

**GROUNDING CARIBBEAN EDUCATORS AND RESEARCH(ERS):
DECOLONIAL REFLECTIONS WITH PROFESSOR JOEL WARRICAN**

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Abstract: *This paper uses a life history approach to reflect on the teaching, research and service work of Professor S. Joel Warrican (S.J.W), a noted Caribbeanist within the Organisation for Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the wider Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Known internationally for his research in literacies, S. J.W deploys his intellectual leverage to call for a Caribbean way of doing and thinking which serves to undermine colonial education inheritances and disrupt education for democracy and social justice. The authors use an in-depth semi-structured interview schedule to interrogate the interplay between biography, career trajectory, intellectualism and service. Through this conversation, we highlight Caribbean literacy, inequality, epistemology and decoloniality as important aspects of his work and contribution. We use these snippets to ground discussions on and directions for Caribbean educators and research(ers). We join with S.J.W in the call for higher education practitioners to advance knowledge systems and capacities that are both relevant to context, and that are converted to address the broader socio-economic and political challenges of the region.*

Keywords: *Caribbean; Decolonial; Research*

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