

A Study on School Drop-outs in Rural Settings

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ABSTRACT A cross sectional survey of school drop-outs in rural settings was carried out using open-ended interview formats and demographic data sheet on a sample of 120 parents, teachers and drop-out children. Their perceived/reported reasons for school drop- out yielded nearly sixty causes. Their empirical domain wise classification revealed three major clusters with significant differences in the reported causes in relation to gender, occupation and educational status of teachers; SES and education of parents; and, gender of the drop- out children themselves. The results are represented and implications for their remediation are discussed illustratively on a triple Venn diagram with intersecting subsets of overlapping and independent perceptions between the respondents-parents, teachers and drop- out students respectively.