

## **ABSTRACT**

### **An Investigation into Primary School Teachers and Family Life Education**

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This research investigated the phenomenon of inclusion of family life education in the curriculum of a selected primary school in a small village in Trinidad and Tobago. It is a case study which looked at the beliefs of primary school teachers towards the inclusion of family life education in their school as well as their attitudes towards the subject. Their personal experiences, which shaped their beliefs and attitudes towards teaching of the subject, and the extent to which their beliefs and attitudes impacted on their teaching of the subject were also investigated.

The population consisted of eight primary school teachers. Data were obtained through interviews, observations, documents, and field notes. The findings revealed that the teachers believed family life education should be included in the curriculum of their school, since it provided the students with knowledge and skills which will enhance their personal and social development.

The teachers also demonstrated a positive attitude towards the subject because of the knowledge that the students would acquire. Their personal experiences did help to shape their beliefs and attitudes towards the subject and their beliefs and attitudes had a positive impact on their practice as they taught the subject in school. It is hoped that the results from this study will provide policy makers, curriculum planners, and teacher trainers with information that can assist in the successful implementation of the proposed health and family life education curriculum.

**Keywords:** beliefs, attitudes, practice, primary school teachers and family life education.