

Main Difficulties in Teaching Chemistry in Secondary Schools

TEACHERS' CASE STUDY

Teacher's Case Study N.: 8

Name: *ME, Female*

Subject Taught: *Chemistry*

Place: *Athens area*

Description of the Case Study

Main difficulties in chemistry learning at school: *Cognitive problems linked to some contents and there is prejudice about chemistry's level of difficulty.*

Main difficulties in chemistry teaching at school: *The lack of time. The lack of labs. Insufficient textbooks.*

Identification of the main reasons why students do not choose to continue learning scientific subjects and chemistry in particular: *Classical studies are considered much easier than chemistry. A particular attitude is needed.*

Identification of strategies to rise the number of students choosing to learn scientific subjects in higher education: *A more suitable curriculum is needed in primary school, secondary school and high school.*

Description of initiatives known in the field of promoting lifelong learning: *Theoretically there is an effort to perform more experiments and adopt modern teaching techniques in schools. Unfortunately none of these are put in practice.*

Involvement in initiatives in the field of promoting lifelong learning: *Participant in a project concerning students' representations.*

Suggestions: *A research about the way students learn is needed by taking into consideration psychology, pedagogy and science education.*