

TABLE OF CONTENTS

▪ DECLARATION	i
▪ DEDICATION	ii
▪ ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
▪ ABSTRACT	iv
▪ TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
▪ APPENDICES	x
▪ LIST OF TABLES	xi

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND	1
1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT	5
1.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS	5
1.4 PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH	6
1.5 OBJECTIVES	6
1.6 RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS	7
1.7 METHODS AND PROCEDURES	7
1.7.1 Research design	7
1.7.2 Population and Sample	7
1.7.3 Instrument	8
1.8 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS	9
1.9 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY	9
1.10 DEFINITION OF VARIABLES	11
1.10.1 Definition of dependent variable	11
1.10.2 Definition of independent variable	12
1.10.3 Definition of terms	13
1.11 SUMMARY	14

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION	15
2.2 HEALTH CARE CONCERNS IN SOUTH AFRICA	15
2.3 DEATH ANXIETY AND ATTITUDES	17
2.4 THE DEATH AWARENESS MOVEMENT	18
2.5 MODELS OF GRIEF IN RECENT PSYCHOLOGY	20
2.6 IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY	22
2.7 DIFFICULTIES FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS	25
2.8 SUMMARY	30

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION	31
3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN	31
3.3 RESEARCH SETTING	33
3.4 STUDY POPULATION AND SAMPLE	33
3.4.1 Sample Size	34
3.5 METHODOLOGY	34
3.5.1 Instruments	34
3.5.1.1 Demographic Data	35
3.5.1.2 Neville Strumpf Death Attitude Scale	35
3.5.1.3 The Revised Collet-Lester Fear of Death Scale	36
3.6 DATA GATHERING METHODS	37
3.6.1 Pilot Study	37
3.6.2 Collection of Data	37
3.6.3 Analysis of Data	38
3.7 RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY	38

3.8 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS	39
3.9 SUMMARY	40

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH FINDINGS

4.1 INTRODUCTION	41
4.2 METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF DATA	42
4.3 DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS	42
4.3.1 Demographic Relationships and Study Variables	42
4.3.2 Age ranges of the participants in the sample	43
4.3.3 Gender differences of the participants in the sample	45
4.3.4 Number of years of nursing experience of the participants	46
4.3.5 Perceived emotional support of the hospital/unit	46
4.3.6 Adequacy of Palliative Care Training	49
4.3.7 Relationship between Death Anxiety and Death Attitudes	51
4.3.7.1 The Neville Strumpf Death Attitude Scale	52
4.3.7.2 The Revised Collet-Lester Scale	55
4.4 SUMMARY	64

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY AND ITS FINDINGS

5.1 INTRODUCTION	65
5.2 SUMMARY OF THE STUDY	65
5.2.1 Methodology	65
5.2.2 Purpose of the study	66
5.2.3 Main Objectives	66
5.2.3.1 Objective 1	67
5.2.3.2 Objective 2	67

5.2.3.3 Objective 3	67
5.2.3.4 Objective 4	68
5.2.3.5 Objective 5	68
5.2.3.6 Objective 6	68
5.2.4 Findings	69
5.3 GENERAL LIMITATIONS TO THE STUDY	70
5.4 IMPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	70
5.4.1 Implications for nursing practice	70
5.4.2 Implications for nursing education	71
5.4.3 Implications for nursing research	72
5.5 CONCLUSION	73
▪ BIBLIOGRAPHY	74

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Application to the committee for research on human subjects (medical) for clearance of research involving human subjects, or patient records.

APPENDIX B

Human Research Ethics Committee Clearance Certificate.

APPENDIX C

Application to conduct research at the private acute care hospital.

APPENDIX D

Permission to conduct research in the private acute care hospital.

APPENDIX E

Consent Form.

APPENDIX F

Application and permission for use of research questionnaires

APPENDIX G

Research Questionnaires.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1 Association between age, anxiety and death attitudes	43
Table 4.2 Association between sex, anxiety and death attitudes	45
Table 4.3 Association of experience, anxiety and death attitudes	47
Table 4.4 Association between support, anxiety and death attitudes	48
Table 4.5 Association between training adequacy, anxiety and death attitudes	50
Table 4.6 Association between death anxiety and death attitudes	63
Table 4.6.1 Kappa Inter rate agreement	63