

Review of: "Is the Reading Crisis in South Africa Sustained on Purpose?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The subject matter is not really in my field, but I do review articles and provide academic advice about structure and logic of article writing in any discipline.

To that end, the article is well-written with a well-conceptualised research gap (3 pedagogic factors) and then the use of literature study and an informal investigation.

I would question why the investigation is informal. There is an ethical declaration, but this highlights that this material is dated from 1990. While I acknowledge that the idea is to treat this issue longitudinally, the research would need an updated data set for the full appreciation of the "then" and "now" dimensions that the abstract and title allude to.

If the researcher prefers to use informal knowledge, then I would self-narrative as a methodology for overcoming the need to go into detailed empirical time with participants who might not be located in that time period anymore.

I think the question is important, but I sense this article would struggle in a peer-reviewed journal based on its current empirical question marks.