

Casey, David, 2005, *Perceptions of Guidance in a Selected Adult Education VTOS Centre*

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

This dissertation deals with the topic: Perceptions of Guidance in a selected Adult Education VTOS Centre in a city in Southern Ireland. The Guidance programme within the Vocational Opportunities Training Scheme course is examined from different perspectives.

Chapter 1, Introduction, describes the nature of VTOS and also provides definitions of Career Guidance Counselling and Education. It examines adult education in the Irish context and looks at the Irish Government's response to adult education. The chapter also looks at what VTOS provides, what it has achieved and provides background information about the Centre.

Chapter 2, **Literature Review**, discusses the teaching paradigms of adult education by referring to a selection of theorists in this field. The needs of the adult learner and the writings of various authors on adult education are reviewed.

Chapter 3, **Research Methodology**, describes in detail the triangulation research techniques used in this dissertation. Qualitative and quantitative research are also discussed in some detail.

Chapter 4, **Presentation of Data**, presents and discusses the research findings of this study. The processing of the data identified four recurring themes, which are presented here in the general context of the literature review.

Chapter 5, **Conclusions and Recommendations**, includes a discussion of results and outlines recommendations for improving and further developing a VTOS second chance education for adults in Ireland.