

## Chapter 5

### **Title: Backyard schools and private colleges in Zimbabwe: a service or disservice to the nation? Some observations around Harare**

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#### **Introduction**

Zimbabwe's strides in democratizing access to education, particularly at primary and secondary school levels to achieve equitable development are well known (Loewenson, 2000). For example, during five years of independence (1980-1985), the expansion rates were 61% at primary school level and 63% at secondary school level. The number of primary schools increased from 2401 in 1970 to 4234 by 1985 and 4723 in 1999. At secondary school level, the expansion rates were even higher: the number of schools went up from 177 in 1979 to 1215 in 1985 and then to 1548 in 1999 [Zimbabwe Human Development Report (ZHDR) 2000]. ...