

COMMENTARY: PERSPECTIVES ON EDUCATION

**CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE CARIBBEAN:
PEERING THROUGH THE LENSES OF WESTERN FRAMES**

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Abstract: *Conducting research in the Caribbean is fraught with challenges: small pools of researchers; small populations from which to draw participants; cultural and other traditions all contribute to these challenges. Quite often, when research is conducted in this space, it is done following the practices borrowed from other larger countries. For example, the concept of emic and etic perspectives is often applied in research in education in larger countries. The researcher contributes the etic perspective and the participants, the emic. In the Caribbean, this can be somewhat of a challenge since, owing to size and proximity, the researcher may also be intimate with the emic perspective. This paper explores the impact of such dilemmas on Caribbean research. It is based on a speech given to scholars at Georgia State University, hosted by the Department of Educational Policy Studies in the College of Education and Human Development as part of the Provost Visiting Scholars' Program.*

Keywords: *Western frames; Caribbean perspectives on educational research; colonial influence on Caribbean research*

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