

Abstract

Whether the attitudes to science of selected grade six students were favourable or not; if there were significant differences in their attitudes based on their gender, socioeconomic background (SEB), school type and school location; and if there were significant relationships among the students' gender, SEB, school type and school location and their attitudes to science were investigated in this study. The sample consisted of 240 grade six students (103 boys and 137 girls). These students were selected from six primary schools in Jamaica: one private preparatory school, one public primary school from Kingston, Metropolitan Area, two private preparatory schools, and two public primary schools from rural Jamaica. Soyibo and Pinnock's (1998) Attitudes to Science Questionnaire was the instrument adopted for data collection. The results indicated that (a) the majority of the students had favourable attitudes to science; (b) there were no statistically significant differences in the students' attitudes to science based on their gender, SEB, school type and school location; and (c) there were no relationships among the students' gender, SEB, school type and school location and their attitudes to science.