ABSTRACT

An Investigation of Low-Income Working Mothers and Their Involvement in Their Children's Educational Lives

Islyne Anne Thomas

This study explored the factors that influence parental involvement in a child's educational life, especially as it relates to low-income working mothers. Data were collected from all the students of a Standard 4 class of a primary school in the Port of Spain and Environs Educational District of Trinidad and Tobago, as well as from a purposive sample of three students and their parents, and teachers. Results showed that while the parents considered themselves to be actively involved in their children's lives as best as they could, the students and the teachers held opposing views. However, all parties agreed that the primary focus should be on the educational success of the students and the availability of programmes that would ensure this outcome.

Keywords: Parent student relationship; Parent role; Mothers; Educational experience; Working mothers; Primary school students; Case studies; Trinidad and Tobago