

Chapter 7

The Contribution of Community Education Towards Minimising Ritual Murder in the Community for Good Social Order

Avhurengwi Samson Mabade
Walter Sisulu University, South Africa

ABSTRACT

An individualistic education can hardly minimize community-based problems; hence, community education could play a magnificent role towards reducing community-based problems. Although the literature about community education appears to be in abundance, the literature about community education and community-based problems seems to be few. For this study, the researcher's aim is to strengthen and sustain a responsibly coherent community to minimize ritual murder through community education. The researcher adopted a participatory action research approach to involve community members in the fight against ritual murder in their community. The researcher employed qualitative techniques to collect data. Twenty-two (22) participants were selected purposively. The participants formed a focus group that had discussions and interviews. The study concluded that ritual murder is a serious community-based problem threatening communities. Community education is recommended to modernize culture and tradition for reducing ritual murder.

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-6684-6625-4.ch007

BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION TO THE PROBLEM

This chapter provides ritual murder as one of Community-Based problems. Ritual murder seems to be one of Community-Based problems in most of the African countries more especially in rural areas. This practice entails the killing of the most vulnerable people including people with disabilities, women, and children. The literature about ritual murder is available but the critical and crucial part towards the solution to the problem seems not enough, more especially the solution by community members themselves. It is crystal clear that the solution to the problem is amongst community members themselves. The majority of people in the rural community appear to be still at the level of general knowledge. These people still believe that human body parts could contribute significantly towards the improvement of the quality of their lives irrespective of work and education achieved. In rural community, most of the people seem to be left on their own trying to reinvent a wheel in a time-wasting fashion. If one wants to reinvent an organization to meet challenges, one should start by the people who make up that organization. Therefore, community members should be empowered to be critical enough. A critical thinker identifies and challenges any assumption as well as myth. Salisbury and Roberts (2012), this killing is motivated by the belief that human body parts can be used for medicinal purposes and supernatural powers that bring prosperity and protection. In countries such as Nigeria, Uganda, Swaziland, Liberia, Botswana, Tanzania, Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, such killing is rife or predominant.

Ritual murder and related human rights abuses occurs in African countries because the majority of people still believe that the use of charms and the performance of ritual sacrifice can fortify them spiritually, enhance their fortunes in business and during elections or protect them from harm, disease, poverty, accident, death or destruction (IHEU,2010). The researcher agrees with Salisbury and Roberts (2012) and IHEU (2010) that the majority of African people do not believe that education could improve their lives rather than ritual killing of other people. It is crystal clear that the level of education could also contribute towards the ritual killings. Therefore, this remains the responsibility of the community members themselves to reduce this pandemic of ritual murder. In Britain, a boy was killed for muti purpose and genitals were removed. That boy was taken from Nigeria so that the practice could occur away. Although it is not easy to investigate such cases, so many Nigerians were arrested in 2003 in connection with the ritual murder of this boy (Encyclopedia,2021). People believe that drinking blood and practicing cannibalism can help them to achieve power and immortality. African belief is complex and mysterious. African people have illusion about their beliefs. Vast factors contribute towards this practice of killing people for a number of beliefs such as robbery and luck. The robbers' belief that ritualized waste or water which was used to wash the dead body could be used

16 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: www.igi-global.com/chapter/the-contribution-of-community-education-towards-minimising-ritual-murder-in-the-community-for-good-social-order/326716

Related Content

Evolutionary Game Theory: In the Context of Waste Management and Supply for Chain Decision-Making

Arij Michel (2021). *International Journal of Circular Economy and Waste Management* (pp. 20-28).

www.irma-international.org/article/evolutionary-game-theory/281610

Consumer Social Responsibility (CnSR) in the Circular Economy of Global Value Chains: What Does It Mean, and Why Does It Matter?

Guli-Sanam Karimova and Stephen Arthur LeMay (2022). *International Journal of Circular Economy and Waste Management* (pp. 1-19).

www.irma-international.org/article/consumer-social-responsibility-cnssr-in-the-circular-economy-of-global-value-chains/302207

Classification and Management of Commercial Vehicle Production

Jiang Zhi (2021). *International Journal of Circular Economy and Waste Management* (pp. 16-19).

www.irma-international.org/article/classification-and-management-of-commercial-vehicle-production/281609

Technology Gap: Information and Communication Technology Trade and Sustainability Issues in India

Ritu Rana, Manoj Sharma and Ajay Singh (2022). *Handbook of Research on Developing Circular, Digital, and Green Economies in Asia* (pp. 415-438).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/technology-gap/286424

Sustainability of Public Finance of Rentier States

Lukman Raimi and Abdussalam Aljadani (2023). *Research Anthology on Macroeconomics and the Achievement of Global Stability* (pp. 1028-1047).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/sustainability-of-public-finance-of-rentier-states/310879