

ABSTRACT

An Exploratory Analysis of the Academic Underachievement of One Denominational Primary School in the Caroni Education District: A Case Study

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This qualitative case study sought to explore the consistent academic underachievement of one primary school in the Caroni Education District in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected from four teachers and the principal through interviews, as well as through observations and document analysis. The findings revealed that: 1) the teachers' pedagogical images had atrophied over time; 2) the teachers had become mere technicians of pedagogy; 3) the teachers' work, commitment, and motivation were not supported by parents; and 4) there is little hope for a new physical plant that is conducive to learning.

Keywords: Case studies; Underachievement; Primary schools; Primary school teachers; Denominational schools; Teacher attitudes; Academic achievement; School effectiveness; Failure factors; Trinidad and Tobago