

THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

By

Kingwell Sikhosiphi Chirwa

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Declaration

I, Kingwell Sikhosiphi Chirwa, declare that this report is my own, unaided work. It is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree of Master of Management in the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. It has not been submitted before any degree or examination in any other university.

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Abstract

The 21st century in the South African local government is characterized by widespread service delivery protests. Various intellectuals have associated the issue of service delivery protests with corrupt municipal administrators, lack of human capital in municipal administration and lack of awareness about the local governance principles. Currently the South African academic community lacks the research literature examining the link between the knowledge of local governance and public participation. Despite various legal legislations regarding the public participation in local sphere of government the large percentage of public members is increasingly becoming distant in terms of participating on municipal affairs.

This study examines the link between the knowledge of local governance and level of public participation of the ward 62 of EThekweni municipality. The aim of the study is to determine whether the knowledge of local governance has influence on public participation. Investigating the link between these two variables assisted in terms of identifying the possibly causes of slow rate of public participation on municipal affairs.

Dedication

This report is dedicated to Chirwa family situated in Hambanathi Township north of Durban. Their patience, love, and support and the sacrifice was a pillar of strength for my academic journey.

I also dedicate this report to Antie Zodwa Kunene for her unconditional support. Without you I would not have come this far.

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