

## ABSTRACT

### **From Teacher to Middle Manager: An Investigation of Heads of Department's [sic] Perceptions of Their Roles as They Transition to Middle Managers in a Secondary School in South Trinidad**

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This study sought to investigate how heads of departments (HoDs) were transitioning into their roles from teachers to middle managers, and the implications of the transition for their school environment. Data were collected through interviews held with three HoDs at a single-sex school in South Trinidad. The findings revealed that: 1) some of the HoDs believed that they were not adequately trained to meet the challenges and perform some of the core duties of an HoD; 2) the HoDs experienced work overload since they had to perform the duties of an HoD in addition to teaching, preparing lessons, marking scripts, conducting labs, and other duties; 3) they did not feel that they were involved in the decision-making process of the school; and 4) they experienced a greater sense of ownership of, and pride in, their departments.

**Keywords:** Administrator attitudes; Heads of department; Secondary schools; Professional development; Perceptions; Educational administrators; School administration; Trinidad and Tobago