

ABSTRACT

The Self is conceived here as being composed of a number of categories or sectors each consisting of many features. The categories and features can be conceptualized in three dimensions - cognized, social and ideal - and at two levels - conscious and unconscious.

The object of this study is to investigate the body category - Body Image - in its relationship to the total Self-Concept, and Anxiety in the cognized dimension at the conscious level. Also to examine the influence, if any, of certain physical and social variables on Body Image and the other "personality variables".

Section one contains a description of a structural model of the Self, together with a review of empirical studies relevant to this investigation. There is also in this section a description of the Jamaican society and the salient features of adolescence, as these might affect the Self-Concept and Body Image.

Section two contains the hypotheses erected for testing and also a description of the population on which they were tested. Also, there is the description of the ways in which the instruments were constructed and administered.

The final section, section three, contains the data obtained and also the discussions concerned with the evaluation of these data. Several hypotheses were supported in their claims, while others were only partially supported. Chapter 11 contains a general discussion of the overall findings of this investigation, and in it, an attempt is made to come to some general conclusions based on the study.