

Falvey, Nuala, 2004, *A Study of Senior Level Science: Incorporating the Attitudes of Students.*

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

This dissertation involved a study of senior level science in three second-level schools. The students were surveyed using questionnaires and interviews. The researcher chose a secondary, a vocational and a community school for comparative purpose. Students were questioned about their attitudes to science at senior level and their opinions on a career in science. Comparisons were made between female and male responses.

Research in the area of science as a school subject shows that students find the science difficult and uninteresting. The uptake of science as a Leaving Certificate subject has dramatically decreased in the case of weaker students.

Evidence gathered in this research shows that the literature is correct. The NCCA has been addressing the issues around Junior Certificate science with the introduction of a new syllabus. New Leaving Certificate courses have also been introduced to improve the uptake of senior level science.