

Review of Exploring the role of social, economic and cultural factors in community development: a social work perspective in T/A Chimwala, Mangochi.

GIBSON, N.

2023

Review of: "Exploring the Role of Social, Economic, and Cultural Factors in Community Development: A Social Work Perspective in T/A Chimwala, Mangochi"

Neil Gibson¹

¹ The Robert Gordon University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I found this to be an interesting short article which offered some themes that influence social, cultural and economic development in rural Malawi. It would have been good to read some more about why this particular town/area was selected for the study.

The abstract was clear in its overview and the introduction offered a short review of some literature relevant to this area, but as I said above, it would have been good to read more about Mangochi. It was also not clear what kind of social work involvement this might inform.

The methodology did need more information. It was not clear how many people were involved in the study, nor how the data was analysed. The author mentions software packages, but these did not do the analysis, so how were the themes arrived at?

The presentation of results was interspersed with some useful literature to inform thinking behind these, which was useful. I was still left wondering how the themes were arrived at and felt that some qualitative information would have been really useful to get a sense of the way these identified themes were impacting on the community.

Overall, it confirmed areas which impact on community development, but some deeper insight and clarity around participants would have been welcomed.