

# National Survey of Street & Working Children

## REPORT

Prepared for:

**The Child Support Unit  
Ministry of Health**



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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The National Survey on Street and Working Children was aimed at gathering quantitative and qualitative data on the nature, magnitude, conditions, causes and consequences of child labour in Jamaica. It should cover sufficient territory that, when supplemented with previous studies, one should begin to analyse the problem on a national level, as opposed to a specific geographic region.

The typical street child (and any other category of working children) is a thirteen year-old boy from a female-headed household of five, where his guardian is marginally employed - as a vendor, domestic helper, self employed or unskilled worker.

Boys outnumber girls by a proportion of 70:30. Children are engaged in child labour on the streets, at home or in commercial establishments from as young as three or four years old, but the vast majority (83%) are in the 11-17 age group, the remaining 17% being below this age. The average (mean and modal) age of a working child is 13 years.

The average age at which the children in the sample started working is just before their eleventh birthday. The figure of 347 new child labourers in the sample represents a 45% increase in the incidence of child labour over the last twelve months. It is possible, however, that this could be offset somewhat by the number of children leaving the world of child labour.

Child labour in Jamaica remains primarily a part-time activity, taking place outside of school hours, for the most part. There is clearly a problem of low levels of literacy among at least a third of the population of working children, however – without considering the daily attendance record of those seeming to be fulltime students.

The vast majority of child labourers work with the consent of their parents or guardians – including street children.

From the data, one can assert that there is a minimum of 2,818 street and working children in the areas of concentration across the island, however, the total number may be as high as 6,448, based on informed estimates.

Forty-three percent (43%) of child labourers spend their income on the basic necessities of food and clothes, suggesting primarily a survival motivation for working. Just under a third give all or some of their earnings to their parents or other members of their family.

Interestingly, more children enter into child labour of their own volition than are forced into it by economic destitution: 40% of respondents, as opposed to 31.5%. Of course, the motivation for the child taking such a decision is quite often the state of the household finances. The state (i.e., the educational system, the state of the Children's Homes, etc.), family crisis, child abuse and peer pressure, in that order, can be considered the minor causes of child labour, together accounting for 13% of the children entering into this

activity. Each will weight more heavily with one or another category of working children, however.

Notwithstanding the part-time nature of child labour in Jamaica, they tend to put in more than a full day's labour. On the days of the week that they do work, they work eight hours on average (mean and modal). Twenty-five percent (25%) of them work 15 hours or more on hustling days – especially market children.

In examining the specific conditions of street children, we need to distinguish between 'children of the street' and 'children on the street'. We find that a majority of the former (58.5%) would like to be able to go home and only a quarter of their number have no desire to visit home. Unfortunately, less than 40% of them are able to go home.

Street Children are mainly involved in vending activities (42%), selling various services (15%), such as handcart deliveries, car tending and windshield wiping, and in begging (4%). Other activities take on greater importance in particular geographic regions, for example, fishing in Downtown Kingston and in the fishing villages, sexual exploitation in the tourist centres and Uptown Kingston, and odd jobs in the rural townships.

The fact that 19% of street children claimed to fear no one and 10% nothing, attests to their acquired hardiness and bravado, in order to be able to survive on the street. However, they are not immune to the ills of the society, as 18% of them state their main fear to be of attack by gunmen on the street. Bullies who prey on them for their "hustlings", pickpockets among their number and 'bad men' hold out the greatest terror to 20% of street children. The national security forces, "metro" (metropolitan police) and the fear of their goods being seized by the latter constitute the greatest fear of 15.5% of them.

Their modal income is \$500 per day, with reported earnings as low as \$20 and as high as \$7,000.

The majority of domestic workers (51%) stay home to do housework at their own homes; 22% do so to baby-sit a younger sibling; 10% work outside their own homes for others; and eight percent (8%) skip school not primarily to work, but primarily because of the prevailing economic conditions. Only 28% of domestic and agricultural helpers are regularly paid. Another 24% receive monetary rewards sometimes, while 48% receive none at all. The modal wage, however, is only \$500 per week and the mean wage even lower, at \$424. This is compared to an average daily wage of \$500 for a street child, on the days that he/she works.

Shop assistants, bar and supermarket workers amount to 44% of commercial employees. Apprentices to tradesmen make up 19% and agricultural labourers<sup>1</sup>, 12%. The majority of them work mainly in their free time (51.5%); a high proportion – 28% - work full-time, and 11% work when they have a job to do. Thankfully, over 90% of them receive cash

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to labourers on commercial farms such as sugar and large banana plantations, as opposed to peasants' small-holdings.

rewards. The mean wage is \$1,423, which would appear to compare favourably with the minimum wage, when one considers that the average worker labours only on weekends.

The profile of sexually exploited children shows those involved in straight “business” to be the most numerous (35%). Exotic dancers amounted to 23.5%, and those performing favours as escorts comprise 12%. Other services, such as massages and homosexual acts, seem to be well represented, together combining for 29% of the sample.

The usual starting age for this kind of activity is age thirteen. The minimum starting age given is age nine. Their main influences for engaging in this line of activity are: the attractive monetary rewards, an impossible domestic situation (including abuse of all kinds) and the love of one’s body.

Two of every three students “hanging out” are candidates for the world of child labour. The mean daily earnings of these truants and vagrants are \$382, with a maximum of \$2,000 reported. Their primary motivation, however, remains having fun, rather than earning an income. But up to a third of them could be motivated by monetary considerations.

Nine percent (9%) of all working children do not know whether they were registered at birth and 10% are sure that they were not. Similarly, 12% do not know whether they have been immunized and six percent (6%) are sure that they are not.

Sixty-three percent (63%) of street children and other working children report having suffered various illnesses over the past twelve months. These were usually of a general nature, such as flu, fever and colds. However, as many as eight percent (8%) of those reporting illnesses suffered from breathing problems. Nearly a half of these children did not see a doctor or visit a clinic.

When broken down by category, we see that the ‘domestic workers’ category has the highest level of disaffection, with only 27% of these children being pleased with being forced to engage in largely unpaid domestic labour at the expense of their education. At the other extreme, a majority (55%) of commercial employees were happy with their circumstances, while only half that number was decidedly unhappy.

When asked what they would most like to be doing, if given a choice, a third indicated that they would like to continue working, but (in the case of 27% of them) with better jobs. Another 19% would like to receive training and technical assistance to enable them to find creative employment as entertainers, dance-hall fashion designers, cosmetologists, professional sportsmen, etc.

On the other hand, a quarter of them would prefer the life of normal children, having fun, going to school regularly and living in a comfortable home, conducive to study and play. Twenty-three percent (23%) of them still had aspirations to the premium professions, including as pilots, air stewardesses, lawyers, doctors, engineers, teachers and nurses.

## **1. METHODOLOGY**

The National Survey on Street and Working Children was aimed at gathering quantitative and qualitative data on the nature, magnitude, conditions, causes and consequences of child labour in Jamaica. It should cover sufficient territory that, when supplemented with previous studies, one should begin to analyse the problem on a national level, as opposed to a specific geographic region.

The survey involved a mix of research methods:

- i. Key Informant Seminars
- ii. Registration and Sample Survey of Street & Working Children
- iii. Registration and Sample Survey of Working Children from School Attendance Records
- iv. Focus Group Meetings

### **Key Informant Seminars**

These were organized in the pilot parish of St. Catherine and in each of the four Ministry of Health regions from two years ago. All social workers concerned with street children, whether working with child care agencies of the state or NGOs, were invited to identify the locations, estimate the numbers, and discuss the causes, nature and consequences of child labour in their respective areas of operation.

### **Registration and Street Survey**

This exercise as well as the school's survey were carried out in those parishes and towns identified by the Key Informants as having a significant number of street and working children. Due to financial constraints, however, we excluded those zones where research on the problem had been carried out previously, specifically, in four baseline studies commissioned by the ILO/IPEC. Further, we did not attempt to carry out a full interview a la questionnaire with all working children identified. Rather, we attempted to carry out a registration of all such children and exhaustive interviews with a limited number of them in each location. Trained Interviewers were assisted by Child Guides, i.e., child labourers themselves, who helped to put them in touch with their peers.

Interviewers were guided by Dr. Claudette Crawford-Brown's<sup>2</sup> definition of working children: all children under age 18 who work. "Their work may involve some form of manual labour, or the provision of services, with or without remuneration, for all or part of the week, inside or outside of the family. The conditions of this work are exploitative and damaging to their health and development."

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<sup>2</sup> C. Crawford-Brown. Working Children in Jamaica: Towards Problem Definition and Effective Social Service Delivery. UWI, Mona, 1994

### **Registration and Schools' Survey**

A small sample of primary, all-age and comprehensive high schools were selected from the regions being researched. Guidance Counsellors were asked to examine the attendance records and, from among those children with a consistent pattern of absenteeism, attempt to identify and list the child labourers. They were also asked to do complete interviews with a limited number of the latter.

### **Focus Group meetings**

A limited number of these were carried out with various categories of child laborers, in an attempt to gain more qualitative insight into the conditions of particular types of child labour and how they affected various sexes.

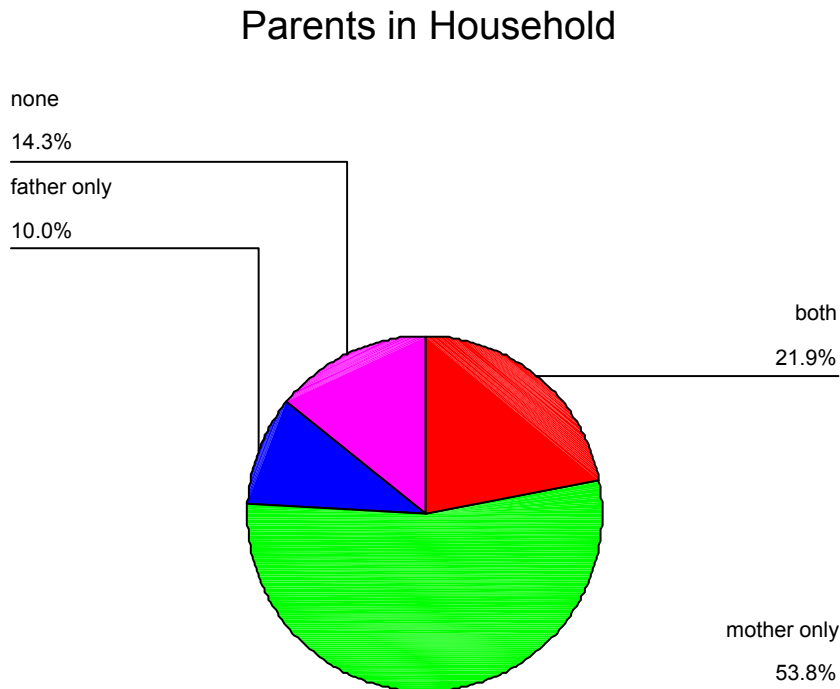
## 2. SOCIAL ORIGINS

The typical street child (and any other category of working children) is a thirteen year-old boy from a female-headed household of five, where his guardian is marginally employed, as a vendor, domestic helper, self employed or unskilled worker.

Boys outnumber girls by a proportion of 70:30. Children are engaged in child labour on the streets, at home or in commercial establishments from as young as three or four years old, but the vast majority (83%) are in the 11-17 age group, the remaining 17% being below this age. The average (mean and modal) age of a working child is 13 years.

The mean household size is five persons, but 38% of respondents claim to belong to larger households, of up to 20 persons. Only 22% of these households have both parents residing at home: 54% of street/working children live with mother only and 10% with father only – representing a significant proportion of “deadbeat moms”. Fourteen percent of child labourers do not live with either parent.

Figure 1: Number of Parents in Household



Twenty-seven percent of guardians of child labourers, who also happen to be household heads, are themselves unemployed. The rest can be described, in the main, as marginally employed: street or market vendors account for another 23.5%, while nearly 40% consist of: domestic helpers, self-employed, unskilled workers, farmers, construction tradesmen, skilled workers, “hustlers” and security guards.

Table 1: Occupation of Parent/Guardian of Street Children.

	Frequency	Percent
Unemployed	251	29.2
Vendor	202	23.5
Domestic helper	82	9.5
Self Employed	56	6.5
Unskilled Worker	47	5.5
Farmer	46	5.4
Construction/tradesman	43	5.0
Skilled Worker	36	4.2
Hustler	17	2.0
Security Guard	12	1.4
Shop Assistant	10	1.2
Taxi Operator	9	1.0
Cook	7	.8
Clerk/Cashier	7	.8
Babysitter	5	.6
Mechanic	5	.6
Public Servant	4	.5
Factory Worker	3	.3
Retired	3	.3
Tailor	2	.2
Teacher	2	.2
Dancer	1	.1
Hairdresser	1	.1
Nurse	1	.1
Office Worker	1	.1
Other	6	.7
Total	859	100.0

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

<b>Types of working children</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Children of the street	60	5.2
Children on the street	620	53.3
Beach children	40	3.4
Bush children	8	0.0
Market children	205	19.6
<b>Total Category: Street Children</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>80.3</b>
Domestic/Agricultural helpers	193	16.6
<b>Total Category: Domestic helpers</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>16.6</b>
Apprentices	37	3.2
Commercial & Industrial workers	92	7.9
<b>Total Category: Commercial Employees</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>11.1</b>
Sexually exploited children	17	1.5
<b>Total Category: Sexually exploited</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Truants	44	3.8
Others	-	
<b>Total Category: Others</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>1162</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

“Children on the street” refers to children who work on the street but go home to sleep. They constitute a majority of all working children (53%). “Children of the street”, on the other hand, refers to children who both work and live on the streets. They constitute 5% of all working children. A large proportion of street children work in the markets (20%), many assisting their parents, surrogate parents or other relatives to sell their produce or transport goods for vendors or customers. The sample of “beach children”, of 3.4% of the sample, may be understated since we avoided duplicating the areas surveyed by Degazon Johnson in studying this phenomenon. On the contrary, the sample shows that the phenomenon of “bush children” is statistically insignificant.

The next most numerous category of child labourers, after street children, is that of domestic helpers, including those who stay home sometimes to work on the family plot and those who stay home to work at home or for others, with or without compensation in cash or kind. They constitute 17% of the national sample.

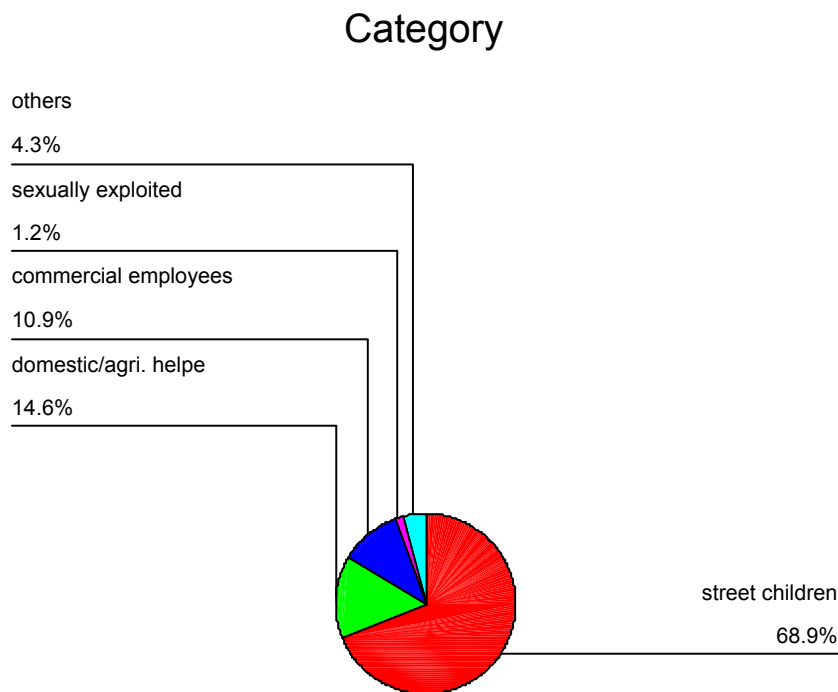
Commercial employees, including Apprentices, constitute a very significant 11% of the population of child labourers. They comprise primarily shop assistants and trolley boys at supermarkets and wholesale establishments. This is the category of work envied by every street boy.

Sexually exploited children constitute only 1.5% of our sample; again, because this phenomenon was studied more extensively in other ILO studies, hence we did not duplicate the areas surveyed.

Finally, “other” child labourers amounted to 4% of sample. These comprised mainly children “hanging out” after, before or during their school shift to have fun and, sometimes, beg, steal, or earn a dollar. It is a source and form of apprenticeship for more serious future child labourers. Their numbers may be understated, however as we sought to exclude those who “hung out” purely for fun and did not engage at all in child labour, hence interviewed only a small sample.

The following chart represents the respective proportions of responses, as opposed to respondents; hence they differ from those shown in the table above:

Figure 2: Proportions of Various Categories of Working Children in Total.



The distribution of street and working children in the main centres across the island (excluding those parishes/zones covered in the ILO surveys) is as follows:

Table 2: Number of Working Children, by Parish/Zone and Category.

	Street children	Category			Sexually exploited	Others	Total
		Domestic/agri. helpers	Commercial employees				
St. Catherine	169	91	32	1	11	304	
Uptown Kgn.	41		12	1	6	60	
Downtown Kgn.	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	

St. Catherine would appear to have the worst problem, especially when one notes that the parish capital, Spanish Town, is excluded, having been covered by a previous survey. Not surprisingly, it is closely followed by Downtown Kingston, including the Three Miles and Cross Roads areas. Here they are mainly congregated around the markets. They are most visible in the Uptown Kingston zone, but the sample does not bear this out. This is partly because of the problems encountered in enumerating the children in the New Kingston area, which was essentially not done. But it also is accounted for by the children's "going underground", due to the heightened activity of the security forces in this zone.

Clarendon and St. Ann would appear to have the worst problem outside the island's primate metropolitan area of Kingston, St. Andrew and St. Catherine. Important sections of the latter parish are excluded from the sample, having been covered by previous surveys. Surprisingly, Manchester appears not to lag far behind and is included in the group of parishes or zones having hundred of street and working children.

The remaining parish of St. Mary does not appear to have above average numbers of child labourers. (In fact, this parish could be used as a proxy for those parishes not considered as having sufficient child labourers for inclusion in the survey.)

Table 3: Number of Working Children, by Sex.

Category		Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Street children	Count	598	203	801
	% within Category	74.7%	25.3%	100.0%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	79	91	170
	% within Category	46.5%	53.5%	100.0%
Commercial employees	Count	99	28	127
	% within Category	78.0%	22.0%	100.0%
Sexually exploited	Count	2	12	14
	% within Category	14.3%	85.7%	100.0%
Others	Count	33	16	49
	% within Category	67.3%	32.7%	100.0%
Total	Count	811	351	1162
	% within Category	69.8%	30.2%	100.0%

The problem of street and working children is largely a problem affecting boys, with the important exception of particular categories of working children. There is a 70:30 split in the overall population between boys and girls, respectively. It is even more skewed towards boys in the predominant category of street children – 75:25. The pattern is the same for commercial employees, with boys outnumbering girls 78:22.

The proportions are reversed in the domestic helpers and sexually exploited children categories, with girls outnumbering boys. The girls/boys divide is a relatively close 53.6:46.5 in the former category, exploding the fallacy of the lack of involvement by boys in housework, including babysitting. Sexually exploited children remains largely a female phenomenon, at a split of 86:14. One should not consider 14% of sexually exploited being boys an insignificant proportion, however.

Table 4: Length of Working Life of Child Labourers.

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 1 year	347	31.1
1-2 years	359	32.2
More than 2 years	408	36.6
Total	1114	100.0

The average age at which the children in the sample started working is just before their eleventh birthday. The levels of experience in child labour are fairly evenly divided between those only recently engaged in the activity (i.e., under one calendar year), those engaged in the activity for between one or two years and those working for three or more years of their young life. The figure of 347 new child labourers in the sample represents a 45% increase in the incidence of child labour over the last twelve months.

Table 5: Last Occasion that Working Children Attended School.

	Frequency	Percent
This week	598	50.9
Last week	199	16.9
2-4 weeks ago	69	5.9
1-6 months ago	69	5.9
More than 6 months ago	241	20.5
Total	1176	100.0

Child labour in Jamaica remains primarily a part-time activity, taking place outside of school hours, for the most part. Sixty-eight percent (68%) of respondents reported attending school during the current or previous week, while 20% reported not attending school for at least six months. This latter group can safely be considered dropouts. The remaining 12%, with their pattern of very irregular school attendance, could be considered as being on the verge of dropping out. There is clearly a problem of low levels of literacy among at least a third of the population of working children, therefore – without considering the daily attendance record of those seeming to be fulltime students.

Table 6: Number of Children Receiving Parental Consent for Working, by Category.

Category		Parental Consent		Total
		Yes	No	
Street children	Count	650	113	763
	% within Category	85.2%	14.8%	100.0%
Domestic/ agri. helpers	Count	114	27	141
	% within Category	80.9%	19.1%	100.0%
Commercial employees	Count	100	16	116
	% within Category	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%
Sexually exploited	Count	5	8	13
	% within Category	38.5%	61.5%	100.0%
Others	Count	22	19	41
	% within Category	53.7%	46.3%	100.0%
Total	Count	892	183	1075
	% within Category	83.0%	17.0%	100.0%

The vast majority of child labourers work with the consent of their parents or guardians – including street children. The notable exceptions are the ‘sexually exploited’ children category, where they receive the endorsement of only 38.5% of parents, and the category comprising mainly student truants and vagrants, whose activity is endorsed by only a small majority (54%) of the parents.

#### 4. MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM

It should be noted that we did not do a random sample of street/working children, from which one could scientifically extrapolate for the island as a whole. This was not our primary focus, but rather, to locate them in the areas where they were concentrated, in order to be able to work with them to ameliorate the problem and its worst causes and consequences. The national survey, therefore, was a survey of areas of concentration of street and other working children which were not covered by previous surveys. The quantitative data, therefore, need to be supplemented by data from these other surveys to get a national picture. Even then, they should be regarded as minimal data on the magnitude of child labour, as the areas of low concentration including half the number of parishes, are still not accounted for, except through estimates.

The following table attempts to give this strict accounting, from the number of working children interviewed or registered, as well as an estimate of the actual magnitude of the problem. The estimates are taken, firstly, from the Key Informants' seminars, in areas where we did not do a survey: secondly, estimates from the ILO surveys; and finally, from Interviewers who were not able to do a complete survey/registration of their assigned areas.

Table 7: Number of Street & Working Children, Calculated from Survey Data.

<b>Parish/Zone</b>	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Estimated</b>
Spanish Town	241	1120
St. Catherine (Portmore, Linstead, Old Harbour)	419	419
Old Harbour Bay/Rocky Point	-	2000
Downtown Kingston	283	283
Uptown Kingston	88	150
St. Ann	273	273
St. Mary	90	120
Manchester	289	289
Clarendon	394	394
Montego-Bay/Negril	-	800
Westmoreland	-	100
St. Thomas	-	100
Portland	-	100
St. Elizabeth	-	100
Hanover	-	100
Trelawny	-	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2818</b>	<b>6448</b>

Notes: 1. The total for "registered" is calculated by adding the estimates for parishes not enumerated in any of the studies.

2. Spanish Town figures taken from ILO baseline survey by Workermanagement Services Centre & Children First, 2001.

3. Old Harbour/Rocky Point estimate taken from ILO study by Degazon-Johnson, 2001
4. Montego Bay/Negril estimate taken from ILO study by Wint & Madden, 2001.

From the above data one can assert that there is a minimum of 2,818 street and working children in the areas of concentration across the island, however, the total number may be as high as 6,448, based on informed estimates. The Key Informant seminars had estimated 3,000 street/working children in the areas of concentration.

We could also attempt to calculate the magnitude of the problem by extrapolating from the findings of the School's Survey as below:

Table 8: Number of Working Children, Estimated from Schools' Survey.

<b>Schools</b>	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Working</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Crescent All-Age	2496	30	1.2
Horizon Park Primary & Jnr. High	1304	49	3.75
Whitemarl Primary & Jnr. High	999	100	10.0
Central Barnch All-Age	855	24	2.8
Vauxhall Comprehensive High	1399	11	0.8
Frankfield Primary	1225	16	1.3
Edwin Allen Comprehensive High	2224	19	0.85
Steer Town Primary & Jnr. High	906	8	0.9
Unity Primary	1373	7	0.5
TOTAL	11,782	164	1.4
JAMAICA	350,000	4,900	1.4

- Notes:
1. Whitemarl is excluded when calculating the total, due to the wide disparity between the proportion of working children found here and that found in other schools.
  2. School registration figures taken from Distribution of Guidance Counsellors in the School System. Min. of Education & Culture Guidance Counselling Unit, 1999.
  3. Registration figure for island taken from Social Indicators Monitoring System, 1994 Annual Report, PIOJ, 1996.

The national figure of some 5,000 (bearing in mind the staleness of the registration statistics) is calculated by applying the coefficient of 1.4% to the national registration of children between six and sixteen. A finding of the survey, however, was that 20.5% of working children were not registered in school. When one compensates for this, the national figure rises to 6,369, which compares more closely to the estimate given in the previous table.

Even this latter estimate might seem conservative to many persons working in the field. We applied very strictly the definitions of street and working children given in Chapter 1, as we were very concerned about not overstating the magnitude of the problem. As a result, we rejected a number of interviews/registrations when it could not be ascertained that the children were on the street or at home for the purpose of working – not including

taking care of their own babies or boy-friends. Thus, several children who are a legitimate concern of the child Support Unit and social workers were excluded.

## 5. CAUSES, CONDITIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

A clue to the reasons why children work is provided by the ends to which the rewards for that labour are put.

Table 9: Objects of Expenditure by Street and Working Children.

	Frequency	Percent
Spend on food	388	37.4
Spend on clothes	60	5.8
Give it all to family	232	22.4
Give some to family	96	9.2
Spend on others	1	.1
Spend on video games/gamble	7	.7
Save	97	9.3
Attend school	135	13.0
Other	22	2.1
Total	1038	100.0

Forty-three percent (43%) spend it on the basic necessities of food and clothes, suggesting primarily a survival motivation for working. Just under a third give all or some of their earnings to their parents or other members of their family. One could safely assume that the decision to work was not entirely the decision of these children, but was heavily influenced by their caregivers or by the state of their families' fortunes. The prime motivation of 13% of working children would appear to be to assist in sending themselves to school. By this reasoning, therefore, poverty could be regarded as the cause of child labour for 88% of working children.

Only one percent (1%) of working children could be said to engage in wasteful expenditure: those who spend it on video games or gambling and those who spend it on others (usually of the opposite sex). Most of the remainder claim to save their earnings for necessary expenditure, usually on school lunch, clothes or supplies. Their prime motivation for engaging in child labour has more to do with economic independence than survival.

### **Push Factors**

Based on the responses of children to the question of what precipitated their involvement in child labour, we have collapsed the several causes into the following direct "push factors".

- The state – primarily because of the failure of the educational or child care system;
- The consequences of actions of parents, such as neglect, migration or directly sending their children out on the streets;
- Physical, sexual or emotional abuse, including by parents or guardians – usually leading to the child running away from home and being forced into child labour;
- Peer pressure;

- Destitution –i.e., being forced unto the streets to supplement the inadequate income of the household, often following the laying off of the principal caregiver;
- Those who enter into child labour primarily of their own volition, in order to help out their parents or to become more independent themselves; and
- Those entering as a direct result of a family crisis like the illness or death of the principal caregiver.

Table 10: Push Factors Directly Responsible for Children’s Entry into Child Labour, by Category.

		Push Factors							Total
		State	Parents	Abusers	Peers	Destitution	Own volition	Family crisis	
Street children	Count	34	101	13	14	234	312	25	733
	% within Category	4.6%	13.8%	1.8%	1.9%	31.9%	42.6%	3.4%	100.0%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	4	22	6		48	39	3	122
	% within Category	3.3%	18.0%	4.9%		39.3%	32.0%	2.5%	100.0%
Commercial employees	Count	11	21	5	1	32	46	3	119
	% within Category	9.2%	17.6%	4.2%	.8%	26.9%	38.7%	2.5%	100.0%
Sexually exploited	Count	1	6	1	1	2	1	2	14
	% within Category	7.1%	42.9%	7.1%	7.1%	14.3%	7.1%	14.3%	100.0%
Others	Count	2	9		5	5	10	2	33
	% within Category	6.1%	27.3%		15.2%	15.2%	30.3%	6.1%	100.0%
Total	Count	52	159	25	21	322	408	35	1022
	% within Category	5.1%	15.6%	2.4%	2.1%	31.5%	39.9%	3.4%	100.0%

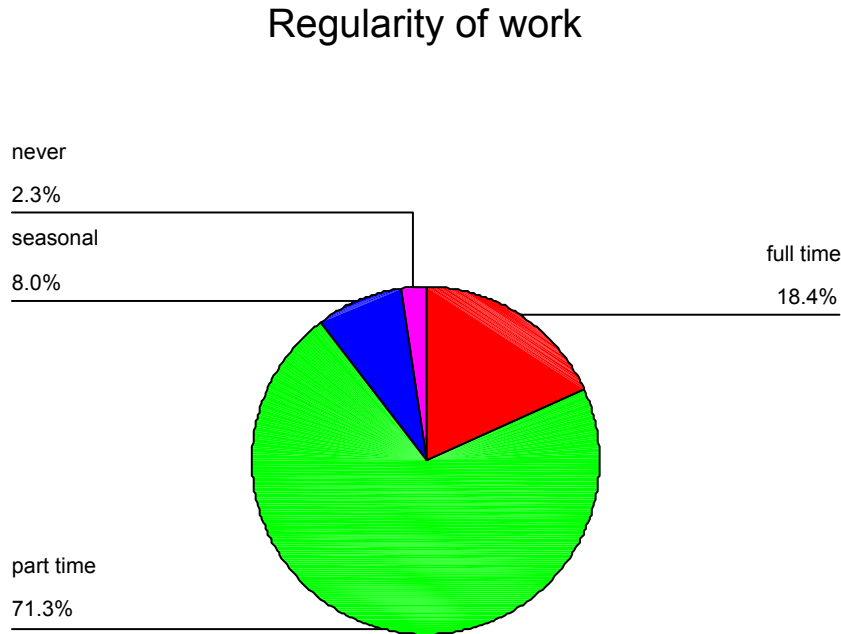
Interestingly, more children enter into child labour of their own volition than are forced into it by economic destitution: 40% of respondents, as opposed to 31.5%. Of course, the motivation for the child taking such a decision is quite often the state of the household finances. These are the two primary causes for entering into child labour for most categories of working children. The notable exception is the category of sexually exploited children, the prime precipitating cause of whose exploitation is the action of parents. This is the third most significant direct cause of child labour.

The state, family crisis, child abuse and peer pressure, in that order, can be considered the minor causes of child labour, together accounting for 13% of the children entering into this activity. Each will weight more heavily with one or another category of working children, however.

Table 11: Regularity of Work by Child Labourers.

	Frequency	Percent
Full time	205	18.4
Part time	794	71.3
Seasonal	89	8.0
Never	26	2.3
Total	1114	100.0

Figure 3: Regularity of Work by Child Labourers.



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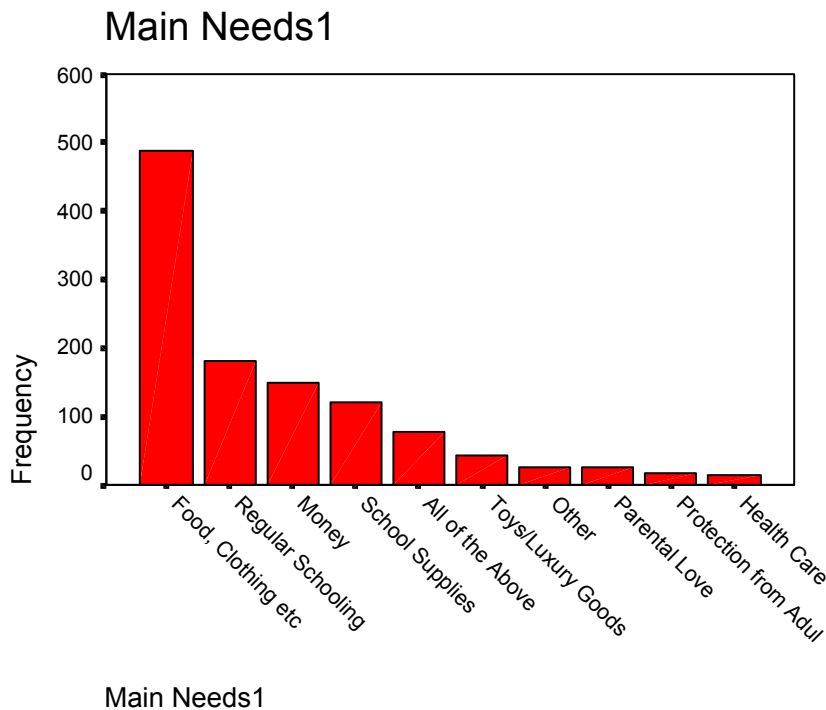
In examining the working conditions of child labourers generally, we find that most work part-time, while attending school the rest of the time, however irregularly. Only 18% are full-time workers. Added to the 71% of part-time workers are another eight percent (8%) who work only seasonally – during the holidays, at planting time or crop time. A small proportion, of two percent (2%) hang out on the streets, but do not normally work.

Notwithstanding the part-time nature of child labour in Jamaica, they tend to put in more than a full day's labour. On the days of the week that they do work, they work eight hours on average (mean and modal). Twenty-five percent (25%) of them work 15 hours or more on hustling days – especially market children.

Table 12: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

	Frequency	Percent
Food, Clothing etc	489	42.9
Regular Schooling	180	15.8
Money	150	13.1
School Supplies	120	10.5
All of the Above	78	6.8
Toys/Luxury Goods	43	3.8
Other	27	2.4
Parental Love	25	2.2
Protection from Adults	16	1.4
Health Care	13	1.1
Total	1141	100.0

Figure 4: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.



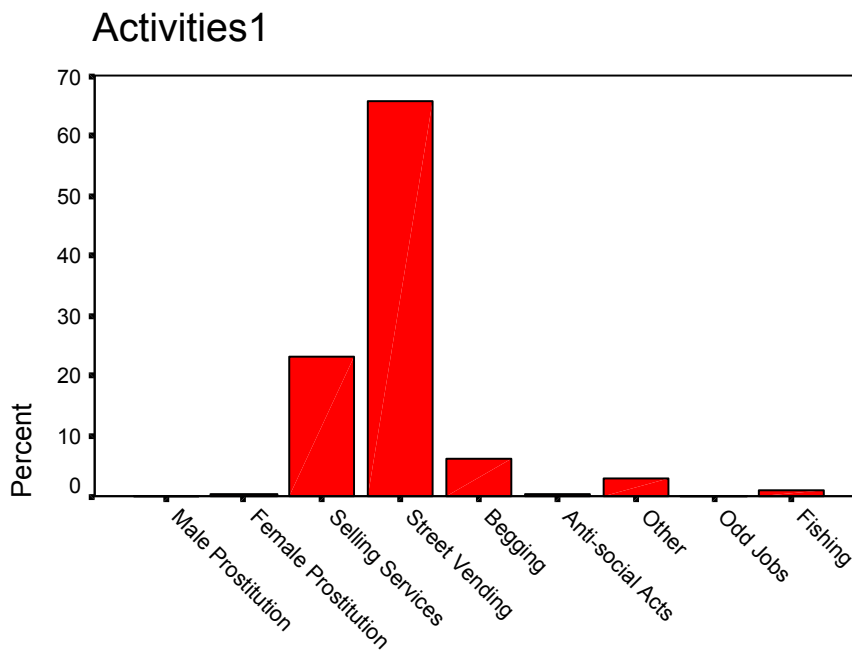
The basic survival needs of food, clothing and shelter are the predominant requirements of 43% of street and working children. The other primary needs mentioned by a significant proportion of working children all are associated with enabling the child to attend school or skill training: regular schooling (16%), money (13%) and school supplies (10.5%)

## Street Children

In examining the specific conditions of street children, we need to distinguish between ‘children of the street’ and ‘children on the street’. We find that a majority of the former (58.5%) would like to be able to go home and only a quarter of their number have no desire to visit home. Unfortunately, less than 40% of them are able to go home.

Street Children are mainly involved in vending activities (42%), selling various services (15%), such as handcart deliveries, car tending and windshield wiping, and in begging (4%).

Figure 5: Activities of Street Children.



Activities1

Other activities take on greater importance in particular geographic regions, for example, fishing in Downtown Kingston and in the fishing villages, prostitution in the tourist centres and Uptown Kingston, and odd jobs in the rural townships.

The hazards of the job are borne out in the fears of street children:

Table 13: Worst Fears of Street Children.

	Frequency	Percent
No-one	129	19.1
Gunman	119	17.6
Bullies Who Rob Them	79	11.7
Police/Soldier	78	11.5
Nothing	65	9.6
Mad Men	44	6.5
Pickpockets	31	4.6
Bad Men	28	4.1
Public	27	4.0
Goods being seized	27	4.0
Violence	17	2.5
Accident/car	11	1.6
Other	7	1.0
Sexual Predator	4	.6
NR	4	.6
Coke Head	4	.6
Cart-men	2	.3
Total	676	100.0

The fact that 19% of street children claimed to fear no one and 10% nothing, attests to their acquired hardiness and bravado, in order to be able to survive on the street. However, they are not immune to the ills of the society, as 18% of them state their main fear to be of attack by gunmen on the street. One could add to this the 2.5% who feel particularly vulnerable to violence in the society.

Bullies who prey on them for their “hustlings”, pickpockets among their number and ‘bad men’ hold out the greatest terror to 20% of street children. The national security forces, “metro” (metropolitan police) and the fear of their goods being seized by the latter constitute the greatest fear of 15.5% of them.

The other two fears suffered by a significant proportion of street children are: a fear of the public, who are often cruel to them both physically and verbally, and the fear of being injured on the street in accidents, mainly involving motor vehicles. (One should not forget that some of them are too young to be on their own on the street.)

Their modal income is \$500 per day, with reported earnings as low as \$20 and as high as \$7,000. A number of them who accompanied older relatives or worked for others, tended to state the daily take of the enterprise, as opposed to their personal income. The maximum income given would probably represent the case of a child working for a drug enterprise.

Table 14: Persons/Organisations that Assist Child Labourers.

	Frequency	Percent
No One	246	49.8
Friends/Family	162	32.8
Community	43	8.7
Church	28	5.7
Other	8	1.6
Teacher	4	.8
Family Abroad	3	.6
Total	494	100.0

Half the number of street children survive entirely on their own with assistance from no one and no institution. One-third the number of respondents reported receiving assistance from friends and family. Members of the community or of particular churches lent a helping hand to street children.

### **Domestic/Agricultural Helpers**

As regards domestic helpers, the following are the reasons given by them for regularly absenting themselves from school:

Table 15: Reasons Given by Domestic Workers for Absence from School.

	Frequency	Percent
Working at Home	89	51.4
Babysitting	38	22.0
Working for others outside home	17	9.8
Socio-economic deprivation	14	8.1
Working on family farm	5	2.9
Street vending	4	2.3
No good reason	4	2.3
Transporting to market	2	1.2
Total	173	100.0

The majority of them (51%) stay home to do housework at their own homes; 22% do so to baby-sit a younger sibling; 10% work outside their own homes for others; and 8% skip school not primarily to work, but because of the prevailing economic conditions. Only three percent (3%) reported staying home to work on the family plot; while 2% engaged in vending activity at home or at the gate while doing their domestic chores.

Table 16: Number of Domestic Workers Paid for their Labour.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	50	28.1
No	85	47.8
Sometimes	43	24.2
Total	178	100.0

Only 28% of domestic and agricultural helpers are regularly paid. Another 24% receive monetary rewards sometimes, while 48% receive none at all. The modal wage, however,

is only \$500 per week and the mean wage even lower, at \$424. This is compared to an average daily wage of \$500 for a street child, on the days that he/she works.

### **Commercial Employees**

In the case of commercial employees, the job types break down as follows:

Table 17: Types of Jobs Done by Commercial Employees.

	Frequency	Percent
Shop Assistant	47	35.1
Other	33	24.6
Apprentice	26	19.4
Agricultural Labourer	16	11.9
Bar/supermarket Worker	12	9.0
Total	134	100.0

Shop assistants, bar and supermarket workers amount to 44% of this category of child labourer. Apprentices to tradesmen make up 19% and agricultural labourers<sup>3</sup>, 12%. The majority of them work mainly in their free time (51.5%); a high proportion – 28% - work full-time, and 11% work when they have a job to do. Thankfully, over 90% of them receive cash rewards.

The mean wage is \$1,423, which would appear to compare favourably with the minimum wage, when one considers that the average worker works only on weekends. Nevertheless, only 37% of respondents thought that they received equal wages for equal work with adults. Most commercial employees, however, receive some pay in kind:

Table 18: Number of Commercial Workers Receiving Some Payment In Kind.

	Frequency	Percent
Meals	31	32.6
Nothing	30	31.6
Clothes	9	9.5
Educational Assistance	9	9.5
Goods	3	3.2
Room and Board	1	1.1
Other	12	12.6
Total	95	100.0

A third of these commercially employed children receive meals from their employees; just under 10% receive clothes and the same proportion assistance with their educational needs. A small proportion receives goods, while 13% receive other forms of assistance.

Just under 40% of employed children claim to receive the same benefits afforded to adult employees, such as health and national insurance, but over 60% deny being entitled to

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<sup>3</sup> This refers to labourers on commercial farms such as sugar and large banana plantations, as opposed to peasants' small-holdings.

these perquisites. Eleven percent (11%) reports witnessing or experiencing injuries on the job, from stabbing and physical attacks.

### **Sexually exploited children**

The profile of sexually exploited children shows those involved in straight “business” being the most numerous (35%). Exotic dancers amounted to 23.5%, and those performing favours as escorts comprise 12%. Other services, such as massages and homosexual acts, seem to be well represented, together combining for 29% of the sample.

Table 19: Types of Work Done by Sexually Exploited Children.

	Frequency	Percent
"Business"	6	35.3
Exotic Dancer	4	23.5
Escort Service	2	11.8
Other	5	29.4
Total	17	100.0

The usual starting age for this kind of activity is age thirteen. The minimum starting age given is age nine. Their main influences for engaging in this line of activity are: the attractive monetary rewards, an impossible domestic situation and the love of one’s body.

Nearly all sexually exploited children report having to engage in extra acts, which leaves them more vulnerable to STDs and sado-masochists.

### **Others**

In respect of student vagrants and truants, the following are the ways that they hang out during or after classes:

Table 20: Ways in which Student Truants and Vagrants Kill Time.

	Frequency	Percent
Hanging out at mall	14	31.8
Gambling in games room	12	27.3
Hanging out on the corner	5	11.4
Playing sports	5	11.4
Swimming in river/canal	2	4.5
Beach combing	1	2.3
Taxi/bus touring	1	2.3
Other	4	9.1
Total	44	100.0

The favourite places to congregate, as we see, are: at the mall, in the games room, on the corner with the corner crew, or on the sports ground. The first three are breeding grounds for various anti-social acts.

Two of every three students “hanging out” are candidates for the world of child labour, as the following table demonstrates;

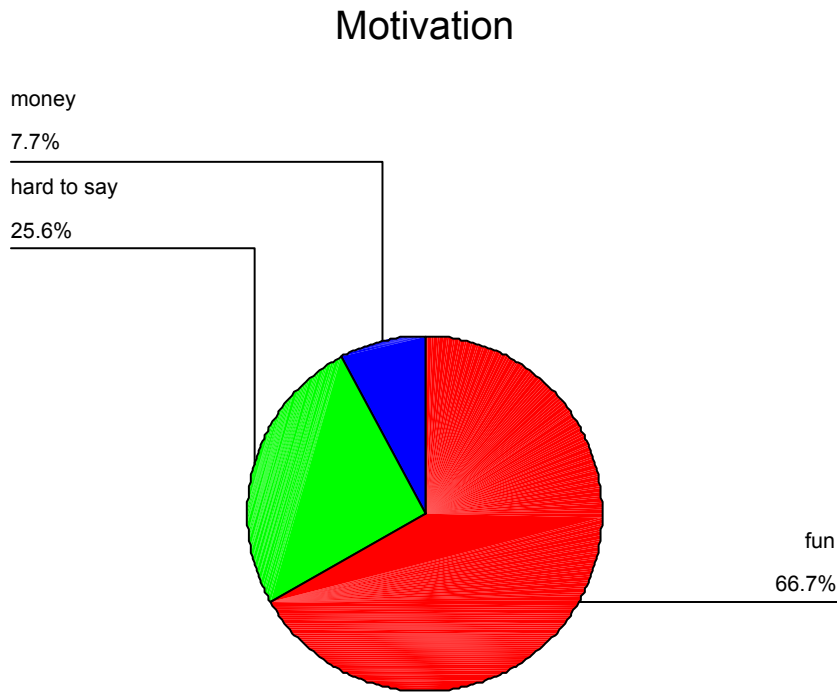
Table 21: Work Status of Truants/Vagrants.

	Frequency	Percent
Paid sometimes	24	55.8
Never paid	14	32.6
Paid most times	5	11.6
Total	43	100.0

The mean daily earnings of these truants and vagrants are \$382, with a maximum of \$2,000 reported.

Their primary motivation, however, remains having fun, rather than earning an income. But up to a third of them could be motivated by monetary considerations.

Figure 6: Primary Motivation of Students for Playing Truant or “Hanging Out” after School.



## Health and Emotional State

Nine percent (9%) of all working children do not know whether they were registered at birth and 10% are sure that they were not. Similarly, 12% do not know whether they have been immunized and six percent (6%) are sure that they are not.

Sixty-three percent (63%) of street children and other working children report having suffered various illnesses over the past twelve months. These were usually of a general nature, such as flu, fever and colds. However, as many as eight percent (8%) of those reporting illnesses suffered from breathing problems. Nearly a half of these children did not see a doctor or visit a clinic.

The following are the ailments reportedly suffered.

Table 22: Ailments Experienced by Street and Working Children over the Past Twelve Months.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	532	68.5
Breathing Problem	65	8.4
Eye Infection	25	3.2
Accident	21	2.7
Ear Infection	18	2.3
Skin Problem	15	1.9
Back Problem	12	1.5
STD/HIV-AIDS	9	1.2
Anaemia	4	.5
Other	62	8.0
Won't Say	14	1.8
Total	777	100.0

Notwithstanding the conditions mentioned above, 43% of street and working children reported being happy with their life as working children, as opposed to a marginally lower proportion of 41%, who were decidedly unhappy with their circumstances. Over 14% were ambivalent.

Table 23: Level of Contentment with Working Life, by Category.

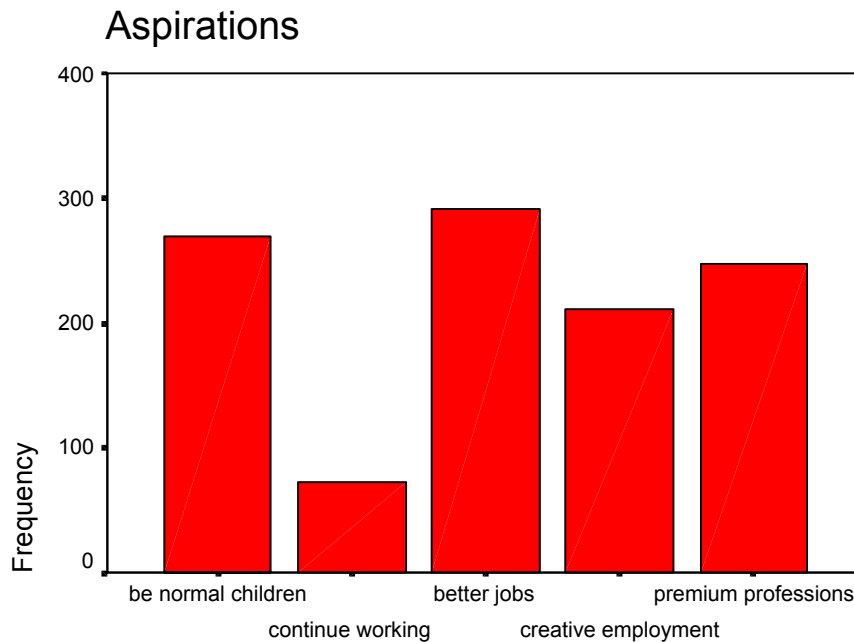
Category			Contentment Level			Total
			Happy	Unhappy	Not sure	
Street children	Count		345	333	102	780
	% within Category		44.2%	42.7%	13.1%	100.0%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count		40	80	27	147
	% within Category		27.2%	54.4%	18.4%	100.0%
Commercial employees	Count		67	32	22	121
	% within Category		55.4%	26.4%	18.2%	100.0%
Sexually exploited	Count		5	6	3	14
	% within Category		35.7%	42.9%	21.4%	100.0%
Others	Count		20	11	5	36
	% within Category		55.6%	30.6%	13.9%	100.0%
Total	Count		477	463	159	1099

When broken down by category, we see that the ‘domestic workers’ category has the highest level of disaffection, with only 27% of these children being pleased with being forced to engage in largely unpaid domestic labour at the expense of their education. At the other extreme, a majority (55%) of commercial employees were happy with their circumstances, while only half that number was decidedly unhappy.

When asked what they would most like to be doing, if given a choice, a third indicated that they would like to continue working, but (in the case of 27% of them) with better jobs. Another 19% would like to receive training and technical assistance to enable them to find creative employment as entertainers, dance-hall fashion designers, cosmetologists, professional sportsmen etc.

On the other hand, a quarter of them would prefer the life of normal children, having fun, going to school regularly and living in a comfortable home, conducive to study and play. Twenty-three percent (23%) of them still had aspirations to the premium professions, including as pilots, air stewardesses, lawyers, doctors, engineers, teachers and nurses.

Figure 7: Aspirations of Victims of Child Labour.



Aspirations

Table 24: Activity of Choice of Working Children.

	Frequency	Percent
Professional	183	15.2
Go to school	168	13.9
Solider/Police/Fireman	104	8.6
Footballer/Cricketer	81	6.7
Mechanic	81	6.7
Tradesman	75	6.2
Entertainer	58	4.8
Skilled Worker	50	4.1
Cosmetologist	49	4.1
Pilot	42	3.5
Continue working	39	3.2
Own Business	38	3.2
Having fun	35	2.9
Air Hostess	22	1.8
Stable/Better Job	21	1.7
Fashion Designer	19	1.6
Stay at home	19	1.6
Clerk	13	1.1
Spend Time Studying	12	1.0
Shop Assistant	7	.6
Nothing	4	.3
Stop working	1	.1
Other	34	2.8
Don't know	47	3.9
No Response	4	.3
Total	1206	100.0

## PARISH ANALYSIS: ST. CATHERINE

### I. Parish Profile: Numbers and Areas of Concentration

A total of 303 street and working children were interviewed in the settlements of Portmore, Linstead and Old Harbour. Spanish Town and Old Harbour Bay were not enumerated, as they were the subject of an ILO/IPEC survey done less than a year previously. In that earlier survey, 290 working children were interviewed in Spanish Town and 60 in Old Harbour Bay, making St. Catherine the parish with the largest concentration of working children.

Of the 303 working children found in St. Catherine in the current survey, some 220 were found in Portmore. The communities in Portmore with significant numbers of street and working children include: the Lakes Pen dump, Portmore Villa/Lesser Portmore, Portmore Lane/Swaby Lane, Newlands, Braeton and Hellshire Beach.

The following table breaks down the number of working children found in each of the three townships, by category of working children.

Table 1.1: Number of Working Children by Major Town and Category.

Category		Town			Total
		Portmore	Linstead	Old Harbour	
Street children	Count	91	40	33	164
	% within town	41.4%	95.2%	97.1%	55.4%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	90			90
	% within town	40.9%			30.4%
Commercial employees	Count	27	2	1	30
	% within town	12.3%	4.8%	2.9%	10.1%
Sexually exploited	Count	1			1
	% within town	.5%			.3%
Others	Count	11			11
	% within town	5.0%			3.7%
Total	Count	220	42	34	296
	% within town	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The table shows that more than a half of all working children could be classified as street children, another 30% as domestic and agricultural helpers and 10% as employees of commercial establishments. The children found in Linstead and Old Harbour were almost exclusively street children, working primarily in the market. On the other hand, those found in Portmore were evenly divided between street children (not including market children) and domestic helpers – each comprising 41% of the total. A further 12% comprised commercial employees. It should be noted, however, that the domestic helpers interviewed were found loitering – if not working – on the streets.

In the main, these children are to be found on the streets vending or begging, in the markets, in shopping plazas and on the beach.

Table 1.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Town.

**Category \* Location \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Location					Total
town	Category		Market	Shopping Plazas	Beach	Vending Streets	Other	
Portmore	Category	street children		5	19	52	15	91
		domestic/agri. helpers		12	3	70		85
		commercial employees			1	26		27
		sexually exploited				1		1
		others				11		11
	Total			17	23	160	15	215
Linstead	Category	street children	18			22		40
		commercial employees				2		2
	Total	18			24		42	
Old Harbour	Category	street children	33					33
		commercial employees	1					1
	Total	34					34	

As mentioned previously, nearly all working children in Linstead and Old Harbour were to be found in the market of those towns. In Portmore, the street children are to be found primarily on the main streets, with a sizeable number on the (Hellshire) beach and somewhat less in the shopping malls. Those children who were kept out of school to perform tasks around the house were interviewed mainly in the streets of those communities where this problem was predominant and, to a lesser extent, in the shopping plazas. Commercial employees were also found and interviewed in the streets on which their enterprises were located.



Most of the children interviewed worked only part-time and considered themselves full-time students. In Portmore, however, 44 of the 172 respondents were working full-time, 14 worked seasonally, mainly at Christmas and during the Independence holidays for back-to-school purposes.

Table 1.3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Town.

**Category \* Regularity of work \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Regularity of work				Total
town	Category		full time	part time	seasonal	never	
Portmore	Category	street children	28	51	6		85
		domestic/agri. helpers	8	38	5	7	58
		commercial employees	7	16	3		26
		sexually exploited	1				1
		others		2			2
	Total		44	107	14	7	172
Linstead	Category	street children	1	39			40
		commercial employees		1			1
	Total		1	40			41
Old Harbour	Category	street children	2	31			33
		commercial employees		1			1
	Total		2	32			34

The ratio of boys found working on the street or elsewhere was only slightly higher than girls.

Table 1.4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category.

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
Category			male	female	
street children	Count		105	59	164
	% within Sex		60.3%	48.4%	55.4%
domestic/agri. helpers	Count		39	51	90
	% within Sex		22.4%	41.8%	30.4%
commercial employees	Count		22	8	30
	% within Sex		12.6%	6.6%	10.1%
sexually exploited	Count		1		1
	% within Sex		.6%		.3%
others	Count		7	4	11
	% within Sex		4.0%	3.3%	3.7%
Total	Count		174	122	296
	% within Sex		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The breakdown by type (category) of working children shows a greater degree of gender stratification. Sixty percent (60%) of male child labourers were street children (including market and beach children), 22% domestic helpers and nearly 13% commercial employees. Of the female child labourers, just under half their number were street children, a slightly lower proportion (42%) were domestic helpers and under 7% were commercial employees.

Most street children to be found in St. Catherine can be classified as “children on the street”, i.e., working but not living on the street. Only seven (7) “children of the street” – i.e., children living and working on the street – were interviewed, one in Old Harbour and the other six in Portmore.

Table 1.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile and Town.

**Resting-place \* Sex \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Sex		Total
town			male	female	
Portmore	Resting-place	home	62	23	85
		street	6	1	7
	Total		68	24	92
Linstead	Resting-place	home	20	21	41
	Total		20	21	41
Old Harbour	Resting-place	home	17	16	33
		street	1		1
	Total		18	16	34

It should be noted, however, that not all children who reported sleeping in a house most nights were in fact living at home with their parents or guardians. Several were, in fact, living on their own, with or without parental consent.

## II. Community Profiles

The following comprise brief profiles of the market towns of Linstead and Old Harbour and the communities within Portmore that were listed above as having a significant child labour problem.

### Linstead

All working children interviewed were to be found in the market or in the vicinity of the market. They tended to be children accompanying their parents or an older relative from a tender age (as low as four years of age) and assisting them or, later, vending for themselves or assisting customers to transport goods in handcarts.

A limited selection of cases requiring personalised intervention by social workers or benevolent agencies follows. (The names are fictional, to protect the innocent.)

- *Vanessa Oliver*, 13 years – High school student forced to sell on the street.
- *Nikiesha Henry*, 12 years – High school market vendor from out of town; lives in fear of her schoolmates seeing her.
- *Phylicia Duncan*, 12 years – Sells in the market for herself and others, because friends have money and she wants some of her own.

**Personal Profile: Nikiesha Henry, 12**

Lives in Spanish Town with a family of four; sells flowers, clothes and slippers in the Linstead market on Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, because she “has no father” and no money to go to school. She gives the proceeds of her sales to her mother, amounting to about \$300 per day on average. She suffers with her heart and has a problem with her navel. She is happy helping her mother, but her schoolmates tease her at school. She would ideally like to be able to go to school full-time.

## Old Harbour

The profile of child labourers is the same as that of Linstead (i.e., market children).

### Selection of Some Cases Worthy of Special Intervention:

- *Suzette Howell*, 13 years – Mother mad, so has to help aunt send her to school.
- *Nemal Donaldson*, 15 years – Graduated from primary/all-age school; no opportunity to further his formal education or training.
- *Kevin Shaw*, 14 years – Mother sick with stroke.

**Personal Profile: Suzette Howell, 13**

Lives with her aunt, because her mother is mentally unstable. Has to help her aunt send her to school by selling store fittings in the Old Harbour market on Saturdays. Earns about \$1000 on the average day. Her main needs are: books, tuition fee, lunch money, clothes and food. She used to be physically abused by her mother. Her main fear is of taxis that drive too fast. Sometimes receives assistance from teachers at her school. She is happy helping her aunt and does not know what else she would rather do.

## Lakes Pen Dump

Children scavenge on the dump for substances like iron and copper. There is a high degree of asthma cases.

### Sample of Cases Requiring Special Intervention:

- *Craig Hayles*, 15 years – Father dead.
- *Munchy*, 6 years – Infant thief.
- *Richie*, 6 years – Handicapped; has never attended school.

**Personal Profile: Craig (13) and Marlon (15) Hayles**

Their father was shot and killed by the police three years ago. They have been left to fend for themselves since, with a little assistance from their grand-mother. They live with friends in a household of twelve. They both scavenge on the dump, sell ackees, mango and bag juice about three days weekly and Marlon sometimes makes building blocks. They estimate their average daily earnings as \$500 each. They would both love to be able to go to school but, in addition to everything else, their birth certificates were lost in a fire. They are both sexually active, with multiple sex partners, using no contraceptive. Craig has been physically abused; they both carry a weapon and Graig has been knocked out once. His greatest fear is of Shanga the mad man, while Marlon fears no-one on the streets.

**Portmore Villa/Lesser Portmore**

This is a squatter community where several children are forced to stay home and do tasks around the house and generally fend for themselves, mainly by fishing in the canal, begging and working as grooms at Caymanas Park. There is a high degree of teenage pregnancies.

Sample of Cases:

- *Kirk Daley*, 17 – Dropped out of school because he is a “slow learner”, fishes in the canal and works as groom.
- *Tajay Griffiths*, 9 – Sight impaired; washes and cleans for others.
- *Lincoln Marshall*, 15 – Helps jerk chicken man and is rewarded with a serving.
- *Yanique Smith*, 11 – Accompanies her mother to do day’s work as domestic.
- *Joseph McFarlane*, 15 – Family moved to Lesser Portmore after being burnt out; Joseph scavenges, steals and trains as jockey.
- *Okema Vassel*, 14 – Dances, scales fish and sweeps the beach.
- *Heraldo Powell*, 16 – Newspaper vendor; has been hit by a car.

**Personal Profile: Joseph McFarlane, 15**

Mother moved to Gulf with her family of eight when she was burnt out in Kingston. He and his two teenaged sisters dropped out of school and started to fend for themselves. He mainly scavenges and steals for survival. A jockey showed some interest in his welfare and offered to train him to ride. He estimates his daily earnings as \$200, which he spends on food. He is sexually active, but uses a condom. He carries a weapon and fears Superintendent Reneto Adams most. His greatest need, he says, is to go to school. His ambition is to become a soldier. He would like to see his mother get a job, so that she could be able to take care of him and his seven siblings.

## Portmore Gardens

This is an old, informal settlement, with a profile resembling that of Lesser Portmore/Portmore Villa. It is also located in close proximity to Caymanas Park.

### Sample of Cases:

- *Munchie*, 10 - Grandma died; has to stay home and help aunt.
- *Boysie Hinds*, 10 – Works as selector with his father; once cracked his skull, falling off truck.
- *Percival Rowe*, 7 – Father comes home late and he is hungry; sells bottles and does gardening to buy food.
- *Goldie*, 17 – Sexually exploited mother of two.

#### Personal Profile: Percival Rowe, 7

Lives with father and three older siblings. His father often comes home late and he is hungry, so he sells bottles and does gardening to be able to buy food and cook with his brother. He suffers from sinusitis; claims to be sexually active, with more than one partner and does not use a condom. His main needs are toys and school books. He doesn't know what he would ideally like to be doing. Doesn't have any particular fear of anyone on the street. He thinks that children like himself should be taken care of, given things and love.

## Braeton

Here children mainly stay home from school for want of lunch money, and help around the house. Others find more lucrative means of surviving.

### Sample of Cases:

- *Yanique Gayle*, 17 – Dropped out of school when she became pregnant; gives sex for money.
- *Andrew Petgrave*, 17 – Lives on the street; loads buses.
- *Rickey Gordon*, 9 – Lives on the street; survives by stealing.

#### Personal Profile: Yanique Gayle, 17

Started to have sex for money at age 13, while still in school. She was attracted by a love of sex and money and by the peer pressure exercised by her friends. Less than two years later, she became pregnant and dropped out of school. Her mother does not consent to her lifestyle, but she works when she needs it, providing sex for money – “all different kinds”- and “other things”. She earns on average \$1500 on the days that she works, which she uses to support her baby. She doesn't always use a condom and is usually armed. She admits that her boyfriend and some clients can be helpful in times of need. Yanique is not sure any more that she is happy doing what she does. She would probably prefer being a hairdresser. She thinks that what should be done to assist girls like her should be for some benefactor to take the baby so that she can go back to school.

## Hellshire Beach

This is both an important fishing beach and Kingston and St. Catherine's main bathing beach. It is an attractive haunt for truants, who either go fishing themselves, assist in preparing the fish for sale or for cooking, in exchange for a meal, or peddle drugs.

### Sample of Cases:

- *Troy Thomas*, 12 – Physically abused by father; scales fish to provide school supplies.
- *Cindy Brakespeare Smith*, 13 – Doesn't know her parents; sells to be able to go to school.
- *Andrew Sewell*, 15 – Dropped out of school to hustle; wants provision of free education.
- *Dale Sewell*, 13 – Mother died and father not working; fell off truck.
- *Chevaughn Cooke*, 15 – Abandoned; lives on the street (beach).
- *Lincoln Lecky*, 14 – Bored at school; shoots fish to eat.
- *Damien Malcolm*, 8 – Sells bottles for pokemon cards.
- *Karenina Wizard*, 12 – Vendor, gives mother her earnings; physically abused.

#### **Personal Profile: Karenina Wizard, 12**

Nina's mother has a stall on the beach, where she sells fish and lobster. Mother claims, however, that business is at a standstill, while she and others battle with the UDC to be allowed to remain on the beach. Nina says that she has no alternative but to help her mother sell in her stall, since she has not known her father to support the family. She approximates her average daily take at \$1000 or less. All earnings are given to the mother. She has been admitted to hospital with an abscess, has been abused both physically and sexually and walks with a weapon. She thinks that the society owes her mother a better job and a house that will enable her to properly provide for her children.

## Newlands

This is another community (formerly rural) now suffering from urban poverty, while the newer settlements continue to spring up around it. Like Portmore Gardens and Lesser Portmore, this is manifested by the number of children milling around in the streets, having been kept away from school to help around the house and generally fend for themselves.

### Sample of Cases:

- *Percival Donaldson*, 17 – Does "business"; wants to be a dancer.
- *Don-I*, 15 – Beaten by step-father and brothers; ran away to live on the streets; has an STD infection; loads buses.
- *Goldie*, 15 – Left home due to abuse; lives on street; sells newspaper; lives in fear of rapists.

#### **Personal Profile: Goldie, 15**

Left home at age 13 because of abuse. Dropped out of school in the sixth grade. Has been living with a woman and her family only three weeks prior to the survey. Sells newspaper and earns \$50-\$200 daily. Has not been immunised and probably has not been registered. Has been physically and sexually abused. Goldie is not sure whether he is happy or unhappy living on the street.

### III. Main Needs and Health Profile

The main needs, as stated by the children, were the basic survival goods of food, clothing and shelter. The combined need for regular schooling and school supplies is the next most significant set of needs. The other significant need stated by the children was the need for money, including lunch money.

Table 1.6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children

Main Needs	Category						Total
	Street children	Domestic/agri. helpers	Commercial employees	Sexually exploited	Others		
Protection from Adults	1	2	1			4	
Food, Clothing etc	76	29	6	1	3	115	
Regular Schooling	17	9	5		1	32	
Health Care	1					1	
Parental Love	1	4				5	
Toys/Luxury Goods	8	6				14	
School Supplies	22	21	6		2	51	
Money	15	10	7		1	33	
All of the Above	11	5	1		1	18	
Other			2			2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>275</b>	

Thirteen percent (13%) of the children responding either were not registered at birth or did not know if they were. The same holds true for whether they have been immunized.

Table 1.7: Number of Children Registered at Birth

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	261	87.0
No	26	8.7
DK	13	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 1.8: Number of Children Immunized

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	260	86.7
No	24	8.0
DK	15	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In most cases, the same child was neither registered nor immunized.

Ten percent (10%) of respondents reported being sick often and 55% reported being sick a few times over the last twelve months.

Table 1.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year

	Frequency	Percent
Never	102	34.2
Once or twice	164	55.0
Often	31	10.4
Total	298	100.0

Apart from general illnesses, such as fever, cold and flu, the most commonly reported sicknesses were, in order: breathing problems (asthma and sinusitis), eye infections, motor vehicle and other accidents (such as from fighting), ear infections and skin problems.

Table 1.10: Sicknesses Experienced During the Year

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever,flu, etc.)	132	67.0
Eye Infection	8	4.1
Ear Infection	5	2.5
Skin Problem	4	2.0
Breathing Problem	14	7.1
Back Problem	2	1.0
Anaemia	2	1.0
STD/HIV-AIDS	2	1.0
Accident	6	3.0
Won't Say	3	1.5
Other	19	9.6
Total	197	100.0

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called 'high-risk'. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed or had been stabbed or shot.

Table 1.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Town

**town \* HIGHRISK Crosstabulation**

			HIGHRISK		Total
			.00	1.00	
town	Portmore	Count	161	47	208
		% within town	77.4%	22.6%	100.0%
	Linstead	Count	32	5	37
		% within town	86.5%	13.5%	100.0%
	Old Harbour	Count	22	10	32
		% within town	68.8%	31.3%	100.0%
Total		Count	215	62	277
		% within town	77.6%	22.4%	100.0%

The data shows that there are 62 high-risk children in the parish, or 22% of the total number of child labourers. Most of them are to be found in Portmore, but a third of all child labourers in Old Harbour are high-risk, as defined.

Finally, we examined how many of the children were happy with their situation as working or street children and how many were decidedly unhappy – and would therefore, presumably, wish to change their state of affairs.

Table 1.12: Children’s Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Town

**town \* Contentment Level Crosstabulation**

			Contentment Level			Total
			happy	unhappy	not sure	
town	Portmore	Count	74	85	36	195
		% within town	37.9%	43.6%	18.5%	100.0%
	Linstead	Count	22	12	8	42
		% within town	52.4%	28.6%	19.0%	100.0%
	Old Harbour	Count	23	9		32
		% within town	71.9%	28.1%		100.0%
Total		Count	119	106	44	269
		% within town	44.2%	39.4%	16.4%	100.0%

Forty-four percent of working children in St. Catherine were happy with that situation; a slightly lower 39% were unhappy with that state of affairs, while 16% were ambivalent. When examined by towns, however, we see that a majority of the market children, found in Linstead and Old Harbour, were happy with helping their parents in this way; over 28% were still unhappy with their lot in these two market towns, while 19% were ambivalent in Linstead. In Portmore, on the other hand, more children were unhappy with their situation as street children and working children than happy.

Voluntary and statutory agencies concerned with this problem would be well advised to focus their efforts on Portmore, where they would get a better reception from the victims.

## PARISH PROFILE: CLARENDON

### I. Numbers and Areas of Concentration

A total of 154 street and working children were interviewed in Clarendon. The towns covered were May Pen and Race Course, as these had been determined to have large concentrations of children out of place. The fishing community of Rocky Point had recently been the subject of an ILO/IPEC study, so this was not duplicated here. The May Pen communities covered stretched as far eastward as Freetown and as far westward as Four Paths. Similarly, Race Course would probably be better designated as Vere, as most communities on this plain were covered, with the exception of Rocky Point and its environs.

Of the 154 child labourers interviewed, 120 were resident in May Pen and 34 in Race Course, as the table below shows.

Table 2. 1: Number of Working Children, by Major Town and Category

**Category \* town Crosstabulation**

			town		Total
			May Pen	Race Course	
Category	street children	Count	68	15	83
		% of Total	44.2%	9.7%	53.9%
	domestic/agri. helpers	Count	25	13	38
		% of Total	16.2%	8.4%	24.7%
	commercial employees	Count	24	6	30
		% of Total	15.6%	3.9%	19.5%
	sexually exploited	Count	1		1
		% of Total	.6%		.6%
	others	Count	2		2
		% of Total	1.3%		1.3%
Total	Count		120	34	154
	% of Total		77.9%	22.1%	100.0%

The majority of child labourers were street children, with 25% being domestic helpers (including yard boys) and agricultural helpers on small-scale cultivations, and a high 20% employed in commercial establishments.

These children were to be found in the May Pen market and on the streets in the commercial centre of May Pen and the main roads of the Race Course communities.

Table 2.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Town

**Category \* Location \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Location					Total
town	Category		Market	Shopping Plazas	Bus Park/Taxi Stand	Vending Streets	Other	
May Pen	Category	street children	32		1	31		64
		domestic/agri. helpers				21	3	24
		commercial employees				22	2	24
		sexually exploited				1		1
		others				2		2
	Total		32		1	77	5	115
Race Course	Category	street children	7			7	1	15
		domestic/agri. helpers				12	1	13
		commercial employees		1		5		6
	Total		7	1		24	2	34

It should be noted that the children working in a domestic situation that we interviewed were all found on the streets and out of school. In fact, there were a lot more children on the streets of Race Course who were interviewed, but they were rejected because it could not be established that they were working for anyone other than themselves and their issue.

Despite their poor attendance records at school, most child labourers in Clarendon considered themselves to be only part-time workers.

Table 2. 3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Town

**Category \* Regularity of work \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Regularity of work				Total
			full time	part time	seasonal	never	
May Pen	Category	street children	16	45	5	1	67
		domestic/agri. helpers	1	7	5	3	16
		commercial employees	11	8	3	1	23
		sexually exploited		1			1
		others				1	1
	Total		28	61	13	6	108
Race Course	Category	street children	4	7	4		15
		domestic/agri. helpers	3	4	5		12
		commercial employees	2	2	2		6
	Total		9	13	11		33

The incidence of child labour in Clarendon is an overwhelmingly male phenomenon, but there are almost as many female domestic workers as male.

Table 2.4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Category	street children	Count	74	11	85
		% of Total	42.8%	6.4%	49.1%
	domestic/agri. helpers	Count	25	23	48
		% of Total	14.5%	13.3%	27.7%
	commercial employees	Count	31	7	38
		% of Total	17.9%	4.0%	22.0%
	sexually exploited	Count		1	1
		% of Total		.6%	.6%
	others	Count		1	1
		% of Total		.6%	.6%
Total		Count	130	43	173
		% of Total	75.1%	24.9%	100.0%

Children of the street were outnumbered 10:1 by children only *on* the street.

Table 2.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile and Town

**Resting-place \* Sex \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Sex		Total
town			male	female	
May Pen	Resting-place	home	56	12	68
		street	6	2	8
	Total		62	14	76
Race Course	Resting-place	home	17		17
		street	1		1
	Total		18		18

Of the 76 street children responding in May Pen, only eight (8) were children of the street; only one of 18 were interviewed in Race Course. Of the nine (9) children of the street, two (2) were girls.

## II. Community Profiles

Apart from May Pen and its environs, we treat Race Course as comprising two separate communities: Race Course and Hayes.

### May Pen

Here most children work in the market, located in the town centre, and on the streets in the vicinity of the market.

#### Sample of Cases:

- *Samuel Ospanna*, 17 – Market vendor from Blue Mountain in Manchester; started farming and taking his produce to market from age 10; he is not registered and happy to be helping out at home.
- *Tanisha Howard*, 14 – Market vendor on weekends because there is “no-one to help me with my schooling and sometime food and clothes”, because her father spends his resources on other girls; wants to go back to school; fears older men.
- *Brian Nelson*, 16 – Came to market with mother, then started to work for self pushing hand-cart.
- *Mahti* – Doesn’t know his age; never attended school; does odd jobs for food, clothes.
- *Vinroy Morgan*, 11 – Does domestic work at \$20 per task.
- *Dearon*, 13 – Abandoned by father; lives in market; abused; sick with throat; begs, pushes cart and sells bag juice.
- *Mitzie Chambers*, 9 – Mother dead, lives with grand-mother; skin problem; fears mad people and rapists.

- *Brian White*, 9 – Pushes cart and sells bag juice; gives proceeds to mother; wants to go to Bible classes on Saturdays.
- *Pierre McLean*, 12 – Sells in market with mother; insists he has to work for survival of family.

**Personal Profile: Mahti (age unknown)**

Lives with a pensioner in a family of eight. He does not know his age and has never attended school. He does odd jobs, for which he gets paid in kind – food, clothes, etc. His grandmother also gives him food sometimes. He complains of tooth ache, but has never been to a dentist. He is not afraid of anyone on the streets. Mahti lists his main needs as: a bicycle, going to school and a school bag. He would rather be going to school and become a soldier. His recommendation is to “put more sugar so the crop can go on” so that he is able to earn more money to go to school.

**Personal Profile: Dearon, 13**

Dropped out of school and started living in the market two years ago, when his father told him that he “don’t business with him anymore”. He has no one to help. He survives by selling bag juice and ice water, begging and pushing handcart for someone, earning about \$1000 on a market day, which he spends on food. He lists his main needs as: schooling, money, clothes and a place to live. He has a throat problem and has never seen a doctor. He is sexually active, with several partners and does not use a contraceptive. He has been both physically and sexually abused and is usually armed. His greatest fear is of violence. His solution to his problem is for someone to take him in as a part of their family and school him.

## Race Course

There is a problem here of children staying home from school or dropping out after primary school to do domestic chores, odd jobs, live off the land and burn coal.

### Sample of Cases:

- *Junior Harrison*, 15 – Street child, left with grandmother; kills small livestock for people or cuts their wood.
- *Romeo Clarke*, 13 – Domestic agricultural labourer; wants everything a child should have.
- *Dwight*, 6 – Not in school; substance abuser; sexually active; physically abused; earns \$20 per day, which he uses to buy food.
- *Eddie*, 10 – Dropped out of school at 8; sexually active; earns \$100 per day.
- *Stacey-Ann Harris*, 17 – Bar maid; sexually active; sexually abused.
- *Kimberley Griffiths*, 16 – Stays home to help parents in shop; sexually active; physically and sexually abused; feels like running away.
- *Nadine Campbell*, 10 – Has no permanent home; physically abused; says she needs foster parents.
- *Anthony Henry*, 13 – Has never attended school; fishes and burns coal, for about \$40 a day.

- *Rosemarie Ranger*, 16 – Dropped out at 14 when she got pregnant; lives with a friend; sexually active with multiple partners; hustles for food and baby things.
- *Venecia Mathra*, 8 – From family of 8; has never attended school; does domestic work, for \$ 20 a day.
- *Christopher Mathra*, 14 – Brother of the above; Burns coal with his father.

**Personal Profile: Kimberley Griffiths, 16**

Being from a family of 13, she dropped out of school to help out at home. She washes for her mother right through the week, without any monetary compensation. She gives as her main need that of regular schooling. She has a back problem, for which she has never seen a physician. She is unhappy with staying home for domestic work and would rather be going to school. She is sexually active, with more than one partner, but uses a condom. She has been both physically and sexually abused. She feels like running away.

### **Hayes/Lionel Town**

In this community, children often stay home and hustle.

#### Sample of Cases

- *Lee-Roy Allwood*, 11 – Works on truck to help little brother with food.
- *Helene Morris*, 15 – Does hair-dressing, to send herself to school.
- *Andre Noel*, 14 – Has no school shoes; parents migrated; lives with teenaged sister; washes cars.
- *Lisa Hanna Duncan*, 17 – Dropped out for want of lunch money; Skin rash and haemorrhaging; physically and sexually abused.

**Personal Profile: Andre Noel, 14.**

Andre dropped out only recently, because he has no school shoes. He was forced out on to the streets when his parents migrated. He does not have a birth certificate. Andre is unhappy with his status as a street child. He wants to go back to school, and become a lawyer. He earns an income from washing cars, earning some \$250 each day. He is physically and sexually abused. He fears no one. Andre speaks of one lady helping him by giving him shoes and clothes.

### **III. Main Needs and Health Profile**

The survival goods of food, clothes and shelter are the first stated need of just under a half of the respondents (when one includes those listing ‘all of the above’). This bears out the cliché that the main cause of the problem of street/working children in this parish is poverty.

Table 2.6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

Main Needs	Category					Total
	street children	domestic/agri. helpers	commercial employees	sexually exploited	others	
Protection from Adults	2					2
Food, Clothing etc	33	17	13	1	1	65
Regular Schooling	10	10	9		1	30
Health Care	2	1	1			4
Parental Love	3	1				4
Toys/Luxury Goods	4					4
School Supplies	4	4	5			13
Money	4	5	7			16
All of the Above	12	4	2			18
Other	4	1				5
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>161</b>

‘Regular schooling’ and ‘school supplies’ together account for the first stated need of 45% of the remainder. The other significant need is ‘money’ (including lunch money). One might therefore conclude that the main causes of the phenomenon of child labour in Clarendon are poverty and the need for the very poor children to assist in sending themselves to school.

A staggering revelation of the data is that one-third of all working children in Clarendon are possibly legally non-persons and fully a quarter are possibly not immunized against the most virulent child-killers.

Table 2.7: Number of Children Registered at Birth.

	Frequency	Percent
yes	128	67.4
no	30	15.8
DK	32	16.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 2. 8: Number of Children Immunized.

	Frequency	Percent
yes	143	74.5
no	16	8.3
DK	33	17.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Sixteen percent (16%) of respondents say they are not registered and 17% are not sure that they are. Similarly, 8% are sure they are not immunized and 17% do not know whether they have been.

The majority of children reported being sick on a few occasions or often during the past year, most with general ailments like colds and flues, as the following two tables demonstrate.

Table 2.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
never	79	41.6
once or twice	91	47.9
often	20	10.5
Total	190	100.0

Table 2.10: Sickesses Experienced During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	68	59.6
Eye Infection	2	1.8
Ear Infection	3	2.6
Skin Problem	5	4.4
Breathing Problem	10	8.8
Back Problem	3	2.6
STD/HIV-AIDS	1	.9
Accident	3	2.6
Won't Say	2	1.8
Other	17	14.9
Total	114	100.0

As many as nine percent (9%) of respondents, or 10 children, reported experiencing breathing problems (asthma and sinusitis). Half that number had skin problems. Three children each reported having had an ear infection, back problem or accident during the last 12 months.

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called 'high-risk'. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed OR had been stabbed or shot.

Table 2.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Town.

		HIGHRISK		Total
		.00	1.00	
town	May Pen	77	39	116
	Race Course	28	8	36
Total		105	47	152

Forty-seven (47) of the 152 respondents, or over 30%, could be said to be ‘high-risk’, using the above-mentioned strict criteria. Just over a third of the respondents in May Pen and just under 30% of those in Race Course fell within this designation.

Less than a third of all child labourers in Clarendon were happy with this situation.

Table 2.12: Children’s Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Town.

**town \* Contentment Level Crosstabulation**

			Contentment Level			Total
			happy	unhappy	not sure	
town	May Pen	Count	42	60	23	125
		% within town	33.6%	48.0%	18.4%	100.0%
	Race Course	Count	10	26	2	38
		% within town	26.3%	68.4%	5.3%	100.0%
Total		Count	52	86	25	163
		% within town	31.9%	52.8%	15.3%	100.0%

Just under a half of the respondents in May Pen were sure that they were unhappy with having to work; more than two-thirds of the respondents in Race Course were unhappy. The disparity, such as exists, between these two figures is at least partly explained by the abysmally low returns for child labour reported by the children in the rural township. Besides, the nature of the labour done by the rural based children is more back-breaking than that done by their urban based counterparts – low-technology agricultural labour, gardening, burning coal, etc.

## PARISH ANALYSIS: DOWNTOWN KINGSTON

### I. Parish Profile: Numbers and Areas of Concentration

The areas enumerated in this zone are:

- Majesty Gardens (“Back-To”)/Three Miles
- The Market District/Rural Bus Terminus
- Cross Roads
- The Downtown Commercial District/Waterfront

There were 213 child labourers interviewed in the Downtown Kingston zone. More than three-quarters of them, 166 children, were found Downtown, comprising the market district and commercial district; 13 were found in the Cross Roads area and 34 at Three Miles.

Table 3.1: Number of Working Children, by Area and Category.

Category		Area			Total
		Cross Roads	Downtown	Three Miles/ Back-To	
Street children	Count	12	153	31	196
	% within town	92.3%	92.2%	91.2%	92.0%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	1	4	2	7
	% within town	7.7%	2.4%	5.9%	3.3%
Commercial employees	Count		1	1	2
	% within town		.6%	2.9%	.9%
Sexually exploited	Count		1		1
	% within town		.6%		.5%
Others	Count		7		7
	% within town		4.2%		3.3%
Total	Count	13	166	34	213
	% within town	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Over 90% of child labour victims in each area of this zone were street children. The only other category of significance is the ‘domestic/agricultural helpers’ category.

They were found mainly on the streets, in the markets and on the waterfront.

Table 3.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Area.

Category \* Location \* town Crosstabulation

Count

	town													
	Cross Roads			Downtown						Three Miles/Back-To				
	Category		Total	Category					Total	Category		Total		
	street child	restic/agri. help		street child	restic/agri. help	mercial employ	ually exploi	others		street child	restic/agri. help		mercial employ	
Locati Market				39						39	1			1
Shopp	2		2											
Plazas				1						1				
KFC														
Bus														
Park/Tab				7						7				
Stand														
Patty S	2		2	1						1				
Mothers	2		2	2						2				
Beach				12	2			1	1	16				
Vending	4	1	5	76			1			77	30	2	1	33
Streets														
Other				3						3				
Other F														
Food	2		2	1						1				
Stores														
Big Tre				3						3				
All Age														
School				3	2				6	11				
Total	12	1	13	148	4		1	1	7	161	31	2	1	34

The market children were found in the downtown area. Examined from the angle of the geographic area, 'commercial employees' becomes another significant category in Cross Roads and Three Miles.



Only 19 child labourers, or 10% of all respondents, considered their street and home activities to be a full-time occupation. The remainder mainly considered themselves to be students.

Table 3.3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Area.

Area	Category		Regularity of work				Total
			Full time	Part time	Seasonal	Never	
Cross Roads	Street children		1	7	3	1	12
		Domestic/agri. helpers			1		1
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>
Downtown	Street children	Commercial employees	14	122	8	4	148
		Sexually exploited		1			1
		Others		2			2
		<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>152</b>
Three Miles/Back-To	Street children	Commercial employees	3	18	7		28
			1				1
	<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>29</b>

Boys comprise over 62% of the total number of street/working children downtown.

Table 3.4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category.

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Category	street children	Count	124	75	199
		% within Category	62.3%	37.7%	100.0%
	domestic/agri. helpers	Count	5	3	8
		% within Category	62.5%	37.5%	100.0%
	commercial employees	Count	2		2
		% within Category	100.0%		100.0%
	sexually exploited	Count		1	1
		% within Category		100.0%	100.0%
	others	Count	10	6	16
		% within Category	62.5%	37.5%	100.0%
Total		Count	141	85	226
		% within Category	62.4%	37.6%	100.0%

The ratio of male to female remains the same for the two main categories of working children: street children and domestic/agricultural helpers.

There were a total of 16 children living and working on the street.

Table 3.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile and Town.

**Resting-place \* Sex \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Sex		Total
town			male	female	
Cross Roads	Resting-place	home	12		12
		street	1		1
	Total		13		13
Downtown	Resting-place	home	84	65	149
		street	11	4	15
		Beach	1		1
	Total		96	69	165
Three Miles/Back-To	Resting-place	home	23	8	31
	Total		23	8	31

All but one of these children of the street frequent the downtown area; the other one being in Cross Roads.

**II. Community Profiles**

The areas covered are: Three Miles, the Market District, the Commercial District and Cross Roads.

**Three Miles**

These are the children who are seen wiping windcreens and vending their ware from the Three Miles cross roads to the turn-off from Marcus Garvey Drive to Portmore and the Free Zone. They are usually from Majesty Gardens, Delacree Pen, Tavares Gardens (Payne Land) and other communities along the Spanish Town Road. Their earnings tend to be lower than the norm for the metropolitan area.

Sample of Cases:

- *Jermaine Laing*, 8 – street vendor; lost mother; has sinusitis; sexually active; physically abused.
- *Jahomona Laing*, 13 – Beggar, mother died; put out by father.
- *Krystal Minzie*, 15 – Sexually active; mother died; pregnant; now in Women’s Centre; eye infected; earns about \$1500.
- *Clarence Dyer*, 13 – Cleans windcreens, because sometimes she is hungry; sexually active, physically abused.
- *Venecia McKenzie*, 10 – Mother’s foot got broken; has hernia.
- *Oneil Dia*, 8 – Beggar; never been to school; mother left him with father, who lost an eye; he is asthmatic and is sexually abused.

- *Jerome Davis*, 14 – Beggar; parents separated.
- *Stacy-Ann Minzie*, 17 – Street vendor; dropped out of school when she got pregnant; mother died, so needs to take care of siblings; physically abused.
- *Sheldon Patterson*, 12 – Father died; begs and cleans windshields, to pay book rental.
- *Sandra King*, 14 – Attends school irregularly; has scabies; physically abused, with facial scar; wants help to attend school.
- *Damion Myers*, 10 – Begs and cleans windshields; parents send him to school irregularly because he is not learning; alcohol abuser; sexually active and abused.
- *Oniel Nicholson*, 17 – Windshield wiper; expelled for fighting; substance abuser, fears being hit (again) by car.

**Personal Profile: Oniel Dia, 8**

Oniel's mother left him with his father, who lost an eye. He has been on the streets begging since age 6. He has never been to school. He uses his earnings, of \$50 per day on average, to buy food. He lists his main needs as: clothes, shoes, a bicycle and school supplies. He is unhappy with being forced by circumstances to be on the street and would prefer to be in school. He doesn't know if he has a birth certificate or if he is immunized. He is an asthmatic, but has not been to a doctor or health centre over the past year. He has been both physically and sexually abused. His main fear is of duppies.

### **The Market District**

Here, as in most markets, children begin to accompany their parents or an older relative to market from a tender age, to assist with holding the stall when their guardian has to leave, or to sell a few small items. They then graduate to selling on their own or push handcarts with goods for customers or vendors. They often sleep overnight in the market to protect the goods. This is also the place most favoured by children of the street to sleep.

#### **Sample of Cases:**

- *Rosemarie Troupe*, 12 – Sells linen to send herself to school.
- *Romey Brown*, 14 – Mother abandoned her and sister; dropped out at 11 to support herself and sister; sells in the market with grand-father; sexually active and abused.
- *Confield James*, 16 – Sells to get lunch money so he can “become something good in life”; wants to become a pilot.
- *Denesha Brown*, 11 – Started from four to sell in market with mother; also begs; wants health care assistance; wants to become a shop assistant; fears bullies who steal her money and police.
- *Clifton Linton*, 11 - Helps his mother in the market and earn lunch money; sexually active and sexually abused.
- *Dearon*, 12 – Helps aunt in market, sells bag juice and cheese trix and pushes hand-cart; gives proceeds of sales to his aunt; sexually active; fears gunmen and people.

- *Stumpy, 7* – Sells with grand-father; pushes hand-cart.
- *Keisha, 12* – Child of the street; abandoned by mother, along with baby sister.

**Personal Profile: Romey Brown, 14**

Romey's mother ran away and left her two daughters with their step-father. He was sexually abusing her, so she took her little sister and went to live with her grand-father. She dropped out of school at age 11 to support herself and her family. She works through the daylight hours selling locks and keys with her grand-father and earns about \$350 per day. This she uses to buy food. Her main needs are: food, clothes, money and school; but she doesn't accept charity ("don't take things from people"). She got bitten by a dog when jumping over a wall to escape a rapist. She is a substance abuser – tobacco, alcohol and marijuana; is sexually active, with a single sex partner and using a condom. She has also been stabbed more than once and travels with a weapon. She fears gunmen and rapists. Her ambition is to get a job in a wholesale supermarket.

### **Cross Roads**

The street children here in the main clean windscreens and beg from the patrons of the Carib cinema. At night, Gemini go-go club is a popular haunt. The Cross Roads market does not seem to attract very many children. The children tend to come from Trench Town, Jones Town and Allman Town.

### Sample Cases:

- *Chase, 15* – His parents are "coke heads", so he begs on the street and scavenges in the garbage; sexually active; physically and sexually abused.
- *Garry Gayle, 7* – Sells food items in market; has rheumatic fever.
- *Jermaine Hamilton, 13* – Washes windscreens and begs; sexually active; physically and sexually abused.
- *Steve Smith, 12* – From St. Thomas; plants callaloo and corn to go to school; unhappy because the work is too hard; physically abused.
- *Sheldon Brown, 11* – Mother sick, so begs on street; often sick; sexually active; fears street boys, who rob him.
- *Marlon Sinclair, 14* – Father dead, mother unemployed; wipes windscreens and begs; has "ants in my tail"; sexually active and abused.
- *Andrew Brown, 12* – Unhappy, but makes "easy money" to buy school clothes; would prefer to be playing football; fears family beatings.

**Personal Profile: Steve Smith, 12**

Comes to market from St. Thomas. When it is rainy season, he plants callaloo and corn in the family farm. This started when he was only six years of age. He lists his main needs as water and transportation for his district. He is unhappy with his working life, because the work is too hard. If given a choice, he would like to become an aircraft engineer. He has been physically abused. His advice is to provide trade training centres "to help us make something of our lives".

## Downtown Business District

The street children here tend to be occupied in street vending, begging and car tending (i.e., washing and watching). A disproportionate number of children live on the streets here. The waterfront also attracts a number of truants, swimming in the harbour and fishing for fun and for sale.

### Sample Cases:

- *Oral Stephenson*, 14 – Beach child (on waterfront), with kidney problem.
- *Bumpy*, 9 – Truant; fishes; substance abuser; sexually active; fears father, who does not approve of his lifestyle; wants toys and bicycle.
- *Chris Smith*, 10 – Lives on street; has never experienced school; works full-time, day and night; unhappy with his lot.
- *Scabby*, 15 – Lives on street; never had parents; doesn't know if he is registered; not immunized; often sick; sends younger siblings to school.
- *Kevin Coke*, 15 – Welds and markets basketball hoops.
- *Peta-Gaye Watson*, 16 – Fled sexual abuse by father and went on the streets; dropped out at 12; begs and sells sexual favours; STD-infected; raped.
- *Junior Brown*, 17 – Lives on street; begs; physically and sexually abused.
- *Sashanay*, 13 – Abandoned; expelled from school; lives on street; sells sexual favours; not registered at birth and not sure if immunized.
- *Kevin Smith*, 17 – Went on street to beg after mother sexually abused; gives her his earnings; wants to go back to school.
- *Stump*, 13 – Attends Calabar irregularly; needs school clothes and shoes; fishes on waterfront; armed with a knife; wants to be a mechanic.
- *Sashana Johnson*, 16 – Grade 10 Denham Town High student; sells favours to “nuff man”; proceeds are given to her parents; abused; back problem.
- *Tashane Larmond*, 14 – Sells fish and begs because “no food is at home”; wants to “reach a foreign” and send for his brothers.
- *Kamar Wilkins*, 11 – Goes to market with aunt, to help mother at home and send himself to school; wants 10 year-old sister to help too.
- *Kamar Williams*, 13 – Lives on street; mother unemployed; does not know father; ignored by mother; begs and tends cars; hit by car; substance abuser.
- *Khadine Yapp*, 11 – Helps grandmother in market; wants to stay home and attend GSAT classes; sexually active.
- *Tiffany Campbell*, 16 – Missed school last term because fees not paid; mother lost job, so Tiffany sells on street; wants mother “to go foreign”.
- *Neisha*, 15 – Mother can't afford to send everyone to school so, as the eldest, she has to help out; Would like to help care for her younger siblings.
- *Jason Lewis*, 17 – Lives on street; father died and mother on street too; works on garbage truck; has been stabbed; not registered.
- *Jason Turner*, 12 – From family of 17; mother in wheel-chair; attends school irregularly; begs and gives to mother.
- *Jodi-Ann Turner*, 3 - Helps brother beg for food; has ear infection; would prefer to be home playing.
- *Sue-Sue*, 11 – Father dead; street vendor; gives proceeds to mother.

- *Hugo Walters, 15* – From family of 10; sells on street to help with siblings; has eye infection; living on street; physically and sexually abused.

**Personal Profile: Scabby, 15**

Scabby does not remember ever having parents. He has been out of school and living on the street for seven years, from age eight. He does vending on the street and begs. He uses his earnings to buy food. He works full-time, for approximately 10 hours, earning \$250 on average. He doesn't have a birth certificate and probably is not immunized. He is often sick, with general ailments, and has not got medical attention. He walks with a knife and fears the police most of all. He is unhappy with his condition in life and has ambitions of becoming a pilot.

**Personal Profile: Jason Turner, 12**

Jason started begging on the street from age six, when his mother had to take to a wheelchair and was unable to continue working. He still makes a pretence of attending school, but is absent sometimes for several weeks. He often spends all day begging, or sometimes gets food from "a van that goes around", and gives to his mother or directly gives his younger brother and sister lunch money. He lists his main needs as: school supplies, food and money. He has been sick a few times, but has failed to access medical attention. He is unhappy about his mode of existence and would much rather be staying at home and having fun. He is afraid of gun-men, knife men and violence generally.

### III. Main Needs and Health Profile

The survival goods of food, clothes and shelter is the first stated need of over 40% of the respondents. This bears out the self-evident truth that extreme poverty lies at the root of the problem of child labour.

Table 3.6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

	Category					Total
	street children	domestic/helpers	agri.commercial employees	sexually exploited	others	
Protection from Adults	3					3
Food, Clothing etc	83	1	1			85
Regular Schooling	26	3			5	34
Health Care	1				1	2
Parental Love				1		1
Toys/Luxury Goods	10					10
School Supplies	17					17
Money	22		1			23
All of the Above	13					13
Other	10	1				11
Total	185	5	2	1	6	199

Next in importance is the need for ‘regular schooling’ and ‘school supplies’ combined, which is the first stated need of over a quarter of all respondents. This tells us that a number of children work to assist their guardians to send them to school. Other significant needs are: ‘money’, including lunch money for students, and ‘parental love’.

Another important fact demonstrated by the table above is that the problem of child labour in the Downtown Kingston zone is essentially a problem of street children – 185 of 199 working children (93%) were street children.

The tables below show that one in five working children are either not registered at birth or the children don’t know if they are. Similarly, the proportion of children not known to be immunized is only slightly less.

Table 3.7: Number of Children Registered at Birth.

	Frequency	Percent
yes	189	79.4
no	25	10.5
DK	23	9.7
Total	238	100.0

Table 3.8: Number of Children Immunized.

	Frequency	Percent
yes	194	82.6
no	12	5.1
DK	29	12.3
Total	235	100.0

One in five working children reported being ill ‘often’ during the year and over 70% reported being ill at some time during the year.

Table 3.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
never	67	29.4
once or twice	113	49.6
often	48	21.1
Total	228	100.0

The main illnesses reported were the general ones, like fever, colds and flu.

Table 3.10: Sickesses Experienced During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	97	62.6
Eye Infection	6	3.9
Ear Infection	8	5.2
Skin Problem	3	1.9
Breathing Problem	19	12.3
Back Problem	3	1.9
STD/HIV-AIDS	1	.6
Accident	3	1.9
Won't Say	4	2.6
Other	11	7.1
Total	155	100.0

Nineteen (19) children complained of having experienced breathing problems (asthma and sinusitis); eight had ear infections and six eye infections.

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called 'high-risk'. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed OR had been stabbed or shot.

Table 3.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Area.

Area			HIGH RISK		Total
			no	yes	
Cross Roads	Count		7	4	11
	% within town		63.6%	36.4%	100.0%
Downtown	Count		89	56	145
	% within town		61.4%	38.6%	100.0%
Three Miles/Back-To	Count		24	6	30
	% within town		80.0%	20.0%	100.0%
Total	Count		120	66	186
	% within town		64.5%	35.5%	100.0%

More than one in three working children in the Downtown zone can be considered high-risk, posing a serious social problem. These amount to 66 children, 56 of whom can be found in the downtown area, comprising the business district and the market district.

The table below shows a similar proportion of children being happy with their working situation as those who considered themselves victims.

Table 3.12: Children's Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Area.

**town \* Contentment Level Crosstabulation**

			Contentment Level			Total
			happy	unhappy	not sure	
town	Cross Roads	Count	3	8	1	12
		% within town	25.0%	66.7%	8.3%	100.0%
	Downtown	Count	91	73	12	176
		% within town	51.7%	41.5%	6.8%	100.0%
	Three Miles/Back-To	Count	8	22	3	33
		% within town	24.2%	66.7%	9.1%	100.0%
Total		Count	102	103	16	221
		% within town	46.2%	46.6%	7.2%	100.0%

Two-thirds of the children in the Cross Roads and Three Miles areas were unhappy with their lot. Social workers should find fruitful ground for their labours in these areas. Downtown, however, shows a minority of working children being unhappy with that state of affairs, but those who are unhappy amount to 73 of the total 103 children considering themselves victims of child labour.

## PARISH ANALYSIS: UPTOWN KINGSTON

### I. Parish Profile: Numbers and Areas of Concentration

The areas covered in this zone are the following: Half-Way Tree (including the Hope Road/Trafalgar Road intersection), Liguanea/Papine and New Kingston. The number of street children and other working children enumerated in this zone is not a true reflection of the number of working children plying their trade in this part of town. The publication of a news story, given prominent coverage in the daily press, that those street children who did not take advantage of the ‘Possibility Programme’ at the St. Andrew Parish Church would be made wards of the state, coincided with the start of our fieldwork in this zone. As a result, several children “went underground” and others were suspicious of our real motives. In New Kingston, where some children are involved in the drug trade, our enumerators were met with a violent reaction from armed children and were forced to retreat without carrying out their assignment.

Only 72 children were interviewed uptown. With the missing data excluded, there were only 59 respondents – 39 in Half-Way Tree, 19 in Liguanea/Papine and just one in New Kingston.

Table 4.1: Number of Working Children, by Area and Category.

		Area				Total
		Half-Way Tree	Liguanea	New Kingston	Papine	
street children	Count	20	1	1	18	40
	% within town	51.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	67.8%
commercial employees	Count	12				12
	% within town	30.8%				20.3%
sexually exploited	Count	1				1
	% within town	2.6%				1.7%
Others	Count	6				6
	% within town	15.4%				10.2%
Total	Count	39	1	1	18	59
	% within town	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

A majority of the child labourers in Half-Way Tree and all 19 that were interviewed in Liguanea/Papine were street children. The other significant category of working children found in Half-Way Tree was commercial employees – 31%.

Most of these children were found on the streets, four in shopping plazas, the same number at petrol stations and three in the Papine market.

Table 4.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Area.

	Category				Total	
	Street children	Commercial employees	Sexually exploited	Others		
Market	3				3	
Shopping Plazas	4				4	
Gas Station	4				4	
Patty Shop	1				1	
Vending Streets	26		12	1	6	45
Other	2				2	
Total	40		12	1	6	59

Most child labourers found uptown considered themselves to be working only part-time.

Table 4.3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Area.

**Category \* Regularity of work \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Regularity of work			Total
town	Category		full time	part time	never	
HalfWayTree	Category	street children	4	14	1	19
		commercial employees	2	10		12
		others		5		5
	Total		6	29	1	36
Ligunea	Category	street children	1			1
	Total		1			1
New Kingston	Category	street children		1		1
	Total			1		1
Papine	Category	street children	3	14		17
	Total		3	14		17

Boys outnumbered girls by five to one.

Table 4.4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category.

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Category	street children	Count	34	7	41
		% within Sex	68.0%	70.0%	68.3%
	commercial employees	Count	9	3	12
		% within Sex	18.0%	30.0%	20.0%
	sexually exploited	Count	1		1
		% within Sex	2.0%		1.7%
	others	Count	6		6
		% within Sex	12.0%		10.0%
Total	Count		50	10	60
	% within Sex		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Twelve (12) of 52 respondents were ‘children of the streets’, 10 of them in Half-Way Tree.

Table 4.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile and Area.

Town	Resting-place	Domicile	Sex		Total
			Male	Female	
Half-Way Tree	Resting-place	Home	19	2	21
		Street	10		10
	Total		29	2	31
Liguanea	Resting-place	Home	1		1
		Street	1		1
	Total		2		2
New Kingston	Resting-place	Home	1		1
	Total		1		1
Papine	Resting-place	Home	13	4	17
		Street	1		1
	Total		14	4	18

## II. Community Profiles

As indicated above, the main communities enumerated were Half-Way Tree and Liguanea/Papine.

### Half-Way Tree

The main occupation of the children here was wiping motor car windscreens. Favourite sleeping haunts for the children of the street were: the former Odeon theatre, the Scotiabank building and the shopping plaza.

Sample Cases:

- *Leon Walcott*, 13 – Street boy from age 11; never attended school; begs on street; neither registered nor immunized; wants off street.
- *Sashana Meeks*, 14 – Norman Manley High 9<sup>th</sup> Grader; street vendor; earns about \$300 per day; fears metro police; has had pneumonia; wants to be a lawyer.
- *Leon Rollins*, 13 – Living on street from age 5; mother chased him from home; begs, steals and gambles; proceeds buy food and ganja.
- *Weedy*, 14 – Mother beat him up and turned him out of yard; begs and wipes windscreens; big boy at YMCA beat him up.
- *Prince Edwards*, 13 – JC 7<sup>th</sup> grader; sells to get lunch money; fell off building; wants to be a doctor.
- *Anthony McKenzie*, 17 – Forced unto street by death of parent; fixes tyres, distributes flyers and watches and washes cars; his chest burns.

**Personal Profile: Leon Rollins, 13**

Leon has been living on the street from age five. He is from a family of seven, headed by his grand-mother. He was expelled from school, in Grade 4. He says that his mother often chased him out of the yard, so he doesn't bother to go home. He begs, steals, gambles, washes and watches cars to earn a living. He earns about \$600 per day, which he spends on food and ganja. He lists his main needs as finding a job and somewhere to sleep. His ambition is to become a rich man or a DJ. He is a substance abuser, including of cocaine, which he claims to have tried just once. He is sexually active and does not use contraceptives. He has been physically abused. He says that he is happy with his life as a street child.

- *Shawn Whitmore*, 16 – Expelled from school; ran away from home; sells drugs, earns \$500-\$1000 daily; spends on self and rent; has been shot; wants to be a DJ.
- *Zaire Walker*, 12 – Child of the street; ran away when mother gave him away; taxi man gassed and burnt him while asleep.
- *Joe Tex*, 8 – Child of the street; ran away from home; never been to school; begs and gambles; physically abused; often sick, without visiting a doctor or clinic.
- *Mamby Blair*, 13 – Child of the street; ran away from home; graduated from primary school; beaten by police; fainted when fighting; has STD and does not use a contraceptive.
- *Marlon Armstrong*, 16 – Child of the street; ran away from home; expelled from school for fighting; has had to visit the chest hospital; sells and begs.
- *Tyson*, 13 - Gambling truant; parents at work; hit by car and stabbed when fighting; substance abuser.
- *Patrick Forbes*, 16 – Beat him because he is a dunce; ran away from home; sells drugs; has contracted an STD.

**Personal Profile: Zaire Walker, 12**

Zaire has lived on the street from he was eight. Ran away when his mother gave him to a woman to send him to school. He does not remember what grade he left school in. He begs and collects bottles. He spends the proceeds on himself. He says he needs *everything*. He is a substance abuser of everything but cocaine. He is sexually active, with multiple sex partners, using a condom. He has been physically abuse. He fears taxi men and security guards. He does not know what he would like to be doing ideally.

## Liguanea/Papine

The child labourers found here wipe windshields, in the main. There are also a few children in the Papine market.

### Sample Cases:

- *George King*, 16 – Child of the street; wants proper home and job.
- *Quamina*, 14 – Sells for lunch money; sexually active; physically and sexually abused; has STD infection; fears men; wants to live at her father’s house.
- *Jason Johnson*, 9 – Sells and begs to send himself to school; gives his earnings to his mother; sexually active; physically abused; his ambition is to remain a vendor.
- *Percy Sledge*, 8 – Sells and begs for lunch money, which he gives to his grandmother; not sure if he is registered or immunized; has been physically abused.
- *Rodney Stone*, 14 – Child of the street since age 10; gets no help from parents; never attended school; wipes windscreens; earns \$1500 per day on average.
- *Rizzla*, 15 – Suspended from school; father wants to kill him; wipes windscreens; earns about \$1500 per day; asthmatic; sexually active.

#### **Personal Profile: Quamina**

Quamina has been working on the street since age 10, to get lunch money and, sometimes, when her father doesn’t get paid, for the home. She gives her earnings to her mother. She is presently in Grade 9. She lists her main needs as: money, education, food and clothes, and shoes. She sells on the street, for about \$500 per day. She has been infected with an STD. She is happy being a street person, but she would most like to live with her father. She fears men and is sexually active and promiscuous. She has been both physically and sexually abused. She thinks that children like her should be given money.

### **III. Main Needs and Health Profile**

The survival goods of food, clothes and shelter continue to be the first stated need of fully a half of the respondents (when those stating ‘all of the above’ are added).

Table 4. 6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

Main Needs <sup>1</sup>	Category			Total
	Street children	Commercial employees	Others	
Food, Clothing etc	17	5	2	24
Regular Schooling	8	3		11
Toys/Luxury Goods	2	1		3
School Supplies	2	1		3
Money	5		2	7
All of the Above	1	1		2
Other			2	2
Total	35	11	6	52

The survival goods receive equal prominence among street children as among the other significant category of working children, commercial employees.

Half of the remainder list ‘regular schooling’ and ‘school supplies’ first as their main need, suggesting that more than a quarter of child labourers uptown work primarily to facilitate their attendance at school. Money and toys are also significant needs of these children.

Eighteen percent (18%) of respondents, or 13 children, either were not registered as legal persons and 26% of respondents, or 19 children, either have not been immunized or were not sure that they were.

Table 4. 7: Number of Children Registered at Birth.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	58	81.7
No	5	7.0
DK	8	11.3
Total	71	100.0

Table 4.8: Number of Children Immunized.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	53	73.6
No	4	5.6
DK	15	20.8
Total	72	100.0

Fourteen percent (14%) of respondents (10 children) reported being sick often during the year and 74% (53 children) reported being ill more than once.

Table 4.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
Never	9	12.5
Once or twice	53	73.6
Often	10	13.9
Total	72	100.0

The general ailments, like colds, fever and flu, were the most frequently occurring.

Table 4.10: Sickesses Experienced During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	44	69.8
Eye Infection	1	1.6
Ear Infection	1	1.6
Breathing Problem	4	6.3
STD/HIV-AIDS	1	1.6
Accident	2	3.2
Other	10	15.9
Total	63	100.0

Four reporting having breathing problems and two were involved in accidents.

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called ‘high-risk’. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed OR had been stabbed or shot.

Table 4.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Area.

		HIGH RISK		Total
		No	Yes	
Half-Way Tree	Count	28	20	48
	% within town	58.3%	41.7%	100.0%
Liguanea	Count	1	1	2
	% within town	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
New Kingston	Count	1		1
	% within town	100.0%		100.0%
Papine	Count	11	5	16
	% within town	68.8%	31.3%	100.0%
	Count	41	26	67
	% within town	61.2%	38.8%	100.0%

Twenty-six (26) of 67 children interviewed uptown, nearly 40%, were high-risk, based on the stiff criteria outlined above. These data cry out for corrective action before the child labour victims uptown become a cancer in society.

The majority of street/working children were happy with their situation as child labourers.

Table 1.12: Children’s Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Area.

		Contentment Level			Total
		Happy	Unhappy	Not sure	
Half-Way Tree	Count	24	12	10	46
	% within town	52.2%	26.1%	21.7%	100.0%
Liguanea	Count	1	1		2
	% within town	50.0%	50.0%		100.0%
New Kingston	Count		1		1
	% within town		100.0%		100.0%
Papine	Count	11	6	2	19
	% within town	57.9%	31.6%	10.5%	100.0%
	Count	36	20	12	68
	% within town	52.9%	29.4%	17.6%	100.0%

Nearly 30%, or 20 of 68 child victims, are quite sure that they are unhappy with their situation. This should be fertile ground for child-care agencies.

## PARISH ANALYSIS: MANCHESTER

### I. Parish Profile: Numbers and Areas of Concentration

A total of 198 street children and other working children were interviewed in Manchester. They were located in the towns of Mandeville and its environs, Christiana, Spaulding and Porus. Although working children from the fishing community of Alligator Pond were enumerated, they were not interviewed. We were not restricted by parish boundary considerations in the case of the border townships of Alligator Pond and Spaulding.

As the table below shows, most of the children were from the capital township of Mandeville.

Table 5.1: Number of Working Children, by Major Town and Category.

Category		Town				Total
		Mandeville	Christiana	Spaulding	Porus	
Street children	Count	105	10	18	7	140
	% within town	76.6%	71.4%	69.2%	50.0%	73.3%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	3	1	1	2	7
	% within town	2.2%	7.1%	3.8%	14.3%	3.7%
Commercial employees	Count	22	2	6	2	32
	% within town	16.1%	14.3%	23.1%	14.3%	16.8%
Sexually exploited	Count	4		1		5
	% within town	2.9%		3.8%		2.6%
others	Count	3	1		3	7
	% within town	2.2%	7.1%		21.4%	3.7%
Total	Count	137	14	26	14	191
	% within town	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Mandeville had 137 of the 191 respondents, Spaulding 26, and Christiana and Porus 14 each.

The population of working children consisted mainly of street children – 73%. Of the remaining 23%, commercial employees accounted for 17%. It is worthy of note that only seven domestic helpers were found and interviewed.

The table below shows that these children were located mainly on the streets, in supermarkets, markets and shopping plazas, in order of priority. In Spaulding and Christiana, ‘supermarkets’ was the location of choice, rather than on the streets.

Table 5.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Town.

Town	Category		Location								Total	
			Market	Shopping Plazas	Bus Park/ Taxi Stand	Gas Station	Patty Shop	Vending Streets	Supermarket	Other Fast Food Stores		Other
Mandeville	Category	Street children	23	11	1			32	35		2	104
		Domestic/agri. helpers						2			1	3
		Commercial employees		3		2		8	7		2	22
		Sexually exploited						4				4
		Others		1				2				3
	Total		23	15	1	2		48	42	5	136	
Christiana	Category	Street children	2	1				2	2	3		10
		Domestic/agri. helpers							1			1
		Commercial employees		2								2
		Others		1								1
	Total		2	4			2	2	4		14	
Spaulding	Category	Street children	1	1				1	2	10	3	18
		Domestic/agri. helpers							1			1
		Commercial employees					1		1	2	2	6
		Sexually exploited						1				1
	Total		1	1			2	3	12	2	26	
Porus	Category	Street children	3					4				7
		Domestic/agri. helpers						2				2
		Commercial employees							2			2
		Others						3				3
	Total		3				9	2			14	



Most working children considered this occupation only a part-time one.

Table 5.3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Town.

Town	Category		Regularity of work				Total
			Full time	Part time	Seasonal	Never	
Mandeville	Category	Street children	4	96	4		104
		Domestic/agri. helpers	1	2			3
		Commercial employees	9	10	1		20
		Sexually exploited	1	1	1		3
		others				1	1
	Total		15	109	6	1	131
Christiana	Category	Street children		10			10
		Commercial employees		1	1		2
	Total			11	1		12
Spaulding	Category	Street children	3	15			18
		Domestic/agri. helpers				1	1
		Commercial employees	1	5			6
		Sexually exploited	1				1
	Total		5	20	1		26
Porus	Category	Street children		7			7
		Domestic/agri. helpers			2		2
		Commercial employees	2				2
		Others	1	2			3
	Total		3	11			14

As much as 78% of working children were boys, as opposed to 22% girls.

Table 5.4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category.

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Category	street children	Count	112	28	140
		% of Total	58.6%	14.7%	73.3%
	domestic/agri. helpers	Count	5	2	7
		% of Total	2.6%	1.0%	3.7%
	commercial employees	Count	29	3	32
		% of Total	15.2%	1.6%	16.8%
	sexually exploited	Count		5	5
		% of Total		2.6%	2.6%
	others	Count	3	4	7
		% of Total	1.6%	2.1%	3.7%
Total		Count	149	42	191
		% of Total	78.0%	22.0%	100.0%

Boys outnumbered girls in every category, including that of domestic helpers.

We found only one child of the street in each of the following towns: Mandeville, Spaulding and Porus. There were none found in Christiana.

Table 5.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile, Gender and Town.

**Resting-place \* Sex \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Mandeville	Resting-place	home	83	18	101
		street	1		1
	Total		84	18	102
Christiana	Resting-place	home	8	3	11
	Total		8	3	11
Spauldings	Resting-place	home	17	1	18
		street		1	1
	Total		17	2	19
Porus	Resting-place	home	7	1	8
		street	1		1
	Total		8	1	9

**II. Community Profiles**

**Mandeville**

There are nearly as many children found working in supermarkets as shop assistants or beggars as on the streets. The plazas are also well populated with beggars and the Mandeville market has its fair share of child vendors and push-cart boys.

Sample of Cases:

- *Terrence Stuart*, 10 – Agricultural labourer, pushes hand-cart; earns on average \$200 per day; uses earnings to buy stock of goats and rabbits; wants to attend training academy.
- *Catty*, 17 – Barmaid and exotic dancer from Kingston; works 9 hours per day on weekends, for \$5000-\$9000 per week; needs parental love; has skin problem, STD.

**Personal Profile: Catty, 17**

Catty was expelled from school because of poor grades. Her parents were divorced and ignored her. Her main needs are to feel loved and accepted. At age 14 started doing “business”, but not primarily for the sake of money, but for love of sex. Has been physically and sexually abused. She wants to migrate and live with her mother.

- Jahmani Douglas*, 14- Father died; dropped out of school; street vendor, beggar, carries shoppers' bags; suffered physical and sexual abuse.
- *Connie*, 16 – Dropped out of school when pregnant; truant who sometimes earns about \$500 per day; uses alcohol and ganja.
  - *Tekiesha*, 17 – Dropped out when pregnant; truant sometimes selling her favours; suffered physical and sexual abuse.
  - *Devon Carter*, 16 – Dropped out after Grade 7; works because of parental neglect; physically abused.

**Personal Profile: Tekiesha**

Tekiesha dropped out in Grade 9 when she got pregnant. She is a truant who works 'only when necessary. She earns on average \$1000 per day and uses it to buy clothes, shoes and as pocket money. She has been both physically and sexually abused. She lists her main needs as: clothes, money, food and luxury items. She would like to continue her schooling or to migrate.

**Christiana/Spaulding**

Here children congregate at the supermarkets as much as on the streets, or in the towns' markets. There is also a go-go club in Christiana, open week-ends.

Sample Cases:

- *Desiree*, 16 – Parents dead; sexually abused; cocaine addict.
- *Sweapea*, 14 – Street vendor, beggar and drug courier; earns about \$500 per day; has STD; doesn't know if he is registered or immunized; has unprotected sex; physically and sexually abused and has been knocked out twice.
- *Rock*, 16 – Lives on street since parents died; sexually exploited; works in Spaulding market; unhappy with her life and wants to become an air stewardess.

**Personal Profile: Desiree, 16**

Both parents of Desiree died when she was 10, then her brother tried to rape her, forcing her to leave the house. She does everything: dancer, "businesswoman", masseuse, etc. Earns about \$20,000 per week, which she gives to her mother and spends on cocaine. She is not sure if she is immunized and is physically and sexually abused and has been knocked out at least once. She is unhappy with her life and would like to become an air stewardess.

**Porus**

Some street children here are market children and bush children.

Sample Cases:

- *Zadeke*, 8 – Street child and domestic helper; mother not working, lives with grand=mother; unhappy with life; wants to go to school more often.
- *Wolf*, 5 – Disabled; needs artificial foot; wants to go back to school and play football.

**Personal Profile: Wolf**

Wolf is from a poor family of eight. He begs on the street. Wolf lost a leg on the train line and needs to replace it with an artificial one, with a shoe to match. He lists his main needs as every thing: food, clothes, etc, regular school, school supplies, Health care, parental love and money. Sexually active, having unprotected sex, and is usually armed. He wants to go back to school and become a footballer.

**III. Main Needs and Health Profile**

The survival goods of food, clothes and houses continue to be the first mentioned by a half of all respondents (when ‘all the above’ is added). ‘Regular schooling’ and ‘school supplies’ account for half of the remainder. ‘Money’ accounts for another 20%.

Table 5.6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

Main Needs	Category	Category					Total
		Street children	Domestic/agri. helpers	Commercial employees	Sexually exploited	Others	
Protection from Adults		2	1				3
Food, Clothing etc		64	3	14	1	4	86
Regular Schooling		17	1	5			23
Health Care				1			1
Parental Love			1	2	2	1	6
Toys/Luxury Goods		4			1		5
School Supplies		17		2			19
Money		31		4		2	37
All of the Above		2	1	1			4
Other		1		1	1		3
<b>Total</b>		<b>138</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>187</b>

There is a possibility of there being up to 26 working children (13%) not being registered. Twenty-seven (27) children, or 14% of their number, might not have been immunized.

Table 5.7: Number of Children Registered at Birth.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	170	86.7
No	10	5.1
DK	16	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 5.8: Number of Children Immunized.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	169	86.2
No	5	2.6
DK	22	11.2
Total	196	100.0

Just under a half of the respondents reported being sick at some time during the past year.

Table 5.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
Never	102	52.0
Once or twice	70	35.7
Often	24	12.2
Total	196	100.0

Over 60% of those reporting ill were afflicted with the general illnesses such as colds, fever and flu. Eight children reported breathing problems such as asthma and sinusitis and six had eye infections. Four of the interviewees would not say what was the nature of their illness. If one assumes that they had contracted some form of STD, then there would be seven children afflicted with STD/AIDS.

Table 5.10: Sicknesses Experienced During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	58	62.4
Eye Infection	6	6.5
Ear Infection	1	1.1
Skin Problem	2	2.2
Breathing Problem	8	8.6
Back Problem	2	2.2
Anaemia	2	2.2
STD/HIV-AIDS	3	3.2
Accident	3	3.2
Won't Say	4	4.3
Other	4	4.3
Total	93	100.0

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called 'high-risk'. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed OR had been stabbed or shot.

Table 5.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Town.

Town		HIGH RISK		Total
		No	Yes	
Mandeville	Count	102	28	130
	% within town	78.5%	21.5%	100.0%
Christiana	Count	11	2	13
	% within town	84.6%	15.4%	100.0%
Spaulding	Count	19	7	26
	% within town	73.1%	26.9%	100.0%
Porus	Count	10	2	12
	% within town	83.3%	16.7%	100.0%
Total	Count	142	39	181
	% within town	78.5%	21.5%	100.0%

Thirty-nine (39) of the 181 respondents may have already fallen through the cracks, posing a danger to themselves and to the society at large.

Forty percent (40%) of child labourers in the parish were unhappy with their situation, as opposed to 45% who were happy. Fifteen percent (15%) were ambivalent.

Table 5.12: Children's Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Town.

Town		Contentment Level			Total
		Happy	Unhappy	Not sure	
Mandeville	Count	70	56	14	140
	% within town	50.0%	40.0%	10.0%	100.0%
Christiana	Count	3	7	4	14
	% within town	21.4%	50.0%	28.6%	100.0%
Spaulding	Count	15	4	8	27
	% within town	55.6%	14.8%	29.6%	100.0%
Porus	Count	1	11	3	15
	% within town	6.7%	73.3%	20.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	89	78	29	196
	% within town	45.4%	39.8%	14.8%	100.0%

In Porus, 11 of 15 children are unhappy with their situation, posing fertile ground for social workers. The situation is reversed in Spaulding, where there is a high proportion of commercial employees. In Christiana, fully 50% of child labourers are unhappy with their situation, while in Mandeville, fully 50% are happy with their status as working children.

## PARISH ANALYSIS: ST. ANN

### I. Parish Profile: Numbers and Areas of Concentration

The towns covered in this survey were St. Ann's Bay, Ocho Rios and Brown's Town. There was no attempt to enumerate the sexually exploited children, as these were covered in a previous ILO study.

A total of 162 street and working children were interviewed in the parish. The 147 respondents in the following table were broken down by township as follows: 41 in St. Ann's Bay, 57 in Ocho Rios and 49 in Brown's Town.

Table 6.1: Number of Working Children, by Major Town and Category.

Category		Town			Total
		St. Ann's Bay	Ocho Rios	Browns Town	
Street children	Count	32	55	45	132
	% within town	78.0%	96.5%	91.8%	89.8%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	2			2
	% within town	4.9%			1.4%
Commercial employees	Count	3		1	4
	% within town	7.3%		2.0%	2.7%
Sexually exploited	Count	4			4
	% within town	9.8%			2.7%
Others	Count		2	3	5
	% within town		3.5%	6.1%	3.4%
Total	Count	41	57	49	147
	% within town	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Street children constituted 90% of the total number of working children in the parish. Only in St. Ann's Bay did we find significant numbers of other categories of working children: four (4) sexually exploited children, three (3) commercial employees and two (2) domestic helpers.

The children are located primarily in the markets and on the streets.

Table 6.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Town.

Town		Location									Total	
		Market	Shopping Plazas	Bus Park/ Taxi Stand	Game Shops	Beach	River / Canal	Vending Streets	Supermarket	Other Fast Food Stores		Other
St. Ann's Bay	Street children	7				1		12	8	1	1	30
	Domestic/ agri. helpers							2				2
	Commercial employees					1		2				3
	Sexually exploited					1		3				4
Total		7				3		19	8	1	1	39
Ocho Rios	Street children	32	11		1			6	1	2		54
	Others				1			1				2
Total		32	11		2			7	1	2		56
Browns Town	Street children	30		2				9	1	2		44
	Commercial employees				1							1
	Others	1			2							3
Total		31		2	3			9	1	2		48

Nineteen of 39 children responding in St. Ann's Bay were found on the busy street, eight in the supermarkets and seven in the St. Ann's Bay market. In Ocho Rios and Browns Town, most street children were found in the markets of those towns. In Ocho Rios, 11 children were found in supermarkets and six on the streets. In Browns Town, nine children were found on the streets.

Most working children in this parish do so only part-time.

Table 6.3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Town.

**Category \* Regularity of work \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Regularity of work				Total
			full time	part time	seasonal	never	
St. Anns Bay	Category	street children	1	26	5		32
		domestic/agri. helpers		1	1		2
		commercial employees	3				3
		sexually exploited	3	1			4
		Total	7	28	6		41
Ocho Rios	Category	street children	3	49	2		54
		others		1			1
		Total	3	50	2		55
Browns Town	Category	street children		42		2	44
		commercial employees		1			1
		others		2	1		3
		Total		45	1	2	48

The commercial employees and sexually exploited children, found in St. Ann's Bay, tended to work full-term.

Boys outnumber girls 5:1.

Table 6. 4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category.

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Category	street children	Count	123	17	140
		% of Total	78.8%	10.9%	89.7%
	domestic/agri. helpers	Count		3	3
		% of Total		1.9%	1.9%
	commercial employees	Count	2	2	4
		% of Total	1.3%	1.3%	2.6%
	sexually exploited	Count		4	4
		% of Total		2.6%	2.6%
	others	Count	5		5
		% of Total	3.2%		3.2%
Total		Count	130	26	156
		% of Total	83.3%	16.7%	100.0%

Five ‘children of the street’ were interviewed in St. Ann’s Bay and three in Ocho Rios – all males.

Table 6.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile and town.

**Resting-place \* Sex \* town Crosstabulation**

Count			Sex		Total
town	Resting-place	home street	male	female	
St. Anns Bay	Resting-place	home street	28	2	30
			5		5
	Total		33	2	35
Ocho Rios	Resting-place	home street	48	9	57
			3		3
	Total		51	9	60
Browns Town	Resting-place	home	39	5	44
	Total		39	5	44

**II. Community Profiles**

The towns enumerated were: St. Ann’s Bay, Ocho Rios and Browns Town.

**St. Ann’s Bay**

In the parish capital, working children are to be found on the main streets, in supermarkets helping with packing and transportation of goods and in the market. In Ocho Rios and Brown’s Town, they are to be found almost exclusively in the markets.

Our enumerators found several cases of girls from the Windsor Girls’ Home living with adult men and taking care of the laundry and house.

**Sample Cases:**

- *Alafia Briscoe*, 17 – From Girls’ Home; pregnant; sexually exploited.
- *Garfield Johnson*, 17 – Dropped out of school at age 12, because parents could not afford to send them to school; said to be a ‘slow learner’.
- *Giovanni Hull*, 15 – Expelled; neglected by parents; substance abuser; physically abused.
- *Andrew Morrison*, 13 – Dropped out of school; substance abuser; sexually active; physically abused.
- *Andrea Ffolkes*, 16 – Pregnant at 14; substance abuser; sexually active, with no contraceptive.
- *Kayon Jones*, 17 – Pregnant at 15; ran away from Girls’ Home; substance abuser; multiple partners; physically and sexually abused.

- *Ronnie Greenland*, 16 – Parents migrated; lives with friend; substance abuser; carries weapon; has been stabbed.

**Personal Profile: Kayon Jones, 17**

Kayon did not get on with her mother and was sent to a Girls' Home. She used to sneak out of the Home from age 12 to visit a boy because she needed the money, but refused to do business with anyone else but her boyfriend. She got pregnant at age 14 and decided to run away from the Home to live her boyfriend, who was six years her senior. He sent her to school, but she dropped out. He has since sent her to a Training Centre. She gets \$500 or more per week from her boyfriend. She is often sick with general ailments, but has not seen a doctor. She is an habitual cigarette and ganja smoker, is on the pill, has been physically and sexually abused, mainly at the Girls' Home. She would like to become a cosmetologist. Kayon strongly believes that Government should provide decent jobs for children who are not interested in school and who want to be independent.

**Ocho Rios**

- *Wanga*, male, 13 – Physically abused by father.
- *Kemisha Vincent*, 14 – Abandoned by mother; unhappy with life as child labourer; sexually active.
- *Nikita Honeyghan*, 16 – Ran away from home because step-father wanted to have sex with her.
- *Rohan Vincent*, 14 – Suspended from school; cannot read; substance abuser.

**Personal Profile: Nikita Honeyghan, 16**

Nikita's mother did not believe her when she told her that her step-father was pressuring her for sex, so she ran away from home. Her boyfriend at the time supplied her with solutex and other building materials and she erected a make-shift house on land owned by her father. She now lives with her boyfriend and does hair-braiding at \$100 per customer to survive. She has had the flu and breathing problems over the past year, smokes cigarettes, is sexually active, but uses a condom. She tries to attend school regularly, but has had to miss about ten sessions for the term because she had to work. She wants to attend nursing school, but despairs that she might have lost her chance because she was unable to sit her CXC or GCE examinations. Nikita says she is unhappy with her situation and pleads for some organisation to visit her and see that she is telling the truth and help her.

**Browns Town**

Most children here were found in the vicinity of the market or in games rooms.

Sample Cases:

- *Kamau Garrick*, 13 – Begs and carries load; sexually active, without contraceptive; physically abused; armed.
- *Vincent Lawrence*, 17 – Street vendor; attends school irregularly; works market days; earns \$700 on average, which he uses to build house. Gets no support from

parents; has not been immunized; sexually active, without contraceptive; physically abused; wants to learn to drive.

**Personal Profile: Kamau Garrick, 13**

Kamau is a street child who survives by begging and carrying load in the market. He lives with his father and grand-mother. He started hustling from age eight and has attended school very irregularly since then. Sometimes he misses school for months. He is an asthmatic, has experimented with cigarettes and is an habitual drinker. He is sexually active, using no contraceptive, has been physically abused and carries a knife. Kamau earns about \$300 per day, but is ambivalent about the life he leads. He would like to be a mason, like his father and thinks that the best way to help is by providing jobs.

**III. Main Needs and Health Profile**

The first stated need by one-third of the respondents was the survival goods of food, clothing and shelter. The same proportion listed first ‘regular schooling’ or ‘school supplies’ and 11% first stated ‘money’.

Table 6.6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

Main Needs <sup>1</sup>	Street children	Category				Total
		Domestic/agri. helpers	Commercial employees	Sexually exploited	Others	
Protection from Adults	2					2
Food, Clothing etc	44	2	2	1	1	50
Regular Schooling	36					36
Health Care	5					5
Parental Love	5				2	7
Toys/Luxury Goods	4					4
School Supplies	14					14
Money	12		1	2	1	16
All of the Above	11	1		1		13
Other	1		1		1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>150</b>

Eighteen percent of respondents – 29 children - either were not registered at birth or did not know if they were. Similarly, fourteen percent – 23 children – were either not immunized or were not sure whether they had been.

Table 6.7: Number of Children Registered at Birth.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	132	82.0
No	21	13.0
DK	8	5.0
Total	161	100.0

Table 6.8: Number of Children Immunized.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	138	85.7
No	10	6.2
DK	13	8.1
Total	161	100.0
System	1	
	162	

Eighty percent (80%) of the children reported being ill over the past year.

Table 6.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
Never	33	20.4
Once or twice	104	64.2
Often	25	15.4
Total	162	100.0

One hundred of 115 respondents were ill with general sicknesses like fever, cold and flu.

Table 6.10: Sicknesses Experienced During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	100	87.0
Eye Infection	2	1.7
Skin Problem	1	.9
Breathing Problem	7	6.1
Back Problem	1	.9
STD/HIV-AIDS	1	.9
Accident	3	2.6
Total	115	100.0

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called ‘high-risk’. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed OR had been stabbed or shot.

Table 6.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Town.

Town			HIGH RISK		Total
			No	Yes	
St. Ann's Bay	Count		20	12	32
	% within town		62.5%	37.5%	100.0%
Ocho Rios	Count		38	14	52
	% within town		73.1%	26.9%	100.0%
Browns Town	Count		26	3	29
	% within town		89.7%	10.3%	100.0%
Total	Count		84	29	113
	% within town		74.3%	25.7%	100.0%

More than a quarter of the respondents could be described as high-risk, as defined. Ocho Rios and St. Ann's Bay had the highest incidence of such children – 14 and 12, respectively. Brown's Town only had three such cases.

Fifty percent (50%) of the children were unhappy with their life as child labourers, as opposed to 38% who were happy. The remaining 13% were ambivalent.

Table 6.12: Children's Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Town.

**town \* Contentment Level Crosstabulation**

			Contentment Level			Total
			happy	unhappy	not sure	
town	St. Anns Bay	Count	14	24	5	43
		% within town	32.6%	55.8%	11.6%	100.0%
	Ocho Rios	Count	23	30	6	59
		% within town	39.0%	50.8%	10.2%	100.0%
	Browns Town	Count	20	21	8	49
		% within town	40.8%	42.9%	16.3%	100.0%
Total		Count	57	75	19	151
		% within town	37.7%	49.7%	12.6%	100.0%

St. Ann's Bay had the highest proportion of unhappy child labourers, while Browns Town, with its preponderance of market children, had the lowest.

## PARISH ANALYSIS: ST. MARY

### I. Parish Profile: Numbers and Areas of Concentration

Fifty-four (54) child labourers were interviewed in St. Mary. The towns covered were Port Maria, Oracabessa and Robin's Bay. The Robin's Bay enumerators reported a violent reception from the children in Robin's Bay, who are said to be involved in the drug trade, which is presently sweeping the eastern coastline townships. As a result, only four children were interviewed.

Table 7.1: Number of Working Children, by Town and Category.

Category		Town			Total
		Port Maria	Robins Bay	Oracabessa	
Street children	Count	18	2	11	31
	% within town	62.1%	50.0%	55.0%	58.5%
Domestic/agri. helpers	Count	8	1	2	11
	% within town	27.6%	25.0%	10.0%	20.8%
Commercial employees	Count	2	1	5	8
	% within town	6.9%	25.0%	25.0%	15.1%
Sexually exploited	Count			1	1
	% within town			5.0%	1.9%
Others	Count	1		1	2
	% within town	3.4%		5.0%	3.8%
Total	Count	29	4	20	53
	% within town	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Of the 53 respondents, Port Maria had 29, Oracabessa 20 and Robin's Bay four (4). Street children amounted for 31 of the 53 children, domestic/agricultural helpers for 11 and commercial employees for 8.

Table 7.2: Number of Working Children, by Category and Location in each Town.

Town	Category		Location				Total
			Market	Beach	Vending Streets	Other	
Port Maria	Category	Street children	6	1	11		18
		Domestic/agri. helpers		1	7		8
		Commercial employees	1			1	2
		Others			1		1
	Total		7	2	19	1	29
Robins Bay	Category	Street children			2		2
		Domestic/agri. helpers			1		1
		Commercial employees			1		1
Total				4		4	
Oracabessa	Category	Street children	5	1	5		11
		Domestic/agri. helpers			2		2
		Commercial employees	1		4		5
		Sexually exploited			1		1
		Others			1		1
	Total		6	1	13		20

Eighteen (18) of 29 children in Port Maria were street children, and 11 of 20 in Oracabessa. Eight (8) domestic/agricultural helpers were found in Port Maria and five (5) commercial employees in Oracabessa.

Nearly all child labourers in Port Maria were working only part-time. In Oracabessa, part-time and full-time were evenly divided, together amounting to 18 of 19 interviewees.

Table 7.3: Regularity of Work, by Category of Working Children in each Town.

Town	Category		Regularity of work			Total
			Full time	Part time	Seasonal	
Port Maria	Category	Street children	3	14	1	18
		Domestic/agri. helpers		5		5
		Commercial employees		2		2
		Others		1		1
	Total		3	22	1	26
Robins Bay	Category	Street children		2		2
		Domestic/agri. helpers	1			1
		Commercial employees	1			1
	Total		2	2		4
Oracabessa	Category	Street children	4	6		10
		Domestic/agri. helpers		2		2
		Commercial employees	4	1		5
		Sexually exploited others	1			1
	Total		9	9	1	19

Boys outnumbered girls, but by less than 2:1 – 62% to 38%.

Table 7.4: Number of Working Children, by Gender and Category.

**Category \* Sex Crosstabulation**

			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Category	street children	Count	24	7	31
		% of Total	45.3%	13.2%	58.5%
	domestic/agri. helpers	Count	5	6	11
		% of Total	9.4%	11.3%	20.8%
	commercial employees	Count	3	5	8
		% of Total	5.7%	9.4%	15.1%
	sexually exploited	Count		1	1
		% of Total		1.9%	1.9%
	others	Count	1	1	2
		% of Total	1.9%	1.9%	3.8%
Total		Count	33	20	53
		% of Total	62.3%	37.7%	100.0%

Street children were predominantly boys, but girls slightly exceeded boys in the categories of domestic/agricultural helpers and commercial employees.

Only two (2) ‘children of the street’ were interviewed in the parish, one in Port Maria and one in Oracabessa.

Table 7.5: Number of Street Children, by Domicile and Town.

**Resting-place \* Sex \* town Crosstabulation**

Count

town			Sex		Total
			male	female	
Port Maria	Resting-place	home	12	5	17
		street	1		1
	Total		13	5	18
Robins Bay	Resting-place	home	2		2
	Total		2		2
Oracabessa	Resting-place	home	10	2	12
		street	1		1
	Total		11	2	13

## II. Community Profiles.

The communities covered were Port Maria, Oracabessa and Robin’s Bay.

### Port Maria

Child labourers were found on the streets of the town, in the Port Maria market and at the Paggee beach.

#### Sample Cases:

- *Mannie McDonald*, 13 – Agricultural worker selling his produce in the market; works week-ends; no birth certificate; needs some-one to teach him to read.
- *Sophia Nash*, 10 – Domestic worker, because mother needs help in the home; physically and sexually abused; attends school irregularly; needs better education.
- *Rennie*, 14 – Mother is a domestic worker, who sometimes does not come home; begs or helps fishermen bring in the catch; works full-time; wants parental guidance and to be able to attend school regularly.

#### **Personal Profile: Rennie, 14**

Rennie lives alone with his mother, who is a domestic worker. Sometimes she did not come home and Rennie started going to the Paggee beach at age 10 to beg the fishermen for a fish. They soon got used to him and started to let him help them. He dropped out of school two years later and assumed his life of begging, scaling fish and cleaning boats full-time. He earns about \$250 on the average day, which he uses to buy food for himself. He has experimented with tobacco, alcohol and marijuana. He is sexually active, does not use a contraceptive and has been physically abused. He has a fear of gunmen. Rennie is unhappy with the life that he has been forced to live to survive and lists his needs as: the love and guidance of his mother, food, money and clothes. His greatest desire is to go to school on a regular basis.

## Oracabessa

This is a tourist town that attracts people in search of jobs. Working children are found in the poor neighbourhoods, on the beach and in the market.

### Sample Cases:

- *Danny Johnson*, 15 – Father died when he was 12; dropped out of school; smokes and drinks; sexually active; physically and sexually abused.
- *Shakira*, 16 – Takes care of siblings; mother works at Tower Isle; dropped out in Grade 7; wants to go back to school.
- *Rema Beckford*, 17 – Expelled from school; father stopped supporting her; got pregnant; braids hair to support herself and her baby.
- *Henry Ford*, 9 – Mother dead; father does not support him; step-father has difficulty sending him to school; physically abused; sexually active.
- *Phantom*, 14 – Expelled; unhappy; smokes cigarettes and ganja; physically abused; carries a weapon.
- *Stump*, 8 – Ran away from home to escape beating from his mother; learned to live on the streets for two months, when his brother caught him and took him home; sexually active; physically abused; carries a weapon.
- *Bridgette*, 16 – Barmaid; dropped out of school at age 12; ran away from home because step-father physically and sexually abused her.

#### **Personal Profile: Shakira, 16**

Shakira is the eldest child of six, in a female-headed household. She dropped out of school in Grade 7 when she was 12, because she had to take care of the baby. Her mother had a live-in job as a domestic helper. Her mother got pregnant again and now she had two babies to take care of while her mother continued to work at Tower Isle. Shakira is unhappy with her life as an unpaid full-time domestic helper. She says she was doing well in school and wants to finish her education. If that is not possible at her age, she would like to learn dress-making. She thinks parents with large families should be given a subsidy, so that they would be able to stay home and take care of their children.

### III. Main Needs and Health Profile

Thirty-three (33) of 49 respondents first named the survival goods of food, clothes and shelter as their main need. Eight (8) wanted money.

Table 7. 6: Perception of Main Needs by Working Children.

Main Needs	Category					Total
	Street children	Domestic/agri. helpers	Commercial employees	Sexually exploited	Others	
1 Food, Clothing etc	23	5	4	1		33
Regular Schooling		2				2
Toys/Luxury Goods	2					2
School Supplies		1				1
Money	2	3	2		1	8
All of the Above	2				1	3
Total	29	11	6	1	2	49

Twelve (12) children (22% of total) have either not been registered or don't know whether they have been. The same number have probably not been immunized.

Table 7.7: Number of Children Registered at Birth.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	42	77.8
No	5	9.3
DK	7	13.0
Total	54	100.0

Table 7.8: Number of Children Immunized.

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	42	77.8
No	3	5.6
DK	9	16.7
Total	54	100.0

Seventy-one percent (71%) of the respondents reported being sick over the past year, 11% being often sick.

Table 7.9: Number of Children Reporting Ill During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
Never	15	28.3
Once or twice	32	60.4
Often	6	11.3
Total	53	100.0

Twenty-six (26) of 33 had general illnesses like fever, colds and flu; three had breathing problems.

Table 7.10: Sickneses Experienced During the Year.

	Frequency	Percent
General (fever, flu, etc.)	26	78.8
Breathing Problem	3	9.1
Back Problem	1	3.0
Accident	1	3.0
Won't Say	1	3.0
Other	1	3.0
Total	33	100.0

We used the risk analysis to develop a variable called ‘high-risk’. This refers to those children who were substance abusers AND were sexually active with several partners without using a contraceptive device AND were either physically or sexually abused AND were either armed OR had been stabbed or shot.

Table 7.11: Number of High-Risk Children, by Town.

Town			HIGH RISK		Total
			No	Yes	
Port Maria	Count		22	6	28
	% within town		78.6%	21.4%	100.0%
Robins Bay	Count		1	2	3
	% within town		33.3%	66.7%	100.0%
Oracabessa	Count		7	10	17
	% within town		41.2%	58.8%	100.0%
Total	Count		30	18	48
	% within town		62.5%	37.5%	100.0%

Eighteen (18) of the 48 respondents could be considered ‘high-risk’, using the above definition. That’s a high 37.5% of the total. The proportion is even higher in Oracabessa (59%) and Robin’s Bay (66.7%).

An equal proportion (40%) of child labourers are happy with that condition as are unhappy. The remaining 20% are ambivalent.

Table 7.12: Children’s Level of Comfort with Working Situation, by Town.

**town \* Contentment Level Crosstabulation**

			Contentment Level			Total
			happy	unhappy	not sure	
town	Port Maria	Count	15	10	4	29
		% within town	51.7%	34.5%	13.8%	100.0%
	Robins Bay	Count	2	2		4
		% within town	50.0%	50.0%		100.0%
	Oracabessa	Count	4	9	7	20
		% within town	20.0%	45.0%	35.0%	100.0%
Total		Count	21	21	11	53
		% within town	39.6%	39.6%	20.8%	100.0%

Half the number of children in Port Maria and Robin’s Bay are happy with their situation. In Oracabessa, however, only 20% are happy with having to work.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Put the parents of working children on the Government's Food Stamps programme, or the children themselves, where they have no guardian.
2. Initiate a holistic programme of activities in the communities exhibiting a high level of truancy. This programme should be planned with the input of the victims of child labour themselves and their parents. It should involve educational, counselling, recreational and economic self-help and skills training activities. (Skills training was the most common recommendation of the respondents in the survey.)
3. Expand programmes designed to get street and working children back into the school system, such as those being undertaken by Children First, the YMCA and the National Initiative for Street Children (NISC), to cover all areas of heavy concentration. Expand the capacity of the above-mentioned organisations to absorb the demand in the areas where they currently operate.
4. Expand the LEAP (remedial education and skills training) programme of the Ministry of Education to all communities of heavy concentration. Trainees should be recommended by the schools, after examination of their attendance records.
5. Ministry of Education to devise educational/training/apprenticeship programme for graduates of the existing school system who are not yet adults.
6. Organise special programme for children of the street to feed, clothe, counsel and recreate them and to bring them together with their families.
7. Organise half-way houses in towns of heavy concentration for street children and sexually exploited children, where they can have a meal, a bath and change of clothes, receive counselling, etc.
8. The Child Support Unit should implement a programme of identifying/organising volunteer groups in all towns of heavy concentration to undertake the programmes listed above.
9. Improve the conditions of the Children's Homes and their programmes to make them havens for children needing special protection, rather than children's prisons.
10. NYS volunteers and JAMAL to organise literacy programmes, with recreational and counselling components, on the fishing beaches.
11. Subsidise day-care services (possibly through the Food Stamps programme) for parents of children kept home to perform domestic duties.
12. Initiate public educational campaign to sensitise parents to the socio-psychological consequences of taking children out of school to perform domestic duties.
13. Strictly enforce the law on minors' presence in bars and (go-go) clubs. Include in the new Child Care Act the authority for police/Children's Officers to demand proof of age.
14. Ministry of Health to organise programmes to immunize and provide medical attention to street children.

15. Child Support Unit to print for circulation to all relevant personnel, agencies and NGOs a document containing the Summary, Recommendations and the relevant Parish Analysis contained in this study.

**APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE**

QUESTIONNAIRE: STREET & WORKING CHILDREN SURVEY, 2001

**Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ID#:** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**Town:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name or Alias:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sex:** Male  Female  **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ years

**Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
**Town** **Parish**

**Current Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**No. of Household Members:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relation to Respondent	Age	Working		Occupation	Relation to Respondent	Age	Working		Occupation
		Yes	No				Yes	No	
<b>Guardian:</b>									
<b>Interviewee</b>									
<b>Others:</b>									

General	Key to Codes
<p><b>1. Which of the following applies to you?</b></p> <p>a. I live and work on the street <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>b. I work on the street, but do not live on the street <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>c. I earn a living on the beach <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>d. I survive mainly in the bush <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>e. I help to sell or transport goods in the market or market streets <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>f. I stay home some days to help with the housework or the family farm <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>g. I am learning a trade as an apprentice <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>h. I have a job in a business-place <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>i. I sometimes work on a plantation <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>j. I survive giving others pleasure <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>k. I often skip school to chill out at an interesting place <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1.12. None of the above.</p> <p><i>State category:</i> _____</p>	<p><b>1. Children of the street</b></p> <p><b>2. Children on the street</b></p> <p><b>3. Children of the beach</b></p> <p><b>4. Children of the bush</b></p> <p><b>5. Market children</b></p> <p><b>6. Domestic or Agricultural helpers</b></p> <p><b>7. Apprentices</b></p> <p><b>8. Commercial &amp; Industrial workers</b></p> <p><b>9. Agricultural worker</b></p> <p><b>10. Sexually exploited children</b></p> <p><b>11. Truants</b></p> <p><b>12. Other children out of place</b></p>

<p><b>2. How long have you been on your own/been engaging in your present activities? _____</b></p>	<p>1. &lt; 1 year 2. 1-2 years 3. &gt; 2 years</p>
<p><b>3. How old were you when you started? _____</b></p>	
<p><b>4. (If dropout) Why did you stop attending school?</b> _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>1. No school/VTDI 2. To support self/family 3. Can't afford 4. Not interested 5. Failed at school 6. Don't like teacher 7. Illness/disability 8. To help out at home 9. Expelled 10. Graduated 11. Other</p>
<p><b>5. When was the last time you attended school?</b> _____</p>	<p>1. This week 2. Last week 3. 2-4 weeks ago 4. 1-6 months ago 5. Over 6 months ago</p>
<p><b>6. Grade attained: _____</b></p>	<p>1. Lower than 6 2. Grade 6 3. Grade 7 4. Grade 8 5. Grade 9 6. Higher than 9</p>
<p><b>7. Do your parents/guardians consent to you doing what you're doing? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></b></p>	<p>1. Yes 2. No</p>
<p><b>8. What do you do with your earnings?</b> _____</p>	<p>1. Spend it on food 2. Spend it on clothes 3. Give it all to family 2. Give some to family 3. Give it to others 4. Spend it on video games/Gamble 5. Save 6. Attend school 7. Other: _____</p>
<p><b>9. What are the circumstances that made you decide to go on your own/engage in your present activities?</b> _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>1. Educational system 8. Parental neglect or abandonment 9. Migration of parent(s) 10. Physical abuse 11. Sexual abuse 12. Psychological abuse</p>

<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	13. Insufficient household income 14. Overcrowding 15. Peer pressure 16. Inadequate Children's Services 17. Poor parenting 18. Family conflict /separation or divorce 19. Need to learn to play part in family 20. No adult at home 21. Helping out parents 22. Be independent 23. Money for school 24. Accompany parents 25. Bored 26. Other
10. When do you do your hustling?  <hr/>	1. Full-time 27. Outside of school hours 28. Weekends 29. Holidays 30. Only when in need 31. Planting time 32. Reaping time 33. Market days 34. Never 35. Other
1. On average, how many hours per day do you spend working? _____	
2. What are your main needs?  <hr/> <hr/>	1. Protection from adults 2. Food, clothing and shelter 3. Regular schooling 4. Health care 5. Parental LOVE 6. Toys/luxury goods 7. School supplies 8. Money 9. All of the above 10. Other
13. Do you have a birth certificate? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>	36. Yes 37. No 38. Don't know
14. Have you been immunized? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Yes 2. No 3. Not sure

<p><b>15. Have you been sick at any time during the last year?</b>  Never <input type="checkbox"/> Once or twice <input type="checkbox"/> Often <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>1. Never  2. Once or twice  3. Often</p>
<p>16. What sicknesses have you had? _____  _____  _____</p>	<p>1. General(fever, flu, etc)  2. Eye infection  3. Ear infection  1. Skin problem  2. Breathing problem  3. Back problem  4. Anaemia  5. STD  6. Accident  7. Won't say  8. Other</p>
<p>1. Were you able to visit a doctor or clinic any of these times?  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>1. Yes  2. No</p>
<p>18. Are you happy doing what you're doing or would you prefer being more at home or school?  Happy <input type="checkbox"/> Unhappy <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>1. Happy  2. Unhappy  3. Not sure</p>
<p>2. If given a choice, what would you like to be doing?  _____</p>	<p>1. Air hostess  2. Clerk  9. Continue working  10. Cosmetologist  11. Fashion designer  12. Entertainer  13. Footballer/cricketer  14. Go to school  15. Having fun  16. Pilot  17. Professional  18. Shop Assistant  19. Skilled Worker  20. Soldier/Police  21. Stay at home  22. Stop working  23. Tradesman  24. Mechanic  25. Stable/better job  26. Spend time studying  27. Own business</p>

	<b>28. Other</b> <b>29. Nothing</b> <b>30. Don't Know</b> <b>31. No Response</b>
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### Risk Behaviour

<b>20. How often have you used the following during the past 12 months?</b> Once    Never    Weekly Cigarette <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Marijuana <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Cocaine <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Teetotaler 2. Experimented with tobacco 3. Habitual tobacco user 4. Experimented with alcohol 5. Habitual drinker 6. Experimented with marijuana 7. Habitual ganja smoker 8. Experimented with cocaine 9. Cocaine addict
<b>21. Have you had sexual intercourse?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Sexually active 2. No
<b>22. How many people have you had sex with during your life?</b> 1 person <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 persons <input type="checkbox"/> 4 or more persons <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Single sex partner 2. 2-3 sex partners 3. Multiple sex partners
<b>23. The most recent time you had sex, what did you use?</b> Nothing <input type="checkbox"/> Condom <input type="checkbox"/> Pill, IUD, etc. <input type="checkbox"/>	1. No contraceptive 2. Condom 3. Other
<b>24. Has an older person ever caused you to have a scar, welting, bleeding or broken bones?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Physically abused 2. No
<b>25. Has anyone ever done something sexually that they shouldn't have done to you, or forced you to touch them sexually, or to have sex with them?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Sexually abused 2. No
<b>26. Do you carry a weapon?</b> Never <input type="checkbox"/> A few times <input type="checkbox"/> Almost all the time <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Never 2. Sometimes 3. Most times
<b>27. How many times have you been knocked out or unconscious from a blow or violence?</b> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Once <input type="checkbox"/> Twice <input type="checkbox"/> 3 times or more <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Never 2. Once 3. Twice 4. 3 or more times
<b>28. How many times have you been stabbed or shot?</b> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Once <input type="checkbox"/> More than once <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Never 2. Once 3. More than once

## Street Children

To be completed by those falling in categories 1-5 of Question 1.

<p><b>29. Where do you sleep most or all the time?</b>  <b>In a home [] On the street []</b></p>	<p><b>1. Home</b>  <b>2. Street</b></p>
<p><b>30. Do you want to go home?</b>  <b>Yes [] No [] N/A []</b></p>	<p><b>1. Yes</b>  <b>2. No</b>  <b>3. N/A</b></p>
<p><b>31. Would you be able to go home?</b>  <b>Yes [] No [] N/A []</b></p>	<p><b>1. Yes</b>  <b>2. No</b>  <b>3. N/A</b></p>
<p><b>32. What are the kinds of things you have to do to earn some money on the street?</b>          _____          _____</p>	<p><b>1. Male prostitution</b>  <b>2. Female prostitution</b>  <b>3. Selling of services</b>  <b>4. Street vending</b>  <b>5. Begging</b>  <b>6. Anti-social acts</b>  <b>7. Other</b></p>
<p><b><i>If answer does not include 3, go to 34</i></b></p>	
<p><b>33. What are the services that you are engaged in selling?</b>          _____</p>	<p><b>1. Windshield cleaning</b>  <b>2. Car tending</b>  <b>3. Handcart deliveries</b>  <b>4. Scavenging</b>  <b>5. Other</b></p>
<p><b>34. What/whom do you fear most on the street?</b>  <b>1) _____</b>  <b>2) _____</b>  <b>3) _____</b></p>	
<p><b>35. About how much do you earn on the street on an average day?</b>  <b>\$ _____</b></p>	
<p><b>36. Apart from money, are there people/organisations who do things for you or give you things to survive?</b>          _____          _____          _____</p>	

## Domestic Household/Agricultural Helpers

(Category 6 of Question 1)

<b>37. How often are you usually absent from school?</b> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. never</li> <li>2. one day per week</li> <li>3. two days per week</li> <li>4. 2-5 days per week</li> <li>5. crop time/planting time</li> </ol>
<b>38. What is the cause of your absence?</b> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Babysitting</li> <li>2. Working at home</li> <li>3. Working on the family farm</li> <li>4. Transporting to market</li> <li>5. Street vending</li> <li>6. Working for others outside the family</li> <li>7. Socio-economic deprivation</li> <li>8. No good reason</li> </ol>
<b>39. Which days do you usually miss school?</b> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Mondays</li> <li>7. Tuesdays</li> <li>8. Wednesdays</li> <li>9. Thursdays</li> <li>10. Fridays</li> <li>11. N/A</li> </ol>
<b>40. Are you paid for your labour?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes</li> <li>2. No</li> <li>3. Sometimes</li> </ol>
<b>41. If yes, how much?</b>  \$ _____ per _____	
<b>42. Is this the same or less than the wage paid to adults doing the same job?</b> The same <input type="checkbox"/> Less <input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comparable to adult workers</li> <li>2. Less than adults</li> </ol>
<b>43. What do you think should be done to help children like you?</b> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	

**Regular Working Children**  
*(Categories 7-9 of question 1)*

<p><b>44. What kind of work do you do for your employer?</b>          _____          _____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shop Assistant</li> <li>2. Bar/Supermarket worker</li> <li>3. Apprentice</li> <li>4. Domestic Helper</li> <li>5. Agricultural labourer</li> <li>6. Other</li> </ol>
<p><b>45. How regular is your employment?</b>          _____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Full-time</li> <li>2. Week-ends/holidays</li> <li>3. Job work</li> </ol>
<p><b>46. Are you paid for your labour?</b>          Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes</li> <li>2. No</li> </ol>
<p><b>47. If yes, how much?</b>          \$ _____ per _____</p>	
<p><b>48. Is this the same or less than what is paid to adults?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The same</li> <li>2. Less than adults</li> </ol>
<p><b>49. Is some/all of your pay provided in goods or services?</b>  <i>Specify:</i> _____          _____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meals</li> <li>7. Room &amp; Board</li> <li>8. Clothes</li> <li>9. Education</li> <li>10. Goods</li> <li>11. Other</li> <li>12. Nothing</li> </ol>
<p><b>50. Are you entitled to the same benefits as other employees?</b>          Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes</li> <li>2. No</li> </ol>
<p><b>51. If no, which benefits are not provided?</b>          _____          _____          _____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NIS/NHT</li> <li>2. Health insurance</li> <li>3. Trade Union representation</li> <li>4. Vacation leave with pay</li> <li>5. Maternity leave with pay</li> <li>6. All of the above</li> <li>7. Others</li> </ol>
<p><b>52. Have you or any co-worker ever taken ill or been injured on the job?</b>          Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>          Specify: _____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes</li> <li>2. No</li> </ol>
<p><b>53. What should be done to help children like you?</b>          _____          _____</p>	

## Sexually Exploited Children

(Category 10 of question 1)

<p><b>54. What aspect(s) of the entertainment business are you engaged in?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exotic dancer</li> <li>2. "Business"</li> <li>3. Escort service</li> <li>4. Masseur/Masseuse</li> <li>5. Porn actor/actress</li> <li>6. Other</li> </ol>
<p><b>55. At what age did you start to work in the sex industry?</b> _____ years</p>	
<p><b>56. What led you to enter this particular line of work?</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Domestic situation</li> <li>2. Love of dancing</li> <li>3. Love of sex/one's body</li> <li>4. Monetary attractions</li> <li>5. Limited career options</li> <li>6. Parental influence</li> <li>7. Peer pressure</li> <li>8. Other</li> </ol>
<p><b>57. On the average, how much do you earn a week?</b> \$ _____</p>	
<p><b>58. Do you sometimes have to consent to doing something extra to earn some extra cash?</b> Specify: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Homosexual acts</li> <li>2. Multiple partner sex</li> <li>3. Kinky sex</li> <li>4. Pornographic movies</li> <li>5. Acting as drug mule</li> <li>6. Other</li> </ol>
<p><b>59. What are some of the hazards of the job that you have to face?</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p><b>60. What do you think should be done to protect people like you?</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	

## Student Vagrants & Truants

(Category 11 of question 1)

<p><b>61. Do you hang out here before your shift, after school, or do you sometimes even skip school to hang out?</b>  <b>Before shift[] After[] Skip[]</b></p>	<p>1. Vagrant 2. Truant</p>
<p><b>62. How do you usually hang out before going home from school?</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>1. Gambling in games room 2. Beach combing 3. Swimming in river/ canal 4. Hanging out at the mall 5. Hanging out on the corner 6. Playing sports 7. Taxi/bus touring 8. Sexual exploration 9. Other</p>
<p><b>63. Are you sometimes prepared to accept a dollar while having fun?</b>  <b>Most times [] Sometimes [] Never []</b></p>	<p>1. Most times 2. Sometimes 3. Never</p>
<p><b>64. If yes, how much have you been able to earn on the side on a good day?</b>  <b>\$ _____</b></p>	
<p><b>65. Did you ever have to do something special to earn this?</b></p> <p>Specify: _____</p>	<p>1. Shoplifting 2. Single-partner heterosexual acts 3. Homosexual acts 4. Multiple partner sex 5. Pornographic movies 6. Acting as drug mule 7. Acting as gun mule or look-out 8. Other</p>
<p><b>66. Do you or anyone else hanging out with you ever get into potentially dangerous situations?</b>  <b>Explain: _____</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p><b>67. On balance, would you say you skip school more for the fun or the money?</b>  <b>Fun [] Money [] Hard to say []</b></p>	<p>1. Fun 2. Money 3. Hard to say</p>