

Dissertation evaluation

Nabeta-Igeme Alice

„Parental Involvement in the Education of Children with Intellectual Disabilities with Regards to the Implementation of Inclusive Education in Primary School in Prague“

Tutor: Doc. PhDr. Marie Černá, CSc.

The dissertation is focused on parents' involvement in inclusive education. The choice of the above mentioned topic is closely connected with Alice's professional experience, and is highly up-to-date. Although parental involvement has been a key issue in implementing inclusion in the field of education in the past, the voice of parents is still misheard regardless of the country.

The dissertation (total 112 pages) is logically structured into six chapters; references and appendices are included. The abstract gives a clear idea about the following report. The appendices well illustrate the text. The material is correctly presented in standard English.

The background described in chapter one shows the importance of the presented study, especially for Alice's own country – Uganda. Together with defined importance of the study [1.7.2], and well formulated recommendations [p. 75, 6.4.3] the study could help implementation of new ideas into Uganda's education policy, strategies and daily school practice. Objectives of the study are well stated; operational definitions of terms are clearly defined, and are used systematically throughout the dissertation. The three research questions are relevant to the chosen topic.

In chapter two Alice presents relevant sources and demonstrates her ability to critically analyze professional knowledge. The broad literature review indicates the current state of knowledge in the field of parental involvement. I highly appreciate Alice's commentaries that demonstrate her ability to reflect theory upon her own practice.

Chapter three dealing with methodology gives research design, research paradigms and it characterizes the qualitative research approach. The process of questionnaire and interview preparation is clearly described; research schedule, validity and limitations are included. The combination of methods – questionnaires and interviews – together with visits to schools, discussions with both parents and teachers and observation in classes— demonstrates the author's full understanding of the methodology used. Ethical issues are considered as well, and were taken into consideration during the research.

The gained data from different approaches are analyzed in chapter four and are put into meaningful context. The following reflection and discussion in Sumperk properly illustrates the topic.

Important research outcomes are presented in chapter five, Discussion. This chapter gives a solid display of Alice's ability to evaluate her own research findings in the light of critically reviewed background literature.

The conclusions, suggestions and recommendations in chapter six are based on research outcomes, and demonstrate their significance for future research and educational practice. Focus on two countries – Uganda and Czech Republic – is fully acceptable. **I recommend Alice to present her own ideas about practical strategies that would make parents more involved in education of their children, and school cooperation.**

During her work on the dissertation Alice demonstrated great independence, responsibility and full involvement in the topic. As an author Alice was open-minded enough to accept my advice and systematically work together with me.

I recommend Nabeta-Igeme Alice's dissertation to be accepted for viva

Mark: excellent

Prague, August 2007



M.Černá