

ABSTRACT

Students' Attitudes to Reading at a Girls' Secondary School

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This study sought to examine the factors that influence students' attitudes towards reading at a girls' secondary school in Chaguanas, Trinidad. Data were collected through a survey of two groups of students (one Form 1 and one Form 3). The survey assessed four dimensions of reading attitude: intrinsic motivation, avoidance, learning orientation, and extrinsic motivation. Results from the study indicated that the Form 1 students' attitudes towards reading are more positive overall, in comparison to those of the Form 3 students. The Form 1 students were more intrinsically motivated to read, while the Form 3 students were more likely to avoid reading situations. Further, the Form 1 students scored slightly higher on the questions that pertained to learning orientation and extrinsic motivation.

Keywords: Female students; Reading habits; Secondary school students; Student attitudes; Performance factors; Girls; Trinidad and Tobago