

Abstract

The study aims to investigate factors and contexts influencing Black parents' first additional language choice in private schools. South Africa is a diverse country with diverse cultures. South Africa was a colonised country, and the colonisers came with their culture and indoctrination. The study intends to investigate the influence of historical, political, and cultural factors pertaining to the use of isiZulu in private schools. The literature review shows that historical, political, and cultural factors have an influence, however, the behaviour and actions taken by the language users are not given a lot of attention. This study intends to fill this gap. This study uses political economy as a guiding theory to explore all factors which create hindrances for isiZulu in private schools. Data was collected from ten participants who are parents at Curro Waterfall. This was analysed using discourse analysis to make sense of the data collected. The findings in this research suggest that parents love their indigenous languages. However, they are not prepared to take actions in support of these languages to ensure that African first additional language has an influence in private schools. In other words, parents are the main hindrance preventing isiZulu from having an influence in private schools. Based on the data collected, the study concludes by providing recommendations.