ABSTRACT

An Investigation Into Teachers’ Perceptions of Using Alternatives [sic] Disciplinary Measures to Corporal Punishment in the Post-Corporal Punishment Period at Decynhill R.C. Primary School

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This study sought to elicit five teachers’ views about the use of alternative disciplinary measures in the post-corporal punishment period at a primary school in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through interviews. The findings showed that although the teachers perceived discipline as compliance which could be achieved through preventative measures, their practice indicated the employment of intervention strategies. It was also found that alternative measures had a positive impact on students’ attitude to their work, and their demonstration of responsibility was more evident at the Infant and Junior levels. Additionally, the findings showed that time constraints and contradictory parental attitude were inhibiting factors in the teachers’ effective administration of alternative measures to corporal punishment.

Keywords: Perceptions; Case studies; Primary school teachers; Teacher attitudes; Discipline problems; Indiscipline; Punishment; Trinidad and Tobago.