The University of the West Indies, St Augustine
Department of Liberal Arts

FIRST THEY MUST BE CHILDREN: THE CHILD AND THE CARIBBEAN IMAGIN/NATION
A CULTURAL STUDIES CONFERENCE
Thursday May 21st & Friday May 22nd 2009
The Learning Resource Centre, UWI St Augustine

Programme

THURSDAY 21st MAY 2009

8.00-8.30 am REGISTRATION

8.30-9.00 am Welcome
Prof. Funso Aiyejina
Dean, Faculty of Humanities & Education
UWI St Augustine

Opening Remarks
Dr. Paula Morgan
Coordinator, Cultural Studies
Head of Department, Liberal Arts
UWI St Augustine

9.00-10.30 am PANEL 1A: Figuring the Child
Chair: Prof. Valerie Youssef

“The Child as Progenitor: Trauma and the (Un)making of the Self”
Dr. Paula Morgan (UWI, St Augustine)

“'Always In the Distance': Enlisting the Child as Transformative Signifier”
Dr. Jennifer Rahim (UWI, St Augustine)

“Child’s ‘I’ and Other in Olive Senior’s Narratives of Self-Invention”
Prof. Barbara Lalla (UWI, St Augustine)

PANEL 1B: Behaviour and Learning Environments
Chair: Dr. Jennifer Mohammed
“Beyond the Rugrats: Child Behaviour, Teacher Response and Behaviour Change in Three Morvant Schools”
Ms. Sabeerah Abdul-Majied (UWI, St Augustine)

“Children Learn Best When the Learning Environment is Fun and the Content of Learning Relevant”
Dr. Rawatee Maharaj-Sharma (UWI, SA)

“‘We suppose to have fun...’: Voice and Resistance in the Primary Classroom”
Rowena Kalloo (UTT, Trinidad)

“Parental and Societal Perspectives on Children; Socio-cultural Influences on Quality Early Childhood Education”
Carol Logie (UWI, St Augustine)

10.30-11.00 am  BREAK

11.00-12.30 pm  PANEL 2A: Carnival Children: Performance and Industry
Chair: Rawle Gibbons

“Children of Soca”
Dr. Louis Regis (UWI, St Augustine)

“Play in Disney-Carni-Land!! The Disneyland Culture of Experience and the Trini Children’s Carnival Product: Exploring Niki-Land”
Jo-anne Tull (UWI, St Augustine)

“Dey Say Ah Too Young to Soca : Examining Machel Montano from Child Star to Cultural Entrepreneur”
Elizabeth Montano (UWI, St Augustine)

“Children’s Mass and the Notion of Being and Becoming - Claiming the Imagination and Presenting Notions of Identity within the Caribbean”
Keynwyn Murray

PANEL 2B: Troubling Sex and Sexuality
Chair: Dr Brader Brathwaite

“Troubled Children: Violence and Illicit Sexual Behaviour”
Dr. Daphne Phillips (UWI, St Augustine)
“An Ethnographic View of Adolescent Female Sexuality in Trinidad and Susceptibility to HIV”
Marissa Thomas (UWI St Augustine)

“What Child is This?: Same-Sex Desire among Children in the Anglophone Caribbean Short Story”
Dr. Geraldine Skeete (UWI, St Augustine)

12.30-2.00 pm  LUNCH (Readings)

2.00-3.30 pm  ROUNDTABLE: “The Child in Focus - Rights and Issues”
Panelists: Dr. Jacqueline Sharpe, Dr. Daphne Phillips, Mrs Theresa Hadad-Maraj Dr Ronald Marshall
Chair: Dr Wayne Kublalsingh
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

3.30-5.00 pm  PANEL 3A: Nation, Migration and Belonging
Chair: Dr. Sharanya Jayawickrama

“‘What if the Baker Won’t Let Me Feel the Bread’: Alternative Ways of Belonging to the Nationscape for Marginalised Women in Shani Mootoo’s Cereus Blooms at Night and Jamaica Kincaid’s Autobiography”
Michelle Ramlagan (University of Miami)

“Growing up and Moving Away: Identity, Migration, and Gender in Christina Garcia’s Monkey Hunting”
Josune Urbistondo (University of Miami)

“Trauma and Exile: A Torturous Journey to Selfhood in Lucy, and Breath, Eyes, Memory”
Caryn Rae Adams (UWI, Cave Hill)

“Memory and Desire: A Future Visualized in the Intersections of History”
Yi Huang (University of Miami)

PANEL 3B: (Re) Shaping Children - From Problem to Solution
Chair: Fr. Stephen Geofroy

“Predicators of Behavioural Problems in Primary Schools within the Laventille East District in Trinidad”
Marian Taylor (UWI, St Augustine)

“Corporal Punishment in the Caribbean: Punishing Agency”
Charrise Clarke (UWI)
“Residential Institutions as ‘parents’ for vulnerable children: References to selected studies with emphasis on Trinidad and Tobago”
Dr. Innette Cambridge (UWI, St Augustine)

“Using Critical Literacy to Teach Character Development in Merle Hodge’s For the Life of Laetitia”
Karen Sanderson Cole (UWI, St Augustine)

PANEL 3C: Citizenship, Violation and Responsibility
Chair: Dr Shilpa Venkatachalam

“First They Must be Defined: A Caribbean View of the Child and Childhood”
Betsy Ann Lambert Peterson (Trinidad)

“Parallels Between Adolescent Male Sodomy in The Kite Runner and Trinidad Realities”
Krissy Luke (UWI, St Augustine)

“The Potential Child and Caribbean Parenting: Male Perspectives on Abortion in Jamaica”
Keino Senior (UWI, Mona)

7.00-9.00 pm
READING and KEYNOTE ADDRESS
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
READING
Olive Senior

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
“Towards a Poetics of Childhood”
Prof. Sandra Pouchet Paquet

FRIDAY 22nd MAY

8.30-10.00 am
PANEL 4A: Literary Fathers: A Dialogue on Kamau Brathwaite
Chair: Dr Louis Regis

“‘But Heroes Were in Books.’ Representing the Absent Father in Brathwaite’s Barabajan Poems”
Rhonda Cobham-Sander (Amherst College)
Respondent
Prof. Gordon Rohlehr (UWI, St Augustine)
PANEL 4B: Centering the Child: Need and Agency in the Education Process  
Chair: Dr June George

“Schooling the Poor Child: Learning Experiences of Primary School Children in Institutions in the Context of Challenge”  
Jerome De Lisle el tal (UWI, St Augustine)

“The Sisterhood of the Exam: Secondary school choice and the centrality of 11+ in the emotional and social lives of female 11+ students”

“The Child as Consumer: Understanding the Role of Children in the Family Dynamics of Secondary School Choice in Trinidad and Tobago”

10.00-10.30 am  BREAK

10.30-12 noon  PANEL 5A: Visual and Media Representations  
Chair: Dr Christiana Abraham

“Visual Representation and the Child”  
Dr. Jean Antoine-Dunne (UWI, St Augustine)

“Crimes Against Children: Challenging their Media Representations”  
Prof. Valerie Youssef (UWI, St Augustine)

“Videogames and Violence: Impact in Children and Adolescents”  
Luis Alberto Notario (Cuba)

PANEL 5B: History, Trauma and Transmission  
Chair: Dr Tia Cooper

“Even little black children cannot be reared like the lambs and calves of the field”: Children, Family and Community in Plantation Society, 1790-1838”  
Tara Inniss (UWI, Cave Hill)

“The Intergenerational Transmission of Trauma”  
Paige L. Parker (Pacific Oaks College)

“Brother and Sister, with a Common Pin”  
Rose-Ann Walker (UWI, St Augustine)

PANEL 5C: Voicing the Child: Making Stories  
Chair: Dr Giselle Rampaul
"Voices of Children, Visions of Adults: The Child Narrator as Interpreter and Interrogator of his Environment"
Rhoda Bharath (UWI, St Augustine)

"The Thing Without a Name: The Child as Narrative Strategy in Miguel Street"
Ryan Durgasingh (UWI, St Augustine)

"The Influence of Children on the Structure of Pronoun Systems in Young Caribbean Language" Benjamin Braithwaite (UWI, St Augustine)

12 noon-2.00 pm  LUNCH (Readings)

2.00-3.30 pm  ROUNDTABLE: “Writing the Child”
Olive Senior, Merle Hodge,
Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw, Lawrence Scott
Chair: Professor Barbara Lalla
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

3.30-5.00 pm  PANEL 6A: Perspectives on Stories, Fairytales and (re) education
Chair: Dr Geraldine Skeete

“Black Heart/White Heart: The Chronicles of Narnia as Literary Text in a Creole Space”
Nicha Selvon-Ramkissoon (UWI, St Augustine)

“‘Restoring Jim to his White Parents and Repositioning His Blackness’: A Critical Discourse Approach to Jim the Boatman (1845)”
Renee Figuera (UWI, St Augustine)

“‘How the Mirror Broke’: Deconstructing Colonial Fairytales in Joyce Gittens’ I Remember Pampalam”
Dr Giselle Rampaul (UWI, St Augustine)

PANEL 6B: Interventions: Nature/Creative Expressions
Chair: Dr Jean Antoine-Dunne

“Landscaping and Expressing the Inexpressible”
Dr. Dani Lyndersay (UWI, St Augustine)

“Children and Nature: The Link to a Healthier Planet”
Doreen Jodhan (UWI, St Augustine)

Arts-in-Action
7.00-9.00 pm

SPECIAL EVENT and CLOSING RECEPTION