

ABSTRACT

Juvenile Delinquency: A Student  
Video Production Experience.

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The experience of student video production in a Form Four Social Studies class, on the topic of juvenile delinquency, was investigated using ethnographic methods. A class of eighteen 14 - 15 year old boys and girls, in a Senior Comprehensive School in Trinidad and Tobago, were exposed to the use of a video camera as a means of observation, recording interviews and data collection, in order to acquire a greater understanding of juvenile delinquency. The class project included classroom activities and field visits. The students were divided into groups and identified places to visit and persons to interview using video equipment. Having completed the field visits, the material was reviewed, appropriate sequences selected and a presentation made.

The students' activities were recorded and analysed through participant observation and qualitative evaluation techniques, using still photography and audio and videotape recordings.

The students developed many skills during this study. They collected data, organized and analysed information,

selected material and presented the results in a comprehensive manner. They became aware of the role of the media in defining evidence, and gained proficiency in video production skills. They demonstrated a high degree of self-motivation, responsibility and confidence. Working in groups they showed co-operation and leadership skills.

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