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## Parental Expectations of Education for Children in a Local Church

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PARENTAL EXPECTATIONS OF EDUCATION  
FOR CHILDREN IN A LOCAL CHURCH

by

WILMA REINHARDT

RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT

Presented to the Faculty of Behavioral Science

College of Arts and Education

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

in Partial Fulfillment

for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

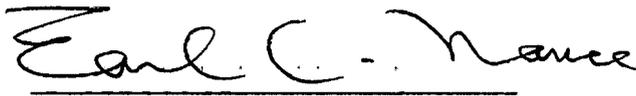
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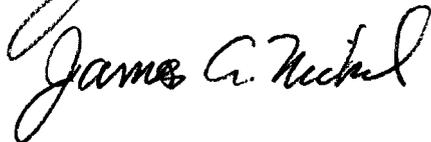
May 1982

PARENTAL EXPECTATIONS OF EDUCATION  
FOR CHILDREN IN A LOCAL CHURCH

APPROVED BY SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE:

  
Chairman



## Abstract

Expectations for various roles of those responsible for Christian education of children may be defined by the church institution. However, persons in these roles through their own expectations and interaction with others may effect the enacted roles. Role theory as a part of interactionalism is used to explain the phenomena of this particular situation. To identify the parental expectations, a survey was taken. The survey included demographic information and a wide range of statements of possible expectations with a five point response scale. Responses of 70 participants indicated homogeneity of general characteristics. Statements that parents are mainly responsible for their children's Christian education and parents want their children in a varied program which would be Bible centered and designed for religious experience and learning about relationships, self development, morals, moral decision making and God's world and its care drew support. Areas with mixed responses included forced participation, and parents being told and disciplining their children. A chi square contingency test was applied to various pairings of statements. At 5% level, significance was found which indicated a possibility of correlation between some pairings. Processes were identified as possibilities for use of this study toward developing an effective Christian education program in light of role theory.