**Semi-structured interview schedule**

**Date: 12/06/22**

**Signature of researcher: JL**

**Name of participant: James (Gr. 9 student)**

1. Briefly tell me about your choral singing experience. **Which choirs have you sung in** and **how long have you been a member in the Kearsney College Choir**?

I have been in the **Kearsney College Choir since the beginning of grade eight** which was last year. The reason I joined the choir is that I felt that **I wanted to be involved in the school more culturally**. **I came here on an academic and sports scholarship, but I thought I just wanted to extend my involvement in the school**. I have not sung in any other choirs. **This is the first choir** I am participating in.

1. Explain your initial reasons for wanting to join the Kearsney College Choir.

When I was still in primary school, which is just down the road from Kearsney College, I **used to come and watch the choir here**. My mom told me that **this choir use to go overseas on tours** and all of that. I then said I wanted to do that. **I joined the choir of the reputation that it has**. It was also a **nice choir, it was amazing, and the movements are so fun, and the singers always looked like they were enjoying it and it looked very cool to me, and that was the reason I joined**.

1. What are some of the highlights (if any) of being a member of the Kearsney College Choir?

Just ‘jolling’ **[having fun]** if I’m allowed to use that word. When you sing and you hear the **drums playing, you can jam to it, and everyone is having fun** which is awesome like that and that is the best part of being in the choir.

1. How does choral singing make you feel? **Explain in detail**.

The song we just did is for Ukraine, and it **felt very deep**, especially with what is happening there. It is a **way to show emotion** and it is nice like that.

1. Do you have friends in the choir? If so, how important are these friendships to you?

I **have lots of friends in the choir**. It is awesome because **it is another way for a friend, to form a brother and brotherhood**. There is like a sports brotherhood, but this is a different kind of brotherhood in the choir. It is awesome like that; **we are going overseas, and I will be with them for a while**. They are good friends of mine, and they will be forever. They are part of it, they have gone on adventures with me, they have been chilling with me, and **we have a lot in common**.

1. Do the members of the Kearsney College Choir share a unique brotherhood (separate from the rest of the school)? **Elaborate**.

I think they do. It is one of the bigger cultural groups, but it is different from the sports groups and all of that. Being in the choir does not mean that you must be big and strong like the first team rugby or being tall for basketball and all of that. **In the choir you can be from anywhere, you can be short and small, you can be tall and huge, you do not have to be an academic to be in the choir, you can come from anywhere**. I think **it is more special like that**. **Everyone can contribute and plays a big role**.

1. Do you think singing in a choir can bring diverse cultures together, and if so how, and if not, why do you think that is?

I think that you can bring diverse qualities and cultures. Looking at myself, **I am not like Zulu**. **We would sing Zulu songs, and my Zulu mates would be singing Afrikaans songs, so I think you learn about different languages and cultures by going to the choir.**

1. How do you experience cultural integration (if any) within the choir?

I feel **it is awesome**. **I feel like I am part of something more and I am learning at the same time**. **The movements and stuff we do, it is a different way of dancing than how I imagined dancing** would be. Their culture, Zulu, and other cultures have taught me a new way of doing it.

1. Could you explain what you value most of being a choir member of the Kearsney College Choir? **Elaborate**.

**It is obviously a lot of work, but after this, the reward is far greater than all the hardships that come before**. Afterward, the memories that we will have you won’t remember the bad parts of waking up early [for choir camp] instead of staying at home chilling, we went and worked for it. You will not remember that, **you will remember going overseas with your brothers and we are going to remember having a good time with them on stage**.

1. Have you ever experienced personal negativity because of singing in a choir (Kearsney or other)? **Explain**.

**No not in this choir**.

1. What are some of the benefits of singing in a choir for you?

**It is a new experience**. It is not like being on a sports field, **it is a new team and I think it is a different way of having fun too**. It is **a new brotherhood**. **You learn more about the people and it is a different way of being in a team**.

1. What are some of the disadvantages of singing in a choir?

Unfortunately, some people think the choir can be strange, or not sport, that is the problem with schools in South Africa. Everything is towards rugby and sports. **I think it isn’t as respected as much as a sport at Kearsney**. To be honest, the choir is sort of respected here.

1. What motivates you to continuously participate in choral singing?

After you have **learned a song and you have performed it, I enjoy the feeling of patting myself on the back and that I have learned those moves and memorized those words while having fun at the same time with my brothers, that is what I value**.