

ABSTRACT

Attitudes towards history in the fourth forms in High School have, on the whole, been bad over the years. The problem here was to find out the reasons for these bad attitudes, and to find ways whereby some attitudes could be corrected.

The sample chosen was sixty students. Thirty fourth formers were chosen from Merl Grove, a girls' school, and thirty others from Campion, a co-educational school.

Data was collected by questionnaires. Questionnaires were administered by the researcher without the interference of the teachers of the various classes.

It was found that some variables which were correlated with attitudes showed little relationship. But it was also found that variables like self efficacy and the use of audio-visual aids had a high correlation. M.Hamilton's findings that boys tended to be science oriented, whereas girls were arts oriented, was found to be correct. Teachers, it was found needed to be more kind, more approachable,

and more available to the students. Socio-economic status it was found had little relationship with attitudes from the comments on the open question however, it was found that some topics taught in history were regarded by the students as irrelevant.