

Deportation as an element of return migration to the Caribbean

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Rejection



Structure of presentation

- Brief background on Caribbean migration
- Importance of Jamaica as sending nation in the Anglo-phone Caribbean
- Return migration to the region
- Deportation as an increasing element of the return process
- Impacts and implications of deportation: from the personal to the global

Migration as a 'way of life'

- Migration as central in the formation of contemporary Caribbean societies
- Britain as a major destination for Caribbean migrants due to Britain's long colonial relationship with this region. Centuries of wealth extraction from the region enriched this country yet inevitably created political links which endured.
- Legislation, commencing in 1948 enabled movement of labour but later restricted this.
- The enduring links are fundamental to understanding Caribbean migration and to informing a just policy.

Importance of Jamaica as sending nation in the Anglo-phone Caribbean

- Jamaicans make up over half of total post war migrants from the Commonwealth Caribbean
- Jamaica's debt riddled economy since 1980s fuelled further migration globally and although the vast majority of these migrants go to the United States, there has been a rise in movement to Britain over the past two decades.

Return migration in the wider sense

- **Sources on levels of return**

- Census of England and Wales; International Passenger survey; Commonwealth Caribbean Population and Household Census

The 1990s were a period of significant return; tens of thousands of post war migrants returned home to live on their pensions in the Caribbean

- **Return: part of a process of circulation**

- Timing reflects the arrival of particular cohorts : Economic recessions in destination countries or migrant cohorts reaching retirement age .

- **Impact of return on communities of origin**

- Return tends to stimulate further migration as the returnees can generally maintain a higher standard of living than that which they left behind, demonstrating success.

Impacts and implications of deportation: from the personal to the global

- Impacts on individuals and families
- Impacts on communities in the UK and in Caribbean islands such as Jamaica
- Global implications

What becomes of the deported?



Outcomes for deportees and removed persons

- Rescued and reintegrated via family and friend network in the Caribbean
- Adopted by local gangs
- Completely isolated and live off their wits on the streets. Often results in the deaths of the deportee.

Global implications

- Deporting criminals to countries in the Caribbean simply expands the locale for criminal enterprise. National security is threatened in receiving countries which are far less able than the deporting countries to control the activity of such people.
- The process also impacts negatively on global security as criminals are then free to re-engage with and widen their criminal network.

Some relevant sources

- The Jamaica Gleaner regularly presents debates on deportation eg the following web page.
 - <http://www.jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20060212/news/news3.html>
- Headley, B; Alleyne, D. and Madjd-Sadjadi, Z (2007) 'The Potential Jamaican Impact of Criminal Deportees from the US' [Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice](#): 5 (2/3) pp. 29 – 53.
- Bloch, A and Schuster, 'At the extremes of exclusion: deportation, detention and dispersal', *Ethnic and racial studies*, 25 (3) 491-512.