LECTURER 1

SECTION B INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

**Would you kindly share your understanding of the concept absenteeism with me**?

ah well absenteeism I'll just share with my own experience how I understand it, absenteeism is when you unable to come, or I will say at college or to come to school more especially if you are dealing with students. if you unable to report to school due to certain reasons or due to you not wanting to come to school so I can say basically it's all that not being able to come to school. OK.

**What is your experience of absenteeism amongst the NCV students in your college?**

As an NCV lecturer, I am a life orientation lecture or rather life skills and Computer literacy. It is so bad, the attendance is very bad to extent that you even your person you take your own personal resources to make conduct to students so NCV student, normally if I will say out of 100% the attendance in a week, it will go to even less than 50% attendance that you usually experience in class so is very bad experience with NCV student. Absenteeism is something that we are struggling with year in and year out, it is very bad.

**From your experience, what factors have you found to be influencing absenteeism amongst the NCV student in your college?**

Most of students, they always reason with the issue of not having money to come to school. uh the reason being that NSFS normally pay out late to student so you find that they don't even have money to come to school and they also reason with the issue of Prasa (transport: train) because even the train is no longer working so it kind of very expensive for students to travel coming to school, that is one of the reasons that they usually reason with and also most of the reason is from our female student, they will usually say my kid was sick I was taking my kid to the doctor there was no one to look after my kid so it is more family responsibilities that they also reason with. The third issue that they also reason with is the issue of health status because some of them there are not work so maybe in a month they'll have to go to hospital for checkups maybe three times in a month or even two times in a month so those are the three basic issues that they normally encounter.

**What have you found to be the effect of absenteeism amongst the NCV students?**

The effect is more of NSFAS, if the issue of NSFAS can be resolved that maybe before they even start attending classes and then they get their first day out so that it can push them for the whole month to come to school, so one of the most effect is money because when they Register here in TVET colleges we visually tell them about NSFAS so then all their hope is there. So when they don't get that money it affects also their attendance that's why we have so much rate of absenteeism so the effect is more into money than anything else.

**From your personal perspective, how do you support the NCV students that show signs of absenteeism?**

the support I can say from us lecturers, uhm, it's minimal because like I said, it is more of financial problems so there and then you can offer them whatever that you have maybe if the students say I don't have money and I'm writing a test, as lecturers we usually take our last cents to offer those students. Also what we do, in my class I had designed some sort of affidavit for student to sign where there supposed to tell why they were absent from class or previously or whatever did that we're not so that is kind of support and then you check if there isn't Spanish like financial reasoning it's kind of difficult for us lecturers to really show support but if it's something like maybe something that maybe as lecturers we can like I don't know more of its students say I just feel like not coming to school if that's the reason no I have no reason that's when maybe we can we can also support them in terms of showing them the importance of coming to school and also the arbiter but that I've designed also is subset of disciplining them’ cause they feel like if I have so many other tablets and then maybe I won't have I won't be able to maybe and as fast won't be able to pay out because of that 80% policy so if I have so many other debit in my file so maybe that would be evidence enough for me not to get that lump sum of money so in terms of support I will say it's so difficult but we try as lecturers there and then we try to support them financially even those not much we can do so basically yeah does it but as I as life orientation lecture as we also emphasize the importance of them coming to class so we always emphasize that they must try all means possible rather if they can't they must always notify the lecture if they don't come to school so that if there's something that lecturers can do or if there's something that the campus can do we can be able to assist them yes OK thanks man

**How does the college address the element of absenteeism among the NCV student?**

Well uhm, what we usually do as lecturers, we report absenteeism to student support and then what they do is they call the students or they called the parents just to find out why these students are not coming to school. The college normally they don't do much also, from our side because if they were doing much, maybe the issue of NSFAS that has been happening for years now. If they were doing much maybe, by now they should be paying the student in advance rather than in three months. When the money comes already most students have dropped out of college, so I don't know if that will match but if they are think it was supposed.

**How do you think student absenteeism can be addressed in TVET colleges**?

when did this turn register there is a policy of attendance which is 80% attendance and they are very much aware of this policy so if I can as lecturers we need to submit register on a weekly basis 222 administrators and then those who are attendance needs to be captured into the system so that if the student already has fallen behind 80% of attendance can cause on our policy is more of 80% or younger and disperse money so and normally they don't really follow that policy so if we can say as college let's be strict on this one less manage our registers on it on a weekly basis less be strict on attendance let's be straight off our student who got absent for no reason and then also let's not have that pettiness of saying that this student was not he was not sick with no evident with no evidence or with no medical certificate and then we take them back so if I can say to manage our absenteeism in the college or NCV student maybe their policy that they are not that they know and they are well off if we can practice it originally I think that can also help us are not like we shouldn't be biased or so ever so we need to follow the policy of absenteeism so I think that's how it's collegiate events we can be able to control absenteeism in school OK thank you ma'am we have come to the end of our interview OK thank you.