

ABSTRACT

This study was designed to investigate achievement need (n-Ach) of girls in three types of Secondary Schools in Jamaica, namely the Traditional Grammar School, the Technical High School and the New Secondary School. The relationship between nine independent variables identified from the literature, and the criterion n-Ach was also investigated. The independent variables were conceptualized into three groups: Home Environment Factors, School Environment Factors and Conditions within the Child.

The data obtained from the sample of 165 subjects was subject to: Orthogonal Factor Analysis with Varimax Rotation, from which three factors obtained were identified as Achievement Orientation Factor, Educational Values Orientation Factor and Personal Orientation Factor, which contributed 30%, 2% and 19% respectively to variance in the criterion;

Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis revealed that the best predictors of the criterion were the variables School Type (Var. 10), Anxiety (Var. 7) and Early Education (Var. 3) which accounted for 20.6% of variance;

Discriminant Function Analysis D.F.A. revealed that in the main, the New Secondary School girls were most appropriately placed and that there was a tendency for the Technical High School

girls to be most inappropriately placed.

One-way analysis of variance showed that there were significant differences between n-Ach in all three school types, with the New Secondary School displaying the highest level which was significantly higher than the High School at the 1% level, whilst being higher than the Technical School at the 5% level.