

List of issues to be
taken up in
consideration of the
second periodic report
of Jamaica
(CRC/C/70/Add 15)

Acknowledgements - IA

1. Source - Economic & Social Survey
2. Prepared by Planning Institute of Jamaica
- 3a. Please see response in 2(d) above
- 3b. Prepared by Adoption Board
- 3c. Prepared by Ministry of Health
4. Up-to-date data not available
5. Up-to-date data not available
6. Prepared by Ministry of Education
7. Up-to-date data not available
8. Source - National AIDS Committee
9. Prepared by Ministry of Justice
10. Prepared by Ministry of Labour

A1

Please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age groups, urban or rural areas) covering the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 on the number and percentage (of the total national population) of children under 18 living in the State party.

Part I

A1

The table below provides disaggregated data by gender and age groups covering the years 2001 and 2002 and percentage of the total national population of children under 19 living in Jamaica. The figure 19 has been used because that is the way the age groups are recorded. It has only been possible to provide data for 2001 and 2002 because these are the years in which a national census was conducted and there are no available figures for 2000.

Table

POPULATION OF JAMAICA, UNDER 19 YEARS BY AGE AND SEX, 2001 & 2002

AGE GROUP	Total population : 2,607,600				Total population : 2,624,700			
	2,001		2,001		2,002		2,002	
	MALE	%	FEMALE	%	MALE	%	FEMALE	%
0-4	138,900	5.3	133,900	5.1	134,100	5.1	131,100	5.0
5-9	149,700	5.7	145,200	5.6	148,100	5.6	144,900	5.5
10-14	139,400	5.3	136,500	5.2	140,000	5.3	137,400	5.2
15-19	126,500	4.9	125,500	4.8	126,000	4.8	126,100	4.8
TOTAL	554,500	21.2	541,100	20.7	548,200	20.8	539,500	20.5
	Percentage of total population: 41.9				Percentage of total population: 41.3			

A2.

In light of article 4 of the Convention, please provide additional disaggregated data for 2001 - 2003, budget allocations and trends (in percentages of the national budget) allocated to the implementation of the Convention, evaluation also the priorities for budgetary expenditures given to the following:

- a) Education (including pre-primary, primary and secondary education);
- b) Health care (including different types of health services, including primary health care
- c) Children with disabilities;
- d) Support to families and the protection of children who are in need of alternative care including the support of care institutions;
- e) Juvenile crime prevention and juvenile justice.

Please also indicate the percentages of these allocations derived from international sources and also expenses of the private sector, in particular for health and education.

REPORT ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The Jamaican political directorate is committed to giving priority attention to the needs of vulnerable groups, however this effort is constrained by the size of its national debt. The allocation to debt servicing grew to 63.7 per cent in 2001 from 62.4 per cent in 2002, effectively reducing government's expenditure in the public sector. Details on areas of concern in relation to Jamaica's implementation of the CRC are provided below.

2a. Education

Expenditure on education over the period 2001-2003 was as follows:

Table 1
Selected Financial Data on
Education, 2001 - 2003

Year	Government of Jamaica's Budget (GOJ) J\$'M	Ministry of Education, Youth, and Culture's Budget (MOEYC) J\$'M	MOEYC's Budget as a Percentage of GOJ's Budget (%)
2000/2001	\$167,388.0	\$18,147.5	10.8
2001/2002	\$219,777.6	\$23,300.0	10.6
2002/2003	\$210,054.4	\$21,734.8	10.3

N.B - Data for 2000/01 and 2001/02 are Revised Estimates,
Data for 2002/03 are Approved Estimates of Expenditures
SOURCE: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE

Over the three years (2001-2003), investment at the early-childhood, primary and secondary levels has been increasing (Table 1). Financing at the Pre-Primary level has historically been the main prerogative of community groups, parents, NGOs, and the private sector, and this seems destined to be the path for the future¹. As a result, the percentage allocation at the pre-primary level averaged 5.3 per cent, with an increase in allocation from 4.1 per cent in 2001 to 6.3 per cent in 2003. In addition, the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) apportioned some \$140.1 million (\$63.7 million in 2001) to 36 pre-primary educational projects benefitting some 2 177 students and teachers. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture (MOEYC) also receives from the country's two lottery companies, Supreme Ventures and the Jamaica Lottery Company, funding for Early Childhood Education². The funds to education are administered by the MOEYC and to date (December 2002)

¹ Some 88.8 per cent of the students in this age cohort (3-5 years) attend community-operated basic schools, with the remainder enrolled in public infant schools and departments, and private preparatory schools.

² In 2002, The Culture, Health, Arts, Sports and Education (CHASE) Fund was established by the Government of Jamaica to allocated proceeds from the lottery companies to finance projects within the fields of health, arts, sports and education.

some \$375.6 million have been collected.

The GOJ has full responsibility for the financing of primary education. In addition to its non-contributory fee structure at the primary level, the government provides a subsidized school feeding programme, as well as free textbooks for all students. This level receives the largest share of the educational budget, an annual average of 31.4 per cent over the period. Between 2001 and 2003, there was a 29.0 per cent increase in allocation to \$8 159 billion.

Similar to the financing arrangement at the early childhood level, the financing of Secondary Education is shared between Government and parents. The Cost Sharing Scheme that was introduced at the Secondary level in the 1994/95 school year, requires individuals to contribute to the economic costs of their children's education. Some \$940.4 million were collected from parents/guardians under the Cost Sharing in the academic year 2001/2002. Additional assistance amounting to \$8.8 million was provided through the Social and Economic Support Programme (SESP)³ and \$2.5 million by philanthropic groups. The MOEYC, however, recognizes that provision should be made for needy students, and as such has established a welfare programme to assist the most needy. In addition, there is provision to ensure that no child is sent away from school because of parents'/guardians' inability to pay. The cost sharing scheme has provided finances to enable schools to meet their operational costs and to purchase instructional materials and equipments. Government's allocation to this level averages at 31.6 per cent annually, however, this contribution is predominantly used for the payment of teacher's salaries. In 2001, the total allocation was \$5.2 billion and increased to \$7.9 billion in 2003.

³The Social and Economic Support Programme (SESP) Educational Assistance component is administered through the Office of the Prime Minister and was designed to enable the vulnerable in society to take advantage of educational opportunities. The programme aims to facilitate the retention of needy students in the formal education systems.

Table 2
Expenditure on Education by Level, Recurrent and Capital, 2000/01 - 2002/03

(000)				
2000/01				
LEVEL	RECURRENT	CAPITAL	TOTAL	% INTERNATIONAL
Early Childhood	\$729 866	\$12 820	\$742 686	0.0
Primary	\$5 777 608	\$546 179	\$6 323 787	1.9
Secondary	\$4 914 099	\$244 862	\$5 158 961	4.3
2001/02				
LEVEL	RECURRENT	CAPITAL	TOTAL	% INTERNATIONAL
Early Childhood	\$983 985	\$ 9 290	\$993 275	0.0
Primary	\$7 205 455	\$257 123	\$7 462 578	1.4
Secondary	\$7 346 926	\$168 267	\$7 515 193	1.0
2002/03*				
LEVEL	RECURRENT	CAPITAL	TOTAL	% INTERNATIONAL
Early Childhood	\$1 092 536	\$23 261	\$1 115 797	1.9
Primary	\$7 638 417	\$521 477	\$8 159 894	6.0
Secondary	\$7 821 639	\$97 330	\$7 918 969	1.1

* Approved Estimates of Expenditure

SOURCE: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE

2b. Health Care

Table 3
Selected Financial Data on Health

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
	% of Budget	% of Budget	% of Budget
Total Health Sector	7.2 (\$7.5b)	7.7 (\$7.7b)	6.7 (\$8.4b)
Health Services Delivery	4.6 (\$4.8b)	5.7 (\$5.7b)	4.8 (\$6.1b)
Other Departments including Administration and Capital A	2.2 (\$1.9b)	1.6 (\$1.6b)	1.8 (\$2.2b)
Funding (Capital B)	0.4 (\$500m)	0.4 (\$400m)	0.1 (\$100m)

International Funding as a percentage of the Health Budget as indicated by the Estimates of Expenditure was 6.7% for the Financial Year (FY) 2000/01, 5.2% for FY 2001/02 and 1.2% for the FY 2002/03.

Primary health care and Secondary health care have been incorporated into Health Care Delivery (HCD) or Health Service Delivery (HSD), and as such, allocations to these and other specific programmes, such as vaccination, are not readily available as financing for these programmes is grouped under broader programmes, which include but are not specific to children. As such disaggregation of the budget by these specific programmes was not possible.

2c. Children with Disabilities

The 1991 Population Census recorded 15,517 persons between the ages of 0-19, who had disabilities. Some 8346 were males. There have been various estimates of the number of persons currently with disabilities, but a new official estimate will have to await the 2001 Census details. Although there are several Government agencies and NGOs working with persons with disabilities, there is no comprehensive data base that has sought to establish absolute numbers, or to define these numbers by type of disability, and other pertinent sub-groupings.

The Government's Estimates of Expenditure for the year ending March 31, 2003 show:

		% of Budget
Actual Expenditure 2000/01	\$237.9 million	0.003
Revised Estimates 2001/02	\$274.9 million	0.002
Estimates 2002/03	\$276.7 million	0.002

These expenditures relate to schools for the mentally challenged, hearing and visually impaired, the multiple disabled, the Mico Care Centre and Hope Valley Experimental School, and Non-Government organizations.

These estimates included:

Table 4
Budgetary Allocation for Children with Disabilities

	\$ million		
Schools	Actual 2000/01	Revised 2001/02	Estimates 2002/03
Mentally Challenged	85.4	100.9	95.7
Hearing Impaired	57.0	70.2	65.9
Visually Impaired	20.4	20.3	22.6
Multiple Disabled	0.6	1.9	1.9
TOTAL	163.4	193.3	186.1
% of National Budget	0.002	0.002	0.001

No funding was identified for Special Education in the Capital B (multilateral and bilateral funding) budget estimates.

Special Education embraces those programmes designed to meet the needs of children aged 4-18 years, who have capabilities which deviate significantly from the norm expected for their age. These types of services are mainly provided through private voluntary organizations in collaboration with Government. The programme aims to provide students with access to early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary education in order to facilitate the development of their full potential.

2d. Support to families and protection of children who are in need of alternative care, including the support of care institutions.

Data on children in child-care institutions and in foster care supported by the state are given below:

Table 5
Children in Care

Year 2001

Location	Males	Females	Total
Government Places of Safety	240	237	477
Private Places of Safety	52	47	99
Government Children's Homes	218	131	349
Private Children's Homes	998	195	1193
Foster Care	457	521	978
TOTAL	1965	1131	3086

Year 2002

Location	Males	Females	Total
Government Places of Safety	298	296	594
Private Places of Safety	58	42	100
Government Children's Homes	196	147	343
Private Children's Homes	940	515	1455
Foster Care	495	580	1075
TOTAL	1987	1580	3567

Government operates five Children's Homes, while providing grants to some 35 privately-run Children's Homes. These institutions are licensed by the Ministry of Health and receive monthly subventions. Eight Government Places of Safety are supported, while grant provisions are made to four private facilities. Foster Care is the programme by which families receive children in their

homes and provide for their growth and development. The Children's Services Division facilitates management and control of the child welfare programme, and provides administration and direction. The provisions to Other family Services is given to the Adoption Board.

Government allocation of expenditure to this area include:

Table 6
Allocation for Children's Services

J\$million

	Actual Expenditure 2000/01	Revised Estimates 2001/02	Approved Estimates 2002/03
Children's Services Division - Direction & Administration	71.0	133.1	133.1
Children's Homes	165.1	180.1	180.1
Places of Safety	73.9	66.2	66.2
Foster Care	34.3	42.0	42.0
Other Family services Schemes	10.9	11.5	11.5
TOTAL	355.2	432.9	432.9
% of Budget	0.004	0.004	0.003

International funding (Capital B Allocation) to Children's Services was included in the Children and Youth at Risk component. See Table 8 below.

2e. Juvenile Crime Prevention and Justice

Juvenile Institutions are correctional centres for the custody and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders, as ordered by the courts. Individuals become wards of the state after all efforts at the community level have failed in changing their behavioural pattern and the offenders appear to need a more structured environment to assist in effecting the desired changes. The programme is designed to

— Eradicate illiteracy and lack of numeracy among wards.

Give opportunity to those academically inclined to pursue advance courses leading up to the General Certificate of Education and the Caribbean Examination Council.
 Provide opportunities for some wards to acquire marketable skills.

Provide rehabilitative services to all wards in juvenile correctional settings.

Give an opportunity to the wards to become computer literate.

Counsel parents/guardians of wards regarding their roles and functions.
 The programme covers three juvenile correctional centres currently operating and one juvenile remand centre.

Table 7
The allocation of the Government of Jamaica's Budget to the Department of Correctional Services and Juvenile Institutions

Year	Government of Jamaica's (GOJ) Budget \$M	Allocation to Department of Correctional Services (DCS) \$M	Allocation to Juvenile Institutions \$M	Allocation to Juvenile Institutions as a Percentage of GOJ's Budget (%)	Allocation to Juvenile Institutions as a Percentage of DCS's Budget (%)
2000/2001	167,388.0	1,083.1	87.1	.05	8.0
2001/2002	219,777.5	921.1	94.8	.04	10.3
2002/2003	223,524.1	1,936.9	140.2	.06	7.2

No official Development Assistance was identified for juvenile institutions under the Department of Correctional Services. However, the following were allocated to Children and Youth at Risk under the Ministry of Health's budget:

Table 8
Official Development Assistance (Capital B) to Children and Youth at Risk

	\$'000		
	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003
	13,016.00	5,000.00	19,789.00

A3

Please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age, urban or rural areas) covering the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 on the:

- a) Number of orphans and abandoned children, and the number living in institutions;
- b) Number of children in domestic and inter country adoption programmes;
- c) Proportion of children killed by accidents

ADOPTION BOARD ANNUAL STATISTICS - JANUARY - DECEMBER 2000

APPLICATION RECEIVED

For the year 2000 the Adoption Board received a total of 290 applications to adopt Jamaican children.

Applicants applied to adopt children in Jamaica and for Licence to adopt Jamaican children in scheduled countries abroad.

Applications to adopt identified children in Jamaica	213
Applications to adopt identified children from Jamaica abroad	16
Applications requesting placement for adoption in Jamaica	50
Applications requesting placement for adoption Overseas	11
TOTAL	290

BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS - DISTRIBUTION PER PARISH FOR ADOPTION IN JAMAICA

Kingston & St. Andrew	76
Clarendon	31
Manchester	24
Westmoreland	10
St. Elizabeth	13
Hanover	3
St. James	16
Trelawney	6
St. Ann	14
St. Mary	9
Portland	5
St. Thomas	3
St. Catherine	54

FOR ADOPTION ABROAD - COUNTRY OF APPLICANTS (Licence)

USA	24
Canada	2
Cayman	0

BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS BY GENDER OF CHILDREN FOR ADOPTION IN JAMAICA AND ABROAD

Female	165
Male	105
No Preference	20

LICENCES AND ADOPTION ORDERS GRANTED FOR THE YEAR 2000

Adoption Orders Granted	202
Licences Granted	25

PARISH DISTRIBUTION OF ADOPTION ORDERS/LICENCES GRANTED DECEMBER 2000

	Adoption Orders	Licences	Total
Kingslon & St. Andrew	66	8	74
Clarendon	14	1	15
Manchester	13	6	19
St. Elizabeth	9	0	9
Westmoreland	6	0	6
St. James/Hanover	19	4	23
Trelawney	3	1	4
St. Ann	5	0	5
St. Mary	4	1	5
Portland	11	0	11
St. Thomas	4	0	4
St. Catherine	48	4	52
	<u>202</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>227</u>

BREAKDOWN BY SEX OF CHILDREN ADOPTED

Female	127
Male	100

Licences have been granted for children to go to scheduled countries for the purpose of adoption

SET OUT BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE OF THE APPLICANTS

COUNTRIES

USA	23
Canada	2

Of the 227 applications processed for Adoption Orders and Licences 32 were on Government Fit

Adoption Order Granted	26
Licences Granted	6

BREAKDOWN OF SEX

Female	17
Male	15

ADOPTION BOARD STATISTICS - YEAR 2001

APPLICATION RECEIVED

For the Year 2001 the Adoption Board received a total of 400 applications to adopt Jamaican children.

Applicants applied to adopt children in Jamaica and for Licence to adopt Jamaican children in scheduled countries abroad.

Applications to adopt identified children in Jamaica	297
Applications to adopt identified children from Jamaica abroad	37
Applications requesting placement for adoption in Jamaica	51
Applications requesting placement for adoption Overseas	15
TOTAL	<u>400</u>

BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS - DISTRIBUTION PER PARISH FOR ADOPTION IN JAMAICA

Kingston & St. Andrew	102
Clarendon	25
Manchester	23
St. Elizabeth	16
Westmoreland	7
Hanover	14
St. James	19
Trelawney	7
St. Ann	15
St. Mary	13
Portland	13
St. Thomas	11
St. Catherine	85

FOR ADOPTION ABROAD - COUNTRY OF APPLICANTS

UK	1
USA	47
Canada	2

BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS BY GENDER OF CHILDREN FOR ADOPTION IN JAMAICA AND ABROAD

Female	220
Male	153
No Preference	27

**ANNUAL REPORT 2001
LICENCES AND ADOPTION ORDERS GRANTED**

Adoption Orders Granted	208
Licences Granted	30

PARISH DISTRIBUTION OF ADOPTION ORDERS/LICENCES GRANTED DECEMBER 2001

	Adoption Orders	Licences	Total
Kingston & St. Andrew	70	10	80
Clarendon	10	1	11
Manchester	20	4	24
St. Elizabeth	3	1	4
Westmoreland	6	0	6
St. James/Hanover	20	4	24
Trelawney	3	0	3
St. Ann	8	2	10
St. Mary	8	1	9
Portland	4	0	4
St. Thomas	4	3	7
St. Catherine	52	4	56
	<u>208</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>238</u>

BREAKDOWN BY SEX OF CHILDREN ADOPTED

Female	134
Male	104

Licences have been granted for children to go to scheduled countries for the purpose of adoption

SET OUT BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE SEX OF THE CHILDREN AND THE COUNTRIES

SEX

Female
Male

COUNTRIES

USA	29
Canada	1

Of the 238 applications processed for Adoption Orders and Licences 38 were on Government Fil

Adoption Order Granted	31
Licences Granted	7

BREAKDOWN OF SEX

Female	14
Male	24

ADOPTION BOARD ANNUAL STATISTICS - JANUARY - DECEMBER 2002

APPLICATION RECEIVED

For the year 2002 the Adoption Board received a total of 458 applications to adopt Jamaican children.

Applicants applied to adopt children in Jamaica and for Licence to adopt Jamaican children in scheduled countries abroad.

Applications to adopt identified children in Jamaica	331
Applications to adopt identified children from Jamaica abroad	47
Applications requesting placement for adoption in Jamaica	61
Applications requesting placement for adoption Overseas	19
TOTAL	458

BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS - DISTRIBUTION PER PARISH FOR ADOPTION IN JAMAICA

Kingsion & St. Andrew	121
Clarendon	21
Manchester	33
Westmoreland	23
St. Elizabeth	20
Hanover	16
St. James	23
Trelawney	8
St. Ann	18
St. Mary	11
Portland	6
St. Thomas	4
St. Catherine	86

FOR ADOPTION ABROAD - COUNTRY OF APPLICANTS

USA	63
Canada	4
Cayman	1

BREAKDOWN OF APPLICATIONS BY SEX OF CHILDREN FOR ADOPTION IN JAMAICA AND ABROAD

Female	282
Male	160
No Preference	16

LICENCES AND ADOPTION ORDERS GRANTED FOR THE YEAR 2002

Adoption Orders Granted 219
Licences Granted 36

PARISH DISTRIBUTION OF ADOPTION ORDERS/LICENCES GRANTED DECEMBER 2002

	Adoption Orders	Licences	Total
Kingston & St. Andrew	74	9	83
Clarendon	12	1	13
Manchester	14	9	23
St. Elizabeth	11	3	14
Westmoreland	6	1	7
St. James/Hanover	22	2	24
Trelawney	5	1	6
St. Ann	12	1	13
St. Mary	4	2	6
Portland	6	0	6
St. Thomas	3	0	3
St. Catherine	50	7	57
	<u>219</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>255</u>

BREAKDOWN BY SEX OF CHILDREN ADOPTED

Female 142
Male 113

Licences have been granted for children to go to scheduled countries for the purpose of adoption

SET OUT BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE SEX OF THE CHILDREN AND THE COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE OF THE APPLICANTS

SEX

Female 17
Male 19

COUNTRIES

USA 33
Canada 3

Of the 255 applications processed for Adoption Orders and Licences 25 were on Government Fil

Adoption Order Granted 16
Licences Granted 9

BREAKDOWN OF SEX

Female 14
Male 11

REPORT ON INJURIES (2002)

*prepared
for the*

United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child
33rd Session (Geneva): 19th May to June 6th, 2003

Health Promotion and Protection Division
Ministry of Health
Jamaica

May 2003

Overview

In response to the request for information, in particular Item 3c under Part 1- Section A of document CRC/C/70/Add.15, please find enclosed statistics from the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS) for the year 2002. Among other things, the JISS collects data on "violence related injuries (VRI)" and "motor vehicle related injuries (MVA)" from nine accident and emergency (A&E) departments island-wide¹.

For the purpose of this report, we have extracted data for children under the age of 18. Disaggregated data have been provided within gender and four age groups: 0 – 4, 5 – 9, 10 – 14 and 15 – 17. Urban-rural identifiers were not included in the data set; hence disaggregating was not done on the basis of location.

During the year 2002, two thousand one hundred and eighty-three (2,183) VRI and one thousand one hundred and forty-six (1,146) MVA were recorded for children under 18 years of age across all participating A&E departments. The overall male-female ratio for VRI and MVA were, respectively, 1.3:1 and 1.5:1.

The following report provides a synopsis of the methods of injuries, victim-perpetrator relationships, circumstances of injuries and discharge disposition as it relates to the VRI and; mode of travel and discharge disposition as it relates to the MVA.

It is my hope that this information will prove useful.

¹ JISS participating A&E departments: St Ann's Bay Hospital, Annotto Bay Hospital, Bustamante Hospital for Children, Cornwall Regional Hospital, Kingston Public Hospital, Mandeville Hospital, May Pen Hospital, Sav-La-Mar Hospital and Spanish Town Hospital.

Jamaica Injury Surveillance System

Violence Related Injuries 2002 – Children Under 18

Between January and December 2002, two thousand one hundred and eighty-three (2,183) 'Violence related injuries' (VRI) were recorded for children under 18 years of age in the nine¹ Accident and Emergency departments island-wide participating in the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS).

Age Distribution by Gender – Children Under 18 Violence Related Injuries: January-December 2002

Table 1

AGE GROUP	GENDER				TOTAL	%	RATIO M : F
	Male	%	Female	%			
0 – 4	25	3.0	25	3.9	50	3.4	1.0:1
5 – 9	91	10.9	61	9.5	152	10.3	1.5:1
10 – 14	304	36.6	220	34.3	524	35.6	1.4:1
15 - 17	411	49.5	336	52.3	747	50.7	1.2:1
Total	831	56.4	642	43.6	1473	100.0	1.3:1

NOTE: Missing gender for 710 children under 18 years of age

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

Of the total children visits for VRI, 56.4% (831) were made by males and 43.6% (642) by females (male-female ratio of 1.3:1); the high-risk population (10-17 years) accounting for 86.1% and 86.6% of these visits for males and females respectively.

¹ JISS participating A&E departments: St Ann's Bay Hospital, Annotto Bay Hospital, Bustamante Hospital for Children, Cornwall Regional Hospital, Kingston Public Hospital, Mandeville Hospital, May Pen Hospital, Sav-La-Mar Hospital and Spanish Town Hospital.

I. Method of Injury

Method of Injury by Gender -Children Under 18 Violence Related Injuries: January-December 2002

Table 2

Method of Injury	GENDER				Total	%	RATIO M: F
	Male	%	Female	%			
Blunt Object	279	13.3	207	32.5	486	33.2	1.3:1
Bodily Force	110	45.1	130	20.4	240	16.4	0.8:1
Sharp Object	373	33.7	153	24.0	526	35.9	2.4:1
Gun shot	14	1.7	14	2.2	28	1.9	1.0:1
Sexual Assault	6	0.7	108	16.9	114	7.8	0.1:1
Other	45	5.4	26	4.1	71	4.9	1.7:1
Total	827	56.5	638	43.5	1465	100.0	--

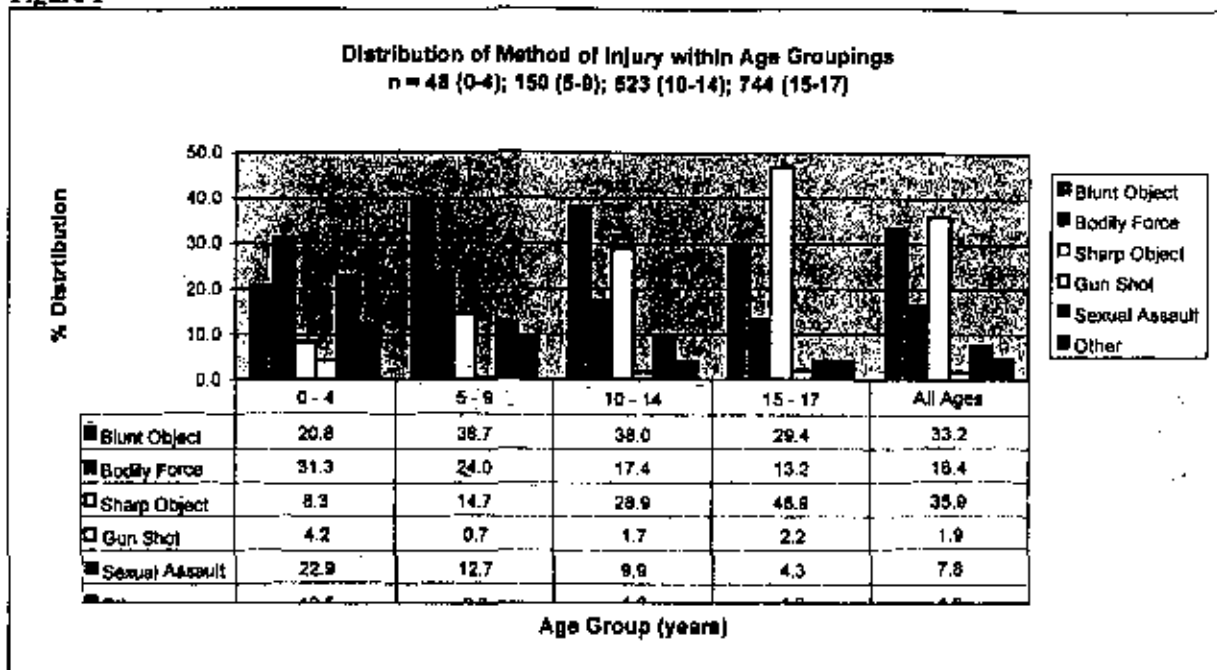
Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

The use of sharp or blunt objects were the most used methods for inflicting injuries, accounting for close to 70% of VRI. Use of bodily force and the gun registered approximately another 18% of visits to A&E departments for VRI.

More females 'presented' with injuries resulting from bodily force and sexual assault; while more than two times as many males than females visited the A&E department for injuries sustained intentionally from a sharp object.

Noteworthy was the high prevalence rates for injuries inflicted by sharp objects amongst the 15 -17 year age group. Furthermore, the prevalence rates for sexual assault were highest for children under 10. (Figure 1)

Figure 1



Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

II. Victim-Perpetrator Relationship

Victim Perpetrator Relationship by Gender – Children Under 18 Violence Related Injuries: January-December 2002

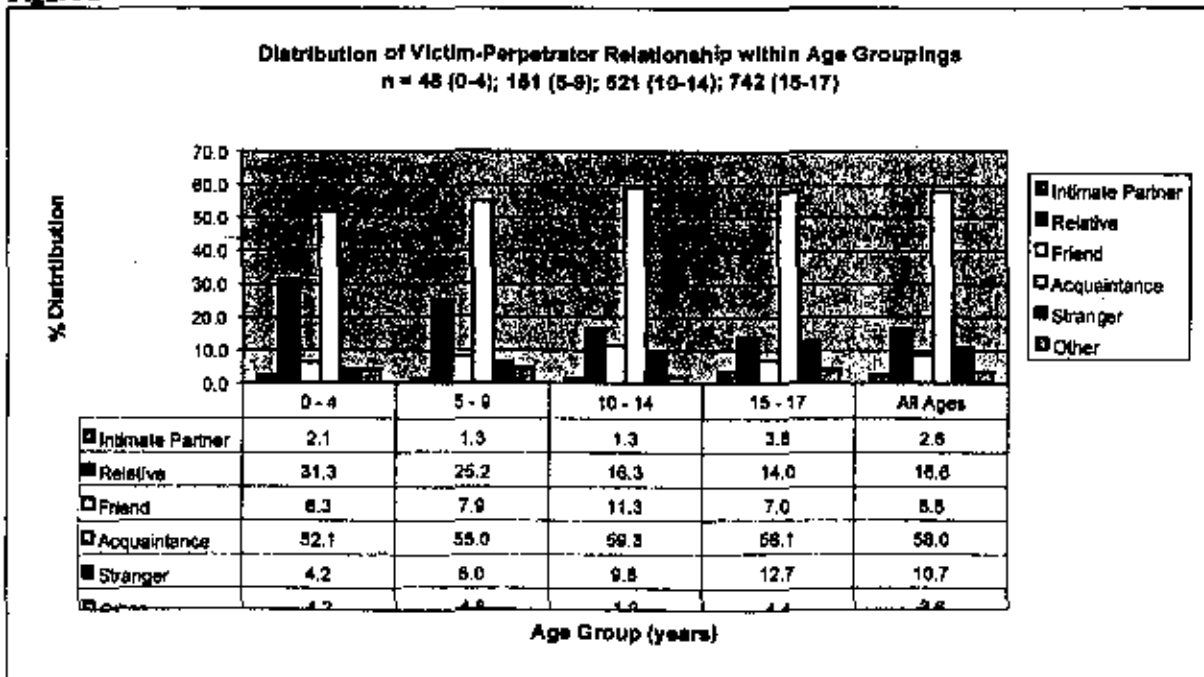
Table 3

PERPETRATOR	GENDER				Total	%	RATIO M: F
	Male	%	Female	%			
Intimate partner	5	0.6	33	5.2	38	2.6	0.2:1
Relative	128	15.5	114	17.9	242	16.5	1.1:1
Friend	87	10.6	39	6.1	126	8.6	2.2:1
Acquaintance	491	59.5	357	56.0	848	58.0	1.4:1
Stranger	80	9.7	76	11.9	156	10.7	1.1:1
Other	34	4.1	18	2.8	52	3.6	1.9:1
Total	825	56.4	637	43.6	1462	100.0	---

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

An acquaintance was the main perpetrator of VRI with responsibility for 58% (848) of injuries sustained (Table 3) and; with prevalence rate as high as 59.3% amongst the 10 – 14 age group. (Figure 2) A relative or a stranger inflicted another 27% of VRI. Disparities in the male to female ratio were greatest for injuries sustained by a friend (2.2:1).

Figure 2



Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

Victim-Perpetrator Relationship and Place of Occurrence

In general, over forty percent (41.7%) of all VRI, for children under 18, occurred within the confines of the home; another 35.6% were perpetrated on the streets.

Of the VRI inflicted by an acquaintance, 42.4% took place on the streets, 30.9% in the home and 18.6% at school or other institution. For VRI inflicted by a relative, 88.3% occurred in the home.

III. Circumstance of Injury

Circumstance of Injury by Gender – Children Under 18 Violence Related Injuries: January-December 2002

Table 4

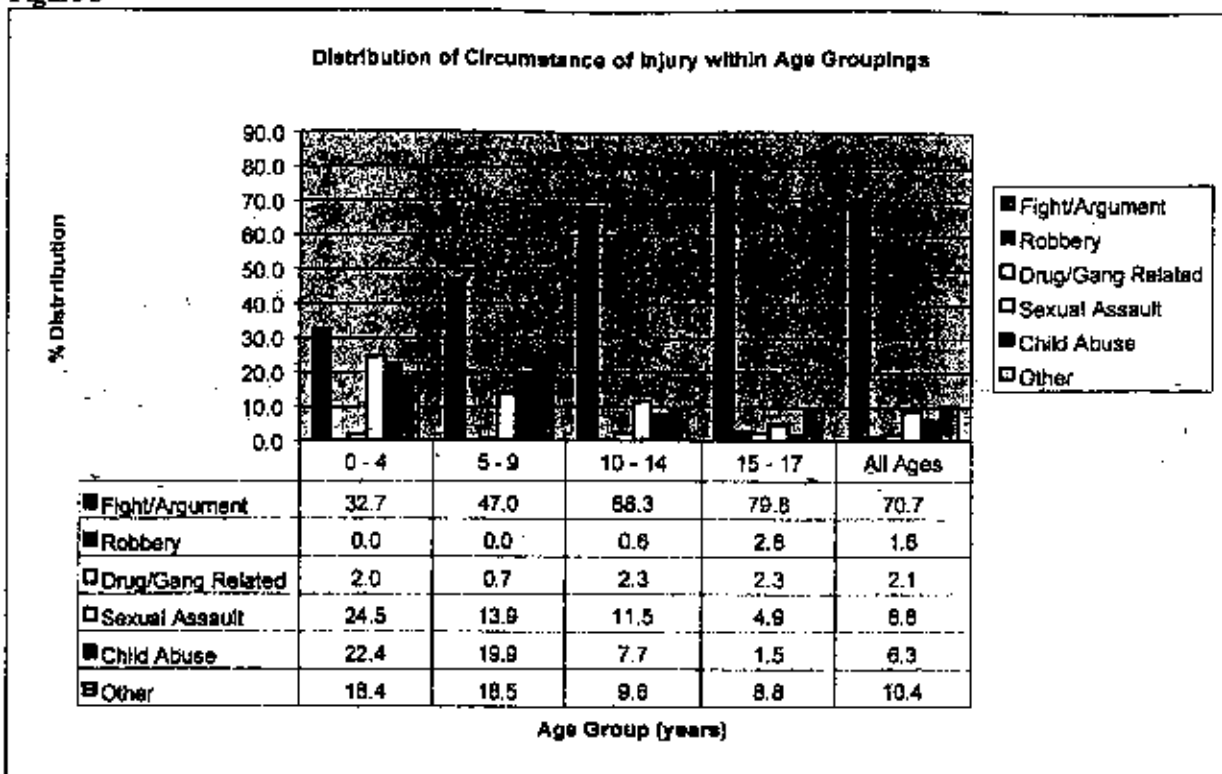
CIRCUMSTANCE	GENDER				Total	%	RATIO M : F
	Male	%	Female	%			
Fight/Argument	621	75.6	412	64.4	1033	70.7	1.5:1
Robbery	23	2.8	1	0.2	24	1.6	23.0:1
Drug/Gang-related	20	2.4	11	1.7	31	2.1	1.8:1
Sexual Assault	5	0.6	124	19.4	129	8.8	0.04:1
Child Abuse	51	6.2	41	6.4	92	6.3	1.2:1
Other	101	12.3	51	8.0	152	10.4	2.0:1
Total	821	56.2	640	43.8	1461	100.0	—

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

Over seventy percent (70.7%) of VRI were sustained in a fight or during an argument (Table 4); these findings were consistent across all age groups (Figure 3).

More females 'presented' with VRI resulting from sexual assaults (male-female ratio of 0.04:1 or equivalent female-male ratio of 24.8:1 when reversed), whereas the tendencies were towards more males to 'present' with those VRI sustained in fights or arguments (1.5:1), robberies (23.0:1) and drug or gang related confrontations (1.8:1).

Figure 3



Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

Circumstances and Methods of Injury

Close to fifty percent of VRI sustained in fights or during arguments (44.6%) and approximately sixty percent of those sustained during a robbery or assault (59.3%) were inflicted by a sharp object. On the other hand, 50.7% of VRI in child abuse cases resulted from blunt objects. For drug or gang related injuries, 35.3% were inflicted by a blunt object, 29.4% by a blunt object and 23.5% by the gun (Annex 1).

Circumstance of Injury and Victim - Perpetrator Relationship

Over sixty percent (63.5%) of injuries sustained in fights or during arguments were perpetrated by an acquaintance; either a relative or friend was responsible for an additional 25.4% of injuries under this circumstance.

Of the injuries sustained from a sexual assault, 42.1% were perpetrated by an acquaintance; another 29.5% by either a relative or a friend.

For victims of child abuse, 64.3% of the perpetrators were relatives; another 22.9% were acquaintances.

Circumstance of Injury and Place of Occurrence

On average 40% of the injuries sustained in fights or during arguments took place either at home or on the streets. VRI sustained in robberies or assaults (77.8%) and drug or gang related events (50.0%) occurred mainly on the streets. Injuries resulting from child abuse (78.4%) and from sexual assault (59.4%) for the most part took place in the confines of the home.

IV. Discharge Disposition

Disposition by Gender, Method and Circumstance of Injury-Children Under 18 Violence Related Injuries: January-December 2002

Table 5

	Disposition									
	Admitted		Seen/Sent Home		Referred		Left before being seen		Died in Casualty	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Gender:										
Male (n = 822)	101	12.3	599	72.9	76	9.2	45	5.5	1	0.1
Female (n = 631)	56	8.9	480	76.1	67	10.6	28	4.4	---	---
Method of Injury:										
Blunt Object	46	6.9	538	80.5	61	9.1	23	3.4	---	---
Bodily Force	18	5.9	252	82.9	27	8.9	7	2.3	---	---
Sharp Object	95	13.8	516	75.1	35	5.1	41	6.0		
Gunshots	16	45.7	17	48.6	1	2.9	---	---	1	2.9
Sexual Assault	10	2.8	337	93.3	14	3.9	---	---	---	---
Other	8	9.6	59	71.1	13	15.7	2	2.4	1	1.2
Circumstance:										
Fight/Argument	133	10.2	1,003	77.1	101	7.8	64	4.9	---	---
Robbery	6	22.2	19	70.4	1	3.7	1	3.7	---	---
Drug/gang-related	11	32.4	20	58.8	3	8.8	---	---	---	---
Sexual Assault	9	2.4	348	92.5	18	4.8	1	0.3	---	---
Child Abuse	9	6.4	113	80.7	13	9.3	5	3.6	---	---
Other	20	7.7	222	85.4	14	5.4	2	0.8	2	0.8
Total (n = 2,162)	197	9.1	1,737	80.3	153	7.1	73	3.4	2	0.1
Total - gender known (n = 1,453)	157	10.8	1,079	74.3	143	9.8	73	5.0	1	0.1

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

For the period 80.3% (1,737) of the victims, under 18 years of age, were seen by medical personnel and sent home, while 9.1% (197) were admitted to the hospital and 7.1% (153) left before being seen. Just over three percent (73) were referred to a clinic and two (0.1%) died in casualty.

Method of Injury by Disposition

In general, seeing and sending home the patient was the main discharge disposition following all methods of inflicting injury.

Circumstance of Injury by Disposition

For all circumstances resulting in an injury being sustained the majority of clients were seen and sent home. Patients requiring treatment for injuries sustained in drug or gang related feuds saw 58.8% being seen and sent home, whilst 32.4% were admitted.

Jamaica Injury Surveillance System

Motor Vehicle Accidents 2002 – Children Under 18

For the year 2002, one thousand one hundred and forty-six (1,146) 'Motor Vehicle related injuries' (MVA) were recorded for children under 18 years of age¹.

Age Distribution by Gender – Children Under 18 Motor Vehicle Accidents: January-December 2002

Table 1

AGE GROUP	GENDER				TOTAL	%	RATIO M:F
	Male	%	Female	%			
0 – 4	84	12.4	68	14.6	152	13.3	1.2:1
5 – 9	227	33.4	149	31.9	376	32.8	1.5:1
10 – 14	220	32.4	141	30.2	361	31.5	1.6:1
15 - 17	148	21.8	109	23.3	257	22.4	1.3:1
Total	679	59.3	467	40.7	1146	100.0	1.5:1

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

Of the total children visits for MVA, 59.3% (467) were made by males and 40.7% (467) by females (male-female ratio of 1.5:1); the "high-risk" population (5-14 years) accounting for 65.8% and 62.1% of these visits for males and females respectively.

¹ Data were available from all but 2 of the JISS participating A&E departments (Mandeville and May Pen Hospitals).

Circumstances and Methods of Injury – Children Under 18

Violence Related Injuries: January-December 2002

Annex 1

Circumstance of Injury	Method of Injury													
	Blunt Object		Bodily Force		Sharp Object		Gun Shot		Sexual Assault		Other			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Fight/Argument	484	36.9	205	15.6	585	44.6	6	0.5	---	---	31	2.4		
Robbery/ Assault	5	18.5	1	3.7	16	59.3	5	18.5	---	---	---	---		
Drug/ Gang Related	12	35.3	2	5.9	10	29.4	8	23.5	---	---	2	5.9		
Sexual Assault	4	1.1	18	4.8	6	1.6	---	---	344	92.5	---	---		
Child Abuse	70	50.7	25	18.1	12	8.7	---	---	20	14.5	11	8.0		
Other	95	36.5	54	20.8	59	22.7	12	4.6	---	---	40	15.4		

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System

I. Mode of Travel

Mode of Travel by Gender -Children Under 18 Motor Vehicle Accidents: January-December 2002

Table 2

Mode of Travel	GENDER				Total	%	RATIO M: F	Use of Safety Gear	
	Male	%	Female	%				#	%
Pedestrians	231	34.6	156	33.6	387	34.2	1.5:1	---	---
Motorcar:	271	40.6	259	55.8	530	46.8	1.1:1	33	11.5
Car	184	67.9	185	71.4	369	69.6			
Pick-up, Van, Jeep	46	17.0	45	17.4	91	17.2			
Truck, Heavy Vehicle	9	3.3	1	0.4	10	1.9			
Bus	32	11.8	28	10.8	60	11.3			
Motorbike/Bicycle:	146	21.9	38	8.2	184	16.3	3.8:1	---	---
Bicycle	134	91.8	28	73.7	162	88.0			
Motorbike	12	8.2	10	26.3	22	12.0			
Other	20	3.0	11	2.4	31	2.7	1.8:1	---	---
Total	668	59.0	464	41.0	1132	100.0	1.4:1	34	8.2⁽¹⁾

(1) Percentage of non-pedestrians

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

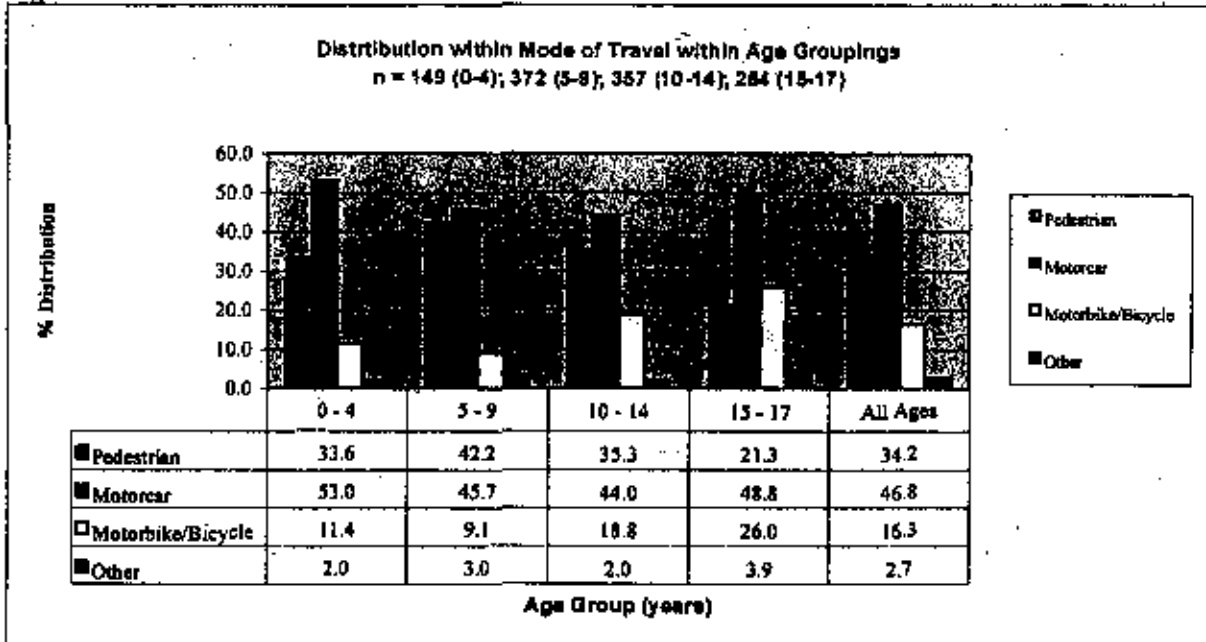
Of the children under 18 years of age who were injured in a MVA, 46.8% (530) were injured while commuting by motorcar (including car, pick-up, van, etc) whilst 34.2% (387) were pedestrians. Furthermore, 16.3% (184) of the injuries seen were sustained whilst riding a motorbike or bicycle. It was also noted that almost four times as many males than females presented with injuries whilst riding a motorbike or bicycle compared to a less than 2:1 male-female ratio for all other modes of travel.

Approximately seventy percent (369) of motorcar injuries were sustained whilst commuting by car; 17.2% (91) whilst commuting by a pick-up, van or jeep; 11.3% (60) whilst in a bus. Eighty-eight percent (88%) of motorbike or bicycle injuries were sustained whilst riding a bicycle.

Only 8.2% (34) of 'non-pedestrian' children under 18 involved in a MVA indicated that they were using safety gear at the time of the accident: 11.5% (33) by motorcar occupants.

Across all age groups, injuries sustained in a motorcar were the most prevalent (Figure 1).

Figure 1



II. Discharge Disposition

Disposition by Gender and Mode of Travel – Children Under 18 Motor Vehicle Accidents: January-December 2002

Table 3

	Disposition									
	Admitted		Seen/Sent Home		Referred		Left before being seen		Died in Casualty	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Gender:										
Male (n = 673)	145	21.5	451	67.0	64	9.5	9	1.3	4	0.6
Female (n = 465)	70	15.1	355	76.3	36	7.7	4	0.9	---	---
Mode of Travel:										
Pedestrians	82	21.3	258	67.0	40	10.4	3	0.8	2	0.5
Motorcar	81	15.4	399	76.0	39	7.4	5	1.0	1	0.2
Motorbike/Bicycle	37	20.2	124	67.8	17	9.3	4	2.2	1	0.5
Other	8	25.8	21	67.7	2	6.5	---	---	---	---
Total (n = 1138)	215	18.9	806	70.8	100	8.8	13	1.1	4	0.3

Source: Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS)

The majority (70.8% or 806) of the children injured in motor vehicle accidents were seen by medical personnel and sent home; 18.9% (215) were admitted to hospital and 8.8% (100) were referred to a clinic.

A4.

Please provide disaggregated data (by gender, age, urban or rural areas) covering the period 2000-2002 on the:

- a) Number of disabilities;
- b) Number of children with disabilities living at home and in institutions;
- c) Number of children with disabilities enrolled in regular education or special education programs;

A5.

With reference to child abuse, including sexual abuse, please provide disaggregated data for the period 200-2002 (by age, gender and types of violations reported), on the:

- a) number of cases of child abuse reported to police or social or other services;
- b) number and proportion of victims that have received counselling and assistance in recovery.

A6.

Please provide disaggregated data (including by gender, age, and urban/rural areas) for the years 2000 - 2002 in percentages of the relevant age group on the:

- a) Rate of literacy below and over 18 years;
- b) Percentages of children enrolling in pre-primary, primary and in secondary schools; the percentage of enrolled children completing pre-primary, primary and secondary schools; and the number and percentage of drop-outs;
- c) Average ratio of teachers per children in classrooms, with an indication of any significant regional or rural/urban disparities, as well as rates of HIV/AIDS, as well as the number of female/male teachers

Please refer to correspondence re the Implementation of the Convention of the Right of the Child, second periodic report of Jamaica (CRC/C/70/Add. 15) re request for data / statistics, item number 6.

6(a) Rate of literacy below and over 18 years.

Literacy below the age of 18 years:

Literacy is assessed by the Ministry of Education at approximately aged 9 years using the Grade Four Literacy Test.

There are three components of literacy on which students are examined:

- (i) Word Recognition,
- (ii) Reading Comprehension and
- (iii) Writing.

Based on scores received students are grouped in one of three areas:

- (a) the Not at Risk group which consists of pupils who are successful in mastering all three components of the test;
- (b) the Uncertain group, comprised of pupils that pass at most two of the three components of the test. However, they are said to have displayed an uneven pattern of mastery, whose result is not conclusive enough to determine their status, and,
- (c) the At Risk group, consists of pupils who fail all three components of the test and are considered to display an uneven pattern of non-mastery.

In the academic year 2000/2001 43.3 percent of the 38,710 pupils who sat the May examination were considered not at risk, 26.8 percent considered at risk and 29.9 percent was in the *Uncertain* category. An examination of the group at risk revealed that 36.1% boys showed an un-even pattern of mastery compared to 16.5% of girls. In the group considered not at risk it was found that 56.4% of girls had acquired the requisite mastery compared to 31.5% of boys.

Students that are found to be at risk are referred to competency shelters. These are special areas or classrooms within the school specially designed for the development of literacy skills. The shelter is furnished with materials and at least one Specialist teacher is assigned to give specialized, individualized attention in order to ensure that students become literate within a given time frame. The following table shows the results of the test for years 2000 & 2001, by gender.

Table 1: Grade 4 Literacy Test Results, by Gender – 2001 & 2000

Gender	Grade 4 Enrolment	Number Sitting	STATUS		
			Percentage At Risk	Percentage Uncertain	Percentage Not at Risk
<i>Year: 2001</i>					
Male	30,515	20,460	36	32	32
Female	27,002	18,250	17	27	56
Total	57,517	38,710	27	30	43
<i>Year: 2000</i>					
Male	28745	27388	42	23	35
Female	25238	24804	21	20	56
Total	53983	52192	32	21	47

Literacy over the age of 18 years:

The Jamaica Movement for the Advancement of Literacy (JAMAL) is responsible for interventions at the adult level. Table 2 below shows data that has been disaggregated by five-year groups, by gender. In 1999, 79.9 percent of the adult population was literate. A breakdown of the statistics show that 85 percent females compared to 74.1 percent males were literate. Data is not available for 18 years and older but for 15 years old and older.

Table 2: Literacy by Age Group and Gender¹

Age	Levels of Literacy					
	LITERATE			ILLITERATE		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
15-19	88.6	97.2	92.6	11.4	2.8	7.4
20-24	85.2	94.9	90.0	14.8	5.1	10.0
25-29	81.4	94.5	87.8	18.6	5.5	12.2
30-34	79.0	92.5	86.7	21.0	7.5	13.3
35-39	79.8	92.6	86.4	20.2	7.4	13.6
40-44	74.2	89.3	82.1	25.8	10.7	17.9
45-49	75.9	91.1	83.5	24.1	8.9	16.5
50-54	71.4	83.4	76.6	28.6	16.7	23.4
55-59	58.4	75.7	66.9	41.6	24.4	33.1
60-64	55.5	69.1	61.9	44.5	30.9	38.1
65-69	53.8	64.7	59.1	46.2	35.3	40.0
70-74	53.1	59.9	56.3	47.0	40.1	43.7
75+	41.9	48.6	45.3	58.1	51.4	54.8
All Jamaica	74.1	85.9	79.9	25.9	14.1	20.1

6 (b) (i) Percentages of children enrolling in Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Schools.

The enrolment rate for 2001 is as follows:

Age Group	Enrolment Rate
1. 4 - 5 Years	98.7%
2. 6 - 11 Years	96.2%
3. 12 - 16 Years	82.4%

The enrolment rate for 2000 is as follows:

Age Group	Enrolment Rate
1. 3 - 5 Years	92.3 %
2. 6 - 11 Years	98.7 %
3. 12 - 16 Years	81.9 %

(ii) The percentage of enrolled children completing Pre-primary, Primary & Secondary schools.

The following is the completion rate by educational level, for 2001:

Educational Level	Completion Rate
Primary	93.6%
Secondary	73.2%
Pre-Primary	N/A

¹ Jamaica Adult Literacy Survey, 1999.

The following is the completion rate by educational level, for 2000:

Educational Level	Completion Rate
Primary	87.5 %
Secondary	73.6 %
Pre-Primary	N / A

(iii) The number and percentage of dropouts.

The available data shows the percentage of dropouts, as follows:

Table 5: Dropout Rates in Public Primary Level Education by Grade and Sex 2000 – 2001:

	G r a d e s				
	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6
<i>Dropout Rates</i>	-1.7	1.4	2.3	6.1	3.3
<i>Male</i>	-1.1	1.9	2.9	7.0	4.8
<i>Female</i>	-2.4	0.9	1.7	5.1	1.8

Note: Promotion and dropout rates from grades 6-7 are not calculated as grade 6 marks the end of primary level.

Table 6: Dropout Rates in Public Secondary Level Education by Grade and Sex 2000 – 2001:

	G r a d e s			
	7 - 8	8 - 9	9 - 10	10 - 11
<i>Dropout Rates</i>	2.7	-8.3	-	12.9
<i>Male</i>	3.1	-8.1	-	12.8
<i>Female</i>	2.2	-8.4	-	12.9

Note: Promotion and dropout rates from grades 9-10 and grades 11-12 cannot be calculated as most students in All Age and Primary & Junior High schools complete the secondary level at grade 9. For other secondary level schools, students terminate at grade 11.

6(c) Average ratio of teachers per children in classrooms, with an indication of any significant regional or rural / urban disparities, as well as the number of female / male teachers.

Tables 7 and 8 below shows the number of teachers in Infant, Primary and Secondary Schools by gender, for 2000 - 2001 and 2001 - 2002.

Table 7: Teachers in Infant, Primary and Secondary Schools by Gender and Location, 2001-2002

Locale	School Type	Active Teachers	Enrollment	Pupil : Teacher Ratio
Remote Rural	Primary	159	4,745	30:1
	All Age	613	18,836	31:1
	Primary & Junior High	139	3,787	27:1
Rural	Infant	29	771	27:1
	Primary	1,410	52,752	37:1
	All Age	1,467	47,323	32:1
	Primary & Junior High	564	17,271	31:1
Urban	Secondary High	1,746	42,122	20:1
	Infant	262	8,515	33:1
	Primary	3,679	138,925	38:1
	All Age	480	16,943	35:1
	Primary & Junior High	1,572	52,263	33:1
	Secondary	7,009	152,229	20:1

Table 8: Teachers in Infant, Primary and Secondary Schools by Gender and Region, 2000-2001

Locale	School Type	Active Teachers	Enrollment	Pupil : Teacher Ratio
Remote Rural	Primary	181	4,715	26:1
	All Age	719	19,461	27:1
	Primary & Junior High	151	3,779	25:1
Rural	Infant	30	863	29:1
	Primary	1,428	51,538	36:1
	All Age	1,657	50,956	31:1
	Primary & Junior High	552	16,018	29:1
Urban	Secondary High	1,903	41,126	18:1
	Infant	269	9,212	34:1
	Primary	3,707	135,805	37:1
	All Age	518	17,061	33:1
	Primary & Junior High	1,834	55,562	30:1
	Secondary	7,446	150,735	19:1

The following table shows the number of teachers:

Table 9: Number of Teachers in Public Schools, by Gender and Level, 2000 – 2001 and 2001 - 2002

Educational Level / Year	Male	Female	Total
<i>2000 - 2001</i>			
Pre-Primary	8	481	489
Primary	1,068	9,145	10,213
Secondary	4,066	7,990	12,056
Total	5,142	17,616	22,758
<i>2001 - 2002</i>			
Pre-Primary	10	531	560
Primary	1,081	8,823	9,904
Secondary	3,739	7,468	11,207
Total	4,830	16,822	21,652

A7

Please provide disaggregated statistical data including by gender, age on adolescent health, including with regard to the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases, early pregnancy, and drug abuse, as well as rates of infant and child mortality and of malnutrition covering the years 2000 to 2002.

A8

Please provide disaggregated statistical data (including by gender, age groups, region) on children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as information on programmes implemented to address the problems of these children.

NATIONAL AIDS COMMITTEE

The *National Aids Committee* is a non-governmental organization which facilitated the development of thirteen (13) Parish AIDS Committee Work Plans and was formally incorporated into the National Planning Council in 2002. It continued to advise the Minister of Health and other ministries and agencies on policy issues relevant to STD's and HIV/AIDS.

Some facts and figures extracted from the 2nd quarterly report of the National Aids Committee (NAC) in 2002 are presented below

- January - June 2002, there were 40 children under the age of ten years newly reported with AIDS
- In the last three years on average three children per month died of AIDS
- It is estimated that every week in Jamaica four HIV infected children are born
- Adolescent females in the age group 10-14 years and 15 - 19 years had twice and three times higher risk of HIV infection respectively than boys of the same age group. This is as a result of social factors where by young girls are having sexual relations with HIV infected older men
- An estimated 5000 or more children under the age of 15 years are orphaned by the loss of a mother or both parents in Jamaica.
- The parishes of St. Thomas, St. James, St. Ann, Trelawny and Kingston & St. Andrew showed an increase of reported AIDS cases in 2002 compared to 2001 for the same period. Kingston & St. Andrew recorded the highest cases of HIV/AIDS in Jamaica.

Statistics on Paediatric cases of HIV/AIDS also supplied by the NAC are presented in tables 1, 2 & 3.

*Table 1***SUMMARY OF PAEDIATRIC AIDS CASES (AGE 0-9 YEARS)**

PERIOD	TOTAL	MALE	%	FEMALE	%
1986 - Dec. 2001	479	259	54.0	220	45.9
Jan - Dec. 1999	70	36	51.4	34	48.6
Jan - Dec. 1998	55	36	65.4	19	34.5
Jan - Dec. 2000	83	50	60.2	33	39.8
Jan - Dec. 2001	65	39	60.0	26	40.0
Jan - June 2002	40	23	57.5	17	42.5

*Table 2***SUMMARY OF PAEDIATRIC AIDS DEATHS (1986 - DECEMBER 2001)**

PERIOD	TOTAL	MALE	%	FEMALE	%
1986 - Dec. 2001	252	120	47.6	132	52.4
Jan - Dec. 1999	36	16	44.4	20	55.6
Jan - Dec. 1998	35	15	42.9	20	57.1
Jan - Dec. 2000	34	20	60.2	14	39.8
Jan - Dec. 2001	27	14	51.8	13	48.2
Jan - June 2002	12	8	66.7	4	33.3

Table 3
Summary of AIDS Cases by 5 year Age groups

(by date of reporting)
 1982 - June 2001

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
00 - 4	227	203	430
05-9	54	34	88
10-14	7	13	20
15-19	21	66	87
20-24	195	253	448
25-29	505	419	924
30-34	698	453	1151
35-39	680	406	1086
40-44	497	253	750
45-49	340	181	521
50-54	277	109	386
55-59	204	80	284
60-64	104	49	153
65-69	40	22	62
70-74	23	14	37
75-79	8	6	14
80-84		2	2
85-89	1		1
Unknown	65	40	105
Total	3946	2603	6549

No statistics are available on the breakdown of AIDS cases by region

Between 1982 and 1998 the concentration was on dealing with the AIDS Epidemic and its effects on the population. Children were a subgroup within that population. This is illustrated by the information provided in Jamaica's 1998 report (p. 55 & Table XI). The facilities identified then continue to exist.

Since then, it has become necessary to consider not only the needs of children infected with AIDS but also those of Orphans and children in Families made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, and to treat children as a whole as a special group, deserving of focus.

In May 2001 UNICEF hosted a workshop in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, entitled: "Orphans and Children in Families made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS" (usually shortened to OVCs). The objectives of the workshop were to develop more effective strategies for accelerating the response to OVCs in Jamaica, and to contribute to the development of programming principles for interventions targeting these children.

The following month the United National General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS approved a Declaration of Commitment. This commitment included the following paragraphs under the heading 'Children orphaned and affected by HIV/AIDS need special assistance':

65. By 2003 develop and by 2005 implement national policies and strategies to:

- * build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive environment for orphans and girls and boys infected and affected by HIV/AIDS including appropriate counselling and psycho-social support;*
- * ensure their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition, health and social services on an equal basis with other children;*
- * protect orphans and vulnerable children from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trafficking and loss of inheritance;*

66. Ensure non-discrimination and full and equal enjoyment of all human rights through the promotion of an active and visible policy of de-stigmatisation of children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS;

67. Urge the international community, particularly donor countries, civil society, as well as the private sector to ... support programmes for children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS in affected regions, in countries at high risk and to direct special assistance to sub-Saharan Africa.'

Following on this a study was undertaken by the National AIDS Committee, in collaboration with UNICEF and USAID, as follow-up to the Ocho Rios workshop, and to begin the process of fulfilling the Declaration of Commitment at the UN Special Session on Children, with the objective of the Rapid Response Assessment to identify gaps and priority areas for interventions for orphans and children in families made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.

Since then, Government has established a multi-disciplinary committee including representative from various government entities eg. the Children's Services, the Department of Corrections, the Police, the Church, the Coalition for Better Parenting, UNICEF and several other agencies. This committee has put together a plan to respond to the needs of OVCs.

This plan seeks to provide information on what help is available to vulnerable families and to devise ways and means to help them. The committee has had meetings in 4 parishes, St. James, Clarendon, St. Mary, Kingston & St. Andrew to share information.

This is a special programme but currently help is available to OVC's through the regular system: Children whose parents have died of AIDS are:

1. Taken into care and placed in:
 - i. Children's homes
 - ii Foster care
 - iii with relatives
2. Money is provided within the Ministry of Health for the purchase of antivirals for infected children.
3. There are training programmes in children's homes to sensitize staff to the needs of OVC's
4. Programmes exist to educate communities in an effort to combat the stigma which still exists against persons with AIDS or whose relatives have died or are infected by HIV.

A9

Please provide disaggregated statistical data (including by gender, age and type of crime) on children in conflict with the law for the last three years (2002-2003), including:

- a) The number of children who have allegedly committed a crime reported to police;
- b) Where applicable, the numbers of children held in pre-trial detention and the average duration of such detention;
- c) The number of children sentenced by Courts;
- d) The nature of sanctions (fines, detention, community service, other) and the number of suspended sentences;
- e) Where the sanction is deprivation of liberty, please further specify the period of detention the type (juvenile, adult or other) of detention facility in which children are held;
- f) The percentage of recidivism cases;
- g) The number of reported cases of abuse and maltreatment of children that occurred during their arrest and detention.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

PART I - SECTION A

QUESTIONS 9 & 10



9A

Crimes Committed By Youths 17 Years and Under

Years	Murder	Shooting	Rape/ Carnal Abuse	Robbery	Total
2000	89	171	171	218	649
2001	128	149	189	199	665

Source: Planning Institute of Jamaica Annual Report (1999 -2000)

**Children Held In Pre-trial Detention
2000 - 2002**

Year	# Of Juveniles
2000	40
2001	70
2002	40
Total	150

*This data reflects figures for St. Andrew Juvenile Remand Centre which is an all male institution.

*Females awaiting trial are placed in places of safety

*The average duration of detention is 3 months

Children Sentenced By The Courts
2000 - 2002

Year	# Of Juveniles
2000	122
2001	118
2002	148
Total	388

Source: Department of Correctional Services

OFFENCES	BO	NOM	PO	SO	Orders/ Sanctions								TOTAL		
					CO	FPO	DSM	WITHD	FINE	A & D	ASD	TRANSFER			
Murder	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carnal Abuse	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	20
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indecent Assault	1	2	10	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	4	4	4	1	36
Robbery/ Aggra.	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	9
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Larceny	3	6	43	2	22	4	11	3	3	2	4	8	1	1	109
BtV Entering	0	2	13	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	24
False Pretense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Fraudulent Conv.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forgery	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unlawful Poss.	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	8
Reckless	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
Wounding	10	14	74	0	20	0	3	0	0	4	9	7	9	9	150
Assault	5	2	8	1	5	2	4	4	0	0	2	4	4	3	36
Assault O.B.H.	3	7	28	1	2	0	0	4	1	1	8	1	4	4	60
SUB - TOTAL	32	35	189	7	64	6	26	4	4	7	29	38	36	36	473
Dangerous Drugs	7	1	47	12	10	2	1	0	0	3	7	3	2	2	95
Malicious Deat.	0	1	10	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	3	2	2	23
Abandoning Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspected Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Care & Protection	9	25	2	149	7	230	0	8	0	1	0	9	7	7	453
Variation Order	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Breach/ Proh. Order	0	1	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
BtV. R.T. Law	1	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	1	1	16
BtV. Of Firearm Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minor Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Shooting/ Intent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	12	22	0	3	2	9	0	0	5	11	7	3	3	79
GRAND TOTAL	49	79	271	178	93	256	36	11	11	20	51	61	51	51	1152

Key Notes:
 BO - Bond Over
 NOM - No Order Made
 PO - Probation Order
 SO - Supervision Order
 CO - Correctional Order
 FPO - Fit Person Order
 DSM - Dismissed
 WITH - Withdrawn
 AD - Admonished & Discharged
 ASD - Adjudged Same Day
 TRANS - Transferred

* Suspended Sentences applies to adults only
 Source: Department of Correctional Services

Nature of Sentences/ Fines
Females - 2000

OFFENCES	BO	NOM	P.O	SO	Orders/ Sanctions										TOTAL		
					CO	FPO	DISM	WITHD	FINE	A & D	ASD	TRANSFER					
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Stealing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indecent Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery Armed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Entering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
False Pretenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraudulent Conv.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Poss.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receiving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wounding	4	4	29	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault O.B.H.	2	2	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub - TOTAL	9	14	47	4	12	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dangerous Drugs	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malicious Debt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abandoning Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspected Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Case & Protection	18	26	0	0	205	4	230	2	2	5	1	2	8	9	9	9	512
Variation Order	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect Prob Order	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bk. R. T. Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bk. Of Firearm Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minor Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spounding Inmate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	1	13	17	6	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	53
GRAND TOTAL	31	61	70	221	22	235	13	7	2	25	16	15	15	15	15	15	718

Key Notes:
BO - Bound Over
NOM - No Order Made
PO - Protection Order
SO - Supervision Order

CO - Correctional Order
FPO - Fit Person Order
DISM - Dismissed
WITH - Withdrawn

AD - Admonished & Discharged
ASD - Adjourned Sine Die
TRANS - Transferred

* Suspended Sentences applies to adults only
Source: Department of Correctional Services

Nature of Sanctions Fines
Males - 2001

OFFENSES	BO	NOM	PO	SO	CO	Order/ Sanctions FPO	DISM	WTD-D	FINE	A & D	ASD	TRANSFER	CSO	TOTAL
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man/Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	7
Carnal Abuse	2		3	1			3				10	5		24
Indecent Assault	0	1	11	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	0	23
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery/ Aggr.	0	1	2	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	11
Burglary	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Larceny	0	7	39	0	14	0	7	1	0	1	5	3	0	82
BMV Entering	0	1	11	3	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	23
False Pretense	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fraudulent Conv.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Forgery	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unlawful Poss.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Receiving	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Wounding	3	8	58	2	15	5	8	2	4	4	13	5	0	124
Assault	0	2	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
Assault O.B.H.	5	11	25	3	3	3	5	3	2	0	10	2	0	69
SWAB - TOTAL	10	34	157	14	49	8	26	7	8	7	45	23	0	305
Dangerous Drugs	4	2	42	0	6	0	4	2	10	2	0	1	0	73
Molestation	0	3	14	3	8	0	3	1	2	0	0	3	0	37
Abandoning Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Arson	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Care & Protection	2	11	1	164	3	265	3	8	0	0	12	7	0	474
Variation Order	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Breach/Prob. Order	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	13
Bnk. R.T. Law	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	15
Bnk. Of Financial Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3
Minor Offenses	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Shooting/ Inbrk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	3	10	42	0	5	0	5	2	2	7	5	1	0	65
GRAND TOTAL	19	63	231	186	84	278	45	19	24	21	66	37	0	1073

Key Notes:
 BO - Bound Over
 NOM - No Order Made
 PO - Probation Order
 SO - Supervision Order
 CO - Correctional Order
 FPO - FR Person Order
 DISM - Dismissed
 WITH - Withdrawn
 AD - Admonished & Discharged
 ASD - Acquitted Same Date
 TRANS - Transferred
 CSO - Community Services Order

* Suspended Sentences applies to adults only
 Source: Department of Correctional Services

Nature of Sanctioned Fines
Females - 2001

OFFENSES	BO	NOM	PO	SO	CO	Orders/ Sanctions		WITHD	FINE	A & D	ASD	TRANSFER	CSO	TOTAL
						FPO	DISM							
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carrial Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indecent Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery/ Aggra.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bd/ Entering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
False Pretense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraudulent Conv.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Post.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receiving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wounding	1	1	24	0	5	0	2	2	1	2	3	3	0	44
Assault	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault O.B.H.	0	5	18	2	1	1	3	1	1	3	4	2	0	41
SUB - TOTAL	1	7	51	3	9	1	12	4	3	6	9	6	0	112
Dangerous Drugs	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7
Misdemeanor Dist.	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Abandoning Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Care & Protection	0	16	1	250	0	273	2	1	0	1	5	12	0	569
Variation Order	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Branch Prob. Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bk. R.T. Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bk. Of Feasim Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minor Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shooting Infrk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	1	10	9	15	4	13	8	1	2	3	3	2	0	59
GRAND TOTAL	0	39	64	274	19	290	21	7	7	15	17	22	0	785

Key Notes:
 BO - Bond Over
 NOM - No Order Made
 PO - Probation Order
 SO - Supervision Order
 CO - Correctional Order
 FPO - Full Person Order
 DISM - Dismissed
 WITH - Withdrawn
 AD - Admonished & Discharged
 ASD - Adjudged State Drive
 TRANS - Transferred
 CSO - Community Service Order

* Suspended Sentences applies to adults only

Source: Department of Correctional Services

Nature of Sanctions/ Fines
Male - 2002

OFFENCES	Orders/ Sanctions													TOTAL	
	BO	NOI	PO	SO	CO	FPO	DRSM	WITHD	FINE	A & D	ASD	TRANSFER	CSO		
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	10
Carriage Abuse	1	2	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	4	1	0	0	14
Indecent Assault	1	7	10	0	1	0	3	1	0	2	3	1	0	0	29
Robbery	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Robbery Aggr.	0	0	1	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Burglary	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Larceny	1	11	49	3	28	1	6	3	0	3	8	10	0	0	125
BNV Entering	0	3	13	0	11	2	0	1	0	0	4	1	0	0	35
False Pretense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraudulent Conn.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Unlawful Poss.	0	1	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	9
Passing	0	3	4	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	14
Kidnapping	0	5	65	1	15	0	8	4	0	9	9	3	0	0	121
Assault	0	17	17	0	3	0	1	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	31
Assault O.B.H.	0	10	28	1	3	0	5	3	0	1	4	2	0	0	57
SUB - TOTAL	6	44	192	5	72	4	32	15	4	19	41	27	2	0	483
Dangerous Drugs	0	2	27	1	10	0	1	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	47
Malicious Dist.	1	3	18	1	5	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	33
Abandoning Child	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
ILL Treating Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Care & Protection	0	17	4	130	6	281	4	3	0	3	7	18	0	0	475
Variation Order	1	0	0	0	1	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Breach/ Prob. Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	11
Brt. R.T. Law	0	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	17
Brt. Of Farm Law	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
Alcohol Offences	3	11	25	0	4	11	4	3	0	10	5	2	0	0	64
Resale	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GRAND TOTAL	11	77	278	143	111	305	42	23	10	38	54	32	2	0	1144

Key Notes:
 BO - Bound Over
 NOI - No Order Made
 PO - Probation Order
 SO - Supervision Order
 CO - Correctional Order
 FPO - Fit Person Order
 DRSM - Dismissed
 WITH - Withdrawn
 AD - Admitted & Discharged
 ASD - Adjudged Same Drive
 TRANS - Transferred
 CSO - Community Services Order

* Suspended Sentences applies to adults only
 Source: Department of Correctional Services

Nature of Sanctions/ Fines
Females - 2002

OFFENSES	BO	NOM	PO	SO	CO	Orders/ Sanctions	WITHD	FINE	A & D	ASD	TRANSFER	CSO	TOTAL
						FPO	DISM						
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carnal Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indecent Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery/Aggra.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bnk/ Endring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fals Pretense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraudulent Conv.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fugery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Poss.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Receiving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault O.B.H.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SLB - TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dangerous Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misdemeanor Offet.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abandoning Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ill. Treating Child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Case & Protection	4	12	1	1	195	328	0	0	0	12	5	0	594
Variation Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Branch/ Prob. Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bnk. R.T. Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bnk. Of Fraud Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minor Offenses	0	13	9	9	14	8	51	2	0	10	5	1	70
Beneficiary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	4	36	53	53	215	348	17	18	2	18	22	15	779

Key Notes:
 BO - Bond Over
 NOM - No Order Made
 PO - Probation Order
 SO - Supervision Order
 CO - Correctional Order
 FPO - Fri Person Order
 DISM - Dismissed
 WITH - Withdrawn
 AD - Admonished & Discharged
 ASD - Adjudged Same Drive
 TRANS - Transferred
 CSO - Community Services Order

* Suspended Sentences applies to adults only
 Source: Department of Correctional Services

9E

Number of Juveniles In Facilities (By Type)
2000 - 2002

Year	Name & Type Of Institution			Total
	Armadale (Female)	Hill Top (Male)	Rio Cobre (Male)	
2000	20	65	37	122
2001	20	74	24	118
2002	30	77	41	148

Source: Department of Correctional Services

Types of Work Done by Sexually Exploited Children
2001

	Frequency	Percent
"Business"	6	35.3
Exotic Dancer	4	23.5
Escort Service	2	11.8
Other	5	29.4
Total	17	100

Source: National Survey of Street & Working Children Report

Number of Working Street Children
2001

Types of Working Children	Total	% Total
Children of the street	60	5.2
Children on the street	620	53.3
Beach children	40	3.4
Market children	205	19.6
TOTAL STREET CHILDREN	933	80.3
Domestic/Agricultural helpers	193	16.6
TOTAL DOMESTIC HELPERS	193	16.6
Apprentices	37	3.2
Commercial & Industrial workers	92	7.9
TOTAL COMMERCIAL EMPLOYEES	129	11.1
Sexually Exploited Children	17	1.5
TOTAL SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN	17	1.5
Truants	44	3.8
Others	0	0
TOTAL OTHERS	44	3.8
TOTAL RESPONDENTS	1162	100

Note: The figures do not add up, because some children fall into more than one category of child labour

Source: National Survey of Street & Working Children Report

Number of Working Children by Sex 2001

Category	Sex			
	Male	Female	Total	
Street Children	Count	598	203	801
	% within category	74.70%	25.30%	100.00%
Domestic/ Agri Helpers	Count	79	91	170
	% within category	46.50%	53.50%	100.00%
Commercial Employees	Count	99	28	127
	% within category	78.00%	22.00%	100.00%
Sexually Exploited Children	Count	2	12	14
	% within category	14.30%	85.70%	100.00%
Others	Count	33	16	49
	% within category	67.30%	32.70%	100.00%
Total	Count	811	351	1162
	% within category	69.80%	30.20%	100.00%

Source: National Survey of Street & Working Children Report

**Number of Working Children By Parish / Zone
2001**

	Street Children	Domestic/ Agri Helpers	Commercial Employees	Sexually Exploited	Others	Total
St. Catherine	169	91	32	1	11	304
Uptown Kingston	41	0	12	1	6	60
Downtown Kingston	199	8	2	1	16	226
St Ann	139	3	4	4	5	156
St. Mary	31	11	8	1	2	53
Manchester	134	6	30	5	7	182
Clarendon	86	48	38	1	2	175
Total	799	76	126	13	48	1156

Source: National Survey of Street & Working Children Report

A10

With reference to special protection measures, please provide statistical data (including by gender, age, urban/rural areas) covering the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 on:

- a) The number of children involved in sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography and trafficking, and the number of children provided with the access to recovery and other assistance;
- b) The number of children involved in substance abuse, and how many receive treatment;
- c) The number of children involved in child labour (formal and informal sector);
- d) The number of children living in the street.

With reference to Special Protection Measure

A. Magnitude and Ages of Children involved Sexual Exploitation

<u>Location</u>	<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Age Range</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Hanover	30(est.)		30	12-18 yrs	Go-go Dancers
Negril	31	6	25	13-18yrs	Prostitution
Montego Bay	30	10	20	10-18yrs	Prostitution, go-go dancing
Canterbury	?	-	?	13-18 yrs	"Marjorie Crew"
Ampitheatre	9	9	-	10-16 yrs	
F.Club	6		6	16-18 yrs	Go-go dancing
Western	100(est.)		100	Under 18yrs	Go-go dancing
Jamaica					
Kingston	Unknown				Various activities
St. Catherine	Unknown				Various activities

Extracted from Rapid Assessment on the Situation of Children in Prostitution 2001 by Dr Leith Dunn

Access to recovery and other assistance

Remedial education and skills training classes are being conducted for 228 child labourers at Child Prevention sites located in Montego Bay, Spanish Town and Old Harbour. In addition 235 children are also benefiting from regular school as a result of the interventions of the implementing agencies Children First and the Western Society for the Upliftment of Children. The ILO/IPEC project aims to withdraw 600 children and prevent 300 from hazardous work and provide them with alternatives such as remedial education; mainstreaming into the formal education system, vocational skills training, counseling services, nutrition and books school supplies and other services. Some 1150 children have benefited from the Project thus far. Please see the attached for the type and quality of services provided.

C. Number of Children involved in Child Labour (formal and informal sector)

The current data on child labour nationwide is not yet ready for distribution. The data has been collected, electronically stored, edited, cleaned and data sets prepared. The findings of the survey are slated to be presented in a feedback seminar projected to take place in late June.

Three base-line surveys were conducted in 2001 on the informal sector in Spanish Town the tourism areas of Montego Bay and Negril and the fishing areas of Rocky Point and Old Harbour Bay.

Spanish Town It is estimated that there are 1220 Working Children in that area.
The ratio of male to female child labourers is 56 to 44.

D.

Montego Bay The number of children in the age ranges of 8 to 18, working in Montego Bay and Negril is estimated to be approximately 800 of this number about 350 are boys and about 450 are girls.

Rocky Point There was a high degree of absenteeism in this area. School records showed that between 25% and 37% of primary school students do not attend school regularly. On the basis of school attendance records, the researchers estimated that as many as 2000 children in the Six to 17 age group could be involved in child labour on a temporary or permanent basis.

Ratification of Child Labour Conventions

With the passage of the new Child Care and Protection Act, ILO Conventions Nos 138 and 182 will be ratified. A Cabinet Submission has been prepared and is to be submitted to Cabinet by the Minister of Labour and Social Security for approval in anticipation for the filing of the Notice of Ratification with the ILO in June 2003.

Enclosure: Preliminary Assessment of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Jamaica

B. Provision of direct services to children and families
 This section of the report is designed to report on the total amount of direct services provided by IPBC to children and to their families.

Section III. B. 1: Direct services provided to children

Types and quantity of direct services provided to children (direct beneficiaries)											
Direct services:						Direct services providing incentives:					Total
Non-formal education	Formal schooling	Vocational or skills training	Legal assistance	Counseling services	Health services	Nutrition	Uniforms	Books and school supplies	Stipend	Other incentives	
Girls	130	35	88		103	1	32	15	10	414	
Boys	247	51	146		188	5	49	30	20	736	
Total	377	86	234		291	6	81	45	30	1150	

If one child receives both legal assistance as well as a uniform, a total of two services would be reported in this table; one service counted under legal assistance and one service counted under uniforms.

Section III. B. 2: Direct services provided to families

Types and quantity of direct services provided to adult members of families (direct beneficiaries)							
	Vocational or skills training	Income generating activities	Credit schemes	Basic literacy training	Medical check ups	Other services	Total
Female	12						12
Male							
Total	12						12

If the project provides to the parents of an ex-child labourer, income generating training, a total of two services would be reported here; one service to the mother and one to the father under Income generating activities.

Part 1 B.

General Measures of Implementation

1. Some of the reasons why some of the recommendations of the Committee's 1995 concluding observations have not yet been implemented are threefold - the scarcity of human and financial resources and the deliberate pace of the legislative process. These three obstacles impact on the replies in this section of the update.
2. The adoption of the Child Care and Protection bill has indeed been delayed. Apart from the difficulties of the drafting which was mentioned in our 1998 report, there were other more important factors which could not be avoided:
 - the subject matter provoked a great deal of interest in the general public
 - it became necessary to hold many consultations among various groups to give persons an opportunity to voice their opinions before the bill reached its final stages
 - this factor was made more important because the bill is a long one, encompassing many important issues!
 - on the legal side, it was important that proper research be done by our legal department, to make sure that the law, when passed is consistent with other legislation and with the constitution.

The Child Care and Protection Act contains provisions:

- to include the general provisions of Juveniles Act where appropriate
- to state explicitly that all its provisions should be in keeping with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- to protect children against child abuse

Examples of these new provisions are mandatory reporting of child abuse by certain selected groups to a central registry and the establishment of a post of Child Advocate.

After many delays the bill is expected to be enacted within the current legislative year. No steps have been taken to include child rights in the constitution.

3. Please refer to the introduction of the 1998 report (pages 4 & 5). No further steps have been taken in this regard.
4. The office of the Ambassador Special Envoy for Children, is not an independent body as the Ambassador is a political appointment. The office of the Public Defender, an independent body, is mandated to address individual complaints from children. When the Child Care and Protection becomes law, this role will be assumed by the Child Advocate.
5. The Statistical Institute of Jamaica in collaboration with the Planning Institute of Jamaica and UNICEF, have adopted a versatile database management software developed by UNICEF International known as ChildInfo, and have broadened its utility to include not only child rights indicators, but also census, and other social economic statistics on Jamaica. This is being called JAMSTATS. Currently, the database includes data on several child rights indicators as well as the Millennium Development and other global goals. These data are largely disaggregated by age, gender, and location where available. With a

database that can accommodate back year data, as well as provide features such as maps, graphs and tables. The JAMSTATS will be a useful tool for monitoring and assessment, and will strengthen the network linkages that already exist between agencies. Once launched, the data will be available publicly from STATIN in CD format.

However, it is anticipated that in the long run, general access to the data will be accommodated through a web site version accessible through STATIN, PIOJ, and UNICEF web sites. Data Entry, update and administration of the database is the responsibility of the Statistical Institute, with PIOJ assisting through the timely submission of relevant data for the Social Indicators Monitoring System. JAMSTATS is to be officially launched in July 2003.

6. Please refer to page 38 - paragraph 89.5 of our 1998 report. The chief area of progress made in incorporating the principles and provision of the Convention in professional training curricula has been the Police Force, where all recruits receive training in child rights as do some areas of the officer corps.

Training in child rights has been offered recently by the Justice Training Institute, which is designed for training various groups including persons working in the Family and Juvenile Courts. There is room for continued improvement in the education of public officials working with or for children in child rights.

7. Three areas can be regarded as priorities requiring the most urgent attention:
 - Violence among children: this is a direct result of the violence in the society. Many efforts have been made to reduce this by the teaching of mediation by agencies like the Dispute Resolution to adults and children and PALS in schools. However, the subject remains a major problem and efforts will continue..
 - Need for better parenting: this is tied in with the problem of teenage pregnancy, economic hardship and drug abuse on the part of parents. Many mothers accept assignments as "drug mules: to carry drugs to USA and UK and end up, in prisons in these countries, leaving their children to be cared for by the State or by relatives.
 - HIV/AIDS: the impact of this issue is well known especially with the increase of numbers of children affected or infected by the disease. Continued efforts are being made to provide public education programmes and drugs to combat mother to child transmission.



International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour

**Preliminary Assessment of the
Worst Forms of Child Labour
in Jamaica**

Summary report of base-line surveys conducted in 2001

By Asha D'Souza

**Draft for discussion at the Feedback seminar
to be held in Kingston, Jamaica in November 2001**

Participants in the seminar are kindly requested to send their comments on this draft report to
Mr. Daniel Gordon, ILO/IPEC National Programme Manager, Jamaica, by December 15, 2001

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- Dr. Eleanor Wint and Ms. Frances Madden who studied child labour in the Tourism locations of Montego Bay and Negril,
- Degazon-Johnson Associates and The Rural Family Support Organization that surveyed child labour in Old Harbour Bay and Rocky Point, and
- Dr. L. L. Dunn of the Caribbean Child Development Centre, University of the West Indies, MONA who conducted an assessment of children in prostitution. The rich variety of information contained in her report is only partially reflected here.

Special thanks are due to the Jamaican Ministry of Labour and Social Security and other key government agencies as well as to the organizations of employers and workers in Jamaica that are working side by side with ILO/IPEC for the establishment of the *National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Jamaica*.

ILO/IPEC gratefully acknowledges the support of the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) in funding the country programme in Jamaica of which this preliminary assessment is a part.

I wish to thank the ILO/IPEC Office in Jamaica, particularly Mr. Daniel Gordon, the National Programme Manager, who provided me with the most recent information on Jamaica, and the ILO Caribbean Office in Port-of-Spain, especially Mr. David Nii Addy who was the Child Labour Focal Point at the time the studies were conducted and who provided feedback on the initial version of this report.

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Asha D'Souza

November 20, 2001

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1 Background

1.1 Eradication of child labour: a pressing need

Jamaica, like many countries of the international community, is putting the protection of the rights of children and the progressive eradication of child labour high on its agenda. More and more countries are coming to recognise this as a moral duty to their citizens as well as an economic necessity. Child labour is a threat to democracy because it deprives future citizens of the education necessary for them to make informed political choices.

Child labour is also a major obstacle to the sustainable development of a country. In the international economic arena, the comparative advantage of child labour in the short run becomes a major handicap in the long run, as an important part of the country's labour force remains unskilled and often becomes physically and psychologically incapacitated for productive work. It is common knowledge that poverty breeds child labour and that poor families are constantly confronted with the difficult choice between survival and investment in their children's future. However, child labour also perpetuates poverty as working children deprived of education and vocational training grow into adults that are inevitably trapped in unskilled, poorly paid jobs or swell the ranks of the unemployed. This downward spiral of poverty and child labour can only be broken by the political will and commitment of local and national governments to create viable alternatives for the families of child labourers.

More than anything else combating child labour is a question of basic human rights, of children being able to live their childhood. Researchers who interviewed working children in Spanish Town¹ report that:

"Apart from the obvious need to survive, their responses indicated that they wanted most to be like "ordinary" children: to go to school regularly, properly equipped with shoes, uniform, school bag, books, pencils, and lunch money; they wanted to have toys and games and television that could keep them at home, or a bicycle that could take them away and back; they wanted their parents to love them more; but some of them battered into numbness wanted nothing...."

1.2 International child labour standards

The International Labour Organization (ILO) was founded on the principle that lasting peace requires a foundation of social justice. As the Declaration of Philadelphia adopted at the International Labour Conference of 1944 states:

"Poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere."

Combating child labour is therefore an essential element in the pursuit of social justice and peace and is an important part of the ILO mandate. The ILO firmly believes that the promotion of decent work for adults is the most effective means of ensuring that children do not enter the labour market prematurely.

Child labour does not encompass all of children's or young persons' participation in work. Normal family obligations such as helping parents in the home, caring for siblings,

¹ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, "Informal sector work in Spanish Town, Jamaica" Baseline survey for ILO/PECC, June 2001

assisting outside school hours in the family farm or business are considered to be part of the process of socialization of the child. From the age of 12 or 13 onwards, earning pocket money in ways that are compatible with schooling and that do not negatively affect the child's health can also contribute to the child's development and preparation for working life.

Child labour refers to work that is detrimental to the development of the child, work that harms his or her mental, physical, social or moral integrity and that deprives him/her of education.

The ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) sets minimum ages for admission to employment to coincide with the age of completion of compulsory schooling: a general minimum age of 15 years with the possibility of doing light work compatible with schooling from the age of 13. For developing countries these ages are respectively 14 and 12 years. A majority of ILO member States have incorporated these minimum age standards into their legislation.

To facilitate the implementation of such national legislation, the ILO established the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in 1992 with the aim of progressively eliminating child labour worldwide. IPEC works to achieve this aim through country-based programmes that implement concrete measures to end child labour and through awareness-raising campaigns that change social attitudes towards child labour. All these activities are designed on the basis of research into the prevailing situation of child labourers. The worst forms of child labour are most often hidden from public scrutiny and reliable data on them are difficult to obtain. A special rapid assessment method has been developed to access qualitative information about certain forms of child labour in key geographical areas. In addition, IPEC promotes the ratification and effective implementation of ILO conventions relating to child labour through international and national advocacy.

The elimination of child labour, being intricately linked to the alleviation of poverty, cannot be achieved immediately. However, for the millions of children trapped in the worst forms of child labour, immediate action is necessary to rescue them. By unanimously adopting the ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182) the international community made a commitment to prevent children under 18 from entering these forms of work and to take immediate measures to rescue and rehabilitate those who are exploited in situations defined as the worst forms of child labour by this convention. These are:

- (a) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;*
- (b) The use, procurement or offering of a child for prostitution, production of pornography or pornographic performances;*
- (c) The use, procurement or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and*
- (d) Work, which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.*

The eradication of these forms has top priority in the elimination of child labour and must be undertaken as a matter of urgency. For children exposed to the risks that these situations engender, tomorrow will be too late.

1.3 Partnership between Jamaica and ILO/IPEC

It is estimated that there are thousands of children in Jamaica involved in child labour. Children, in Jamaica, have traditionally worked in agriculture, fishing and the informal sector. Today, however, there are increasing numbers of street children, many of who are lured into prostitution, into being drug couriers or gunrunners.

The Government of Jamaica recognises this and is committed to its eradication. Evidence of this is the active role that the Jamaican delegation, including representatives of Jamaican employers and workers, played at the International Labour Conference in the discussions leading up to the adoption of Convention 182. A new law incorporating provisions on child labour, "The Child Care and Protection Act" has been drafted and will soon be put before Parliament. Once it is adopted, the country will be in a position to ratify ILO Conventions No.138 and No.182.

Convention No.182 calls for international cooperation in the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. Jamaica is one of the countries that will benefit from such multi-lateral cooperation. In September 2000, the Government of Jamaica and the International Labour Organization's Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO/IPEC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in developing and implementing a programme to progressively reduce and ultimately eliminate child labour in Jamaica. The Jamaican Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the Ministry of Health will take the lead with financial support mainly from the Department of Labor of the United States as well as from the Government of Norway and UNICEF.

The programme aims to:

- increase the knowledge-base on child labour,
- strengthen the institutional capacity to address the problem,
- increase awareness about the dangers of child labour and the benefits of education, and
- implement direct action programmes to remove, rehabilitate, and prevent children from engaging in the worst forms of child labour.

The programme will target children working in tourist areas including those in or at risk of being used for commercial sexual exploitation, those in the urban informal sector and in fishing. Besides this, younger siblings of working children will benefit from preventive measures, such as improved access to education and health services.

The geographical zone of operation was determined after consultation with local organizations that address the needs of children and on the basis of information on child prostitution obtained by Dr. L. Dunn. It is in these selected areas that the base-line surveys described in this report were conducted.

1.4 The national context

Jamaica has made tremendous progress in improving access to education and health. But the economic difficulties it is faced with and the spread of consumerism combine to increase the vulnerability of children. Its natural beauty makes it a tourist paradise, but it has its dark side – that of poverty, violence, family disruption, and child abuse and neglect. These are often closely interlinked. It is this nexus of factors that is the breeding ground for child labour.

1.4.1 A vulnerable economy

Like most small island economies of the Caribbean, the economy of Jamaica can be characterized as open, dependent and vulnerable. Together with the important revenues from the tourism sector, the economy is largely based on the traditional export of primary products such as bauxite, sugar and bananas; and is also highly dependent on the import of consumer goods, oil, technology, capital goods and food.

During the 1990s the economy suffered a setback that had severe implications for families and their children. Between 1990 and 1998, employment grew at only 1.4%, while productivity fell by 0.3%.² Since 1991, the per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has fallen by 7%.³ The erosion of real wages and purchasing power of adults has made children more vulnerable to child labour.

On the positive side, there has been increased direct foreign investment in the mining, tourism and agricultural sectors. However, prospects for an early economic recovery seem to be remote. One factor is the insecurity surrounding the future of the preferential trade arrangements with the United States for both bananas and sugar that is expected to put additional pressure on the economy. Another is the decline in apparel exports in recent years. Thirdly, the development of the tourism industry is threatened by international concerns about high levels of crime in Jamaica, and the insecurity that reigns since the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.

1.4.1 A Vulnerable Economy

Like Most small island economies of the Caribbean and most developing countries, economy of Jamaica can be characterised as open, dependent and vulnerable. This is due mainly to the new world economic order of economic trading blocks, globalisation and the advent of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Together with the important revenues from the tourism and mining sectors, the economy is largely based on the traditional export of agricultural products such as sugar, rum and bananas and is highly dependent on the importation of consumer durables, oil, technology, capital goods and food. During the 1990's the economy suffered a decline that had severe implications. Between 1990 and 1998, employment grew at only 1.4%, while productivity fell by 0.3%. Since 1991, the per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has fallen by 7%. The erosion of real wages and purchasing power of the adult work force have made children more susceptible to child labour.

On the positive side, there has been increased Direct Foreign Investment (DFI) in the mining, tourism, information technology/service and agriculture sectors. However, prospects for economic recovery appear to be gradual. The prolonged negotiation with /European Union on the future of preferential trade under the Cotonou Agreement for bananas, rum and sugar is a cause for anxiety. The recent decline in the apparel industry is presenting some amount of economic uncertainty. Other factors of concern are the threat posed to the development of the tourism industry by international concerns about the high level of crime in Jamaica and the international insecurity that has enveloped the world's travelling population since the terrorist attacks in the United of America on September 11, 2001.

² ILO Labour Overview - Latin America and the Caribbean, Lima 1999, p.5.

³ The Economist Intelligence Unit, Country Profile, Jamaica, 2000, p.27

1.4.2 Unequal distribution of wealth

According to the Human Development classification established annually by UNDP, Jamaica ranks 78th among the countries of the world with a Human Development Index of 0.738.⁴ In 1999, the GDP per capita was PPP US\$3,561, which, in comparison to other Caribbean countries, is low.⁵ In that year, more than a third of its GDP was used to service foreign debt. In addition, the distribution of income is skewed as is evident from the fact that the poorest 20% of the population account for only 1.9% of total consumption, according to the latest UNDP statistics. The Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, 2000 indicates that 18.7% of the population of 2.5 million live below the poverty line.⁶ Furthermore, there is definitely a feminization of poverty: 47% of urban households are headed by women and of these, 30% live below the poverty line.⁷

1.4.3 Absenteeism from school

Jamaica's public education system has achieved almost universal coverage of its primary school age population (6–12 year olds). Education is compulsory up to Grade 9 which corresponds to the age of 15 years. There are no school fees in primary school, however families have to face the financial burden of paying for school uniforms, textbooks, materials, transportation and lunches. In secondary school, cost sharing has been introduced. The government supports schemes such as the provision of breakfast at some schools, distribution of reading materials, and subsidized transportation, which have contributed to the improvement of access to education among poor families in recent years.⁸

There is a significant drop in enrolment rates between primary and secondary schools. In 1999, the primary school enrolment rate was 95.9% whereas that of secondary school was only 64%.⁹ One of the reasons for the low secondary school enrolment rate is the lack of an adequate secondary school infrastructure.

Absenteeism from school is very common particularly on Fridays, the main market day, when many children stay away from school to assist their families in packing, transporting and selling their produce. According to the Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, the proportion of children absent from school for 1 to 5 days over a 20-day research period has increased from about 73% in 1998, to 80% in 1999.¹⁰ The proportion of the out of school population that stated that the main reason for their absence from school, was lack of money went up from 43% in 1997 to 84% in 1998. Children also give

⁴ UNDP Human Development Report, 2001. The Human Development Index is a composite measure of Human Development based on life expectancy, educational attainment (adult literacy and school enrolment) and adjusted income per capita in US\$ calculated at Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) rates of exchange.

⁵ Compared with GDP per capita in PPP US\$ of Barbados: 14,353, Trinidad and Tobago: 8,176 and the Dominican Republic: 5,507.

⁶ The poverty line is the amount of expenditure necessary to provide for food and other basic non-food items. In 1998, it was fixed at J\$ 136,949 (approx US\$ 3,112) per year for a family of five persons.

⁷ Study on the feminization of poverty conducted by the Canadian/Caribbean Gender Equity Fund quoted in Dunn, L., Jamaica: Situation of children in prostitution, p.25

⁸ ECLAC: The Equity Gap - Latin America, the Caribbean and the Social Summit, LC/G.1954 (CONF.86/3), Sao Paulo/Brazil 6-9 April 1997, p.123.

⁹ The Economic and Social Survey of Jamaica, 2000, p.22

¹⁰ *ibid.*, p. 35

other reasons, such as helping parents either in business or at home and inner city violence, for their absence from school. It was found that the children whose daily attendance was poor and those who were "dropping out" of school were from the lowest consumption quintile of the population.¹¹

Another area of concern is the difficulty in improving the quality of education in spite of the efforts made by the government. A study of primary education conducted by UNICEF in 1999 showed that 30% of primary school graduates were functionally illiterate.¹² Poor student performance is also affected by low quality instruction, as only 20% of teachers in the 894 primary schools in the country have received formal training.¹³

1.4.4 The onslaught of AIDS

Data from the United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS, shows that the Caribbean ranks second to Africa in the proportion of people living with HIV/AIDS and more and more heterosexual women and children are being affected. According to the Director of the National HIV/AIDS control programme, some 9,000 Jamaicans are estimated to be HIV positive. This has serious implications for child labour as an increasing number of children will be orphaned and some infected by the disease. It also increases the risks to which children who are sexually exploited are exposed.

¹¹ World Bank Report, "A Study of Secondary Education in Jamaica: Improving Quality and Expanding Access, 1998

¹² Cited by Degazon-Johnson Associates & The Rural Family Support Organization, *op cit*, p.35

¹³ World Bank report, *op cit*

2 Research undertaken

A thorough understanding of the situation on the ground is a pre-requisite for good programme design and implementation. Hence, prior to launching the National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Jamaica, four surveys were commissioned on specific sectors and forms of child labour in certain Parishes:¹⁴

- Baseline survey on Child Labour: Informal Sector Work in Spanish Town, Jamaica, by R. Cooke for the Worker Management Service Centre & Children First
- Baseline survey on Child Labour in Jamaica in Tourism Locations of Montego Bay and Negril, by E. Wirt and F. Madden
- Baseline survey on the Fishing areas of Rocky Point and Old Harbour Bay by Degazon-Johnson Associates and The Rural Family Support Organization, and
- Situation of Children in Prostitution: A Rapid Assessment by L.L. Dunn

This data collection was done with a view to improving the knowledge base on child labour prevalent in the country. The type of information obtained through these focussed studies was of a qualitative rather than a quantitative nature. National estimates of the number of economically active children are expected to come out of a National Child Labour Survey that will be conducted in 2002 as a part of the National Labour Force Survey undertaken regularly by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN).

ILO Convention No. 182 stipulates the need to consult with social partners and to give child labourers and their communities a voice in the design and implementation of national programmes. The surveys and the feedback sessions to follow are valuable opportunities for those directly concerned to express their points of view and to suggest what they consider are the most effective ways of solving the problem.

Those who conducted the interviews and focus group discussions were, in most cases, social workers who had already won the trust of the community through programmes they had conducted earlier. For example, the survey of the fishing areas was conducted by staff of the Rural Family Support Organization who had conducted a Teenage Mothers project in the area from which people in the community benefited. The survey was greatly facilitated by the willingness of child workers to help to identify others in similar situations, thus creating a snowball effect as more and more children could be reached in this way. Similarly, in investigating the informal sector in Spanish Town, social workers from Children First were assisted by "Child Guides": working children who put them in touch with their peers. This proved very fruitful in reaching children of the street who are normally wary of adults. In addition, working children were given the options of being interviewed at the work site, during a break, or over a meal at the office of the organization.

The sections that follow describe the methods and findings of the first three reports listed above with some references to the fourth.

¹⁴ The island is divided into 14 administrative divisions or provinces called Parishes.

2.1 Data collection methods

The methods used to collect information on the aforementioned forms of child labour included a combination of:

- Structured interviews with child workers found on a particular day at locations related to the form of labour concerned;
- Interviews with parents and some employers of minors as well as with other "key informants" such as school guidance counsellors, police inspectors, hotel workers, security guards, taxi drivers, and NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION (NGO) representatives;
- Observations of locations of children's work;
- Focus group discussions with street children and with heads of households in the area;
- Analysis of school attendance records.

Table 1: Sources of Information

Information Source	Sample Size	Methodology and/or Instrument	Geographical Location
Child labourers	310	279	72
Household heads	691	72	
Key informants	Guidance counsellors of 3 schools	29 employers of minors 12 (community workers, policemen, taxi drivers, security guards and NGO representatives)	3 employers
Work locations observed	4 night clubs	2 markets 3 all-inclusive hotels 10 public places (Beaches, wharves, malls, night clubs, bus parks, etc.)	
Schools whose attendance records were analysed	3		3

Validation was ensured by splitting the investigators into separate groups, each one using a combination of methods that allowed comparisons of the findings within and between the groups.

Since a number of investigators were already familiar with the communities concerned, there was a danger of lack of objectivity in the interviews. Hence, the investigators received clear guidelines and training concerning the methods to be used.

Investigation of the hidden forms of child labour is extremely difficult because respondents are unwilling to reveal information that they think could be used against them. At Rocky Point and Old Harbour Bay, the researchers found a noticeable difference between the first and second weeks of the survey. People who had been helpful the week before, became more "cagey" and reluctant to talk during the second week. Some asked the researchers not to come back to the beach. Children seemed to be hiding for fear of getting into trouble.

2.2 Characteristics of the areas surveyed

The three studies surveyed the areas targeted for the implementation of the national programme that had been selected on the basis of preliminary field assessments. These included the inner city communities of Spanish Town, the area surrounding the tourist resorts of Montego Bay and Negril and the fishing communities of the Parishes of St. Catherine and Clarendon.

2.2.1 Spanish Town

Spanish Town, the old capital of Jamaica, is now the country's third largest settlement after Kingston and Portmore. As the capital of the parish of St. Catherine, it is the main marketing and supply centre for the farmers of the surrounding countryside. New industrial enterprises have sprung up in the districts of Central Village and Twickenham Park.

A densely populated inner city has developed and several informal settlements have spawned south of historic Spanish Town. These are characterised by cramped housing with families of three to seven members occupying two rooms and sharing kitchen facilities, toilets and standpipes. Female-headed households are in a majority, the typical household head being a thirty-five year-old woman who has completed Grade 9 and earns a livelihood as an industrial or domestic worker or as a self-employed tradesperson. A survey of 691 households in the area revealed that 10.4% of household heads are unemployed. An analysis of the combined income of all members of a household, shows that the modal income range is J\$2,000 (US\$41) to J\$5,000 (US\$102) per week. Furthermore, 31.2 % of families earn less than the minimum wage entitlement of one worker. On the two days that the survey was administered, 25.5% of the school age population was not in school. In Tawes Pen, one of the settlements in Spanish Town, this was as high as 60%.

2.2.2 Montego Bay and Negril

Montego Bay, capital of the Parish of St. James, is one of Jamaica's leading tourist centres that receives 500,000 tourists annually and accounts for one-third of the national revenue from tourism. The employment opportunities in tourism and in the neighbouring Free Zone have fuelled migration from the rural areas. The population of Montego Bay almost doubled between 1971 and 1991 and the infrastructure of the town has not kept pace.

The literacy rate of the Parish was the highest in the island in 1987. At present, only 43% of men and 50% of women have completed secondary education. In the 5-14 age group, 5.6% of children are not attending school.

Negril is the third largest tourist resort on the island. Like Montego Bay, it has to cope with an influx of people from the rural areas who compete for housing, health and education services. It is located in the Parish of Westmoreland which is largely rural and one of the poorest parishes in Jamaica (33% of families are living below the poverty line).

A number of children are to be found trying to earn some money along its beaches and in the malls, bus terminals and nightclubs frequented by tourists.

2.2.3 Rocky Point and Old Harbour Bay

The parishes of Clarendon and St. Catherine in which these towns lie rank third and fourth in area among the 14 parishes of the island. Both have a long seacoast with tiny off-shore islands that create good conditions for fishing. The catch is usually sold on the beach to intermediaries who transport it as far as Coronation market in Kingston. Besides fishing and fish vending, people also engage in small-scale crop cultivation and animal husbandry. The sugar estates and the bauxite plant near Hayes provide some employment but it is not quite enough to meet the demand for jobs in this densely populated area.

Fishing in Jamaica is associated with the drug trade as large and small boats are used to pick-up and drop-off cocaine being shipped from Latin America to the United States. In the principal towns of May Pen and Old Harbour, children have occasionally been used to carry and sell drugs.

3 The Magnitude of Child Labour

Current data on the magnitude of child labour nationwide is not at present available. The reports under consideration are focussed on certain sectors and geographical locations and do not claim to be representative of the phenomenon on a wider scale.

A preliminary study¹⁵ conducted in 1994, made a rough estimate that 22,000 children or 4.6% of all Jamaicans in the age range of 6 to 16 were working in farming, growing marijuana, street vending, newspaper delivery, carpentry and mechanics workshops, domestic service, and prostitution. In the same year, the State Party Report of Jamaica to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child estimated that the number of children who live and work on the streets had grown from 50 in 1984 to 2,500 in 1994. More recent official figures on this are not available but it is likely that the problem has worsened in recent years.

3.1 Spanish Town

The study on the Informal sector in Spanish Town, gives the following estimation of the number of children working there on the basis of focus group discussions with child participants.

Table 2: Estimation of Number of Working Children in Spanish town

Category of Worker	Estimated No.	% of Total
Children who live and work on the street	270	22.1
Children who work on the street and live elsewhere	300	24.6
Domestic/Agricultural helpers	500	41.0
Sexually exploited children	50	4.1
Commercial/Industrial employees	100	8.2
TOTAL	1220	100.0

The average age at which children enter the labour market is 10 years but 11.3% of those interviewed had started at the age of six and 6.6% as early as five. In the past twelve months, there has been an increase of 36.2% in the number of child labourers.¹⁶

The ratio of male to female child labourers is 56 to 44 but among street children and those employed in commercial and industrial establishments; there are twice the number of boys as girls. Girls, however, constitute 60% of the domestic and agricultural helpers. The 40% boys in this category are mainly agricultural helpers, however, the research found a significant number of boys being engaged in what is considered traditional "women's work" in the home. As is often the case, it is mainly girls who are sexually exploited. However, 12.5% of children who are sexually exploited are boys. Of those interviewed,

¹⁵UNICEF sponsored study attached to the Jamaica National Labour Force Survey (STATIN)

¹⁶ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, pp. 18 and 26

25% of the children live in the rural areas and come to town to work. Rural-based children were found predominantly on the streets of the urban centre and among the sexually exploited.

3.2 Montego Bay and Negril

The number of children, in the age range of 8 to 18, working in Montego Bay and Negril is estimated to be approximately 800.¹⁷ About 350 of these are boys and about 450 are girls.¹⁸ However, two-thirds of the children interviewed in the different work locations were boys, indicating that girl child workers are less visible. Children reported working mainly as street vendors. This would include making and selling of paper bags, selling of sweets, chewing gum, garlic and scallions, bread, snacks, matches and lighters, fruit juice and haberdashery items for shop owners. In some instances the children were selling for their parents or relatives.

According to the Rapid Assessment on the situation of children in Prostitution carried out by L. Dunn, there are reports of 100 children working as go-go dancers in Montego Bay and Negril and another 20 in Spanish Town. In Montego Bay alone about 30 girls and boys under 18 are said to be involved on a large scale in sexual activities for gain.¹⁹ This study also uncovered the phenomenon of school children having relationships with 'sugar daddies' to whom they provide sex in exchange for basic needs such as educational support, food, clothing or shelter. Teenage boys, referred to as 'chapses,' were also exploited by older women in this way.

In the survey conducted by Wint & Madden, key respondents stated that children as young as six to eight years were used to transport drugs locally and that they know of 14 to 18 year olds who were given passports and visas to transport drugs internationally. Most of these were girls and they did so without the knowledge of their parents. Researchers were also told that 11-12 year olds were used to transport guns that were either sold or used to commit a crime and then returned.

3.3 Rocky Point and Old Harbour Bay

A study of three primary schools in the area indicates a high level of absenteeism. School records show that between 25% and 37% of primary school students do not attend school regularly. There is a drop-off in the attendance of male students in the final grade of primary school at age 12. On the basis of school attendance records, the researchers estimate that as many as 2,000 children in the six to 17 age group could be involved in child labour on a temporary or permanent basis. Further investigation is required to confirm this estimate.

Although a majority of child labourers interviewed were male, it is likely that a number of girls in the area are working in 'hidden' forms of child labour.

¹⁷ This number would probably be higher during the peak season.

¹⁸ E. Wint & F. Madden, *Baseline Survey on Child Labour in Jamaica in Tourism Locations of Montego Bay and Negril*, p. 52

¹⁹ L. Dunn, *op cit*, p.45

4 A variety of working environments

Many child labourers combine school and work. In Spanish Town the vast majority (89.4%) of child labourers are not full-time workers but work outside school hours, on weekends or market days. Absenteeism at school is particularly high on Fridays, which is often the market day. On days that they do work, the average child labourer does a full eight hours of work and some work up to 17 hours in one day.

It was found that children travel to nearby towns or to tourist resorts to work. Some of them are unable to return home on the same day and are obliged to sleep in unprotected public places. Some travel all the way across the Island; in Montego Bay and Negril children from as far away as Kingston were found.

4.1 Street children

A distinction must be made between children of the street who both work and live there and children on the street who work there but live elsewhere. Those of the first category, observed in Montego Bay and Negril, earned money by washing cars, selling bread and matches, begging, looking for refundable bottles, cleaning windshields, hustling, getting passengers for taxis, pushing shopping carts, selling juices and snacks and selling fruit. They tended to work independently and keep their earnings for themselves. The boys seemed to have a good relationship with each other, though they also stole from each other sometimes and quarrelled when competing for the same customer. The girls got on well together but were constantly harassed by the boys for sex.

Boys of the street who had moved from Spanish Town to Liguanea, and who survive by hustling,²⁰ cleaning windcreens at traffic lights or begging, reported that they sometimes deliberately tear their clothes or even mutilate themselves to attract the sympathy of passers by. Those interviewed were all substance abusers of cigarettes, alcohol or marijuana. Only three of the eight attended school.

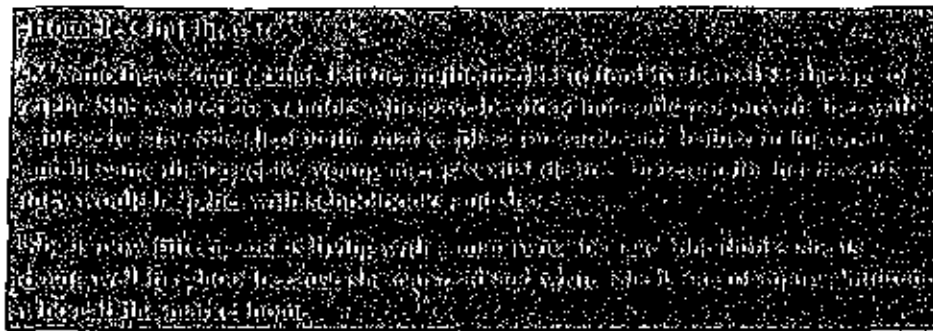
Street children are so familiar to most people that one tends to underestimate the hazards they face. The violence they are confronted with is extreme: 15% of those interviewed in Spanish Town had been knocked unconscious at least once, and 11% had been either stabbed or shot at. There was one report of a child who died while being raped. They are often robbed by older boys at knifepoint or have their belongings confiscated by the police. Children who work on the street but live elsewhere also report harassment from other sellers and from security personnel. They are terrorized into pick pocketing and, in Montego Bay, there have been instances of boys being molested.²¹

4.2 Market children

Market children sell goods for other vendors who are sometimes their relatives. They are often mobile vendors, transporting produce in hand-made pushcarts. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays are the major market days when they work continuously from 6 a.m. to sunset and earn between J\$200-400 (US\$4 - 8) per day. Most of those observed in Montego Bay had completed primary school and dropped out afterwards.

²⁰ "Hustling" refers to small services offered such as finding passengers for taxis or reserving places for tourists in a bus, etc.

²¹ E. Wint and F. Madden, *op cit*, p. 44



Those who return home are exposed to fewer risks than those who live at the market. However, they too are exposed to a work environment that tends to be noisy, competitive and harassing. They move about in groups and derive some security from the presence of the group leader who is generally one who has lived at least five years on the street.

In Spanish Town, a group of market children reported that they accompany their mothers, grandmothers or vendors whom they have adopted as mothers to help them sell their goods. The younger ones were itinerant vendors while the older ones did handcart delivery. Children reported that a man rents pushcarts to them for J\$150 (US\$3) per day. If he suspects that their earnings are far in excess of this sum, he charges them for damages, such as breaking a strap, or simply robs them outright.²¹

4.3 Children in fishing

The tasks of children engaged in this sector range from fairly innocuous tasks such as cleaning out boats and disposing of garbage to the more dangerous ones like going out in the boats with adult fishermen and spearing fish, diving to set pots and pulling the nets in. Those that go out to fish are exposed to the danger of rough seas and sharks. They also risk their lives by diving fairly deep without the necessary equipment. It is mainly the boys who are involved in these tasks as well as in processing and selling the fish. They are often paid in-kind or on a piece-rate basis. Researchers describe the children involved in fishing as "happy truants from school working with the panache of young entrepreneurs."²⁴



4.4 Children in commercial establishments and workshops

In Spanish Town, a small group of children, mainly boys, reported on their work in supermarkets and wholesale establishments, and as apprentices in garages and workshops. Some work full-time while others work after school. While most of them receive similar

²¹ E. Wint and F. Madden, *op cit*, p.18

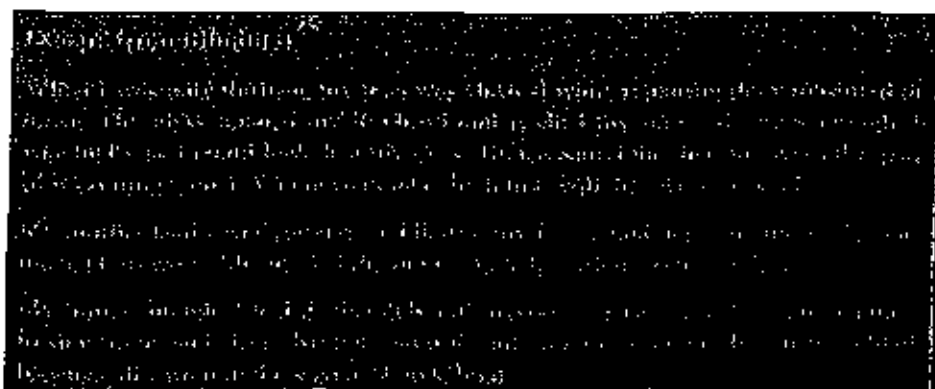
²³ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit* p.37

²⁴ Degazon-Johnson Associates & The Rural Family Support Organization, *Nature, Extent, Causes and Consequences of Child Labour in Old Harbour Bay, St. Catherine and Rocky Point, Clarendon, Jamaica, June 2001*, p. 27

remuneration to adults in the same jobs, a significant minority reported being paid less. There was generally a paternalistic arrangement with the employer.

In Montego Bay and Negril, children worked in carpentry workshops and lumberyards, on construction sites, on the wharves, in dressmaking establishments, in kitchens, as delivery boys and as conductors on buses. The relationship with the employer varied from consideration to constant harassment.

A large number of them reported work related injuries. However, the employers interviewed in Montego Bay and Negril did not consider that the young persons they employed were exposed to health risks. They wore no special protective gear and did not have health insurance.



4.5 Domestic workers

Boys and girls share home-based domestic work but it is mainly girls who are serving as domestics outside the home. This is largely unpaid labour. Those who are remunerated are generally paid between J\$100-500 (US\$2 - 10) per week, well below the weekly domestic minimum wage of J\$1,200 (US\$24). Half of those interviewed in Spanish Town received meals and one fourth received clothes. A few received other forms of payment in-kind.

The researcher was of the opinion that this form of work elicited the most bitter resentment on the part of the children towards their parents and employers. It often caused children to run away and land on the street, and, in many cases, became an entry point into sexual exploitation.

4.6 Playmakers in hotels

Tourism is Jamaica's largest foreign exchange earner and provides employment to a large number of people. A number of teenagers from the age of 15 onwards work in "all-inclusive" hotels as "playmakers" that organise entertainment for the guests. Most start working part-time or during the summer holidays and move into permanent employment after a year. Those working full-time have very long working hours, from 8.30 a.m. until midnight, seven days a week. They earn J\$1,500 to 2,000 (US\$30 to 40) per week, live on the premises and are allowed to eat as much as they wish. They are not permitted to enter into non-work relationships with guests. None of those interviewed reported any form of sexual exploitation. Despite the long hours, the eight young hotel workers interviewed

²⁵ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p.44

were obliged to accept intimate sex if the client so desired. Most of the girls interviewed were secondary or high school graduates. They worked in six to eight hour shifts around the clock and earned J\$3,000 to J\$4,000 (US\$60 to 80) per week.

It is important to note that sexual exploitation is not limited to areas in which tourism has developed. Children, who are vulnerable because of their health or family circumstances, are often exploited as sexual objects.

[Redacted text block]

Dunn also reveals the phenomenon of "sugar daddy girls" and "chapses" who are pressured into sexual relations with a particular adult in exchange for gifts, clothing and money. They form the largest group of children engaged in prostitution and are the most invisible since these activities take place in the confines of their own home or that of their exploiter. Some were as young as eight when they started being sexually abused.

[Redacted text block]

5 Factors contributing to child labour

While poverty is an important push factor, it is rarely the only one that influences the child's entry into labour. In most cases, it is a combination of some or all of the factors described below.

5.1 Survival at stake

Child labour is often a means of survival. Of the 101 child workers between the ages of 15 and 18 that were interviewed in Negril and Montego Bay, 74% indicated that survival needs were the main reason for working. One of the children interviewed said that his father had told him in no uncertain terms that he had to work to live....

"To live means eyes open and breathing, not nurturing and caring. You must work if you want your eyes to remain open."³⁰

Just under a third of the street children interviewed in Spanish Town said they were forced to take to the street due to economic destitution. Their parents were unemployed and they had to help out... *"sometimes I go to bed hungry because my mommy don't work,"* said an eleven year old boy. Almost half the respondents (49%) gave their earnings to their family and 22% used their earnings to pay for their schooling.³¹

The parents and guardians of working children told researchers in Spanish Town: *"Give us work and you won't need to worry about our children."* An analysis of the occupations of guardians of working children in the area confirms that very few have regular jobs. The largest occupational group (36%) were self-employed, probably in informal hustling activities. An additional 15% stated that they were unemployed and another 14% of respondents said that their guardians were either missing or were child labourers themselves.³²

5.2 Family disintegration

"Mother leave me father and him go farm work and him run off, so the family split up and I come to stay with my father side of the family. Them don't like me, so me have to get work to help meself."

A sixteen year-old girl in Spanish Town

The disintegration of the family due to the death, abandonment or migration of one of the parents often combines with poverty to create the breeding ground for child labour. A recent survey showed that 50% of children in Kingston are separated from at least one parent by the time they reach age eleven.³³

In Montego Bay and Negril, only seven out of the 101 working adolescents surveyed were living with both parents. Forty-two of them were living with either the mother or the

³⁰ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p.39

³¹ *ibid*, p.28

³² Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, p. 22

³³ Sunday Observer, May 13, 2001, front page citing Dr. S. Vaughan's longitudinal study of children in Jamaica.

grandmother, while six lived with the father.³⁴ This shows the predominance of female-headed households in the families of working children. Where there is a stepparent that enters the home, the Cinderella syndrome is often experienced in which children of a former partner are considered a burden and either made to work at home or are forced to leave the house due to ill treatment.

Being abandoned by the father is becoming a common phenomenon as values change and destabilize marriages. The increase in crime also contributes to separation from a parent who is imprisoned or has to go into hiding or is killed in a vendetta. The mother then becomes the sole breadwinner and most often is not in a position to combine this function with that of nurturing her children. Some of the market children in Montego Bay and Negril, when asked about their reasons for working, said that their mothers had left them with another family member, usually the grandmother, and returned to Kingston to find work. In several cases, the mothers then lost contact with the family and stopped supporting the children. They therefore had to fend for themselves.³⁵

5.3 The trauma of child abuse

Job insecurity, anxiety as to how to make ends meet and overcrowded housing create tensions in the family that manifest themselves through violence and abuse of children.



The trauma of incest or molestation, often by a stepfather, at an early age often lies behind the entry of children into prostitution. Researchers in Spanish Town found that twelve of the sixteen sexually exploited children interviewed had run away from home due to sexual abuse. Some had entered domestic labour and then escaped from it while others had been placed in Children's Homes where they found conditions unbearable. Only two said that it was the lucrative aspect of the sex trade that had attracted them to it.³⁷ In Montego Bay and Negril, many of the children living in the market had previously come before a Family Court in cases of incest when they were six to eight years old. They subsequently ran away from home and slept in the market where they were sexually exploited by other adults.³⁸

5.4 Schooling abandoned

Enrolment in primary school is almost universal. However, the incidental costs of schooling cause children from poor families to combine work and school so as to bear the expenses of uniforms, books, materials, lunch and transport. Friday, being market day and, to a lesser extent, Thursday when preparations for the market are made are the days noted for high rates of absenteeism in all the schools surveyed by the three studies. Children

³⁴ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p.37

³⁵ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p.18

³⁶ Degazon-Johnson Associates & The Rural Family Support Organization, *op cit*, p.23

³⁷ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, p. 47

³⁸ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p. 18

either help their parents with preparing, transporting and selling or stay home to baby-sit younger siblings and do the domestic chores. The Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, 2000, indicates that financial need is, among other things, a function of the number of children of school age in the family. Households often respond to the financial strain by temporarily withdrawing their children from school.

Evidence from the attendance records of schools in Old Harbour Bay and Rocky Point show a dramatic fall-off in enrolment after age 11, the year in which primary school children take a selective exam called the GSAT that determines whether they get a "free place" in secondary school. In Clarendon and to some extent in St. Catherine there is a dearth of post primary vocational and technical institutions.

The quality of schools vary considerably and some children drop out because of poorly equipped and less stimulating school environments.³⁹ In Spanish Town, 60% of respondents said they had dropped out of school because they could not afford schooling and had to support themselves or help their parents to do so. Another 22% gave reasons that can be attributed to the educational system: they were not interested in school or were slow learners, some were not admitted due to late registration or, in case of dropout at the end of primary school, because no suitable centre was available for higher schooling or vocational training. It is of significance that the remaining 18% were expelled from school, sometimes due to pregnancy or were disabled and could not cope.⁴⁰

Conditions in Red Ground District in Negril are similar: the majority of children are employed after school or on week-ends doing odd jobs in supermarkets, washing cars, selling in the craft market or hustling passengers for taxis. The lack of accessible training institutions after Grade 9 and the frustration of not being sufficiently qualified to find a job at the age of 15, are two of the reasons why girls get involved in prostitution and boys in petty crime.⁴¹

5.5 Peer pressure

In the tourism locations of Montego Bay and Negril, behaviour is increasingly influenced by what is shown on TV, accentuating consumerism. Children are enticed to earn in order to keep up with their peers in buying expensive goods. This is particularly true of young people who choose to work in hotels.⁴²

5.6 Social norms concerning child labour

Work is considered a normal part of growing up. Children of 15 and 16 are expected to go out to work and contribute to their own upkeep. A large majority of the employers interviewed in Montego Bay and Negril had themselves started work from as early as twelve years of age. Besides, by giving work to older siblings they say they enable the younger ones to go to school. Fishermen who employed children as young as six years in Old Harbour Bay and Rocky Point were of the opinion that it prevented kids from giving or getting into trouble: "I prefer they work than steal." Giving the children some fish in return for their work was considered an act of kindness rather than a form of remuneration.

³⁹ Degezou-Johnson Associates & The Rural Support Organization, *op cit*, p.35

⁴⁰ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, p. 27

⁴¹ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p. 27

⁴² *ibid*, pp.47-48

Parents do not make a distinction between work that contributes to the child's development and that which hampers it. Besides it is not always the parents who decide to put their children to work. Rural parents, in particular, are unable to influence the decisions of their children because they were not exposed to the same environment in their childhood and remain in awe of new information technology. Attitudes towards sex and violence have changed due to mass communication as well as due to tourism. There is less inhibition about sexual behaviour in public and violence is increasingly being used as a means of conflict resolution. There is therefore an upsurge of children entering the entertainment industry, getting involved in petty crime and being drawn into prostitution and drug trafficking.⁴³

The strong social taboos against commercial sex leads many Jamaicans to deny the existence of the sexual exploitation of children. Persons interviewed in L. Dunn's study expressed shock on learning of the involvement of children in prostitution and related activities. Many are aware of labels like "rent a dreads" and know of individual cases of teenagers engaged in commercial sex but regard these as isolated instances rather than as a social problem.

Children are perceived as the personal property of parents to be used as they see fit rather than as citizens with individual rights. On the other hand, as far as girls are concerned, the start of menstruation is perceived as the onset of womanhood. Hence, some mothers endorse the involvement of teenage daughters in sexual activities. Club owners do not ask for the birth certificates of girls that they employ as go-go dancers although they are aware that it is a punishable offence to employ minors in this type of work. Those interviewed by Dunn did not view such employment as exploitation. They justify it by saying that they help teenagers to get what they want and to have a better standard of living.⁴⁴

5.7 Inadequate law enforcement

Action by the police is limited, on the one hand, by the lack of adequate resources for cases relating to children and, on the other, by the reluctance of the public to report violations or give evidence in court. Dunn reports that they fear being branded as an informer, which in some communities can be a death sentence.⁴⁵

⁴³ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, pp 48-49

⁴⁴ L. Dunn, *op cit*, p.69

⁴⁵ *ibid*, p. 70

6 Lasting consequences

Child labour is often seen as a short-term response to immediate economic needs or to a crisis situation. However, the consequences of it are long term, often irreversible and affect the future of the child as well as that of future generations. Besides the consequences on the persons and families involved, it obviously has wider social and economic consequences on the development of the country and on the evolution of social norms and attitudes.

6.1 Aspirations remain beyond reach

Working children sacrifice their childhood and feel this intensely. Their greatest aspiration is to be like "normal" children, to go to school and have time to play and have fun. Almost half the working children interviewed in Spanish Town expressed the wish to enjoy their present life as children, to stop working, to go back to school and have more time to study and have fun. Another 28% wanted better, more stable and respectable jobs in professions that were easily accessible, while an additional 8% aspired to premium professions such as doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers or pilots. A small proportion (4.4%) seemed to have benefited from their work experience and intended to creatively apply the skills they had learned on the job.⁴⁶ This was also the case for young people working in the tourism industry in Montego Bay and Negril. Most of them were combining school and work in a hotel and said that their jobs gave them a sense of independence, an opportunity to meet new people and opened up new horizons for them.⁴⁷ For the large majority of working children, however, work hampers their access to education and condemns them to low paid, unskilled jobs or to unemployment.

6.2 Risks to health

The health hazards inherent in the work environment are often exacerbated by the low level of immunity caused by under nourishment and fatigue. An analysis of the illnesses suffered by working children in Spanish Town shows that in addition to fever, colds and flu from which the large majority suffer, 11% of the children interviewed had breathing problems, particularly sinusitis and asthma, and 3% had eye infections.

Street children and sexually exploited children take the highest risks because many of them are substance abusers and/or engage in unprotected sex with multiple partners. A statistically significant proportion of the children interviewed had contracted sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV-AIDS. They are also exposed to violence: 15% of children interviewed had been knocked unconscious on at least one occasion and 11% had either been stabbed or shot at. In addition, street children are constantly exposed to the risk of road accidents.⁴⁸

6.3 Loss of human dignity

The assault to the child's dignity is dramatically illustrated by the statements of sexually exploited children who are obliged to indulge in acts they consider sickening.

"Man who want oral sex who stink an sick yu stomach."

⁴⁶ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, p.36

⁴⁷ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p.48

⁴⁸ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, p. 33

"Mi skin crawl when some of the man dem touch mi."

Psychologists have found that sexually exploited children suffer from "significant emotional disturbance." They are under severe emotional stress and express feelings of guilt. They also fear being discovered by members of their community. The damage to their self-image has a disastrous impact on their performance at school and paves the way towards dropping out and consequent marginalization.⁴⁹

⁴⁹ L. Dunn. *op cit*, p.65

7 Taking action to combat child labour

To be sustainable, action against child labour, must aim to eradicate the causes of child labour and create viable alternatives for the families of working children. The National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour that is being launched in partnership with ILO/APEC will build upon the numerous initiatives that have already been undertaken by the Government of Jamaica, social partners and NGOs.

In 1996, the Government of Jamaica adopted a *National Plan of Action for Children*, which aims at ensuring universal access to basic education, including the integration of street children into school. In the same year, the government established a *National Poverty Eradication Programme* that aimed to reduce by half the number of people under the poverty line in deprived communities within a period of three years. To this end, an agreement was signed with the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Union and the Netherlands, to set up a *Social Investment Fund* of US\$ 50 million for infrastructure development and income-generating activities. A further US\$ 40 million is currently being negotiated with the World Bank to support the *Social Safety Net Programme* of the government that will provide family allowances to certain sections of the population. These programmes play an important role in the prevention of child labour.

7.1 Legislative reform

An important step forward will be the adoption of the *Draft Child Care and Protection Act* that will bring the national legislation in conformity with the international standards of the ILO relating to the minimum age for work and the immediate elimination of the worst forms of child labour. The new act will set the minimum age for admission to employment at fifteen years, define hazardous work and establish sanctions for violations of the provisions relating to the worst forms of child labour. There will be stiff penalties such as fines imposed on employers of under-age children and the possibility of rescinding or revocation of their licences. The onus of proving that the person is old enough for employment will be placed on the employer.

In order to create the necessary conditions for the application of this law and the ratification of international conventions, Jamaican social partners have carried out a number of advocacy programmes. The *Jamaica Employers Federation* and the *Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions* have sensitized their members as well as the media about the provisions of ILO Convention (No. 182) on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, through seminars and workshops as well as through their publications. They encourage vigilance on the part of their members in the observation of child labour laws.

7.2 Providing quality education

The Government introduced a new policy in 1998 to solve the problem of high levels of illiteracy found among primary school graduates. Promotion to a higher grade now depends on the results of a literacy test that all children are required to take at the end of Grade 4 and those who fail it benefit from tutorial support. Other measures have been taken to motivate children to attend school regularly and to assist needy families in providing school supplies and transport to their children. These include the revision of the primary school curriculum and that of Teachers' Colleges. Efforts have also been made to improve the secondary school infrastructure by the construction of extra classrooms to accommodate more students. These measures together with the provision of appropriate vocational training will ensure that schools equip young people with the necessary skills for decent employment.

7.3 Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation

Several governmental and non-governmental initiatives aim at preventing child labour, improving working conditions where possible and rescuing children from exploitative situations and reintegrating them into school. The Jamaican government is carrying out a major USAID funded project entitled *Uplifting Adolescents* that provides health services, literacy and skill training to thousands of school dropouts between the ages of 10 to 14 years with a view to reintegrating them in school.

A number of NGOs have also implemented activities to provide educational and vocational training opportunities to children in difficult circumstances. The *LEAP Centre* caters to inner-city boys with an average age of 15 years, who have dropped out of school and who work on the streets of Kingston. It has small residential facilities and offers counselling, vocational training and basic literacy to them. It has established good contacts with a number of small businesses that provide placements for LEAP graduates. In Montego Bay, the *Sam Sharpe Teacher Training College* assists school dropouts with literacy skills and guidance programmes and the *Western Society for the Upliftment of Children* helps street and working children with remedial education, pre-vocational training and job placement. *The National Initiative for Street Children* has been in operation since 1996 and targets children between the ages of 9 and 15. The programme provides food, remedial instruction and vocational training for young street children in the Kingston area.

Children First has a centre in Spanish Town that provides social services to street and working children and their parents. These services include remedial education and re-integration of school dropouts, personal and family development, income generating activities for parents of children who are in extremely difficult circumstances, and environmental education.

Many of these organisations will be associated with the *National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Jamaica* being launched by the government in partnership with ILO/IPEC. The programme will ensure that the elimination of child labour is mainstreamed into national policy. For this it is necessary to monitor the evolution of the problem, to strengthen the institutional capacity of partners addressing the issue, and to expand awareness raising and action programmes to other areas of the island.

8 The way forward

The surveys conducted were an opportunity to solicit the opinions of child labourers themselves on ways of solving the problems they face. This was the subject of some of the focus group discussions conducted by the researchers in Spanish Town.

The domestic child labourers, sexually exploited children and children working in commercial establishments that participated in these discussions voiced the following needs:

- Assistance in attending school
- Skill training and creation of better job opportunities for youth
- Responsible parents
- Enforcement of child care laws
- Half-way houses for sexually exploited children
- Day-care facilities for infants
- Employment for parents of working children⁵⁰

The most effective way of meeting some of these needs is to facilitate community level action to monitor school attendance and provide support to families of children at risk. Affordable childcare facilities for infants managed by the community would reduce the burden of housework on older children and allow them to attend school regularly.

Family disintegration, being an important push factor, needs to be countered through the provision of parental counselling and child guidance by qualified social workers. Several of the children found in sexual exploitation had earlier come before the Family Court in cases of incest. The social workers could also be entrusted with following up these cases until the child victims have attained the age of eighteen.

School curricula will need to be further adapted to equip secondary school graduates with basic skills for the labour market. It is preferable to integrate work experience into the school programme so that under age children do not have to seek work outside school hours to acquire it. This could also reinforce the career guidance provided to youth. Wint and Madden point out that all-age and high schools do not at present give clear guidance in career choices. This causes youth to see their "prettiness" or "cuteness" as their most valuable asset and aspire to employment in tourist resorts.⁵¹ One of the reasons for school dropout that has been cited is the lack of facilities for disabled children and the expulsion of girls who fall pregnant. There is a need for improved sex education in order to prevent teenage pregnancies and to equip schools to cater to teenage mothers.

The reintegration of street children and other dropouts can be done through the establishment of residential centres and bridge schools during the period of transition. In the tourist locations of Montego Bay and Negril, researchers suggest the appointment of trained street educators who could work at night to maintain contact with children working in the streets and other public places.

⁵⁰ Worker Management Services Centre & Children First, *op cit*, pp.45,49 and 52

⁵¹ E. Wint & F. Madden, *op cit*, p.56

The most effective prevention would be an island-wide public education programme about the causes and effects of child labour at the time of ratification of the ILO Conventions, targeting those who employ or facilitate the employment of children.⁵² As far as street children are concerned, the public needs to be sensitised to the circumstances that put them there so that they are viewed with understanding rather than as a nuisance.

The studies summarised here are a part of a preliminary investigation into Child Labour in Jamaica. The National Child Labour Survey will yield information on other forms of child labour that require more focussed investigation. There is certainly a need for further research into the involvement of children in hidden forms of work, such as domestic service and the trafficking of drugs and weapons. Another subject requiring elucidation is the physical and psychological impact of commercial sexual exploitation on children.

And finally, a broad social alliance of Government departments, employers' and workers' organisations and NGOs will be required to steer the national programme that is being developed. The main lesson learned from the three surveys is the importance of involving the child labourers themselves in the elaboration and in the implementation of the programme. The research so far benefited a great deal from the snowball effect of child workers helping to contact their peers. The National programme will surely benefit from similar networking through the involvement of the children and communities that are to be the beneficiaries of the programme.

A co-ordination of government, employers' and workers' organizations, non-government organizations and service clubs is crucial to the success of the national program that is being developed. The decision process in achieving the elimination of the worst form of child labour must take into account the current and planned initiatives of both private and government sectors. Government has appointed an Ambassador for Children who has a number of programmes already on the ground. There are private sector actions by the way of providing half way houses for street children and a host of skill training programmes sponsored by Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs and other non-governmental organizations.

There are also some activities by service organizations which are bringing a focus of proper parenting techniques to parents, particularly young parents who are not much more than children themselves. There are also a number of Day Care Centres at the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

One of the main lessons learnt from the three surveys is the importance of involving the child labourers themselves in the considerations and in the implementation of the programme. The research has so far benefited a great deal from the snowball effect of child workers helping to facilitate contact with their peers and parents. The broadening of their involvement and that of their communities will undoubtedly enhance the national programme.

⁵² Degazon-Johnson Associates & The Rural Family Support Organization, *op cit*, p.37

For more information consult our web site:

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