

ABSTRACT**The Impact of Race and Migration
on Caribbean Foreign Policy:
The Cases of Barbados, Guyana,
Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago****Janice Avonne Bisnauth**

This thesis is intended to illustrate the impact of race and migration on Caribbean foreign policy. The hypothesis of this work rests on the assumption that, since race and migration form part of the intrinsic domestic makeup of Caribbean societies, then these factors should have an impact on Caribbean foreign policy.

In examining this issue, the thesis has adopted a historical and theoretical perspective in analyzing how much these variables have contributed to actual foreign policy making in the Region and makes the case for foreign policy to be considered within additional paradigms primarily those of the General Systems/World Systems theories which advocate the examination of foreign policy in a holistic manner. It was considered that the systems theory of John Wear Burton was the best one in which to frame an analysis of race and migration in Caribbean foreign policy given its emphasis on the

importance of valued relationships and humanistic principles within foreign policy.

The case studies of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago were used to illustrate how race and migration have affected Caribbean foreign policy. The importance of the realist paradigm as the main theory governing Caribbean foreign policy was outlined as well as the effect that this paradigm has had on the inclusion of race and migration in Caribbean foreign policy. The thesis examines the issues involved and analyses how much race and migration have contributed to foreign policy utilizing the present perspective and concludes by discussing how much more can be gained by utilizing a different perspective in Caribbean foreign policy especially in terms of contributing to growth and development in the Region.