ABSTRACT

WORK, THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL AND SPECIALISED CRAFT IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: AN ANALYSIS

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The Study investigated whether there was correspondence among those in comprehensive schools and those in the world of work with respect to machine shop craft practice. To assist in the investigation questionnaires were distributed to final year machine shop students of 11 comprehensives, and the machine shop teachers of those students. Questionnaires were also distributed to machine shop workers of large, medium and small enterprises, as well as the employers of those workers. Employers were also interviewed to obtain information on the enterprises.

Similar questions were asked of the four groups of subjects to determine how they perceived the various issues. The extent to which their perceptions coincided on the different issues, or failed to coincide, provided the information required to analyse the thoughts and activities of those operating in both spheres of that particular area of craft.

Statistically the hypotheses were supported, however, the differences in perceptions were so numerous, that one is compelled to conclude that there are major differences of opinion among those actively involved in craft at comprehensive school and in industry.