

ABSTRACTS

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Introduction **Pages: 1-12**

More than Words: Evangelicals, the Rhetoric of Battle and the Fight over Gay Rights in the Caribbean *by Anna Kasafi Perkins*

Little attention has been given to the way local and transnational religious and civil society groups are actively involved in shaping the socio-political space in the Anglophone Caribbean. This discussion attempts to contribute to that much needed exploration using the idea of a battle engaged, which is deployed by local and U.S. churches and church-related groups in describing the struggle with their opponents. It explores examples of the public engagement by these opposing factions on the issue of homosexuality and LGBT rights using the examples of predominantly Jamaica and Belize. It tentatively approaches the question of the impact of such a battle on the discourse in the public square. Public campaigns through media appearances, conferences, marches, public meetings, legal opinions and challenges, public lectures featuring US-based Evangelical speakers, advertorials, pamphlets, billboards, and letters to the paper are artefacts indicating the fight in the public domain. Therefore, these along with census data, newspaper reports and advertisements, as well as literature from the various groups will be analysed in the discussion. On reflection it is clear that real life damage can be done to the lives of those persons even with the best of intentions, as has been demonstrated in the examples drawn from Belize and Jamaica. This is referred to as the 'dark side of virtue' and should not be ignored by either side (Kennedy in Blake and Daley 2013, p. 468). Some of those affected may not even be directly the focus of the campaign, as in the case of lesbians in the Caribbean.

Key words: Evangelical, Religious Right, LGBT, transnational religion, Jamaica, homosexuality
Pages: 13-46.

Identity Construction of an Ethno-Religious Group in Barbados: The Case of the Gujarati-Muslims *by Haajima Degia*

This article presents primary research on the emergent identities of members of an ethno-religious minority group in Barbados: the Gujarati-Muslims. Located within the broader Indian population of Barbados, Gujarati-Muslim migration commenced at the turn of the twentieth century. It is a group which has inserted itself into the Barbadian society as a well-defined religious group and a significant business class.

This article addresses the complex ways in which Gujarati-Muslims in Barbados perceive and interpret their identities. The data for this study reveals that the identities of the members of the Gujarati ethnic group are emergent, and in a state of flux. Drawing on theories of creolisation, the work argues that Gujarati-Muslims, especially those of the third and fourth generations, perceive themselves as having hybrid identities.

Key Words: Gujarati-Muslims, business class, hybrid identities, creolisation
Pages: 47-82.

Manifesting Kali's Power: Guyanese Hinduism and the Revitalisation of the 'Madras Tradition' by
Sinah Theres Kloß

Hinduism in Guyana consists of various traditions and subgroups such as the Sanatan, Madras, and Arya Samaj traditions. Influenced by various historical conditions and the dominant Christian influence, members of the so-called Sanatan tradition have sought to establish their practices as the 'Great' or Sankritic Hindu tradition, for example through sanskritisation processes. In this context, specific practices such as possession rites and animal sacrifices were defined as inappropriate and excluded from mainstream Hinduism in Guyana, creating orthodoxy. These 'inappropriate' practices were consolidated in what is today known as the Madras tradition or Kali-Mai Puja, a shaktistic tradition which continues to be marginalised and stigmatised in contemporary society.

Highlighting how members of the various Hindu traditions seek to establish and legitimise their traditions, this article demonstrates that these traditions are constructed in relation to each other and that they are based on socio-cultural othering processes within the heterogeneous 'Indian' ethnic group in Guyana. Based on participant observation and ethnographic interviews, this anthropological contribution discusses that the Madras tradition is an 'invented' yet 'authentic' tradition and elaborates how various socio-political conditions have led to phases of its revitalisation. It raises questions such as: what has caused the resurgence of the Madras tradition in the 1980s besides the economic crisis and authoritarian rule? What role do Madrassi healing rites have for the popularity of the tradition? How is the growing significance of Pentecostalism and charismatic Christianity influencing Hindu traditions in contemporary Guyana?

Key words: Hinduism, Sanskritisation, Madras Tradition,
Pages: 83-110.

Contextualising the Psychology of Spiritual Development among Caribbean Emerging Adults: Correlates with Healthy Family Relationships, Peer Associations and Drug Use by *Mia Jules and Donna-Maria B. Maynard*

Although a sizable body of research has examined the socio-demographic correlates of religious involvement within the African Diaspora, few have been conducted about spirituality among Black Caribbean youth. This study: (a) interrogates the construct of 'spirituality'; (b) discusses the positive role of interfaith youth groups within the Caribbean; (c) posits a psychological explanation of the period of emerging adulthood and the associated psychosocial characteristics which facilitate spiritual development among this demographic; and, (d) quantitatively explores the relationships among spirituality, drug use, peer associations and family relations in Black Caribbean emerging adults. It was found that with an increase in the level of spirituality, the greater the likelihood that an emerging adult would experience healthy family functioning, positive peer associations and be less likely to engage in alcohol and marijuana use.

Key Words: spirituality, emerging adults, peer associations, drug use
Pages: 111-149.

Return Migrations from Metropolitan France: a Qualitative Study of Representations of Otherness in Martinique by *Aude Lanthier*

This article underlines the inclination to consider Martinican return migrants from France as a new type of 'outsider', that is, as a cultural 'Other'. As it shall be argued, this new trend is revealing another dimension of otherness as well as a new configuration of Martinique postcolonial relationship with the French Republic. Empirical data analysis from ethnographic fieldwork highlighted the cross-representations between the returnees and the local inhabitants and enabled an innovative understanding of the new modalities of alterity in Martinique. Moreover, this article focuses on return migrants' professional and family readjustment difficulties once back 'home'.

Key Words: Martinique, Return Migrations, Cultural Otherness, Readjustment Difficulties.

Pages: 150-175.

Commentary

Pages: 176-206.

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Can Millennials Afford Higher Education? by *Delroy Chevers*

Over the past five years, the Students' Loan Bureau (SLB) in Jamaica has been struggling to fulfil its mandate of disbursing loans to qualified students. The established government funded SLB was not equipped to handle the 153% increase in loan applications over the period 2007 to 2012. With this crisis and little change to the SLB's funding policy, many students had, and continue to seek alternative funding options. In response to this crisis, commercial banks have expanded their loan offerings. However, many commercial banks have found offering student loans, to be challenging due to the regulations that are required. Hence, the research question seeks to ascertain whether students can afford the funding options offered by commercial banks in Jamaica. Three top tier tertiary institutions that have a bachelor degree in business administration program and five major commercial banks were selected for the study. It was discovered that all the funding options provided by the commercial banks were affordable when students chose University A; two of the five options were affordable when students chose University B and none when University C was chosen. The study highlights the need for policy changes to strengthen the viability and sustainability of the SLB.

Key Words: Commercial banks; higher education; student loan; tertiary institution; tuition

Pages: 1-32.

Constructing a Housing Price Index for Barbados by *Anton Belgrave, Tiffany Grosvenor and Shane Lowe*

This paper presents a framework for developing a real estate price index for Barbados using data provided by the country's central revenue agency, the Barbados Revenue Authority. Apart from the existence of specialised commercial sub-indices, and despite an initial effort by Browne *et al.* (2008), there exists no general real estate price index for Barbados to date. Ultimately, the paper reviewed a number of approaches proposed in the literature for constructing real estate price indices, and determined that a median price index was most appropriate given the characteristics and limitations of the data. The study enhances the initial efforts of Browne *et al.* (2008) by utilising the actual sale price of properties rather

than the listed price. The results suggest that real estate prices escalated rapidly from middle of the 1990s to about 2010 and stabilised or declined subsequently.

Key Words: house price index; median price index; developing countries.

Pages: 33-58.

Coloniality of Power: Subjugation and Inequality in Post-Britannica Dubai by *Paul Thompson*

This article grapples with the interconnected and intertwined, but yet contrasting lived realities of Dubai's Western and non-western diasporic communities. As modernity accelerates in the city, it has been accompanied by the racial/ethnic "hierachisation" of the population. Arabs from the Gulf Cooperating Council (GCC) states, as well as Euro-Americans are atop of the city's multi-layered hierarchy. Whilst at the bottom of the racial hierarchy are migrant labourers from Africa, Asia and other Arab States who are subjected to exploitation and subjugation. The article posits that Aníbal Quijano's coloniality of power has emerged as an exemplifying concept for contextualising racial formation and subordination in Dubai. Empirical evidence obtained from semi-structured and informal interviews conducted across Dubai's diasporic communities in the city, is used to support this proposition. The conclusion drawn is that Dubai fits into the canon of thought which is based on a Euro-American practice of racial hierarchy, superiority and subjectivity.

Key Words: capitalism, coloniality of power, diasporic, exploitation

Pages: 59-81.

Estimating Fiscal Stability for Barbados and Jamaica: 1973 – 2010 by *Clyde A. Mascoll*

This paper examines empirically the concept of fiscal stability for Barbados and Jamaica over the period 1973–2010. Fiscal stability is defined within an extended public choice model of government expenditure attributed to Baumol (1967) and Spann (1977) by the incorporation of a government revenue equation. A tax price variable is used to test Kaldor's cobweb theorem in measuring fiscal stability that is estimated using the bounds testing approach to cointegration. The results suggest fiscal stability for Barbados in contrast to Jamaica over the long-run. In the short-run, fiscal stability holds for Barbados but is inconclusive for Jamaica. The different results may be reflecting a greater unbalanced productivity gap in the Jamaica economy.

Key Words: Fiscal stability, Barbados, Jamaica, bounds testing, tax price, cointegration.

JEL Classifications: H10, H50

Pages: 82-110.

Defining Intra-Caribbean Relations in a Post-Preference Era: Caribbean Regional Integration driven by Exogenous International Trade Pressures by *Alicia Nicholls and Yentyl Williams*

This paper analyses three international trade developments which will have an impact on Caribbean trading relations with its main external partners: First, the Caribbean's main partners, the US and EU are negotiating the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). Though the future of the TTIP negotiations remains uncertain, the Trump Administration has not expressly shelved the discussions. Second, the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) countries were the first of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group to sign a comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the EU. This may be complicated by the UK's withdrawal from the EU and pivot towards the Commonwealth. However, the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) framework is gaining attention in post-Cotonou debates. Third, French Caribbean islands are strengthening relations with CARICOM, despite tensions

arising from 'l'octroi de mer' (dock dues). This paper concludes that these extra-Caribbean forces will exert more pressure on the Caribbean to unite in order to be better able to weather these headwinds.

Key words: CARICOM, CARIFORUM, TTIP, EPA, ACP, LAC, octroi de mer

Pages: 111-138.

Reproductive Rights and Citizenship: Understanding the State's Inability to Implement the Abortion Laws of Guyana *by Tivia Collins*

This paper examines the state's treatment of sexual and reproductive rights in Guyana through the 1995 Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act. It addresses the ways in which the lack of implementation of the abortion law can be read as the state's desire to reproduce a certain kind of acceptable citizen and regulate sexual bodies by determining what rights women can and cannot have access to and how they are allowed to access them. This research offers a historical analysis of the abortion law in Guyana, alongside a critical review of the actions by government that contributed to the passing of the law. The researcher explores the relationship between sexual citizenship and the state's expression of power by highlighting ways the state denies certain types of bodies their rights by not implementing the abortion law. Finally, the project offers recommendations to have the abortion law implemented without reservation.

Key Words: abortion law; sexual citizenship; women's rights; sexual rights; reproductive rights; Guyana.

Pages: 139-165.

Whose and What World Order? Fanon and the Salience of the Caribbean Reparations Endeavour *by Don D. Marshall*

In this article I seek to engage the reparations schematic, particularly its premise and potential for advancing a politics of international human dignity. I begin by reflecting on the material, goal-oriented discussions arising from Caribbean Community (CARICOM) reparatory endeavours before engaging its generative force for thinking of just world orders. I posit the need to embrace the Fanonian antagonism – that is to confront the scarring and subjective insecurity arising from the Black-White relation, and the cluster of dead ends Western reductive frameworks throws up. For Fanon, Western order was founded on colonial relations. At its core was the violent denial of black individuality and liberty. Its lasting effects are experienced and contested by many people of colour across all continents. From their vantage point, it is an unjust world existing just beyond the edge of mainstream International Relations. It is co-constituted by white male supremacist claims and processes of proletarianisation. Its period style remains that of the Caliban-Prospero trope located in forms of political thought that privilege Western/Eurasian geographies as advanced mind, and others as zones of anarchy. This Manichean division of the geopolitical and ecological into zones entailing the evacuation of black and colonial subjects, animates the hold of Eurocentricity on imaginings of human dignity and just world orders. If the reparations endeavour - both in terms of its material claims and critique – is to come into its own as radical thought, it must distance itself from extant Manichean zoning; and reclaim the sovereignty of the human and of postcolonial self-determination.

Key words: Reparations, Coloniality, Inter-imperial relations, Capitalism, Eurocentricity.

Pages: 166-180.

Public Lecture

A State of Disarray: Public Policy in the Caribbean *by Clive Y. Thomas*

Pages: 181-198.

Commentary

Reflections and a Recipe for Change: Constitutional Reform in Saint Lucia by *Amit K. Chhabra and Damian E. Greaves*

This commentary insists on the need for the St. Lucian Constitution to be reflective of the key components of good governance such as accountability and transparency. It challenges the current status quo of the government structure especially in relation to Prime Ministerial Power.

Pages: 199-208.

Book Review

Negotiating Gender, Policy and Politics in the Caribbean: Feminist Strategies, Masculinist Resistance and Transformational Possibilities by *Patricia Mohammed*

This review summarises the contributions of Caribbean Feminist scholars who focus directly on varying social inequalities. They all highlight structural imbalances through the use of a gendered theoretical approach.

Pages: 209-213.