

Nwabisa Mona

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Personal Summary

I am a young, dynamic and all-rounded scholar. I am ambitious, hard-working, charismatic and enthusiastic individual, I am goal-orientated, multi-talented and a visionary. My objective it is to take up a challenge where I can grow personally and professionally through honesty, loyalty and best performance. Moreover, where I can translate my knowledge, skills and abilities into value for the organization. Furthermore, to achieve high career growth through on-going learning process, active engagement and keep myself dynamic, competitive most importantly to keep myself visionary to be a great asset and scholar in the academia world. I have gained knowledge on demographic techniques and modelling, population studies, various methods of data analysis. Furthermore, I have gained knowledge on community and development theories and principles, report writing and project management. Moreover, I have gained experience as a young scholar through presenting academic papers at local and international conferences, writing academic papers and developing a manuscript.

Education

- 2021-Currently: PhD student in Public Health Medicine (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- 2017-2019: Masters in Population Studies (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- 2014-2017: Bachelor of Community and Development Studies (University of KwaZulu- Natal)

Masters Research Abstract

Background: Children with severe illnesses and disability are often left in the cold out-side the functional governing social welfare systems and this escalates the unmet need of this population. There is less focus on the social and health wellbeing of this subset population which is influenced by the lack of integrated, effective and inclusive policies in the social welfare systems. The barriers and disparities are widening, this is influenced by inadequate disability mainstreaming. This study describes the accessibility to social welfare services such as health, education, and social services, in the comparison between two subset populations. The aim of this study is to reinforce the importance of establishing and implementing effective inclusive policies and disability mainstreaming in all government social welfare systems. Research design and methods: The data was extracted from NIDS Wave 4, the children and two weighted questionnaires, were merged using the unique household identifier. The stratified sampling was used, and sample size (n) was 13047 this consisted of strata one children with severe illness or disability 562(n) and strata two children with no form of disability 12485 (n). The Pearson Chi² (was used to test for significance between independent variables such as demographic, health and education in relation to the dependent variables such as severely ill or disability in children and no disability in children, analyzed using STATA version 14 under $P < 0.05$. Results: There was a high prevalence rate of disability and severe illnesses in children under 17 years of age which

accounted for 5.2% under Odds Ratio between [4.413, 6.138] and a statistical significance was found between health, demographics, social and education indicators in association with the epidemics. Conclusion and Policy implications: The findings of this study suggest that there is a need for the implementation of effective inclusive policies in social welfare systems to achieve inclusive development and disability mainstreaming in alignment with SDGs vision 2030 and Africa agenda 2063 to meet the unmet needs of children with disabilities and severe illness and to create a positive and sustainable livelihood in the principle of leaving no one behind.

Knowledge areas Qualification:

Master of Population Studies

- Demographic Methods I
- Demographic Methods II
- Sexual Reproductive Health
- Introduction to Population Studies
- Migration and Urbanization
- Fertility and Nuptuality
- Population and Development
- HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa
- Population and Health
- SA Development Problems and Policies
- Social Policy
- Political Economy of the welfare state
- Quantitative Methods and design [Research Methods 2]
- Qualitative Methods and design [Research Methods 1]

Qualification: Bachelor of Community and Development Studies

- Academic Learning in English
- Introduction to Community Development Theory
- Fundamental Criminology A
- Introduction to Sociology
- Culture and Society in Africa
- Institutions in Community Development
- Fundamental Criminology B
- Introduction to South African Society
- Development Theories
- Capitalism and Development
- Classical Sociology Theory
- Introduction to IsiZulu A
- Community Economic Development
- Programme/Project Planning
- Development in Southern Africa
- Social Change
- Issues in Community Development

- Community Profiling
- Population and Community Development
- Community Based Learning
- Local Governments and Community Development

Technical Competencies

- Good analytical and planning skills.
- Good Accuracy and attention to details.
- Excellent problem analysis.
- Excellent judgement according to the situation
- Excellent time management skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Excellent work ethic
- Statistics survey and census [Complex Longitudinal Survey data and analyzing census] Stata, SPSS, Excel
- NviVo
- Quantitative Research Methods
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Microsoft Office [Powerpoint, Word and Excel]
- Writing academic papers
- Report writing
- Demography
- Population Science
- Innovative
- Service-focused
- Creativity

Languages

- isiXhosa: Highly Proficient in speaking and writing
- English: Highly Proficient in speaking and writing
- isiZulu: Very good command

Academic Achievements

- Listed on Top 10 Grade 8 to Grade 12
- Awarded an African Scholars Fund Bursary Grade 9 to Grade 12
- 2011 Awarded an Ubuntu Scholar of the year Trophy [Ubuntu Pathways]
- Grade 10 to Grade 12 listed on Top 5 to attend Star School provided by Engen Maths and Science School [Nelson Mandela University]
- 2013 listed on Top 6 to present Khwezi Lomso Comprehensive School and other top learners from selective schools to attend Rhodes University Visit
- 2013 listed on Top 5 selected and sponsored to attend the Khwezi Lomso Alumni Gala Dinner
- 2013 Selected among top learners sponsored to attend Trac Summer School (North Campus NMU)
- 2013 Selected as one of the top learners to part of Ubuntu Future Leaders Programme
- 2014 to 2018 Awarded Ubuntu Scholarship [Ubuntu Pathways]

- 2019 won 3rd Prize on Best Oral Presenter Award (Research Paper) of Top 5 at 14th annual Population Association of Southern Africa Conference
- 2019 Award Outstanding academic performance award in Social Policy
- 2021 Awarded the NRF Full Doctoral Scholarship

Notable Activities

- Received a certificate of participation on IPUMS Census and Survey Microdata Workshop in conjunction with the 8th APC Entebbe Uganda [18 to 22 November 2019]

Conferences

- Participant/Presenter [Student Researcher]: presented a paper at 14th Annual Population Association of Southern Africa 2019. Title: Demographic and Socioeconomic profile of severely ill and disabled children in South Africa. Funded by Population Association of Southern Africa
- Participant/Presenter [Student Researcher]: Invited and Selected to present academic paper at an international conference [8th International African Population Conference in Entebbe, Uganda 18 to 22 November 2019] funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and University of KwaZulu-Natal. Title: Demographic and Socioeconomic profile of severely ill and disabled children in South Africa
- Participant/Presenter [Student Researcher]: Invited to present an academic paper at ISI World Statistics Congress 2021 a virtual conference. Title: Demographic and Socioeconomic profile of severely ill and disabled children in South Africa. Funded by ISI World Statistics Congress.
- Participant/Presenter [Student Researcher]: Invited to present an academic paper at the Asian Population Association Conference 2021 (Virtual). Title: Demographic and Socioeconomic profile of severely ill and disabled children in South Africa

Leadership roles

- Class Monitor (Prefect) Grade 11 (2012)
- Class Monitor (Prefect) Grade 12 (2013)

Associations

- Community Development Association UKZN (Member 2016-2017)
[Team Building Activities, Social Awareness programs in Rural Schools, Public speaking and debate sessions with high school students (groups of 2), Fundraising for high school camp (Held in Edgewood Campus)]
- International Union for Scientific Study of Population (Student member) [2018- Current]
- Population Association of Southern Africa (Student member) [2019-current]

Volunteering experience

- Volunteered at Qeduvanzi Home and Frail Care (Inanda Newtown C in KwaZulu-Natal) August 2016 with the responsibilities such as Shoprite sponsorship writing for soup and bread, assisted in a mobile clinic, clothes fundraising (Children and Young Adults)
- Volunteered at Zwile Youth Advisory Centre (Umsobomvu) June 2016, with responsibilities such as established and created a constitution for the Black Fishers Human Rights Association (BFHRA), assisted in registering BFHRA as an NPO, data capturing of the fishers pays lip with the Researcher (Mrs. Ina Senekal) from Nelson Mandela University Vista Campus, notes taking at the meeting with the Minister of Fishing and Forestry (Mr. Bheki Cele) and Nelson Mandela Bay Department of Fishing and Forestry and notetaking at the meeting between the community and the regional officer from the public protector's office.

