

**THE PROVISION AND UTILISATION OF RECREATION FACILITIES
FOR THE YOUTH AT NGWELEZANE TOWNSHIP,
KWAZULU-NATAL**

BY

SYLVIA DOLLY SIBEKO

**A dissertation of limited scope submitted to the Faculty of Arts
in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Masters of
Recreation and Tourism in the Centre for Recreation
and Tourism at the University of Zululand**

KWADLANGEZWA

APRIL 2007

APPROVAL

SUPERVISOR:

DR N.D. MWANDLA
Centre for Recreation and Tourism
University of Zululand

CO-SUPERVISOR:



PROF. L.M. MAGI
Centre for Recreation and Tourism
University of Zululand

EXTERNAL EXAMINER:

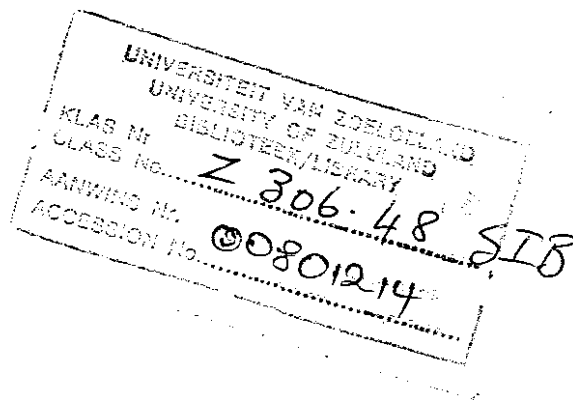
PROF J.P. SHONGWE
Office of the Director
Tshwane University of Technology

DECLARATION

I declare that this research study: *The Provision and Utilisation of Recreation Facilities for the Youth at Ngwelezane Township, KwaZulu-Natal*, submitted for the Master's in Recreation and Tourism degree, is my own work both in conception and execution. The exceptions are where it has been specifically indicated to the contrary in the text. All reference material contained therein have been duly acknowledged. It is further declared that this dissertation has not previously been submitted to any institution for degree purposes.

By

Sylvia Dolly Sibeko



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the following people and institutions that contributed to the success of this research study:

- To my supervisor, Dr N.D. Mwandla at the Centre for Recreation and Tourism, for his patience, guidance, support and giving words of encouragement towards completing this dissertation. And also for making it possible for me to produce an acceptable document.
- To Prof. L. M. Magi, the co-supervisor of the MRT Programme, who has taught me research methods and contributed in the technical accuracy of this research study.
- To Dr A. T. Nzama, the Head of Centre for Recreation and Tourism, for providing me with the theoretical framework in the research process.
- To the entire staff of the Centre for Recreation and Tourism and Mr A.T Mthembu for his assistance in analysing the data set on the computer.
- To the Department of Sport and Recreation (Umhlathuze) for providing me with assistance relating to statistical information and the historical background of facilities located in Ngwelezane Township.
- To Khethiwe, Mzotho and Nu, my research assistants, who helped me with the distribution and collection of questionnaires and the youth of Ngwelezane who participated in this research.
- To my MRT colleagues, mainly Mr IB Khambule and Ms NC Dube, who have been a source of support and encouragement. My colleagues have been easily accessible for discussion about various aspects of this research study.
- To my family, my late mother-in-law Mrs L.B. Sibeko, my husband Mzamo, my son Sithabiso and my daughter Nosipho for their words of encouragement and unending support not only in this research, but throughout my entire career.
- Last but not least, to my Father God for keeping me physically and spiritually fit to do this work.

ABSTRACT

Recreation as a profession is new in South Africa. In the past not much concern was given to the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for the previously disadvantaged communities. Recreation has not been taken as a significant component of life for Blacks because of the *apartheid* system that existed. In the recent history of South Africa, recreation facilities were mainly made available to the White population areas, with Black areas and being neglected.

Recent years have seen the expansion of recreation services throughout the country. Since the 1994 election a new trend for recreation participation has emerged. This has increased the demand for provision of recreation facilities. This trend has caused the authorities, nationally, provincially and locally, to extend facility provision for all the communities and age groups of South Africa. The government, through the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR), is becoming involved in the development of recreation infrastructure and facilities.

The focus of this study is to investigate the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth in Ngwelezane. Every person has a right to recreation facilities as well as a right to participate in them, therefore it was the main aim of this study to find out if these rights were honoured. The research problem was formulated within the framework of demand and supply model. There is a great backlog that exists in the provision of recreation facilities in the previously disadvantaged areas. Thus there is a need to address the imbalances and remaining injustices of the past as far as the provision of recreation facilities, especially in Black townships.

Data was collected by means of interviews and questionnaires that were administered to 128 youth of Ngwelezane Township to establish if they have enough recreation facilities and if these facilities are available and accessible. Data analysis was accomplished through using the Statistical Package for the

Social Science (SPSS). The method used for analysing information appeared to be effective because clear outcomes of the finding were achieved.

The most important findings were that, there is a relatively low provision and participation in recreation activities among the Black youth in the study area. The latter suggests the existence of a great demand for recreation facilities, with the exception of soccer and netball facilities. It was further discovered that a large percentage of youth would like to be provided with recreation facilities. A greater segment of youth would like to be provided with recreation facilities. If there is shortage of recreation facilities something needs to be done to provide these facilities.

It was also discovered that the local municipality should play a major role in the provision of recreation facilities compared to other organizations. This is the big challenge that the local government is facing. Since local municipality is the government that is closest to the people and represents the interests of the residents, it is responsible for fulfilling the developmental role (DLG; 1998).

Recreation plays an important role in the lives of individuals, the local community and the nation at large. There is a great responsibility on stakeholders, including all spheres of government, to actively contribute towards raising the levels provision and participation in organised sport and recreation in the country. The government, through the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR), may be on the right track encouraging the development of recreation infrastructure and facilities, through the programme "*Getting the Nation to Play*".

Therefore, it is clear that recreation facilities need to be provided for youth in the study area, so that they are able to participate in recreation activities. Further that the local government needs to play a leading role to ensure adequate provision of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane Township.

DEDICATION

To “L.E”, my husband, who selflessly provided unending support and encouragement in the execution of this piece of work. He has been patient with me during the execution of this research study.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
APPROVAL	(ii)
DECLARATION	(iii)
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	(iv)
ABSTRACT	(v)
DEDICATION	(vi)
1. ORIENTATION TO THE STUDY	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Background to the Problem	2
1.3 Statement of the Problem	2
1.4 Objectives	3
1.5 Hypotheses	4
1.6 Significance of the Study	5
1.7 Delimitation of the Study	5
1.7.1 Spatial Delimitation	6
1.7.2 Conceptual Delimitation	6
1.8 Definition of Terms	7
1.8.1 Youth	7
1.8.2 Recreation	7
1.8.3 Leisure	8
1.8.4 Play	9
1.8.5 Facility	10
1.8.6 Provision	10
1.8.7 Utilisation	11
1.8.8 Recreation Development	12
1.9 Research methodology	12
1.9.1 Collection of Data	12
1.9.2 Instrumentation	13
1.9.3 Interview Technique	14

1.9.4	Sampling	14
1.9.5	Method of Analysis	14
1.9.6	Pilot Study	15
1.9.7	Methodology in perspective	15
1.10	Structure of the research study	15
1.10.1	Chapter One	16
1.10.2	Chapter Two	16
1.10.3	Chapter Three	16
1.10.4	Chapter Four	17
1.10.5	Chapter Five	17
1.11	Conclusion	17
2.	THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	19
2.1	Introduction	19
2.2	Essentials Characteristics of Recreation	20
2.3	Classification of Recreation Activities	21
2.4	The Benefits of Recreation	22
2.4.1	Personal Benefits	23
2.4.2	Social and Societal Benefits	24
2.4.3	Economic Benefits	25
2.4.4	Psychological Benefits	26
2.5	Recreation and Youth	26
2.6	Recreation and Community	29
2.6.1	Models Of Community Involvement	30
2.6.2	Requirements For Community Participation	31
2.7	Recreation Areas and Facilities	32
2.8	Principles for Planning Recreation Areas	35
2.9	The Development Of National Recreation Policies	38
2.10	The Role of Local Government in Recreation	40
2.11	Recreation in South Africa	41
2.11.1	Sports and Recreation Programmes in South Africa to Promote Participation	44
2.11.2	Transformation in Sport and Recreation	45
2.12	Conclusion	46

3.	PHYSICAL SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA	48
3.1	Introduction	48
3.2	The Location	48
3.3	The Establishment of the Township	50
3.4	The Recreation Areas and Facilities at Ngwelezane	52
3.5	Conclusion	60
4.	ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA	62
4.1	Introduction	62
4.2	Restatement Of Objectives And Hypotheses	62
4.3	Demographic Information	64
4.4	Understand The Significance Of Recreation Provision and Participation	66
	4.4.1 Recreation Understanding	66
4.5	Leisure Time Availability For The Youth	68
4.6	Recreation Facilities Presently Available	70
	4.6.1 Types of Recreation Facilities Available	71
	4.6.2 The Location of Available Recreation Facilities	73
	4.6.3 The Provision of Recreation Facilities to the Youth	74
4.7	Participation In Recreation Activities	76
	4.7.1 Youth Participation in Passive Recreation	78
	4.7.2 Youth Participation in Recreation Near their Homes	79
	4.7.3 Preferred Transport Mode Used by Youth	81
	4.7.4 Travelled Distances to Recreation Facilities	83
	4.7.5 Money Spent by Youth on Recreation Activities	83
	4.7.6 Interest of Youth in Recreation Activities	84
	4.7.7 Youth's Interest in Types of Recreation Activities	85
4.8	Benefits of Youth from Participation in Recreation Activities	86
4.9	Role of Local Municipality in the Provision of Recreation Facilities	88
4.10	Poor Recreation Facilities Result In Poor Participation	92
4.11	Integrated Comment on Hypotheses	93
4.12	Conclusion	95

5.	SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	97
5.1	Introduction	97
5.2	Summary and Conclusion	98
5.3	Recommendations	103
5.4	Conclusion	105
	 BIBLIOGRAPHY	 107
	APPENDICES	114
	APPENDIX - A: Questionnaire	114
	APPENDIX - B: Transmittal Letters	123

LIST OF PLATES

PLATE		PAGE
3.1	Odakaneni Sportsfield at Ngwelezane	53
3.2	Basketball Court At Phesheya Sportsfield at Ngwelezane	54
3.3	Netball Court At Phesheya Sportsfield At Ngwelezane Township	55
3.4	Soccerfield At Phesheya Sportsfield At Ngwelezane Township	56
3.5	Shumba Sportsfield at Ngwelezane	57
3.6	Soccerfield at Regional Sportsfield at Ngwelezane	58
3.7	Netball, Volleyball And Basketball Courts At The Regional Sportsfield At Ngwelezane	58
3.8	Play Lot for Children at Ngwelezane	59

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
3.1	Existing Recreation areas and facilities	52
4.1	The Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	65
4.2	Intention of Becoming Member of Youth Organisation or Club or Association	68
4.3	Free Time Available for the Youth	69
4.4	Perceived Amount Of Recreation Facilities Available	71
4.5	Preferred Location Of Recreation Facilities	73
4.6	Youth Involvement In Recreation Activities	76
4.7	Engagement In Passive Recreation	79
4.8	Recreation Facilities Present Near the Place Of Residence	80
4.9	Money Afforded To Access Recreation Facilities	83
4.10	Youth Interested In Participating In Recreation Activities	84

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	PAGE
2.1 Ten Basic Needs of Youth	27
3.1 Map of KwaZulu-Natal	49
3.2 City of Umhlathuze Map	51
4.1 Understanding the Significance of Recreation	67
4.2 Recreation Facilities Available at Ngwelezane	72
4.3 Youth Preference To Be Provided With Recreation Facilities	75
4.4 Engagement In Active Recreation	77
4.5 Mode Of Transport Used To Visit Recreation Facilities	81
4.6 Distance Travelled To Recreation Facilities	82
4.7 Interest On Types Of Recreation Activities	86
4.8 Benefits of Participation in Recreation Activities	87
4.9 Role Played by Local Municipality in Providing Recreation Facilities	89
4.10 Role of Local Municipality as Compared to Other Organizations	90
4.11 Lack of Recreation Facilities Result in Low Participation	92

CHAPTER 1

ORIENTATION TO THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

According to recent literature (DSR 1998b; Magi 1999; Mwandla 2002) recreation as a profession is new in South Africa. In the past not much concern was given to the provision of recreation facilities for the previously disadvantaged communities. Recreation has not been taken as a significant component of life among Blacks because of the Apartheid system that existed before 1994. Recreation facilities were largely made available to the White population group and areas, whereas Black areas were exceedingly neglected (Magi and Nzama, 2002).

Recent years have seen the expansion of recreation services throughout the country. Since the 1994 election a new trend for recreation participation emerged. This has increased the demand for provision of recreation facilities. This trend has caused the authorities, nationally, provincially and locally, to extend facility provision for all the communities of South Africa. The new trend in recreation participation has a significant contribution to the provision of recreation facilities and opportunities in the study area. The government, through the Department of Sport and Recreation [DSR, 1989] needs to be involved in the development of recreation infrastructure and facilities.

Therefore, finding out about the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township is what this study purports to investigate and achieve. Furthermore, the study regards this area of investigation as an important exercise towards pointing to the emerging patterns of recreation provision and utilisation in the area, as well as achieving some of the fruits of the South African democratic system.

1.2 BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM

Recreation is a vital social issue, which needs to be addressed all the time. Recreation programmes have been used as ways of promoting desirable social ends. Recreation brings joy and pleasure to many people. It provides opportunity for young people to test their skills, physical endurance, compete against others, better their standards, and broaden their general life experience.

Edginton *et al.*, (1995) viewed recreation as no longer merely desirable for our pleasure; it is physiologically necessary in order to retain normal equilibrium in the midst of the deadening monotony and the excess strain of the common life today, both in the city and country.

Recreation is needed for physical and psychological well-being. Frustrations and anti-social behaviours can occur because of non-participation in recreation activities. Pigrams and Jenkins (1999) have pointed out that involvement in leisure in a person's adolescent years, in part, shapes the behaviour and attitudes that lead to more permanent patterns in later adolescence and later life. In the light of the aforementioned benefits derived from recreation participation, the researcher decided to embark into the presents study. It is some of these recreation principles that have motivated the researcher to engage in this study, so as to see the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth in Ngwelezane Township, has any impact on the level of crime and certain anti-social behaviour patterns in the study area.

1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

There seems to be a lack of recreation provision in the previously disadvantaged communities, as a result less youth participation in physical recreation is noticed. Although not all young people may choose to participate in recreation activities, but availability of, and access to recreation activities need to be taken into consideration by the authorities. Constraints on recreation may lead to boredom, and eventually

youth turn to drug abuse, smoking and consumption of alcohol. Therefore, it is the responsibility of municipalities and various local authorities to provide enough recreation facilities for youth to limit or prevent these anti-social behaviours.

There seems to be a great backlog that exists in the provision of recreation facilities in the previously disadvantaged areas. There is a need to address the imbalances and injustices of the past as far as the provision of recreation facilities especially in Black townships. The persisting conditions of gender and racial inequalities are also so visible through the lack of representivity in national sports teams. This means that resources need to be directed at creating opportunities for those who were previously excluded and disadvantaged.

Since recreation is a significant component of the life of the youth, it can provide an avenue for expression and development of own identity and personal growth. Recreation is a vehicle amongst youth in particular to promote positive experiences. It can aim at counteracting anti-social behaviour and promote a sense of belonging.

1.4 OBJECTIVES

The general aim of this study is to investigate the availability of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township. Every man or woman has a right to be provided with recreation facilities as well as a right to participate in recreation, therefore it is the aim of this study to find out if the rights of the youth of Ngwelezane, are honoured.

Flowing from these aims the following main objectives of the study have been devised, and they are:

- (a) To reveal the extent to which the youth in the study area understand the significance of recreation provision and participation.
- (b) To explore the amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township.

- (c) To examine the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations.
- (d) To determine the extent to which the youth in the study area participate in [utilise] recreation facilities and activities.
- (e) To investigate the role played by local municipality in providing recreation facilities in the area.

It should be noted that the provision of recreation facilities continually has to compete with other socio-economic development necessities in local municipal area. These objectives are therefore investigated in the light of that competition. There are many pressing needs, such education, health, employment and housing, which are a priority in for the authorities and community that should be addressed in the context of these objectives.

1.5 HYPOTHESES

The intent of the study is to investigate the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township. Therefore, related to the above-mentioned objectives are a number of hypotheses which are postulated to match the objectives. It is therefore hypothesised:

- (a) That the youth in the study area do understand the significance of recreation provision and participation.
- (b) That there is an inadequate amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township.
- (c) That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate.
- (d) That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient
- (e) That the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area.

The above hypotheses are logically assessed in this research study with a view of providing documentary and empirical evidence about the provision and utilisation recreation facilities at Ngwelezane Township. It is anticipated that the hypothesis based outcomes of the study should be of use for future planners and decision-makers in the area.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to establish whether recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township are adequately provided and utilised for related activities. Its main significance is to assess if it would assist the uMhlatuze Municipality authorities, under which Ngwelezane Township falls, to determine the various ways and types of recreation facilities they would provide for the local youth.

It is anticipated that the study would be helpful to recreation providers to provide services that would allow youth to have a sense of achievement and recognition, and to have opportunities for recreation expression, since the youth constitute the most active groups in terms of recreation participation. It is further expected that the findings of the study may also become useful to those who intend investigating and participating in systematic recreation development. The study may influence a variety of organisations to participate more actively in recreation for youth related activities.

Therefore, the researcher finds it necessary to undergo a study that recognises the need for provision of recreation facilities for youth and to draw attention for authorities and service providers to the question of providing recreation services for the youth.

1.7 DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

This research study is delimited into two categories, the spatial and conceptual delimitations. These forms are discussed below.

1.7.1 Spatial Delimitation

The study is focussed on Ngwelezane Township which falls under the uMhlathuze Municipality and is a township situated approximately 5km on the south-west of Empangeni – an urban area in the Richards Bay-Empangeni Complex, designated as the City of uMhlathuze. Its composite structure makes Ngwelezane Township an ideal area or place for interviewing youth about availability of recreation facilities and their utilisation.

Ngwelezane Township and uMhlathuze Municipality are situated in a favourable position in terms of commercial and industrial development initiatives. These places form a nodal point with accessible route to the northern region of Zululand and northern region of Durban. The area has some of the internationally recognised historic, heritage and cultural sites.

1.7.2 Conceptual Delimitation

The notion of a “township” in this study refers to the urban environment, which is associated with residential sub-urban areas within a town or city. The township in the South African sense refers to urban residential clusters strictly used by Black people in South Africa. It is an urban area which needs a lot of development. The township resident ordinarily refers to the person who lives, occupies, inhabits a dwelling or has a permanent or temporary home in a particular place. In the context of this study residents are the people who reside either temporarily or permanently in Ngwelezane Township.

Municipality refers to a geographical area, which is a municipal area with its own local government determined in terms of the Local Government Municipal Demarcation Act, No. 27 of 1999, (MDA, 1999). In the study Municipality and Municipal area are therefore used synonymously but it does not refer to the

cooperative body, which is the Municipal Council as described in section 2 of the Municipal Systems Act (MSA, 2002).

In this study the term *Black* refers to the indigenous dark-skinned inhabitants of South Africa. The term is distinguished from the Whites, Indians and Coloureds. This term is used synonymously with Africans (Magi, 1986: 22).

1.8 DEFINITION OF TERMS

In a research study there are a number of concepts that need special clarification so as to avoid ambiguity in meaning and interpretation. This study has a few concepts which may be unclear and controversial in meaning. In order to remove any doubt as to the meaning of a term or terms used in this study, the researcher has decided to operationally define the meaning of the terms as they are used throughout this study.

The following terms are used and they form the core for the study: youth, recreation, leisure, play, facility, provision, utilisation, and recreation development. Therefore, it is important to clarify these terms for the purpose of understanding their use better.

1.8.1 Youth

Youth refers to the time when one is young. The period of youth can include adolescence and early adulthood. The word adolescence comes from Latin verb *adolescere* meaning "to grow into maturity" (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). In this study, therefore, youth entails young people from 10 years to 29 years, in which the highest rates of participation in sports occur. Adolescents are one of the most active groups in terms of recreation participation.

1.8.2 Recreation

Recreation has become a household term, although different meanings have been attributed to it. Because of diverse meanings, it is desirable from the onset to suggest a common meaning of the term, recreation. Associated with term, recreation,

are leisure and play. For example, when camping, is the individual playing, recreating or at leisure. Leisure, recreation and play are interwoven concepts, and yet they have their own, unique definitional properties.

The terms recreation and sport are so often used interchangeably. Sport is defined as any activity that requires a significant level of physical involvement and in which participants engage in either a structured or unstructured environment, for the purpose of declaring a winner, though not solely so; or purely for relaxation, personal satisfaction, physical health, emotional growth and development (DSR, 1998). Recreation is a guided process of voluntary participation in any activity which contributes to the improvement of general health, well-being and the skills of both the individual and society (DSR, 1998).

Sport includes elements of competition, physical activity, aspect of organisation and the influence of outcome on quality of experience. On the other hand, recreation differs in a certain way that the focus is on the activity *per se* and satisfaction is gained primarily from the quality of experience (Elvin, 1993). Edginton *et al.*, (1995) defined recreation as an activity that one is engaged in during one's own free time.

Recreation is voluntary, pleasurable and has socially redeeming qualities. It involves an individual's participation in specific, wholesome and voluntary activities. Recreation takes place during one's free time, although it is not so much the activity that one pursues, but the reason for engaging in it.

1.8.3 Leisure

Leisure is an elusive term – the meaning of which has been pursued by individuals for centuries (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). Leisure in ancient society was viewed as the opposite of physical labour. Leisure provides opportunity for individual to think, develop their spirituality and to improve their physical culture (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). The term is derived from the Latin word *licere*, to be free (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). The term *freedom*, or *perceived freedom* is often used synonymously with the term

leisure. Freedom suggests that an individual is free of the obligations that might arise from family, or work activities or of the constraints that may stop participation.

Magi (1986) defines leisure as activity time which does not necessarily emphasise freedom from work time. Leisure is defined as that period of time at the complete disposal of an individual, after he has completed his work and fulfilled his other obligations (Weiskopf, 1978). Neulinger (1981) sees leisure (in recreation sense) as the cognition and attitude towards unobligated time, activities and experience. Leisure is time left over when an individual has completed all necessary personal, employment and household tasks. Time at the disposal of an individual when he or she has the freedom to choose what to do (Black and Wall, 1994)

Many people use leisure as a way of counter-balancing stresses that result from living and working in a competitive, rapidly changing society. Therefore, leisure is that time which is not obligated in terms of subsistence and existence activities.

1.8.4 Play

It is common practice to distinguish between activities of children and those of adults by labelling the children's activities as *play* and adults' activities as recreation. Butler (1976) defines play for children as creation, or the gaining of life, and play for adults as recreation, or renewal of life. Play is interpreted as an activity called forth by the needs of the growing body. Edginton *et al.*, (1995) view play as frivolous rather than as a serious, important activity, and is often considered acceptable only for children.

Children often engage in spontaneous, uninhibited, joyful and free play activity. However, adults seem more constrained. As a result, adults do play, but tend to identify it as recreation or leisure. Ibrahim and Cordes (1993) view play as activities of young partaken by choice. On the other hand, recreation refers to organised activities in which an adult participates during free time. Play seems to be found in all cultures and is carried out in a spirit of pleasure and creative expression. Play can be aimless, disorganized and casual or highly structured or complex.

Throughout history of humanity, play has served a socializing force for its youth, as play transmits values, customs, traditions and societal norms (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). Learning through play is an important part of making friends for young children. They develop physical and social skills by learning to play with other children (Dale *et al.*, 1996). Therefore, play is universal; it occurs in all cultures and is often educational, entertaining, relaxing and brings delight.

1.8.5 Facility

This study is concerned with recreation facilities. Edginton *et al.*, (1995) defines a facility as a structure that provides for or houses recreation services. It is infrastructure that provides for participation in recreation activities. Recreation activities depend upon specific facilities. For example, a soccer field is a recreation facility. Generally, a facility is something that provides the means to do things. It makes it possible for one to accomplish what one wants to do.

At another level “recreation facility” includes a wide range of resources, services and environments such as indoors, outdoors, in and around home, in urban, rural environment, or countryside, on land and on water. For purposes of this study recreation is viewed as a social system and it embraces all those actions that involve the pursuit of play and pleasure. The recreation facility therefore, denotes the physical and non-physical structures that cater for both the outdoors and indoors leisure and sporting activities for socio-cultural necessities. In planning for recreation provision local authorities have to provide a wide range of recreation facilities for both indoors, out-of-doors, and outdoors recreation facilities for community participation in social

1.8.6 Provision

This concept refers to the notion of making available or supplying recreation facilities and activities within an urban municipal area. Provision means to provide meaning to supply, furnish or equip. Hence, recreation provision, recreation supply and recreation demand as terms are interlinked. According to Stein (1996) provision is the noun derived from the verb ‘provide’, meaning to supply, furnish or equip a good

or service. On the other hand provision specifically refers to the provision of play opportunities for children in a community stated the following guidelines that might be taken to characterise recreation provision.

On the other hand Torkildsen (2001) addressing the question of who must provide states that, the providers of recreation facilities need to come from three sectors, that is, the public, voluntarily and commercial sector. These different sectors are made of the government and local authorities, recreation and leisure clubs and business companies. For all of these sectors provision seems to mean the supply of, providing of and making available of recreation facilities. The provision of recreation also relates to the recreation planning and management of facilities.

1.8.7 Utilisation

Utilisation of recreation facilities refers to the usage of facilities and activities, in other words, it refers to those activities through which members of the community share in the selection and enjoyment of recreation activities. The enjoyment in usage may be directly or indirectly experienced depending on the provision of facilities in terms of public policy (Torkildsen 2001). In the context of this research study, the concept 'utilisation' is used to mean the operational usage of facilities, which would be gauged through the level of community participation and the way in which individuals share certain activities and experiences offered by the authorities.

According to Shivers (1978) the core of the recreation experience is based and associated with utilisation and enjoyment of recreation activities. On the other hand, Torkildsen (2001) sees recreation utilisation as the times of encounter with the resource, facility and activity opportunities.

It is of paramount importance to define the above-mentioned terms as they are going to be used throughout. That will help anyone who might read this study to understand the content very easily.

1.8.8 Recreation Development

For the purpose of this study, using the White Paper on Environmental Management (DEAT, 1997) the concept *development* is described as a process of improving human well-being through the reallocation and re-utilisation of resources, which would lead to the modification and beneficiation of the recreation environment. It addresses basic needs, equity and the redistribution of wealth to communities.

By extension the concept *recreation development* refers to the process of improving human and community well-being through the provision, utilisation, reallocation and maximisation of recreation facilities and activities which would lead to the enhancement and benefit of all recreation stakeholders. In this study the term *recreation development* also implies the establishment and improvement of old and new recreation facilities, and creating a safe and user-friendly atmosphere for the local community, and more specifically the youth in this instance.

1.9 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology plays an important role towards analysing, assessing and interpreting data to make reasonable judgements and conclusions about the research question. It is the research methodology which determines whether the researcher has been successful or not in the attempt towards finding the truth about the hypotheses. Therefore, the researcher needs to use the correct tools towards reaching the final findings in any given study.

This section aims at describing the strategies that have been employed towards arriving at the recommendations contained in the study. As a result, the chapter focuses on how data has been collected and managed.

1.9.1 Collection of Data

For purposes of collecting data, the research study was designed in such a way that information was collected from the local youth and recreation officials. Data was collected by means of interviews and questionnaires that were administered to

mainly the youth in Ngwelezane Township, so as to establish if they have enough recreation facilities and if these facilities are available and accessible to one and all.

1.9.2 Instrumentation

An appropriate and reliable research instrument for collecting data is an important research mechanism to have and utilise. The questionnaire was used as the main tool for collecting data. An interview schedule using the pre-designed questions, using direct and indirect questions, were used in the study to collect data. All questions were designed and coded to suite the Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) computer programme, available at the Centre for Recreation and Tourism, University of Zululand. The analysis of data was presented in the form of frequency tables, frequency percentages, columnar graphs and pie graphs, as well as cross-tabulations.

According to Tuchman (1978) the questionnaire is a way of getting data about persons by asking them rather than watching them behave or get into an activity. The questionnaires were distributed to be completed by respondents. A single questionnaire with 40 variables was used. Copies of this questionnaire were given to youth of ages between 10 and 29 of Ngwelezane. The questionnaires were handed out to 200 youths to find out their responses about recreation facilities and activities available for them in the township. Questionnaires were chosen because respondents can feel free to respond to questions without identified who they are. The questionnaire was designed in such a way that questions were simple, interesting and objective. There were closed-ended questions.

The advantages of using research questionnaires in this study were that:

- They were self-administered, which made them less expensive.
- Anonymity was ensured for respondents not to fear victimisation.
- They provide uniform, standard and accurate information (Whitten, 1994; Isaacs and Michaels, 1981).

Normally, questionnaires have a disadvantage of having a relatively low response rate when mailed. This is because subjects may not respond as expected since there is no guarantee that they may have received the mail in the first place. However, those questionnaires used in this research were hand delivered to and hand collected from the youth of Ngwelezane.

1.9.3 The Interview Technique

Person-to-person interviews were used to collect information from the officials of Umhlathuze Recreation Department. Two officials were interviewed to find out about the facilities that Umhlathuze Municipality have provided for recreation at Ngwelezane Township. This data was used in identifying the recreation facilities already available at Ngwelezane Township. Some of the interviewees were asked in a face-to-face situation.

1.9.4 Sampling

Out of 200 respondents that were targeted as the sample size, only 128 questionnaires were returned. A random sample of 128 subjects was drawn from the youth and stratified according to various demographic characteristics: gender (58 males and 70 females). The age categories (10-14=29; 15-19=43; 20-24=26; 25-29=30). The education and socio-economic status were as follows: (No Schooling = 7; Grade 4 – 6 =4; Grade 7 – 9 =38; Grade 10-12 = 29; Post-Matric. Certificate = 14; Post-Matric Diploma = 17 Degree 19). Respondents remained anonymous and high level of confidentiality was kept.

1.9.5 Method of Analysis

Data analysis was accomplished by utilising the Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS). Data presentation needs to be clear and easily understood and interpretation be done along the availability and provision of recreation facilities. The findings, conclusions and recommendations are made based on the data analysis and hypotheses formulated.

1.9.6 Pilot Study

The pilot study consisting of 10 respondents was undertaken to see if respondents had attitudes as well as how they understood the questions posed to them. Questions were clearly explained to the uneducated and those who do not understand the language. The illiterate youth within the study area were assisted by the researcher through reading questions for them and wait for a response. There were few questions, which required respondents to express their opinions.

1.9.7 Methodology in perspective

The purpose of this chapter has been to examine methodology used in collecting and analysing data. This investigation will provide a much-needed basis for future research, more especially, the support structures that should be provided to enable effective provision of recreation facilities for the communities.

Data was collected by means of interviews and questionnaires that were administered to the youth of Ngwelezane Township to establish if they have enough recreation facilities and if these facilities are available and accessible. The method that was used appeared to be effective because the respondents were willing to participate in the study and were willing to give information on the questions that were asked. Respondents remained anonymous and high level of confidentiality was kept. In the next chapter the data is presented and analysed.

1.10 STRUCTURE OF THE RESEARCH STUDY

Fundamentally, the organisation of the research study is subdivided into five chapters, these are the orientation to the study chapter, theoretical framework chapter, physical setting chapter, data analysis and interpretation chapter, and the summary, conclusions and recommendations. The comprehensive character of the research study is that it starts by giving a theoretical exposition of the problem and end up by undertaking an empirical analysis and interpretation of the problem. Going through this research process, the study concludes by drawing conclusions which lead to pertinent recommendations within the study area.

1.10.1 Chapter One

This research study is structured in such a way that Chapter 1 orientates the reader to the core problem behind the study. Here the researcher spells out the background to the problem that prompted the undertaking of a research of this nature. Also, Chapter 1 presents the objectives and the hypotheses of the study, the spatial delimitation of the study, the significance of the study and definition of operational terms. It also outlines the research method of this study. In this chapter methods of collecting and the management of data are presented.

1.10.2 Chapter Two

The next chapter is Chapter 2, which outlines the theoretical background upon which this study is based. The theoretical knowledge relating to recreation and facilities serves as a basis for understanding the research argument presented. The chapter also explores some theoretical subject matters associated with each of the objectives of the study mentioned in Chapter 1. Some of these are: the youth's understanding of understand the significance of recreation in the study area; the participation patterns of youth in recreation activities; the availability of leisure time for the youth in Ngwelezane Township; the provision of recreation facilities by the local municipality, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations; the extent to which the youth in the study area utilise recreation facilities and activities; and the role played by the local municipality in providing recreation facilities in the study area.

1.10.3 Chapter Three

Chapter 3 provides the actual physical setting of the study and the location map of the study area. Spatial recreation features to be found in Ngwelezane, such as their location, their character are presented. Some of the recreation related features include roads, educational facilities, recreation and tourism facilities, and so on. A sample of the recreation facilities that are available in the study area are also either investigated, analysed or simply presented. After the facilities were identified, they were then open for further statistical analysis using appropriate statistical methods. The usage of the facilities in place were cross-tabulated within demographic variables of the youth in the study area.

1.10.4 Chapter Four

In Chapter 4 the data is presented, analysed and interpreted. The presentation of data is in various forms, which are tabular, graphical, diagrammatic, and so on. In this chapter, data was be transformed in interpretable forms, which led to the research outcomes and conclusions. This chapter is regarded as the core of this research investigation in that the empirical analysis and synthesis of data and ideas are put into effect. It is at this point in the analysis of information that inferences are made about findings of the study. Importantly, the objectives of the study are fully assessed at this point.

1.10.5 Chapter Five

This is the last chapter and titled: summary, conclusions and recommendations. The chapter gives the summary of the findings and make recommendations pertaining recreation provision to the relevant authorities and the need for further research in the study. The study also contains a comprehensive bibliography of the literature, the books, journals and websites consulted during the theoretical research of the study. Also included are the questionnaires and transmittal letters used for purposes of collecting data.

1.11 CONCLUSION

This chapter has endeavoured to state how a problem of availability, that is, provision and utilisation of recreation facilities can be handled. It is anticipated that such a study would be helpful to recreation providers to be able to develop and provide recreation services for youth. These services would eventually develop the youth into healthy and responsible adults.

Procedurally, this chapter has provided the statement to the problem and the background to the study. In this chapter the key questions of why the study is undertaken and what the value of the study is perceived to be, have been addressed. As has been mentioned earlier on, a study of this nature would contribute to the body of knowledge concerning the provision of recreation facilities for the youth. It is

further anticipated by the researcher that if the findings of this study are considered seriously by local authorities and recreation service providers, a positive impact would result from it. This impact, among others, would be by providing the community in question with relevant recreation facilities and programmes.

CHAPTER 2

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

After the 1994 election, recreation services throughout South Africa have received recognition. Such recreation services are recognized as of critical significance in the changing social and economic structures of the country and are receiving increasing academic attention and respectability. The recognition has been acknowledged by the government through the establishment of the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR, 1998b).

The effectiveness of provision of what lies in the hands of the recreation officers and managers to ensure the highest level of support of recreation services is being sought. The officers should be involved in the provision of opportunities and facilities and ensure that the recreation environment is promoted by keeping up to date and presenting those issues of keenest interest. Therefore, South Africa has the role to play in the provision of recreation facilities for the youth.

It would be advisable to acquaint the reader with existing studies relating to the study at hand, and to inform on the state of related research methodology. Studies selected for such a discussion comprise Schlemmer (1988); Ngcobo (1998); Mwandla (2002); and Ngcobo (2004). The focal point in these studies would be on analysis of open-air recreation facilities available to meet the existing and future demands for youth recreation.

This chapter, therefore, is about the provision of the theoretical background or framework of the entire study about the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth and looking at different viewpoints as far as the provision of recreation

facilities for youth is concerned. South Africa has the role to play in the provision of recreation facilities for the youth.

2.2 ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF RECREATION

Recreation is often seen as an activity that is engaged during an individual's own free time; it is usually pleasurable, and has socially redeeming qualities (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). One engages in these activities because one desires or chooses to do so, without compulsion of any type. Professional recreation workers identify recreation as activity indulged in voluntarily for the satisfaction derived from the activity itself and leading to revitalization, or recreation, of mind, body and spirit (Shivers 1978; Carlson *et al.* 1979; Goodale and Witt, 1985).

Recreation participation must result in constructive, positive, socially acceptable behaviours. Lack of recreation activities leads to social ills, such as, delinquency and truancy. Recreation, unlike play, keeps youth off the streets and produces good citizens (Torkildsen, 2001). Edginton *et al.*, (1995) includes the following as consistent characteristics of recreation:

- Recreation is widely regarded as an activity.
- Recreation may include a wide range of activities.
- Recreation is voluntary and does not occur because of outside pressure, compulsion or obligation.
- Recreation takes place during one's free time, although it is not so much the activity that one pursues, but rather the reason for engaging in it.

The essential characteristics of recreation is the attitude of participation in these activities; and the result, which is satisfaction, they bring to the individual. Butler (1976) reveals that recreation is not a tangible, static thing, but a vital force influencing lives of people. Through recreation one grows and develops one's powers and personality. Therefore, it is a matter of concern that recreation

opportunities be available for all the people. It is the task of the recreation management and officials to determine the types of recreation experience, and make these available to the largest possible number.

2.3 CLASSIFICATION OF RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Recreation activities may be classified in many ways. They are commonly grouped according to types, such as games and sport, crafts, or nature activities. In studying the list, one should bear in mind that some of the activities are primarily for children, others for young people or adults, while many may appeal to people of all ages; some are essentially for men and boys, and others for women and girls.

The following are the examples of recreation activities as classified by Butler (1976):

- **Active games and sports**

Active games and sports include low-organized games, bull in the ring, relays, cat and mouse, hide-and-seek, club snatch, fox and geese, dodge ball, hare and hounds and tag games.

- **Individual and dual games and activities**

Individual and dual games and activities comprise athletic test, golf, paddle tennis, baseball pitching, bowling in the green, darts, indoor bowling, hula hoops, table tennis, squash, tennis, marbles and top spinning.

- **Gymnastics and stunts**

Gymnastics and stunts involve bag punching, rope jumping, trampoline, group or team games, baseball, basketball, bicycle polo, cricket, ice hockey, football, field hockey, netball, soccer, softball, volleyball and water polo.

- **Sports**

Examples of sports are archery, bicycle riding, boating, boxing, canoeing,

diving, horseback riding, go-kart racing, jogging, karate, kite flying, life saving, motorcycling, parachute jumping, pistol shooting, rifle shooting, roller skating, sailing, skating, surfing, swimming, water skiing, wrestling and yachting.

- **Music**

Music consists of action songs, choruses, opera groups, community singing, bands, music festivals, talent shows or contests, jazz concerts, music competitions, composing music, listening groups and music-study clubs.

The above classification indicates a wide variety of recreation activities that can bring direct satisfaction in the community. Such classification may be useful to recreation worker in planning programmes and considering the recreation activities that might appeal to a particular group or community.

2.4 THE BENEFITS OF RECREATION

Recreation, like work, love and worship, has been an important aspect of life for centuries. Music, dances, games, festivals have always been part of life. Therefore, recreation plays an important role in the life of an individual, community and nation.

Recreation is a distinct phase of human activity characterized by a particular spirit or attitude, which brings direct satisfaction to human beings (Butler, 1976). There are perceived benefits why people decide to participate in recreation. These vary with the kind of activity, companions, environment and many other factors. The benefits include:

- Personal benefits;
- Social and societal benefits;
- Economic benefits; and
- Psychological benefits.

For these benefits to be realised, recreation areas and facilities need to be made available for people to participate in. Programmes also need to be formulated and people be motivated to participate in recreation activities.

2.4.1 Personal Benefits

Personal benefits are the outcomes from recreation that begin with the individual (Kelly, 1987). They include enjoyment and all the other components of participation. Personal benefits include excitement, relaxation and escape from an intimate association with other people. Long-term benefits such as self-enhancement through improved mental health, the development of self-reliance and competence, building relationships of trust and communication, and a renewal of both mind and body are encouraged and developed. According to Kelly (1987) personal benefits include psychological benefits, mental health benefits, community benefits, child development and character development. Each of these benefits has significant effect as far as personal development is concerned.

- *Psychological benefits* lead to changes in behaviour, personal development, and a sense of well-being.
- *Mental health benefits* limit the problem of stress with its emotional and physical components. The value of recreation as a means of maintaining physical health applies equally to young people and adults. The primary contribution of recreation to the field of health lies in preventing illness and resulting in healthful, happy living.
- *Community benefits* that lead to social interaction.
- *Child development* is accomplished in human development through the life span. Those in childhood and youth are critical because they are the basis for development and fulfilment through life.
- *Character development* which not only develops individual qualities, but influences the growth of social attitudes which affect the individual as a member of the group. Under recreation people are taught respect for rules,

fair play, courage and ability to subordinate their selfish interests to the welfare of the group.

Recreation participation must result in the development of an individual's ego and self-esteem. This helps an individual to fit in the society and be able to live harmoniously with other people.

2.4.2 Social and Societal Benefits

These are outcomes from recreation that are related to social groups (Lieber and Fesenmaier, 1983). Social groups support and enhance community intimacy; those family and friendship groups that are central in life. Family interaction forms a major element in recreation and life satisfaction of most people (Iso-Asola, 1980). Recreation provides special opportunities for interaction freed from many of the routines of home-based interaction. As a result, communication and familial coherence by joint recreation have been witnessed.

Many forces in modern life tend to separate people into distinct and often hostile groups based on differences in economic status, social position, race, education or cultural background. Recreation affords a common ground where differences are forgotten in the joy of participation or achievement. Interests and skills in recreation are shared by all classes. The role of organized recreation is to meet the important social needs, first with respect to the overall community and next in terms of population groups that have special problems.

Kraus (1978) summarises the main goals of community recreation as follows:

- To enrich the quality of life in the community setting by providing pleasurable and constructive leisure opportunities for residents of all ages, background and socio-economic classes;
- To prevent or minimise anti-social or destructive uses of leisure, such as delinquent behaviour, drug abuse, or alcoholism, by providing appealing and

challenging leadership programmes that offer young people desirable and enjoyable alternatives;

- To contribute directly to the healthy physical, emotional, and social growth and development of participants through a varied range of recreational experiences and involvement;
- To strengthen community life by providing residents with the opportunity to work on special projects or programmes in volunteer service role, thus promoting civic pride and morale and neighbourhood unity; and
- To provide a release for tension, aggression, or hostility in crowded urban settings, and to channel anti-social drives and impulses into constructive and socially acceptable activities.

Recreation, therefore, provides special opportunities for community interaction and strengthens relationships within the society. Today numerous institutions focus on providing recreation as a way of promoting, teaching and reinforcing organizational values. Organizations like Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), Girl Guides and Scouts provide fundamental foundation values that influence individuals for the rest of their lives.

2.4.3 Economic Benefits

The outcomes that add to some level of economy are economic benefits. Such benefits include the contribution of resources to the market, providing employment in the production of goods and services. The economic benefits may be primary, such as income-producing employment; or secondary, such as the demand for goods and services in communities.

Leaders in business and industries are realising the way in which their employees spend their leisure influences effectiveness on the job. The provision and utilisation of recreation facilities and programmes for enjoyment and the use of their employees and families has been a prime factor in the location of many industries.

It has been noted that recreation area and facilities if well-maintained and wisely administered, have caused a marked increase in property value and have proved a factor in maintaining a sound economic condition and a high standard of liveability in a community.

2.4.4 Psychological Benefits

Recreation adds to the joy of living. Life becomes richer, happier and more meaningful when certain basic human needs are satisfactorily met. Danford (1970) identifies the psychological needs as to experience a sense of creative achievement, to acquire status or recognition, to be somebody, the need for acceptance, to belong, to be a part of something bigger than oneself, some relief from monotony and boredom, and the need to feel at least some of life's activities, have significance, purpose and meaning.

Recreation lacks meaning unless it adds joy of living to the sum total of human happiness. Happiness is in a world of so much unhappiness. Fun is a part of the good life; life without it would not be worth living. Unless people have fun they will not participate in recreation activities. According to Danford (1970) for those who have the knowledge and skill to use it, leisure provides the opportunities to experience the satisfaction that makes life worth living. Recreators have learnt the joys of skilful participation in sports and games.

2.5 RECREATION AND THE YOUTH

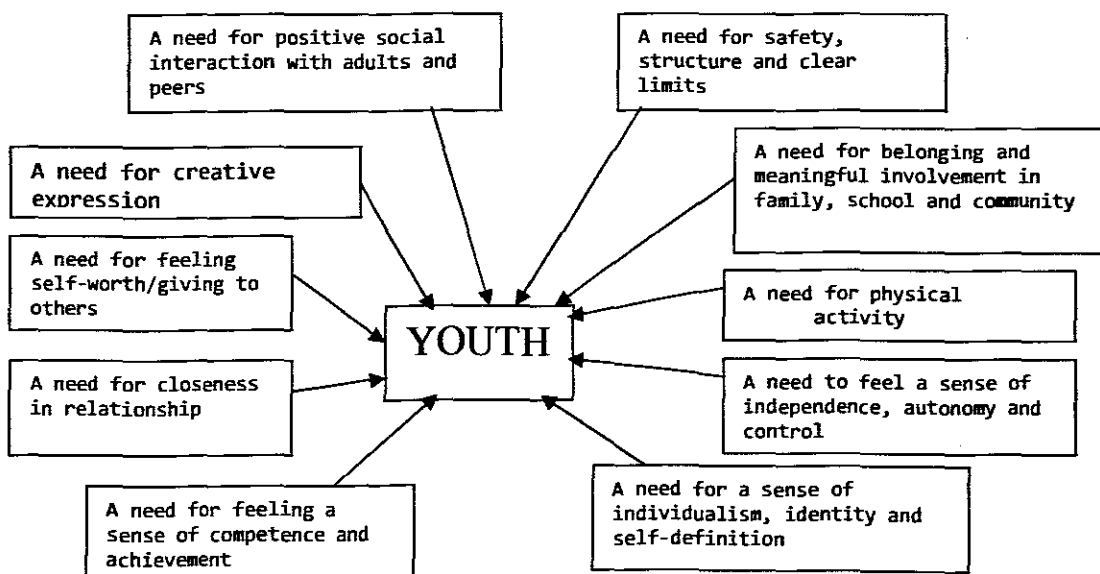
Recreation is a significant component of the life of the youth (Pigram and Jenkins, 1999). Recreation is part of learning process whereby the individual seeks to establish one's personal identity, practices social and co-operative skills, achieves specific intellectual or physical attainments, and explore a variety of peers, family and community roles (Pigram and Jenkins; 1999).

Recreation can provide an avenue for the expression and development of identity, autonomy, intimacy and personal growth. Recreation provides opportunity for young

people to test skills and physical endurance, compete against others or better their own standards, and to broaden their general life. The youth pick up some recreation activities which they think are valuable for adult world (Ngcobo; 2004)

Pitman (1991) and Scales (1991) identify ten basic needs for youth that makes one to be part of a group or to establish one's own identity. The figure below presents these basic needs:

FIGURE 2.1: TEN BASIC NEEDS OF YOUTH



Source: Edginton *et al.*, (1995)

In addition to the ten basic needs of youth Pitman (1991), identifies five basic areas of youth development objectives or competencies. These areas include:

- *Health/physical competence.* Youth need to have good current health status and appropriate knowledge, attitudes and behaviours to ensure future health.
- *Personal/social competence.* It is important for youth to gain intrapersonal skills, that is, ability to understand personal emotions and have self-discipline; and interpersonal skills, that is, the ability to work with others and develop friendship through communication and cooperation.

- *Cognitive/creative competence.* Youth need to develop a broad base of knowledge.
- *Vocational competence.* Youth need to develop a broad understanding and awareness of vocational options and to understand the value and function of work and recreation.
- *Citizenship competence.* Youth need to understand their nation's and community's history and values and desire to contribute to their nation and community.

As youth move towards mastering these competencies, they also progress in their feelings of achievement and self-esteem. Youth need to be good at something in order to feel good about themselves. If youth feel good about themselves, social contacts, development and achievement are fostered (Bammel and Burrus- Bammel, 1992).

Of course, some young people may choose not to participate in recreation activities. Human activity related to recreation is a function of an individual's or group's willingness or desire to engage in such pursuit (Hall and Page, 1999). Nonetheless, access to, and participation in leisure-based activities are influenced by many factors. According to Pigram and Jenkins (1999) access to outdoor recreation activities varies among youth because:

- In urban area, there is generally better access to art and cultural activities, sporting events, music (including discos and live bands) and eating venues than in rural area.
- Family affects leisure choices and behaviour. For instance, parents are the major providers of advice and guidance during adolescence, to the extent that parental influence is important in early adolescents' decisions not to join an activity.
- Access to public and private transport affects mobility in time and space.
- Lack of, or decline in, the number of volunteer leaders, has led to the collapse of some youth groups.

Employment, among other things, provides money and social contact, and a feeling of worth.

Constraints in recreation may lead to boredom, and subsequently, deviant involvement in drugs, smoking and consumption of alcohol. Therefore, recreation providers must provide a broad spectrum of recreation programmes that caters for almost all sports and games for the youth (Ngcobo, 1998). Sport and recreation is continuing to be a vehicle amongst the youth in particular to promote positive experiences. It aims to counter anti-social behaviour and promote a sense of belonging. Recreation aims to assist a community spirit in pursuit of greater social cohesion, crime prevention and moral regeneration.

2.6 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY

Recreation is a distinct phase of human activity characterized by a particular spirit or attitude, which brings satisfaction to human beings. It tends to counterbalance other aspects of living, and its value to the individual and the community is due in part to the contribution it makes to other human interests and forces (Butler, 1976). The fact that recreation affords direct benefit to the individual and at the same time serves other constructive purposes, explains why it is widely recognized as an essential factor of life.

Claims have already been made for recreation as a means of reducing delinquency and crime, of building and sustaining physical and mental health, of developing character and of bringing about other desirable results (Butler, 1976). However, many interrelated forces and factors exist in every community that it is difficult to isolate recreation and evaluate the part it has played in bringing about changes. For example, a decrease in crime rate after a recreation centre has been established cannot be attributed to the centre except after careful consideration of housing, school, employment conditions and many other factors. Every community hold a set of common values, norms and customs that bind people together to produce community life. These values can impact greatly how people live their lives.

The community is made up of a number of social institutions that are integrated in such a way as to provide maintenance and stability of the community. These institutions include family, school (education) and church. Within these institutions individuals take their positions in the roles that together make up the institution (Kelly, 1983:21).

Recreation should be propelled by the community as a means of promoting development and uplifting the standard of life of every member of the community. Recreation should involve a number of local people who are involved in providing services to local people. Recreation should be seen as a process which should originate from community initiative and should stimulate participation in various recreation activities, as it is used to happen in the olden days, where the community would come together to sing, dance and enjoy.

Therefore, recreation provision should be founded on the needs of those living within the community. The community should be given the opportunity to participate in the planning of facilities and programmes to develop interests and support, meaning community involvement should be encouraged and promoted in all aspects.

2.6.1 Models Of Community Involvement

There are several models of community involvement. These models are based on the Participatory Development Approach (PDA) which has its root on the Basic Needs Approach (BNA). De Beer and Swanepoel (1998) define the Participatory Development Approach (PDA) as the self-sustaining process to engage free men and women in activities that meet their basic needs and beyond that realise individually defined human potential within socially defined limits. Self-sustaining indicates that development is controlled by the community. Models of community involvement include the following:

- **Learning Process Approach** : this is a bottom-up approach which focuses on meeting the needs for a flexible, sustainable, experimental, action-based capacity building style of assistance. Local people and programme providers

have an equal share (knowledge and resources) in the programme. The programme addresses the needs of the local people. The local people decide and formulate on their needs and how they should be satisfied. This approach emphasises people empowerment and rights to decision making concerning their own development.

- **People-centred Approach:** this approach emphasises participation by people, need for sustainable development and the support for people's role in development. Significant benefits should accrue to the local community. Local benefits may accrue from using locally based operators; employing local officials; using specialized local knowledge; and purchasing provisions and services, and the use of local facilities (Keyser, 2002:402). This approach is seen by Kortan cited by der Beer and Swanepoel (1998) as the process by which the members of the community increase their potential and institutional capacities to mobilize and manage resources to produce sustainable and justly distributed improvement in their quality of life consistent with their own aspirations.
- **Human Scale Development :** this model places emphasis on both individual and community needs and satisfiers. This model considers that needs are universal and basic whereas satisfiers vary from place to place.

The above-mentioned approaches require that a high level of commitment be exercised and passion for the community be realised. This implies a high level of local ownership and high level of local participation.

2.6.2 Requirements For Community Participation

For community participation in recreation to be a success the community has to be involved from planning stage through the implementation stage. Community participation emphasises the use of and mobilization of local resources, self-sufficiency, positive attitude towards change and the need for the integrated approach towards development (Cornwell, 1987). There is a need for an efficient and responsible community structure that can represent the community and act as an

information channel between the community and other parties involved in several ventures (KZNTA Training Manual, 2000). This structure basically participates in planning, reporting to the community what transpired at meetings, oversees the progress of development in the area as well as making sure that the benefits of recreation are channelled to local members. To operate successfully and efficiently, the community structure needs among other things to be representative; operate efficiently; not be too large; be recognized and respected by local stakeholders, develop a vision for recreation in the area; understand the needs of local people; operate fairly; and contain people with skills that can be used in recreation planning and management.

During the apartheid era, the value of public participation in recreation planning was resource-centred rather than people centred (DEAT, 1997), and attempted to control the use of resources in terms of socio-political considerations. Secondly, the South African recreation planning was fragmented and unco-ordinated, and was largely structured on sector-basis (DEAT, 1997) with an emphasis on maximising single-purpose and exclusive use of areas and resources.

2.7 RECREATION AREAS AND FACILITIES

In perfect world, demands for recreation activities would be matched by an ample supply of attractive and accessible recreation facilities and resources (Gibson *et al.*, 1997). Barriers to participation would be absent and satisfaction would be realised. The supply of recreation resources in quantity and quality and in space and time, is a fundamental element in creating and structuring fulfilling recreation opportunities (Pigrams and Jenkins, 1999).

To provide attractively developed recreation areas that meet the recreation needs of its citizens is a major concern of the modern city. Weiskopf (1975) mentions several functions to be performed if adequate recreation areas and facilities are to be provided. These functions are to:

- Acquire, develop, and maintain sufficient land for the needs of the community;
- Provide an organized programme with supervision;
- Develop immediate and long-term plans and goals;
- Co-ordinate the use of areas and facilities; and
- Curb the danger of encroachment.

Recreation areas must contain outdoor and indoor facilities that serve both men and women, young and old people. Many facilities can provide opportunities for organised, competitive sports such as soccer, tennis, rugby, cricket and others can provide recreation for individuals or family groups. Butler (1976) states that the facilities differ widely in the activities made possible, in their construction and operation cost, space requirements, location; in the number of persons served; and in the amount of leadership or supervision required. Recreation areas and facilities should be planned in such a way that they satisfy the needs of the people for whom they have been constructed.

The usefulness of recreation areas depends not only upon their size and location but upon the way they are designed, developed, equipped, maintained, and operated for recreation use. Most of the activities are possible only if fields, courts, buildings, facilities, and equipment are provided. The extent to which a recreation system furnishes such features determines largely the nature and scope of recreation service (Tillman *et al.*, 1996).

The recreation areas and facilities should be where they are going to be easily accessible to the people for whom they are made. Accessibility can be facilitated by systems of roads or paths of suitable location and width, since transport networks are basic factors for recreation. Recreation facilities should be well cared for so that they may satisfy the recreation needs of the people for whom they are constructed. According to Carlson *et al.* (1979), the provision of adequate recreation areas and facilities leads to an increase in recreation opportunities and it also facilitates the profitable use of leisure time. Careful planning is essential to assure maximum use

of the building facilities and equal opportunity to all who desire to participate.

Recreation activity is not restricted to buildings constructed for such use. Recreation activities can be conducted in schools, churches, industrial plants, settlements, apartment houses, municipal buildings and other institutions. School halls, gymnasiums and libraries can be constructed in such a way that they cater for the students and the community. Students and community can perform numerous activities through recreation facilities.

In countries like United States of America there are many schools which have been planned in such a way as to cater for both school and community recreation needs and a large percentage of indoor activities in many recreation programmes are carried on school buildings. Gymnasium periods are divided between basketball teams organized in leagues playing on a schedule and informal groups who meet for low organized games, gymnasium classes, or individual sports. Music rooms and domestic and industrial arts units require special supervision while used by community groups. Table-game rooms and reading rooms are usually available for use without restrictions whenever the building is open, although children are sometimes excluded during evenings, except weekends (Shivers, 1978).

Among the most important and commonly provided outdoor facilities in modern urban centres the following can be enumerated:

- Soccer fields
- Netball courts
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball courts
- Tennis courts
- Hockey fields
- Golf courses
- Swimming pools
- Athletic fields

- Bowling courts
- Cricket fields
- Rugby fields
- Diving pools.

The above-mentioned recreation facilities are most found in urban areas and only few are found in rural areas and townships. In general, recreation facilities found in rural areas and in townships tend to be less developed than urban areas. The facilities must also be safe for utilisation by anybody. To ensure safety and satisfactory engagement in recreation activities, ample space must be allowed for equipment, game courts and sports fields.

A recreation facility must inevitably provide for the comfort and convenience of the people who use it. In order to ensure that the recreation areas and facilities are always in satisfactory condition they must be properly supervised and well managed.

2.8 PRINCIPLES FOR PLANNING RECREATION AREAS

Each recreation area requires individual analysis and treatment. The effectiveness and appearance of the area depends in large measure upon the understanding, skill and imagination of the planner. Naturally, the problem of design varies with the type of area, but full advantage should be taken of the characteristics of the site, such as uneven topography, or existing trees, streams, and other natural features that contribute to its beauty.

Regardless of the type of recreation area, Butler (1976) identifies factors to be considered and objective to be sought in planning:

- **Effective use of the entire area:** Every part of the property should have a function and contribute to either its utility or beauty or both. The maximum possibilities for multiple use of area should be realized where desirable.

- **Location and arrangement of units and facilities:** Major or primary features are planned first; minor or incidental features receive secondary consideration.
- **Adequate space for facilities:** To assure safety and satisfactory play, ample space must be allowed for equipment, game courts, and playing fields. In areas for picnicking and camping, considerable space is desirable for privacy.
- **Ease of supervision or operation:** Some facilities require constant supervision, others, less.
- **Accessibility:** Ease of access to the units is important and is facilitated by a system of roads or paths of suitable location and width.
- **Safety:** Careful location and arrangement of equipment, game courts and fields, roads and paths contribute to safety.
- **Utilisation and conservation of natural features:** A natural slope may be used for an outdoor theatre or for winter sports, a grove of trees for a picnic area, level open area for athletic field.
- **Economy in construction:** Through careful planning expensive operations like grading and drainage may be reduced to minimum, with resultant lowering of equipment and material costs. However, use of cheap material does not assure economy, and vandal-proof material is essential at some locations.
- **Conveniences for people using the area:** A well-planned area provides for the comfort and convenience of the people using it. Toilet facilities, drinking fountains, seating accommodations, and parking space are essential service features. In large areas, roads leading to recreation facilities are needed.
- **Appearance:** Every recreation area should present a pleasing appearance from within and without, even though little space can be made available for plantings.

The preparation of a recreation resource or facility is the joint responsibility of most local planning and recreation agencies. These agencies are also responsible for processing, approving, or preparing the public or private recreation development proposals, land-use changes, environmental impact statements, and the capital

improvement budget that can have a significant effect on the quantity and quality of recreation opportunities.

According to Torkildsen (2001) there are six stages in the process of recreation development planning generally applied by recreation agencies, bodies or decision-makers. These stages include the following:

- The establishment of objectives.
- The incorporation of these objectives into policy statement.
- The formulation of policy guidelines to establish planning parameters.
- An implementation programme to achieve what is set out in the plan.
- A monitoring mechanism to assess whether the recreation development plan is meeting its objectives.
- A review process to revise and refine objectives and policies as necessary.

The six above-mentioned stages show that the concept of planning is very wide. It should be noted that planning is essentially a continuous process, since goals, plans and strategies should be constantly revised if they are to remain competitive. According to Hall (2000) the most useful recreation and tourism planning traditions include the following concepts:

- **Boostering or Promotion of Recreation and Tourism:** this method is popular among governmental agencies rather than private enterprise.
- **The Economic Tradition:** which considers recreation as a business venture or industry.
- **The Land-use/Physical/Spatial Approach:** the development of physical space and facilities is given first priority.
- **A Community-Oriented Recreation Planning:** which emphasises the role that the local people has in developing recreation facilities.

Finally, it can be argued that recreation planning is not static, and that traditional trends evolve in relation to the demands made upon them by various stakeholders and interests, the changing values of community and a society, and the broader

socio-economic-environmental context within which planning occurs (Hall, 2000:33)

Therefore, the recreation planners and officers should be able to consider the above-mentioned factors and objectives for proper planning of recreation areas and facilities.

2.9 THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL RECREATION POLICIES

Before planning exercise begins, it is necessary to set out recreation development objectives. The objectives will outline what the development plan seeks to achieve. A recreation policy is not a recreation plan, but rather the reference point against which planning decisions should be related. Once the recreation policy has been agreed and established, usually by government, then a recreation planning exercise seeks to achieve the objectives that have been incorporated into considerations of implementation, that is, how the plan is usually achieved (Magi, 2004). International writers have adopted various approaches in the development of recreation policies. These approaches include:

- **National Recreation Policy that is Facilitative:** this implies that the broad principles are recognized, goals and objectives set, and mechanisms are established to facilitate detailed planning and implementation at lower levels of government. In such systems, recreation management programmes are often seen as essential for national-local co-ordination and balancing national and local interest (Simeon, 1976; Veal, 1997)
- **National Recreation Policy that is Prescriptive:** this means that the national government prescribes goals and objectives, and expects the lower levels of the government as well as the community to pursue a ready-made government recreation policy (Goodale and Witt, 1985). This is contrary to the contemporary contention that the bulk of recreation policy ought to be provided by the communities at a local level with more specialized policy elements emanating from the more senior levels of government.

Policy-making is not a rational process that can be applied uniformly in all countries. Each country is unique depending on its interests, tradition and values. Recreation policy of a country reflects dominating values of a given social environment, reconciles the often conflicting interests and corresponds with the political climate of the day (Magi; 2004).

Other approaches for planning and developing national recreation policies are considered. These approaches include the following:

- **The Organic Approach:** which is a strategy development based on assessment of existing service provision and spatial gaps in demand. According to Gold (1980) this approach is an increment rather than comprehensive and is similar to the way in which private sector organizations operate. The organic approach can be applied to increase services, facilities, resources and programmes in recreation areas.
- **The Community Development Approach:** which involves planning and policy development based on the community consultation.
- **The Sectoral Approach:** which refines the process by developing separate policies that are area-specific.
- **The No-Policy Option:** where the government or authorities in charge assumes an utopian situation where all people would have recreation resources and ability to make judicious choices, many of which would be counter-productive to the course of sustainable recreation participation and utility.
- **The Integrated Approach:** which result in overall recreation, leisure or human services policies providing one set of basic principles and procedures from which individual policies affecting the various activity areas flow

It is common knowledge that during the apartheid era, South Africa had structured its owns systems and policies of recreation based on racial, ethnic, economic and economic differentiation. With the emergence of the new political dispensation, new recreation system, models and challenges have come into place. This new

democratic transformation has exerted tremendous influence on the nature of recreation policies and procedures. The main aim of these policies is to achieve recreation development towards promoting economic justice and empowerment for local communities.

In 1994 the new democratic government of South Africa decided to fast-track the development of recreation by introducing new legislation. The national department on recreation had an important role in establishing national recreation policy and facilitating its implementation on a broad base. The provincial recreation structures have an important role to play in the development and promotion of recreation in South Africa. They are expected to formulate recreation policies which are ideal and applicable to their areas of operation, and as prescribed in the national policy (Magi, 2004).

2.10 THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN RECREATION

As the recreation movement grows in scope, and the facilities and services increase, there develop a need for specific legislation giving the municipalities the power to appropriate funds for recreation services. Today, municipal recreation is accepted as an important function and responsibility of local government. Municipal recreation is for all people. Butler (1976) states that in large measure municipal recreation is equally available for rich and poor; for people of all ages, racial backgrounds, social status, political opinion, and religious preferences; for boys and girls, men and women.

To meet the local citizen's needs, the many functions of municipal government have expanded greatly. Weiskopf (1975) states that increased demands have been placed on local government to provide services to the citizens of the community. However, the local municipality cannot meet all recreation needs of all the people, since the needs and interest of a community are too diverse and expensive to serve.

The recreation services provided by local municipality are determined primarily by the expressed will of the people and their readiness to pay for them from tax funds (Butler, 1976; Shivers, 1978). Although recreation is considered an individual's responsibility, the provision of areas and facilities and organized programmes is the responsibility of the local government. The municipalities have the resources and ability to acquire, develop, and maintain a system of areas and facilities in meeting the needs of the community. They have the financial capabilities through taxation and powers to appropriate funds to fulfil their responsibilities. Butler (1976) states eight reasons why recreation has become a primary concern of the local government:

- Municipal recreation affords a large percentage of the people their only opportunity for forms of wholesome recreation.
- Only through government can adequate lands for playgrounds, parks and other recreation areas be acquired.
- Municipal recreation is democratic and inclusive for people of all ages, racial background, social status, political opinions, boys and girls, men and women.
- Municipal recreation is comparatively inexpensive.
- The local government gives permanency to recreation.
- The job is too large for a private agency except the government.
- Recreation plays an important role in the local economy.
- The people demand recreation and are willing to be taxed for it.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of the local government and recreation officials to see to it that people are provided with recreation areas and facilities as well as opportunities to engage themselves in recreation activities. The chief goal should be to the enrichment of the community.

2.11 RECREATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Recreation in South Africa has reached a turning point since 1994 democratic election. Recreation as a profession is new in South Africa (DSR, 1998a). In the

past not much concern was given to the provision of recreation facilities for the previously disadvantaged communities (Oosthuizen, 2004). Recreation has not been taken as a significant component of life for Blacks because of the apartheid system that existed. Recreation facilities were made available to the White areas, whereas Black areas were neglected (Oosthuizen, 2004). The study undertaken by Schlemmer (1988) in Greater Durban confirmed that non-existence of recreation facilities was greatest for Africans.

Sport in South Africa was an accurate reflection of the broader racial, economic and social divisions wrought by apartheid. The emergence of the National Sport Council (NSC) was a key factor in changing the face of South African sport as an integral part of the overall process of social transformation in the country. It was a conscious political decision taken by the African National Congress (ANC) to ensure that sport would be embraced in the country as a vehicle of change (Oosthuizen, 2004). The gains made from the isolation of apartheid South African sport were transferred into a powerful instrument to bring South African sports people together.

Under the guidance of the ANC, the National Sport Council (NSC) set in motion a process that would result in the disintegration of apartheid sport and lead to the formation of unified sports structures throughout the country. This marked the first time ever that South African sport could speak with a single voice (Oosthuizen, 2004).

The government, through the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR), has become involved in the development of recreation infrastructure and facilities (DSR, 1998b). To the theme of sport and recreation in South Africa, namely *Getting The Nation To Play*, there is a great responsibility on stakeholders, including all spheres of government, to actively contribute towards raising the levels of participation in organized sport and recreation, which are currently estimated at between 7% and 20%. In this regard, emphasis is directed at increasing the levels of participation of historically disadvantaged and marginalised groups, including black South Africans, women, the youth, rural, communities and people with disabilities (DSR, 1998b).

Deputy Minister of Sport and Recreation, Mr G.C Oosthuizen, in his budget speech, stressed the need to address the persisting conditions of racial and gender inequality that is visibly articulated through lack of representativity in our national and other sports teams, and that resources must be directed to those who were previously excluded and disadvantaged (DSR, 1998b).

Within South Africa, the overall responsibility for policy, provision and facilitation of sport and recreation delivery, resides with Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) and South African Sport Commission (SASC). The key objectives of the SRSA are to:

- Increase participation in sport and recreation activities.
- Raise the profile of sport and recreation, particularly among decision-makers.
- Increase the probability of South Africa's sportspersons and teams achieving success in major international competitions.
- Place sport and recreation at the forefront of efforts to address issues of national importance such as unemployment, poverty, economic development, and individual and community health.

President Thabo Mbeki has urged all South African people to develop active lifestyles that will contribute to healthier nation, a decrease in the country's health bill and greater levels of productivity. He also called for programmes dealing with human settlements to ensure that adequate provision is made for open spaces for sport and recreation facilities.

Building for Sport and Recreation Project (BSRP) was identified which aimed at erection of outdoor and indoor facilities and the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing facilities. Between 1994 and 2001, the Reconstruction and Development Programme Fund provided for the completion of 138 basic outdoor sport facilities to the value of R49,5 million and one indoor facility in each province at a total cost of R40,7 million (DSR, 1998a).

Since 1993, the SRSA has spent more than R450 million on building and upgrading facilities countrywide. In the last two years, 142 facilities were completed. There is still a huge backlog in terms of facility provision to disadvantaged communities. The project has to be pursued through the Municipal Infrastructure Development Programme of the Department of Provincial and Local Government, while the SRSA continues to play a policy-development and oversight role, and ensure that programmes are implemented at the sites (DSR, 1998).

2.11.1 Sports and Recreation Programmes in South Africa to Promote Participation

Sport and Recreation in South Africa (SRSA) aims to improve the quality of life of all South Africans by promoting participation in sport and recreation in the country, and through the participation of sportspeople and teams in international sporting events. In May 2006 SRSA launched the Sport Tourism Project at the Durban Tourism Indaba. The primary motivation of the project was to exploit the substantial benefits that tourism industry presents for job creation in South Africa. It combined the Veza route finder tool developed by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) with sports information, enabling users to plan attendance of sports events, including mapping the route to the venue, booking accommodation and selecting restaurants and other attractions in the vicinity of the venue or elsewhere in South Africa (Sport and Recreation, www.gcis.gov.za, 2007).

In 2005 the Siyadlala Mass Participation Programme (SMPP) was launched by the SRSA to facilitate access to sport and recreation by as many South African as possible, especially those from historically disadvantaged communities. The SRSA has expanded the programme that was launched in 36 activity hubs involving 200 000 participants around the country in 2004/05, to 131 hubs involving more than 1,2 million people in 2005/06. In 2006/07, another 133 hubs were to be added to the programme. The aim, eventually, is to ensure that no child has to walk more than 5km to access an activity hub anywhere in the country. The establishment of at least one hub in every ward in every municipality across South Africa is the deal. The

SMPP was expected to enable sport sectors to contribute to the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa (AsgiSA). By mid 2006 353 unemployed young people had been recruited and trained and were being paid to run the programmes (Sport and Recreation, www.gcis.gov.za, 2007).

In 2005, the SRSA concluded an agreement with the Department of Education for the resuscitation and revitalisation of school sports and physical education programmes. Physical Education as a compulsory school subject constitutes the very basis of participation and often provides reluctant participants with their sport experience that could make them more positive towards participating (Sport and Recreation, www.gcis.gov.za, 2007).

Therefore, it is clear that recreation should be equally available for all, rich and poor; for people of all ages, racial backgrounds, social status, political opinion, and religious preferences; for boys and girls, men and women.

2.11.2 Transformation in Sport and Recreation

The Sport Transformation Charter guides all macro-bodies, national and provincial federations and clubs on the need to transform sport. The national federations entered into performance agreements with the Minister of Sport and Recreation to complement the charter. The main focus of the charter and the performance agreement is among other things to:

- Increase participation levels in sport and recreation
- Make sport and recreation accessible to all South Africans
- Promote greater involvement of marginalized groups – such as women, people with disabilities, people living in rural communities and the youth – in sport and recreation
- Ensure that provincial and national teams reflect South African society
- Ensure that all sport and recreation bodies meet their affirmative-action objectives (Sport and Recreation, www.gcis.gov.za, 2007).

In December 2004, the first steps were taken towards implementing the ministerial task teams recommendations into high-performance sport that were approved by the Cabinet. The South African Sports Federation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) opened its doors, and the SRSA took over the functions of the South African Sports Commission (SASC) and its personnel. The expanded SRSA has the capacity to provide mass-based sport and recreation at community level in the most remote parts of the country. Government resources for sport and recreation are to be channelled into SMPP.

In 2006, several pieces of legislation were referred to the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) for considerations. Prominent among these was the 2010 Fifa World Cup Special Measures Bill that seeks to amend all 'non-money' Acts that may hinder the implementation of guarantees that government provided to Fifa when bidding for the event. The Safety at Sport and Recreation Events Bill was also put before the Cabinet for consideration. It constitutes an important tool in the security arrangement for the 2010 Fifa World Cup.

2.12 CONCLUSION

In this chapter the theoretical framework upon which the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth has been closely looked at. What has emerged is that most authors emphasise the provision of recreation for all people, irrespective of gender, colour or creed. It has transpired that municipal recreation should be equally available for rich and poor; for people of all ages, racial backgrounds, social status, political opinion, and religious preferences; for boys and girls, men and women.

They also emphasise provision of attractively developed recreation areas that meet the recreation needs of people to participate in recreation. Lastly, these authorities emphasise the benefits of recreation to the well-being of an individual as well as of the community.

It is clear that recreation areas and facilities should be where they are going to be easily accessible to the people for whom they are made. Accessibility of recreation facilities can be facilitated by systems of roads or paths of suitable location and width, since transport networks are basic factors for recreation. Recreation facilities should be well cared for so that they may satisfy the recreation needs of the people for whom they are constructed.

The key objectives of the Sport and Recreation South Africa were visited which include participation increase in sport and recreation activities and placing sport and recreation at the forefront of efforts to address issues of national importance such as unemployment, poverty, economic development, and individual and community health. It was evident that Sport and Recreation in South Africa (SRSA) aims at improving the quality of life of all South Africans by promoting participation in sport and recreation in the country, and through the participation of sportspeople and teams in international sporting events.

Therefore, it is clear that recreation should be equally available for all, rich and poor; for people of all ages, racial backgrounds, social status, political opinion, and religious preferences; for boys and girls, men and women.

It is for this reason that in the next chapter, the study takes a closer look at the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane with a view of determining the recreation facilities that have been provided to meet the needs of the youth. The chapter also looks at the existing spatial and physical attributes that are most likely to have an impact on the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities by youth in Ngwelezane Township.

CHAPTER 3

PHYSICAL SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA

3.1. INTRODUCTION

In the assessment of the study area as a recreation operational area, its geographic location is of utmost importance if one is to establish whether this area is easily accessible to the visitors and locals. In answering the question of whether the study area has the potential to service its community and the youth in particular, one has to investigate the number of recreation facilities and the supporting services available in the study area. The investigation is done to establish whether the facilities are adequate or whether more facilities need to be developed for this area. The availability of facilities and resources in this area would be compared with the levels of patronage and utilization of the resources in determining the potential of these resources in servicing more recreators in this study area.

In this chapter a brief overview of the actual setting and nature of recreation areas and facilities available at Ngwelezane Township is given. To a large extent maps and plates are used to illustrate the fundamental physical resources, areas and open spaces available for recreation development in the study area.

3.2 THE LOCATION

Ngwelezane is a small township situated approximately 5km on the south-west of Empangeni – an urban area in the Richards Bay-Empangeni Complex, designated as the City of uMhlathuze. The City of Empangeni is situated in attractive hilly countryside, overlooking a flat coastal plain, 90 to 150 metres above sea level with panoramic views of Richards Bay and the Indian Ocean from the higher lying

suburbs. It is strategically located in terms of the hinterland, as it functions as a node point in the region from which higher order services and goods can be acquired. It is well situated in terms of the road and rail networks in Northern KwaZulu-Natal, with excellent access to the Gauteng area. Given below is a map showing the location of Umhlathuze City in the Uthungulu District Municipality:

FIGURE 3.1: MAP OF KWAZULU-NATAL



Source: City of Umhlathuze (2003)

The Richards Bay-Empangeni Complex is located in the province of KwaZulu-Natal approximately 170km north-east of Durban, and is one of the six local municipalities that form the uThungulu Municipal District. The Ngwelezane township is surrounded by the Madlebe Tribal Authority Community under Chief Zungu. The Richards Bay

industrial area and beautiful beaches are 20 minutes drive from the township. Richards Bay harbour is a well-developed and attractive harbour.

3.3 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP

Ngwelezane Township was established in 1960. It started as a small township but it has grown tremendously as a result of industries that have developed. The Township of Ngwelezane became an accommodation area to Black people who were employed by the big industries in Richards Bay such as Aluminium Factory (Alusaf); Richards Bay Minerals (RBM); Richards Bay Coal Terminal (RBCT); Mondi Paper and many others. All these industries were established in Richards Bay and depended largely on the Black labour force.

Ngwelezane Township, today has a considerable number of people who have established themselves as permanent residents. The growth of population of the township, which numbers approximately 18 000 people (uMhlathuze Municipal Area Statistics, 2003), thus an urgent need was felt for the provision of all social services which were required by people residing in an urban area. Schools, clinics, churches and shopping centres were given first preference. At presents there are two high schools and four primary schools. There is one hospital, established in 1970, servicing all people of Umhlathuze City.

Initially, Ngwelezane Township formed part of Empangeni Municipality. However, in 1999 the Empangeni and Richards Bay Municipalities merged and formed the Umhlathuze Municipality. In 2000, the Empangeni-Richards Bay Complex was granted the status of being a city, hence City of Umhlathuze. The City of Umhlathuze serves as the administrative centre of places like Empangeni, Esikhawini, Ngwelezane, Nseleni, Richards Bay and Vulindlela. The City of Umhlathuze also serves as the commercial, political and legislative centre of the Empangeni-Richards Bay area. Given below is a diagrammatic representation and location of Ngwelezane Township in the City of uMhlathuze.

A detailed map of the City of Umhlathuze, South Africa. The map shows several wards highlighted in different colors: Empangeni (yellow), Ntswelozane (red), Vulindlela (green), Esikhawini (purple), Aquadene (blue), Brackenham (dark blue), and Richards Bay (light green). Key landmarks include the University of Zululand, Pelatone, Lake Oshana, Lake Oshana Dam, and the Southern Burchard Dam. The map also shows major roads like R102, R101, and R103, and the Indian Ocean coastline. A scale bar indicates 1:250,000. A logo in the top right corner reads "City of UMHLATHUZE Vision Into Action".

51

3.4 RECREATION AREAS AND FACILITIES AT NGWELEZANE

It is common knowledge that most cities, towns and urban have recreation areas of their own for the benefits of local communities and the youth. Recreation areas and facilities are a fundamental component for any residential area and Ngwelezane Township is no exception. The recreation facilities that presently exist in the Township of Ngwelezane were established a long time ago by the apartheid system of government. In many instances their establishment came about without consulting the local community about their creation. However, whether the recreation facilities within these townships satisfy the needs of the local people, for whom they were built, is a big question.

As shown in Table 3.1 the recreation facilities that can be found in the Township of Ngwelezane reflect what can be regarded as basic facilities.

TABLE 3.1: EXISTING RECREATION AREAS AND FACILITIES

FACILITY	QUANTITY
Soccer fields	4
Netball courts	3
Children play areas	2
Community hall	1
Basketball courts	3
Library	1
Tennis court	1
Volleyball court	1

The soccer fields are the main facilities used by the residents. These soccer fields are fenced-in but their turf is not as even as it should be in all of them. The quality of

these fields leaves much to be desired. There are four main sports fields at Ngwelezane, namely:

- *Phesheya Sportsfield*: which has a soccer field, a basketball court and a netball court;
- *Odakaneni Sportsfield*: which has a soccer field, basketball court and a netball court;
- *Shumba Sportfield*: which has a soccer field only; and
- *Regional Sport Complex*: which has soccer field, netball court, tennis court and volleyball court.

All these four sports fields are found in Section A, B and Mshayazafe areas. The sports field at Phesheya is fenced-in but its turf is not as even as it should be. It seems as if nobody is taking care of this field. The other sports fields are not in top class conditions. Soccer fields, netball courts, basketball courts seemed to be enough, but there is one tennis court which is supposed to be used by the whole community as well as one volleyball court. The tennis and volleyball courts are fenced and in the proximity of the soccer field at the Regional Sport Complex. The following plates show the recreation facilities that already exist at Ngwelezane Township.

PLATE 3.1 : ODAKANENI SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE



Above is Odakaneni sportsfield where a soccer field, a netball court and a basketball court are found. The sportsfield is located closer to Odakaneni Primary School after which it is named. The facility is well fenced and has a gate. The area seemed to be in a good condition for youth to utilise, toilet facilities, drinking fountains, seating accommodations, and parking space are not available

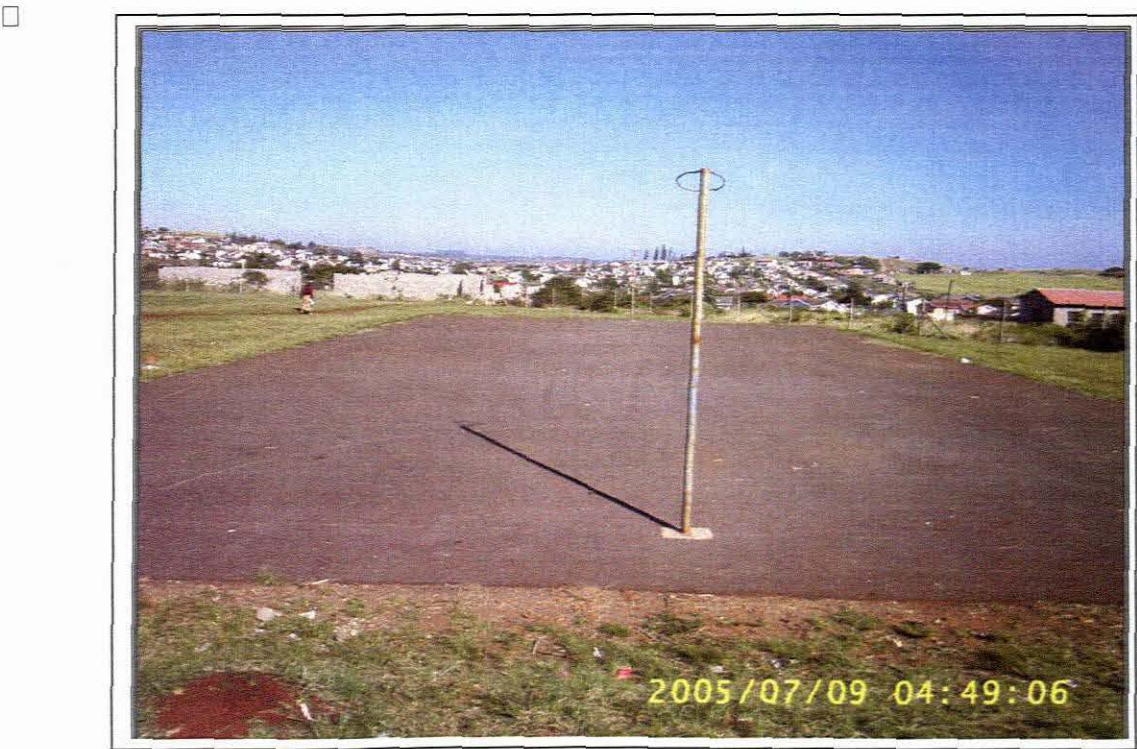
PLATE 3.2: BASKETBALL COURT AT PHESHEYA SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE TOWNSHIP



This is a basketball court at the PheSheya sports complex. The area seems to be neglected and is of poor condition. This area is not conducive for youth to utilise it. The usefulness of recreation areas depends not only upon their size and location but upon the way they are designed, developed, equipped, maintained, and operated for

recreation use. A recreation facility must inevitably provide for the comfort and convenience of the people who use it. In order to ensure that the recreation areas and facilities are always in satisfactory condition they must be properly supervised and well managed.

PLATE 3.3: NETBALL COURT AT PHESHEYA SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE TOWNSHIP

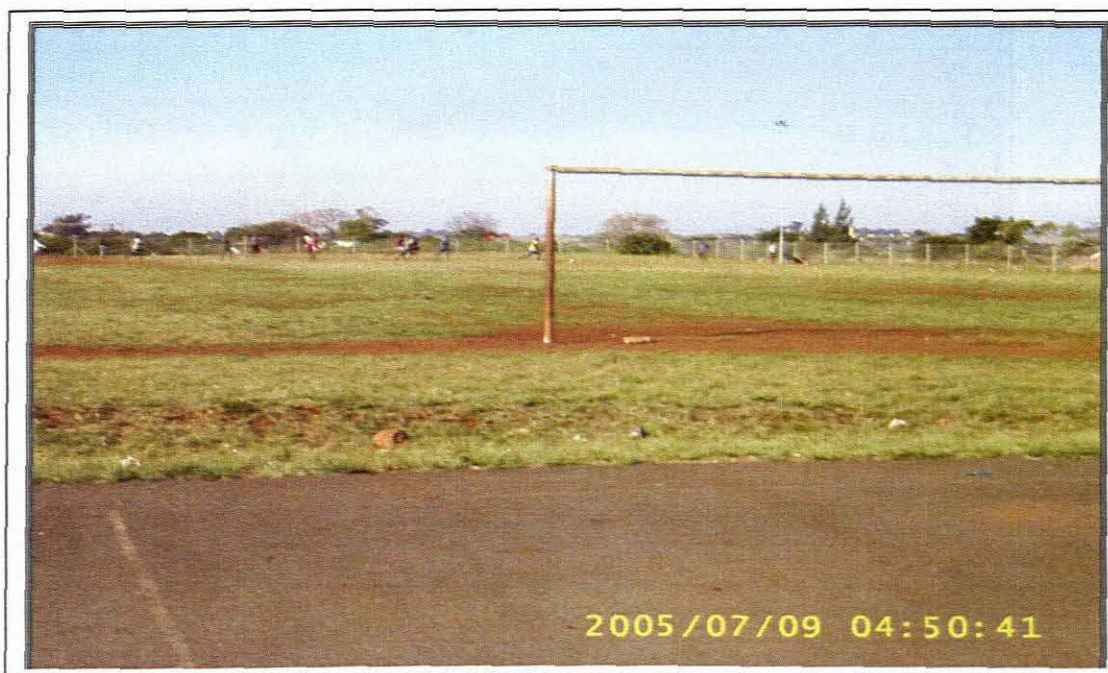


This is a netball court also found in the Phešheya sportsfield. This court also is not well managed. It is in bad shape, it is wearing out. There are holes within the court which can lead to injuries to people using it.

Below in plate 3.4 is a soccer field that is also not well managed. The turf is not as even as it should be. The fencing is falling apart in some parts of the sportsfield. There are big dangerous stones within the ground. In order to ensure that the recreation areas and facilities are always in satisfactory condition they must be

properly supervised and well managed. Seemingly the recreation facilities in this section are not properly supervised and well-managed.

PLATE 3.4: SOCCERFIELD AT PHESHEYA SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE TOWNSHIP



Below is a plate showing a soccer field that is found at Shumba sports field. It is the only recreation facility found in this section. The area is fenced but the turf is also not so even as it should. Every recreation area should present a pleasing appearance from within and without, even though little space can be made available for plantings. This recreation facility is not properly supervised nor well managed. The area is not attractive to be utilised.

A well-planned area should provide for the comfort and convenience of the people using it, but in the Shumba sports field that is impossible because of the condition of

the sports field. Toilet facilities, drinking fountains, seating accommodations, and parking space are not available.

□ **PLATE 3.5: SHUMBA SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE**



Below plate 3.6 is showing a soccer field at the Regional Sports field at Ngwelezane. It is at a much better condition when compared with other soccer fields. It is well fenced. This soccer field is located at the edge of the township. It is used by both the youth from Ngwelezane Township and youth from Matshana which is the rural area at the edge of the township. Toilet facilities, drinking fountains, seating accommodations, and parking space are essential service features, of which there are available in this sports field

Plate 3.7 is also the other part of the Regional Sports field which consists of the netball court, the volleyball court, the basketball court and the tennis court. These

are located closer to the soccer field. There are roads accessing these facilities for easy reach.

PLATE 3.6: SOCCERFIELD AT THE REGIONAL SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE



PLATE 3.7: NETBALL, VOLLEYBALL AND BASKETBALL COURTS AT THE REGIONAL SPORTSFIELD AT NGWELEZANE



These facilities are located at the edge of the township. They are used by both the youth from Ngwelezane Township and youth from Matshana which is the rural area at the edge of the township.

There are two play lots areas for children that prevail in the township and are both found in the B section. All the existing recreation facilities are open for use by all residents and have been made accessible by roads.

PLATE 3.8: PLAY LOT FOR CHILDREN AT NGWELEZANE

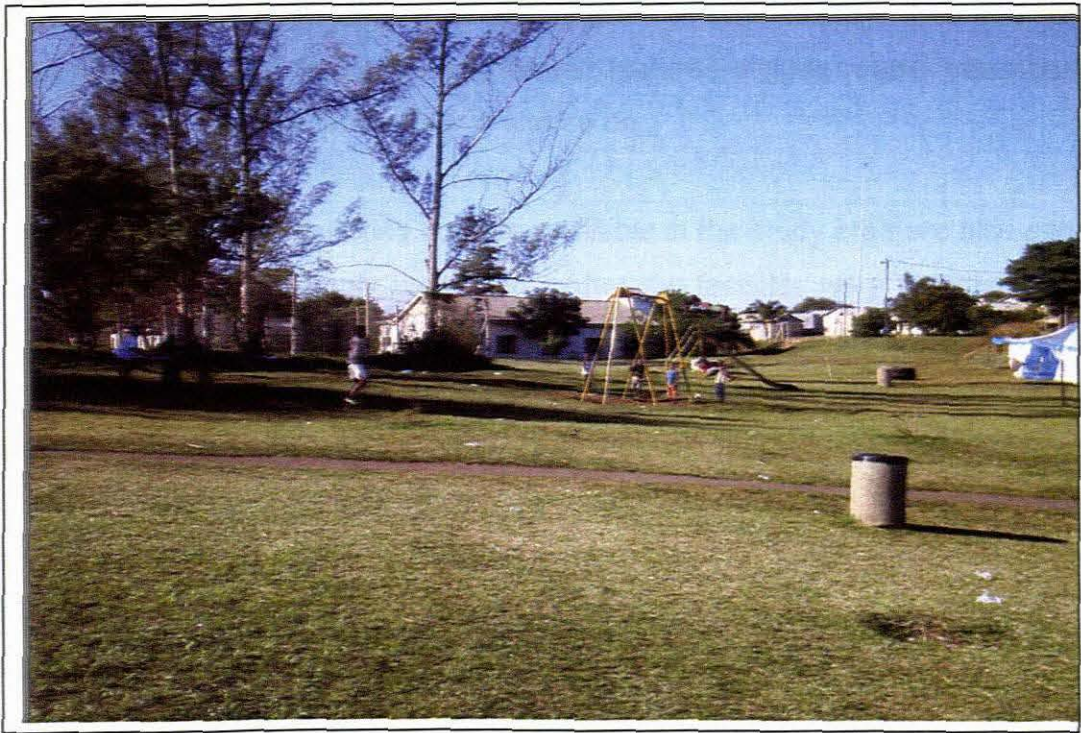


Plate 3.8 is showing a play lot for children located closer to the Ngwelezane Hospital. The area is attractive to be utilised by children. It is well positioned for the safety of young children.

There are no special facilities for sports such as boxing, karate, athletics, cricket, rugby, swimming, golf, hockey and table tennis. It seems that the sports that are dominant in the Ngwelezane township are soccer, netball and basketball because in all three of the sports fields these are provided for.

3.5 CONCLUSION

The purpose of this chapter is to examine actual setting and nature of recreation areas and facilities available at Ngwelezane Township. Chapter 3 provides the actual physical setting of the study and the location map of the study area. Spatial recreation features to be found in Ngwelezane, such as their location, their character are presented. Some of the recreation related features include roads, educational facilities, recreation and tourism facilities, and so on.

A sample of the recreation facilities that are available in the study area are also either investigated, analysed or simply presented. After the facilities were identified, they were then open for further statistical analysis using appropriate statistical methods. The usage of the facilities in place were cross-tabulated within demographic variables of the youth in the study area.

Through this chapter it is evident that there are no plates showing sports such as boxing, karate, athletics, cricket, rugby, swimming, golf, hockey and table tennis. Few sports facilities are being catered for. The plates show the dominant sports in the Ngwelezane township such as soccer, netball and basketball because in all three of the sports fields these are provided for.

The existing recreation areas and facilities seem to be insufficient and do not satisfy the recreation needs of the ever-growing population of the township. Recreation areas and facilities are a fundamental component for any residential area, therefore,

more efforts need to be done to solve this problem of inadequate recreation areas and facilities.

The provision of attractively developed recreation areas that meet the recreation needs of people to participate in recreation is the main concern. These recreation facilities need to benefit the community at large.

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to present, discuss and interpret data collected by means of questionnaires administered to youth of Ngwelezane Township; and to reduce the data into intelligible and interpretable form. The researcher's aim is to develop concepts, insights and understanding from patterns in the data (Taylor and Bogdan, 1984). The comments are made on the basis of the apparent patterns and trends the responses reflect. However, most of the data presented is taken as self-explanatory and comprehensive. The data is presented in tables, graphs and word explanations and later, a more detailed interpretation of results is presented.

The respondents in this study are from the youth of ages between 10 and 29, both young men and women. The questionnaire requires information from the youth on the following areas: personal information, involvement in recreation activities, personal interest and personal opinions on availability of recreation facilities or resources.

4.2 RESTATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND HYPOTHESES

Firstly, research objectives refer to what the researcher wants to achieve at the end of the research study. That is, seeking to discover the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities within the study area. Secondly, the research hypothesis refers to the statement of what the researcher deems to be the most probable answer to the research question. In other words, it is a tentative statement of solution, which is subject to verification through actual research.

In this chapter, both the objectives and hypotheses help serve as guidelines to what is to be analysed and interpreted, as well as the research questions to be addressed at the end of the study.

It is important that objectives and hypotheses be restated so as to avoid the misdirection and misinterpretation of data collected. Hereunder are the objectives and hypotheses of the study

- Objective 1:** To reveal the extent to which the youth in the study area understand the significance of recreation provision and participation.
- Hypothesis 1:** That the youth in the study area do understand the significance of recreation provision and participation.
- Objective 2:** To explore the amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township.
- Hypothesis 2:** That there is an inadequate amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township.
- Objective 3:** To examine the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations.
- Hypothesis 3:** That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate.
- Objective 4:** To determine the extent to which the youth in the study area participate in [utilise] recreation facilities and activities.
- Hypothesis 4:** That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient.

- Objective 5:** To investigate the role of the played by local municipality in providing recreation facilities in the area.
- Hypothesis 5:** That the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area.

The reason behind the restatement of hypotheses is that the data that has been collected has to affirm or refute each of the above stated hypotheses. Hypotheses together with objectives of the study provide guidelines for the analysis of data. It should be noted that the provision of recreation facilities in the context of socio-economic development necessities in local municipal area has to be attended to through addressing hypotheses.

4.3 DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

In this section the respondents were required to give information on socio-demographic background. This section included age, gender, educational level, marital status, place of stay and occupational status. The personal details of respondents were included since that determined the interest in the recreation involvement as well as the appropriateness of the resources available in terms of age, gender, level of education as well as the marital status.

Table 4.1 shows broad results of the collected and analysed data concerning gender, age, educational level, marital status, occupational status and place where the respondents are staying in. These are demographic characteristics of respondents. Mwandla (2002) indicates that demographic analysis must be a tool used by recreationists. The table below indicates that females interviewed were in the majority and males were less. The data shows an uneven gender split with female comprising 55% and males 45%. The reason might be the fact that females generally form the majority of the total population, and therefore, when the system of selecting the respondents was randomly applied, the women were found to be in the majority of the sample; or this might also be caused by the change in the social and cultural

attachments as far as participation and involvement in recreation are concerned. This unevenness might be the indication that the females are becoming more interested in participating in recreation and sports activities.

TABLE 4.1 THE DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS [N=128]

VARIABLE	SUB-VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
GENDER	Males	58	45.3	45.3
	Females	70	54.7	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
AGE	10 – 14	29	22.6	22.6
	15 – 19	43	33.6	56.2
	20 – 24	26	20.4	76.6
	25 – 29	30	23.4	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL	Illiterate	7	5.5	5.5
	Grade 4 – 6	4	3.1	8.6
	Grade 7 - 9	38	29.7	38.3
	Grade 10-12	29	22.7	60.9
	Post-Matric. Cert.	14	10.9	71.9
	Post-Matric. Dipl.	17	13.3	85.2
	Degree	19	14.8	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
MARITAL STATUS	Single	110	85.9	85.9
	Married	18	14.1	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
OCCUPATION STATUS	Working	30	24.3	24.3
	Not Working	97	75.7	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
BBPLACE WHERE STAYING	With parents	86	67.1	67.1
	In a flat	13	10.2	77.3
	Own house	13	10.2	87.5
	With relatives	14	10.9	98.4
	Renting	2	1.6	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	

The second variable is 'age' which shows that the respondents between the ages of 15 to 19 are the small majority (34%). It is also noted that youth between these ages are at high school level of education, as it is clear in Table 4.1 that more respondents are in Grades 7 to 9 (29.7%) and grades 10 to 12 (22.7%). Post-matric qualifications constitute 39% that is an indication that the youth in the area value education as source of economic sustainability and they seem to depend on the recreation facilities available in institutions.

Another variable is the 'marital status'. Table 4.1 indicates that majority of respondents are single (86,4%) and few are married (13,6%). The larger percentage of youth (67%) in this area is still living with their parents. This means that they still depend on their parents economically for participation in some of the recreation activities, since it is clear also that the larger percentage (76%) is not working. This is caused by the fact that the majority is still engaged in schooling and some are still in tertiary institutions.

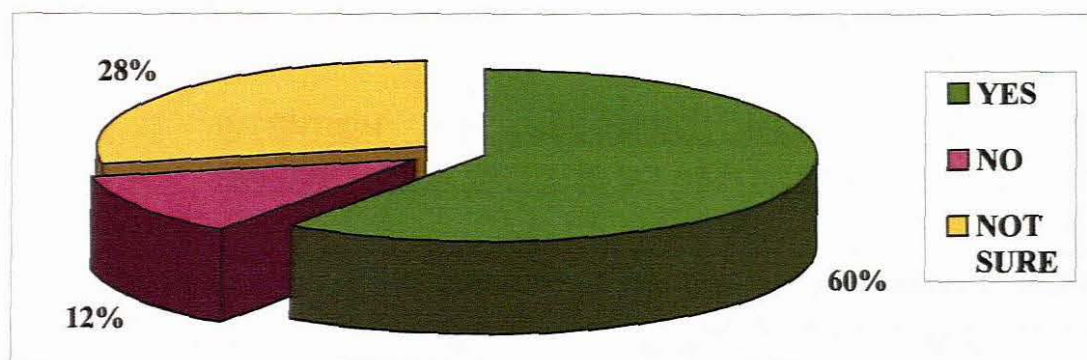
4.4 UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF RECREATION PROVISION AND PARTICIPATION

It has been suggested that before the previously disadvantaged communities and the local youth can be expected to participate in recreation and for them to make a meaningful contribution, they must understand what recreation provision and utilisation is all about. The youth and community must also be aware of the benefits and opportunities of recreation.

4.4.1 Recreation Understanding

The respondents were asked to show their level of understanding relating to the significance of recreation provision and participation. On the whole, a significant majority of respondents [60%] indicated that they understood the basic meaning and intention of recreation, particularly when it relates to understanding the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities in their area, which would offer opportunities for enjoyment and engagement.

FIGURE 4.1 UNDERSTANDING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF RECREATION



As shown in Figure 4.1 a significant majority of respondents [60%] in Ngwelezane Township indicated that they understood the meaning of recreation provision and utilisation, whereas a relatively large number [28%] stated that they were not sure. Only 12 percent of the respondents did not know or understand the meaning of the provision and utilisation of recreation. A significantly large percentage of the positive response [60%] may be accounted for in that the Township of Ngwelezane is located in an area which is highly urbanised. The township is located next to Empangeni City which has more advanced recreation facilities and programmes in the area, and in the north coastal region of Zululand.

On the whole respondents (the youth) in the study area have shown a positive attitude towards understanding the significance of the provision and utilisation of recreation resources. The responses discussed above show or support what the researcher had suggested earlier that local youth will not be able to participate in recreation unless they understand what tourism is all about. The responses given above and the related justification, suggest that **Hypothesis 1** which states: *That the youth in the study area do understand the significance of recreation provision and participation in the study area* is fully supported and accepted.

With an intention to further reveal how the youth in Ngwelazane Township understand the significance of recreation provision and utilisation, the respondents

were asked to indicate the importance of becoming a member of a youth organisation. Table 4.2 showed that a large number of youth, about 63% have intentions of becoming members of youth organisations, clubs or association.

TABLE 4.2 INTENTION OF BECOMING MEMBER OF YOUTH ORGANISATION OR CLUB OR ASSOCIATION [N=128]

VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Intend to be member	80	62.5	62.5
No intention	13	10.1	72.6
Do not know	35	27.4	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

The question arising is 'if the youth is willing to become members of youth organization, clubs or associations, what is it that is stopping them?' Maybe the answer lies in the availability of recreation facilities and activities to accommodate the youth, as well as dependability on parents for economic support. If the youth are not involved in youth organisations, clubs or associations, it means there is something else the youth are involved with, and the question arises: "What is it that the youth are involved with?"

Pigrams and Jenkins (1999) have indicated that recreation is part of learning process whereby the individual seeks to establish one's personal identity, practices social and co-operative skills, achieves specific intellectual or physical attainments, and explore a variety of peers, family and community roles. Therefore, the youth is willing to become members so that they become responsible citizen and be able fit well into the structure of society.

4.5 LEISURE TIME AVAILABILITY FOR THE YOUTH

Leisure as a concept for the youth was defines for the purposes of this study as activity time which does not necessarily emphasise freedom from work time, but is available to an individual even during times of responsibility (Magi 1986, 1999:2002).

However, leisure does also suggest, the free time left available when an individual has completed all necessary personal, employment and household tasks. In other words, it is time at the disposal of an individual when he or she has the freedom to choose what to do (Black and Wall, 1994).

In this regard, respondents were asked to reveal the amount of leisure time available for them to engage in recreation facilities and activities. The analysis reflected in Table 4.3 indicates the amount of leisure time at the disposal of or available for youth in the study area as indicated in the table.

TABLE 4.3: FREE TIME AVAILABLE FOR THE YOUTH [N=128]

VARIABLE	SUB-VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUM. PERCENT
FREE TIME AT DISPOSAL	Have free time	106	82.8	82.8
	Do not have free time	22	17.2	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
FREE HOURS PER DAY	1 – 3 hours	81	63.2	63.2
	4 – 6 hours	29	22.6	85.8
	7 – 9 hours	6	4.7	90.5
	10- 12 hours	12	9.5	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
PLACE WHERE FREE TIME IS SPENT	At home	69	53.9	53.9
	At friend's place	35	27.3	81.2
	At a social club	6	4.7	85.9
	At a sports field	18	14.1	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	

Data in Table 4.3 indicates that a large number of youth respondents (82,8%) have free time at their disposal. The overwhelming majority of youth have free time at their disposal and this time is spent doing nothing at home as indicated that a considerate majority of youth (53,9%) spend their free time at home. A substantial majority of youth (63.2%) indicate that they have between one and three hours of free time a day at their disposal. It is evident that the youth has a lot of leisure time available, but this time is spent at home doing nothing and eventually will get bored and who knows what will happen next. The question arising is, “ why is the youth spending much

time at home doing nothing, having much free time available". Some of the reasons which were indicated by respondents included the following:

- Lack of interest
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of money.

These constraints of participation are related to those identified by Kay and Jackson (1991). These recreationists identified the recreational constraints as lack of money, lack of time and transportation problems. From the evidence collected by the researcher these are not the only reasons for low participation in recreation activities, but transportation problems also do occur.

Flowing from the analysis given above it stands to reason that the majority of youth in the study area have free leisure time at their disposal. It may, therefore, be concluded that **Hypothesis 2** which states: *That there is an inadequate amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township*, is not fully supported and therefore rejected. Therefore, there is a dire need to provide youth with recreation facilities and programmes to engage themselves in, so as to be protected from constraints of anti-social behaviour and boredom.

4.6 RECREATION FACILITIES PRESENTLY AVAILABLE

It has been sufficiently argued earlier in this dissertation that the utilisation of recreation facilities is significantly influenced by the provision and availability of recreation facilities in the study area. On the other hand, this provision may come from three sectors, that is, the community, government and the commercial sector. For all of these sectors provision seems to mean the supply of, providing of and making available of recreation facilities.

To address the availability or provision of recreation facilities, the respondents were required to indicate the amount of recreation facilities that were are available in their place of residence. As shown in Table 4.4, a moderate majority (47.8%) of the respondents indicated that recreation facilities are few in Ngwelezane Township. If the recreation facilities are few, it therefore, means that few people would be able to use these few available facilities. Hence, the majority of respondents may not participate in recreation activities in the study area.

As it has been indicated in Chapter 3, the recreation facilities already available at Ngwelezane are relatively few, it is therefore evident that only a few of the respondents [the youth] are able to use these facilities since recreation facilities are insufficient.

TABLE 4.4: PERCEIVED AMOUNT OF RECREATION FACILITIES AVAILABLE

AVAILABILITY	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
Highly Abundant	39	30.4	30.4
Moderately Abundant	20	15.6	46.0
Less Abundant	61	47.8	93.8
Not available at all	08	06.2	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

From the analysis given above it is evident that and may be suggested that **Hypothesis 3** which states: *That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate*, should be fully supported and accepted.

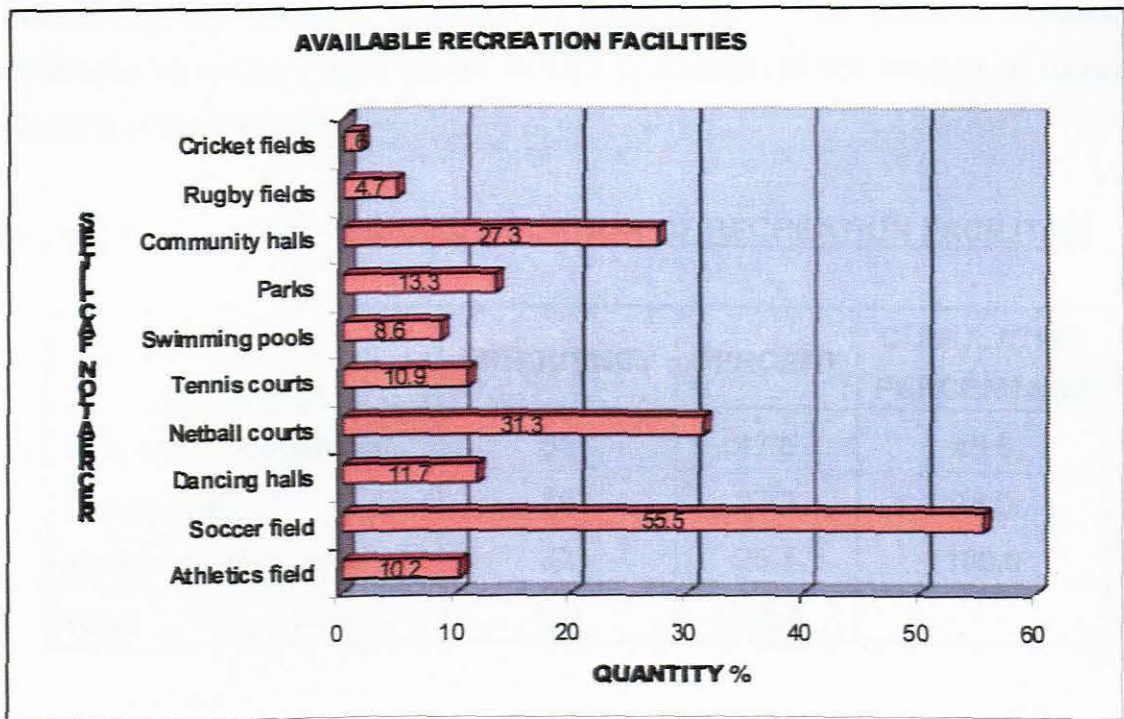
4.6.1 Types of Recreation Facilities Available

Related to Table 4.4 above, is Figure 4.2 below where the respondents were requested to indicate the recreation facilities that are available. Information was acquired concerning the availability of recreation facilities in the township. The

respondents were asked about the type of recreation facilities that prevail in the township, the aim being to establish whether the respondents are aware of the recreation facilities available in the township as revealed in Chapter 3.

The data in Figure 4.2 indicate that at Ngwelezane soccer recreation facilities (55.5%) are mainly provided followed by the provision of netball courts (31%). The other recreation facilities for cricket, swimming, and rugby are found outside Ngwelezane. If recreation facilities are far away from the place it becomes difficult to be involved in those recreation activities, hence the low level of participation in recreation activities is obtainable. This means that there is a great demand of recreation facilities. Although recreation is considered an individual's responsibility, the provision of areas and facilities and organised programmes is the responsibility of the local government. The municipalities have the resources and ability to acquire, develop, and maintain a system of areas and facilities in meeting the needs of the community. They have the financial capabilities through taxation and powers to appropriate funds to fulfil their responsibilities.

FIGURE 4.2: RECREATION FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT NGWELEZANE



A reasonable majority (55,5%) were found to be fully aware of the availability of soccer fields. Figure 4.5 indicates that at Ngwelezane soccer recreation facilities are mainly provided followed by the provision of netball courts. The other recreation facilities for cricket, swimming, and rugby are found outside Ngwelezane. If recreation facilities are far away from the place it becomes difficult to be involved in recreation activities.

Considering that only the soccer fields and netball courts were the only two [2], out of ten [10] recreation facilities, perceived to be relatively well supplied, it stand to reason that the recreation facilities on the whole were not adequately available or provided for the youth in Ngwelezane Township. It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 3** which states: *That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate*, should be fully supported and accepted.

4.6.2 The Location of Available Recreation Facilities

The location of recreation resources is usually regarded as important towards determining the levels of utilisation or participation. The youth in Ngwelezane Township investigated with regard to their perception of the location of recreation facilities in the study area.

TABLE 4.5: PREFERRED LOCATION OF RECREATION FACILITIES

PREFERRED LOCATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
Near place of residence	61	47.6	45.5
Nearby town	35	27.3	74.0
Most accessible place	32	25.1	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

Table 4.5 indicates that a small majority (48%) prefer recreation facilities to be located near the place of residence. The most accessible place and place near the residence are related, because for a place to be most accessible it is possible that it is near the place of residence, or if the place is near the residence it is possible that it is most accessible. Therefore, more people support that recreation facilities should be near their place of residence and be most accessible.

The recreation areas and facilities should be where they are going to be easily accessible to the people for whom they are made. Accessibility and safety are the basic things to consider. Accessibility to the units is important and is facilitated by a system of roads or paths of suitable location and width, whereas careful location and arrangement of equipment, game courts and fields, roads and paths contribute to safety.

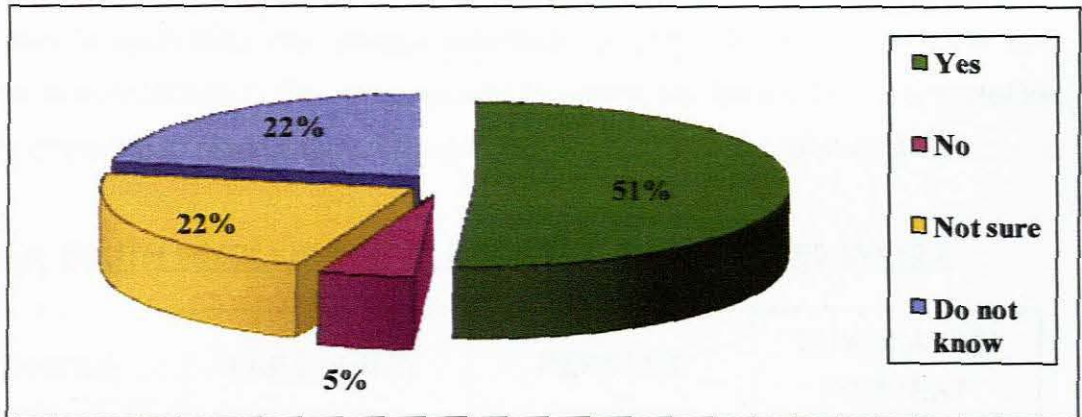
It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 3** which states: *That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate*, should be fully supported and accepted.

4.6.3 The Provision of Recreation Facilities the Youth

Since it is noted that there is shortage of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane, a large percentage of youth would like to be provided with recreation facilities. The data indicates that a greater segment of youth (51%) would like to be provided with recreation facilities. If there is shortage of recreation facilities something needs to be done to provide these facilities.

The municipalities have the resources and ability to acquire, develop, and maintain a system of areas and facilities in meeting the needs of the community. They have the financial capabilities through taxation and powers to appropriate funds to fulfil their responsibilities. Therefore something needs to be done.

FIGURE 4.3 **YOUTH PREFERENCE TO BE PROVIDED WITH RECREATION FACILITIES**



Since it is noted that there is a shortage of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane, a reasonable percentage of youth would like to be provided with recreation facilities. Data indicates that a reasonable majority of youth (51%) would like to be provided with recreation facilities at Ngwelezane Township. If the recreation facilities are made available, the higher percentage of youth who are not participating in recreation activities might be lowered.

From the data collected it is clear that recreation facilities like athletics fields, tennis courts, rugby fields, cricket fields, dancing halls and swimming pools need to be provided. Although soccer and netball recreation facilities are provided but there is a feeling that they are not enough. Therefore, there is a great demand for provision of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane. The question arising is 'who is responsible for the provision of the recreation facilities'?

It may, therefore, be concluded that **Hypothesis 3** which states: *That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of*

assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate, should be fully supported and accepted.

4.7 PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Participation in recreation has always afforded an outlet for self-expression and attainment of satisfaction in life. It has power to enrich people's lives. It is therefore of great importance to establish the involvement of youth in recreation activities.

TABLE 4.6: YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES [N=128]

VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Fully Involved	20	15.6	15.6
Partially Involved	37	28.9	44.5
Not involved	71	55.5	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

Table 4.6 indicates that a reasonable majority of respondents among the youth (55,4%) are not involved in recreation activities. The inability of respondents not to participate in recreation activities is attributed to:

- Lack of interest
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of money

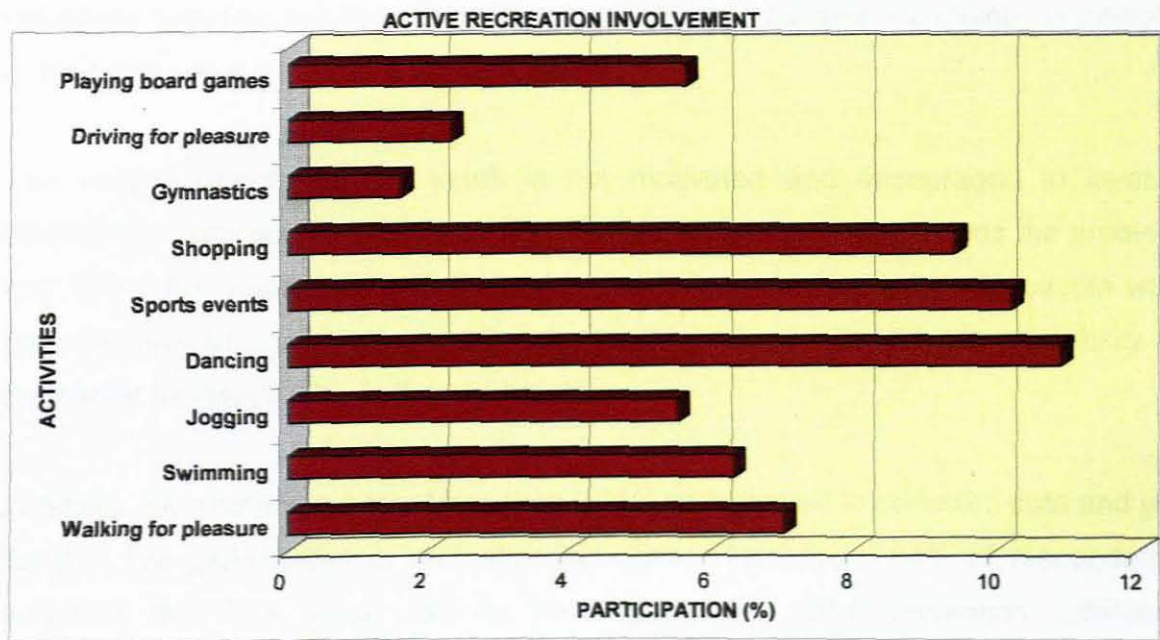
These are deduced from responses given by respondents when asked the reason of not being involved in recreation activities.

Table 4.6 confirms what appeared from data that an overwhelming majority of youth spend their leisure time at home doing nothing because of the reasons mentioned above. A substantial majority indicated having no knowledge as being the main reason for them not to be involved in recreation activities. This is an indication of

lack of recreation programmes where youth can learn to participate in different recreation activities.

It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be fully supported and accepted.

FIGURE 4.4: ENGAGEMENT IN ACTIVE RECREATION



Recreation activity is not restricted to buildings constructed for such use. Some of recreation activities shown in Figure 4.1 above are not activities that are restricted to building structures. Figure 4.1 above presents a clear picture about the participation by youth in active recreation activities. It is a small percentage of youth that is involved in active recreation like, walking for pleasure (7%), swimming (6%), jogging (5%), dancing (11%), sport events (10%), shopping (9%), gymnastics (1%), driving for pleasure (2%) and playing board game (6%). This data clearly shows that the youth is not involved in these recreation activities although these recreation activities are not restricted to buildings.

It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be fully supported and accepted

4.7.1 Youth Participation in Passive Recreation

Data indicates low percentage of participation on passive recreation activities by youth. There is a clear indication that youth does not participate not only in active recreation activities, but also, they do not participate in passive recreation. A meagre portion of youth is involved in sport events.

This clearly shows that the youth is not motivated and encouraged to involve themselves in recreation activities. If this is the *status quo*, 'where does the problem lie?' Does the problem lie with the youth that is lazy, or does it lie with people who are supposed to provide programmes for youth, or does it lie with the availability of recreation facilities? This is the big question.

Ironically, the youth has a lot of free time (81%) as indicated in collected data and yet there is low participation in recreation activities. Also about 64% of respondents indicated that they would like to be engaged in active recreation activities. Constraints in recreation may lead to boredom, and subsequently, deviant involvement in drugs, smoking and consumption of alcohol (Pigrams and Jenkins, 1999). Recreation aims to assist a community spirit in pursuit of greater social cohesion, crime prevention and moral regeneration.

From what is reflected in Table 4.7 the youth are largely "not engaged" in most of the recreation activities. Seemingly the youth are not involved in passive recreation as well as active recreation. This makes one to wonder about the type of youth that stays or exists in the study area. The youth that seems not to be interested in doing anything related to recreation. It may be that lack of understanding, awareness and

education about participating in recreation activities is seriously deficient and something drastic needs to be done about it.

TABLE 4.7: ENGAGEMENT IN PASSIVE RECREATION [N=128]

VARIABLE	SUB-VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
WATCHING TELEVISION	Engaged	41	32.0	32.0
	Not engaged	87	68.0	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
LISTENING TO RADIO PROGRAMMES	Engaged	23	18.0	18.0
	Not engaged	105	82.0	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
WATCHING MOVIES AT A CINEMA	Engaged	19	14.8	14.8
	Not engaged	109	85.2	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
WATCHING DRAMA SHOWS AT THE THEATRE	Engaged	9	7.0	7.0
	Not engaged	119	93.0	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
SPECTATOR AT SPORTS EVENTS	Engaged	5	3.9	3.9
	Not engaged	123	96.1	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	
SPECTATOR AT MUSIC FESTIVALS	Engaged	4	3.1	3.1
	Not engaged	123	96.9	100.0
	Total	128	100.0	

It may, therefore, be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be supported and accepted. It, therefore, needs to be emphasised that recreation understanding, awareness and education needs to be vigorously promoted in the study area.

4.7.2 Youth Participation in Recreation Near their Homes

Recreation is part of learning process whereby the individual seeks to establish one's personal identity, practices social and co-operative skills, achieves specific intellectual or physical attainments, and explore a variety of peers, family and community roles (Pigram and Jenkins; 1999). The usefulness of recreation areas

may depend on the location. The recreation areas and facilities should be where they are going to be easily accessible to the people for whom they are made.

The location of recreation facilities from where the respondents' families live is another factor that is looked into by the researcher. A substantial majority of youth (44%) indicated that there are recreation facilities near their place of residence. Few respondents (30%) indicated that they do not have recreation facilities close to their place of residence or do not know (25%) whether facilities are present or not. Even though some of recreation facilities are found close to where they live but the percentage of participation in recreation activities is minimal.

TABLE 4.8: RECREATION FACILITIES PRESENT NEAR THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE [N=128]

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Yes	57	44.5	44.5
No	39	30.4	74.9
Do not know	32	25.1	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

Some of the youth do not even know that recreation facilities are available for them to utilise, maybe, recreation awareness needs to be considered for youth to be involved and make use of those recreation facilities that are available. Even those who know that recreation facilities are available for them to use but a small percentage of youth would participate in recreation activities.

Therefore, there is a need to provide recreation awareness programmes for youth, to mobilise and educate them to engage themselves in recreation activities, since participation in recreation result in the development of an individual's ego and self-esteem. This helps an individual to fit in the society and be able to live harmoniously with other people.

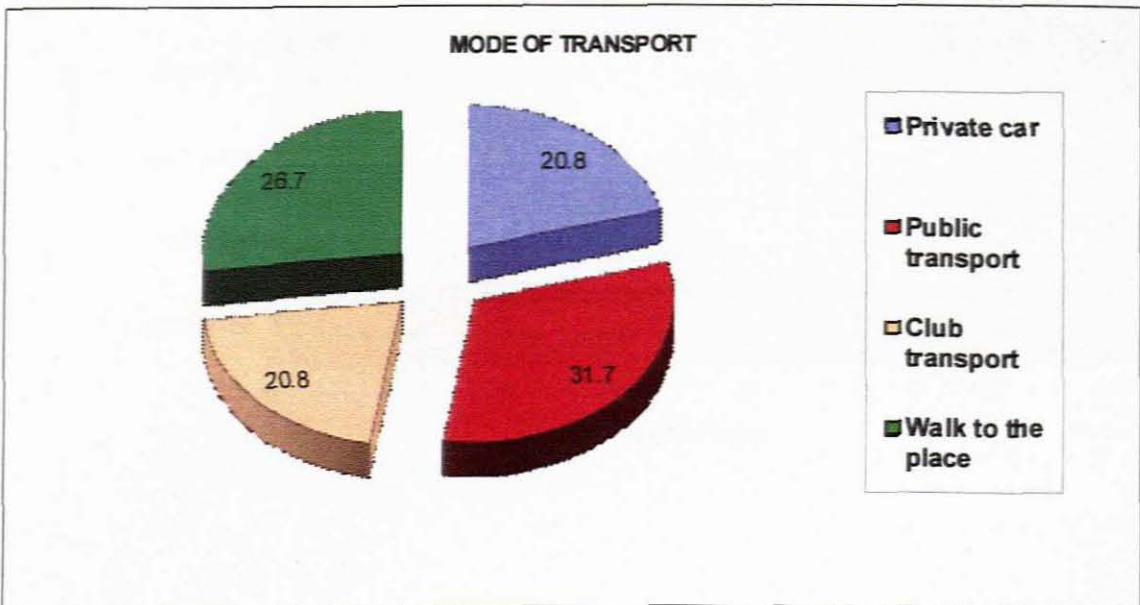
Following from the above discussion, it may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be supported and accepted.

4.7.3 Preferred Transport Mode Used by Youth

Respondents were requested to indicate the type of transport they use when travelling to recreation facilities. In Figure 4.5 it is clear that a relatively small majority of respondents use public transport (31.7%). Related to the form of transport is the distance of location of the recreation facilities.

The recreation areas and facilities should be where they are going to be easily accessible to the people for whom they are made. Accessibility can be facilitated by systems of roads, or paths of suitable location and width, since transport networks are basic factors for recreation (Towner, 1996). Transport networks are clearly basic factors in recreation.

FIGURE 4.5: MODE OF TRANSPORT USED TO VISIT RECREATION FACILITIES [N=128]

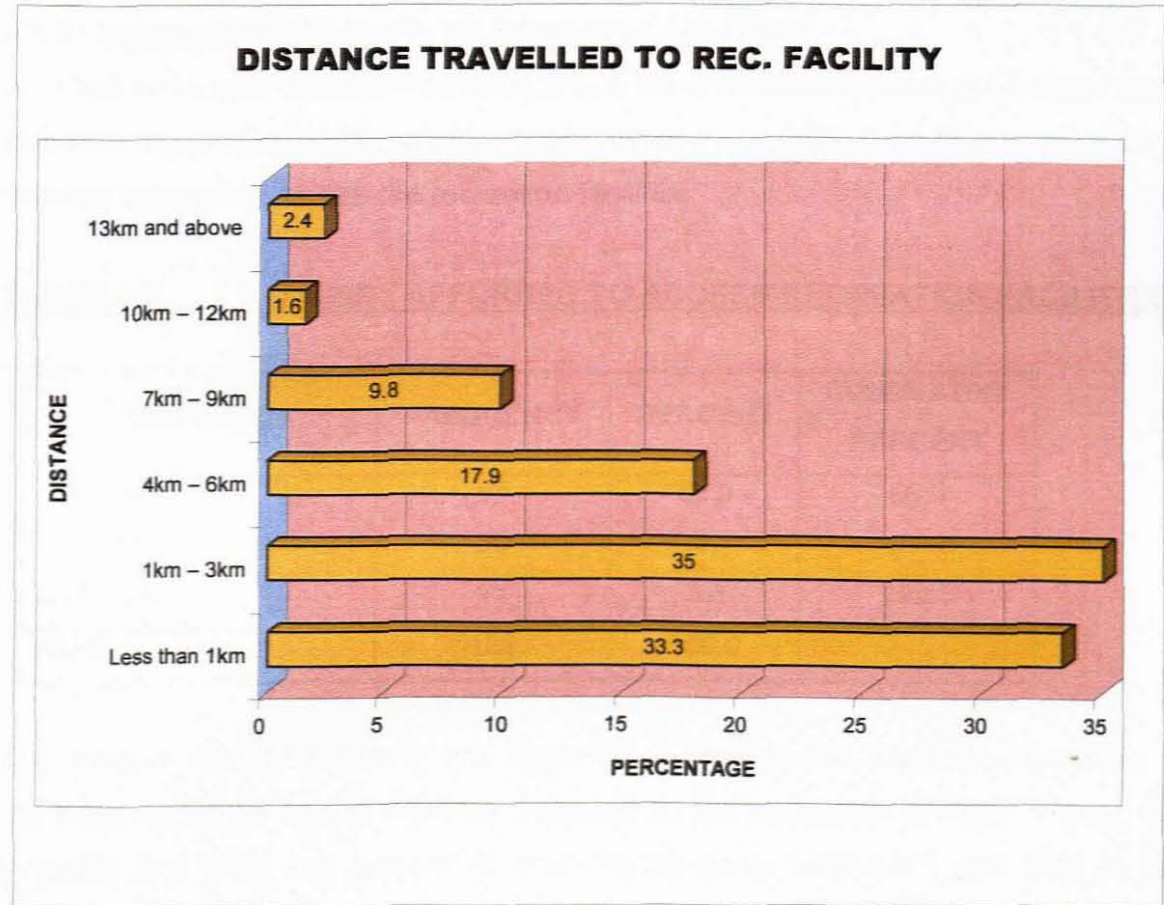


Therefore, it is clear from the responses that more youth depend on public transport in order for them to access recreation facilities. This dependency on public transport may also cause the participation in recreation activities to be minimal. Considering the above analysis it may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be supported and thus accepted

4.7.4 Travelled Distances to Recreation Facilities

The distance where the recreation facilities are located may influence the level of participation by youth, since youth depend on their families for financial support to access the recreation facilities.

FIGURE 4.6: DISTANCE TRAVELLED TO RECREATION FACILITIES [N=128]



The figure above indicates the distance travelled by respondents to the recreation facilities. The majority of respondents (35%) travel the distance between 1km and 3km to reach recreation facilities. The location of facilities should be based on open space standards. The question is ‘how much open recreation space is needed?’ The standards vary with the density of population. With higher density a larger proportion of the area is set aside for recreation than a sparsely settled area (Butler; 1976). In the study area [refer to Figure 4.6] about few young people [4%] are prepared to travel in excess of 12 kilometres to recreation facilities, away from their place of residence. Therefore, recreation facilities should be closer to the people for them to be utilised. It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient*, should be supported and accepted

4.7.5 Money Spent by Youth on Recreation Activities

As it has been stated that the distance where the recreation facilities are located may influence the level of participation by youth, since youth depend on their families for financial support to access the recreation facilities.

TABLE 4.9: MONEY AFFORDED TO ACCESS RECREATION FACILITIES

VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
R3 – R6	87	68.0	68.0
R7 – R10	30	23.4	91.4
R11- R14	11	8.6	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

The amount the respondents are prepared to pay at the place of recreation is regarded as linked to the distance travelled to the recreation facility. Figure 4.3 indicates that thirty five percent of respondents travel between 1 and 3km to the recreation facility. Data indicates that a substantial majority (68%) are prepared to pay between R3 and R6 to access the recreation facility. A small percentage (8.6%)

of respondents is prepared to pay higher fees [R11-R14] to access recreation facilities. The latter suggesting that the higher the fees or cost, the least respondents will visit recreation facilities.

Data above indicates that a substantial majority of respondents is prepared to pay a small amount to access recreation facilities. The respondents are not prepared to spend larger amounts for recreation. It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be supported and accepted. The argument based on low levels of financial sacrifice to access recreation facilities.

4.7.6 Interest of Youth in Recreation Activities

It has been sufficiently argued earlier in this dissertation that the utilisation of recreation facilities is significantly influenced by the provision and availability of recreation facilities in the study area. The interest to participate in recreation activities is also determined by the recreation facilities that are available.

TABLE 4.10: YOUTH INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES [N=128]

VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Yes	77	60.2	60.2
No	4	3.1	63.3
Not sure	29	22.6	85.9
Do not know	18	14.1	100.0
Total	128	100.0	

In this section data on the youth recreation interest and participation is exposed and analysed. Earlier in Table 4.3 responses indicated that the youth have a lot of free time at their disposal, this being confirmed by a majority of youth (82%) having free time. As shown in Table 4.10 above, a substantial majority of youth (60%) responded affirmatively on the notion that the youth are interested in participating in

recreation activities in the study area. It is without doubt that the youth do want to participate in recreation activities. Notwithstanding the challenge lies in the provision of recreation programmes and facilities for the youth in the study area.

Recreation aims to assist a community spirit in pursuit of greater social cohesion, prevention of crime and moral regeneration. Participation by youth in recreation activities will help to counter anti-social behaviour and promote a sense of belonging. It was also earlier indicated that a substantial majority of respondents (90%) prefer to participate in educational activities. This is because of the fact that, eventually, every recreation activity needs to be educational and a lesson should be obtained after a recreation activity. People continue to seek leisure experiences for educational development (Edginton *et al.*, 1995). Since the majority of respondents are still at school, they need diverse recreation activities that will develop them.

On the basis of the above-mentioned argument, it may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient*, should be supported and accepted. The basis of the conclusion is on the fact that individuals or respondents will be prepared to participate in recreation activities when most of the basic necessities of life, such as food, health, shelter, education and disposable money, are available.

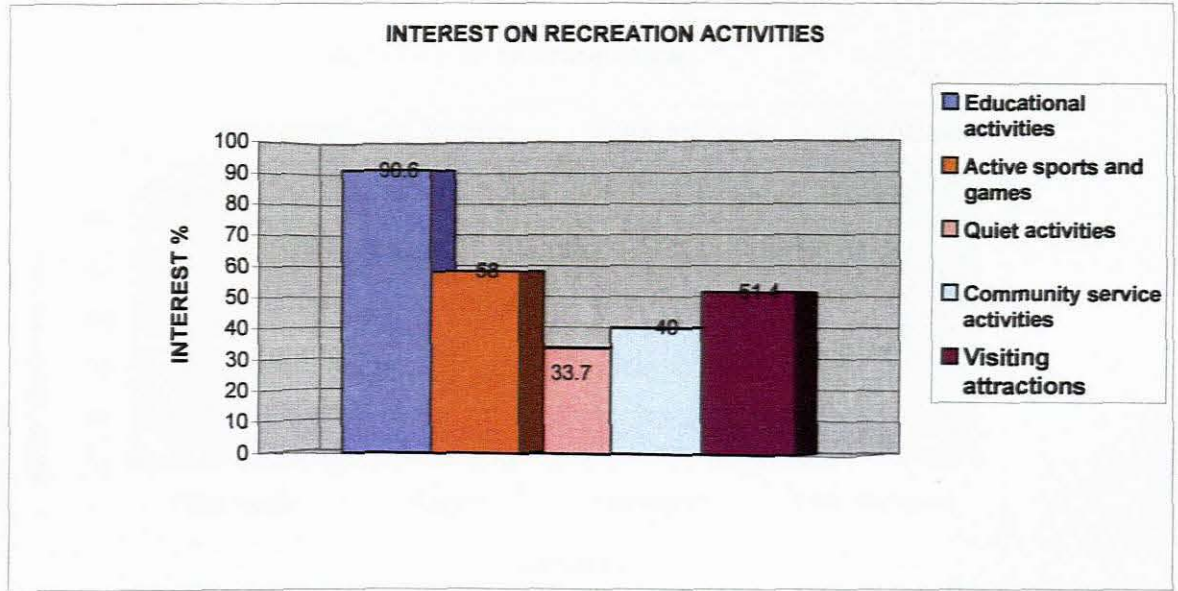
4.7.7 Youth's Interest in Types of Recreation Activities

In order to assess the types of recreation activities that the youth participates in, in the study area, respondents were asked questions which sought to reveal their preferences. This question was responded to with the background that distance to recreation facilities, as shown in Table 4.8 and Figure 4.6, plays an important part in selecting the type of recreation activities that the youth are preferred or are interested in.

The interests of respondents on types of recreation activities are graphically presented in Figure 4.7 below. The respondents revealed that recreation

preferences varied on the basis of: educational activities, sports and games, community service, visiting attractions, quiet or passive recreation activities. On analysis it became evident that the majority of respondents (91%) preferred or were interested in education related activities. The second highest interest at 58 percent, was in active sports and games, mainly soccer taking the lead. Visiting recreation and tourist attractions also featured significantly at 51 percent.

FIGURE 4.7: INTEREST ON TYPES OF RECREATION ACTIVITIES [N=128]



On the basis of these outcomes, it is evident that the youth prefer to be involved in educational activities more than recreation and related activities. From these findings it may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be supported and accepted.

4.8 BENEFITS OF YOUTH FROM PARTICIPATING IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES

There are perceived benefits why people decide to participate in recreation. For these benefits to be realised, recreation areas and facilities need to be made

available for people to able to participate in recreation activities. The respondents were requested to indicate if they agree that participation in recreation activities has different benefits to youth. On this question above a reasonable majority (50%) of respondents agree that there are benefits when youth participate in recreation activities.

FIGURE 4.8: BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES
[N=128]

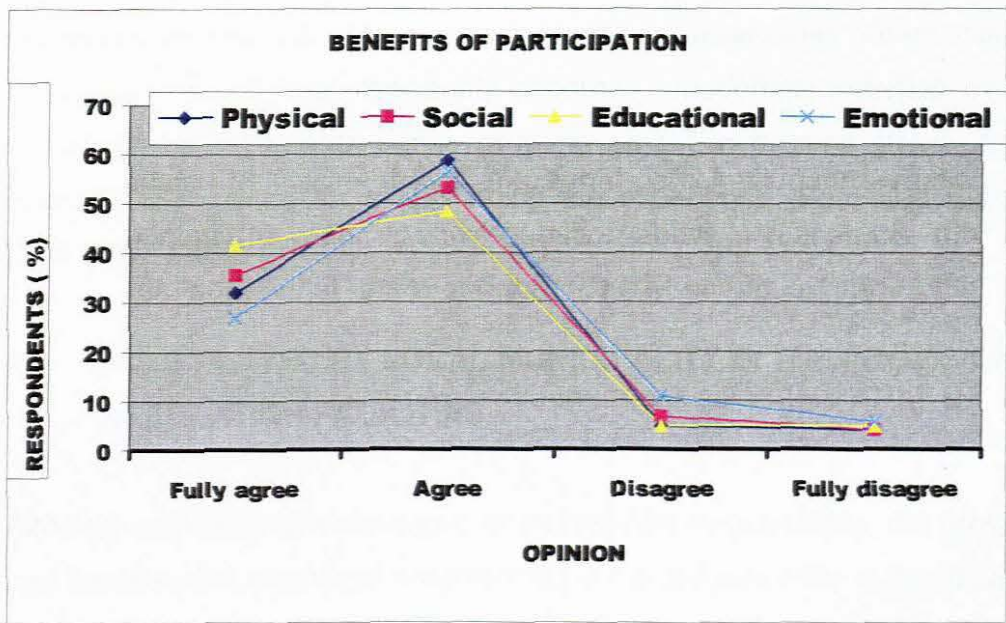


Figure 4.8 looks at opinions of respondents concerning the different benefits youth can gain when participating in recreation activities. The benefits were categorized as physical, social, educational and emotional. The respondents were restricted to the following four-point semantic differential scale:

From the Figure 4.8 above it is clear that the respondents agree that participation in recreation has physical benefits (59%), followed by emotional benefits (56,6%), social benefits (53,3%) and educational benefits (48,3%). The value of regular activity in maintaining physical fitness is rarely questioned, but activity is equally important in the matter of other aspects like social, educational and emotional

aspects. Physical value of recreation includes the benefits of exercise, development of endurance and increase in cardio-muscular function (Ford and Blanchard, 1985). It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 4** which states: *That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient* should be supported and accepted

The data and analysis above suggests a close relationship among the emerging benefits. These benefits are all important and need to be achieved at the end of recreation activities. One becomes involved physically when participating in a recreation activity, but at the same time one socialises with others; obtains a lesson by being involved; and eventually becomes emotionally satisfied by participating. Emotional values include sense of achievement, overcome stress, find relaxation, increase self-concept or simply enjoy the experience (Ford and Blanchard, 1985; Dale *et al.*, 1996).

4.9 ROLE PLAYED BY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE PROVISION OF RECREATION FACILITIES

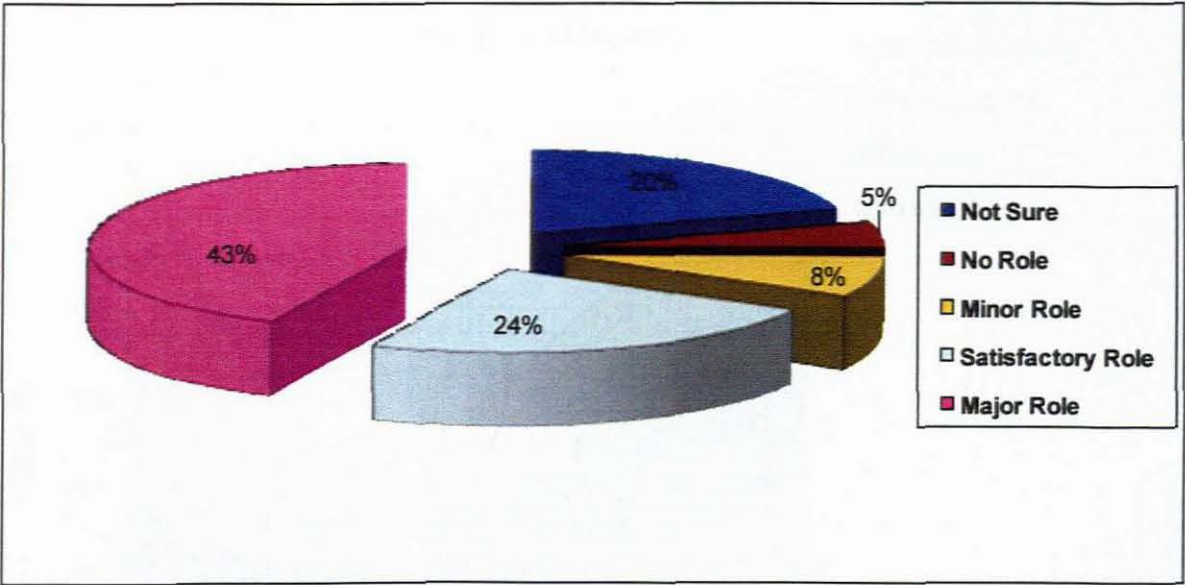
Although recreation is considered an individual's responsibility, the provision of areas and facilities and organized programmes is the responsibility of the local government. The municipalities have the resources and ability to acquire, develop, and maintain a system of areas and facilities in meeting the needs of the youth.

The respondents were also requested to give their opinion on the role played by the local municipality in providing the recreation facilities. The Figure 4.9 below gives an indication of what the respondents think as far as the role played by local municipality is concerned.

From the responses it is indicated a small majority (43%) of respondents think the local municipality plays a major role in the provision of recreation facilities. A moderate number of respondents [24%] suggested that the local municipality plays a satisfactory role in the provision of facilities, whereas a still a moderate number [20%]

of the respondents thought that they were not sure about the role played by the local municipality.

FIGURE 4.9: ROLE PLAYED BY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN PROVIDING RECREATION FACILITIES [N=128]

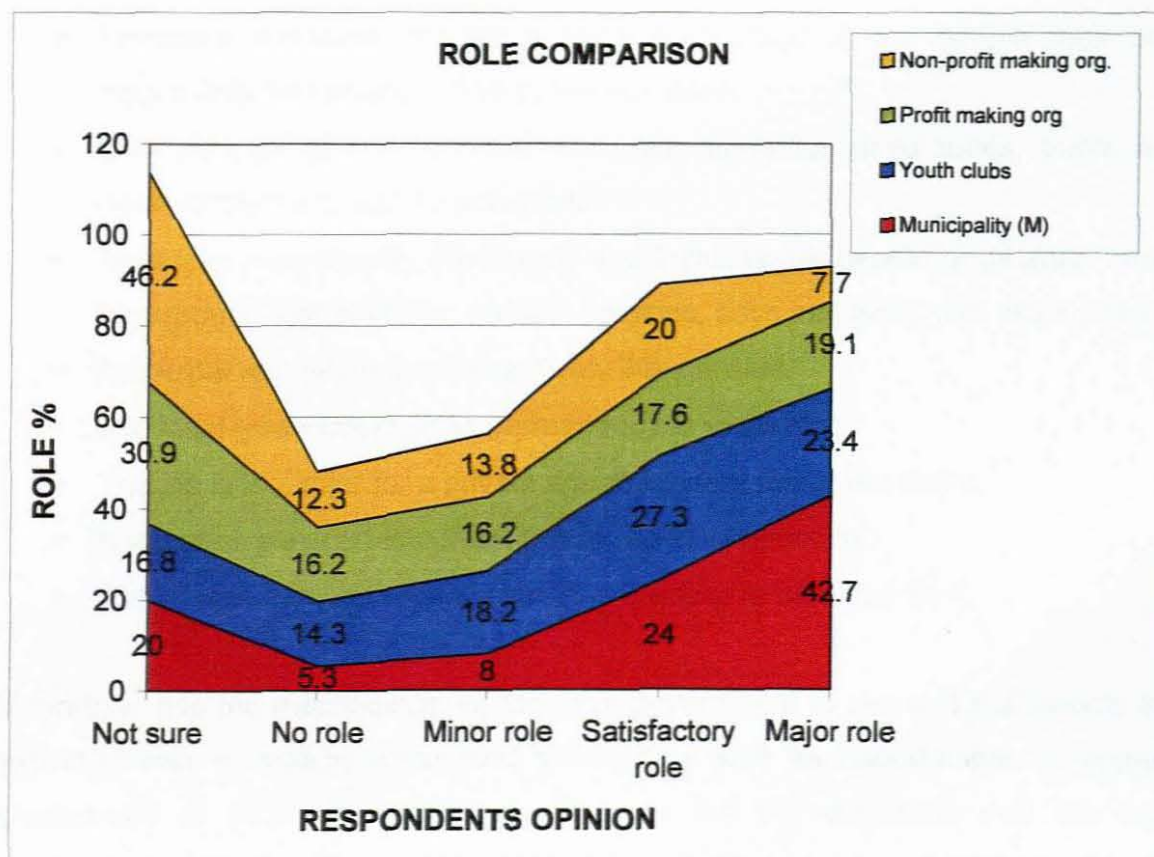


From these varying outcomes it may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 5** which states: *That the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area*, should be supported and accepted. Notwithstanding that the municipality is seen as playing a major role in the provision of recreation facilities, it is still a serious concern that the youth in the study area do not seem to show some understanding, awareness and relevant education pertaining to recreation participation.

To add some variation in the analysis of data, respondents were asked to indicate, on a comparative scale, what other organisations play a role in the in the provision of recreation facilities in the study area. The organisations compared by the respondents were the municipality, youth clubs, profit and non-profit organisations. This analysis was pursued on the basis of a general belief in the new South Africa

that the national, provincial and local government departments should take responsibility for providing recreation facilities in the study area.

**FIGURE 4.10: ROLE OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AS COMPARED TO
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS [N=128]**



Related to the role played by the local municipality is the role played by organisations such indicated above, the youth clubs or associations, profit making organisations and non-profit making organization in the provision of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane Township. The Figure above [Figure 4.10] indicates the response concerning the role played by local municipality as well as other organization. A reasonable majority of the respondents (43%) think that the local municipality plays a major role in the provision of recreation facilities compared to other organizations. The majority of respondents [46%] also thought they were not sure that the non-profit

making organisations play any significant role in the provision of recreation facilities in the study area.

Respondents' responses are in line with Butler (1976) when he states reasons why recreation has become a primary concern of the local government. The reasons are as follows:

- Municipal recreation affords a large percentage of the people their only opportunity for forms of wholesome recreation.
- Only through government can adequate lands for playgrounds, parks and other recreation areas be acquired.
- Municipal recreation is democratic and inclusive for people of all ages, racial background, social status, political opinions, boys and girls, men and women.
- Municipal recreation is comparatively inexpensive.
- The local government gives permanency to recreation.
- The job is too large for a private agency except the government.
- Recreation plays an important role in the local economy.
- The people demand recreation and are willing to be taxed for it.

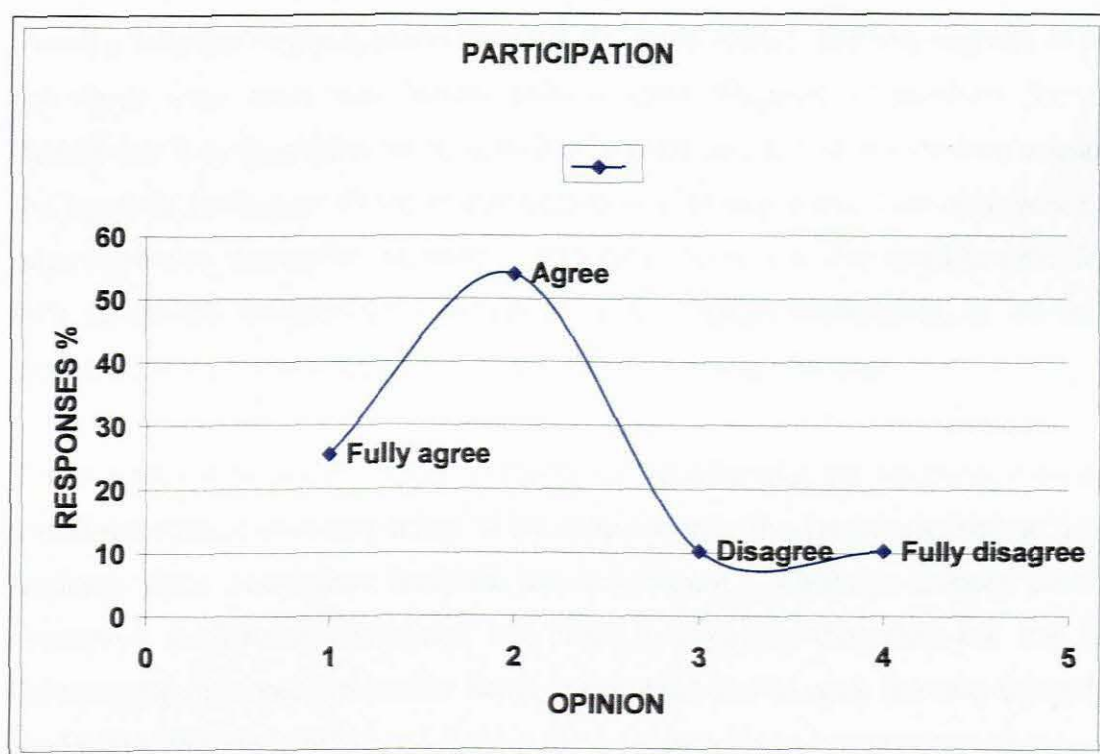
Therefore, it is the responsibility of the local government to see to it that people are provided with recreation areas and facilities as well as opportunities to engage themselves in recreation activities. This is the big challenge that the local government is facing. Since local municipality is the government that is closest to the people and represents the interests of the residents, it is responsible for fulfilling the developmental role (DLG; 1998).

Therefore, municipality has a major role to play, that of providing the local residents with all facilities needed including recreation facilities. From the analysis and interpretation give above, it stands to reason that **Hypothesis 5** which states: *That the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area* should be supported and thus accepted.

4.10 POOR RECREATION FACILITIES RESULT IN POOR PARTICIPATION

In a perfect world, demands for recreation activities would be matched by an ample supply of attractive and accessible recreation facilities and resources (Gibson *et al.*, 1997). The shortage of recreation facilities results in less participation in recreation activities by the youth. An overwhelming majority of respondents (79%) agree and fully agreed with this statement as indicated by Figure 4.11 below, that lack of recreation facilities results in low participation levels in the study area. It should be noted that very few respondents (20%) disagreed and fully disagreed with the same statement.

FIGURE 4.11 LACK OF RECREATION FACILITIES RESULT IN LOW PARTICIPATION [N=128]



The data above suggests that recreation facilities need to be provided for youth to be able to participate in recreation activities. The local government needs to play a

leading role to ensure provision of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane. It may therefore be concluded that **Hypothesis 5** which states: *That the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area* should be supported and accepted.

4.11 INTEGRATED COMMENT ON HYPOTHESES

It was found necessary towards the close of the analysis and interpretation of the study to give some general comments about the hypotheses of the research study. Fundamentally, the first hypothesis assessing the understanding of the significance of recreation provision and participation in the study area was fully supported and accepted. This suggests that, notwithstanding that there is a poor provision of recreation facilities in the study area, the youth do clearly understand the importance of recreation facilities and activity.

Flowing from the analysis given above it stands to reason that the majority of youth in the study area have free leisure time at their disposal. Therefore, the second hypothesis that states that there is an inadequate amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township was not fully supported and, therefore, rejected. Therefore, there is a dire need to provide youth with recreation facilities and programmes to engage themselves in, so as to be protected from constraints of anti-social behaviour and boredom.

The recreation facilities already available at Ngwelezane are relatively minimal, it is therefore, evident that only a few of the respondents [the youth] are able to use these facilities since recreation facilities are insufficient. Although soccer and netball recreation facilities are provided but there is a feeling that they are not enough. Considering that only the soccer fields and netball courts were the only two [2], out of ten [10] recreation facilities, perceived to be relatively well supplied, it stand to reason that the recreation facilities on the whole were not adequately available or provided for the youth in Ngwelezane Township. Therefore, there is a great demand for provision of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane. From the analysis given then it is

evident that the third hypothesis which states that the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate, should be fully supported and accepted.

It is clear from the responses that more youth depend on public transport in order for them to access recreation facilities. This dependency on public transport causes the participation in recreation activities to be minimal. There is also a clear indication that youth do not participate not only in active recreation activities, but also, they do not participate in passive recreation. A meagre portion of youth is not involved in sport events. The youth that seems not to be interested in doing anything related to recreation. It may be that lack of understanding, awareness and education about participating in recreation activities is seriously deficient and something drastic needs to be done about it. Therefore, there is a need to provide recreation awareness programmes for youth, to mobilise and educate them to engage themselves in recreation activities, since participation in recreation result in the development of an individual's ego and self-esteem. Undoubtfully, the fourth hypothesis stating the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient was fully supported and accepted

Municipality has a major role to play, that of providing the local residents with all facilities needed including recreation facilities. From the analysis and interpretation it is without doubt that the fifth hypothesis that states: that the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area is supported and thus accepted. Notwithstanding that the municipality is seen as playing a major role in the provision of recreation facilities, it is still a serious concern that the youth in the study area do not seem to show some understanding, awareness and relevant education pertaining to recreation participation. This is the big challenge that the local government is facing. Since local municipality is the government that is closest to the people and represents the interests of the residents, it is responsible for fulfilling the developmental role. The local government needs to play a leading role to ensure provision of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane.

4.12 CONCLUSION

The purpose of this chapter has been to present, discuss and interpret data collected by means of questionnaires administered to youth of Ngwelezane Township; and to reduce the data into intelligible and interpretable form. The researcher tried to develop concepts, insights and understanding from patterns in the data (Taylor and Bogdan, 1984). The comments were made on the basis of the apparent patterns and trends the responses reflect. However, most of the data presented was taken as self-explanatory and comprehensive. The questionnaire requires information from the youth on the following areas: personal information, involvement in recreation activities, personal interest and personal opinions on availability of recreation facilities or resources.

One of the pressing needs of recreation providers is strong community involvement. Recreation needs the support of people it serves. Involvement will contribute towards understanding, appreciation and effective community leadership. Another challenge facing recreation professionals is to provide recreation programmes that will cause people's lives to be filled with exciting, creative activities that will challenge them to learn and develop. Therefore, it is of great importance that the community be provided with recreation facilities as well as relevant programmes that will ensure full participation of not only the youth, but of the whole community.

In this chapter also the researcher has made an attempt to expose, analyse and interpret the data collected during the research process. In the analysis of data it has been noticed that there is low level of participation in recreation activities by the youth of Ngwelezane Township.

It has also been noted that the provision of recreation facilities is not to the required standards. The recreation facilities available do not cater for the needs of the youth of Ngwelezane. It is a challenge for the authorities as well as the community to make up and try to provide the required recreation facilities for the youth. It is without argue that to prevent youth of Ngwelezane from involving themselves in social

illnesses like delinquent behaviour, drug abuse, or alcoholism, recreation facilities need to be provided.

It was evident that there is low involvement in recreation activities among the youth and the majority are not involved in recreation activities. It was also evident that there is a great demand of recreation facilities, with the exception of soccer and netball facilities. In this chapter also the hypotheses, which were formulated in Chapter 1, were assessed. Some of the hypotheses were proven to be valid and others were rejected.

CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The problem that led to the study to be undertaken was that there seems to be a lack of recreation facilities in the previously disadvantaged communities, as a result less youth participation in physical recreation is noticed. There is a need to address the imbalances and injustices of the past as far as the provision of recreation facilities especially in Black townships is concerned. The persisting conditions of gender and racial inequalities are also so visible through the lack of representivity in national sports teams. This means that resources need to be directed at creating opportunities for those who were previously excluded and disadvantaged. Since recreation is a significant component of the life of the youth, it can provide an avenue for expression and development of own identity and personal growth.

Although not all young people may choose to participate in recreation activities, but the availability of, and access to recreation activities need to be taken into consideration by the authorities. Constraints on recreation may lead to boredom, and eventually youth turn to drug abuse, smoking and consumption of alcohol. Therefore, it is the responsibility of municipalities to provide enough recreation facilities for youth to limit or prevent these anti-social behaviours.

The main theme that has dominated the previous chapters of this research was on the availability of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township. In pursuant to the methodology interviews and questionnaires were used to capture the maximum amount of data required. The questionnaire was administered to youth of Ngwelezane to obtain a balanced view on the availability of recreation facilities.

5.2 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The summary and conclusions of the research revolve around the objectives postulated in Chapter 1 which were as follows:

- (a)** To reveal the extent to which the youth in the study area understand the significance of recreation provision and participation.
- (b)** To explore the amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township.
- (c)** To examine the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations.
- (d)** To determine the extent to which the youth in the study area participate in [utilise] recreation facilities and activities.
- (e)** To investigate the role of the played by local municipality in providing recreation facilities in the area.

The intent of the study was to investigate the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township. Therefore, related to the above-mentioned objectives were a number of hypotheses which were postulated to match the objectives. It was therefore hypothesised:

- (a)** That the youth in the study area do understand the significance of recreation provision and participation.
- (b)** That there is an inadequate amount of leisure time available for the youth to participate in recreation activities at Ngwelezane Township.
- (c)** That the provision [availability] of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations is not adequate.
- (d)** That the extent of youth participation [utilisation] in recreation facilities and activities in the study is insufficient
- (e)** That the local municipality plays an important role in providing recreation facilities in the study area.

The above hypotheses were logically assessed in this research study with a view of providing documentary and empirical evidence about the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities at Ngwelezane Township. It was anticipated that the hypothesis-based outcomes of the study should be of use for future planners and decision-makers in the area.

Chapter 2 outlined the theoretical background upon which this study was based. The theoretical knowledge relating to recreation and facilities served as a basis for understanding the research argument presented. The chapter also explores some theoretical subject matters associated with each of the objectives of the study mentioned in Chapter 1. Some of these are: the youth's understanding of understand the significance of recreation in the study area; the participation patterns of youth in recreation activities; the availability of leisure time for the youth in Ngwelezane Township; the provision of recreation facilities by the local municipality, with a view of assessing demand and utilisation aspirations; the extent to which the youth in the study area utilise recreation facilities and activities; and the role played by the local municipality in providing recreation facilities in the study area.

Chapter 3 provided the actual physical setting of the study and the location map of the study area. Spatial recreation features to be found in Ngwelezane, such as their location and their character were presented. Some of the recreation related features included roads, educational facilities, recreation and tourism facilities, and so on. After the data had been collected through appropriate methods, the data was analysed and interpreted in Chapter 4 using statistical analysis or quantitative and qualitative techniques.

In Chapter 4 the data was presented, analysed and interpreted. The presentation of data is in various forms, which are tabular, graphical, diagrammatic, and so on. In this chapter, data was be transformed in interpretable forms, which led to the research outcomes and conclusions. This chapter is regarded as the core of this research investigation in that the empirical analysis and synthesis of data and ideas are put into effect. It is at this point in the analysis of information that inferences are

made about findings of the study. Importantly, the objectives of the study are fully assessed at this point.

The last chapter, Chapter 5: entitled, summary, conclusions and recommendations, gives the summary of the findings and make recommendations pertaining recreation provision to the relevant authorities and the need for further research in the study. The study also contains a comprehensive bibliography of the literature, the books, journals and websites consulted during the theoretical research of the study.

On the whole respondents (the youth) in the study area have shown a positive attitude towards understanding the significance of the provision and utilisation of recreation resources. The responses discussed above show or support what the researcher had suggested earlier that local youth would not be able to participate in recreation unless they understand what tourism is all about.

The responses from the youth made it clear that a greater segment of youth at Ngwelezane does not participate in recreation activities. Those who do participate in soccer and netball are of a low percentage. The respondents also indicated that there are no recreation facilities near their places of residence. The lack of recreation facilities seems to be the result of low participation in recreation activities. This means that even those that are available do not meet the demands of the youth recreation.

Flowing from the analysis it was clear that the majority of youth in the study area have free leisure time at their disposal. Therefore, there is a dire need to provide youth with recreation facilities and programmes to engage themselves in, so as to be protected from constraints of anti-social behaviour and boredom.

Data also indicate that a substantial majority of youth (51%) would like to be provided with recreation facilities, which is an indication for lower standards of provision. The authorities should see to it that people are provided with recreation areas and facilities as well as opportunities to engage themselves in recreation activities.

It was sufficiently argued that the utilisation of recreation facilities is significantly influenced by the provision and availability of recreation facilities in the study area. On the other hand, this provision may come from three sectors, that is, the community, government and the commercial sector. For all of these sectors provision seems to mean the supply of, providing of and making available of recreation facilities.

To address the availability or provision of recreation facilities, the respondents were required to indicate the amount of recreation facilities that are available in their places of residence. It was shown that a moderate majority of the respondents indicated that recreation facilities are few in Ngwelezane Township. If the recreation facilities were few, it therefore meant that few people would be able to use these few available facilities. Hence, the majority of respondents may not participate in recreation activities in the study area.

Although recreation is considered an individual's responsibility, the provision of areas and facilities and organised programmes is the responsibility of the local government. The municipalities have the resources and ability to acquire, develop, and maintain a system of areas and facilities in meeting the needs of the community. They have the financial capabilities through taxation and powers to appropriate funds to fulfil their responsibilities.

Participation in recreation has always afforded an outlet for self-expression and attainment of satisfaction in life. It was also indicated that a reasonable majority of respondents among the youth were not involved in recreation activities. The inability of respondents not to participate in recreation activities was attributed to:

- Lack of interest
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of money

These were deduced from responses given by respondents when asked the reason of not being involved in recreation activities.

The location of recreation facilities from where the respondents' families live was another factor that was looked into by the researcher. A substantial majority of youth indicated that there were recreation facilities near their place of residence. Few respondents indicated that they do not have recreation facilities close to their place of residence or do not know whether facilities are present or not. Even though some of recreation facilities are found close to where they live but the percentage of participation in recreation activities was minimal.

The recreation areas and facilities should be where they are easily accessible to the people for whom they are made. Systems of roads, or paths of suitable location and width can facilitate accessibility, since transport networks are basic factors for recreation (Towner, 1996). Transport networks are clearly basic factors in recreation.

Data indicated that the youth have a lot of free time at their disposal, a tremendous majority of youth (81%) agreed of having free time. A substantial majority of youth (61%) agreed of having between one to three hours of free time a day. It is without doubt that youth want to participate in recreation activities. It was also no doubt that youth have a lot of free time at their disposal. But, the challenge lies in the provision of programmes and facilities to be utilised by youth.

There were perceived benefits why people decided to participate in recreation. For these benefits to be realised, recreation areas and facilities need to be made available for people to be able to participate in recreation activities. The respondents were requested to indicate if they agree that participation in recreation activities has different benefits to youth.

It was also clearly indicated that the local municipality must play a major role in the provision of recreation facilities. Respondents' responses were in line with Butler

(1976) reasons why recreation has become a primary concern of the local government. The reasons are as follows:

- Municipal recreation affords a large percentage of the people their only opportunity for forms of wholesome recreation.
- Only through government can adequate lands for playgrounds, parks and other recreation areas be acquired.
- Municipal recreation is democratic and inclusive for people of all ages, racial background, social status, political opinions, boys and girls, men and women.
- Municipal recreation is comparatively inexpensive.
- The local government gives permanency to recreation.
- The job is too large for a private agency except the government.
- Recreation plays an important role in the local economy.
- The people demand recreation and are willing to be taxed for it.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of the local government to see to it that people are provided with recreation areas and facilities as well as opportunities to engage themselves in recreation activities. This is the big challenge that the local government is facing. Since local municipality is the government that is closest to the people and represents the interests of the residents, it is responsible for fulfilling the developmental role (DLG; 1998).

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recreation has been an important aspect of life for centuries. Therefore, recreation plays an important role in the life of the individual, the community and the nation. In the past not much concern was given to the provision of recreation facilities for the previously disadvantaged communities. Recreation has not been taken as a significant component of life for Blacks because of the apartheid system that existed. However, it seems all the injustices of the past need to be redressed.

Therefore, there is a need to provide recreation awareness programmes for youth in the study area. Furthermore there is need to mobilise and educate them to engage themselves in recreation activities, since participation in recreation result in the development of an individual's ego and self-esteem. The institution of these approaches would help the individual to fit into societal programmes and be able to live harmoniously with other people within the community. In this regard, the local municipality must play a major role in the provision of recreation facilities in the study area. Therefore, the municipality should take its responsibility and provide for the needs of the community. The recreation areas and facilities should be where they are going to be easily accessible to the people for whom they are made. A system of roads, or paths of suitable location and width can facilitate accessibility of recreation areas and facilities.

Other recreation related agencies should also be involved in the provision of recreation facilities as well as in the promotion of participation in the recreation activities. These agencies may come from voluntary sector and a positive impact may be achieved. The agencies must deal with recreation areas which must contain out-of-door and indoor facilities that serve both men and women, young and old people. Many facilities can provide opportunities for organised, competitive sports such as soccer, tennis, rugby, cricket and others can provide recreation for individuals or family groups. Once the recreation facilities have been provided they need to be maintained and sustained for future generations.

The effectiveness of provision of recreation activities and recreation facilities lies in the hands of the recreation officers and managers to ensure the highest level of support of recreation services. The officers should be involved in the provision of opportunities and facilities and ensure that the recreation environment is promoted by keeping up to date and presenting those issues of keenest interest.

The government, through the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR), has become involved in the development of recreation infrastructure and facilities. Therefore, the local municipality needs to follow suit to ensure that the level of

participation in recreation activities is raised. The local government is the government that closest to the people. It is there to represent the interest of the people. The municipality is responsible for ensuring the delivery of service to everyone and for promoting economic and social development in the community (DLG, 1998).

5.4 CONCLUSION

The general aim of this study was to investigate the availability of recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township. Every person has a right to recreational facilities as well as a right to participate in recreation, therefore it was the aim of this study to find out if these right are honoured.

The purpose of the study was to establish whether recreation facilities for youth at Ngwelezane Township are available. The study would assist the uMhlathuze Municipality authorities to determine the various types of recreation facilities to provide for youth. It was anticipated that the study would be helpful to recreation providers to provide services that will allow youth to have a sense of achievement and recognition, and to have opportunities for recreative expression, since youth constitute the most active groups in terms of recreation participation.

The theoretical framework upon which the availability of recreation facilities for youth has been closely looked at was consulted. What has emerged is that most authors emphasise the provision of recreation for all people, irrespective of gender, colour or creed. They also emphasise provision of attractively developed recreation areas that meet the recreation needs of people to participate in recreation. These authors also emphasised the benefits of recreation to the well-being of an individual as well as of the community. Actual setting and nature of recreation areas and facilities available at Ngwelezane Township is given. It was evident that there are no special facilities for sports such as boxing, karate, athletics, cricket, rugby, swimming, golf, hockey and table tennis. Few sports facilities are being catered for, that is, the dominant sports in the Ngwelezane Township are soccer, netball and basketball because in all three of the sports fields these are provided for.

Data was collected by means of interviews and questionnaires that were administered to the youth of Ngwelezane Township to establish if they have enough recreation facilities and if these facilities are available and accessible. The method that was used appeared to be effective because the respondents were willing to participate in the study and were willing to give information on the questions that were asked. The respondents remained anonymous and high level of confidentiality was kept. The researcher tried to develop concepts, insights and understanding from patterns in the data. The comments were made on the basis of the apparent patterns and trends the responses reflect. However, most of the data presented was taken as self-explanatory and comprehensive. The questionnaire requires information from the youth on the following areas: personal information, involvement in recreation activities, personal interest and personal opinions on availability of recreation facilities or resources.

The researcher made an attempt to expose, analyse and interpret the data collected during the research process. In the analysis of data it has been noticed that there is low level of participation in recreation activities by the youth of Ngwelezane Township. It was evident that there is low involvement in recreation activities among the youth and the majority are not involved in recreation activities. It was also evident that there is a great demand of recreation facilities, with the exception of soccer and netball facilities.

Finally, conclusions and recommendations on the findings on the investigation on the provision and utilisation of recreation facilities for the youth at Ngwelezane Township, KwaZulu-Natal, were made. Everyone has a responsibility of encouraging participation in recreation activities, but without recreation facilities it is impossible to do so. The youth needs to be encouraged to stay away from the anti-social behaviours like drugs, alcoholism and crime. The best method of keeping the youth away from these anti-social behaviours is by involving them in recreation activities and providing programmes that will develop self-esteem and good character. Notwithstanding that the municipality is seen as playing a major role in the provision

of recreation facilities, it is still a serious concern that the youth do not seem to show some understanding, awareness and relevant education pertaining to recreation participation. This is the big challenge that the local government is facing. Since local municipality is the government that is closest to the people and represents the interests of the residents, it is responsible for fulfilling the developmental role. Therefore, South Africa has a role to play in the provision of recreation facilities for the youth to develop into responsible citizens.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ANC [African National Congress], (1994): *The Reconstruction and Development Programme: A Policy Framework*. Johannesburg: Umanyano Publishers and Bacon, Inc. Ball Publishers.
- Bammel, G. and Burrus-Bammel, L. (1992): *Leisure and Human Behaviour*. Dubuque, IA: Wm.C.Brown Communications.
- Black, G. and Wall, S. (1994): *Leisure and Tourism*. Singapore: Longman Group (Pty) Ltd.
- Butler, G.D. (1976): *Introduction to Community Recreation, Fifth Edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company.
- Cahill, B.R and Pearl, A.J (1993): *Intensive participation in Children's Sport*. Auckland: Human Kinetics.
- Carlson, R.E., MacLean, J.R., Deppe, T.R. and Peterson, J. (1979): *Recreation and Leisure: The Changing Scene, Third Edition*. California: Wadsworth Publishing Company, Inc.
- City of Umhlathuze (2003): *Umhlathuze Municipal Area-Statistics*. Richards Bay: City of Umhlathuze.
- City of Umhlathuze (2003): *Tourism Investment Guide Summary*. Richards Bay: City of Umhlathuze.
- Cornwell, L. (1987): *Community Development: A Phoenix too Frequent?* Africa Insight 17(2)
- Dale, G., O'Mahoney, R. and Gaster, D. (1996): *Intermediate Leisure and Tourism*. UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Danford, H.G. (1970): *Creative Leadership in Recreation*. London: Allyn and Bacon, Inc.
- De Beer, F. and Swanepoel, H. (1998): *Community Development and Beyond: Issues, Structures and Procedures*. Pretoria: J.L Van Schaik.
- DEAT [Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism], (1996): *White Paper: The Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa*. Pretoria: Government Printers of South Africa, DEAT.

- DEAT [Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism], (1997): *White Paper on Environmental Management*. Pretoria: Government of South Africa, DEAT.
- DLG [Department of Local Government] (1998): *White Paper on the Local Government*. Pretoria: Department of Local Government
- DSR [Department of Sport and Recreation] (1998a): *South African Sport Commission Act 109 Of 1998*. Pretoria: Department of Sport and Recreation.
- DSR [Department of Sport and Recreation] (1998b): *White Paper for Sport and Recreation*. Pretoria: Department of Sport and Recreation.
- Edginton, C.R., Jordan, D.J., DeGraaf, D.G. and Edginton, S.R. (1995): *Leisure and Life Satisfaction: Foundational Perspectives*. Toronto: Brown & Benchmark.
- Elvin, I.T. (1993): *Sport and Physical Recreation*. London: Longman Group UK Limited.
- Ford, P. and Blanchard, J. (1985): *Leadership and Administration of Outdoor Pursuits*. London: Venture Publishing, Inc.
- Gibson, J., Macintyre, E., Wood, I., and Kemp, K. (1997): *Leisure and Recreation*. Essex: Longman.
- Gold, S.M. (1980): *Recreation Planning and Design*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book.
- Goodale, T.L. and Witt, P.A. (1985): *Recreation and Leisure: Issues In An Era of Change*. London: Venture Publishing, Inc.
- Hall, C.M. (2000): *Tourism Planning: Policies, Processes and Relationships*. London: Prentice-Hall.
- Hall, C.M. and Page, S.J. (1999): *The Geography of Tourism and Recreation: Environment, place and space*. London: Routledge.
- Hawkins, J.M. (1998): *The South African Oxford School Dictionary*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.
- <http://www.sportandrecreation.gov.za> [Online] Sports and Recreation [Accessed on 05.01.2006]
- <http://www.mweb.co.za/search/default>. [Online] Recreation and Tourism. [Accessed on 26.07.2005]
- <http://www.durban.co.za/factfile>. [Online] Durban's Fact File. [Accessed on 13-12-2005].

- <http://www.durban.gov.za> [Online] Durban Metropolitan Tourism Website [Accessed on 13-12-2005]
- <http://www.environment.gov.za> [Online] Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Website. [Accessed on 13-12-2005]
- <http://www.gcis.gov.za> [Online] 2006/2007 South Africa Yearbook: 20 – Sport and Recreation, Website [Accessed on 20-02-2007]
- Ibrahim, H. and Cordes, K.A. (1993): *Outdoor Recreation*. Melbourne: Brown & Benchmark Publishers.
- Isaacs, S. and Michael, W.B. (1981): *Handbook in Research and Evaluation*. San Diego: Edits Publishers.
- Iso-Asola, S.E. (1980): *The Social Psychology of Leisure and Recreation*. Dubuque: Wm.C.Brown.
- Kay, T. and Jackson, G (1991): *Leisure Despite Constraint: The Impact of Leisure Constraints on Leisure Participation*. London: Taylor and Francis Group.
- Kelly, J.R. (1987): *Recreation Trends: Towards the Year 2000*. Illinois: Management Learning Laboratories.
- Keyser, H. (2002): *Tourism Development*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Kraus, R.G. and Curtis, J.E. (1986): *Creative Management in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services, Fourth Edition*. Toronto: Times Mirror/Mosby College Publishing.
- Kraus, R. (1978): *Recreation and Leisure in Modern Society, Second Edition*. California: Goodyear Publishing Co. Inc.
- KZNTA [KwaZulu-Natal Tourism Authority] 2000: *An Introduction to Community Centred Tourism*. Durban: KwaZulu-Natal Tourism Authority.
- Lieber, S.R. and Fesenmaier, D.R (1983): *Recreation Planning and Management*. London: E & F.N Spon Ltd.
- Magi, L.M (1986): *Black People's Cognitions of Natural Recreation Resources in the Natal North-Coast Region*. Unpublished Ph.D Thesis, KwaDlangezwa: University of Zululand.
- Magi, L.M. (1989a): Cognition of Natural Recreation Resources Through Photographic Images. *South African Geographical Journal*. Vol. 71(2): 67-73.

- Magi, L.M. (1989b): Cognized Use of Natural Recreation Resources: A Black Perspective. *Development Southern Africa*. 1989. Vol 6(3): 326-339.
- Magi, L. M. (1992a): Cognised use of natural recreation resources: A Black perspective. *Development of Southern Africa*. Vol.6 (3): 326-339.
- Magi, L.M. (1992b): *Outdoor Recreation Perception Changes since the Repeal of the Separate Amenities Act in South Africa*. A paper presented at the 27th International Geographical Conference of the IGU Conference. Washington DC 9-14 August 1992.
- Magi, L.M. (1999a): Township Recreation Patterns and the new order in South Africa. *Tourism Geographies*. Vol.1(3):142-163.
- Magi, LM. (1999b): People, Recreation and the Environment. In Fox, R and Rowntree, K. [Ed.] *Geography of South Africa in a Changing World*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press, pp 145 –169.
- Magi, L. M. (2000a): *Guidelines on Writing a Doctoral Thesis (ART800)*. Unpublished Workbook. Durban-Umlazi Campus: University of Zululand.
- Magi, L.M. (2000b): *Domestic Tourism and the Sea in South Africa: Patterns and Perceptions*. In Umbelino, J. [Ed]: *Sustainable Tourism*. Lisbon: Departamento de Geography e Planeamento Regional, pp 207-223.
- Magi, L.M. (2001): *Tourism Safety and Security in KwaZulu-Natal: Perception, Reality and Prospects*. Paper presented at the International Geographical Union's Commission Conference, held in Cheju, Korea, August 9-13, 2000.
- Magi, L.M. and Nzama, A.T (2002): Perspectives on Recreation and Tourism Geographies in South Africa. In Fairhurst, J.; Maharaj, B. and Magi, LM [Ed]: *In Transition: Geography and South Africa at the Dawn of the Millennium*. *South African Geographical Journal*. Vol.: 84 (1) 112-128.
- Magi, L.M. (2002): *Resource Management Module Handout [Art 701/501]* Durban-Umlazi Campus: University of Zululand.
- Magi, L.M. (2004): *Planning. Policies and Governance in Recreation Studies: A manuscript*, KwaDlangezwa: University of Zululand.

- Magi, L.M. (2004): *Statistical Techniques and Field Research in the Spatial Sciences: A manuscript*, KwaDlangezwa: University of Zululand.
- MDA [Municipal Demarcation Act] (1999): *Municipal Demarcation Act No.27 of 1999. Government Gazette*. Cape Town: Government Printers.
- MSA [Municipal Systems Act] (2002): *Municipal Systems Act Act No.32 of 2002. Government Gazette*. Cape Town: Government Printers.
- Mwandla, N.D. (2002): *The Planning and Management of Outdoor Recreation Systems in KwaZulu-Natal: Policy, Practice and Perception*. Unpublished PhD Thesis, Durban-Umlazi: University of Zululand.
- Neulinger, J (1981): *To Leisure: An Introduction*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Ngcobo, N.R. (1998): *The Provision of Recreation Facilities for the Youth in Umlazi Township: A Socio-spatial Perspective*. Unpublished MRT Dissertation, Durban-Umlazi: University of Zululand.
- Ngcobo, N.R. (2004): *The Provision of Recreation Services for the Aged in the Durban Metropolitan Area*. Unpublished PhD Thesis, KwaDlangezwa : University of Zululand.
- Oosthuizen, G.C. (2004): *Sport and Recreation: Budget Speech*. Pretoria: South African Government Information.
- Pigrams, J.J. and Jenkins, J.M. (1999): *Outdoor Recreation Management*. London: Routledge.
- Pittman, K.J. (1991): *Promoting Youth Development: Strengthening the Role of Youth Serving Community Organizations*. New York: Centre for Youth Development and Policy Research.
- Scales, P. (1991): *A Portrait of Young Adolescents in the 1990s*. Carborro: Center for Early Adolescence.
- Schlemmer, L. (1988): *Outdoor Sport and Recreation Needs in Greater Durban*. Durban: The Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission.
- Simeon, R. (1976): *Studying Public Policy. Canadian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 9(4): 557-568.
- Shivers, J.S. (1978): *Essentials of Recreational Services*. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger

- Stein, J (1996): *The Random House Dictionary of the English Language*. New York: Random House Press.
- Taylor, S.J and Bogdan, R. (1984): *Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Tillman, K.G., Voltmer, E.F., Esslinger, A.A. and McCue B.F. (1996): *The Administration of Physical Education, Sport and Leisure Programs, Sixth Edition*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon
- Torkildsen, G. (2001): *Leisure and Recreation Management, Fourth Edition*. London: Spon Press.
- Towner, J. (1996): *A Historical Geography of Recreation and Tourism in the Western World 1540-1940*. New York: John Wiley & Sons
- Tuckman, B.W. (1978): *Conducting Educational Research, Second Edition*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jonavich, Inc.
- Umhlatuze City Municipal Council, (2003): *Umhlatuze Municipal Area Statistics*. Richards Bay: Norma Beyl & Associates.
- Veal, A.J (1997): *Planning for Leisure: Past, Present and Future*. London: Belhaven Press.
- Weiskopf, D.C. (1975): *A Guide to Recreation and Leisure*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc.
- Whitten,J.L. (1994): *Systems Analysis and Methods*. Burr Ridge: Irwin Publishers.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX- A

QUESTIONNAIRE

I am S.D Sibeko, doing research with Centre for Recreation and Tourism at the University of Zululand. I ask for your help in filling this questionnaire. The information you provide will only be used for research purposes. Please be honest and this will be kept confidential.

NB:

This questionnaire should be answered by youth whose age is from 10 to 29

A PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Gender:

Male	01	Female	02
------	----	--------	----

2. Age:

10 – 14	01	15 - 19	02
20 – 24	03	25 - 29	04

3. Educational Level:

Did not attend school	01	Grade 1 - 3	02
Grade 4 – 6	03	Grade 7 - 9	04
Grade 10-12	05	Post Matric Certificate	06
Post Matric Diploma	07	Degree	08
Other (specify) _____			09

4. Marital Status:

Single	01	Married	02
--------	----	---------	----

5. Occupational Status

Working	01	Not Working	02
---------	----	-------------	----

6. Where do you stay?

With parents	01	In my flat	02
In my house	03	With my relatives	04
Other place (specify)	05		

7. Are you a member of a youth organization, association or club?

Yes	01	No	02
-----	----	----	----

(a) If yes, what is the name of the organization, association or club?

Organization		01
Association		02
Club		03
Other (specify)		04

(b) If no, do you intend to associate yourself or become a member of an organization, association or club?

Yes	01	No	02	I do not know	03
-----	----	----	----	---------------	----

B INVOLVEMENT IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES

8. Which of the following would you say fits your understanding of recreation?

Refreshing yourself	01
Entertaining yourself at your determined pace	02
Enjoying yourself during your free time	03
Involving yourself in sport, games and play	04
Travelling to places and sightseeing	05
Being with yourself during your free time	06
Engaging in activities from which you can derive pleasure and personal growth	07
Any other (specify)	08

9. Which of the following fits better your understanding of leisure?

Time when you do not know what to do	01
Time when you are involved in recreation activities	02
Time when you are free from work and doing nothing	03
Time when you are not working but resting	04
Time when you are free from daily chores	05
Time left over after work	06
Any other (specify)	07

10. Do you have free time at your disposal?

Yes	01	No	02
-----	----	----	----

11. Approximately how much free time would you say you have per day?

1 – 3 hours	01	4 – 6 hours	02
7 – 9 hours	03	10 hours and above	04

12. Where do you spend most of your free time?

At home	01	At my friend's place	02
At the social club	03	At the sportsfield	04

13. Are you involved in any recreation activities?

Yes	01	No	02
-----	----	----	----

14. If yes, what type of recreation activities are you engaged in?

Walking for pleasure	01
Swimming	02
Jogging	03
Dancing	04
Participate in sports events	05
Shopping	06
Gymnastics	07
Driving for pleasure	08
Playing board games	09
Other (specify)	10

15. Passive Recreation Activities

Watching television	01
Listening to radio programmes	02
Watching movies at a cinema	03
Watching drama shows at the theatre	04
Being a spectator at sports events	05
Being a spectator at music festival	06

Other (specify)_____	07
----------------------	----

16. If not, please give reasons.

Lack of interest	01	Lack of knowledge	02
Lack of money	03	Other(specify)_____	04

17. What type of recreation activities would you like to engage yourself in?

Active recreation	01	Passive recreation	02
-------------------	----	--------------------	----

18. Are there any recreation activities to pursue your recreation activities near your place of residence?

Yes	01	No	02	I do not know	03
-----	----	----	----	---------------	----

19. What mode of transport do you use when going for recreation?

Private car	01	Public transport	02
Club transport	03	Walk to the place	04
Other(specify)_____			05

20. How would you rate your interest in engaging in the following types of recreation activities?

Very much interested	01	Fair	02	Not interested	03
----------------------	----	------	----	----------------	----

01	Educational activities	3	2	1
02	Active sports and games	3	2	1
03	Quiet activities	3	2	1
04	Community service activities	3	2	1
05	Visiting attractions	3	2	1

21. Where would you like the recreation facilities for your recreation activities to be located?

Near my place of residence	01	Nearby town	02
In the most accessible area	03	Other(specify) _____	04

22. How much are you prepared to pay to access a recreation facility in order to participate?

R3.00 to R6.00 per day	01
R7.00 to R10.00 per day	02
Other amount (specify) _____	03

23. Which recreation facilities are provided by the local council in your place of residence that may be used by youth for recreation?

Athletics field	01	Soccer field	02
Dancing halls	03	Netball courts	04
Tennis courts	05	Swimming pools	06
Parks	07	Community halls	08
Rugby fields	09	Cricket fields	10

24. How far are recreation facilities from your place of residence?

Less than 1km	01	01 - 03km	02
04 – 06km	03	07 – 09km	04
10 – 12km	05	13km and above	06

C PERSONAL OPINION

25. What would you say about the availability of recreation facilities for youth in your area?

Many	01	Few	02
Fairly sufficient	03	Not there at all	04

26. Would you say the youth in your area would like to be provided with recreation facilities that they can use during their leisure time?

Yes	01	No	02
Not sure	03	I do not know	04

27. Would you say youth in your area are interested in participating in recreation activities?

Yes	01	No	02
Not sure	03	I do not know	04

28. Do you think the participation of youth in various recreation activities benefit them in one way or the other?

Yes	01	No	02
Not sure	03	I do not know	04

29. What is your opinion on the following statements:

The youth benefit **physically** by participating in recreation activities.

Fully agree	01	Agree	02
Disagree	03	Fully disagree	04

30. What is your opinion on the following statements:

The youth benefit **socially** by participating in recreation activities.

Fully agree	01	Agree	02
Disagree	03	Fully disagree	04

31. What is your opinion on the following statements:

The youth benefit **educationally** by participating in recreation activities.

Fully agree	01	Agree	02
Disagree	03	Fully disagree	04

32. What is your opinion on the following statement :

The youth benefit **emotionally** by participating in recreation activities.

Fully agree	01	Agree	02
Disagree	03	Fully disagree	04

33. What role do you think the following organizations play in providing recreation facilities for the youth in your area?

Major role	5	Satisfactory	4	Minor role	3	No role	2	Not sure	1
------------	---	--------------	---	------------	---	---------	---	----------	---

01	The local Municipality	5	4	3	2	1
02	Youth clubs or associations	5	4	3	2	1
03	Profit making organizations	5	4	3	2	1
04	Non-profit making organizations	5	4	3	2	1

34. How much per month as a membership subscription fee will you be prepared to pay to become a recreation club member to participate in different recreation activities?

R20	01	R30	02	R40	03	R50	04
Any other amount (specify) _____							05

35. The lack of participation by youth in physical recreation activities is caused by the lack of recreation facilities in their local area.

Fully agree	01	Agree	02
Disagree	03	Fully disagree	04

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
YOUR CO-OPERATION IS HIGHLY APPRECIATED.

APPENDIX - B

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

**University of
Zululand:**

**CENTRE FOR RECREATION
& TOURISM**



Private Bag X1001

KwaDlangezwa 3886

South Africa

Tel: 035 902 6000

Fax: 035-902 6073

Ref:

1 August 2005

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir /Madam

RE: REQUEST TO CONDUCT RESEARCH

Mrs S.D Sibeko is full-time student of the Centre for Recreation and Tourism at the University of Zululand. He is doing the Masters in Recreation and Tourism [MRT]. The attached questionnaire is part of his research project seeking to establish the promotion and development of recreation facilities at the Umhlathuze Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal, as well as whether the authorities can empower local communities with the promotion and development of recreation facilities and activities. The title of the research project is:

**" THE PROVISION AND UTILISATION OF RECREATION FACILITIES
FOR THE YOUTH AT NGWELEZANE TOWNSHIP,
KWAZULU-NATAL"**

This research inquiry is undertaken mainly for academics purposes among the Umhlathuze Local Municipality stakeholders. It is hoped that the findings of the study will make a meaningful contribution to the fields of recreation, as well as the understanding of this industry among local people and KwaZulu-Natal as a whole.

All information collected from you through this questionnaire will be kept in strict confidence.

Your assistance in this regard will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

L.M. Magi (Prof.)
Co-ordinator MRT-PDRT Programme
Centre for Recreation and Tourism
University of Zululand

cc. Mrs S.D Sibeko (Researcher)