

**Culhane, Mary, 2008, *An Inquiry into Professional Development of Primary School Teachers in Urban and Rural Schools in Ireland.***

### **ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION**

In an era where lifelong learning is promoted and great educational change is occurring, continuing professional development of teachers has the potential to help them manage and drive this change. If teacher's are motivated to engage in professional development and their needs are being met, it can result in the improved learning outcomes for students and increased job satisfaction.

The principal aim of this study is to establish the perceptions of some primary school teachers with regard to the appropriateness of current professional development opportunities, the needs of the teachers in this area , the motivating factors for engaging in professional development. The study also attempts to compare and contrast these perceptions with the views of several of the established authors writing in this area.

This study allows for the findings to be recorded, and conclusions and recommendations to be proposed.