

**O'Sullivan, Marie, 2007, *Disciplinary Procedures and Practices: Perceptions of teachers in Three Rural North Cork Second-level Schools.***

## **ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION**

The escalating nature of indiscipline in schools in contemporary society is a very worrying phenomenon. The author undertook this research project to investigate the perceptions of teachers in rural North Cork second-level schools in relation to behaviour management issues.

The author examined the following issues: teacher perceptions of the most frequent misbehaviours which occur in schools, the causes of student misbehaviour, the effects of indiscipline on the teacher and remedies for tackling the problem of indiscipline. The author was interested in finding out if the survey results concur with the established literature on the topic of behaviour management in schools.

A number of conclusions are drawn from the research which point to the need for a "whole school approach" to behaviour management and the importance of the formation of a "collaborative partnership" between each of the stakeholders in the education system. The survey also indicates that the Irish education system needs to be responsive to the enormous social and demographical changes, which are currently taking place.

Schools need to be proactive rather than reactive in dealing with discipline problems, but they can only succeed with the support of parents, the community and the Department of Education and Science.