

Reflection Paper
Submitted to: Prof. Morrison, JSH, TCCBE
Submitted by: Krista Wray

I feel very privileged to have been given the freedom to create my own project based on TCCBE guidelines and the needs of JSH while keeping with the material covered in IDST 385. After a number of meetings with Professor Morrison, Marisa Kaczmarczyk of JSH and Barb Woolner of TCCBE I was able to create a course outline that would fit the needs listed above. Being extremely unfamiliar with the processes involved and the necessary requirements for a half credit course it was very helpful to have all other members involved in the project to be familiar with the process and expectations involved. Everyone was very interested in helping me guide the program but also very open and receptive to my input into the course requirements and grading scheme.

I enjoyed the work of the course very much. The workload was heavy in the first half of the semester which was excellent for my schedule in that it allowed me to focus on the major projects for my honours courses in the latter half of the semester. Because there was a large part of the work concentrated in the first half of the course it was very helpful to have the majority of the course outline prepared prior to the beginning of the second semester.

The readings provided were an excellent source of background information. It helped to give me a solid understanding of what the current development and economic situation in Jamaica was and how it came to be this way. Having a good understanding of the expectations on me and the work that I was to produce, both from Prof. Morrison and JSH made my work extremely easy. Feedback about the work submitted was also

appreciated and helpful in completing future assignments. As an upper year student with a full schedule, I really appreciated the freedom given to me to work on my own according to my schedule.

As a politics and history major, and having never taken a development course before, this was a very interesting introduction into the discipline. I really enjoyed myself on the trip and learned more than I had imagined about Jamaica, but also about myself. The trip to Jamaica was the most thought provoking and rewarding part of the course. It was overwhelming the amount of information that was packed into the ten day trip. Each day I was facing stereotypes that I did not even know I held about Jamaica. This was at first one of the most challenging aspects of the trip, and then one of the most rewarding. I had thought that I was going into Jamaica with a good foundation and fairly good understanding of what I would be exposed to. I had no idea that I held some of the stereotypes that I did, until I was confronted with them. This was a difficult realisation for me, but it was very rewarding for me to become aware of my own shortcoming so that I may be aware of this in future travels and other experiences.

The trip over all held a lot of changing moments for me. This experience has solidified my need to pursue a career in social justice. As this is my final year at Trent, this course has influenced my career choice and direction more than any other. Social justice is something I had been thinking about at the beginning of the year among other opportunities, but after visiting Jamaica and seeing some of the projects, chiefly Jamaicans for Justice, and listening to speakers such as Pat and Angela, I have been inspired to pursue work in similar fields. Being over in Jamaica and being exposed to the work of the various groups along with my working with JSH, I now understand and am

more aware of the different positions and work that can be done within and NGO. This could become very useful for me should I pursue a career working for and NGO.

I can't express enough how privileged I feel to have gone on the trip. Since development is not my major, I did not enter this course with the same expectations as other students held. I am completely satisfied with the trip, the organisation, my personal outcome, and the overall running of this course. The unconventional aspect of this course has benefited me in various ways. I have learned some alternative lessons, such as time management and motivation. Overall I have enjoyed my TCCBE credit and would encourage any person who is capable of pursuing this as an option to do so. I would also recommend that TCCBE remain open to allowing other students the opportunity to form their own projects, as I had, if there is not a current project available to suit their interests or needs.

**“The Persistence of the Plantation Legacy in Contemporary Jamaica
From Decolonization to Neo-Liberalism: What Have We Learned?”**

Author: Levitt

Submitted by: Krista Wray

This chapter found in Levitt’s book attempts to consider some of the current issues facing Jamaican development through a historical perspective covering the last 4 decades. Levitt begins with a look at the work of George Beckford, author of “Persistent Poverty”. His work considers the plantation paradigm and effects this has on the current mind frame and society of Jamaica. Levitt offers a good discussion of his work and uses it to inform the reader of the history so they may better understand how and why poverty arose in Jamaica. Levitt argues that while the domestic financial sector provides many Jamaicans with employment it also perpetuates the gaps and power between the rich and poor. In order to address the problems raised by this, which include low wages and an extreme lack of investment into their own infrastructure, Levitt feels it necessary to address the social concerns facing Jamaica. The chapter continues with a bit of economic and development history of Jamaica in an international perspective noting from UN reports that Jamaica led countries in development in the 70’s but due to lack of economic growth began to fall behind in the 80’s and 90’s.

Levitt continues by taking us through each decade, starting with the 1950’s, giving a brief understanding of the main events that either aided or hindered development and economic growth. The main discussion includes a critique of Jamaica for not following Puerto Rico in their lack of development of their export markets, the effects of the new found floating currencies in many of the world’s powerful economies and ideological changes within political systems from socialism to neo-liberalism which in turn led to the structural adjustment program.

With a strong background of information Levitt concludes this chapter by looking toward the future. She considers what can be learned from the lessons of the past and offers a few recommendations she feels are necessary for Jamaica's successful development. Her first point is to stress the importance to address the needs of what she refers to as "social capital". This would mean improving facilities such as the public transportation system, education and decreasing poverty and the levels of wealth that separate the rich from the poor. The chapter ends positively looking to the future when Levitt notes all of the possibilities that lie ahead for Jamaican people to pursue and further their development and limit their poverty.

“The Origins and Consequences of Jamaica’s Debt Crisis, 1970-1990”

Author: Levitt

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article begins with a look at the two political leaders blamed for Jamaica’s poverty; Mr. Manley (leader of the PNP in power 1972-1980) and Mr. Seaga (leader of the JLP in power 1980-1989). She continues to note that Jamaica is the most important country in terms of Latin American and Caribbean countries in receiving development aid and assistance from CIDA. Canada is not the only nation offering this aid and therefore, Jamaica has incurred a massive amount of debt. The consequences of this debt are the main focus of Levitt’s chapter.

Levitt dissolves claims made by the World Bank as Jamaica being a ‘moderately indebted’ nation. She notes that, although Jamaica does have a higher export market and open economy, two factors which make Jamaica easier to capitalize on from outside debt collectors, the majority of Jamaicans are living in dire poverty and the nation is dependant on imports for multiple natural resources such as many food sources and fuel. The structural adjustment is taking the power away from the government and placing it in the hands of the private sector which also does not help to balance the inequalities and rid the nation of debt.

She notes the benefits many Jamaicans gained under the Manley government of the early to mid seventies. Health and education were both improving, as were wages and employment rates. These economic advancements were coming to an end in the late 70s when the government was forced to make agreements with the IMF as they were no longer able to exercise a policy of self reliance. The Seaga government, who came into power in 1980, quickly changed the pace with an “import-led, debt-fed expansion”.

Unable to maintain this pace, massive layoffs among other cutbacks were forced upon Jamaicans in the mid 80's. Whatever growth had occurred was immediately lost and this is what lead Jamaica to pursue the structural adjustment program.

Jamaica's economy has exhibited some signs of recovery. However, as it remains a nation who's wage inequality continues to widen, and who's social and political climate grow worse. Levitt does not end the chapter on a positive note, recognizing that roughly 80 percent of the population's annual natural increase emigrates each year. If development is about the people, and Jamaicans are losing their children to foreign nations, then what motivation have they to better their situation?

"The Jamaican Moment: New Paths for the Caribbean?"

Author: Brian Meeks

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article opens noting the differences between many Latin American and Caribbean countries in that the former will pursue more radical left-leaning forms of government, while the latter looks toward the powerful hegemonic states for their forms of government. Meeks main argument is that we are currently seeing is a "hegemonic dissolution" in many of Caribbean nations and uses Jamaica as his prime example explaining the phenomenon. This means that the developed hegemonic powers are no longer able to exercise the same powers as before, and alternatively the "hegemony from below" is also unable to secure any legitimate power over the nation.

Because of globalization Caribbean nations have all shifted their focus from primary exports to services and tourism. At the same time there has been significant growth in illegal trades including activities such as drug trade and kidnapping. While some communities rely heavily on these illegal trades, as is made evident by the protesting of civil society at the arrest of a drug lord, Meeks notes that not all Caribbean countries have suffered under globalization, particularly those who have kept their colonial ties.

The end of the Cold War also put an end to the possibility of "socially oriented development" for many Caribbean countries. Under the Manley government, Jamaica experienced a policy change from avoiding to participating in the international economy. The consequences of this closed off many other methods of development for Jamaicans and also resulted in Jamaica losing much of its educated professionals. The loss incurred

from depriving Jamaica of their skills and expertise greatly outweighs any gains in not having to provide for them.

Meeks discusses the dislocation between Jamaica and the colonial powers, who once guided and aided in its development. He continues to discuss the current situation in Jamaica noting that there appears to be a return to the "grass root" level of organizations and representation. President Portia Simpson Miller is known to come from "true grassroots", the current popular music scene to come out of Jamaica is dancehall music with messages of resistance and many towns are often taking justice into their own hands when they feel it is not being served through actions such as organized riots or demonstrations. This sort of action according to Meeks is hegemonic dissolution.

In closing his article Meeks offers some interesting points. President Simpson Miller is in an interesting position in that she may continue the same path as those before her not resisting the stronger hegemonic powers, or she may listen to the people who voted her in and follow their lead for creating change in Jamaica. Doing the second would not only change Jamaica but also the Caribbean as a whole argues Meeks. It would mean a "move toward deeper democracy, greater accountability and new approach to how the local might negotiate with the global in the twenty first century".

“A Precarious Balance: Neoliberalism, crisis management and the implosion on Jamaica”

Author: Tony Weis

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The main discussion of this article looks at the ever increasing inequality between the classes of Jamaica as a direct result of structural adjustment. Weis considers some barriers which hinder the classes working together and provide a deeper rift between Jamaicans. He argues that only after assessing and understanding these barriers can we look to the future and create some positive change within Jamaica.

The article begins with a historical look starting with President Manley's administration in the 1970's. Weis notes that although Manley was able to offer some short term relief with his "third path" following an ideology between socialism and a free market, Manley did force Jamaica to take on some heavy international debt and later would make Jamaicans suffer because of his friendship with Fidel Castro during the period of the Cold War.

Weis continues with a look at President Seaga, noting that although he was able to bring some growth, it was short lived. President Seaga also drove Jamaica further into debt, secured its place in the structural adjustment program and increased its inequality between the rich and poor.

When explaining the current situation in Jamaica Weis notes that money which should be spent on infrastructure and social services (such as health and education) is forced to be spent on paying of debt. This liberalisation also forces Jamaica to focus on stabilizing their own economy, and are therefore unable to enter into the international economy. Liberalisation has led Jamaica to import more and produce less. They rely more heavily now on their tourism industry and illegal drug trade. He continues this

discussion with a look at the declining social structure, noting the violence that has begun the plague the area.

While the majority of the article displays little hope for the future of Jamaica and its people, Weis does end with a discussion of possible methods for ameliorating the current situation. He notes grounded education and the use of popular media such as film and radio as possible forums to create a locally led organization fighting for positive change.

**“Restructuring and Redundancy: The Impacts and Illogic of Neoliberal
Agricultural Reforms in Jamaica”**

Author: Tony Weis

Submitted by: Krista Wray

Structural adjustment programs followed by Jamaica since the 80's, along with globalization, have created many changes to their agricultural industry. Jamaica's small farmers and plantations are losing business to the larger more wealthy "mechanized" farmers. Weis argues that a critical look at the industry will highlight some of the negative social and economic effects this decline has had, and will continue to have, unless there is significant change.

Weis begins his article with a look at the history of agriculture in Jamaica. Since the most profitable land was used for plantations, the peasant farmers were forced to work excruciatingly hard and soon became the "backbone" to Jamaica post slavery. He notes that while development was halted under President Manley, there was a complete shift in control under President Seaga, where Jamaica was now directed by those in Washington. This saw a shift from agriculture being a priority to being left to the market where it would either prove itself worthy by being profitable, or it would fade away leaving its workers free to enter the service industries.

The following section of the article discusses the various adjustments made in Jamaica and how they directly affected the agricultural businesses. Main points here include: currency devaluation, while making exports more competitive also made farm tools more expensive and therefore was not a benefit to local farmers; President Seaga's Food Assistance Program which made imported goods far cheaper than locally grown; the failure of worker's cooperatives being taken over by the government with hopes of returning to plantations and factories. These adjustments led directly to the decrease in

participation in the agricultural industry. This decrease in workers also meant a decrease in efficiency and productivity which led to the second phase of adjustments for the agricultural sector.

Weis continues his article looking at the decline of the Jamaican sugar and banana industries and dairy farms, and significant rise in imports and lifestyle change since the liberalization of the early 90s. Jamaicans can barely afford to farm their own resources and are unable to compete within international economies and because of actions taken by their government are losing profits to the imported food markets. Some of the consequences from this include a loss of culture for MacDonal'd's, KFC and Burger King, which in turn leads to health issues ranging from obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

In his conclusion Weis restates many of his important arguments, stressing the important role agriculture has in Jamaican economy and culture. He adds the importance to having affordable food, and by ridding the nation of small farmers you're only adding to the number of poor looking for food. This in turn will only spread the high levels of violence and unrest found in Kingston today to the peripheries and smaller communities around the country. Because of these issues he argues that it is necessary for a market intervention in Jamaica's agricultural industry and the redistribution of profitable land amongst Jamaica's small farmers.

“(RE-)Making the Case for Land Reform in Jamaica”

Author: Tony Weis

Submitted by: Krista Wray

Through critically examining the current economic and development conditions in Jamaica Weis is arguing in favour of land reform as one potential remedy for saving the agricultural industry. This article’s research is based around discussions of theoretical arguments from other sources of literature combined with interviews of a range of persons affected, including farmers, government officials and various members of NGOs. The main argument proposed by Weis concerns the end of the plantations, and the need to redistribute this land, some of the most arable land in Jamaica, amongst the local small farmers. This would not only increase their production efficiency, but lower food prices and make them more competitive with the imported foods. This could also protect violence from spreading from urban areas through to the entire nation and also decrease the health problems suffered by many Jamaicans with their diet of imported goods.

The article begins with a look at the history of plantations in Jamaica. Weis notes that the majority of the prime land was given to plantations, while local farmers were forced to use what was left. Although emancipation was nearly 170 years ago, Weis notes that land ownership is still extremely unequal with “4 percent of landholders controlling 65 percent of all the agricultural land and estates and pastures”. He continues to highlight more problems facing small farmers in that the land they are left with is often on mountain sides, when he continues to list the environmental and safety hazards this provides.

The article continues with a look at the current agricultural situation in Jamaica. With a focus on various markets including sugar and bananas, Weis shows how

liberalization has had a debilitating effect on Jamaican farmers. Increased reliance on imported goods has also meant a significant loss to profits for local farmers as they are unable to compete with the lower prices provided by this new market.

Weis continues with a look at why the agricultural industry is vital to the success of Jamaica's economic and social development. Although the sector contributes very little to the GDP, it does offer some reassurance to the potential food insecurity issues facing the nation with regards to their steep trade imbalance, offers employment for many which directly affects the levels of poverty and violence experienced by people living in the more urban areas. According to one Jamaican interviewed, land reform is crucial for attracting youth to the agricultural sector as a potential for future employment.

Weis continues with a look at the benefits of small farms and land reform. There are many to note here, both economical and ecological. However most important would be the higher level of produce gained from farms under 100 acres compared to those that are larger, increased levels of productivity from the willingness to work on one's own farm as opposed to labouring on a larger area of land to which the worker feels no direct tie and small farms being more likely to employ ecologically friendly farming techniques.

The final section of the article Weis suggests that land reform alone cannot solve the problems of the agricultural sector but will need some further changes in order to support the farmers and their new business. He makes many recommendations including protecting agricultural land strictly for that purpose, not to use land reform as a method for solidifying a political position or ideology, enticing the youth to pursue agriculture as a career, access to credit in order to make the necessary investments at the beginning along with a few other suggested changes.

In his conclusion Weis states again the importance of land reform. His closing thought is one with hope; with the decline of other industries, such as sugar and banana, the time has come to look to the local farmers for success and land reform would be one method through which this change could commence.

"Badness- Honour" pp 13-25, 40-46

Author: Obika Gray

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article sets out to discuss the differences found in responses to oppression and lack of power by comparing the reaction of Jamaica's urban mobilized poor to populations of other nations experiencing similar levels of poverty or oppression. Gray notes that unlike other nations where the common response would be to band together in protest or overthrow the oppressive powers, in Jamaica we can find some mass movements and protests, but quite often we find intense violence and disruption of power relationships. Therefore, according to Gray we do not see a need to overthrow the existing powers or fight for "free political choice", but rather a need for "self-ownership, social ambition and individualism...and personal honour" as the main motivators for the urban poor.

The article continues with a look at badness-honour, the theory for which the paper is named. It began in the 1960s when violence was becoming increasingly the normal method of resistance for Jamaica's urban poor. Because the people in the slums were able to disrupt the routine activities in the larger society through their defiant or violent behaviour (badness), many saw this as a method through which they could exercise some of their own power, thus establishing a certain level of respect within their own culture (honour).

Through the 1970s badness-honour increased to the point where it became influential and accepted at times by political leaders. This soon made violence a norm in Jamaican culture, being the method through which the urban poor were able to exercise their voice against all those by whom they were being oppressed. This culture soon infiltrated the political parties as they too would pursue badness-honour in order to achieve levels of power or public support.

Gray continues to discuss the use of badness-honour today by people of all levels of status, and in many nations with varying levels of development or forms of government. Gray uses the United States as another place where badness-honour can be found giving gangster rap as one example. The discussion continues with a look at which societies and which groups within those societies are more likely to participate in the culture of badness-honour.

The later part of the readings considers badness-honour and its effects on democracy. After noting the use of badness-honour by both civil society and politicians, Gray discusses the loss of legitimacy experienced by Jamaica's democratic government in the 1970's. This seemed to be an obvious contradiction, the methods through which one gained and or maintained authority in Jamaica was completely opposite to the standards followed by democracy.

This trend continued to rise in popularity amongst many groups in Jamaica, and therefore, badness-honour will be one cultural norm that will be exceptionally difficult for Jamaicans to rid from their society. Gray continues to discuss a few of the reasons for this. They include an international feeling of "civil strife" from religious, national, or ethnic concerns, and the dissolving of Jamaica's racism which is reflected in many of its political policies.

This article is fairly repetitive in the first half. There is much discussion of the need for the urban poor to assert themselves in the eyes of the power holders. The author does not give a solid definition of badness honour until half way through the article. The clarity of the argument would be heightened if this definition were given earlier on in the discussion.

“Caribbean Transnationalism as a Gendered Process”

Author: Christine G.T. Ho

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article opens with a look at the role emigration plays in the Caribbean. No other part of the world loses as many of their people as the Caribbean. Some effects of this include a shortage of schools forcing students to seek education elsewhere which also plays a part in the lack of professionals found in the area. Globalization and the shift to a more capitalist focused international economy is another reason people are leaving, searching for higher wages and a better life. Ho attempts to examine the gendered aspects of globalization by looking at Caribbean women and their role as mothers and workers noting the importance and influence they have in family relations as well as affecting the market; how the needs of these international markets often change the face of the Caribbean family and finally the negative effect this has on the people involved.

She begins by explaining that many Caribbean families are matrifocal, meaning they place the greatest importance on the mother child relationship, but still may be and quite often are, headed by males (patriarchal). She further discusses the lack of nuclear families in the Caribbean and how that does not comply with their culture. She also discusses the oppression felt by many women. Women are still expected to care for the children and the home, while capitalism has now forced them into the workforce as well, giving them the burden of a “double day”.

Ho continues with an excellent argument stating “...denying women male financial support and protection, the system also demands of them economic independence and responsibility for their families.” She continues noting some of the problems when gathering data on working women in that many of them work informally, possibly not receiving monetary wages for example. She continues noting what little work is made available to many women, mostly domestic services or factory jobs. Both of these employment opportunities do not provide a wage with which one could raise and care for a family. Further more women’s work more often than men’s is affected by pregnancy, a lack of child care or illness in the family.

Ho argues that women’s involvement in the workforce isn’t actually a step towards gender equality. The women were forced into the labour force because of employment insecurity with the majority of them taking positions that still do not rid them of this threat. The lack of employment opportunities has led many women to emigrate, which is where we see the new dynamic of transnational families.

The following section of the article highlights the Price family story who have immigrated from the Caribbean to America and their efforts to work together supporting each other in establishing their new lives. Ho shows that it was the women of the family who initiated the move, and then worked together combining resources to cut back costs on necessities like rent, food and child care.

Ho notes that the Price family are indeed a fortunate group, as many families who immigrate are single parent households and unable to secure child care. This poses a serious problem when attempting to secure employment or pursue education. This immigration is also quite often a marriage breaker. There is a significant shift in ideologies when Caribbean women come to North America to find work. The equality

experienced in North America makes many women question the male dominance of their marriage. Women are still expecting the men to be the main earner for their family. However this is quite often not the case, as it may be easier for the woman to find work. These are also all factors which affect the children's relationship with their parents. The long term separation, or the shift in ideology is too much for most families and this is one major method through which capitalism is reshaping the Caribbean family.

**A Dissertation Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the University of Ottawa in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree Master of Arts**

Author: Belisle

Submitted by: Krista Wray

Belisle begins the article noting the importance of food imports on the tourist industry. Much of the food and drinks used by tourists are imported. This raises many issues such as a loss of foreign exchange, an inability to further the local food production industry and the uneven distribution of wealth this creates which may in turn create poor attitudes of locals towards tourists. In his study Belisle considers many issues concerning food use of hotels, including which local food products are used compared to those that are imported and why and what some of the barriers are that disable local food producers from selling their products to the hotels.

In chapter II of the study, Belisle discusses the decline of the tourist industry in Jamaica since the 1970s. A decline in tourists is not the only negative factor mentioned in the study. There are some serious leakages within the industry. These include foreign ownership of many hotels, the degree to which the industry relies on imports of supplies as well as workers, and the government's involvement through incentives. The chapter continues to look at the ways in which the tourist industry can impact the food industry. Jobs in tourism may take workers away from farming, hotels could potentially take land away from farmers and tourism may also entice farmers to have a more broad range of crops. Following this is a brief discussion of the literature on the topic, highlighting arguments for and against tourism in Jamaica concerning land use and the effects this has on the agricultural industry. Many feel that hotels do indeed take land and therefore income away from many farmers, however others argue that the land used by the tourist industry is not in fact fertile land, and would not yield profitable crops.

The research continues with a look at food and drink use by tourists which accounts for roughly 30 per cent of all money spent by tourists while in Jamaica. Therefore the agricultural sector could potentially make some income working with the tourist industry. Unfortunately since the majority of food and beverages served to tourists is imported this is one serious leak of income for many local Jamaicans in the agricultural industry. Imports are used for a number of reasons including cheaper costs, more reliable and preferred by tourists compared to locally grown products. While it's noted that many North Americans like to travel and experience new destinations they like to do so with the comfort of their own foods. Many tourists do appreciate trying new foods, but would not like a steady diet of foreign meals while on vacation. This makes it extremely difficult for many local farmers. They may either choose to change their crops to suit the appetite of the visiting population. Alternatively farmers may continue to produce local fruits and vegetables in hopes of some tourists returning home and continuing to purchase a couple of these items more regularly thus increasing or creating a their export market.

In his conclusion Belisle sums up his main arguments succinctly. He highlights the main reasons for the use of imported goods rather than locally grown noting imports are more reliable, higher quality, cheaper, the item may not be available locally, and it fits the tourist's preference. He continues with a look at factors which are inhibiting Jamaicans from expanding their agricultural sector in order to better meet the needs from

the tourist industry. These factors include physical barriers including sloping land and poor irrigation systems, the uneven distribution of land making it impossible for many farms to produce a surplus of produce and lack of technology and equipment. Belisle offers some suggestions of policy changes or where emphasis should be placed for the agricultural sector to be able to successfully expand and better meet the needs of the tourist industry.

"Crime and Public Policy in Jamaica"

Author: Don Robotham

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article opens with an interesting argument. Many believe there is a direct link between high crime rates and a lack of economic development and investment as it is a logical assumption to make. However, Robotham points out that there are few cases to support this, and lists three nations (Columbia, Mexico and Russia) to refute this assumption. Therefore he feels that if the profit is sufficient crime levels will not deter other nations or corporations from investing in Jamaica, a drop in crime will not necessarily lead to higher investment in Jamaica.

He does note the urgency with which the issue of crime and violence must be addressed in Jamaica, but for humanitarian reasons, not economic. Crime has become so terrible that it will not be rid with the community policing, Jamaicans must find a way to give legitimacy, particularly the legitimate use of force, must be given back to their authority figures.

The article continues with a look at the reasons for crime which the author has put into two categories, background casual factors which include "demographic, economic, political and social factors," and specific situational factors. While many feel intimidated or overwhelmed with the depth at the larger background factors, Robotham argues that these are the conditions which must be remedied as they are the origin of the causes of crime issues within Jamaica.

The following sections of the article consider what the author views as the main concerns which must be considered while searching for a solution. The section on demographics considers the significant rise in the population of males aged 15-29, noting any nation with an increase in the target population, especially those where access to guns is easy, has seen a rise in violent crime. Therefore, this trend should continue and there should be a drop in crime rate as this demographic becomes smaller in size. Furthering this concern is the rate at which urbanization is occurring, forcing this demographic to be closer in smaller living conditions. This is one area the author notes deserves much more attention and research. Another area which is significantly affecting this group are the high levels of unemployment and lack of education or training. Robotham argues that the budget of Jamaica's educational system must be greatly increased, and again, this is an area where further study is necessary.

The structure of Jamaica's economy also perpetuates its poverty which in turn feeds the culture of violence. Jamaica's domestic debt is far greater than their international debt. This is paid out to large businesses through taxation, therefore Jamaicans are experiencing what Robotham refers to as a redistribution of income. This needs to end in order to being the close the gap between the rich and poor of Jamaica.

The article continues with a look at the underground economy. While many people are unemployed and uneducated, there has been a rise in industries such as drug trafficking, illegal imports in hopes that one can gain some economic stability and possibly increase their social status. According to Robotham, this has led to, over the past 25 years, an increase in criminal political economy. There is now such a highly

developed group that local policing will not be sufficient in controlling their deviant behaviour.

Robotham continues to show the significant issues concerning Jamaica's formal economy, mainly because of their industries Jamaica is not likely to experience and significant change in the near future. This in turn means it is highly unlikely that there will be any rise in education or employment rates. The article further discusses the reorganization of the economy made by the governments in efforts to create a surplus and better the society, cut backs will undoubtedly be made. This will have a negative effect on society, and therefore crime will continue and possibly rise over the coming years.

The following section discusses the concerns of gangs, drugs, and their interconnectedness with the police and politics. He discusses the protection given to certain gangs when the party with whom they are affiliated with is in power, or the number of contracts which are given out to gangs, in order to assure "security". With such inter connectedness as seen here, it becomes apparent that this is indeed an issue far greater than can be governed by self-policing communities.

This discussion continues with a look at the change in values amongst many Jamaicans. There is no longer much difference between rural and urban values, as they are all feeling threatened because of their economic instability and underemployment. Globalization, it is noted, has perpetuated and intensified the racial and class divide in Jamaica as well.

Finally there is a section devoted to the police in Jamaica and the role they play in perpetuating the culture of violence in Jamaica. Continually being accused of police brutality and corruption, the police are clearly a system which do not help to protect but rather threaten human rights and civil liberties. This is an issue which must be addressed urgently according to Robotham, since Jamaica has such an embedded tradition of valuing individual freedom, there is no telling what may happen should the police continue to abuse their authority.

The article continues with a look at Situational casual factors. The first to be discussed are guns. Guns are a major issue in Jamaica, as they are used in killings, robberies and other crimes. While the number of murders is decreasing it appears that the number of shootings or gun related crimes is increasing.

The author offers some solutions to these issues by first pointing out what does not work. Community policing is one method which Robotham argues will not solve the issue. Although he does support its use, it is not enough. Development projects are another area where change could be achieved however it must be done in such a way that it will indeed be beneficial to Jamaica. Therefore, much research must be done as well as review of existing polices to ensure the highest possibility of success. The author stresses, as has been done throughout the article, the importance of macroeconomic restructuring for Jamaica's successful development. There needs to be more emphasis placed on education and training. Restructuring of the current education system is one method proposed by the author in decreasing the high drop out rates. There must be more emphasis also placed on civil liberties and human rights. If this were to occur it is possible to reform the police, politics and rid their society of the gang violence it currently possesses. Something has to be done about gun control, ideally stopping them before they enter the country and cutting it off at the source, but if not X ray machines and sniffer dogs would be a good start - same true for drug trafficking, cut it off...or fine

the airlines that carry it on their flights. Finally more research must be devoted to this concern. That is the only method we will learn what methods are effective and efficient.

“Power Violence and the Jamaican ‘Shotta Don’”

Author: Anthony Bogue

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article opens with a historical look at violence and power relationships within Jamaican culture. Looking at colonialism, slavery and various missions by fundamental Christians it is easy to see the violence and oppression that has been suffered by many Jamaicans. Rather than put an end to violence the abolition of slavery in the 60s saw a change in Jamaica’s culture of violence.

Bogue discusses how the 70s saw the violence culture cross into popular culture with movies like *The Harder They Come*. This illustrated and normalized Jamaica’s violent culture, showing through the main character a need to assert one’s masculinity and respect and using violence as a method to through which this honour would be achieved.

The article continues to look at the two party political system in Jamaica which has been able to divide the nation. This form of “political party violence” is one of three noted by the author, the remaining two being “not and revolt” (not discussed further) and violence which leads to control in local areas. This includes actions where communities take control of their roads, or take whatever action they feel necessary when they feel failed by their judicial system.

The author continues with a look at sovereignty and its importance to Jamaican society. Originally Jamaicans wanted to be a sovereign nation, free from slavery and oppression. More recently many Jamaicans are now feeling a new sense of sovereignty as they have lost all hope in their political parties being able to rule and govern the nation. Jamaicans feel an extreme sense of social dislocation, almost isolation, in that there is no one on which they can rely but themselves. This has allowed for a new leader to emerge, called the ‘don’. These dons can be found today ruling in small communities.

The end of the article discusses a number of peace treaties which have been signed between warring groups in Jamaica. Bogue looks at the positive aspects such treaties have on their communities which include a decrease in crime rate including rape and petty theft. However, these treaties have not been able to continue successfully if other aspects of the communities life do not change as well. Without economic development or assistance many of these areas have once again become plagued with violence and crime.

Social Toxins and Our Children: Can the Pollution be Stopped?

From Environmental Foundation of Jamaica: 2nd Annual Public Lecture October 2006

Author: Professor Elsa Leo-Rhynie

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The talk opens stating the need to protect children not only from environmental pollutants but "social toxins" as well. The lecture considers these social toxins, the role they play in hindering children's development and tries to answer the question how can they be stopped?

There is a brief discussion on the various matters that combine to make up the environment as it pertains to a child's development. Environment in this respect is broken down into three layers. The first is the microsystem which is the biological make up of the child. The second is the mesosystem which refers to the relationships between the child and its surroundings. Next is the exosystem also referring to relationships, but in the wider social sphere having an indirect influence on the child, examples of the exosystem include access to education and employment. Finally there is the macrosystem which includes the value system, social norms, laws, beliefs and stereotypes that all shape the behaviour and environment surrounding the child. Each of these systems is affected by the chronosystem which is the timing of normal events in a child's life as well as the unexpected events which shape a child's development.

Following is a discussion on the social toxins and how they affect these systems. Poverty is given as an example of a social toxin affecting many Jamaicans and would hinder the microsystem by putting extra pressures on the family. This is supported with statistical evidence showing how poverty effects children's involvement in crime and education and development.

The family is another critical factor in the development of children. It is where many learn their social roles; boys learn aggressive promiscuous and authoritative behaviour while girls learn to be the nurturing caregiver. This is changing significantly however as many families now suffer not only from absent fathers but also absent mothers. With the ability to provide for one's family becoming increasingly difficult mothers are being forced out of the home in order to work to care for their family. This has led to the increase of "barrel" and street children. Barrel children refers to the children who are only connected to their parents through the barrel of supplies, clothing, food and other items, which are sent to them from overseas. This effects the micro- and chronosystems by placing too much responsibility on children which can lead to low self esteem, insecurity and hostility. Other alternatives include placing the children in homes of friends or other family members. While this has potential for success, children are often shuffled between multiple homes, never being able to establish any security. This can also expose children to various forms of abuse which clearly impedes development.

Another familial concern is teenage parents. This negatively effects education which in turn halts one's developmental potential which will most likely lead to a lack of security, which may push her into unstable relationships which may result in further pregnancies. Teenagers are also not mentally prepared to become parents. This can lead to similar mal effects on a child's development as have been previously discussed with the experiences of absent parents.

Violence is the next topic to be examined in how it effects the development of children. The majority of children are exposed to violence and those who do not see it within their community are often exposed to it through the media. The devastating effects of violence, abuse and forced labour on children's development are further explored through this section. Many of these children will turn to violence as it is the only coping or survival method they have been taught.

The discussion continues with a look into how HIV/AIDS affects children's development. This disease will leave many children as orphans. Children suffering from HIV/AIDS will often be left to the streets as they are stigmatized in schools and not wanted by other family or community members. Lack of education and understanding of the disease prevents children from accessing the necessary support systems, when they are available. The lack of education also leads to the spread of the disease as well.

The lecture continues by looking at the specific, less obvious effects these social toxins have on children. Mortality rates amongst children under 5, malnourishment and poor prenatal care are all given as examples of how health is effected by environment. Education is another area that is negatively affected. Testing done on children aged 6 and 11-12 produced results showing children from poor households having lower cognitive skills and higher behavioural problems. Studies are also showing that Jamaican students are underperforming in both math and language in comparison to other Caribbean children. This is a harmful cycle of excess pressures as a result of poverty leading to poor education which impedes the child's chances of developing to their full potential, leading them back to a life of poverty as a result of limited employment opportunities. Finally behavioural problems are discussed as a social consequence from social toxins. Coping methods are often developed as survival methods when children are raised in violent or unstable conditions.

The following section discusses the consequences and implications of these social toxins. The primary concern is social exclusion which can be seen when as a result of unemployment, poverty and lack of education. There are many effects noted here which include children living on the street, malnutrition, breaking down of the family through absent parents or teenage parents, and health issues such as HIV/AIDS or mental health issues.

The final portion of the lecture looks at some possible solutions to the issues presented by social toxins. International aid and development efforts could be directed towards children, as they will eventually be the ones running the nation, was given as one option. Increased education on safe sex practices and HIV/AIDS is also extremely important. Jamaica's government can also take some action to protect the rights of their children. Ensuring the laws and acts protecting the children are fully enforced is one positive addition the state can make towards eradication social toxins. Communities are also able to add to the bettering of child development through early childhood education programs and Sunday school. These are both areas where positive values maybe instilled. The family also needs to be given some sort of stability and security. Addressing issues of poverty may help here. Education about parenting is another area where significant improvements could be made. If both of these concerns were seriously addressed then there may be an increase of time that parents could spend with their children which would drastically improve every aspect of the child's development. In order to achieve success all persons in all levels of society must take on some

responsibility in the development of children, whether it be through policy making or reinforcing positive social norms.

“The Jamaican Crime Problem: New Developments and New Challenges for Public Policy”

Author: Anthony Harriott

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article opens with the author clearly stating his intent to outline the issues which have created and help continue Jamaica's crime problem, noting the problems this violence presents in other areas of life such as policy creation.

The discussion begins with a look at the focus for economic development by Jamaica when it was a newly self governed nation, and how this need continues on today. Harriott looks at the importance policy plays in the development of a nation, noting the lack of, or unequal distribution of economic development presents an opportunity for violence to increase.

Harriott discusses the acceptance of violence by many people as a normal part of Jamaican culture. He gives examples of it being seen in all parts of society, local communities working together because they no longer have faith in their judicial system, to government officials using “bad judgment” to achieve their goals.

Harriott feels it is time to do something to change this culture of violence in Jamaica, and speculates on the consequences if it should continue. He looks at history to see what the consequences have been and what may be facing Jamaica if they do not change their policies and culture's acceptance of violence.

There was a significant increase in the use of violence by both the government and society in the late 60's, so by the early 70's Jamaican government was forced to impose disciplinary measures. Sadly these only fueled the public's violent ways and did not solve any issues. The violence in Jamaica has continued to rise and worsen where they now have one of the worst homicide rates in the world. The change that occurred in the late 70s in Jamaica was one that saw a decrease in property crimes with an increase in violent crime. Today we are at another area where a similar change is possible, from violent crime to political crime. This is, as it was in the 70's, another turning point for Jamaicans, according to Harriott, where change is imperative.

"To Hell With Paradise: The History of the Jamaican Tourist Industry"

Author: Frank Fonda Taylor

Submitted by: Krista Wray

While Taylor is presenting the history of tourism in Jamaica, he notes that many of the issues and concerns from earlier years have yet to be resolved today. The introduction begins with a look at the Jamaican tourist industry by going back to the late 1800s when Jamaica and surrounding islands were becoming a fashionable area for wealthy white people to vacation. He notes this was made possible in part by the industrial revolution. The creation of the steam engine made travel much more accessible to many people as well as a growing need to escape the pollution that was increasingly becoming more common in the urban areas. Therefore, travel abroad was promoted as a "health spa". Taylor continues noting with the movement of people came the movement of money. This became more common in the early 1900s and increasing trade between Jamaica and the United States.

The introduction continues with a look at some of the problems facing Jamaica in creating its tourist industry. There were issues of racism, especially with the Caucasian visitors from the US. Further discussed in the first section of his book are other concerns including the dependency on other nations, namely the US, created through the tourist industry and the social and economical effects this has on Jamaicans.

In chapter nine "*The Second Coming*" Taylor discusses the growing popularity of Jamaica as a vacation destination. In the 1930s Pan American World Airways linked Jamaica with the US thus making Jamaica accessible for middle class people along with the wealthy. It was not long after that, European nations began to spend their vacation time there as well. Plane travel soon surpassed boat as the method of transportation to Jamaica and the tourist industry continued to grow.

Tourism became the second greatest industry, the first being sugar, of importance economically for Jamaica in 1951. The number of people staying for longer periods of time continued to increase over the 50s. Jamaica was forced to change its tourism image from strictly high grade seasonal openings to one that could accommodate budget travelers and was open all year round.

Taylor continues with a look at how the government was involved in promoting tourism in Jamaica. There was the Hotel Aid Law which offered many benefits including making it more feasible to build hotels allowing supplies needed to be brought in without having to pay the required duties on the items. The government also replaced its government appointed board on tourism with the Jamaica Tourist Board in 1954. This included people who were highly involved in tourism and therefore more motivated to better the industry.

With the increase in tourism world wide through the 60s, Jamaica saw many new hotel chains coming to their shores. Hiltons, Holiday Inns, Sheratons among others were beginning to increase the GNP of the nation. However, as Taylor points out, these are all chains owned by American companies and so while the GNP may increase, little if any of the profit is seen by Jamaicans.

Taylor continues with a look at the reactions of Jamaicans to the tourist industry. Many Jamaicans had a lot of animosity for the tourist industry. They felt as though it took part of their land away from them with the privatization of many beaches being

enforced and the hotels built being out of reach economically for many Jamaicans. Other ways in which tourism had changed the face of Jamaica was through the increase of drug trafficking, sex trade and gambling.

One method the government tried to convince Jamaicans of the benefits of tourism and to increase the ability of its hoteliers was to open a hotel school. Another initiative was the Meet the People program. A list of names was kept on file of locals who were interested in meeting with tourists, so when a visitor wished to meet locals or experience local life they just had to call the tourist board office. This was to bring an end to some of the tension felt between Jamaicans and tourists.

Taylor discusses the many initiatives sought by President Manley in the 1970s to better Jamaica's tourist industry. The president noted that there had to be significant changes made that would raise the morale of Jamaicans and bring them closer to the tourists, rather than drive the two groups apart. However after the 1973 energy crisis the tourist industry was fading away. The cost of flights had increased significantly making travel in accessible to many, and countries such as Canada and the US were focusing on their own tour industries, having people travel and spend their money within their own borders. To further this issue, Manley's relationship with Cuba and non-alignment position did not make Jamaica a popular destination for many US citizens.

Taylor closes his article with a discussion of the importance of the tourist industry to Jamaica. Tourism has surpassed sugar as the main industry of economic importance. Taylor ends his conclusion with an excellent quote "...just as the soil of many formerly fertile areas of the world have become exhausted or totally removed by exploitation without thought to the future, so are many tourist areas being ruined by thoughtless exploitation".

“Working Miracles: Women’s Lives in the English Speaking Caribbean”

Chapters 1,2 and 10 (Conclusion)

Author: Olive Senior

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The first chapter begins with a look in the importance of women in the Caribbean family. The entire chapter is devoted to looking at the various combinations of families (legitimate/illegitimate children, absent mothers or fathers) and the effects this has on the children involved. She uses interviews which help to confirm her research and provide for a more involved article.

Senior notes a couple of factors which have forced women to take on male gender roles. While economic conditions have forced women into the labour force, the lack of males in the home have also forced many into the role of father. This lack of fathers and forced economic independence will force many women to seek child care else where. Many times this will mean that young girls lose their childhood early on as they are needed to care for the younger children or ill. The author remarks on the commonality of the “absent father” discussion, suggesting that perhaps the “absent mother” is one topic which deserves much attention. She uses interviews to demonstrate the difficulties facing both mother and child when the mother is absent for extended periods of time because of a need to work. Other alternatives are to see the child move in with another family within the community, either part time or permanently. There doesn’t need to be any tie between the child and family to which they are being given, just an extreme need from the parent for child care.

The social and developmental implications of this separation vary from case to case. There were some children who saw little trouble with growing up in a house that was not their biological family’s, being treated the same as the children of the parents who ran the house. Other children reported being beaten, often for no reason, believing it the violence to be caused by the mere fact that they were not part of the biological family.

The majority of the rest of the article looks at the importance of the father’s role in the child’s life. It is argued that this is indeed a significant relationship and that men are taking more of a role than is often credited to them. While they may not live in the same house as their child, a father who visits their child should still be considered present in that child’s life. The rest of this article is devoted to a discussion on the importance and difference of being an inside or outside (legitimate/illegitimate) child. This plays a large part in determining the role the father will play in the child’s life.

In the second chapter Senior attempts to understand women’s values and roles in society by better understanding the modes of socialization through which they learn their gender roles.

She begins with a look at what it is that influence people in understanding their gender roles. These include factors such as culture, with influences such as mass media, which help to perpetuate racist and sexist ideals. Socioeconomic status is another influenced discussed. A child born into a more affluent family will have more opportunities to develop and explore their creative potentials than a child of lower income family who is forced into working early or constantly wondering where their next meal will come from. A lack of funds for purchasing toys, which would include

stories to be read to or by young children, perpetuates illiteracy amongst the poor. A lack of exposure to educational resources at a young age fails to develop the child's ability for motivation and intellectual development. The article continues on to discuss the importance of being raised by a sister, mother or grandmother in determining what values will be passed on.

Other factors contributing to children learning their gender roles include the clothes in which they're dressed as well as the household chores they are asked to perform. Again this will differ amongst the various classes, however they are to some extent the same. Much of this is also determined by the amount in which their father is a part of their life.

The conclusion opens with a critical look at the work. Senior identifies some of the short comings of her work, where there is potential for future research projects. She continues to sum up the arguments made in the previous chapters. Senior discusses the extreme difficulties facing young women, with pressure on having children as a sign of adulthood, while at the same time feeling the pressure to become educated in order to better their economic situation. For many the pressure to have a child is too strong and thus they are forced to drop out of school perpetuating the cycle of poverty.

Canadian Aid: A Mixed Record and an Uncertain Future

Author: David R. Morrison

Submitted to: Prof Morrison, JSH, TCCBE

Submitted by: Krista Wray

The article opens with a critical discussion on developmental aid as capital and expertise transfer, noting one of the major problems facing this form of aid comes from the conflicting goals of many of its donors having both capitalist/political and humanitarian motives. The main objective of the discussion to follow will concern Canada's official development aid (ODA), considering both its generosity and miserliness with an attempt at explaining the factors that created these differences.

Canada's bilateral inter government aid agreements began under Louis St. Laurent's administration in the 1950's. Development assistance given in this period was a direct attempt to counter the threat of the spread of Communism to many vulnerable third world nations. There was little done officially to regulate aid as it was expected to be a temporary program. However, into the 1960's Canada began to feel increased pressure from other leading nations, namely the United States and various old colonial powers, to increase their contribution to aid. In response Canada was a founding member of the Development Assistance Committee, a sub group of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and also set up a small External Aid Office, which would later become Canadian International Development Agency.

The late 1950's and early 1960's also saw a change in the nations receiving Canadian aid. No longer confined to Asian nations that were former British colonies, Caribbean and some African nations began to receive aid as well. One reason for this was pressure put on the government from French Canadians who were critical of the government's bias toward English colonized nations. Canada was also much more willing and less cautious to give aid and assistance in the 1960's than it had been previously.

As development efforts continued to expand through the 1970's other initiatives were developed at home such as the International Development Research Centre. There were, however, many factors which created setbacks to Canadian aid and development efforts in the 1970's. Examples of this include the Canadian government's preoccupation with the threat of Quebec separating and the OPEC oil shock.

There was a drop in aid in the late 1970's when it was merely 0.43 per cent of the GNP (the goal being for it to reach 0.7 per cent), but as Trudeau came back into power he made great efforts to restore aid and achieve this goal by 1990. Other changes were seen in aid and development efforts in that much of the assistance was now being administered by non government organizations.

Under Brian Mulroney's conservative government and later Jean Chretien's liberal government there was a significant drop in aid as attempts to reduce the deficit became priority. The end of the Cold War era also decreased the urgency once felt for international aid and development. Efforts, quite often, were now conditional on receiving government's agreeing to increase human rights and/or democratization efforts.

Following the history of aid and development is a discussion on the main objectives and goals of the assistance. Some are cultural, as Canadians we value assistance and helping those less fortunate, while others are political as seen with the

fight to spread Communism noted above during the Cold War era. Development would also present new opportunities and markets for Canadian businesses with the potential for increased profits as a long term benefit.

There is also an interesting discussion on the choice of countries who will receive aid. It is noted that aid is more effective when concentrated on certain nations and those nations who are the poorest are in need of concessional transfers as they have the most difficulty in mobilizing the resources acquired. Canada's development efforts have been poor in concentration but great in helping the poorest nations. This is attributed to historical and political objectives previously discussed.

It is later noted that the constant changes in development policies and efforts was not helpful for aid. Changes were made to improve and increase efficiency of aid and development and keep the projects and efforts in line with Canadian policy and values of the time. However, this was not supportive in that constant changes meant many projects were left unfinished and development groups were undermining their own efforts and losing public support.

Canadian development is then considered through two models, the statist and dominant class view. The former believes that development efforts are a reflection of the goals and values of the political leaders instead of the goals of the recipient nations while the latter argues that aid is used as a tool by leading nations to further capitalist goals in this age of globalization. It is argued that while both offer useful insight, neither view is sufficient in completely analyzing Canadian aid efforts.

In conclusion, the article notes that despite the flaws in the Canadian model of development and aid, there are many positive aspects and goals that have been realized and these efforts should continue.