

ABSTRACT

The Perceptions of Parents and Teachers on Their Roles in the Effectiveness of the Parent Teacher Association at Moonstone High School

Kempa Thomas-St.Louis

This study investigated the perceptions of parents and teachers on their respective roles as contributors to the effectiveness of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at a secondary school in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through two focus group interviews with eight parents and eight teachers of the school, respectively. The findings revealed that most of the participants had not been actively involved in the PTA for various reasons. They perceived that the PTA had been ineffective for a while, and cited absenteeism, lack of awareness of the PTA's importance, and communication barriers as major causes. The participants agreed that collaboration between parents and teachers was integral to the way forward.

Keywords: Secondary school teachers; Teacher attitudes; Parent attitudes; Case studies; Parent teacher organizations; Secondary schools; Parent participation; Parent teacher relationship; Parent role; Teacher role; Trinidad and Tobago.