

ABSTRACT

“Cultures of Practice”: Teachers’ Perceptions of Their Roles and Their Responsibilities as Teachers in a Government Secondary School and a Denominational Secondary School in the St. George East District

Angela Graham-Rudolfo

This study examined the cultures of practice of teachers in two public schools (one government and one denominational) in Trinidad and Tobago, through an investigation of teachers’ perceptions of their roles and responsibilities as teachers. Data were collected through interviews with, and a questionnaire administered to, four teachers at the schools. Analysis of the data indicated that the teachers' practices varied according to their personal beliefs and expectations, and teacher professionalism, as well as the schools’ climate, culture, and leadership characteristics.

Keywords: Perceptions; Case studies; Secondary school teachers; Teacher attitudes; Denominational schools; Public schools; Teacher role; Teacher responsibility; Educational practice; Trinidad and Tobago.