

# Rehabilitation

## **Why should we rehabilitate our children and our youth ??**

There are many variations on the concept of the two key words in the title of this document: these being as follows;

- 1) Children, Youth, Learners, Students
- 2) Rehabilitation of abused children emotionally or physically, neglected and abandoned youth, the intellectually challenged or technically inclined youth, and last but not least children accused of being minor offenders by social welfare or the criminal courts system.

In considering rehabilitation we need to refine and **understand** the cross spectrum definition of the word itself , in so far as how society as a whole should be accountable . This is over and above the capacity functional or dysfunctional parents should play **in** the norm of the country's future youth /leaders.

As Leaders and business heads in all industry for continuity and longevity of any nation we need to ensure children are raised, educated, and if need be rehabilitated correctly to understand and further implement themselves **in** correct moral behavior practices including a balance set of values and morals with decent **Principles**.

To rehabilitate a child one has to currently evaluate their concurrent mind sets, ideologies that have been instilled into them, as well as to determine prior to any form of correction what morals and principles have been taught to them thus far.

Only once these clear lines and boundaries/parameters have been psycho analyzed and established can one proceed to attempt to help redefine, correct, and improve upon the foundation that has been instilled within these children.

Taking into account their entire back grounds, cultural and how extensive or limited the abilities were of their parents that were **their** mentors and educators. The down fall of a bad parent's upbringing influences their children in a non ending cycle of repetition until someone intervenes and rehabilitates the situation / learner.

**Thus rehabilitation is not a concept but a reality to be dealt with now.....**

Rehabilitation encompasses an enormous expanse. This being, behavioral, emotional, logical, perceptions, and the distinctions of actions and circumstances. Social norms as deemed generally acceptable by the public need to be formulated and instilled in these learners on a daily basis within the domicile and schooling arenas, with absolute consistency and primarily this is what we intend to implement in a most desirable attainable environment for the children's stability and correction within the parameters of a pleasant, healthy balanced, welcoming and supervised capacity. That is our main charter.

The above mentioned children all fall short of societies expectations in one form or another and we have opted to correct these short comings in all areas, reality dictates that due to many varied conditions being poorly educated parents, economic conditions, rampant crime industries growth and a new culture of peer pressure to join gangs, many children fall through the cracks of correct

living environments and a valid upbringing. These children have from birth upwards been subjected to all the incorrect perceptions and numerous atrocities that do not get addressed adequately in society to help correct their realities such as;-

**Alcoholism**, within homes and communities

**Drug usage**, this varies in huge misconception to addiction, smoking dagga right through to hard core narcotics is not acceptable and severely impedes a child's chances of a normal life period .

**Verbal and physical abuse**, parental arguments and physical confrontations, aggression being acceptable which it clearly is not.

**General society misconceptions**, these are deemed as smaller but just as misleading aspects that destroy children just as much like school absenteeism, smoking, peer pressure to perform or partake in sexual activities long before mental maturity sets in, and being forced to leave home too early, all of the above will grossly impact and destroy a child's even chances at a normal life.

All of these behaviors are engrained within a child's psyche and patterns need to be "un learnt" and corrected, as well as proven tried and trusted methods need to be instilled to an already scared untrusting disillusioned directionless child.

Our mission and undertaking with the correct personnel, teachers, house mothers, professional psychiatrists / psychologists and the quant essentially correct dormitory/home environment to foster normal healthy growth within these children to ensure a well adjusted functional and pro-active child.

Our centre has the centrifugal force around the core values of applying a board spectrum set of rules and conditions that need and will be complied with, within a positive and a mindset altering structure.

We encourage our learners to assume accountability for their own actions (understanding that every action has an equal reaction) as well as to have a governing body within the student/learners structure which are and have been chosen from within their own ranks democratically, provided the management of the centre concurs that they are ready to assume this type of responsibility. This creates an environment of ambition to achieve and conform to correct behavior patterns.

There is 24/7/365 days supervision both at the residence/dormitories environment as well as at the skills workshops, and schooling level by all of the above mentioned trained professionals including doctors, dentists and physiologists on call at all times, should they be required.

When a child arrives or is placed at the centre they are given a full orientation to calm and relax them with a gentle introduction into the facility by both teachers and fellow learners alike .This orientation involves a comprehensive medical physical and mental inspection to ensure any ailments that they have incurred prior to their arrival are attended to immediately. This plays a pivotal role in enabling the teachers to help plan future corrective path pursuant to each and every learner. Once these fundamentals have been completed the learner is fully assessed over a 90 (Ninety) day period to establish any and all concerns with documented medical, physical and educational extra or additional needs to complete their full adjustment.

The centre is based primarily around all forms of physical activities, to improve physical conditioning and after school extra curriculum activities for work skills preparedness not as an academic substitution but rather in conjunction with it, or occasionally to substitute some subjects to help and ensure that more technical minded learners are accommodated and given an edge to gain employment when they leave the centre.

Over and above providing nutritional requirements through balanced meals, above average nourishment at school and after hours, regular workout exercise regimes, positive corrective schooling environment, morally correct religious instruction , a healthy and fun filled weekend curriculum of social integration with games, sports, outings, and peer group interaction. There are actions that are instituted like temporary placements for older learners during their school holidays, courses and sponsored education over and above their standard schooling curriculum's, have been implemented to attempt and ensure future success for all our learners. Thus rehabilitation is covered in many and various aspects so as to turn out mature, decent, morally correct, balanced learners.

In a proactive stance during normal school holidays we also provide a gap/additional schooling system which primarily focuses on students and learners that may have or are currently falling behind in their studies. This also allows any and all parents in a normal environment to place children within a place during school holidays that is safe and removed from any dangerous possible elements and activities, for lack of a better phrasing after school care during holiday season.

Therefore in conclusion the rhetorical question why should we rehabilitate children, the answer is a simplistic and logical answer, constitutionally every single child across the nation is required to be assisted and helped in and through life, but most importantly if we wish to have future skilled workers, professional's , and good functional parenting with a strong equilibrium in our future leaders, then we **urgently** need to address the vital matter of correcting, helping and assisting a very currently demoralized and misguided youth.

As in the aforementioned paragraph should we chose **not** to rehabilitate or correct the youth, the **cost implication** to the state throughout an individual's life should they incur one of the following is of huge concern and monetary implication -: a rampant and over backlogged courts system , inundated prisons , insufficient and over priced drug rehabilitation ,too few life skills training facilities and programs, inefficient family centre's , and the need for social welfare in general to become and stay involved , costs the entire nation exponentially more than is really necessary if we were just to act timeously and always remember that prevention is cheaper and better than a cure .

By investing in our youth, you cannot lose as you are investing not only in our but also their futures. !!!!!

**To build a better country/nation to be strong and economically sound!!**

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