

## ABSTRACT

### **Why Do Students With Literacy Needs Engage in Delinquent Activities: A Phenomenological Case Study of Six Students at School X**

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This study explored the lives and educational experiences of six remedial students at a secondary school who engaged in delinquent activities on and off the school compound, in order to determine whether they perceived the world of academia as relevant to their needs and future aspirations. Data were collected through interviews with six students at a secondary school in the St. George Education District in Trinidad. The students unanimously agreed that there were communication problems between them and the teachers, which accounted for so many of them having reports of being disrespectful to authority figures. Other factors, such as peer pressure and the right to defend oneself, also came up as common themes.

**Keywords:** Case studies; Coeducational schools; Secondary school students; Student attitudes; Indiscipline; Delinquency causes; Discipline problems; Slow learners; Juvenile delinquency; Illiteracy; Trinidad and Tobago