

ABSTRACT

Inside The CARICOM Multi-Agency Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) Project: A Poststructural Analysis of Policy and Practice

The focus of this study is on a health-related educational policy - the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) Multi-Agency Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) Project. The path to institutionalisation and sustainability of the HFLE policy in the Caribbean Region has been particularly long and somewhat arduous. This study is an attempt to glean some understandings, from an inside perspective, of the confluence of factors that have influenced the emergence of the policy problem, policy development in the Region, as well as the challenges that have impacted its implementation at national levels in specified countries.

The critical framework that informs this study may be placed under the general umbrella of poststructural analysis. The analysis drew specifically on Gale's "critical policy sociology," a policy methodology which he describes as informed by the conviction that policy discourses must be pulled apart to determine whose interests they serve (Gale, 2001).

Three policy-analysis tools were used to bring multiple interpretations to the HFLE policy analysis. They are policy historiography, policy archaeology, and policy discourse analysis. My interpretations of the policy problem, solution, and practice are presented.