

## ROLE MODELS AND LIFE HISTORIES OF TEACHER TRAINEES AS TOOLS FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHER EDUCATION: A CASE OF GEOGRAPHY TEACHER TRAINEES, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, UGANDA

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### ABSTRACT

*Three hundred and ten (310) undergraduate and postgraduate students participated in this study. The participants were requested to write down the best and worst teachers in their life right from primary to high school which is 14 years of schooling. They had to identify qualities that made that teacher good/and role model and likely to influence their development as geography teachers. Results show that students value and love teachers that are intelligent and have good knowledge of the subject matter, approachable, morally upright, approachable/accessible, honest and guides the students, smartly dressed and presentable. They particularly liked geography teachers that used the environment round the school as a laboratory making the subject real and relevant, used fieldwork as a method of teaching, use of maps, pictures, graphs regularly in class. They particularly hated teachers who sexually abused students, discriminated against dull students, had no teaching aids, and didn't mark books, consequently no feedback, and no fieldwork in Geography. Through discussions and peer teaching teacher trainees demonstrated their creativity through the teaching methods and materials they used. They promised to continue developing alternative teaching methods and materials for their own professional career development*

**Keywords:** *Life histories, Role models, Teacher Training, Geography*