

Merrick, Caroline, 2002, *The effectiveness of School Drug Policies Based on a Comparative Localised Study.*

ABSTRACT

Chapter One - The chapter begins by stating that recent research suggests that drugs are becoming an ever-increasing problem within the Irish adolescent population. This comparative study seeks to assess the effectiveness of the Southern Health Board's Guidelines for Schools initiative by use of a questionnaire to three post-primary schools who participated in the initiative and three post-primary schools who did not.

Chapter Two - This chapter attempts to cite and review material written on the current situation of drug misuse in Ireland. It concludes by looking at the role of education in particular, in response to the drug problem in Ireland. A case study is included.

Chapter Three - The method of research chosen for this study is descriptive research with the use of a questionnaire. A number of national studies are listed from a methodological perspective. A detailed description of the questionnaire used in this study is given along with a proposed method for administration.

Chapter Four - The results of the questionnaires are graphed and tabled. Comparisons are made between the schools who participated in the Southern Health Board's initiative and those school which did not.

Chapter Five – An analysis of the results is presented here. Conclusions are drawn and recommendations are given.