Chapter 9: Social 8. Environmental Responsibility

Unit 1: Community Responsibility to provide environments and services that promote safe and healthy living

Responsibilities of various levels of government

It is the responsibility of the government to ensure that everyone has access to a safe and healthy environment.

Laws, regulations and rules

- Parliament and provinces can make laws of agriculture, education, housing etc.
- Acts are usually quite general; they do not cover every possible detail of a matter.
- ☐Acts give ministers the power to make regulations or add details to laws.
- □ Regulations can't conflict with the main Act or state something completely different.

The responsibilities of government to promote safe and healthy environments

- Department of Women, Children and people with Disabilities: facilitates and supports health related programmes; co-ordinates programmes for children living in the street; redresses and discourages harmful practices.
- Department of Water Affairs: makes sure that South Africans gain access to clean water and safe sanitation.
- Department of Labour: inspects workplaces to make sure that they are safe and healthy.
- □ Department of Health: co-ordinates and monitors all health services in the provinces and municipalities.

Community services

Examples of community services:

- Provide free basic services
- Build libraries
- Construct and run sport facilities
- Create employment opportunities and transfer skills
- Start and give funds for community food gardens
- Look after street children, orphans, and abandoned children
- Help addicts and their families
- Develop and maintain cemeteries
- Look after the welfare of animals
- Form community policing partnerships
- Run health programmes

Educational and intervention programmes: impact studies

Educational and intervention programmes

- **DEducational programmes aim to teach people and make them aware about issues that affect them.**
- Intervention programmes address particular and urgent problems and try to improve them.

Programme	Purpose
Community Health Intervention Programmes (CHIPs)	- These programmes promote healthier lifestyles in Cape Town through sports and exercise.
Sports Intervention Programmes	 These aims to involve youth in healthy exercise, and discourage crime, racism and substance abuse through participation in sport. These programmes also raise HIV and AIDS awareness.
NICRO: Safety Ambassadors	 For school-going youth to promote gender based violence awareness and community engagement.

Impact Studies

Impact studies: research to find out if an action has had or will have an effect n something.

- Impact studies measure and monitor something to see if a particular action would, or is, having an effect.
- They may be carried out after a youth substance prevention programme to find out if it has worked and what in the programme needs to change.
- >They are also known as audits or assessments.

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