



ECONOMIC VALUE OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IN JAMAICA: THE CASE OF EMANCIPATION PARK

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Since the Emancipation Park was declared open on July 31, 2002 by the Honourable Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. P.J. Patterson, it has been put to multiple uses, beyond the scope of any ordinary park, not only by residents of Jamaica but also by visitors to the island. Apart from the traditional beautiful scenery that a park offers, the Emancipation Park provides an added 500-metre working/jogging trail and a pavilion for hosting staged shows and concerts. The park, therefore, serves not only as a place to relax, rewind, and rejuvenate, but also as a place for physical activities, cultural shows and parties.

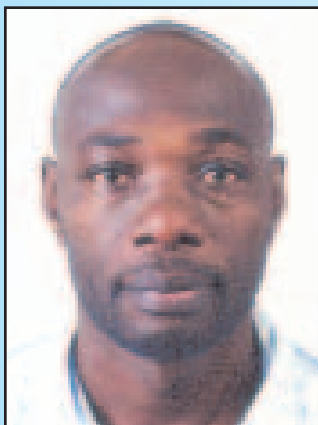
By all indications, it is hard to dispute the fact that the Emancipation Park has been well embraced and put into use by the public. Along this line, an evaluation of the economic value of the park becomes desirable and may serve as a yardstick for future investments in public goods by the government. However, as with all public parks, patrons are not charged a user-fee, and putting an economic value on the park may not be a straight forward task. This research project is designed to elicit information from the park users in an attempt to put an economic value on the park. This valuation will be based on individual user's perception of the benefits that they derive from the use of the park's facilities and their willingness to pay for the benefits.

The research will also provide useful information on the demographic characteristics of the park's patrons and how they utilize it for their various activities. The findings from this study will not only be useful in guiding future investments in public infrastructure, but will also be beneficial to government agencies and non-governmental organizations, with responsibility for social services, in assessing the relative benefits of the Emancipation Park pertaining to recreational and physical activity and violence reduction. ■





THE DETERMINANTS OF MIGRANT TRANSFERS IN THE CARIBBEAN AND POLICIES TO ENHANCE AND SUSTAIN SUCH FLOWS FOR DEVELOPMENT: THEORETICAL AND EMPIRICAL CONSIDERATIONS



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This research project seeks to determine the factors responsible for total resource flows from Caribbean migrant communities to the region, at the micro and macro-levels, and to examine ways to encourage the sustenance of these flows for economic development. It will also examine the extent of public policy towards the diaspora in the Caribbean and best practices in other regions.

It is expected that this research will make available, a body of theoretical and empirical research work to explain the factors influencing migrant transfers to the Caribbean and show their impact on economic development. The study will draw on the knowledge of a wide network of persons, such as the "Caribbean Diaspora and Economy Research Group", who are engaged in teaching and research in this area, in an attempt to develop a better understanding of migrant resource flows to the Caribbean. It will assemble resource material comprising both macro and micro data, to provide a stronger basis for policy analysis. It will also provide the opportunity for a new course to be introduced on the economics of migrant resource flows and how these impact on economic and social development.

The findings to date suggest that although a significant portion of remittances to the region is spent on consumption there is also an important investment component. In fact, remittances have a clear impact on the generation of domestic capital which is so crucial to growth in the Caribbean. The findings also revealed that policies toward interest and exchange rates can influence the level of remittance flows, and it is therefore important for public policy makers to be sensitive to these dynamics.

Four papers have so far been completed and submitted for publication. They are:

Alleyne D., Kirton, C. & Figueroa, M. 2005. "The Determinants of Migrant Remittances: The CARICOM Experience". Submitted to the Association of Caribbean Economists (ACE). [22 pages]

Alleyne D., Kirton, C. & Figueroa, M. 2005. "Macroeconomic Determinants of Migrant Remittances Caribbean Countries: Panel Unit Roots and Co-integration. Submitted to *Journal of Developing Areas*. [16 pages]

Alleyne D., 2005. "Motivations to Remit In CARICOM: A GMM approach". Submitted to *Journal of Economic Studies* [20 pages]

Alleyne D., G. McLeod, C. Kirton and M. Figueroa 2004. "Short-Run Macroeconomic Determinants of Remittance Flows to Jamaica 1983.1-2001.4." Submitted to the *Social and Economic Studies* [18 pages]. ■



THE CHANGING ROLES OF FATHERS IN THE CONTEXT OF JAMAICAN FAMILY LIFE



Principal Researcher:

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This study examined current attitudes and behaviour of a cross-section of Jamaican men regarding their fathering roles, and assessed how far these characteristics have changed from the patterns documented by the researcher thirteen years ago. The project sought to locate such changes within the wider context of socio-historical and cultural changes in Jamaica, and in relation to the growing movement around Fathers' rights. Funding for the project was obtained through a grant from the Planning Institute of Jamaica's Research Agenda Programme.

The first phase of the project dealt with qualitative work, the second phase entailed the design and testing of two new scales to measure masculinity and the extent of identification with the father role, and the third phase involved a survey of men in four communities.

The qualitative work entailed focus-group discussions with fathers from two social classes - based on occupation level, and two age-groups. The discussions revealed that within both classes, there was a repeated definition of the father's role as "being there" for the child. This was in contrast to earlier studies, which reported that the father's role was defined primarily as economic provider.

Among the middle class fathers, there was evidence of continued gender differentiation in the rearing of boys and girls, with the father's role being that of a mentor for boys and support for girls. Among the working class, the Father role seemed to be that of a master status, so that once they had decided to publicly declare this role, they were now recognized as "a good man" and as "someone you can trust". The importance of the father role in providing motivation and direction was made explicit by the working class sample - "being a father gives me the drive to survive".

The earlier research conducted in 1991 had shown that, contrary to popular opinion, Jamaican Fathers identified strongly with their role as a father, although this was not always expressed directly in the level of their involvement in "father-work". Subsequent research on gender socialization had shown that there remain quite distinct patterns of rearing boys and girls, (Brown and Chevannes, 1998; Chevannes, 2001). The result was a strong cultivation of traditional "macho" attitudes among young males, which was reinforced by community attitudes. It was therefore decided to investigate the extent to which involvement in fathering activities is related both to macho attitudes and to the strength of the emotional identification with the father role. This investigation was approached through the design of two scales, the Macho scale and the FatherId scale, which were tested with two groups of fathers from the middle and working classes. These new scales have been incorporated into the original questionnaire used in the 1991 study, and it is currently being administered in the four selected communities.

The factor analysis of the scales suggested that the Macho Scale comprises three dimensions, namely, male dominance, virility, and female subservience.



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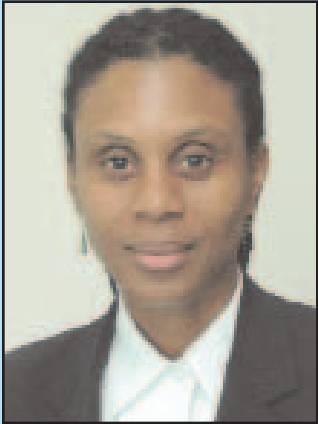
The FatherId scale comprises three dimensions, namely, core father values, image as a father, and primordial needs.

The data from the Item Test of the two scales suggests that the attitudes which Jamaican men express in regard to both masculinity and father identification vary with social class. Both of these sets of attitudes were held more strongly by working class males in comparison to middle class males. The most consistent relationships were found between levels of macho and father identification, as this was observed for the entire sample as well as for the individual social class groups. The preliminary analysis pointed to the likelihood that fathering activity is greatest among those males who display low macho and high fatherId.

While it would be premature to suggest any recommendations at this stage of the Study, the initial findings point in a significant direction, as macho attitudes are seen to play an important part in shaping the relationship between father identification and actual fathering activity. If further investigation supports this tentative finding, it would imply that programmes currently directed at improving parenting among males may be too narrowly focused. To improve the situation of children, it may be more important to encourage males to change traditional attitudes based on male dominance, than it is to encourage further identification with the fathering role. ■



THE RIGHT TO LINGUISTIC NON-DISCRIMINATION AND CREOLE LANGUAGE SITUATIONS: THE CASE OF JAMAICA



Principal Researcher:
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The research project, the Prohibition of Discrimination on the Ground of Language, is part of a wider research programme on the enforcement of language related rights. This project came about as a response to concerns raised by the Joint Select Committee of Parliament on the Charter of Rights Bill during its 2001 deliberations about the legal ramifications of a proposal to add 'language' as a basis upon which discrimination would be constitutionally prohibited. Based on the Joint Select Committee's discussions, it was expected that 'language' would include Jamaican Creole.

The aim of this research project is to explore the nature and extent of the legal obligations that are likely to arise for the State if this Right was to be given constitutional effect in our language situation, where Creole monolinguals and Creole-dominant speakers constitute a significant part of the Jamaican population. It draws upon legal decisions and principles emanating from other jurisdictions, and upon trends in international law in the areas of language discrimination, and evaluates the applicability of such principles to the Jamaican language situation.

The research findings indicate that the sociolinguistic circumstances in Jamaica are materially distinct from those in jurisdictions where legal issues regarding language discrimination tend to arise. Interestingly, this distinction strengthens the legal case for adoption by the State of a bilingual (English/Creole) communication model in State-citizen communication. However, the findings also revealed that the absence of a consistent writing system and the current lexical capacity of Jamaican Creole are likely to provide legitimate arguments for retaining an English monolingual state communication model.

It was also shown that the strength of such legal arguments would be reduced considerably given language planning efforts undertaken by the Jamaican Language Unit, established in 2003 as an adjunct to the Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy at the Mona Campus. The study found that it is unlikely that a legal challenge to the State's practice of requiring proficiency in English as a selection criterion for employment in the state bureaucracy would be successful. In addition, certain language-related requirements in some Acts of Parliament may be found to be inconsistent with a constitutional linguistic non-discrimination provision.

Although the precise impact of the proposed constitutional provision on the education sector is unpredictable, the research showed that there is reluctance by the courts to grant remedies requiring bilingual approaches in education. ■



AN ETIOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR IN CARIBBEAN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Principal Researcher:

Dr. Claudette P.J. Crawford-Brown

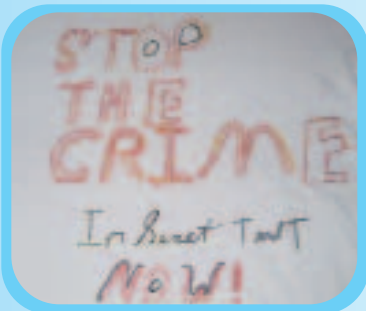
Department of Sociology,
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This research project seeks to use a predictive model of criminal behaviour developed by the writer, (and published in the literature), to provide a multi-modal etiological framework for understanding the development of criminal and violent behaviour in children and adolescents in two Caribbean territories, namely Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The model investigates the psycho-biological and psycho-social foundations put forward in the literature as being associated with the early development of criminal behaviour in children and adolescents in Jamaica. This predictive model suggests that it is the interaction of a number of specific variables during childhood and adolescence which accounts for the development of criminal behaviour in later adolescence and adulthood. This model offers a framework which allows for up to 3 interacting variables to exist together in one individual situation, whereas much of the literature tends to do a uni-dimensional analysis of causality.

An earlier study on the subject used a sample of one hundred and forty adolescents. The present research project tests this model with a much larger sample of children and adolescents in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, which will allow for greater generalizability regarding possible aetiology.

Preliminary findings suggest that some of the most significant interacting variables isolated as contributing to criminal behaviour were, presence of mother, degree of contact with mother, degree of contact with father, and the presence and severity of the behaviour problems exhibited during childhood. Other variables which proved to be important but not as significant included presence of father, presence of a negative parental role model and the presence of negative role models in the community. The findings point to the use of a wide range of interventions targeting those variables and the attitudes and behaviours associated with them, to prevent criminal behaviour in children and adolescents.

The information emanating from this research should have far-reaching implications for curriculum development as well as social and educational policy in terms of models of violence prevention and reduction within the family, school and community. ■



An eleven year-old child attending the camp, makes a plea to persons to stop the violence in Trinidad and Tobago.



Drawing done by a 15 year-old adolescent attending the special camp in Trinidad and Tobago in August 2005, to express his views on the mindset of criminals in his community.



Children from an inner-city primary school in Kingston, Jamaica, involved in outdoor therapy at the UWI Violence Prevention Programme (UWI VPP), Mona.



Auntie Claudette, Coordinator of the UWI VPP, Auntie Bev and Auntie Ingrid, Social Worker and Psychologist from Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs, join a group of children and mentors from Lavantille in singing Parang an old Calypso song at Lopinot, in Trinidad. This activity was part of an initiative called "A Breath of Fresh Air" used to intervene with over 200 children attending a special camp organised as part of a joint effort between the Ministry's Youth Affairs Unit and the UWI Social Work programme in Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica, in August 2005, to explore effective counselling interventions for children at risk for violence.



CARIBBEAN ECONOMIC THOUGHT: ESTABLISHING A FIRMER FOUNDATION FOR THE FIELD OF STUDY



Principal Researcher:
Dr. Mark Figueroa
Department of Economics

This project seeks to contribute to the consolidation of the history of Caribbean Economic Thought as an established field of study through the compilation of a critical mass of scholarly work. Collaborative relationships have been established with colleagues working on Caribbean thought at other universities. The work contemplated relates closely to recent initiatives to position the UWI, Mona Campus as a centre for the study of Caribbean culture and, more specifically, a centre for the study of Caribbean ideas.

The project will result in various publications and conference papers on the history of Caribbean Thought while coordinating a team of researchers engaged in similar activities. So far the greatest interest has been elicited from Cuban colleagues, and a programme to translate and publish the works of English-speaking Caribbean economists in Spanish is ongoing. There was also a presentation by the main Cuban collaborator Graciela Chailloux at the Centre for Caribbean Thought's 4th 'Caribbean Reasonings' on, "The Thought of New World: The Quest for Decolonization", held on the Mona Campus in June, 2005.

The main research findings to date have provided further evidence that the Caribbean has a rich tradition of economic thinking, both academic and pre-academic. While there are many common aspects to Caribbean history, each language area and major territory within these areas has evolved in ways that are sometimes quite distinctive. Significant texts and individuals have been identified throughout the history of Caribbean thought that merit detailed study beyond what has been undertaken thus far.

The material produced by this project will be used in the teaching of the history of Caribbean ideas across the region. By pursuing a pan-Caribbean approach this project should contribute to greater regional understanding and cooperation in the field of research and teaching in Economics, as well as, to the understanding of how economic policy has developed in the past and what directions may be possible in the future.

A website has been established at <http://acecet.uwimona.edu.jm/> where papers related to the project can be found. The following papers were authored under this project:

- *Thought and Freedom: Thirty-five Years After* in **Independent Thought and Caribbean Freedom: Essays in Honour Lloyd Best**, ed. by Selwyn Ryan, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, 2003 pp. 35-70;
- *W. Arthur Lewis's Legacy: Industrialization or Agricultural Development?*, in **The Manchester School of Social and Economic Studies**, 2004, 72, 6, pp. 734-48;
- *W. Arthur Lewis's Social Analysis and the Transformation of Tropical Economies*, in **Social and Economic Studies** December 2005 (accepted for publication);
- *George Cumper and the Critical Tradition: Common Themes in Post World War Two Caribbean Economic Thought and Recovering the Caribbean Intellectual Tradition: the Case of Economic Thought* (under review for publications);
- *City Confronts Its Problems: Kingston's Mayor Anderson's 1938 Economic and Industrial Conference, and Lewis, New World and the Marxists in a Neo-Liberal World: Reflections on the Critical Tradition in Caribbean Economic Thought* (conference papers not yet submitted for publication). ■



THE SOCIAL AND AESTHETIC FOUNDATIONS OF POPULAR JAMAICAN MUSIC, 1952 TO 1972

Principal Researcher:
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Department of Government

This research project examines the social bases of popular Jamaican music, namely: Ska, Rock Steady and Reggae. The study traces the development of the Sound System which had its roots in the interaction between the rural and urban poor and later manifested itself in the cross roads music and dance cultures of inner-city Kingston. The study also looks at the legacy of the Sound System particularly in relation to its role in the genesis of popular Jamaican music and the recording industry.

One aspect of this research project included several interviews that were conducted with a wide range of participants in the making of this expression of Caribbean cultural identity, which makes the study essentially a reconstruction of the social history of Jamaica during the period, 1952 to 1972. The research also involved field work on various aspects of traditional Jamaican music such as Kumina, Revival, Mento and Gere. The study will document the contribution of the traditional music to the aesthetic foundations of popular Jamaican music. ■



A traditional musician in the kumina tradition, St. Thomas.



Leroy Sibbles - singer, arranger - one of the most important bass line creators in popular Jamaican Music.



ENVISIONING CARIBBEAN FUTURES



Principal Researcher:
Professor Brian Meeks
Department of Government

The aim of this project is to explore the possibilities for Caribbean development in the medium term, that is, over the next half-century or so. Jamaica is utilized as the primary case study, though comparative examples are drawn from other Caribbean territories. The methodology is interdisciplinary and seeks to engage with the critical tradition in Caribbean thought as well as the burgeoning literature on globalization and contemporary world systems theory. The conclusions will suggest both immediate, practical pathways out of the present impasse described as a moment of 'advanced hegemonic dissolution' and concrete approaches to an enhanced democratic political economy for the first half of the twenty first century.

The study is conceived in three parts. Part one, entitled, '*Explorations in New Caribbean Thought*', attempts to clear a theoretical and methodological path through a process of critical engagement with a selection of contemporary Caribbean theorists.

In Part two, entitled '*Jamaica: Beyond Neo-Liberal Infatuation*', the present moment Jamaica is located within the context of contemporary globalization and an avenue is proposed to escape the impasse.

In Part three, entitled 'Caribbean Futures', the proposals for 'escape from impasse' are elaborated along with suggestions for new political and economic options for the twenty first century.

Drafts of parts one and two have been completed, and two somewhat different 'ideas drafts' have been published:

1. "Envisioning Caribbean Futures" *Social and Economic Studies*, vol. 52 no. 4, May/June 2003, pp. 165-187.
2. "Caribbean Futures", *The Integrationist*, vol. 2 no. 1, June 2004, pp. 54-65.

Also, two versions of "Explorations in New Caribbean Thought" have been presented:

1. *The Thought of New World: The Quest for Decolonisation*, Centre for Caribbean Thought, UWI Mona, June 16-18, 2005.
2. Brown University, *Africana Intellectual Thought Seminar*, Brown/UWI Mona University of Cape Town, September 2005. ■



STRENGTHENING CARIBBEAN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE: INSTITUTIONAL DIMENSIONS



Principal Researcher:
Professor Trevor Munroe
Department of Government

This completed research project examined some of the challenges facing democratic governance in the Caribbean, as a result of developments associated with corruption, illicit narcotics-trafficking, and more generally, from corporate globalization. On the basis of this study, a range of policy-relevant recommendations were developed for use in the ongoing efforts to reinforce strengths and reduce weaknesses in Caribbean democratic governance.

The research findings point to a "clear and present danger" for Caribbean democratic governance posed by the power-imbalances in corporate globalization, the immensity of illicit narcotics-trafficking and corruption-related crime. Nevertheless, real strengths in the Caribbean democratic systems were re-confirmed by the research, particularly in relation to the deep foundations of competitive party politics, a highly developed freedom of the press and an increasingly active civil society. The research concludes that, under prevailing circumstances, urgent reforms are needed to sustain democratic governance in the region. It therefore proposes a menu of measures for institutional transformation relating primarily to the criminal justice system, legislative-executive relations, labour market reform, political finance reform and differential treatment of small island states in the international community.

There are ongoing efforts to present these findings to the scholarly community, policy makers and international development partners through a series of conferences, workshops and symposia. It is anticipated that the findings will not only advance academic research and theorizing on the Caribbean but will also contribute to the elaboration and implementation of urgent reforms in Caribbean democratic governance. Consequently, much use has been made of the research in debates in the Jamaican Senate and in Joint Select Committees of the Jamaican Parliament.

Below is a list of the papers and publications that emanated from this research project:

1. National Integrity Systems - Country Study Report: Caribbean Composite 2004
2. Press Release - Transparency International - T1 report on Jamaica calls for party finance reform and clampdown on corruption in public procurement
3. National Integrity Systems - Country Study Report - Jamaica 2003
4. National Integrity Systems - Transparency International Questionnaire - Jamaica 2003
5. "Governance under threat: the impact of corruption and the fight against corruption" in *Governance in the Age of Globalization: Caribbean Perspectives* - Ed. by Dennis Benn and Kenneth Hall, Ian Randle Publishers 2003 Kingston. pp 369-382.
6. "The Menace of Drugs in Caribbean Security" in *Caribbean Security in The Age of Terror* -Ed. by Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith - Ian Randle Publishers, Kingston/Miami 2004. Pages 154-174
7. State of the Nation Debate - Senate, Parliament of Jamaica, June 25, 2004 Presentation



STRENGTHENING CARIBBEAN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE: INSTITUTIONAL DIMENSIONS

8. Jamaica Stock Exchange Symposium - "Gearing Jamaican Companies for the 21st Century" - Grand Jamaican Suite, Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Tuesday June 22, 2004.
9. The Third Regional General Conference of the Caribbean -Ombudsman Association - "The Ombudsman and Parliament" - Breezes, Runaway Bay, Jamaica, May 10-14, 2004.
10. Jamaica Chamber of Commerce - Board of Directors Meeting - April 20, 2004 - "The Partnership For Progress - the Trade Union Perspective"
11. University of Technology - School of Business Administration - HRM Conference "The Social Partnership: The Implication for the Management of Human Resources" - April 1, 2004.
12. Patriots West - Public Lecture Series -"Political Parties in Jamaica - The Way Forward" - November 20, 2003 at the Montego Bay Community College.
13. Conference on the 30th Anniversary - Of the Caribbean Community - The University of the West Indies Mona - Panel: New Conceptions of Regional Governance. "Strengthening the national foundations for regional governance" - October 18, 2003.
14. "Corporate Globalization and Caribbean Labour Policy" at 1st Caribbean Labour Policy Conference - Labour & Employment Relation Policies for the New Caribbean Economy - Mona School of Business, UWI, Mona Campus, April 5, 2003. ■



AN INVESTIGATION INTO CHILD SHIFTING AND ITS EFFECTS ON JAMAICAN CHILDREN



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Child shifting is not heavily researched in Jamaica. The existing literature implies that it is a culturally accepted coping mechanism used by poorer Black families when they cannot provide adequate care and protection for their children. The few studies done on this phenomenon have shown both benefits and harm to the shifted children. This research project seeks to investigate the prevalence of child shifting in a lower-middle class high school, and to describe the composition of the households in which these children live. Information will be collected to show patterns of shifting based on age of initial shift, number of shifts, gender differences, and average duration of shift. The benefits and harms of child shifting will also be investigated using various psychological scales on family functioning, psychological wellbeing and attachment.

Work has been carried out on the design and development of a screening instrument which will be administered to all students at the school to separate shifted and non-shifted groups. The sample will comprise children 11-17 years old mainly from the lower to lower-middle socioeconomic class. The control group and 'treatment' group will then be selected randomly, each with 25 children. The control group will comprise a matched group of children from the same school who have never been shifted. Data have already been collected from the children through structured interviews. There will also be interviews held with parents or caregivers to verify the information given by children.

As child shifting is a regular practice among Jamaicans, it is necessary to determine whether it is beneficial or harmful to the children involved, and under what conditions it may be beneficial or harmful. The existing literature implies that although children may move to more economically stable homes, they may experience feelings of abandonment and anxiety as to when they will see their parents again. If child shifting is found to be beneficial, the government should formulate policies that seek to entrench the practice through the provision of support and care for children of poor families at the community level. If the practice is found to be more harmful, the government should enforce sanctions against the practice. Despite the type of policy adopted by the Government, increased monitoring of shifted children is required. ■