Reaching and teaching women on the Web: The challenge of barriers and bottom lines

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Abstract

This paper describes the experience of a private-sector facilitator in developing and offering an online course through the Women's International Electronic University. It highlights the challenges that many women face in overcoming barriers to participation in continuing education. In particular, the difficulties of balancing the demands of work, family, and educational responsibilities are noted. The paper also considers the difficulties the provider encounters when trying to balance the demands of cost-recovery with pedagogical goals.

As a Mathematics teacher and school principal I had the opportunity to observe closely the teaching and learning of Mathematics in Ethiopian schools. It was a common incident to see most students consider Mathematics as a subject which can not be easily understood and due to this reason their interest towards Mathematics was low and consequently the achievement of most students was unsatisfactory. Adds to the knowledge we have about the barriers and possibilities in learning and teaching Mathematics in the Ethiopian schools. Indicates possibilities to explore and overcome the barriers encountered.