

ABSTRACT

Exploring Issues Associated with Student Apathy That Confront Teachers at Primary School X

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This study explored issues confronting teachers in their attempts to help apathetic students attain success at a suburban, co-educational primary school in Trinidad and Tobago. It also examined the strategies employed by the teachers to address these issues. Data were obtained through interviews with three teachers of the school and through observations. The findings revealed that the teachers faced challenges which interfered with the workflow. These were identified as: 1) inattentiveness, 2) unruly behaviours, 3) work avoidance, and 4) preparation for assessments. It was also found that emphasis on academic performance resulted in the neglect of the inclusion of non-cognitive skills in the teaching/learning experiences.

Keywords: Case studies; Primary school teachers; Teacher attitudes; Primary school students; Student attitudes; Student participation; Trinidad and Tobago