ABSTRACT

An Investigation of Teachers’ Concerns About Sexuality Education at a Denominational Primary School in the Caroni Educational District

Melia Sambucharan

This study investigated the concerns of teachers at a primary school in Central Trinidad about the teaching of the sexuality and sexual health component of the Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) primary school syllabus. Data were collected through interviews with seven teachers who were purposively selected from each level of the school. The findings revealed the following 8 themes that aligned with four of the seven stages of the SoC dimension of CBAM: 1) anticipated parental reaction, 2) personal discomfort and embarrassment, 3) topics that conflict with personal beliefs, 4) time, 5) availability of resources, 6) training and pedagogical knowledge, 7) students’ reactions and comfort level, and 8) staff collaboration.

Keywords: Denominational schools; Concerns; Sex education; Health and family life education; Primary school teachers; Teacher attitudes; Curriculum implementation; Primary schools; Primary school curriculum; Trinidad and Tobago.