

THE NUTS AND DOLTS OF TEACHER
IMAGES IN CHILDREN'S PICTURE
STORYBOOKS: A CONTENT ANALYSIS.

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Abstract:

Children's picture storybooks are rife with contradictory representations of teachers and school. Some of those accurate. Some of those images are quite disparate from reality. These representations become subsumed into consciousness of a society and shape expectations and behaviors of both students and teachers. Teachers cannot change in their profession unless and until they are aware of the internal and external influences that define an educational institution. This ethnographic content analysis examines 62 titles and 96 images of teachers to probe stereotypes/cliches. The authors found the following: The teacher in children's picture storybooks is overwhelmingly white, non-Hispanic, woman. The teacher in picture storybooks who is sensitive, competent, and able to manage effectively is a minority. The negative images outnumbered the positive images. The teacher in children's picture storybooks is static, unchanging, and flat. The teacher is polarized and does not inspire in his or her students the pursuit of excellence.

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