to encourage learning , so that youth will pursue with their studies and then be able to get better job opportunities .
- Government should create more job opportunities or projects for self development .
- Government should enforce child maintenance e. g Take legal steps against those fathers who do not pay maintenance for their children .
- Encourage youth to engage in sports activities for recreation.

- Social Workers should make follow up sessions with the families of the Child Support Grant recipients to ensure that the money is spent to benefit the children.
- The Child Support Grant recipients should partake in self development projects e.g. do crafts work and sell, because Child Support Grant is insufficient .
- People need to be empowered with skill and knowledge, which will lead to sustainable self development.
- There is still a great need for educating young adult / youth about contraceptives.

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INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

An interview schedule to investigate the Child Support Grant , its impact in meeting the needs of children at Ngwelezane .

IDENTIFYING PARTICULARS

1. Age
- 18-25 yrs
 - 25-35 yrs
 - 35-45 yrs
 - 45-55 yrs

2. Marital status
- Never married
 - Married
 - Divorced
 - Widowed

3. Highest Educational Standard passed.

4. Are you employed? (a) If yes how much do you earn?

R 50-R 150

R 150 -R 300

R 350-R 700

R 700-R 1500

(b) If not employed how do you generate income?

(c) Is it temporary or permanent job?

5. Is your spouse / partner / father of the child employed?

6. Does he pay child maintenance?

6. (a) If yes , how much ?

7. How many children in your family receive Child Support Grant?

8. Does the child attend school / creche / below school- going age?

9. How much do you pay for the school fees?

10. Do you mostly spend Child Support Grant on child's / children:

(a) Clothing

(b) Education

(c) Food

(d) Accommodation

(e) other family needs

11. Are you able to put some of the money into savings?

12. In your view would you say Child Support Grant is sufficient to meet your child 's/
children's needs ?

13. What would you suggest government needs to do to enable mothers / parents to adequately support their children?