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Teacher Perspectives on Different Englishes Used in Sri Lankan Classrooms

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English language has several varieties such as Sri Lankan English, British English, and American English and teachers have different perspectives on these different English varieties. In the Sri Lankan education system, there are three main sectors namely primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. Perspectives of teachers in these three different sectors toward different English varieties can vary depending on their linguistic backgrounds and the context in which they teach. Such perspectives have a significant impact on their teaching practices and students' learning experiences. Because of this, it is important to get to know about teachers' perspectives on different English varieties. The study investigated primary, secondary, and tertiary level teachers' perspectives toward different English varieties used in classrooms. In order to gather data for the study, a mixed method approach was used. Structured interviews were conducted to gather qualitative data while a questionnaire was used to gather quantitative data. The study findings show that the majority of teachers had positive attitudes towards and preferred to use Sri Lankan English. Additionally, teachers accepted different varieties to be used within the classroom enriching students' linguistic knowledge. Furthermore, the study presents recommendations for teachers and curriculum developers on how to effectively use different English varieties in the teaching process and curriculum and material development.

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