

The Attitude of Trained Teachers Towards Postings to Rural Areas

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Abstract

The unwillingness of some trained teachers to accept postings to rural areas has telling effects on the quality of education received by the rural dwellers. In this study on the “recruitment and retention of teachers” in the basic schools, Fosu (1993) found that most teachers refuse postings to rural areas because of the following reasons: rural hostilities, detachment from relatives and friends, social amenities, and difficulty in getting suitable partners for life. Their absence however always has pervasive effects on the rural school pupils as most of them lack teachers in their various subject areas.

Furthermore, since education is a progressive venture, rural dwellers need teachers to help them meet their yearning aspirations. Most of the communities are far from town, so if teachers fail to extend their services to them, the children cannot have access to formal education, thereby making them illiterates and/ or unproductive members to the society.

The main purpose of this research was to find out why some trained teachers refuse postings to the Abetifi District of the Eastern Region, and why others also leave the district shortly after their posting.

The study arose because of the recent cases of trained teacher unwillingness to accept postings to the rural areas in the Abetifi District.

In carrying out the study, the researchers used the simple random sampling technique to select one hundred and two (102) trained teachers from one hundred and two (102) Junior Secondary School (JSS) in the Abetifi District of the Eastern Region. Questionnaires were however employed as the major tool for collection of data for the study; table and percentages were for analyzing the data.

The study among other revealed such issues as lack of social amenities and incentives packages for rural teachers. In view of this, recommendations were made to teachers, parents, official at the Ghana Education Service, Government, and the Non-Governmental Organization alike to assist in providing the needed support for the education of the student in the Abetifi District of the Eastern Region.

Keywords: Rural hostilities, social amenities, progressive venture