

Ní Chonchúir, Ciara, 2014, *A Comparative Study on the Role and Function of 'Parents Associations' in Gaelscoileanna Primary Schools in County Cork*

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

This study aimed to investigate and compare Parents' Associations and what hinders parents from getting involved, in a selection of Gaelscoileanna in County Cork.

Questionnaires were distributed to the three Gaelscoileanna that were the focus of this study. These schools were within a 35km radius of each other, and the questionnaires were given to all first class pupils. The return varied. Three interviews were conducted with the three Chairpersons of the Parents' Association in each Gaelscoil, in order to assess participants' attitudes, knowledge and experience regarding the 'Parents' Association'.

The results revealed that there was a substantial lack of awareness of the role and function of a Parents' Association and many misconceptions regarding the Parents' Association were apparent. Parents in this study realised the importance of communication between the Parents' Association, school and parents in order to motivate more active membership.