

**Browne, Jean, 1997, 'The Contribution of the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme, as an Example of Curriculum Development, to Quality in Education'.**

## **ABSTRACT of Dissertation**

### **AIM**

The aim of the study is to investigate the contribution of the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme, as an example of curriculum development, to quality in education.

### **METHODOLOGY**

Phase one and phase two schools in County Cork comprise the population. The probability method of stratified random sampling was used to select the sample. Out of a total of seventeen schools four single sex girls' schools, two single sex boys' schools and one co-educational school were selected.

Three dimensions of quality in education were identified; curriculum, human/personal and economic. An interview schedule was designed to elicit information on each of these dimensions as they relate to the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. The co-ordinator from each of the schools was interviewed.

### **RESULTS**

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme makes a contribution to quality in education. Through programme development and in-service provision it adds to the quality of curriculum in Irish second level schools. On the human/personal level it improves the quality of teaching and learning that takes place in school. The programme also helps prepare students for the world of work.