

# BOYS and EDUCATION

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# How did we get from this.....

- ▶ Raymond Coke, “Walking Down Memory Lane” in the 2003 *Buxtonian* wrote the following:
- ▶
- ▶ I remember on one occasion, we did not have a teacher, so a number of us boys decided to take the afternoon off and went fishing. We rode our bicycles all the way to Rockfort and had a good time. Next morning after devotions, Buxton Thompson said, ‘Will the fishermen please see me in the office!’ We went with fear and trepidation, but he was kind to us. He gave us a severe warning and sent us back to our class.

# ...to THIS?

- ▶ “Only thirteen years old, and calling himself ‘a rude yout’ who no fear no bwaai’, the young leader gave us a sound lecture: School was a waste of time. Shabba Ranks, Roun’ Head and a host of other DJs were not as educated as we, yet did not have to walk up and down the streets of the ghetto claiming to be researching about boys and girls.... ‘Di school business,’ he declared, ‘is a fraud. A man ‘ave fi learn to live, from people who go t’rough di rough and tough. Dat no teach iina school!’” (*Learning to be a Man*, p. 177).

## ▶ Meaning

- ▶ School has no meaning for Male
- ▶ By inference, School is a Female concern

▶ Theory Number 1

▶ Girls Participate More  
than Boys

# Table 1

## Grade 1 Enrolment of 2000 Cohort by Age and Gender

AGE	Male	Female
4	5	3
5	421	403
6	23,372	22,869
7	4,881	3,403
8	323	160
9	49	15
10	6	5
11	0	2
Total	24,057	26,860

# Table 2

## Age 6 of the 2000 Cohort: Grades 1–6

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Males	23,372	22,115	20,654	19,163	18,954
-/+		-1,257	-1,461	1,491	-209
Females	22,869	22,109	20,789	20,031	20,250
-/+		-760	-1320	-758	+219

# Table 3

## The 2000 Cohort -/+ Grades 1-6

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	-/+
Males	29,057	28,086	28,762	26,078	26,615	-2,442
-/+		-571	+676	-2684	+537	-8.0%
Females	26,860	26,716	26,474	25,204	27,007	+147
-/+		-144	-242	-1,270	+1,803	+0.5%
TOTAL	55,917	54,802	55,236	51,277	53,622	4.1%



# Table 4

## 1995 Cohort: Grades 7-11

	Grade 7	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	-/+
Males	24,633	26,393	19,947	18,558	-6075
-/+		+1,760	-6,446	01,389	-24.6%
Females	23,651	25,939	21,850	19,614	4,037
-/+		+2,288	-4,089	-2,236	-17.1%
TOTAL	48,284	52,332	41,797	38,372	-20.5%

# Table 5

## % Average Attendance 2003–2005

	Males	Females
2003	78.7	82.1
2004	78.5	81.7
2005	79.1	82.6

# Table 6

## % Difference in Attendance Mon–Fri

Parish	Male	Female
Kingston	16	14
St Andrew	11	7
St Thomas	19	16
Portland	20	18
St Mary	15	10
St Ann	17	15
Trelawny	18	18
St James	16	13
Hanover	22	19
Westmoreland	25	25
St Elizabeth	23	20
Manchester	15	11
Clarendon	19	17
St Catherine	13	11

# ▶ Conclusion:

- ▶ **LACK OF PARTICIPATION IS NOT THE EXPLANATION**

▶ Theory Number 2

▶ Girls are Brighter

# Table 7

## TOP CSEC PERFORMERS, 2001–2004 and 2006

- ▶ MALES 4
- ▶ FEMALES 1

**Table 8**  
**Top Performers in 7 subjects, 2001–2004 and 2006**

	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
2001	3	4
2002	4	3
2003	5	2
2004	4	3
2006	2	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>

## ▶ Conclusion

- ▶ Girls are not brighter than boys



▶ Theory Number 3

▶ Pedagogy

▶ Hyacinth Evans:

- **Boys perform well when the teaching methods arouse their interests**

Critique: There's a point here.

▶ **Mark Figueroa:**

- **Male Privilege in early socialisation turns into male disadvantage in school**
- **But, why now?**

## ▶ Conclusion

- ▶ **Pedagogical** issues are clearly significant
- ▶ **Socialisation** issues are also significant

# Theory Number 4



▶ **A CHANGE IN  
SOCIALISATION**

## ▶ Proposition 1

### ▶ The two most powerful AGENTS of Socialisation:

- The Family
  - Parents' CONTROL over ego
  - Parents' CONTROL over ego's peers
- The School
  - Teachers CONTROL over ego
  - Teachers CONTROL over ego's PEERS

## ▶ Proposition 2

Rise in crime is a function of the failure,  
for many children, especially boys,

1. of the family

←poverty

←migration

←breakdown of affective life

## ▶ 2. the School

- ← savaging of the Teaching profession
- 2.1 Era of Mass Education:
  - Rate of more schools exceeding rate of trained teachers
  - Rise in pupil–teacher ratios
  - Shift system



- 2.2 Global shocks

- Lower pay and standard of living
- Exodus (particularly male teachers)
- Hustling on the side
- Homework corrected at school
- Less time for extra-curricular activities

## ▶ Results:

- THIS—

- 1970

8

- 1995

54

- 2005

65:

- 

AND THIS....

# Table 9

## Major Crimes Committed by Males 16–30 years old in 2005

Murder	70%
Shooting	78%
Robbery	74%
Rape	68%

▶ And **THIS**.....

**Table 9**  
**Male Arrests for Murder and Shooting, Age 13–20,**  
**1996–2006**

	<b>Murder</b>	<b>% of all murders</b>	<b>Shooting</b>	<b>% of all shootings</b>
1996	85	22	249	28
1997	119	24	201	28
1998	98	20	225	29
1999	102	19	140	24
2000	87	16	150	25
2001	123	23	147	23
2002	139	25	119	19
2003	119	18	152	24
2004	135	19	134	20
2005	96	13	143	19
2006	142	20	162	23