

# Religious attitudes in an integrated primary school - a Northern Ireland case-study

**CEM - Integrated schools in Northern Ireland: education for peace and reconciliation.**



Description: -

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## **Two tribes: A divided Northern Ireland**

The appendices contain a short report on the activities in this area being carried out by other bodies, and a set of case studies of some projects that have taken place or are currently taking place. A Process for Encouraging Co-operation.

## **Integrated schools**

This concern about the possible anti-social effects of segregation was significantly more marked among principals than among assistant teachers. David Stevens, Irish Council of Churches.

## **Loving dangerously**

The formal involvement of religious institutions in state education was partly justified on the basis of protecting the interests of minority communities. Their ethos and religious education are controlled by sectoral bodies, most prominently the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools.

## **What is integrated education?**

The opening of a debate in Northern Ireland contrasts with the situation in mainland Britain where our leading politicians are all committed not only to keeping our existing faith schools but also to making more of them. Further evidence of high-quality education is the fact that parents choose to place their children in integrated schools, and the level of satisfaction expressed by both parents and pupils Montgomery et al. Nimma, as it is known, was set up in 1974 and has been grant-aided by Northern Ireland's community relations council, recognising the potential of mixed marriages to bridge the sectarian gulf.

## **What is integrated education?**

At its best, openness to religious diversity promotes honest enquiry and encounter and can lead to new relationships. Every child learning: Safe, supportive schools. Integrated education is defined by NICIE as: Education together in schools of pupils drawn in approximately equal numbers

from the two major traditions with the aim of providing for an effective education that gives equal recognition to and promotes equal expression of the two major traditions.

### **Integrated Education, Intergroup Relations, and Political Identities in Northern Ireland on JSTOR**

The Belmore Commission 1897 was set up to assess practical and manual instruction in Ireland.

#### **What is integrated education?**

Figures include children in nursery, reception and year 1 - 7 classes. Any number of projects might have been justified: an assessment of the specific relationship between segregated schools and intolerant community attitudes among children, either by a longitudinal study or by attempting to isolate extra-mural influences, would clearly be an important contribution; so would a study of the school's role as a socialising institution in a divided society; it might also be argued that a more positive attempt to improve inter-schools relations or to conduct experimental projects in integrated schooling is badly needed. Many of the Church of Ireland schools were then financially supported by a number of well-endowed Protestant institutions in Ireland and Britain.

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