

1. INTRODUCTION

Oral history has been used as a major tool in the past to transmit knowledge, values and culture from one generation to another. In this era of more technological advancements, it is therefore essential not to forget this important tool. In recent years oral history has emerged as a powerful tool for recording and preserving unique memories and life experiences of people whose stories might otherwise have been lost. Through this competition, our learners were able to see the importance of oral history as it kept them in contact with their community. In this way, transmission of values, knowledge and culture from one generation to another is possible.

Through this research, I managed to make my learners and colleagues aware of the role played by the people who were all along despised as they were regarded as thugs which will mislead the community. It is only after the interview that together with my learners, we got to understand exactly why this people dedicated their lives for the struggle against apartheid. It is through the same research that my learners got ample evidence to condemn or give credit regarding what happened in the past and enable them to approach issues with open minds. It enabled them to dig deeper into the realization of apartheid as one form of exploitation as they heard it from the actual victims of apartheid. My learners became more concerned about what those victims are currently doing as they became convinced that having sustained such harsh laws of apartheid regime they can easily lead our community right away.

I regard this research as a vehicle that can lead my learners to the rich heritage resources that cannot be accessed from books or from me as their teacher, but from people they always see but never thought they could gain so much from as the environment is different as well. Such contacts elicit interest and eagerness in our learners to pass what they have gained to others i.e. becoming history writers. This will keep the flame burning

Herein I'm going to describe how I introduced the oral history in classroom, explanation I gave to my learners in choosing this topic, how I prepared them for an interview, my own intervention strategies and my own personal analysis about this oral History research.