

HOW ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES TO CORPORAL PUNISHMENT CAN BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE IN GHANAIAN BASIC SCHOOLS: PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

Finding solutions to the challenges with the use of alternative strategies to corporal punishment to ensure a long-lasting discipline in schools is a concern of educational stakeholders. This study employed a qualitative research approach, involving interviews with 15 basic school teachers and focus group discussions with 15 basic school headteachers in the Mampong Municipality of Ghana, to explore their perspectives on addressing challenges associated with using alternative strategies to corporal punishment. The phenomenological research design was used to ascertain the lived experiences of the participants on the phenomenon under study. Seven action-oriented activities on the part of stakeholders were drawn from the thematic analysis of the data, as ways of addressing the challenges with the use of alternative strategies to corporal punishment. It was recommended among others that, for a successful use of the alternative strategies, education of stakeholders and stakeholder collaboration on the use of the strategies are necessary.

Keywords: Alternative strategies, Corporal punishment, Basic schools, Teachers, Effective, Stakeholders, Perceptions.