



A Selection of Seminal Research Work which has influenced

EDUCATION POLICY AND CURRICULA

UWI Mona's Influence on Successful Behaviour Change Programmes in Jamaican Schools



Policy Influenced:
Behaviour Change – “Change From Within” Programme
Year Implemented: 1997

Objective of the Policy:
This Programme sought to identify and address manifestations of violence and anti-social behaviours in Jamaican schools.

Summary:
In 1992, four Principals (Mrs. Brisset Bolt - St. Peter Claver Primary; Mrs. Duncan - Windward Road Primary; Mrs. Harris - Friendship Primary; Mrs. Chevannes - Charlie Smith High) who were experiencing remarkable reversals in anti-social behaviours, improvement in academics, and parental involvement in their schools, became a part of a research team unearthing the methodologies that were employed.

By 1997 the Programme was incorporated into the Guidance and Counselling Unit of

the Ministry of Education with Mrs. Pauletta Chevannes as Director. Since 2002 the Programme has operated within the School of Education.

The eight principles that meet the needs of the schools are:

- Empowering school leaders
- Working with good practices
- New pedagogy
- Mentoring
- Involving parents and the wider community
- Involving children in decision making
- Special training initiatives for staff and students
- A shared circle of support with other schools

Impact of the Policy on Education:

- By 2012, over forty schools were experiencing improvement in the reduction of anti-social behaviours.
- The Circle of Support has helped to

transform five young classroom teachers into high performing principals.

- The Student Leadership model was adopted by schools in the Eastern Caribbean.

Reference

- Chevannes, Barry, Sophia Morgan and Tony Sewell. (2003). Models for transformation of Jamaican schools: A study of masculinities, education and civil society.
- Caribbean Partners for Educational Progress (n.d) Change from Within: An Approach to the Challenges in Education - See more at: <http://www.mona.uwi.edu/cop/initiative/change-within-approach-challenges-education-0#sthash.4w9Z82xE.dpuf>

