

O. E. O. CONTRACT # 1425 CODE # 0200

TITLE: Differences in Learning Behavior Among Regional and Ethnic Groups

GROUP CONDUCTING STUDY: Educational Design, Inc., 29 East 10th Street,  
New York, New York

TIME SPAN: July 13, 1966 - March 1, 1967

CURRENT STATUS: Completed

Purpose: To investigate different techniques of learning in youths from different ethnic, regional, and social class backgrounds. The theoretical treatment of levels of learning (formal, informal, and technical) proposed by E. T. Hall in The Silent Language, will provide the framework for approaching this problem. The aim of the study was to suggest possible ways to overcome problems arising from teaching youths who learn most efficiently in different manners.

Method: The contractor

- interviewed Puerto Ricans, Negroes from North and South, and Appalachian whites at four Job Corps Centers: 2 Conservation Centers and 2 Urban Centers
- interviewed urban and suburban white middle-class males of the same ages as Corpsmen
- interviewed personnel at Job Corps Centers
- interviewed parents and teachers of the white middle-class group
- observed at Job Corps Centers:
  - Corpsmen confronting crisis situations, such as induction into the center, or problems faced when leaving the center
  - work projects and vocational instruction
  - types of learning exhibited during orientation period in center

Form of Report: Written report, with suggestions for approaches to teaching aimed at specific subgroups of Corpsmen

Further Information: Evaluation and Research Branch, Job Corps