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The Effectiveness of a Suggested Unit in Developing the Awareness of Some Health – related Issues and the Ability of Decision – Making Among Pre-service Science Teachers

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SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT STUDY

1- Introduction :

The present study has been primarily concerned with identifying health issues that are related to sexuality education and developing the awareness of these issues among Science Pre-service teachers at Faculty of Education, Benha University. This, in turn, would enable those teachers to make proper decisions related to these issues.

2- Questions of the Study :

In spite of the importance of the awareness of health issues related to sexuality education and the need for developing it among science preservice teachers. This and other indicators have combined to reflect a problem that needs to be addressed. To face such a problem, the present study attempted to answer the following main question:

- **What is the effectiveness of a suggested unit on developing the awareness and decision making toward the current health issues related to sexuality education among science preservice teachers?**

The previous main question had the following sub – questions:

- (a) What are the most important current health issues related to sexuality education that are required for science preservice teachers?
- (b) To what extent are the science preservice teachers aware of these current health issues related to sexuality education and to what extent are they able to take proper decisions related to these issues?
- (c) What is the form of the suggested unit that aims at developing awareness and decision- making of these health issues?

- (d) To what extent is the suggested unit effective on developing awareness and decision – making of these health issues among science preservice teachers?

3- Significance of the Study :

The Significance of the present study lies in the following points :

- * The Present study provides the teacher educators and the designers of teacher education programs to with the most important health issues related to sexuality education that can be included in science teacher education.
- * The present study paves the way for other studies investigating similar or related purposes.
- * The present study provides teacher educators and the designers of teacher education programs with a way of implementing self – learning in designing and teaching some issues.
- * The present study emphasizes the importance of sexuality education and its most related topics.
- * The present study provides teacher educators and the designers of teacher education programs with a manual of teaching the suggested unit that can be used to teach this unit or other similar units.

4- Scope of the Study :

The present study was limited to :

- * A sample of the third- year preservice teacher [No= 38] enrolled in the Chemistry & Physics section and Biology section at Faculty of Education, Benha University during the academic years 2006- 2007.
- * The Sexuality education as one of the main domains of the health education.

5- Tools of the Study :

In the present study, three instruments were prepared and administrated in the process of investigating the purpose of the present study. The Study tools included:

- (a) A questionnaire aiming at identifying the most important issues related to sexuality education among science preservice teachers.
- (b) An awareness scale of some current health issues among science preservice teachers.
- (c) A decision – making scale related to some current health issues among science preservice teachers.

6- Procedures of the Study :

The present study went through the following procedures :

- (a) Identifying the most important current health issues related to sexuality education that are required for science prospective teachers.

This can be carried out through:

- * Reviewing the literature related to the health education and to the sexuality education
- * Preparing a list of the most important current health issues related to sexuality education that required for science preservice teachers and submitting it to a jury to verify its validity and modifying it according to their opinions.
- * Preparing a questionnaire to identify the most important current health issues related to sexuality education that are required for science preservice teachers and submitting it to a jury to verify its validity.

* setting the list in its final form.

- (b) Identifying science prospective teachers' level of awareness and decision making through designing the tools of the study measuring the awareness and decision making of the health issues related to sexuality issues and verifying their validity and reliability.

- (c) Designing the suggested unit on the current health issues related to sexuality education.

This can be achieved through:

- * Determining the objectives of the suggested unit.
- * Determining the content of the suggested unit.
- * Determining the procedures and instructional material that the suggested unit utilized.
- * Determining the teaching strategies that are used in the suggested unit.
- * Determining the evaluation techniques that will be used in the suggested unit.
- * Preparing the teacher educator's manual as a guide of how to use the suggested unit.
- * Submitting the manual describing the suggested unit to a jury to verify its validity.
- * Modifying the suggested unit based on their opinions and setting it in its final form.

Results of the Study :

The present study reached some results that proved the hypotheses of the study :

- 1- There is a statistically significant difference (at level 0.05) between the mean scores of the preservice science teachers on the scale of the Awareness of some current health issues related to sexuality education, in the pre- and post administration.
- 2- There is a statistically significant difference (at level 0.05) between the mean scores of the preservice science teachers on the scale of the decision making Ability towards some current health issues related to

sexuality education, in the pre- and post – administration, in favor of the post – administration.

- 3- The suggested unit was greatly effective in developing the awareness of some current health issues related to sexuality education among the preservice science teachers.
- 4- The suggested unit was greatly effective in developing the decision. Making ability towards some current health issues related to sexuality education among the pre – service science teachers.

The Study Recommendations :

In the light of the results of the present study, the present study recommends:

- 1- Working for including some of the issues and problems of sexuality education, included in the, suggested unit, in the universities, curricula, especially the teacher preparation colleges.
- 2- Setting clear – cut objectives for sexuality education appropriate for the reality and culture of the society, including the basic learning aspects (Cognitive – Affective – Skills) Suitable for the educational stage.
- 3- Caring about teacher preparation and training in this current field.
- 4- Caring about preparing the academic material in this field via :
 - * Preparing a teacher manual in the various specializations.
 - * Preparing journals & booklets for the teachers.
- 5- Using the teaching styles in which the learner is the focus of the educational process.
- 6- Planning the sexuality education programs that suits the learner's perceptions, needs and needs (physical, Psychological, and social).

- 7- Holding training courses for the preservice and in – service science teachers on how to address some of the sexuality education issues in the current science curricula.
- 8- Holding meetings and seminars for the university students on some of the sexuality education issues and their consequences.
- 9- Enhancing the communication channels between the health and media professionals and the teacher preparation colleges for developing the awareness of the current health issues related to the sexuality education among the student teachers.
- 10- Developing the awareness and Decision – making ability towards the current health issues related to the sexuality education for the student to be able to face this issues in the future.

Suggested Studies :

The present study suggests undertaking similar studies in the different educational stages and stressing the use of the self – instruction styles.