

**THE MANIFESTATIONS OF
LEARNING SUPPORT IN THE LIVES
OF HIGH SCHOOL LEARNERS**

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**THE MANIFESTATIONS OF
LEARNING SUPPORT IN THE LIVES
OF HIGH SCHOOL LEARNERS**

by

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PRETORIA
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*THIS THESIS IS DEDICATED TO
my late father, Peter Nwoyeoka Nwobu and my late mother, Monica Nwatoka Nwobu
whose love for literacy awoke in them the desire
and wish for me to attain this level of education, that I may become
a source of motivation and encouragement to children around me.
My husband BI, and my daughters Ona and Chioma, whose love and support
strengthened me through the course of the study.*

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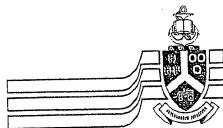
DECLARATION

I, M.R.N. Nwanna (student number 24272346), declare that:

“The manifestations of learning support in the lives of high school learners”

is my original work and that all the sources that were consulted and quoted have been acknowledged in the reference list.

M.R.N. NWANNA
September 2006



UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

DEGREE AND PROJECT

CLEARANCE NUMBER :

EP06/09/09

PhD (Learning support and Guidance)
Manifestations of learning support for high school learners

INVESTIGATOR(S)

M R N Nwana

DEPARTMENT

Educational Psychology

DATE CONSIDERED

22 October 2004

DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE

APPROVED

This ethical clearance is valid for *years and may be renewed upon application*

CHAIRPERSON OF ETHICS COMMITTEE

Dr S Human-Vogel

Handwritten signature of Dr S Human-Vogel.

DATE

19 – 09- 2006

CC

Ms Jeannie Beukes
Prof I Eloff

This ethical clearance certificate is issued subject to the following conditions:

1. A signed personal declaration of responsibility
2. If the research question changes significantly so as to alter the nature of the study, a new application for ethical clearance must be submitted
3. It remains the students' responsibility to ensure that all the necessary forms for informed consent are kept for future queries.

Please quote the clearance number in all enquiries.

SUMMARY

The study is a qualitative explanation of the manifestations of learning support in the lives of high school learners experiencing barriers to learning. The primary research question that guided this study was: *How does learning support manifest itself in the lives of high school learners?* Nine learners repeating grade nine were sampled to participate in the study. Co-participating were nine family members, seven educators and the principal. Interviews and observations were conducted to determine the nature of barriers to learning experienced by high school learners, and the ways in which learning support manifests in their lives. Theme analysis was then used to analyze the data collected. This process yielded two main themes, e.g. *barriers to learning* and *manifestations of learning support*. The two main themes were then further divided into eight sub-themes and fourteen categories.

The findings of the study are articulated in terms of the ecosystemic perspective, which then indicated that barriers to learning issued from factors related to learners, educators, families, the education system and society. The sub-themes and categories that emerged on barriers to learning are discussed in detail in the thesis. The study further revealed that learning support manifests in diverse ways for the participants in this study, i) in terms of knowledge about and the availability of learning support, ii) in terms of guidance, advice, motivation, encouragement and one-on-one support, iii) in terms of extra classes, extra work and assistance with schoolwork and finally, iv) in terms of the mobilization of available resources. In conclusion, the study illustrates that there is low consistency in the ways in which learning support manifests in the lives of the learners in the study. It also shows a lack of formal avenues that can be accessed for learning support by the learners experiencing barriers to learning.

Keywords

Barriers to learning	Learning difficulties
Causes of learning difficulties	Learning
High school learner	Motivation to learn
Learner	One-on-one support
Learning support	Parental involvement

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