ABSTRACT

An Investigation of Teachers’ Classroom Management Strategies as it Relates to Students’ Discipline at Three Schools in Central Trinidad

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This study examined teacher’s beliefs, perceptions, and experiences of alternative forms of punishment with regard to maintaining student discipline at three primary schools in Central Trinidad. Data were collected through interviews with six teachers, two each from three primary schools in the Caroni Educational District. The findings revealed that the teachers harboured mixed views on the subject. They agreed that both corporal punishment and alternative strategies have advantages as well as disadvantages. However, the data also indicated that the teachers are not wholly aware of the existing alternative strategies and how these should be effectively implemented.

Keywords: Case studies; Primary school teachers; Punishment; Classroom management; Indiscipline; Discipline problems; Trinidad and Tobago.