

## UNDERSTANDING UNEMPLOYMENT

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### ABSTRACT

*The primary focus in this paper is on understanding the impact of unemployment in Sandton, Johannesburg. In order to address this, as a starting point, it is noted that unemployment and the crisis of joblessness remains a problem in both low-density as well as high-density population areas. I have emphasised the development initiative to promote employment opportunities for the unemployed to enhance entrepreneurship amongst those with appropriate livelihoods. This could be understood, based on the understanding of the causes of unemployment and could provide relevant intervention strategies within the context of the people intended to be reached. The focus of the article is to suggest ways to provide training, share information, skills development and implement practical contributions to alleviate poverty in the community. It investigates the impact of unemployment in human lives with a view to understand how to balance life and employment. The article found a positive contribution on how to improve human life through job creation. **Purpose:** The purpose for the article is to explore the impact of unemployment in human lives and to establish strategies to assist unemployed people to create jobs by practicing the skills development to enhance a balanced lifestyle. **Findings:** An investigation focused on the recognition that the high rate of unemployment in Sandton, Johannesburg, especially among those who are lacking skills and skills mismatch in a labour market, can be best resolved by the promotion of training and the creation of opportunities to start new businesses within the community. The causes of unemployment and its effect on human lives are also discussed.*

**KEYWORDS:** Work, Work Ethics, Poverty

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### INTRODUCTION

The article reviews the literature on the different aspects of work and unemployment. The challenges of unemployment or underemployment in our society have been viewed as a social issue that affects the community in multiple dimensions. The first attempt in this section is to present the outline of the researcher's intention to provide important views and findings on how other authors have contributed to the subject presented in this project. To achieve this, the researcher reviews the literature in the following section, divided into six sub-divisions. First, the terms of unemployment or underemployment are understood, concerning how other scholars have conceptualised them. Second, the effect of unemployment on human life is discussed. Third, the causes of unemployment and poverty in contemporary times is investigated. Fourth, the impact of unemployment and poverty in the community is analysed. Fifth, the impact of unemployment on the economic growth is discussed and last, the costs of unemployment on

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individuals, as well as the society at large is discussed. Definitions used are:

**Work:** To do something that involves physical or mental effort, especially as part of a job.

**Work team:** A work team is a group of people with complementary skills who are committed to a common mission, performance goals, and approach for which they hold themselves mutually accountable.

**Poverty:** Poverty is a state of want or deprivation in which those who suffer from it have no basic, minimum requirements for survival. The poor suffer from basic economic needs, and they are deprived of material goods necessary to live with dignity.

### **Methodology**

The study adopts the literature review by prominent writers who have contributed on the causes of unemployment and its impact in human lives. Library sources, and other scholarly articles that are relevant to the aspect of unemployment or underemployment have been used.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **The Effect of Unemployment in Human Life**

First and foremost, the researcher argues about the effect of unemployment in human life. The unemployed, as individuals, suffer both from their income loss while unemployed, and related social problems caused by long periods of unemployment. Society, overall, loses from unemployment because the total output is below the potential level<sup>[1]</sup>.

This contributes to low self-esteem in an unemployed individual and community social exclusion. Having argued about unemployed and marginalised prospects, the term 'unemployment' is used to describe anyone who is able to work but does not have an occupation. Even though unemployment is one of the most common chronic complications in the cities, it is a concern for individuals, as well as global communities. As a result, unemployment is expressed as a percentage of the total available workforce that is unemployed but actively seeking employment and willing to work, which is known as the unemployment rate. There is a link between unemployment and poverty which is considered as the major effect in human life. The level of unemployment varies with economic situations and other circumstances in the community. This is based on the discussion of this project with an emphasis on the ministry to the unemployed in Sandton. Unemployment remains the biggest challenge that affects life and hope among the people residing in Sandton. In short, unemployment undermines human dignity. In other words, unemployment is mostly described as economic issues, but the researcher has argued that it poses a threat to human dignity, therefore, it must be viewed as a serious concern. To strengthen the argument further, there are three major effects of unemployment: (i) There are financial problems which result from prolonged unemployment. Focusing on the loss of income, unemployed individuals struggle to meet financial needs. As a result of this financial crisis, unemployed individuals are unable to maintain the minimum standard of living; (ii) Unemployment has a social dimension. There are problems an individual faces socially as a predicament of unemployment. As an indirect effect of unemployment, many find it easy to abuse alcohol and drugs, thus even leading to cases of domestic violence, in some instances. In addition to the stated challenges of high unemployment, there is often an observed increase in the rate at which marriages break down, community divisions, and discrimination in society. The number of suicide cases also increases, due to the lack of self-esteem caused by financial instability; (iii) Unemployment bears negatively also on personal human social relations. There is a certain stigma attached to the poor and disadvantaged which is associated

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with certain supposed problems attached to them, such as poor hygiene, illness, disease, and poor/ no education. According to this view on the effect of unemployment, these prejudices lead to distance between the poor and the rich and contribute to mistrust in the labour market.

The essence of this argument is that poverty is more than a lack of resources to meet basic needs. Poverty inflicts physical, psychological, and spiritual pain in people's lives in all ages, who strive for wellness and resist the oppressive burden of destitution. In conclusion, the various effects of unemployment are financial, social, and psychological problems. The effect of unemployment influences not only the personal well-being of the individual but also the wellness of the broader society. The leading challenge that affects human life, health, economy, and community is unemployment. The impact of unemployment felt by the unemployed is worth noting. Unemployment causes workers to suffer financial difficulties that may lead to emotional destruction. There is a demand for employment in Sandton, but due to an influx of job seekers every day, it is difficult to arrange jobs for all these new workers. In this case, the demand of workers will be more than the available positions. When this happens, consumer spending leads to a recession or even a depression when left unaddressed. The evidence shows that unemployed people suffer low-self-esteem and discrimination. In addition, when the challenge of unemployment is handled and addressed, community members may empower all the beneficiaries of development programmes by enhancing their skills and assist in breaking away from the dependency mentality.

### **Unemployment and Poverty Today**

Employment is one of the basic ingredients of human activity and has always been considered an important aspect of life in most, or even all, cultures. There is a connection between poverty and unemployment. The study explores more deeply the different ways through which poverty and unemployment affect people and how it perpetuates inequality. Poverty is the condition of lacking sufficient money or goods to meet basic human needs, such as food, shelter, and clothing. In making this comment, the problem of unemployment which causes poverty, is complex and produces many faceted challenges. However, proposing to address unemployment and poverty in this section is motivated by the fact that there is a link between unemployment and poverty which is investigated in this section of the project. There are many factors which contribute to unemployment in the affluent community. In addressing the question of unemployment and poverty, most, if not all, of them such as low-quality education, lack of adequate food, healthcare, and geographic location - can be traced to the legacy of discrimination that plagues people in Sandton. Ultimately, many factors contribute to poverty, as a result, many people have been confronted by lack of employment and underemployment for a long period.

To put it simply, many people live in poverty in Johannesburg, Sandton, because they are unable to find a job that pays a living wage or to find a job at all. Many people assume that not everyone who is unemployed lives in poverty, hence this study unearths how unemployment and underemployment contribute to poverty. Lötter stated, "A major cause of poverty is unemployment, especially in a situation where individuals have no social or family support. It is worth noting that poor communities are often characterised by the virtual absence of people who are formally employed"<sup>[2]</sup> but he did not describe the behaviour. Having just argued that people of low class suffer from both unemployment and poverty, not everyone experiences the same challenge in Sandton. In many cases, even those who qualify for certain jobs find themselves unemployed. You would think that people who live in poverty are lazy, individuals are rarely responsible for their unemployment and poverty.

### **Poverty and Moral Values**

In recent discussions on the impact of unemployment, a controversial issue has been investigated whether unemployment is the major cause of poverty. From this perspective, poverty erodes people's morale as desperation to make a living provides the incentive for behaviour that the rest of society regards as immoral. To describe someone as poor, thus indicates that a person has fallen below the standard of life deemed appropriate for a human being in a specific society. Lötter stated:

“Poor people may argue that morally acceptable methods of earning a living did not work for them; they followed the rules of society to no avail, therefore, they are in a position where making a living through immoral means becomes a serious option. They may indeed lack material means to continue living a moral life”<sup>[2]</sup>

To put it clearly, unemployment and poverty become a cause of moral decay. To see whether these findings apply to unemployed and poor people, the researcher proposed to include another dimension of moral decay as Lötter argues, “that goes into the extent that a poor person can decide to enter the underground economy by engaging in illegal trading of goods like alcohol, diamonds, drugs, or sex”<sup>[2]</sup> Furthermore, if immoral behaviour leads to financial success and social power, it might become easier to slip deeper into immoral and criminal behaviour than to return to a moral lifestyle. While focusing on the contribution of employment to household income is particularly important since work tends to be more reliance on families than on individuals.<sup>[3]</sup> By focusing on poverty and moral values, it helps to understand the damage unemployment does in human lives. Admittedly, the consequences of unemployment or lack of income in the society may contribute to multifaceted challenges that are investigated in the following sections of this project.

### **The Psychological Effects of Unemployment**

It is worth noting that unemployment appears to contribute to psychological development and behavioural disorders, as indicated in the previous section. It is true that the complexity of the problem of community non-participation and gross unemployment rates may produce behavioural disorders. According to Vorster, “the fear of losing one's job and associated anxieties of unemployment is quite absent from the soviet economy”<sup>[4]</sup>. Having just argued that the unemployment rate, as an economic measure, produces a higher incidence of life stress which in turn, produces behavioural changes in the affected population, unemployment may result in life stress and a subsequent increase in symptoms, such as depression and physical illness, but this does not necessarily mean that an individual who loses his or her job will then report life stress and experience illness. An observation has been made during the period of the state of disaster necessitated to curb the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in South Africa that employment decreased while the number of people admitted to mental institutions increased. Those who lost their jobs during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic suffered economic stress which precipitated and induced mental illness. One explanation for the psychological effects finding is the fact that semi-skilled and skilled workers had somewhat higher levels of education and it was this group that suffered most economic loss due to unemployment. After that, those who suffered large losses were business entrepreneurs who were assumed to have the highest educational levels. Having argued that intolerance of mental illness grew during periods of economic depression, this was the result of the families that might have been able to support mentally ill members during times of relative prosperity, might have found the burden too great when financial resources were depleted. In conclusion,

unemployment induces greater life stress which in turn, increases heart disease and excessive consumption of alcohol and family violence. As a result, the psychological effect of the unemployment rate has contributed to social challenges, such as abuse, suicide rates, homicide, morality and crimes against people and property. In addition to the psychological impact of unemployment, it is necessary to include the challenge of the COVID-19 lockdown period in South Africa, which contributed to stress and uncertainty to those self-employed with no extra income source. Vorster suggested:

“The psychological experience and the impact of unemployment need to balance because work is a fundamental ingredient of an individual’s identity, self-esteem and general wellbeing; work is central to family development, and it determines the order and quality of life in societies at large”<sup>[4]</sup>.

Having selected the above prominent writer, Vorster, because he addresses the important idea in the recent studies on being unemployed and religious, brings in a deep analysis on a balanced view between the individual and the community. Moreover, this is equally important in this project which brings our support for the unemployed and our solutions to change the condition to one of opportunity.

### **The Impact of Unemployment on the Community**

According to Nadene Peterson and Roberto Cortéz González, “work is the medicine for poverty.”<sup>[5]</sup> It is worth noting that unemployment and underemployment have negative impacts on the community’s welfare, the workers attributed this to the poor standard of living which is not unconnected with the meagre stipends they receive at the end of the month as salary. As a result, they cannot meet the necessary amenities needed to live a comfortable life; this consequently affects their family as well as their children. For instance, they could not get good accommodation, nor eat a balanced diet as well as wear decent clothes, nor could they afford a good education for their children. <sup>[6]</sup>

Having just argued that long periods of high unemployment are, without a doubt, detrimental to unemployed workers and the health of the economy, however, there are other, less known consequences. Further work in this area may lead to the development of social consequences of a prolonged jobless period that may be significant as this has economic consequences. In other words, the aggregate relationship between the employment rate and illness in terms of individual stress, it is necessary to show that changes in employment rate leads to psychological and physical stressors. There is strong evidence that shows that various life stresses produce illness behaviours. These findings have important consequences for the broader domain on the impact of unemployment on the community. To some extent, these findings implicate those who have qualifications and moderate degrees of education, experienced greater illness in response to job loss and economic construction. Garret suggests:

“Studies on unemployment and crime suggest that a high unemployment rate is positively linked to an increase in property crime. An increase in the unemployment rate is accompanied by soaring property crime, while a decline in the unemployment rate followed by only a gradual drop in property crime.”<sup>[7]</sup>

It has become common today to dismiss the fact that serious property crimes may further damage the economic development and social welfare in urban areas, especially in the inner-city neighbourhood. However, the impact of unemployment may escalate when social issues in human behaviour are not in balance. These may include family breakdown among married



couples, excessive drug abuse, increased anxiety, stress which is caused by alcohol consumption, physical and mental illness. In examining unemployment from the perspective of the unemployed, it is argued that the increase of crime rates is associated with an impact of unemployment on the community.

### **Social Effects of Unemployment**

Socially, unemployment and underemployment tend to strain relationships, even between the members of the family and the community where an individual resides. Sometimes, as a result of unemployment, an individual may abandon the family members, relatives, and friends. It is worth noting that people who are jobless and unemployed are subjected to stigmatisation and are marginalised. Ultimately, what is at stake here is how stigma is defined, “as a social construction that defines people in terms of distinguishing characteristic or mark and devalues them, therefore, stigma occurs when society labels someone as tainted, less desirable, or handicapped.<sup>[8]</sup> In understanding the personal and social costs of unemployment it is seen to include severe financial hardship and poverty, debt, homelessness and housing stress, family tensions and breakdown, boredom, alienation, shame and the stigma of increased social isolation, crime, erosion of confidence and self-esteem, the atrophying of work skills and ill-health.<sup>[9]</sup> While it is true that unemployment falls disproportionately on already disadvantaged groups in society, especially for those of lower-income earners, recently arrived migrants and indigenous people in the city of Sandton, unemployment is the major reason for poverty with those who cannot find jobs who are on the highest rate of poverty with almost 70 per cent of the unemployed being those who have no qualifications. It is, however, a cause of concern that the proportion of the unemployed people with no educational qualifications is relatively high - more than half. The number of people with standard ten certificates is also gradually increasing, and they come out from secondary school without a relevant skill to generate income. This implies a high cost for the country in terms of expenditure on this person’s education, in addition to the hardship suffered by all unemployed persons. Moreover, persons with high education qualifications become frustrated more easily if they do not find jobs, and this increases the potential for crime and civil unrest.<sup>[10]</sup> The essence of this argument is that unemployed people experience hardship and a decline in their standard of living. As a result, this may lead to social exclusion if an individual is without employment for a long period. Unemployment reduces social contact and social support. In our industrialised society, the fact of being employed, the type of job, the status, one’s position and role are central to personal identity and self-esteem. In making this comment, low self-esteem, total dependence on others and an inability to provide for self and others are the important negative effects of unemployment. In conclusion, research findings indicate that the physical and psychological health of the individual is related to the state of employment in the family.

### **Emotional Effect of Unemployment**

In recent discussions on the impact of unemployment, a controversial issue has been whether unemployment contributes to the individuals’ emotional state. On the one hand, some argue that being unemployed hurts. Many may experience depression and can find it extremely difficult to overcome the stress of being marginalised, rejection and hopelessness. To be precise, most individuals’ basic life requirements are met through employment. In terms of this project, regarding the emotional effects of unemployment, those who are unable to get employment may suffer emotional instability. Although this should have been indicated earlier, unemployment produces symptoms such as depression and anxiety which are significantly greater to the unemployed individuals in society. The evidence on the emotional effect of unemployment

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shows that the psychological pattern occurs in an individual and that is associated with present distress with a significantly increased risk of suffering death, pain, disability, or an important loss of freedom.<sup>[11]</sup> However, the cure of the emotional effect of unemployment is, of course, work on the straightforward premise that work is good for emotional health. In addition to these individual effects, unemployment may act as a social bad, that is, people may be unhappy about unemployment even if they are not themselves out of work.<sup>[12]</sup> Having argued that, the aspect of helping community efforts to address social, psychological, and emotional disorders is to offer work to those who have not been employed for a particular period.

### **Economic Effect of Unemployment**

The researcher shares the new light on the economic and social costs of unemployment, which may include components such as, personal costs to the unemployed (lost income, loss of sense of value, less on-the-job training). Also, the economic effect of unemployment includes costs to government (lost tax revenue and higher benefits spending); costs to society in general, social problems, alienation, and lost GDP.<sup>[13]</sup> Tejvan Pettinger argues that “potential loss of income can leave people without sufficient income to meet housing costs.” He is right in making such a valid point, but he omitted the important point which Mafiri elucidates, that unemployment in South Africa has a socio-economic impact which leads to criminal activities as the only means of survival for certain groups of the unemployed people. Here, many writers on the issue of the impact of unemployment would probably object to this statement, since not every unemployed person is involved in criminal activities. Ultimately, what is at stake here is that, when it comes to the subject of the socio-economic effect of unemployment, most scholars agree that personal cost of unemployment is on a loss of earnings to the unemployed which leads to poverty. On the other hand, I agree with Pettinger that, “long periods of unemployment can push households into debt and increase rates of relative poverty.”<sup>[13]</sup> It is noteworthy that those who are unemployed will find it difficult to get work in the future since they may suffer the hysteresis effect, while it is true that being unemployed can also affect the future confidence of the unemployed and they become less employable in the future. In general, it does not necessarily follow that the conception when people are out of work, they miss out on the job training and latest working experiences and trends. During the state of the nation address by President Cyril Ramaphosa, the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic left over 10 million South African jobless as from 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until the end of April 30 (Integrated Development Plan: 2020, pp.16-26). Numerous official documents have been issued addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on unemployment and poverty during the country’s lockdown period and present the important information to be considered in this section. The situation is so serious that the Department of Agriculture offered an amount of 4 billion R to assist those who are doing essential services on agriculture or food industry. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) has increased the social grants and expanded unemployment benefits to the self-employed, part-time workers through the Pandemic Emergency Assistance, which paid R500 for social grants and R350 for those who are unemployed until the end of October 2020. In short, unemployment compensation is the result of the risk brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Unemployed workers receive funding from the state because of the lockdown period and retrenchments as a result of the pandemic. Unemployment credit insurance or (UIF) benefits workers who have lost their jobs during the quarantine period of the COVID-19 pandemic (South Africa) have also benefitted. Certain amounts of money were allocated to benefit those without income as from 25<sup>th</sup> March-December 2020. The evidence shows that the impact of COVID-19 lockdown in the country has affected the GDP in the second quarter in September 2020 by 51%. According to Stats SA, the record plunge was due to “the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions since the end of March

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2020". This extends South Africa's recession for yet another quarter, as the economy continues to battle the COVID-19 pandemic and growing unemployment. In conclusion, the socio-economic status of society is determined by the employed people who contribute to the labour market. What is more important, high unemployment indicating the economy is operating below full capacity and is inefficient; this will lead to lower output and incomes. Having argued that, a rise in unemployment can cause a negative multiplier effect. Unemployment has costs to a society that are more than just financial. By the way, the socio-economic effects of unemployment contribute to crime and vandalism. While economics and academics make convincing arguments that there is a certain natural level of unemployment that cannot be erased, elevated unemployment imposes significant costs on the individual, the society, and the country. When an individual loses a job, there is often an immediate impact on that person's standard way of living. Unemployment tends to disturb the physical well-being of an individual.

### **Physical Effect of Unemployment**

The evidence shows that unemployment indirectly contributes on the physical effect of people who may not be employed. The researcher's assertion is based on the following contribution by being unemployed. Joblessness may contribute to depression, mental anxiety, and other health issues. Another study found that common outcomes of unemployment include depression, substance abuse, admission to psychiatric hospitals, death by suicide and violence. While the previous literature has addressed the social, economic, and emotional, it has neglected the aspect of whether unemployment affects the physical well-being of an individual. Gleeson suggests that "the longer the unemployment goes on, the more severe the health consequences, with increased depression and other health consequences, with increased depression and other health issues worsening over time."<sup>[14]</sup> In summary, our studies show that the persons who are distressed emotionally due to loss of a job may suffer excessive misuse of alcoholism, drug abuse and domestic violence which may lead to an increase of medical care attention. Numerous studies have revealed the relationship between unemployment and psychological problems which affect the physical wellbeing of an individual. Therefore, an unemployed person may be forced to adjust their lifestyle, for instance, by changing their diet, their place of residence which may influence their physical behaviour. Finally, it is worth noting that results have shown that the physical effect of unemployment stress is exacerbated by the lack of social support. It is important to note that unemployed individuals may experience a problem with insomnia. Having argued that, unemployed individuals visited physicians, took more medications, spent more days in bed sick, the anxiety and stress of being without work contributes to premature death. Holland insists that "the effects of unemployment on physical well-being, when people lose their jobs, they are not only affected financially but their stress can manifest physically as well",<sup>[15]</sup> It is true that being unemployed may indirectly produce physical symptoms of loss of appetite, sexual interest is exacerbated by more worry which affects physical performance. One underlying leading disease which has been diagnosed as the factor of unemployment is cardiovascular function that is related to premature death due to unemployment.

### **The Costs of Unemployment to an Individual**

Unemployment is mostly described as an economic issue, but it is argued here that unemployment poses a threat to human dignity and should, therefore, be a theological concern.<sup>[16]</sup> By contrasting the costs of unemployment with the theological themes, it is grounded on the fact that indicates how unemployment undermines human dignity. Certain theological themes on human dignity are outlined in the previous sections of this project. Unemployment is an economic condition in which individuals actively seeking jobs remain unhired. The problem of

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unemployment is indeed a serious reality; the developed countries, as well as the developing countries, suffer from it. This is not to say that employment is all about depending on the income, but rather unemployment has an impact on society more than just financial sustainability. Unemployed individuals not only lose income but also face a challenge to their physical and mental health. To put it another way, the societal costs of high unemployment, include higher crime and it also exacerbates poverty. In short, costs to the government go beyond the payment of benefits to the loss of the production of workers. To take a case in point, the costs of unemployment to the individual are not hard to imagine. In summary, this section shows that the experience of unemployment (either direct or indirect) can alter how workers plan for their futures - prolonged unemployment can lead to greater scepticism and pessimism about the value of education and training and lead to workers being less willing to invest in the long years of training some jobs require. When unemployment becomes a pervasive problem, there is often increased calls for protective and severe restrictions on those who cannot be absorbed into any labour market. Further to that, the absence of income created by unemployment can force families to deny educational opportunities to their children and deprive the economy of that future. Studies have shown that prolonged unemployment harms mental health and can worsen physical health and shorten lives.<sup>[17]</sup> Other social costs include how people interact with each other. It is common today that because there is absent a wage-paying job, people may turn to crime to meet their economic needs. The last component of the costs of unemployment affects the country in many ways. It is worth noting that companies pay a price for high unemployment as well. You would think that only unemployed individuals experience financial challenges in our society until you realise that unemployment benefits are financed largely by taxes assessed on businesses. The bottom line is that the costs of unemployment can have a self-perpetuating negative impact on business and the economic health of the individual. This suggests that the costs of unemployment have an impact on the country. The costs of unemployment have been investigated which while mostly damaging, can sometimes also be positive and best understood by identifying the meaning of work. This can help to explain why people do not experience work and unemployment similarly.

### **Pastoral Contribution to the Unemployed**

The main objective on the concept of understanding unemployment is the implementation of an intervention strategy which will focus on establishing candid relationships with the unemployed in order to create a wedge through a relational approach to reach them on their level. Moreover, to help in creating an opportunity for skills development programmes. Gleaning from this intervention, the unemployed will be able to share their challenges as individuals or a group. In addition, a data base of their acquired skill will assist for better marketing and potential employers to utilise their skills. A spiritual approach will be implemented as a way of introducing the Gospel to the unemployed in the community.

### **Recommendations**

The evidence shows that unemployment has affected the community and destroyed the individual's confidence in participating in the activities of community development. As the starting point, the findings shows that unemployment is increasing; the only way to meet the needs of the community is to increase opportunities for skills development and participation of the unemployed in the community. As indicated in the findings, limited skills on the part of the unemployed creates low absorption rates in the labour market which contributes to low income. In addition to the recommendation, people must be encouraged to be self-employed so that they are able to provide for their families. It is recommended that the Department of Labour, in

partnership with humanitarians, should establish programmes to cover independent workers, and self-employed community projects that will generate an income for its workers. Finally, it is recommended that an urban agricultural project would be able to provide families with meals that would work toward alleviating poverty among the unemployed in Sandton, Johannesburg. The Centre of Influence will also be a good institution to be considered in the city.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the concept of unemployment has been discussed in this article to show the deeper impact on society and the fact that it is usually applied only to humans. It refers to a condition that results in people not being able to live without work in which they can participate in the range of activities that show an expressive nature as human beings. There is still more to be learned when it comes to the causes of unemployment. The researcher has investigated the understanding of unemployment as a social issue that has affected all classes of people in the community. It has been argued that unemployment has contributed to the society's lack of decency and respect. As the concluding remarks, unemployment has affected people who are unable to have basic needs met and the lack of resources which forces them to live below a good standard of life. Unemployed people still feel that they are not regarded as community members and are being treated with disrespect. Also, unemployed people suffer humiliation, being seen as not worthy to contribute to community activities. This lack of respect contributes on low self-esteem and participation in community development. At this point, the strategy to address this community challenge has been stated and has already been implemented in certain areas which demonstrates its usefulness. The findings show that much can be learned from the strategies to be employed that are well-designed which are accompanied by a careful evaluation process planned for community projects to alleviate poverty and establish a long-term plan for employment.

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