

Caribbean Society and Culture

Introduction: The Caribbean is usually identified as collectively one large area/region. However, its historical process from as early as the 15th century has made it a little complicated in defining the entire region as one society and as having one culture. As such there has been a differences as it relates identifying the Caribbean as being one society that shares one culture. Sociologist M.G. Smith explains that the Caribbean is a plural society because each territory has cultural practices that are unique to them while some theorists like Lloyd Braithwaite considers the Caribbean to be homogeneous, one society. However, there are many elements that can be used to determine a society and its culture. These will be explored in the following notes.

The Caribbean is made up of different islands and mainlands, all of which have its own cultural practices but yet the Caribbean can be identified , to an extent, as "one society"!!!!



Culture is encompassed the beliefs, attitude ad customs of a society.

A society is a group of people who shares a common territorial space, have persistent interaction and who are associated through political, religious and cultural purposes.

The video below briefly spells out the different explanations of the Caribbean society.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29tZtAvoAXA&feature=emb_logo

In the Caribbean we have had various theories about our society. Lloyd Braithwaite has expressed that history has helped to create a creolised society where all ethnic groups in the Caribbean has contributed

to the development of one Caribbean society. Then there is M.G. Smith who suggested that persons coexist, living separate lives as an ethnic group, yet tolerate other ethnic group.

For further information please read pages 7-14 below.

<https://www.slideshare.net/egfred/caribbenstudiesnotes-3373945?ref=https://notesmaster.com/en/group/caribbean/1556-cape-covid19-support/24436-characteristics-of-society-and-culture>

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