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Analyzing the Effects of Ability Grouping On Students' Self-Confidence

Kristen Zomparelli

Illinois Wesleyan University

Rachel Green, '07

Illinois Wesleyan University

Venus Evans-Winters, Faculty Advisor

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Poster Presentation P37

**ANALYZING THE EFFECTS OF ABILITY GROUPING ON
STUDENTS' SELF-CONFIDENCE**

Kristen Zomparelli, Rachel Green and Venus Evans-Winters*
Educational Studies Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

The purpose of this poster presentation is to demonstrate the relationship between ability grouping and students' level of self-confidence. The research looked at both ability-grouped and mixed ability level classrooms to determine which environment promotes the highest levels of self-confidence for the students. Specifically, the research involves surveying students and interviewing experienced teachers at Normal Community West High School. Preliminary findings suggest that students in mixed ability classes have higher levels of self-confidence overall than those in ability-grouped classes. Our results are consistent with the findings of Jeannie Oakes and other renowned researchers in this field. The project has implications for all students and educators as well as for those concerned with improving students' self-confidence levels and the learning environment in schools.