

ABSTRACT

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Key Words: TEACHERS' EXPERIENCES, TEACHERS' ATTITUDES,
ART EDUCATION

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Thesis Title: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TEACHERS' ART EXPERIENCES AND
THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE IMPORTANCE OF ART
EDUCATION IN AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN BANGKOK,
THAILAND

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The main purpose of this research was to identify teachers' art experiences, as well as their attitudes towards the importance of art education, and subsequently determine the relationship between teachers' experiences and their attitudes. The research involved the participation of teachers from the primary level of an international school in Bangkok, Thailand. A questionnaire was used to gather information, which determined teachers' past art experiences as a student in primary school, secondary school and university, as an adult and as related to family. The questionnaire also examined their present attitudes towards the importance of art education. Means and standard deviation and Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient analyses were applied in measuring the data and determine a correlation. Statistical analysis revealed that teachers found their art experiences in primary and secondary school as *somewhat positive*, while it was deemed *neutral* in university. A gradual change was also observed in the results regarding how teachers rated the importance of art education: from *somewhat positive* in primary and secondary school, to *neutral* in

university. Analyses using Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient further confirmed that there was indeed a significant relationship between teachers' art experiences and their attitude towards the importance of art education, particularly as a student. For art experiences as an adult and as related to family, a neutral result was established and no evidence of any significant relationship was found. It was thus concluded that teachers' attitudes towards art education in the selected international school in Bangkok, Thailand were more related to their past art experiences as a student in school than as an adult or as a family member.

Furthermore, teachers found art education important during primary school and secondary school, but somewhat less important in university. Based on these findings it was suggested that the leaders of the selected international school in Bangkok, Thailand continue to provide meaningful art experiences, not only for their students in the primary and secondary school, but for their teachers as well since every positive art experience of today will also create positive attitudes for art education in the future.

Field of Study: Educational Administration

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Student's Signature.....

Advisor's Signature.....