

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY IN AFRICA



Addressing gender disparity and fostering equity in University Education

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SCIENCES

MASTERS DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

MAIN PAPER

MBA118: BUSINESS RESEARCH METHODS

INTAKE 23 : FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

DATE: TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Question **1** and any other **two**.

Question 1

The devolution debate

The debate on the devolution of power was a hot and contentious one throughout the drafting of the new Constitution to an extent that it almost derailed the conclusion of the constitution making process. The debate became highly politicised such that none of the political parties in the inclusive Government was willing to compromise its position on the devolution of power. Unfortunately the concept of devolution became a controversial issue when the people of Zimbabwe had already expressed their desire for it during a constitutional outreach programme conducted by a Constitutional Parliamentary Select Committee (COPAC). The outreach programme was introduced to gather the people's views on what should be included in the country's new Constitution. Volume 6 number 4 • December 2013 33 Of the ten provinces of Zimbabwe, six provinces indicated that they wanted devolution of power included in the country's new Constitution. One wonders why there was intense debate on devolution when the citizenry had already expressed their preferences. A democratic society must take the views of its people seriously because ultimately they are the consumers of the public goods and services offered. Proponents of devolution argue that devolution improves public service delivery and it enhances good governance through accountability and transparency. Those against the devolution of power argue that it has the potential to divide the people. This has given rise to serious misgivings and scepticism among those against devolution. Their fear is that devolution would eventually destroy the fabric that unites the Zimbabwean people. This article assesses the merits of the arguments for and against devolution in order to ascertain its relevance to Zimbabwe. Data from which recommendations and conclusions were drawn was collected through the perusal of documents. Newspaper articles also provided further insights into the suitability of devolution to the Zimbabwean situation.

Source; Nhede, 2013

You are required to;

Prepare a detailed research proposal based on the research problems reflected in the case study. [40]

Question 2

Evaluate the value of interviews in research as a data collection method generate valid and reliable findings. [20]

Question 3

All research studies must be guided by the positivism research philosophy. Discuss. [20]

Question 4

Discuss the value of;

- (a) Primary sources of data in research [10]
- (b) Secondary sources of data [10]

Question 5

Examine the structure of the report submitted at the end of the research process. [20]

Question 6

Discuss the importance of literature review in research. [20]

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