ABSTRACT

A Case Study: An Understanding and Acceptance of School Social Work in One Primary School in Trinidad and Tobago

Natalie Robinson-Arnold

This case study sought to explore the understanding and acceptance of school social work at a primary school in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through interviews held with, and questionnaires administered to, teachers, students, and parents at a single-sex school. The findings indicated that satisfaction with the service came primarily from the magnitude of the problem fixed and how well it was addressed. Clients who had positive experiences were more likely to use the service in the future. 75 percent of the clients expressed satisfaction, while 20 percent felt that the unit did not sufficiently meet their needs. 10 percent shared the view that the school population was not fully aware of the services offered but concluded that it was necessary to the effective functioning of the school system.

Keywords: Primary schools; Social work; Programme evaluation; Student welfare; Trinidad and Tobago