

The Beach Belongs to Us!

Local perceptions of the high dollar tourism industry and coastal development in Barbados from an Environmental Justice perspective.

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Abstract:

Since the rise of the tourism industry in Barbados in the 1960s a vast emphasis has been placed on expanding high dollar luxury tourism that is targeted towards specific social and economic classes in order to maintain foreign exchange. The majority of this high dollar tourism development has been predominately concentrated on the diminishing western coastlines of Barbados. Moreover, the focus on expanding high dollar tourism in order to maintain the islands foreign exchange has arguably helped to maintain the islands economy and has provided employment opportunities for local residents. However, this development trajectory appears to have come at a social-economic and environmental cost to local residents, which has not been adequately researched. Therefore, a series of semi-structured interviews with local residents and Sustainable Development Researchers were conducted and revealed that according to local residents' perspectives the high dollar tourism industry has led to a number of injustices. These were cases of recognition injustices such as social conditioning and stereotyping, which has led to social divide, and given rise to social and cultural suppression. Several cases of distributive injustices were stated such as a loss of access to resources and environmental degradation leading to livelihood loss for fishermen, all of which are at potential risk of being exacerbated by climate change impacts. Another key finding was that the spaces that have been provided for local communities to contribute to the decision-making processes behind the high dollar tourism coastal developments constitutes as a degree of tokenism. Overall there appears to be an ongoing suppression of local Barbadian community members in regard to the tourism industry where visitors' needs have been prioritized within Barbados's current development trajectory. There appears to be a great underlying need to empower local community members and strengthen cultural recognition as well as participation levels to work towards a more sustainable development trajectory.

Keywords: Tourism, Environmental Justice, Coastal Development, Local Communities, Perceptions, Participation, Climate Change

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List of Abbreviations

HDT	-	High dollar tourism
SIDS	-	Small Island Developing States
PDP	-	Physical Development Plan
TCDPO	-	Town Country and Development planning Office

1 Introduction

The Caribbean region is considered to be a tropical paradise consisting of a string of attractive, underdeveloped island nations in close proximity to the United States and north of South America (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003). For many the Caribbean is known for its tourism with its warm beaches and aqua blue waters (Spencer, 2019). However, this blissful touristic image hides historic, socio-economic, political and environmental complexities and legacies that have shaped each Caribbean island for centuries (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003). From the beginning of the 1600s the Caribbean became a major mining and sugarcane production ground, which dominated the economy of the region for centuries, underpinned by the brutal African slave industry which endured from 1661 to 1870s (Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016). This monumental aspect of history resulted in vast land clearing and degradation as well as horrendous brutalities amongst those involved in the Trans-Atlantic slave trade industry within the Caribbean (Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016).

When the Caribbean sugar cane industry began to decline in the 1960's, tourism within the Caribbean was given prime focus as a new economic driver within several islands (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003). This was also the same time a number of Caribbean islands gained independence from colonial rule; therefore, the tourism industry was also perceived as a way to continue foreign exchange within several Caribbean islands (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003). However, there is a downside to this economic trajectory within the Caribbean in regard to working towards sustainable development and climate change adaptation (Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016).

The turn to tourism has led to many Caribbean Small Island Developing States to focus on expanding upon mass tourism in some regions as well as high dollar tourism which is a type of tourism that is targeted towards higher income earners (Cashman, Cumberbatch, & Moore, 2012; Ludger & Aguilar, 2002). Moreover, this type of development trajectory has led to an expansion of developments being placed directly on coastlines in order to attract visitors (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003). Overall according to several scholars this has potentially led to socio-economic polarisation, marginalisation and environmental degradation (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003).

Moreover, the Caribbean has already potentially experienced a number of negative effects from climate change, which can add to these stresses (Alleyne et al., 2014; Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016; Kelman, 2014). Studies have indicated sea levels have risen past the global mean of (~1.8mm/yr.) since 1950 (Alleyne et al., 2014; Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016; Kelman, 2014). Scientific studies have also

indicated hurricanes and tropical storm activities have been increasing since the 1990's, which has been partially linked to increased Atlantic sea surface temperatures (Alleyne et al., 2014; Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016; Kelman, 2014).

Barbados being one of the most tourism dependant countries in the world as well as one of the smallest and lowest lying is a prime example of each of the projections listed above (Alleyne et al., 2014). In 2009 the Barbados government stated that it aimed to become the most sustainable and environmentally advanced country within Latin America and in the Caribbean and has also claimed to be aiming to become the first developed nation within the Caribbean region (Alleyne et al., 2014). One would argue that these two types of goals for economic growth and sustainability are ideal however do not go easily hand in hand. A concentration on economic growth alone has shown to not enhance sustainable development if attention is not given to whether this growth is being equally distributed, and whether assets contributing to economic growth are being maintained adequately for current and future generations (Dietz & Jorgenson, 2015).

High end tourism within Barbados dates back to the late 1950's, since this time the west coast of Barbados has been progressively transformed into a high dollar tourism corridor foreseeing modern infrastructural development being built right next to or even directly on the coastline (Chadwick & Mycoo, 2012). All beach areas within Barbados are constituted as public, however lack of attention in planning approvals processes has resulted in limited access to corridors and passages to the beach (Chadee et al., 2012; Chadwick & Mycoo, 2012). Furthermore, coastline degradation has been reported to be abundant along the western coastline and linked to expanding development and sea level rise (Mycoo, 2014). However, a large amount of local residents are dependent on the high dollar coastal tourism industry, as the tourism industry overall employs an estimate of 14,000 people directly (BTI, 2019; Chadwick & Mycoo, 2012).

Cutting off local residents' access to the coastline can hinder their ability to practice their traditional and cultural activities (Alleyne et al., 2014; Fletcher, 2016). Furthermore, scholars have indicated that there has been too much emphasis on maintaining the tourism industry in order to maintain economic growth, whilst there has been scarce investigation into what local residents' perceptions of the tourism industry are and how the industry impacts them (Alleyne et al., 2014; Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016; Spencer, 2019). Identifying residents' perceptions on the industry or a particular development trajectory can help identify whether there are problems and whether it is doing more harm than good to local residents' way of life (Spencer, 2019). A lack of knowledge in these areas can lead to inequalities, conflict and oppression caused by the industry being unchecked (Spencer, 2019).

1.1 Problem Statement

The island of Barbados was chosen as a case study for this thesis because it is an island that is one of the most dependent on tourism for maintaining the islands' economy and is marketed as a high dollar, luxury tourism destination (BTI, 2019; Bunce, 2008; Chadwick & Mycoo, 2012). The other reason why Barbados was chosen as a case study is because I have previously spent several months within the island, and have been able to pick up a reasonable understanding of the functioning of life in Barbados during this time and consider the problem this thesis presents in need of being addressed.

The concept of sustainable development this thesis will take is that of Anand and Sen (2000). According to Anand and Sen, a premise of sustainable development is that the interests of future generations should be able to be met in the same capacity as current generations receive them (Anand & Sen, 2000). However, this argument is meaningless if current generations are suffering and already being deprived of freedoms and rights to resources (Anand & Sen, 2000). Overall the moral value of sustaining what we have depends on the quality of what we have, therefore according to Sen sustainable development not only consists of sustaining our natural resources but overall removing individuals' deprivations and enhancing political freedoms and civil rights (Anand & Sen, 2000).

The sustainability issue this thesis aims to address is that of the high dollar tourism industry, which comprises the majority of the coastal development along the western coastline in Barbados. The high dollar tourism industry and the industry's coastal development have been allowed to progress and expand at the expense of local residents and the environment (Bunce, 2008; Chadwick & Mycoo 2012; Alleyne, Alleyne et al. 2014). According to several reports these development trends have been directed without adequate consultation or research into the impacts these increased developments could have on local natural resources and the effects it may have on local community members' quality of life (Alleyne et al., 2014; Bunce, 2008; Spencer, 2019).

In addition, according to scholars coastline degradation has become a growing concern, which is expected to be exacerbated by the potential effects of climate change, such as sea level rise and increased storms and flooding (Chadwick & Mycoo, 2012). This is because the high dollar tourism developments, which are predominately large tourists resorts have been allowed to be built right up to the "high water mark", transforming the western coastline in particular into a tourism corridor (Alleyne et al., 2014). Considering Barbados is highly susceptible to certain climate change impacts

such as sea level rise, there has been concern of whether the coastal development is increasing local residents' vulnerability to climate change (Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016).

Moreover, there appears to be an over emphasis on growing the national economy within Barbados particularly in the foreign business sector, which has potentially led to the poor distribution of environmental and economic assets amongst the western coastline of Barbados, leaving local residents with an unequal share (Alleyne et al., 2014; Beckles, 2006). This is considering a large proportion of the tourism development along the west coast is now foreign owned to the point where foreign ownership has become excessive, and local competition and rights have potentially become undermined (Bunce, 2008).

When discussing coastlines within Barbados it is important to highlight there is a difference in the western coastline compared to other coastlines within the island, the difference being that focus has been placed on transforming the tourism corridor along the west coast into a luxury tourism otherwise known as a high end or high dollar tourism corridor, where the aim is to attract higher income earning tourists or celebrities (Cabezas, 2008). The problem with this type of tourism is that products within it, such as condominiums and all-inclusive hotels tend to be designed to discourage tourists from interacting within local communities and discourages spending within the local economy (Cabezas, 2008; Manuel-Navarrete, Pelling, & Redclift, 2009).

Overall it appears as though local community members are not being adequately recognised within the high dollar tourism Industry. Furthermore excessive development appears to be detrimental to local residents rights to public spaces and resources, all of which has not been given enough investigation according to literature (Alleyne et al., 2014; Bunce, 2008). Therefore, this research thesis aims to assess how increased economic development, specifically coastal development in the high dollar tourism sector overall, has contributed to injustices to local community members along the western coastline from their perspectives. Within this aim this thesis will also assess whether the expanding coastal development has increased the vulnerabilities of local communities to climate change and whether local communities have been adequately acknowledged within environmental and development decision making from an environmental justice perspective.

1.2 Research Questions

Question 1. How has the high dollar tourism industry and development along the western coastline of Barbados contributed to distributive and recognition injustices towards local community members from their perspectives?

Question 2. How has the high dollar tourism industry and western coastline development contributed to climate change vulnerability through distributive injustices according to local community members' perspectives?

Question 3. From their perspectives how have local community members been allowed to participate in the decision-making processes of the high dollar tourism western coastline development in accordance to procedural justice?

1.3 Case Study

Barbados is an island nation located within the Caribbean sea roughly 160 km from the islands of St Vincent and the Grenadines (Jackson, Marshall, & Phillips, 2019). Having an estimated population of 275, 307 across a land space of only 430 km ² makes Barbados one of the most densely populated islands in the world (Cashman et al., 2012). The island of Barbados has a different geographic formation compared to other Caribbean Islands as it is less mountainous and has less plant and animal diversity (Jackson et al., 2019). Barbados was colonised by the British from 1627 to 1966 when the island obtained its independence (Jackson et al., 2019). The 93% of the population of Barbados is of African descent; others are mixed, European decent or other. No indigenous communities remain on the island (Jackson et al., 2019).

The farmland within the island is mostly owned by large land owners and corporations as well as the majority of the western and southern coastline of the island (Jackson et al., 2019). Local residents mostly live in wooden houses locally known as chattel houses (Jackson et al., 2019). Not until 1825, with the Emancipation Act, were freed slaves allowed by law to own property, and housing provided to enslaved people was designed to be portable, such that they could be easily relocated to areas where labour was needed (Beckles, 2006). These "chattel" houses are often bordered around the large estates in "tenantry" areas and are usually owned by the residents, however the ground on which the houses stand on is usually rented ground therefore occupants can be easily made to move if the rented land is to go on sale (Jackson et al., 2019).

1.4 Past and current uses of the western coastline in Barbados

Fishing and the coastline land and marine ecosystems have been predominately important economic fabrication in Barbados (Alleyne et al., 2014). These natural resources provide Barbadian residents with recreational opportunities, ecosystem services as well as many jobs and income (Alleyne et al., 2014). The fishing industry in particular acts as an important economic safety net by providing an income and food source for those unable to find other employment and supplements the income of those working partially in other industries (Alleyne et al., 2014).

In-conjunction to fishing and recreational activities, the western coastline situates as a coastal corridor of high dollar tourism luxury resorts since this establishment the coastline has been used as a major natural economic asset within the island (Alleyne et al., 2014). This use of the western coastline came about after Barbados' previous dominant economic trajectory, which was based on sugarcane production (CPDC, nd).

The natural endowment of unique beaches amongst Barbados' west coast then further led to an influx of coastal tourism services, which further helped the island to develop a superior economic growth process compared to other Caribbean SIDS of similar geographic size (Ramsaran, 2004). To date the Barbados tourism product is predominantly coastal in location and characterization and the beach front of the western and southern coastline of Barbados is the substantial selling factor of the tourism product and still remains a predominant natural asset to the entire island's economy (Cashman et al., 2012). However, the sustainability of the tourism industry in Barbados has often been called under question (D'Agostino & Hillman, 2003). Impacts seen from the coastal tourism industry have been documented to have amounted to excessive foreign investment and a change in social and cultural norms, as well as extensive degradation to natural assets, which is expected to be exacerbated by climate change impacts (Alleyne et al., 2014; CPDC, n.d.).

1.5 Impending climate change impacts within the Caribbean and Barbados

In Barbados the rainy season is expected to decline in duration, however the number of heavy rainfall events is expected to increase, which is expected to lead to increased flooding events and sedimentation caused by runoff (Cumberbatch, Francis, & Nurse, 2017). These expected climate change impacts impose significant socio-economic and ecological effects within the island (Cumberbatch et al., 2017). Considering Barbados is a geographically small low-lying coastal state sea level rise is of a major concern to the island (Cumberbatch et al., 2017). According to the IPCC report

of 2013 over the past 20th century sea levels within the Caribbean have risen approximately 1.8mm/year, this is slightly higher than the global average calculation (Cumberbatch et al., 2017). There is no long-term sea-level data for Barbados specifically, however the rate of change within the Caribbean sea overall is estimated to be reasonably representative of the island (Cumberbatch et al., 2017). Furthermore, recent sea level projections indicate water levels are expected to continue to rise at an accelerated rate at least up until the end of the current century (Cumberbatch et al., 2017). Corals within Barbados are said to be potentially susceptible to coral bleaching due to sea temperature rise (Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016). This is said to be the case as there was a large coral bleaching event across the Caribbean region in 2005, which was potentially caused by rising sea surface temperature (Baptiste & Rhiney, 2016).

1.6 Literature Review on the tourism industry in the Caribbean

This section has been included to identify the actors involved within the Caribbean tourism industry as well as how the industry has been structured within a national, international and historical context and will be referred to in the discussion section.

Considering tourism is a highly paramount industry within the Caribbean, securing guest satisfaction and safety have traditionally been a top priority for Caribbean SIDS (Spencer, 2019). More recently, local satisfaction is also beginning to be shown more concern (Spencer, 2019). As stated by Spencer (2019) increased local stakeholder involvement and local support for the tourism industry needs to come from having a clear understanding of local communities' general perceptions and feelings about the industry, and this is vital in order to work towards creating a sustainable industry (Spencer, 2019). Forecasting the attitudes of local communities towards tourism can also help to minimise conflict and distrust of governing authorities from local residents (Spencer, 2019). Many scholars have emphasized the benefits of certain types of tourism, claiming that the industry can propel and maintain other economic sectors such as agriculture, land and labour work (Spencer, 2019). For instance, money made within hotels can help to create jobs directly within hotels and can also create jobs indirectly such as restaurants needing to buy from local farmers and fishermen, as well as local crafts for souvenir's and local tour operators (Spencer, 2019). Therefore, tourism can contribute to jobs, tax revenues, and income, as well as sales and profits, if adequate emphasis is placed in involving local communities and local economies (Spencer, 2019).

Conversely, literature on tourism within the Caribbean including Barbados has attributed tourism within the Caribbean to be a threat to sociocultural development, ecology, as well as public health and stability (Spencer, 2019). These negative effects include uneven development, socioeconomic polarization, non-consideration of local concerns, profit repatriation and structural underdevelopment (Spencer, 2019). These hierarchies and exclusions appear to have come about from the historical fabric of tourism that emerged within the Caribbean as a continuation of service and servitude, which is considered to be a result of an ongoing legacy of the plantation slave trade history (Spencer, 2019; Toppin-Allahar, 2015; Williams, 2012). Emancipation occurred throughout the Caribbean in the 1800s and by the 1960s several Caribbean islands including Barbados achieved independence and further went on an economic transformation, however core economic structures still remained as well as colonial ideologies (Cabezas, 2008; Sealy, 2018). By the 1960's capitalists and neo-liberalist ideologies began to focus on an outward oriented approach to economic development with more emphasis on foreign direct investment instead of staple crops, which resulted in a turn to tourism (Cabezas, 2008; Sealy, 2018).

Moreover, several global multilateral lending agencies including the Inter-American Development Bank, The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the United Nations Development Agency worked together to promote tourism as an important economic driver and development tool for under-developed regions (Sealy, 2018). Within the Caribbean this also foresaw the implementation of policies which were designed to reduce state intervention in economic affairs and instead adopt an outward market orientated growth and trade controlled mostly by foreign entities (Sealy, 2018). Scholars argue such policies have not served the Caribbean region fairly and has hindered their local progression and is claimed effectively to be a new mono crop (in a metaphorical sense) within the region, which is controlled by foreigners and a few local elites that has foreseen the control over local resources and reinforced economic dependency (Sealy, 2018; Toppin-Allahar, 2015). SIDS have generally needed to adopt outward-oriented markets by necessity, however a common question that is brought up by scholars is how much of the earnings of predominately foreign invested tourism corporations is contributing to the local economy and reflected in local residents quality of life? (Michniewicz-Ankiersztajn & Jozefowicz, 2018). According to Michniewicz-Ankiersztajn & Jozefowicz (2018) who conducted a study on how tourism growth reflected in local quality of life, in the case of Barbados an increase in development in the tourism industry did not directly result in an increased quality of life of residents during the years of study (2000-2015). Throughout the Caribbean transnational labour unions can be seen to own and control the majority of the large hotels, resorts, restaurants as well as transportation links and tour operators (Sealy, 2018). All of which adds to the reinforcement of asymmetrical power and wealth distribution

between foreign investors and Caribbean local economies (Sealy, 2018). This transnational system in place has also focused on particular types of tourism development such as mass, institutionalised, all-inclusive and packaged tourism, which has further led to exceeding foreign exchange revenues and social polarisation (Cabezas, 2008; Sealy, 2018).

Furthermore several hotel investments within the Caribbean including Barbados are taken up by large-scale hotel chains originally based in North America or Western Europe, these typically are chains such as the Marriott, Sheraton, Best Western, Hilton, Hyatt and Four Seasons all of which can be found along the South and West Coast of Barbados (Sealy, 2018). Each of these resort facilities contain up to 1000 rooms or more, where the majority of the investment is obtained by the transnational chains themselves (Sealy, 2018). According to scholars this has also been coupled with generous tax incentive from Caribbean governments to foreign investors, which include a duty-free importation of infrastructural construction material and tax incentives on food imports which cater to international tourists (Sealy, 2018). According to the Caribbean Development Bank an estimation of only 16% of local fruits and 20% of locally sourced fish are consumed by hoteliers throughout the Caribbean (CDB, 2017). All-inclusive hotels and condominiums also tend to dominate the hotel chains throughout the Caribbean including Barbados, where visitors are discouraged from exploring outside of resorts to local owned enterprises, which in turn decreases the opportunities for local enterprises to progress (Williams, 2012). These types of accommodation facilities, that are catered to higher income earners are more prominent on the west coast of Barbados compared to other coasts (Cashman & Cumberbatch et al. 2012). According to Sealy (2018) there has been a recent growth in all-inclusive accommodations along the west coast of Barbados which has put several non-inclusive accommodations and restaurants out of business (Sealy, 2018).

With the exception of Jamaica where beaches have been privatised, Barbados is the only country within the Caribbean to have not enforced any legal restriction on non-nationals purchasing land (Toppin-Allahar, 2015). According to Toppin-Allahar (2015) This has foreseen Barbadians to be priced out of the market for coastal land to an extent (Toppin-Allahar, 2015).

2 Theory

The theory of environmental justice was chosen after field data was collected and specifically chosen to show how the HDT industry and coastal development overall appears to be marginalizing local community members. This theory helps to critically analyze how this is occurring and how each case of marginalization is interlinked. This section will also outline the complementary concept, which will be used to answer RQ3, which is the Arnstein ladder of participation.

2.1. Environmental Justice

The traditional concept of environmental justice intertwines environmental and social differences in regard to the distribution of environmental goods and bads. For example how for different social groups such as higher income earners the environment plays an intrinsic part in living a life of prosperity and good well-being (Walker, 2012). Whilst for others the environment can pose as a threat or access to resources such as water and greenspaces are limited (Walker, 2012). Overall the subject of justice accounts for the basic structure of society as it defines how a society distributes various rights, goods and freedoms as well as how we regulate equality and inequality as well as protect future generations (Hornik, Cutts, & Greenlee, 2016; Schlosberg, 2007). However several scholars such as David Schlosberg, Nancy Fraser and Gordon Walker argue that environmental justice should not constitute as a one dimensional concept, which only considers distributional injustice (Fraser, 2001; Schlosberg, 2004; Walker, 2012). This one dimensional conceptualisation of environmental justice is incomplete and is not locally grounded or plural, therefore these scholars argue environmental justice should be viewed as three-dimensional (Schlosberg, 2004; Walker, 2012). Schlosberg states that the theory of justice as a political practice at best acknowledges the linkages between distribution, procedural and recognition (Schlosberg, 2004; Schlosberg, 2007). Walker (2012) identifies that there are multiple dimensions within distributive justice one of which is vulnerability, this concept will be used to answer RQ2. This section will provide a description of each of these components of environmental justice that will be used to answer the three research questions of this thesis and demonstrate how each of these components are interlinked.

2.1.1 Distributive justice refers to the equity of the distribution of environmental and social goods and bads (Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012). The concept of distribution raises the fundamental question of how should a just society distribute the resources, opportunities and freedoms within the society? As well as the costs and unfreedoms attributed to maintaining these goods (Schlosberg, 2007). Schlosberg (2007) argues that distribution justice is a central component within environmental justice, however despite great criticism from traditional justice theorists Schlosberg claims that our

understanding of distributional injustices can only be complete when other concepts of justice are considered (Walker, 2012). Many debates have been constituted around what principles should define distributional justice, Walker (2012) identifies three core principles, these are the principle of equality (referring to equal distribution), guaranteed standard and guaranteed minimum of distribution (Walker, 2012). This research thesis is interested in examining the fair distribution of coastal natural resources and access rights to beach spaces and recreational areas in Barbados and how the distribution of these assets is potentially unfair.

2.1.1.1 Distributive justice and the dimension of vulnerability. Walker (2012) claims that there are three dimensions of distributive justice within environmental justice these are; need, responsibility and vulnerability. The dimension of vulnerability considers that different social groups may be more vulnerable to natural disasters such as flooding and sea level rise than others (Walker, 2012). For example, certain people may be more vulnerable to impacts of climate change such as sea level rise if they are of lower economic status and their employment depends on resources at risk of climate change impacts (Walker, 2012). Adger (2006) describes vulnerability as the state of susceptibility to harm from exposure to stresses that have amounted from environmental or social change, in other words it is the absence of the ability to adapt (Adger, 2006). Overall the concept of vulnerability is a tool to describe powerlessness and marginality where a system or part of a system is susceptible and unable to cope with the adverse effects of climate change (Adger, 2006; Walker, 2012). This concept will be used to analyse how the HDT industry and coastal development is perceived to be increasing climate change vulnerability to certain residents.

2.1.1 Procedural justice refers to the process leading up to distribution, such as who has an influence in decision making and who is involved (Walker, 2012). This concept of environmental justice also examines how things otherwise should be (Walker, 2012). Procedural justice in relation to environmental justice includes various dimensions, which include the availability of information, allowing for effective participation in decision-making of stakeholders and inclusion of policy-making, access to legal processes and inclusion in participatory research (Walker, 2012). Walker and Schlosberg both argue that inclusive and democratic decision-making processes are necessary if not vital for achieving distributive justice (Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012). Hornik, Cutts et al. (2016) also argues that building understanding and mutual trust amongst stakeholders is vital for achieving environmental justice (Hornik et al., 2016). The lack of transparency and participation in decision-making processes according to several scholars can escalate to conflict and can be seen as a reflection of misrecognition (Hornik, Cutts et al. 2016; Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012). This concept will be used to analyse the participatory spaces that are provided to Barbadian societies.

2.1.1 Justice of recognition brings the political and cultural component of environmental justice into focus, by addressing how and why distributive injustices have manifested in the first place (Schlosberg, 2007). Justice of recognition overall is about power imbalances and respect, it is about who's culture and knowledge dominates over another, and who's culture and knowledge is dominated (Fraser, 2001). Additionally, Walker, Fraser and Schlosberg, each argue that cultural and knowledge domination, lack of recognition of different social groups as well as depreciation can lead to oppression and a loss of sense of self amongst individuals and communities (Fraser, 2001; Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012). Moreover, according to Walker the core of misrecognition is derived from "cultural and institutional processes of disrespect" (Walker, 2012 p. 50). This is further manifested by social norms, languages and mores that fail to recognise and respect group differences and identities as a result of being routinely maligned or disparaged and stereotyped (Walker, 2012). Misrecognition that leads to oppression traps the oppressed in a reduced mode of being, therefore it is further argued recognition is a vital human need to avoid such consequences (Schlosberg, 2007). this concept will be used to analyse how social norms and culture have potentially been altered by the tourism industry.

2.2 Citizen Participation Ladder Typology

Arnstein (1969) presents a typology of eight levels of citizen participation otherwise known as the ladder of citizen participation (Arnstein, 1969). the main point Arnstein aims to make with the citizen participation ladder typology is that there are distinct graduations of citizen power and control (Arnstein, 1969). The 8 levels within the citizen participation ladder are; (1) Manipulation, (2) Therapy, these two levels describe non participation, (3) Informing, (4) Consultation, is where participants may be allowed a space or platform to hear and be heard, but lack the power to influence the status quo, otherwise known as tokenism (Arnstein, 1969). (5) Placation, this step is stated to be a higher level of tokenism where have nots are allowed to forward advice, however, retain no power to alter decisions (6) Partnership, this step allows non power holders to negotiate with power holders (Arnstein, 1969). (7) Delegated Power, (8) Citizen Control, the last two steps are where have nots are able to obtain full managerial power as illustrated in the figure below (Arnstein, 1969). As one can see within the citizen participation ladder figure, the eight steps are then broken up into threes to describe the degree of power, which ranges from no participation to citizen power (Arnstein, 1969). This concept will be used to analyse the type of participation platforms that are

provided to community members in Barbados in order to further analyse how this is attributable to procedural justice.

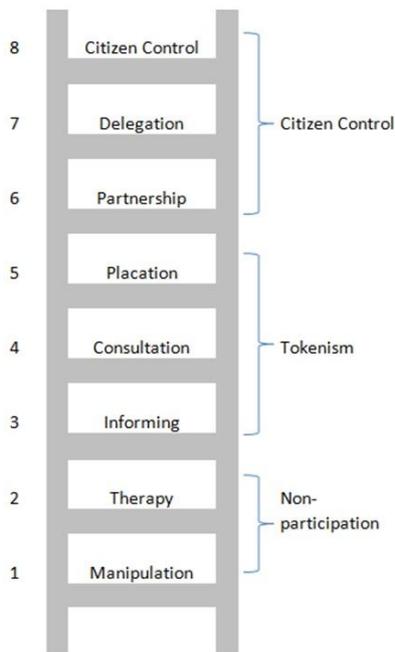


Figure 1. Arnstein's Ladder of Citizen Participation (Australian National University, 2016).

3 Ontological and Epistemological Perspectives

This thesis took a qualitative research approach that revolved around the notion of purposive sampling of certain units such as people, developments, organisations and spaces (Bryman, 2012). Initially a constructivist and inductive approach was applied, constructivism recognises that we do not experience the world solely objectively or directly our experiences are influenced by our environment and social interactions (Moses & Knutsen, 2012). Constructivism therefore states our access to reality is grounded upon the perceptions of humans and how they experience the world in different ways, therefore the data collection of this thesis revolved mostly around the perceptions of local residents and through emersion within their communities (Moses & Knutsen, 2012). This thesis also initially took an inductive approach where the theory was determined after the analysis of the results. This was done to avoid influencing participants responses and instead to try to see how they perceived the HDT industry and coastal development to be affecting them from a broad stance to identify what the overall common perception was, this then influenced the choice of theory.

4 Methodology

This research thesis initially took an exploratory and inductive approach to the methodology at the beginning by first conducting field and participant observations. This was followed by semi-structured interviews, where the same approach was adopted, this approach to field data collection was carried out in order to avoid influencing participant responses. The findings were also coupled with document analysis to help answer RQ2, interview responses were also complimented with scholarly literature.

4.1 Field and Participant Observations

According to Bryman (2012) the definition of field and participant observation is where the observer is immersed in a social setting for an extended period of time and making regular observations of behavior within that particular setting (Bryman, 2012). In order to gain empirical knowledge of how the western coastline is used by visitors and local residents, as well as to gain a better understanding of social norms and social structures within the island, a series of field and participant observations were carried out amongst coastal communities along the western coastline of Barbados over a period of one week. The overall use of these observations was to gain a basic understanding of how coastal tourism is affecting the way of life along the western coastline from an observational standpoint. The field and participant observations consisted of visiting local towns and beach fronts along the western coastline such as Speightstown, Holetown and Weston. These observations consisted of informal conversations with residents and visitors about their perceptions on the HDT industry and expanding coastal development. General observations were also made of who were commonly seen using the beach and where and how they were utilising the coastline. Notes were taken of these observations afterwards and summarised.

4.2 Semi Structured Individual Interviews

To answer each research question, the next step of field sampling was to conduct a series of semi-structured interviews of residents who either lived or worked along the western coastline or were affiliated with both attributes. The location of where to conduct interviews was determined from the field and participant observations as well as from an unstructured interview with a researcher from the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies. The criteria for selecting areas for conducting interviews along the western coastline were areas that have foreseen significant development or were areas that had a high abundance of people who work on the coastline outside of the tourism development. The sampling of respondents began by identifying local academics who

were either working on sustainable tourism development, or socio-ecological sustainable development within Barbados. The snowball technique was then used to identify residents who have different backgrounds in relation to the western coastline despite being strongly affiliated with the western coastline and coastal tourism industry either through residency or employment through different sectors. During the dates of February 28th and March 23rd a total of 9 residents were interviewed using the semi-structured interview technique, as well as two academics from the university of West Indies and one academic within the Barbados Government Information Service; in total 12 participants were interviewed.

Interviewees of residents comprised of four sole trading fishermen from two separate fish markets, one restaurant owner, one hotel manager and one hotel worker, one coastal resident who also worked as a resort maintenance man and sole trading fishermen. All interviews were recorded and manually transcribed to Word documents. All transcriptions were then coded using NVivo 12 software. The first process of coding involved dividing responses into three categories which were environmental, social and economic negative implications. These categories were then broken down further to more specific key themes such as loss of natural assets and racial and social divide. These categories were then recategorized within either distributional injustices, recognition injustices, procedural injustices and vulnerability within the realm of justice of distribution. Please see appendix for interview questions.

The table below provides a point of reference of each interviewee for the results section. Each interviewee has been identified by their generic relation to the coastline and provided with a reference key, which is used to cite interviewees viewpoints in the results section.

Figure 2. Table of interviewees (Own creation, 2019)

Interviewee	Relation to the western coastline	Abbreviation
1	Coastal resident/ Coastal Restaurant owner	[RO]
2	Coastal resident/resort maintenance worker	[LR]
3	Fisherman	[F1]
4	Fisherman	[F2]
5	Fisherman	[F3]
6	Fisherman	[F4]
7	Coastal Hotel Manager	[HM]
8	Coastal resident/Coastal Hotel Worker	[HW]
9	Fish Market Worker	[FMW]
10	Sustainable Development Advisor	[SDA]
11	Social Impact Assessment Researcher	[SIAR]
12	Sustainable Tourism Researcher	[STR]

4.3 Document Analysis

To help answer RQ3 on community involvement and participation in decision-making, several Sustainable Development Policy documents were analyzed to identify the actors involved within tourism coastal development decision making. These documents were also analyzed to critically identify what platforms are available to residents to be involved in decision-making and how this

compared to the residents' perspectives. A protocol for selecting policy documents was set, which is whether the document is authentic and whether the document has credibility, which meant only the most recent policy documents were used that were affiliated by Barbadian Governing authorities and available online (Bryman 2012). The documents that were scanned were;

- The Barbados Sustainable development policy report
- The Barbados Physical Development Plan
- The Barbados Land Use and Built Form Policies as part of the Physical development Plan

The first document was scanned to assess the guidelines for policy makers that have been articulated for participation, the last two documents were analyzed because as stated by one academic advisory interviewee who assists in implementing the Physical Development Plan, the Physical Development Plan is the only main source that provides a platform for public participation.

5 Ethical Consideration

Informed consent was first established prior to each interview recording to take place, by first explaining the project to each interviewee and stating why they have been selected to be involved with this research thesis and how their information will be used within the study. Each interviewee consented to being recorded and were informed that quotes from the recording may be included in the thesis and were notified once recording had commenced and once it had stopped. Each interviewee was informed by how they would be referenced within the thesis and how they would be kept anonymous, which each participant agreed to. An ethical consideration form was signed prior to entering the field.

6 Limitations of Study

This thesis carries a number of limitations due to its scope, limited literature and restrictions on data collection. To help answer RQ3 an attempt was made to locate policy documents from the Coastal Zone Management Unit as this Unit is responsible for reviewing all coastal projects for approval, however after thorough investigation it was found that no documents created by CZMU are available online and could not be sourced otherwise (CZMU, 2019). Moreover, it is understood data collection

could have extended to covering opposing views or more authoritative figures such as hotel owners, however the focus was to hear what local residents had to say in order to give them a voice. Considering this thesis is focused on the HDT industry and west coast development the scope of this thesis may miss other factors contributing to cases of environmental justice such as other sectors and social institutions and governance. Furthermore, it is evident several different theoretical entry points could have been applied to this study such as weak sustainability or strong sustainability. The main reason the chosen theoretical entry point was applied was to highlight the marginalization of local Barbadian residents from their perspective. Moreover a major limitation is the limited number of respondents, as this study only incorporates the views of 12 interviewees, despite data saturation being reached amongst these respondents it must be noted that this study is based off the view points of these 12 respondents and their view points may not necessarily relate to the whole island or the whole of the west coast. As stated in the methodology the theoretical lens was applied after data collection and was selected to match the overall viewpoint of the respondents from the researchers perspective, if the theoretical framework of environmental justice was introduced during data collection responses may have varied slightly therefore some critical perspectives could have been missed. Each interviewees personal understanding of the concept climate change would've effected their responses in regards to RQ2.

7 Results and Analysis

To help provide a view of the situation along the western coastline, the response to this question will begin with a summary of the field and participant observations.

7.1 Summary of Field and Participant Observations

A common situation of beach crowdedness was observed in multiple places along the coastline. On attempt to access the beach front of the coastline at any point the first observation was the very limited access points to the beach as well as very limited viewing points to the sea otherwise known as “windows to the sea” by residents. Both of these observations were common complaints by local residents all across the coast. Furthermore, the beach fronts along the western coastline were consistently observed to be very narrow, on average the area of sand between development and the water line would be roughly 5 to 8 meters.

The beach areas located immediately outside of and behind hotels were often crowded with deck chairs provided by the resort or hotel or provided by sole trading vendors. There was limited space where deck chairs and masses of visitors were not present. Observations of who were mostly present on the beach in these areas appeared to be mostly non-Barbadian visitors and occasionally local fishermen. During the daytime and evening very few numbers of residents could be seen, and if they were present, they would be situated in very different locations to the visitors, however these were still in very small numbers. Informal conversations with multiple beach workers revealed experiences of racism from some tourists where they felt discriminated against and claimed they were treated differently due to their ethnicity. However multiple residents also stated they enjoyed the ongoing sense of community in Barbados and that it is an island where everybody knows everybody, and several also mentioned they enjoyed building friendships with visitors. Other informal discussions with residents showed they are aware of the impacts of coastal development and may be concerned, however there appears to be a strong emphasis on not voicing their concerns.

7.2 Research Question 1. How has the high dollar tourism industry and development along the western coastline of Barbados contributed to distributive and recognition injustices towards local community members from their perspectives?

In order to answer research question 1 interview results were placed in different categories which were identified as the most common and relevant themes to amount from the coding process, these themes were then categorised into either justice of recognition or justice of distribution. The key themes that are categorised under justice of recognition are racism and social divide and over-commodification and commercialisation. The key themes that are categorised under justice of distribution are exclusion of residents from property sites and beaches, loss of natural assets, loss of fishermen's livelihoods, poor waste management and loss of coastal property rights.

7.2.1 Justice of recognition - How has the HDT industry and development along the western coastline contributed to recognition injustices?

Racism and Social divide

Each advisory interviewee brought up the issue of racism and social divide within Barbados as a side effect of the HDT industry. The Sustainable Tourism Researcher [STR] stated that the tourism industry in Barbados has been catered to attract visitors of a particular class such as retirees and higher income earners. Furthermore, this interviewee stated that the tourism industry is commonly advertised and marketed with a Caucasian being the tourist whilst a local resident is seen as catering to the tourist as a bar tender or vendor. The Hotel Manager interviewee [HM], respondent talked of an ongoing narrative where visitors are perceived to be always Caucasian whilst non-visitors are considered to be always non-Caucasian. The Hotel Manager further described the ongoing campaign called the "I am Tourism Campaign" that was introduced to Barbados to educate Barbadians on how to go about the tourism industry and how to treat and cater to visitors in order to maintain the Barbados tourism product. Interviewee [HM] describes the campaign;

"I mean it's just grown and grown and grown over the years because it started out sensitising children in schools and what you say and what you do and how you treat tourists and that kind of thing."

[HM] and [STR] described how the campaign has potentially affected social and racial sensitivity and has continued the narrative that tourists are perceived to look a certain way. It was also stated that this has led to people of differently coloured skin to be treated differently to one another stating that there have been incidents of insensitivity between residents and non-Caucasian tourists where residents interpreted these tourists to be residents and therefore were denied privileges of visitors.

The Perceptions of the respondents indicate that the I am Tourism campaign appears to have applied an effective form of institutional social processing, which has further continued an oppressive narrative being that tourists must be catered to first and resident needs should be put second.

[STR] *"it is where generally people view tourists to be white people or Caucasian people, whilst any tourists who are black feel like they don't get the respect and the treatment that they do if you are a white tourist and that is a reality. So, tourism is viewed as a white thing so on the market you see a white lady blonde on the beach holding a hibiscus and the black is the bartender or the housekeeper. That is how we have projected the images of tourism and they have been indoctrinated so I blame us where you think visitors are all white and then you get the black people visitor not treated the same way."*

This constitutes as a case of justice of recognition because this is a form of stereo typing people of different race and implying a discriminatory narrative, which has been refurbished through advertising. According to [STR] this appears to be a case of ongoing colonial legacies of service and servitude from the history of Barbados which have been continued through the tourism industry.

Interviewee [HW] reflected on an experience in relation to different penalties being inflicted upon residents pertaining whether the crime was inflicted against a resident or a visitor. [HW] stated that if a resident is to steal from another resident, he/she could serve up to on average 3 months in prison, however if a resident were to steal from a tourist the resident could face up to a year in prison for the same crime. These perceptions imply an example of oppression of one social group over another as this interviewee has stated that laws have potentially been tailored to favour the tourists over the residents. [HW] stated they were in favour of this difference in laws stating that they believe it helps to improve residents' behaviour towards the tourists considering tourism is a prime economic driver in Barbados.

Over-commodification and commercialisation

Several interviewees reported on the over-commodification of the Barbadian culture and environment, where traditional cultural aspects have been lost such as living off the land. [STR] indicated that the structure of the tourism industry has potentially prohibited the Barbadian culture from progressing by not adequately reflecting the continuously evolving Barbadian culture. It was further stated that Barbadians have said they are ashamed of their culture, indicating a lack of cultural recognition and awareness. One interviewee also articulated an alteration in the food culture in Barbados to be more catered to tourists tastes rather than local in order to make visitors feel more comfortable and through this local food shops receive less business.

[HM] *"When people go out, they are not going to necessarily have flying fish or whatever but they are going to have steak and chips and stuff that they could probably get at home. Therefore, you lose some of the overall flavour of the island when you become over-commercialised and then again, the supermarkets and grocery stores, they are stocking everything that you get at home so that when you come that you are comfortable."*

These perceptions represent an example of justice of recognition where the HDT industry is perceived as dominating the Barbadian culture, which prohibits progression and expanding of local enterprises.

[STR] *"I think Barbadians have an identity crisis in some way, when you see the other islands such as Jamaica and Trinidad who are quite sure of their culture and they are proud of it. Somebody said the other day that Barbadians are ashamed of theirs, we have an issue that I don't see in a lot of the other islands. I think that Barbadians and tourism run on two separate tracks, we have failed to fully integrate our people into the tourism industry in a way that they see themselves reflected into the Barbadian tourism mirror".*

During the participant observations it was found in a local newspaper The Nation that the Barbadian Cultural Ambassador made a similar statement that Barbadians appear ashamed of their culture and do not embrace their culture enough and that this needs further attention (Nation, Feb 15 2019).

Overall the perceptions that the tourism industry is for "white people" as indicated by several interviewees, appears to have been refurbished through advertisement and institutional social processing depicting Caucasians as a visitor, where their needs come first. According to the concept of justice of recognition this is a form of oppression of residents (Schlosberg 2007, Walker 2012). Altogether this adds to the devaluation of Barbadian residents' culture as well as their identity within the Barbadian tourist market.

When analysed through the lens of justice of recognition, the tourism industry can be said to be dominating the Barbadian culture in a way through over-commodification of the land and aspects of the culture, institutional processing and stereotyping through advertisement. As articulated in the concept of justice of recognition this type of oppression can lead to a loss sense of self or cultural identity. According to one interviewee and the reported newspaper article on the cultural identity crisis in Barbados a lost sense of self is evident in the Barbadian culture, where people have claimed to be "ashamed of their culture", which is a consequence of oppression (Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012).

7.2.1 Justice of distribution - How has the HDT industry and development along the western coastline contributed to distributive injustices?

Exclusion of residents from property sites and beaches

Each formal interviewee gave reference to exclusion of residents from coastal resort properties as well as beaches. One academic advisory interviewee also stated that it appears to be common for residents to not visit touristic destinations as these are perceived to be just for tourists. This was referred to as an unspoken rule amongst locals that has been indoctrinated to help maintain the tourism industry and sustain the core aspect of the national economy according to interviewees. This is an example of distribution injustice where residents have been denied access to public natural spaces to maintain guest satisfaction and increase profit within the industry, overall enhancing the benefits to the industry, at the expense of residents.

[SDA] *"I think there is a natural inclination of our hoteliers to try and keep local people out of the beaches. Hoteliers will try to do anything that they possibly can within the law to try and discourage locals from accessing the beach, so there is that tension that will continue."*

This interviewee also stated that resort property owners have reportedly sprayed local residents with garden hoses to deter them from their properties, stating this to be part of on-going racial tension between property owners and locals that will get worse the *"more desperate the government is for foreign exchange"*.

Loss of natural asset

A major concern of most of the interviewees was that Barbadians have lost one of their major natural assets which is the western coastline beaches. This includes losing their access rights to the beaches as well as their ability to see the beaches along the Main highway that runs parallel to the coastline. Having multiple windows to the sea is perceived as a public right, which according to the interviewees has been violated. Several also claimed that Barbadians do not feel as though they own their local beaches anymore;

[SIAR] *"We have lost the opportunity as Barbadians whether as a government or as individuals to own a resource that is very vital and critical."*

[LR] *"They have it blocked off completely so I don't see nowhere that you can get to go to the beach anymore you have to make the long end to get to the beach, which is not fair. I hope that and wish people could see the things they are doing here is wrong."*

Overall beach access is being cut off to residents by hoteliers occupying extensive space over beaches. Blocking off beach space to residents prohibits them from benefitting from public beach spaces in the same way as visitors and property owners such as engaging in recreational activities, employment and cultural practices. In order to explain these consequences of distributional injustice of public beach spaces further the concept of a right to the city by David Harvey will be used. This concept states that a right to the city or in the case of Barbados a right to beach spaces goes beyond access rights, according to Harvey these spaces help define our persona by providing spaces for collective interaction and development and building a sense of community (Harvey, 2008). Through the over-commodification of beach spaces along the western coastline and indoctrinated narratives that the beaches are for visitors, this right presented by Harvey is being violated and constitutes as distributive injustice of public natural spaces (Harvey, 2008; Walker, 2012).

Loss of fishermen's livelihoods

According to their perceptions the sole-trading fishermen who were interviewed appeared to be the most effected by environmental degradation caused by the coastal development as a result of its construction and ongoing drain off from the hoteliers. Each fisherman reported the issue of pollution coming from the construction of the tourism development and liquid waste coming from hotels directly onto the reefs. The Fishermen claimed the ongoing issue of pollution to have affected the quality of the reefs, which run parallel all along the western coastline. The fishermen claim that the degradation of the reefs reduces food supply for the fish they catch which in turn reduces fish stocks, making it harder to find sufficient catches, which forces them to venture out into deeper depths and more dangerous waters to maintain their desired catches and income. However these are the perceptions from the fishermen, it must be noted that pollution coming from the coastal development is not the only contributor to environmental degradation, current use pesticides, household pharmaceuticals and agricultural runoff have also been traced in surface water run off to sea (Edwards. Q. A, Garner-O'Neale. L. D, kulikov. S. M, Metcalfe. C. D, & Sultana. T, 2019).

[F1] and [F2] claimed to have witnessed occasions where hotel resorts were draining water from swimming pools into the sea, further claiming that after several years later they noticed a difference in the quality of the reefs. The fishermen [F1], [F2] and [F3] stated they have been able to see a difference between the quality of reefs immediately or in close proximity to a hotel or resort compared to reefs that are in close proximity to undeveloped land.

[F1] *"Well if you look back 30 to 40 years ago, I saw hotels running water from the swimming pools into the ocean and at that time we saw it as nothing. But years later we saw what it did what the chlorine did it destroyed the reefs."*

[F2] *"Sometimes when you go diving, around the island most of the time it has crystal water most of the year and you see a shimmering especially by the main hotels you see a shimmering effect when you are down under the water and you can see that it is a shimmering effect that comes down under the water diving and you can see that it's the residue that comes off the hotels and interferes with the reef in that particular area."*

The case of fishermen livelihood loss as claimed by the fishermen can be seen as one side benefitting from environmental goods whilst fishermen bear the bad distributes as fishermen are claiming their resources of employment are being degraded (Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012). Data on coastal developments influence on reef degradation in Barbados specifically is limited, however other studies conducted within the Caribbean have shown that the construction of coastal developments leads to sedimentation run off, and construction also results in vegetation loss reducing ground water filtration (Gill, Hazel, & Schuhmann, 2018; Suchley & Alvarez-Filip, 2018). Sediment run off can smother corals and raise turbidity, which can reduce corals photosynthesis and growth putting coral at risk of disease (Gill et al., 2018; Suchley & Alvarez-Filip, 2018). Each fisherman claimed to witness similar effects on the reefs. Additionally, each expressed that their concerns of livelihood loss are not being addressed by policy makers.

Poor waste management

The formal interviewees [SDA] and [SIAR] both stated that the west coast is suffering from poor waste water management as a result of non-existent sewage systems, which has contributed to stress within the marine environment of the coastline according to both interviewees and posing a risk to public health. Both further claimed that the tourism sector has been a major contributor to the sewage problem along the west coast. This is another example of distributive injustice towards fishermen livelihoods by adding extra stress on to the coral reefs (Suchley and Alvarez-Filip, 2017). According to sources this is seen to be a result of poor planning and poor environmental impact assessments being enforced prior to construction (Suchley and Alvarez-Filip, 2017).

Loss of coastal property rights

Several interviewees reported negative experiences such as increased land taxes forcing residents of lower economic status to sell their properties.

[SDA] *“There’s been an argument that you only have to pay the increased tax in property at the point of sale, so let’s say you are living on a 10,000 square foot plot and along comes someone and builds this massive development right next to you and your property value goes up 10 times. So, your tax goes up ten times, but you can’t afford to pay that tax.”*

[STR] *“So you find that along the coastline a lot of things have opened up a lot of bars and things like that, even I went to blue butterfly and there was an Englishmen there, and a Caucasian man owns it, and this is quite common. So, you find that there is abit of an imbalance, you find that on the coastline’s properties are owned by Caucasian property owners, so there is abit of a clash.”*

This aspect of distributive justice relates directly to economic imbalances where local residents feel as though they are being priced out of the market along the coastline. For this matter residents feel concern that there has been excessive foreign ownership of the coastline to the point where local residents are unable to afford the land along the west coast.

Overall according to the perceptions of the respondents the HDT industry and development has contributed to several distributional injustices such as loss access to public spaces, which in this case are the west coast beaches, which can prohibit building a sense of community and identity. Other perceived injustices are environmental degradation from pollution and poor waste management, which has contributed to burdening fishermen’s means of livelihood. Respondents are also concerned they feel as though they are being priced out of the market, all of which constitutes to the marginalisation of local residents.

7.3 Research Question 2. How has the high dollar tourism industry and western coastline development contributed to climate change vulnerability through distributive injustices according to local community members perspectives?

In answer to this research question from a scientific standpoint considering Barbados is dependent on coastal tourism and this economic driver provides employment for many Barbadian residents, the way the coastal tourism development along the western coastline has been designed is increasing Barbadians vulnerability to climate change (Mycoo, 2014). This is because the majority of the western coastline is a low-lying coastline where the coastal development has been constructed in close proximity to the high water mark therefore the coastal development is potentially at risk of flooding (Alleyne et al., 2014; Cumberbatch et al., 2017; Mycoo, 2014). This is considering sea levels within the Caribbean have risen approximately 1.8mm/year and are expected to escalate, therefore experts have stated that such low lying coastal development is at risk of sea level rise, which is expected to be exacerbated by variations in increased storm surge events causing flooding from higher land (Alleyne et al., 2014; Cumberbatch et al., 2017; Mycoo, 2014). This places residents who are dependent on the coastal development and coastal resources as a source of income at risk of livelihood loss (Mycoo, 2014).

Flood models conducted by the Coastal Zone Management Unit within Barbados projects that 70% of hotels along the western coastline will be subjected to flooding and related damage in upcoming years (Mycoo, 2014). This further raises the issue of coastal squeeze, where the western coastlines become narrower and beach workers such as vendors and sole-trading tour operators are put at risk of losing their work space (Mycoo, 2014).

All interviewees except for one were aware that Barbados is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and were aware of the majority of the probable impacts to Barbados such as sea level rise, prolonged dry seasons and more intense wet seasons, as well as more intense storm fronts and sea temperature rise. Overall all interviewees except for one were aware of the vulnerability of the western coastline to climate change. However only a few were aware that the coastal development was adding to the pressure of the coastline.

[STR] *"Of course if there is a heavy reliance on the beach it's going to put pressure on the beach and the beach doesn't need any more pressure. Therefore, when you talk about the pressure on the coastlines from the rising sea levels and the run off from the agriculture the warming of the water, so the bleaching of the corals and once the corals go the beaches go anyway."*

The table below illustrates the perceptions of each interviewee on how they consider the coastal development to be increasing their vulnerability to climate change. Considering each formal interviewee has conducted extensive research into different aspects within climate change they were not included in the table.

Figure 3. Illustrates interviewees awareness to climate change and their perceptions on how the coastal development is increasing their vulnerability to climate change. (Own illustration, 2019).

Interviewee	Climate change awareness and concern	Perceptions on how coastal development is increasing vulnerability
[RO]	Stated sea level rise outside of their restaurant.	Claimed we cannot blame the effects of climate change on the tourism sector, it is a global issue.
[LR]	Sea level rise, increased storm fronts, slower recovery of storm damage along coastlines as well as loss of fish stocks and coral bleaching.	Would likely increase vulnerability due to coastal structural damage and loss of tourism economy.
[F1]	Was interviewed at same time as [F2] therefore did not comment.	
[F2]	Loss of fish stocks, sea level rise, coral degradation.	Coastal development plays a part in increasing vulnerability by increasing stress, although not the main contributor.
[F3]	Claimed to have noticed different sea temperatures, earlier drought seasons.	Does not consider it to be increasing vulnerability.
[F4]	Stated to not believe in climate change	
[HM]	Changes along the coastline where some beaches have become narrower as well as longer recovery from storms.	Stated that they consider the development to be a proximate cause of some erosion and increased coastal stress.
[HW]	Stated to have noticed the sea level rising the years spent working by the coastline	Does not consider the coastal development to be increasing vulnerability.
[FMW]	Stated to have noticed changes in seasons, and changes in local fruits and loss of fish stocks.	Does not consider the coastal development to increase vulnerability

The table demonstrates that several interviewees did not see a connection between the coastal development and increased vulnerability despite noticing sea level rise.

Drawing upon the perceptions of the interviewees responses who are aware of the links, the main concern of how the coastal tourism development is likely to increase local residents vulnerability to climate change is that the development is adding extra pressure and stress to the coastline, as well as putting the national economy at risk. These responses also matched the main concerns of the academic advisory interviewees. These responses were further interpreted to be how the development is adding to the narrowing of the coastline, which reduces space and access to the beach, as well as pollutants going into the sea adding to coral damage.

7.2.1 Distributive justice and Vulnerability - How does this constitute as a case of distributional injustice within the dimension of vulnerability? To begin with it increases competition of space amongst beach workers and hoteliers as the coastline becomes narrower, this places beach workers such as vendors and sole trading tour operators and fishermen to become more susceptible to climate change impacts due to loss of income. This is considering these types of jobs are generally of low skill and low earning, which places these workers at potentially greater vulnerability to loss of income upon sea level rise (Gill et al., 2018; Mycoo, 2014; Spencer, 2019; Williams, 2012). Coastal development also adds to the loss of beach space for local residents to utilise for other purposes such as recreational and cultural activities, and this is a potential loss for current residents as well as future generations (Walker, 2012). Moreover according to fishermen's perceptions the pollution coming from developments adds to stress on coral reefs, which has the potential to further exacerbate other potential impacts attributed to climate change such as sea temperature rise causing coral bleaching (Gill et al., 2018; Suchley & Alvarez-Filip, 2018). This is potentially increasing the vulnerability of fishermen's livelihoods to climate change impacts who are dependent on the health of the coral reefs for sustaining their means of income (Gill et al., 2018; Suchley & Alvarez-Filip, 2018). Therefore, this constitutes as a case of distributive injustice amongst beach workers and fishermen due to work space loss and degradation to fishermen's income source in accordance to potential climate change impacts (Walker, 2012).

7.3 Research Question 3. From their perspective, how have local community members been allowed to participate in the decision-making process of the HDT western coastline development in accordance to procedural justice?

The decisions this question is referring to specifically are the decisions made in regard to any new large-scale tourism resort, hotelier, or condominium development project that takes place along the western coastline. A policy for public participation in government decision making is stated in the latest Sustainable Development Policy report accessible online. The report provides a detailed section on participation where it is proclaimed that all major stakeholder involvement in decision making at all levels and sectors is fundamental for sustainable development (NCSD, 2004). According to this report this includes all national and international policy development as well as project and program development across all sectors (NCSD, 2004). The report describes an adequate participation approach to be an “interaction between civil society and government” where open dialogue and sharing of information between both parties is encouraged and all participants including the poor and traditionally marginalised groups are able to help shape development policies, projects and programmes (NCSD, 2004 pg. 19).

One advisory interviewee who is partially responsible for creating the Barbados Physical Development plan stated that this plan is the main platform that allows residents to participate in the decision making of coastal development. The National Physical Development Plan (PDP) provides policies to guide relationships contrived around “land uses, built form, mobility, community facilities and physical infrastructure” as well as help guide public and private investment (TCDPO, 2017). The PDP contains a section on “Tourism land use designation” that applies within the tourism corridors on the south and west coasts of the island, this section is intended to provide guidance for the ongoing tourism development within these areas (TCDPO, 2017 pg. 125). This section contains 7 guidelines, one of which states that waterfront properties should be designed to maintain views to the sea as well as allow for adequate public access to the beach, this section however does not include a guideline for involving stakeholders during and prior to the development process (TCDPO, 2017 pg. 125). All other documents that are part of the PDP did not have any guidelines on public participation.

As stated by interviewee [SIAR] multiple community town hall meetings were held in 2016 in separate locations along the south and west coast by the Town and Country Development Office to inform the public of the PDP and allow all concerned civil society members to voice their input in regards to the plan prior to its launch in 2017 (NCSD, 2004; TCDPO, 2017). Beyond the section on

tourism the plan was scanned for key words such as stakeholder involvement, community participation/involvement and public information, however no further addressment to these keywords could be found. Furthermore, upon further investigation it was not clear which coastal development projects have provided town hall meetings to involve civil society other than the few that were mentioned by the interviewees and the launch of the PDP. The large scale projects mentioned by interviewees were the Folkestone Marine Park reserve plan¹ prior to launch and a new large scale resort development known as the Sandals Beaches, an all-inclusive hotel² to be constructed in St Peter Parish north of the West coastline in 2020, which was mentioned by [HM], [F1] and all formal interviewees (Hinkson, August 28 2018).

The interviewees who stated they had been informed about these tourism development projects, each stated they were informed by town hall meetings where they were able to state their concerns to members of parliament and project managers. However when each of these interviewees were asked about their perceptions over the adequacy and ability to influence the decisions made within these projects each interviewee stated that members of the public were not able to have an influence as according to the interviewees the decisions behind each project appeared to have already been made. Therefore, it was stated by many interviewees that these participation sessions were provided only to inform the public that a new development plan is taking place in order to avoid conflict, rather than allowing them to have actual input in the decision-making process. [F3] stated they were concerned information given to the public about tourism development projects along the west coast is often too vague.

[SIAR] " *On a day to day process regularly Barbados has a physical development plan that talks about what kind of development is allowed in whatever spaces and people acquire properties and once they meet the development control requirements, they can develop their property.*"

No other interviewees made any mention of the PDP. However, many expressed concerns over the adequacy of civil society members to be able to influence decisions behind the development projects, stating this is an infringement on public rights.

¹ Folkston Marine Park is a part of the Barbados Marine reserve, the reserve has a total land area of 2.1 square kilometres and covers roughly 11% of the West Coast of Barbados. Fishing has been strictly prohibited in the reserve (Cumberbatch, 2001).

² Sandals beaches hotel is to be constructed in Haywoods beach, Speightstown along the west coast, it is a multi-million dollar project, which is expected to employ 2,000 Barbadian residents (Hinkson, August 28 2018).

[HM] *"I don't want to use the word sincere but again if it really makes a difference I think it might just be like a public or just to calm the people in the area because we have made the decision this is what it is it's a financial thing so it's like a public relations exercise to say that people can't say they haven't been told not that if you cry or you make a fuss and beat your chest it's going to make a difference because this is 2 million dollars we are talking about so it's done anyway."*

[STR] articulated a case where conflict has come about from lack of information behind development projects, stating public rights have been impacted due to the issue of inadequate participation and information sharing.

[STR] *"I mean during that Hyatt³ thing they didn't do a feasibility study and there was no discussion on it and that's where people flared up and that's where you feel people becoming really turned off and anti-tourism where you feel that our rights are being encroached upon, you are just doing this for the tourists and it's going to affect me negatively for so many different reasons and nobody has asked me a question you are just going on with the development."*

The fishermen expressed the most concern around not being adequately informed and not having their opinions heard regarding coastal development projects.

[F3] *"When we have the meetings when they are doing their talking, we can actually view our point, but they don't really care what you have to say, what they are really focusing on is the tourists once the tourists are happy."*

There biggest concern was over the new extension of the Folkston Marine Reserve and being restricted from continuing certain fishing practices called "live baiting" a technique used to catch live bait to catch bigger catches outside of the Marine Reserve. Two fishermen stated that being restricted from carrying out this technique within the Marine Reserve is of major concern because the species used for live baiting migrate frequently and therefore stated a restriction on this type of fishing practice within the Marine Reserve could affect their income and would be inconsiderate to their needs of providing for their families.

³ The Hyatt centric hotel is planned to be constructed mid 2019 in St Michael Parish south of the west coast, controversy arose when it was reported that the plan for the hotel had been approved without a formal Environmental Impact Assessment (Dowell, Dec 21 2018).

[L1] *“But for the minute they make the law that fishermen can’t catch bait there is going to be a problem, because then fishermen are going to have to protest.”*

[L2] *“Right and we have children to feed.”*

7.2.1 Procedural justice - How does this amount to procedural injustices?

Overall the majority of interviewees stated that community members have been provided a public space to participate in the decision making before some types of tourism coastal development projects have taken place. However, the majority of interviewees stated they felt as though they were not able to influence decisions behind the HDT west coast development. This type of participation measure that has been described by the interviewees is going to first be compared to Arnstein’s Ladder of citizen participation in order to better explain how this articulated mode of participation accounts as a case of procedural injustice.

According to the citizen participation ladder the type of participation being provided to Barbadian residents’ ranges between 3 and 4, which falls into a degree of tokenism. Steps (3) Informing and (4) Consulting refers to the type of participation where citizens are provided a space to voice their opinions and concerns, however they lack the power to ensure their opinions are being heard and heeded by the powerful and there likely is no follow through beyond this (Arnstein, 1969). This example of tokenism according to Arnstein’s theory is where it appears as though civil society can have an influence on decision making, however no real power is actually given to influence the status quo, it is more of a case of show to avoid tension (Arnstein, 1969). Furthermore, as it appears as though several developments have gone through without public consultation, this means that citizen participation shifts into the category of manipulation where the main objective is to not allow civil society to participate (Arnstein, 1969).

This constitutes as a case of procedural injustice as citizens are prohibited from obtaining any power in decision making, there is a lack of transparency behind the decision making and there is a vast asymmetry in power between governing authority, developers and civil society. There appears to be no adequate avenue for local participatory democracy. This also constitutes as a reflection of misrecognition of residents and as according to Schlosberg and Walker is preventing local residents from achieving distributive justice (Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012). This runs the risk of raising mistrust of those in power by civil society, which leads to tension, conflict and further oppression (Walker, 2012).

8 Discussion

According to the interviewee responses the HDT industry and coastal development has not adequately contributed to the quality of life of Barbadian residents. The results from the participant responses demonstrates that there has been a lack of concern for local needs, where instead concentration appears to have been placed on maintaining the tourism product (Toppin-Allahar, 2015; Sealy, 2018). According to the interviewees perceptions the HDT industry has contributed to in-equal distribution and destruction of natural assets, as well as obstruction of rights to public spaces such as public beaches. Furthermore climate change is the major sustainability issue within Barbados, which is expected to exacerbate these injustices (Mycoo, 2014; Suchley & Alvarez-Filip, 2018). According to the findings the Barbadian people have been mis-recognized within the tourism industry, which has been refurbished through stereotyping, institutional social processing as stated in reference to the “I am tourism Campaign” and advertising. The HDT industry appears to have contributed to a domination of cultural norms and social structures within Barbados overall, this is evident through the interviewees perceptions of there being indoctrinated narratives that tourists look a certain way and should be treated a certain way (Walker, 2012). According to sources within the literature review this is a refurbishment of a historical narrative of service and servitude, which is stated to be an ongoing legacy of the plantation slave trade history (Williams, 2012; Toppin-Allahar, 2015). According to the theoretical framework this is a form of oppression and could be attributed to the cause of why Barbadian residents have stated to have a lack of cultural identity (Schlosberg, 2007; Walker, 2012).

Overall this appears to be an example of power asymmetries, where the interests of developers and investors needs have been allowed to be put first, which has accounted for visitors needs to be given priority over local citizens in order to maintain profit generated within the HDT industry (Manuel-Navarrete, Pelling & Redclift, 2009). According to the cited literature this has come about from a lack of state intervention in the regulations behind the tourism industry and coastal development, as well as exclusion of civil society from influencing decision making (Toppin-Allahar, 2015; Sealy, 2018). Furthermore as stated by the literature this is also a result of post-colonial legacies that amounted from the plantation history within Barbados (Cabezas, 2008; Sealy, 2018; Williams, 2012). This is considering core economic structures that amounted from this directory still remain in the form of excessive foreign and elite investment and control, which has not been subjected to adequate regulations within Barbados (Toppin-Allahar, 2015; Sealy, 2018). Therefore this appears to be an example of economic neo-colonial power asymmetries between foreign investors and elites and civil society, which has led to the alienation of local residents and has exacerbated environmental

problems (Manuel-Navarrete et al., 2009). This study highlights the importance of understanding the perceptions of civil society on how they see themselves within current development trajectories (Spencer, 2019). A lack of understanding of civil societies perceptions can allow negative elements within development trajectories such as the ones demonstrated within this study to go unchecked (Dietz & Jorgenson, 2015). Furthermore, understanding civil societies perceptions can help to recognise areas where governance needs to be improved, and to determine specifically where changes need to be made (Spencer, 2019). In the case of Barbados there appears to be a great need for more effective multi-stakeholder engagement and participation in decision and policy making (Manuel-Navarrete, Pelling & Redclift, 2009). This is considering that according to the findings Barbados does not have a tradition or culture for local democracy or platforms for local participatory democracy. The lack of participation and recognition contributes to unjust distributional outcomes (Scheidel, Temper, Demaria, & Martinez-Alier, 2018; Walker, 2012). Although this can give way to environmental and social movements, which claim just sustainabilities, however such movements are yet to progress in Barbados due to the lack of political opportunity (Scheidel et al., 2018).

8.1 Recommendations for Improvement and Future Research

From the findings it is evident that the current HDT model needs to be reviewed to include local citizens fairly. Overall a more democratic development trajectory is needed that better includes the fundamental needs and interests of local Barbadians. Furthermore, a change in stereotyping and social processing is needed in order to alter the current narrative of visitor's needs being placed first, instead local needs should be put into focus. This would entail implementing a more democratic system that allows for better inclusion of civil society in decision making, as well as a promotion in expanding local economies and local culture (CDB, 2017; Sealy, 2018). Examples of this could be to encourage corporate social responsibility within the tourism industry, that emphasises on being aware of the impacts organisations within the tourism industry are having on society and the environment (Sealy, 2018). Furthermore, according the findings, it appears as though local residents would prefer to have a tourism industry that involves more visitor and local interaction and local cultural appreciation. An avenue for future research would be to assess what local community members envision a more sustainable urban development trajectory to be. A further field of research would be to look into how to encourage democratic participation and how to encourage collective action amongst citizens to push for fairer change (Scheidal et al., 2017).

8.2 What does this mean for Sustainability Science?

Addressing issues of environmental justice is stated to be a fundamental component within sustainability science (Jerneck et al., 2011). This is because ecological distribution conflicts bring to light unsustainable resource use that is affecting people and can give rise to environmental movements (Scheidal et al., 2017). Furthermore, the people who are affected by environmental injustices can become key actors in politicizing such unsustainable resource uses (Scheidal et al., 2017). As this study has highlighted the HDT industry is contributing to a number of environmental injustices to local residents in Barbados, these injustices are expected to be exacerbated by potential climate change impacts which is overall the major sustainability issue at hand. However local residents have not been given an adequate trajectory to voice their concerns and there appears to not be any cultural or traditional means of speaking up about environmental and social ills, this study aimed to give them a voice. This thesis also highlights the importance of allowing for participatory spaces and adhering to the concerns of civil society within Barbados and Caribbean islands who are suffering similar circumstances. Overall, the findings of this thesis highlight that correcting the injustices and working towards solving the environmental problems would require different sets of knowledge to be applied together (Jerneck et al., 2010; Scheidal et al., 2017). Overall a more transdisciplinary approach to decision making in Barbados is needed, where political freedoms are given in order to work towards sustainable development (Anand & Sen, 2000; Jerneck et al., 2011).

8 Conclusion

This thesis aimed to assess how the high dollar tourism industry and the industries expanding development has been contributing to injustices to local community members from their perspectives as well as how local community members have been involved in the decision making behind the coastal development. According to the respondents the current HDT trajectory is contributing to several injustices such as loss of rights to beach spaces, a loss of livelihood due to income loss as seen amongst fishermen and beach workers, which are expected to be exacerbated by climate change. The findings also showed that the HDT industry has also contributed to other injustices such as social and cultural mis-recognition. Overall these injustices appear to have remained due to a lack of participation and involvement of local communities in decision making process, which have been cofounded by economic, political power asymmetries, which have been stated to be a refurbishment of post-colonial legacies of service and servitude and economic structures. In order to correct these injustices and environmental problems, more political freedoms need to be granted to civil society where the knowledge of local community members needs are incorporated in the decision-making processes.

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10 Appendix

Appendix 1 - Interview guide for local residents

Introduction

Introduce myself. "I am a master student at Lund University in Sweden studying environmental studies and sustainability science. I am currently working on my thesis, in which I am researching into the effects high value tourism coastal development has had on local residents within Barbados". Inform the interviewee about the purpose of their participation within this interview. Ask interviewees permission to sound record interview and inform participant that the recording will be transcribed and deleted after the thesis has been submitted, however parts of the transcribed material may be used as data for my thesis, although each interviewee will be made anonymous. Inform interviewee that the interview can be withdrawn at any time, and that permission to material from the interview can at any time be withdrawn without consequences. Questions that are in bold are considered to be the most important to address. Questions were altered very slightly for academic advisory interviewees.

- 1. How long have you been living in Barbados for?**
 - a) If interviewee has been living here their whole life ask interviewee, whereabouts in Barbados have they spent most of their life?
 - b) If it is within the local area, ask why did they choose to stay here?
 - c) If they are not from Barbados, ask where are they from?
 - d) Why did they choose to move to Barbados?
 - e) And how long have they lived here?

- 2. What kind of job do you have here?**
 - a) How long have you been working in your job for?
 - b) Is your work connected to the coastlines here in Barbados?
 - c) Is your work connected to the tourism in Barbados?

- 3. What is your relation to the coastlines here?**
 - a) How do you feel about the conservation of the coastlines here?
 - b)

- 4. what impacts have you seen HDT development to have on the western coastline? And impacts it may have on local community members?**

- 5. What are your perceptions of the high value tourism industry here in Barbados?**

- a) Have you been affected by the tourism industry in anyway? Has it effected your quality of life or work?
 - b) Do you feel as though high dollar tourism has given back to you and your community? In terms of economic gain, consistent work, better health services and added value to culture?
6. **What changes have you noticed since your time of living and working here in Barbados?**
 7. **Have you perceived the HDT industry and coastal development to have contributed to social changes along the western coastline here?**
 8. **Do you perceive these to be positive or negative or both?**
 9. **Have you perceived this industry to have affected the health of the coastline and beaches along Barbados coastlines, particularly the western coastline where large scale development is highly prominent?**
 - a) Would you perceive these changes to be positive or negative?
 10. **Do you feel as though you have been adequately involved and informed about the decision-making processes behind the coastal development along the western coast?**
 - a) How have you been able to participate in decision making processes?
 - b) If you feel you have not, has this concerned you or affected you in any way?
 11. **Do you feel as though different groups of people have been affected in different ways to the HDT industry in Barbados?**
 12. **Are you concerned about the impacts of climate change?**
 13. **What are some effects of climate change that you have noticed?**
 14. **Do you feel as though the HDT development is increasing your vulnerability to climate change?**
 15. **If so how?**

Do you have any further questions or comments?

Appendix 2 - Interview questions for academic advisories

1. **What changes have you noticed since your time of living and working here in Barbados?**

2. **Have you perceived the HDT industry and coastal development to have contributed to social changes along the western coastline here?**
3. **Do you perceive these to be positive or negative or both?**
4. **Have you perceived this industry to have affected the health of the coastline and beaches along Barbados coastlines, particularly the western coastline where large scale development is highly prominent?**
 - b) Would you perceive these changes to be positive or negative?
5. **Do you feel as though local community members have been adequately involved and informed about the decision-making processes behind the HDT coastal development along the western coast?**
 - c) How have they been able to participate in decision making processes?
6. **Do you feel as though different groups of people have been affected in different ways to the HDT industry in Barbados?**
7. **What are some effects of climate change that you have noticed?**
8. **Do you feel as though the HDT development is increasing your vulnerability to climate change?**

Do you have any further questions or comments?

Ethical and legal considerations in preparing and conducting research for your master thesis

Students of the Master's Program in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science at the Lund University Centre for Sustainability Studies shall carry out their masters thesis project in accordance with the ethical guidelines as described by The Swedish Research Council (<https://publikationer.vr.se/en/product/good-research-practice/>; ISBN: 978-91-7307-194-9).

Below you find ethical principles that must be respected with regard to data collection and use.

- 1) You should conduct a review of legal requirements prior to conducting research in the country within which you are carrying out research.
- 2) You should be aware that you may need research permits / research visa and should plan to have them well before you start your research.
- 3) You should always check the security status for the country where you are planning to carry out research with your home Embassy and the Swedish Foreign office.
- 4) You should read the ethical guidelines of the Swedish research council on good research practice (<https://publikationer.vr.se/en/product/good-research-practice/>)
- 5) You should take all necessary steps to prevent potential ethical dilemmas you might encounter during the research process, e.g. in the collection/construction of data, the handling of data and the potential consequences this might have for people you are working with.
- 6) Informed consent, either written or verbal, must be obtained from respondents and others who are participating in your project. If you intend to include children as informants, you should talk to my advisor beforehand. Furthermore, you need to inform your respondents about:
 - Their role in the study.
 - That participation is voluntary.
 - The conditions for participation.
 - Ways in which the data will be gathered (to record interviews or take photos requires that you ask for permission and consent).
 - That participation can be terminated by the respondent at any time and with no consequences.
 - That the participants will be guaranteed anonymity.
 - That the collected/constructed data will be treated confidentially and stored safely.
 - That the collected/constructed data will *only* be used for academic and not for commercial purposes.

Practical advice

If you plan to travel to countries outside of Sweden, check for any travel warnings and security advice. Make sure that you take special precautions if you intend to carry out fieldwork in areas/countries for which the Swedish Foreign Ministry has issued travel warnings (for updates, including links, see <http://www.regeringen.se/uds-reseinformation/>). Check if you should get vaccinations prior to your travel (e.g., yellow fever in certain tropical regions). In general, we advise you to refrain from conducting fieldwork in countries for which there is a travel warning. Remember that any travels are at your own risk!

Code of conduct in social science research (adapted from UNESCO)

- 1) Research should be conducted in such a way that the integrity of the research enterprise is maintained, and negative after-effects which might diminish the potential for future research should be avoided.
- 2) The researcher should consider the effects of his/her work, including the consequences or misuse, both for the individuals and groups among whom they do their fieldwork, and for their colleagues and for the wider society.
- 3) The researcher should be aware of any potential harmful effects; in such circumstances, the chosen method should be used only if no alternative methods can be found after consultation with colleagues and other experts. Full justification for the method chosen should be given.
- 4) The research should be carried out in full compliance with, and awareness of, local customs, standards, laws and regulations.
- 5) All researchers should be familiar with, and respect, the host culture. Researchers undertaking research on cultures, countries and ethnic groups other than their own should make their research objectives particularly clear and remain aware of the concerns and welfare of the individuals or communities to be studied.
- 6) The principal investigators' own ethical principles should be made clear to all those involved in the research to allow informed collaboration with other researchers. Potential conflicts should be resolved before the research begins.
- 7) The research should avoid undue intrusion into the lives of the individuals or communities they study. The welfare of the informants should have the highest priority; their dignity, privacy and interests should be protected at all times.
- 8) Freely given informed consent, either verbal or written, should be obtained from all human subjects. Potential participants should be informed, in a manner and in language they can understand, of the context, purpose, nature, methods, procedures, and sponsors of the research. Research teams should be identified and contactable during and after the research activity.
- 9) There should be no coercion. Participants should be fully informed of their right to refuse, and to withdraw at any time during the research.

- 10) Potential participants should be protected against any and all potentially harmful effects and should be informed of any potential consequences of their participation.
- 11) Full confidentiality of all information and the anonymity of participants should be maintained. Participants should be informed of any potential limitations to the confidentiality of any information supplied. Procedures should be put in place to protect the confidentiality of information and the anonymity of the participants in all research materials.
- 12) Participants should be offered access to research results, presented in a manner and language they can understand.
- 13) All research should be reported widely, with objectivity and integrity.
- 14) Researchers should provide adequate information in all publications and to colleagues to permit their methods and findings to be properly assessed. Limits of reliability and applicability should be made clear.
- 15) Researchers are responsible for properly acknowledging the unpublished as well as published work of other scholars.
- 16) All research materials should be preserved in a manner that respects the agreements made with participants.

Useful references

- UNESCO – Code of conduct social science research. http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SHS/pdf/Soc_Sci_Code.pdf
- Vetenskapsrådet - Good Research Practice, <https://publikationer.vr.se/en/product/good-research-practice/>