

Poster title: A review on refugee students in higher education
Research area: Higher Education /Educational Studies
The University of the Western Cape
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RESEARCH TITLE: IDENTITY AND ACCESS TO RESOURCES BY AFRICAN REFUGEE STUDENTS IN A SOUTH AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION

Abstract

The dense traffic of refugees worldwide is a source and cause of an unexpected increase in figures of enrollment of students at higher education institutions. The enrollment of refugee students often presents a challenge relative to their status and their identity. The research aim is to explore challenges faced by African refugee students in a selected South African higher education. It will answer the question of what challenges faced these students. The research outcome may add debates on refugee's higher education in the global south.

Introduction and Background

There has been an increase in refugee numbers globally. There is a wealth of research on refugees globally. Fewer have focused on African refugees in higher education in the context of South Africa. A large volume of research on refugee was done in Global North. None of the research has focused on identity and access to resources by African refugees students in higher education in the south African context.

Significance of the study

It will add into refugee debates in higher education, inform institutions, policymakers, and funders to devise appropriate policies. The research outcome will be published.

Rationale of the study

There is a need to conduct this research to establish epistemologies about refugee access in higher education and create or inform perceptions that society has on refugee students in a higher education. The available research on refugee in higher education has not focused on access to resources by African refugee students in South Africa, Western Cape.

Aims, Objectives and Research Questions

The aim of this research is to explore the challenges faced by African refugee students' in accessing resources the Western Cape, South Africa.
Research objectives :To find out what resources are available for African refugees students and how they may be helped

Main research question is

What are the challenges African refugees students' face in accessing resources in a higher institution of learning

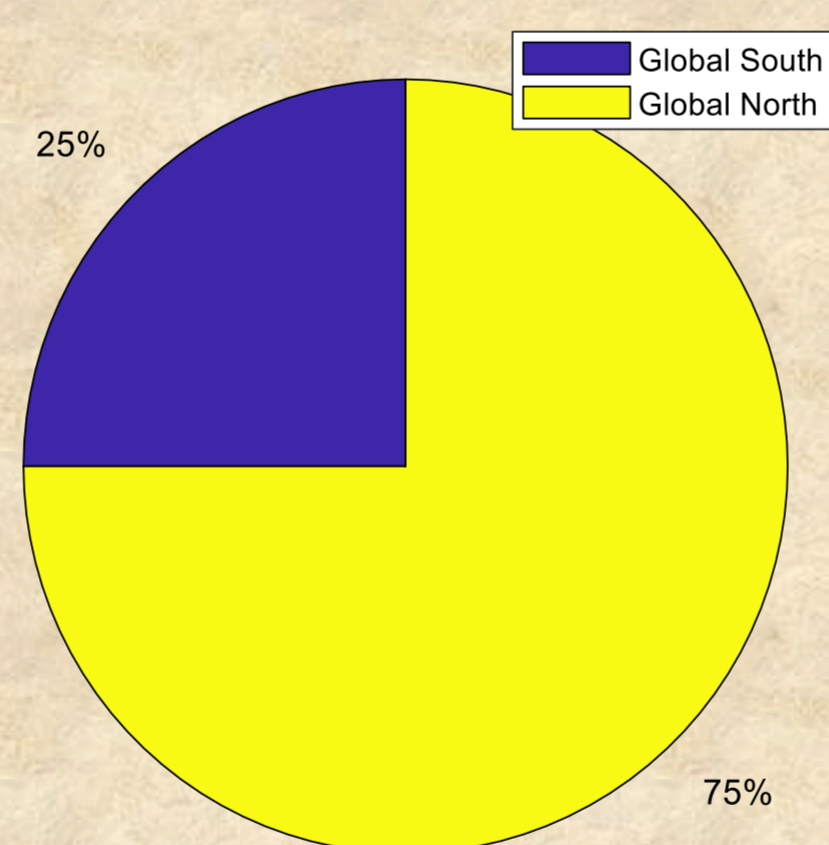
Literature Review

The literature shows that trends on refugees higher education has began to mushroom in recent years and time. There is a growing debate on refugees in higher education institutions from 2010 onwards than before 2010. The literature shows that most of refugee research was conducted in the Global North. Hence, this research will be conducted in the global south on the domain of African refugees. There is a significant research gap between the global North and the Global South on refugee matters.

African Refugee Student & Identity puzzle

Refugee identity is complexity in the context of higher education. There is large volume of refugees in south Africa and few in higher education

Research on Refugee students



Theoretical framework

The theoretical entry point that underpins this research is Critical theories

Access to resources

Previous research show that Refugee students globally face various challenges in different contexts. Sometimes their identity affects their wellbeing in various settings (social, residential, belonging). There are assumptions of poor epistemical access and praxis around refugee students in higher education. Equity and access

Research paradigm & Methodology used in the reviewed papers/literature

Interpretive

There is no single reality and truth can be interpreted

Critical

Realities are socially constructed and people can have a false conscious.

Quantitative

Case study semi-structured open ended interview question were used. The sample selection both purposive and random

Qualitative

Questionnaires and survey were used in reviewed paper

Current research

This research is a qualitative case study. Semi-structured open ended interview question will be conducted. Relevant documents will be reviewed as well.

Conclusion