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| Book Name: | **Quality Assurance Practices for Transformative Higher Education in Southern Africa** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5086.5** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Educational policies since 1980: The foundation for transformative higher education curriculum development in Zimbabwe** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | The manuscript provides a critical analysis of Zimbabwe’s educational policy reforms since 1980, offering valuable insights into how these policies have shaped transformative higher education. By examining historical and contemporary curriculum changes, it contributes to the discourse on quality assurance, equity, and inclusivity in education. This study is essential for policymakers, educators, and researchers seeking to understand the socio-political influences on curriculum development in post-colonial African contexts. Additionally, it provides a comparative perspective that can inform educational reforms in other developing nations striving for sustainable and inclusive higher education systems. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | Yes, the title is suitable as it accurately reflects the content and scope of the manuscript. However, for greater clarity and specificity, an alternative title could be:  "Educational Policy Reforms in Zimbabwe Since 1980: Foundations for a Transformative Higher Education Curriculum."  This alternative title explicitly highlights the focus on policy evolution and its impact on higher education curriculum development. |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | The abstract is comprehensive but needs minor revisions for clarity and coherence. It should explicitly state the study’s objective, provide a clearer chronological summary of key policy changes, and emphasize their impact on higher education. Long sentences should be simplified for better readability, and minor grammatical errors should be corrected. Additionally, a concluding statement highlighting the significance of these reforms for future educational policy-making would strengthen the abstract. |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | The manuscript is scientifically correct, well-researched, and supported by relevant literature. It effectively analyzes Zimbabwe’s educational policies but could be strengthened with more empirical data and quantitative evidence on policy impacts. Minor refinements in data presentation and methodology would enhance its academic rigor. |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.**  **-** | The references are comprehensive but include many older sources. Adding recent studies (2018-2024) on post-2015 educational reforms, quality assurance, and competency-based education would improve relevance. Including comparative studies from other Southern African countries and policy impact assessments would further strengthen the manuscript. |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | The manuscript’s language is generally appropriate for scholarly communication, but there are some grammatical inconsistencies and awkward sentence structures that need attention. Some sentences are too long and complex, making them harder to follow. Breaking them into shorter, clearer sentences would improve readability.  Additionally, a few sections could benefit from more precise wording to maintain a strong academic tone. There are also minor typographical errors that should be corrected to enhance clarity. A thorough proofreading and language review would help refine the text and ensure a smooth, professional flow throughout the manuscript. |  |
| Optional/General comments | Long and Complex Sentences  Example (Page 1 - Abstract)  Original: "It is in this context that this chapter explores how the conservative reforms (i.e., Education Act 1979) of the transitional government of ‘Zimbabwe-Rhodesia’ (1978 - 80) promoted the colonial legacy of inequality."  Suggested Revision: "This chapter examines how the conservative reforms of the transitional government (1978-1980), particularly the Education Act of 1979, reinforced colonial-era inequalities." |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)* |  |

**Reviewers:**

**Lawrence Mwelwa, Kesmonds International University, Cameroon**