

ABSTRACT

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF STUDENTS IN CO-EDUCATIONAL AND SINGLE SEX SCHOOLS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO CERTAIN VARIABLES

MARJORIE C. EDWARDS-BAILEY

This study sought to investigate academic achievement of students in co-educational and single-sex schools and its relationship to:- Attitude Towards School, Life Style, Masculine Predisposition and Feminine Predisposition

The sample consisted of 434 fifth form students in eight traditional high schools:- two boys' schools, two girls' schools and four co-educational schools.

Various instruments were used to obtain answers to the questions posed.

The main findings are as follows:-

1. Students with positive attitudes towards school perform well in school.
2. Students with favourable life style have higher academic achievement.
3. Students with masculine predisposition perform well in school.

4. Boys and girls in single-sex schools perform better than boys and girls in co-educational schools.
5. Boys in single-sex schools out-perform girls in single-sex schools and boys and girls in co-educational schools.

Based on the findings, conclusions were drawn and recommendations made. These recommendations include:

- a. Parents need to encourage students to have a positive attitude towards school by their example, and by showing approval whenever the child does well.
- b. A thorough analysis of co-educational schools operations should be carried out to discover the exact reasons why single-sex schools perform better than co-educational schools. Measures could then be implemented to improve the co-educational school system.
- c. The government should place more emphasis on co-educational schools to see to it that they are on par with single-sex schools.