

MAURITIUS RESEARCH COUNCIL

INNOVATION FOR TECHNOLOGY

MAURITIAN SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY 2002

Final Report

Year 2002

MAURITIUS RESEARCH COUNCIL

Address:

Level 6, Ebène Heights,
34, Cybercity,
Ebène 72201,
Mauritius.

Telephone: (230) 465 1235
Fax: (230) 465 1239
Email: mrc@intnet.mu
Website: www.mrc.org.mu

This report is based on work supported by the Mauritius Research Council under award number MRC/CASR. Any opinions, findings, recommendations and conclusions expressed herein are the author's and do not necessarily reflect those of the Council.

Mauritian Social Attitudes Survey 2002

Report

Centre for Applied Social Research
University of Mauritius

Contents

Page

Acknowledgements

Summary

Introduction

Methodology 4

Chapters

1 - Demographic Profile of Respondents..... 11

2 - Social Class, Wealth & Quality of Life..... 33

3 - Women and the Family..... 39

4 - Work and Employment..... 68

5 - Law and Order..... 77

6 - Social Welfare & Services..... 84

7 - Environment..... 110

8 - Closing Comments..... 122

Bibliography 125

Appendices

a) Questionnaire in English with percentages 127

b) Questionnaire in Kreol as used in the field 151

Acknowledgements

This study has been designed and carried out by the ***Centre for Applied Social Research (CASR)*** with funding from the ***Mauritius Research Council***, which is gratefully acknowledged.

I am indebted to many people who have helped one way or the other to make this study a reality. The research staff of the Centre, namely ***Nigel RICHARDS*** and ***Aveeraj PEEDOLY*** have spared no effort to ensure its successful completion on target. ***Prof. R. JOWELL*** **of the National Centre for Social Research, UK** has made valuable contribution to the design of the questionnaire. I acknowledge with thanks the pertinent comments made on the draft report by members of the Technical Advisory Committee and members of the Board of CASR. My thanks also go to ***Associate Prof. Mrs V. NABABSING*** and ***Associate Prof. Mr P. VEERAPEN***, Dean of Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities who read the draft report and helped to identify inaccuracies that required changes.

Finally I would like to thank all the field workers and all those respondents who took the time to take part in this study and whose cooperation has helped provide a glimpse into people's attitudes on issues of interest in contemporary Mauritius.

PROF. M. JOYNATHSING
Project Manager

Summary

Methodology

1.1 The Mauritius Social Attitudes Survey 2002 was conducted on a random but representative sample of 1, 399 adults over the age of 18 years in the Island of Mauritius. Males made up 49.5 % of the population and Females 50.5%. Because the sample was fully representative the main body of respondents was between 30 and 49 years old, with fewer respondents from the younger age groups and in the older age groups.

2.1 For this study, a high percentage of the sample population of both sexes combined had an educational level that did not go beyond primary schooling and a small percentage equally represented by both Males and Female respondents had higher levels of education.

Ethnicity & Religion

2.2 The percentages returned for Ethnicity and Religious Affiliation were almost identical tempting one to interchange the categories. For the purposes of this report, Religion has been the main variable used and Ethnicity has been used only where it was a crucial determinant in the analysis.

Income

3.1 Some 54% of the sample population had a total monthly personal income of less than Rs 4, 000 and 7% of respondents enjoyed a personal income of greater than Rs 10, 000 per month. Only 5% brought in Rs 12, 000 or more.

3.2 51 %, lived in households where the total monthly household income was less than Rs 8, 000 per month.

3.3 A quarter of the households had a total household monthly income of between Rs 8, 001 and Rs 12, 000. Some 12% had

a total household monthly income of between Rs 12, 001 – Rs 16, 000 and over Rs 16, 000.

Motor Vehicle Ownership

4.1 Some 41% of respondents said that they owned a motor vehicle of some description. Of this 41% of motor vehicle owners 43% owned a car.

4.2 Some 56% of those respondents living in a household with a total monthly income of up to Rs 4, 000 had a Motorcycle. On the other hand, 72% of respondents from a household with a total household monthly income of Rs 16, 001 and above have a Car.

Newspaper Readership

5.1 37% of all respondents, read a daily newspaper at least 3 times per week and of these daily newspapers, 'L'express was the most popular choice followed by 'Le Mauricien'. Of those that regularly read daily newspapers 44% stated that they read both L'express and Le Mauricien.

5.2 Of all respondents who were regular newspaper readers, a majority, 61% were male. Younger people are also more likely to be more regular readers of daily newspapers than those of older age groups. Some 68% of respondents stated that they read at least one weekly newspaper. Weekend was the most popular choice of weekly newspaper selected by 55% of the respondents who read a weekly newspaper. 57% of all readers of weekly newspapers were Male and 43% were Female.

5.3 Almost everybody, 97%, regularly watches the television news or listens to news bulletins on the radio.

Radio & Television

6.1 Over half of the respondents, 54%, stated that they listened to radio news, or watched television news programmes, at least once a day, and 32%, stated that they did so more than 2 or 3 times per week. Some 86% of respondents are turning to the radio or television news at least 2 or 3 times per week.

6.2 45% of all respondents stated that they either don't know too much, or, in fact, don't know anything, about current affairs.

Social Class, Wealth & Quality of Life

7.1 Some 71% of all respondents stated that they thought that one's social position affected one's chances to progress in contemporary Mauritius. 61% of all respondents stated that they felt that social status was more important now than ever before while 23% saw it as being currently less important. 68% stated that social status would be more important in 10 years time, 14% believed it would be less important and 17% saw there being little change.

7.2 44% of all respondents thought that one had to be prepared to work hard in order to succeed while 28% saw being well educated as the most necessary factor to achieving success.

7.3 Some 91% of all respondents stated that they agreed that, in contemporary Mauritius, the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer and 94% stated that they thought that in Mauritius nowadays it is more difficult to cope with the cost of living than it was two years ago. All the same, 41% agreed that people have a better quality of life now than 5 years ago.

Women & The Family

8.1 When asked whether women who work can show as much affection for their children as women who do not work, 57% of respondents disagreed and 41% agreed. Men tended to be more negative than women in this respect with 61% and 53% in disagreement respectively.

8.2 Three quarters of all respondents agreed with the statement 'family life suffers as a result of women working'.

8.3 Respondents were quite split in their responses to the statement "working is the best way of a woman becoming independent". 58% of respondents agreed with the statement while 35% disagreed. By gender, Female respondents were more likely than Male respondents to agree with the statement.

8.4 On the gender division of household responsibilities, 88% of respondents saw looking after the children as the responsibility of both Men and Women.

8.5 Buying food was seen as a dual responsibility by 60% of all respondents.

8.6 79% of all respondents saw doing minor repairs in the home as a task for men.

8.7 67% of all respondents saw cooking meals as being a female responsibility.

8.8 Almost 75% of respondents believed that men should take the responsibility of earning the main household income, although the notion of this being a dual responsibility was more pronounced among the young.

8.9 86% of all respondents saw washing clothes as a Female responsibility.

8.10 Of interest is the way that the percentage that see washing clothes as a female responsibility decreases by the level of education achieved, from 94% of those with No Formal Education, decreasing steadily to 55% of those with a Post Graduate Degree.

8.11 53% of all respondents saw buying major household items a dual responsibility while 44% saw this as being a task for men.

8.12 60% of all respondents regarded the cleaning of the house as a Female responsibility while 40% thought of as being a dual responsibility.

8.13 One area where the notion of dual responsibility was quite popular was with who should take the responsibility for taking important decisions within the household.

8.14 75% of all respondents saw taking important decisions within the household as being a dual responsibility and 22% saw it as a Male responsibility. Only 3% saw it as a Female Responsibility.

8.15 Some 96% of the respondents felt that both men and women should contribute equally to the running of the household.

8.16 53% of respondents disagreed that if a husband and wife disagree the husband should have the last word. This rate of agreement was significantly higher among men, 53%, than women at 37%. We again see that level of education is a factor in determining attitude and that those with A Level or above were less likely to agree with the statement at, 25%. Christian respondents were more likely to disagree with the statement, at 60%.

8.17 There was a trend for Muslim respondents to see the majority of household tasks as being for women while decision-making and income earning was for men.

8.18 Of those who were currently married, 39% believed that married people were not necessarily happier than single people.

8.19 More single people than married people thought that personal freedom was more important than marriage.

8.20 53% of respondents stated that they thought that financial security was the biggest advantage of being married. More married people than single people thought that this was the case with more Women, 57%, than Men, 49%, seeing things this way.

8.21 Some 61% of those canvassed do not think that marriage is above all to have children.

8.22 57% of respondents thought that that single mothers could not raise children as well as a married couple. 40% believed that single mothers do indeed have this ability. Men are more likely to have a negative attitude to this issue than Women. Looking at younger respondents, 53% of those in the age group 18 – 21, stated that they believed that single women can raise children as well as married couples.

8.23 Three quarters of respondents thought that single men could raise children as well as a married couple.

8.24 A more divisive issue was whether marriage between people of different communities could be just as successful as marriage between people of the same community. There was also a strong undercurrent of disagreement that ran to 36% of all respondents. Those respondents of the Muslim faith were more likely to disagree with the issue at 68%. Christian respondents were more positive with 78% agreeing with the statement. Among Hindu respondents 36% disagreed and 58% agreed.

8.25 53% of all respondents agreed that religion should not influence whom a person chooses to marry. Respondents of the Muslim faith were more likely to view as necessary the consideration of religion in the choice of who one chooses to marry, at 72%.

8.26 23% of all respondents stated that they thought that abortion should not be allowed under any circumstances. 77% stated that they thought that there were certain circumstances where the termination of a pregnancy should be allowed. Only 1% thought that abortion should be available on demand regardless of reason.

8.27 By religious affiliation the group most likely to agree with the statement that abortion should not be allowed under any circumstances was those of the Muslim faith at 32%, while 23% of Christian and 20% of Hindu respondents chose this option.

Work & Employment

9.1 For 63% of all respondents, job security is clearly the most important aspect of work.

9.2 Good pay is the most important aspect of work for just over 20% of respondents, while working in a safe environment is considered to be the most important aspect of work for 11 %.

9.3 In general, it can be seen that Mauritian workers are mainly concerned with their job security and less so with their pay packets.

9.4 A correlation can be found between levels of education and a more favourable attitude towards equal opportunities by gender. The higher the level of education, the higher the level of disagreement with the statement that employers should give preference to men over women.

9.5 Over 90% of all respondents stated that they were in favour of equal opportunities for disabled people in the world of employment.

9.6 For ex-offenders, 66% of all respondents were favourable to the statement that they should enjoy equal opportunities of employment.

9.7 83% of all respondents agreed that there should be equal opportunities of employment for Ex-Alcoholics and 76% were in favour of equal opportunities for Ex-drug users.

9.8 One noticeable trend is that there seems to be a sliding scale of agreement: 91% for disabled; 83% for ex-alcoholics; 76% for ex-drug users and 66% for ex-offenders. Arguably, the lesser the individual's responsibility for their plight, as is the case with disability, the more sympathetic the attitudes.

9.9 68% of all respondents disagreed with the statement that a person's community could assist them in getting a job or a promotion.

Law & Order

10.1 76% of respondents agreed with the idea of certain persons being able to manipulate the law. This percentage includes some 26% who *strongly* agreed that this was the case.

10.2 By personal monthly income the percentage of respondents in each income group in agreement with the original premise rises steadily by the amount of income, from 70% of those with a monthly income of less than Rs 2, 000, through 81% of those respondents with a personal monthly income of between Rs 6, 001 and Rs 8, 000 to 100% of those with a monthly income of Rs 30, 000 or more.

10.3 However, 68% of all respondents agreed that the police do a good job in controlling crime. Those with a higher level of educational attainment were less likely to agree that the police do a good job in controlling crime.

10.4 By ethnicity, 71% of Hindu respondents agreed that the police do a good job in controlling crime compared to 69% of

Muslim respondents and 63% of those from the General Population.

10.5 56% of all respondents stated that they agreed with the statement that the police work in the interests of politicians and industrialists. Again, we see a split in attitude by the sex of the respondent.

10.6 Levels of agreement with the premise rise from 55% of those with a level of education up to primary level through 56% of those with a lower secondary incomplete and an SC or equivalent to 62% of those with an A Level or equivalent and 69% of those with a post secondary education.

10.7 When looking at whether the respondents felt that the police treat all people the same regardless of community we see that the percentages of all respondents in agreement are quite low at 32%.

10.8 82% of all respondents agreed with the statement that police brutality cannot be tolerated as it infringes basic human rights.

10.9 73% of all respondents stated that they thought that, in general, the police do a good job. Broken down by ethnicity, we see that 77% of Hindu, 74% of Muslim and 66% of those respondents who placed themselves in the General Population agreed that police performance was generally good.

10.10 Asked whether or not they agreed that the government was right to abolish the death penalty, 38% agreed while 55% of all respondents disagreed with the statement. Younger respondents were more likely to agree with the statement while there was little difference between respondents by sex. Those respondents of the General Population were most likely to agree with the premise, at 50%, while agreement fell to 30% of Hindu respondents.

10.11 Only 40% of all respondents believed that jailing more convicted criminals would be an effective measure in contrast to the 48% who stated the opposite. ON the other hand, more discipline in the family, taking more precautions and reducing the general level of poverty all rated above the 90% mark in

terms of effectiveness, while making punishments more severe, having more police on the streets and showing less violence and crime on TV were considered to be effective by slightly less respondents.

Social Welfare & Services

11.1 Asked to state what they thought to be the main priority for government investment in education, the main body of respondents came down firmly in favour of investment at the Primary and Secondary school levels with 41% favouring the former and 23% the latter. Although 14% were in favour of prioritising Nursery Schools, only 9% thought the University a priority and fewer, 8%, felt that Special Needs Schools should be targeted for investment.

11.2 For respondents aged between 26 and 29 years old the percentage opting for investment in Primary schools as a priority rises to 57% and is at 46% for those between the ages of 30 and 39 years old. At the lower end of the age scale we see that 13% of those respondents aged between 18 and 21 years opted for investment in the University. Investment in the University is also more favoured by the 19% of respondents with a Post Secondary education.

11.3 Respondents were asked what they thought was important to improve children's education in, firstly, Primary schools and, secondly, Secondary Schools. The results for improvements at both levels of education were very similar. The number one choice, selected by 36% of all respondents with regard to Primary schools and 35% in regard to Secondary schools, was for more and better teachers. There was also a similarity of attitude on both educational levels towards more contact between the parents and the schools, with 31% and 28% of respondents choosing this option for Primary and Secondary schools respectively. Better administration of the schools was also seen as important, this time with slightly more respondents believing this to be the case with Secondary schools.

11.4 65% of all respondents agreed that abolishing the CPE would reduce the stress on school children, while 26% disagreed.

11.5 Half of all respondents disagreed and half agreed with the idea that if the CPE were scrapped standards would fall.

11.6 60% of respondents were in favour of those that do well in the CPE exams attending better secondary schools than those who do not do so well. 40% stated that they thought that all pupils should attend the same schools, regardless of CPE results. There was a marked discrepancy in results between members of the main religions with 65% and 67% of Hindu and Muslim respondents respectively favouring better schools for CPE successes, a choice made by 47% of those of the Christian faith.

11.7 97% of respondents thought that more children took private tuition today than ever before. 69% stated that they thought private tuition was unfair as it favours only those who can afford it.

11.8 25% of all respondents agreed with the statement that Kreol should be the language used in Primary schools while 72% disagreed.

11.9 Looking at the results by religious affiliation, there is a recognizable group of respondents in agreement among those of the Christian faith at 35% in comparison to 25% of Muslim and 17% of Hindu respondents.

11.10 For 41% of respondents health was the main area where Government should spend yet more money. 35% of all respondents saw Education as the highest priority.

11.11 58% of respondents stated that they were satisfied with the current health system with 41% stating that they were unsatisfied. There was little variation by other variables such as age, ethnicity, education or marital status.

11.12 However, further questioning on the perceptions of respondents regarding various aspects of the Public Health

System revealed the predominant attitude that most aspects are in need of improvement.

11.13 By educational level, those with a higher level of education were more likely to think that aspects of public hospitals are in need of improvement than those respondents with a lower level of education.

11.14 52% of respondents would prefer to leave the level of taxation as it is and spend the same as at present on Health, Education and Social Security. 27% were in favour of raising tax and spending more on Health, Education and Social Security. Some 21% would prefer to reduce both tax and public expenditure on social services.

11.15 Those with higher personal monthly incomes were also more likely to choose this option of keeping things as they are with 60% of those who earned Rs 14, 000-16, 000 per month and 67% of those who earned Rs 16, 000-20, 000 selecting this option.

11.16 Some 83% of all respondents thought that old age pensioners living on the current state pension were really poor.

11.17 Younger respondents tended to have a stronger belief that older persons get enough to live on and older respondents tended to the belief that pensioners on a state pension are really poor. This option of 'they are really poor' ranged from 72% of those in the youngest age group, 18 – 21 years old to 92% of those over 60 years of age.

11.18 75% pf the respondents were in favour of a continuation of the universal provision of the retirement pensions to all over 60 years of age, compared to less than a quarter that preferred that retirement pensions should be selectively targeted.

11.19 In fact, it seems that the higher the level of educational attainment the lesser the aversion to the selective provision of retirement pensions.

11.20 When asked on which social security service the state should spend more. just over half of the respondents, 51 %. chose Old Age pensions.

11.21 This choice is more popular among older age groups with 55% of respondents in the 50-59 age group and 66% of those aged 60 years and over choosing this option. Disability benefits appear slightly more popular among the younger respondents at 47% of those aged 18-21 years.

11.22 It seems then that self-interest is a strong influence on what areas of social spending one sees as a priority for greater investment.

11.23 43% of all respondents thought that state provision encourages dependency on government.

11.24 73%. of respondents disagreed with the statement that an increase in unemployment benefit would discourage people from working.

11.25 88% of respondents agreed that government should spend more on Social Security.

11.26 78% of respondents agreed that it is important that Government raises revenue from the rich to distribute among the poor.

11.27 86% of respondents believed that ordinary people do not benefit from the progress of the country.

11.28 Absolutely all unemployed respondents, and 93% of pensioners. agreed with the need for more social security provision.

Environment

12.1 43% of respondents saw rubbish as being the biggest environmental problem. 23% regarded pollution from factories as the biggest problem and 17% pollution from motor vehicles. Chemicals and pesticides were also seen as a major problem by 9% of the respondents. Those respondents from the lowest income group were more likely to see rubbish as the biggest environmental problem at 52%.

12.2 When asked what action should be taken against a factory known to be polluting a river, 49% of respondents stated that they thought that the polluter should simply be asked to stop, while 33% thought that the polluter should be fined a large sum for each week that it continues to pollute. A further 16% would be in favour of the harsher penalty of closing down a factory that did not stop polluting. Those of the younger age groups were more inclined to opt for this latter option, with 26% of those in the age group 18 – 21 years old choosing this compared to a range of 14% to 17% of other age groups.

12.3 Some 63% stated that they thought that government should insist that factories should pay to prevent pollution. A further 28% stated that they thought government should give factories financial aid for pollution prevention.

12.4 53% of all respondents thought that the general public should bear the financial responsibility of preventing pollution and 40% thought that businesses should pay.

12.5 87% of respondents though that traffic congestion on the motorway was serious, including 45% who thought it was very serious. This rose to 91 % of motor vehicle owners, including 51 % who saw it as very serious.

12.6 87% of respondents stated that they thought that traffic congestion in the towns was serious, including 41 % who found it very serious. As before, more vehicle owners felt that the problem is serious compared to non-vehicle owners, 92% and 83%

respectively. So the general attitude is that traffic congestion is serious on both the motorway and in the towns.

12.7 82% of respondents stated that they thought that traffic noise in the towns was a serious problem. With traffic fumes, the problem was seen as serious by even more respondents, 92%. There was little, if any, difference of attitude between respondents towards these last two issues whether they were vehicle owners or not

12.8 75% of respondents disagreed with the proposal of drivers paying to drive in Port Louis during the working day. 79% of car owners disagreed with the principle of paying to drive in Port Louis compared to 72% of non-vehicle owners who disagreed.

12.9 Muslim respondents accordingly recorded the highest level of disagreement with the statement at 87%.

12.10 By occupation of respondent the highest percentage of disagreement with the idea of drivers paying to enter Port Louis during the working day was among Senior Officials and Managers at 89% followed by Craft and Related Workers at 86%, Plant and Machine Operators at 84% and Service and Shop Sales Workers at 82%.

12.11 35% of all respondents agreed with the proposal of restricting the numbers and types of vehicles driving in Port Louis during the working day. Again, there was little difference in response to this proposal when comparing vehicle owners with non-vehicle owners.

12.12 Asked whether parking should cost more in Port Louis and other town centres the respondents were more evenly split between 41% who thought that it should cost more and 47% who thought that it should not.

12.13 Vehicles owners tended to be more in disagreement with the proposal that parking should cost more at 54% compared to 42% of non-vehicle owners

12.14 Some 96% of respondents agreed that the government should do more to improve the traffic system.

12.15 88% of respondents were in favour of decentralization. 93% of car owners were m agreement with the proposal for decentralization.

12.16 92% of respondents stated that they thought that government should do more to improve the bus transport system.

12.17 94% thought that the government should do more to improve the roads. As roads are not solely for the use of car drivers or bus passengers, some 79% also stated that they thought that the government should do more to improve the facilities for cyclists and pedestrians. There was little difference between vehicle owners and non-vehicle owners on these issues, again reinforcing the fact that it is a general attitude that something needs to be done about improving the transport system.

Introduction

In his report to the Mauritius Research Council, Prof R. Jowell of the National Centre for Applied Research U.K recommended that CASR will need a 'centre piece' – a regular flagship project that keeps it busy at the outset and subsequently helps to proclaim its existence and ability to its various audiences and stakeholders. Two broad options were canvassed namely a Mauritian Social Attitudes Survey and a Mauritian Social Exclusion Study. In the end a combination of these two elements commended itself and an annual "Mauritius Social Audit" was recommended for inclusion in the initial plans for the Centre.

As the Mauritius Social Exclusion Study is being implemented separately, CASR concentred on a Social Attitudes Study. This study will cover issues pertaining to the family, inequality, law and order, employment, health, education, social security and the local environment. The range of themes may well be extended during subsequent studies.

The aim of the study is to chart, describe, explain and interpret changes in the nation's attitudes, beliefs and values over the years. Although the survey focuses mainly on people's attitudes and values it will also collect data on their behaviour patterns, household circumstances and employment. Each survey will generate a report that will analyse and try to explain movements in the Mauritian public's attitudes, beliefs and values.

A study of this kind records the attitudes of the respondents at the time that the fieldwork was implemented. Therefore, by definition, this type of study does not record facts. However, the analysis of the data collected can be regarded as a barometer of current beliefs and attitudes. It is also important to consider that responses will have been based on the respondent's feelings, thoughts and perceptions, which will have inevitably been influenced by events recent to the fieldwork. The respondent's perception of current events will also have been influenced by the media coverage of these events, both

from a local and international standpoint, and, in some cases, may have even been coloured by what the respondent feels is the contemporary politically correct view at that given point in time. Any misconceptions the respondent may have had on a particular subject cannot be filtered out and may well form part of the attitude expressed.

For these reasons, a degree of caution is required if one attempts to extrapolate further findings from the information presented here. Attitudes do change over time and repeat studies should show the development of opinions and also highlight as and when variations in attitudes occur.

It is also worth keeping in mind that peoples' attitudes and beliefs do not necessarily translate into action on their part. Although some respondents may offer a liberal response to a line of questioning it does not necessarily follow that their *actions* in this area are equally as liberal.

Some subjects are important in the short term while others may be regarded as part of the traditional and ongoing debate on Mauritian social habits, which is why repeat studies may also include different elements of inquiry.

However, it should be remembered that this is a scientific study of attitudes and not an opinion poll on topical issues. As such the results contained here can be a vital social barometer that can assist decision makers and others. The findings may point to the need for further and deeper analysis and may even eventually be a catalyst for policy changes. Other aspects may be interesting but, of themselves, not significant on any higher level of analysis or action.

Where possible, available material from other studies has been incorporated to illustrate any important changes or developments. However, it is worth pointing out, that comparisons cannot be applied exactly. Different types of studies produce some minor differences in results, according to the methodology used. Fixed studies, such as the Census and the Household Budget Surveys (HBS), conducted by the Central Statistics Office, require the respondents to, as far as is possible, record the facts as they pertain to the individual and their household. The respondent has time to gather together the necessary information and, in the case of the HBS, completes a daily diary. In a

study such as this one the respondent is asked by the interviewer to come up with a rough approximation of the major household characteristics on the spot, such as the total monthly household income, which means that, there is the likelihood of a fairly broad margin of error.

The information contained within this report is a selection of findings from the total amount of information gathered. During the analysis stage, over 3, 000 tables were constructed, of which those that remain in the final report text are only a small number.

Where in the questionnaire respondents were asked to select a response from a 5-point scale, for simplification and analytical purposes the responses given have been collapsed into a 3-point scale. It should also be noted that in the tables percentages do not necessarily add up to 100% because of rounding. Raw percentages for each question have been included in the English version of the Questionnaire *(Appendix I).*

It is expected that the publication of a report such as this will fill a gap in social measurement and help to record and interpret long term climate shifts in public opinion while dispelling numerous popular misconceptions about Mauritius.

Sample design

The Social Attitudes Survey was. conducted using a random sample of 1, 400 individuals from the whole island of Mauritius. The selection of respondents was carried out using a three stage sampling procedure.

This multi stage sampling process was used to save on time and costs. Since the sample had to be drawn from the whole population of the Island of Mauritius who were over 18 years old at the time of the implementation of the study, simple random sampling would have been both time-consuming and expensive. A sample drawn by simple random sampling would also have been distributed throughout the length and breadth of Mauritius, while the method used meant that interviewing was arranged so that groups of respondents were interviewed in 100 randomly selected geographical areas known as Enumeration Areas (EAs).

The first stage was the drawing of the sample of the 100 EAs after stratification using the three regional strata of urban, semi-urban and rural. The second stage was the selection of 14 households from each of the 100 EAs, which were selected after stratification by ethnic group household size and the average expenditure of the household. Finally, the third stage dealt with the identification of the respondent within each selected household.

The sampling unit was therefore:

- the Enumeration Area at first stage,
- the household at the second stage, and
- the respondent at the third stage.

Stage 1 - Selection of EAs

Sampling frame

The Sampling Frame for the EAs was the complete list of EAs identified at the 2000 Housing and Population Census conducted by the Central Statistics Office. A total of 3,167 populated EAs were demarcated at the 2000 Census.

Geographical stratification and selection of EAs

The island of Mauritius consists of nine geographical districts. The districts are made up of localities that fall into one or more of the three regions classified as urban, semi-urban and rural. The island of Mauritius was broken down into 21 regional strata obtained by cross-stratifying the nine districts with the three regions.

Table 1 - Number of Enumeration Areas selected per Regional Strata

District	Stratum Number	No. of Households in Stratum	% of Households in Stratum	No. of EAs in stratum	No. of EAs selected per stratum
Port Louis	1	28,995	10.0	330	11
	2	3,096	1.1	26	0
	3	662	0.2	6	0
Pamplemousses	4	10,340	3.6	101	4
	5	19,546	6.8	239	7
Riv du Rempart	6	8,029	2.8	79	3
	7	16,413	5.7	188	6
Flacq	8	9,370	3.2	85	3
	9	21,343	7.4	249	7
G.Port	10	11,465	4.0	113	4
	11	15,211	5.3	195	5
Savanne	12	7,712	2.7	77	3
	13	9,106	3.1	127	3
P.Wilhems	14	81,924	28.3	793	28
	15	8,932	3.1	103	4
	16	2,906	1.0	41	0
Moka	17	7,504	2.6	78	3
	18	11,037	3.8	150	4
B.River	19	760	0.3	7	0
	20	6,049	2.1	58	2
	21	8,770	3.0	122	3
Island of Mauritius		289,170	100.0	3,167	100

In order to ensure that all households had an equal chance of being selected, regardless of the size of the stratum in which they were located, a procedure known as sampling with probability proportional to size was adopted. This means that the number of EAs allocated to each stratum was proportional to the number of households it contained. The final selection of the EAs within each stratum was through the use of systematic sampling.

Stage 2 – Selection of households

Sampling frame – Listing stage

Field staff performed a listing of all households in each of the 100 EAs selected. During this listing stage, some key information was collected on each household, information that was used to ensure that the resulting sample of households was representative in respect of people from different socio-economic backgrounds. This list served as the frame for the selection of households.

Stratification and selection of households

The households were then stratified by ethnic group, size and expenditure class, with systematic sampling used for the final selection of the 14 households for each EA.

Stage 3 – Selection of individuals

To convert the list of households into a sample of individuals, the Kish Selection Grid technique was used. This is a process by which the interviewer is given simple and rigorous rules for selecting one person from a given household, the system being so devised that all individuals belonging to the target population within a household, have an equal chance of

selection. This stage uniquely and scientifically detennined the person to be interviewed, removed the possibility of interviewer bias as to respondent selection and ensured that the sample was gender and age representative.

Questionnaire Design

The questionnaire was designed according to the objectives of the study, the issues to be addressed and feedback obtained from various Ministries and other sources. Separate sections were designed around major themes including health, education, law and order, the welfare state and a range of social, economic and moral issues.

The first part of the questionnaire was a section eliciting factual information on the demographic characteristics of the surveyed population to investigate the profile of respondents such as gender distribution, marital status, age distribution and educational attainment.

A question on household composition was included to collect information on household size, number of employed persons in the household and household income. These are important variables for the analysis.

The standard precautions applicable to questionnaire design were implemented. Simple arid careful wording was used to ensure clarity and to avoid respondent misunderstanding and interviewer bias. The questions were carefully sequenced and the questionnaire had a clear layout and contained precise instructions to the interviewers.

To avoid inconsistencies in translation and explanation, the questionnaire was translated into Kreol.

Field Work

To ensure optimal response and reliability, the survey was conducted using the face-to-face interviewing approach.

Four grades of field staff were employed.

- 1 Statistics Consultant
- 1 Chief Field Supervisor
- 10 Supervisors
- 75 Interviewers

All of the interviewers had previous expenence and / or training in, sample surveys.

Training, supervision and control

Training and briefing sessions were conducted to ensure that all interviewers understood the objectives of the survey, approached the respondents in the same way, and were in possession of standardized methods for eliciting and recording information in an objective manner. The main briefing session was held the 15th of June 2002. This was followed up by further meetings between the Statistics Consultant and the Chief Field Supervisor and the Supervisors and Supervisors and the Interviewers.

Supervisory staff exercised close monitoring and control during the data collection exercise. They ensured that staff working under their responsibility were fully familiar with the boundaries and ground features of the geographical areas allocated to them, were performing according to instructions, and that time limits for the various tasks were scrupulously respected to avoid bottlenecks.

Supervisors accompanied interviewers during their first interviews. Difficult cases met by the interviewers were immediately reported to the Supervisors who would deal with them without delay.

The fieldwork was implemented during June and July 2002. After completion of the interviews, all questionnaires were checked to ensure that they had been properly completed. Following this, the raw data was entered into computers. Data cleaning and analysis was performed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS Version 10.1). This was completed by the end of August 2002. Analysis of the data and the writing of the report began in September 2002.



The use of a nationally representative sampling methodology ensured that, by and large, similar proportions by the key variables in the actual population are reflected in the sample. Although the study focused on the individual respondents' attitudes to certain social issues, a lot of information was gathered on the demographic characteristics of both the individual respondent and the household in which they lived. Such factors may very often form the underlying basis of attitude development

Regional Distribution of Sample

The sample population was I, 399 individuals of whom almost 45% were from urban regions, 23 % from semi-urban and 32% from rural regions.

As stated in the Work/Family Report (CASR - 2002)[1], at the beginning of the 21st century there was little difference in Mauritius with regard to the lifestyle of respondents in these three types of region. Arguably, the contemporary population of Mauritius is to a large extent fairly cosmopolitan and it is not surprising that in many aspects of the analysis of the findings there is little evidence of any contradiction or disparity between regions.

Table 2 - Regional Stratum

	No.	%
Urban	627	44.8
Semi - Urban	326	23.3
Rural	446	31.9
Total	1399	100

[1] International Labour Office & Ministry of Labour & Industrial Relations, Work and the Family, CASR, 2002

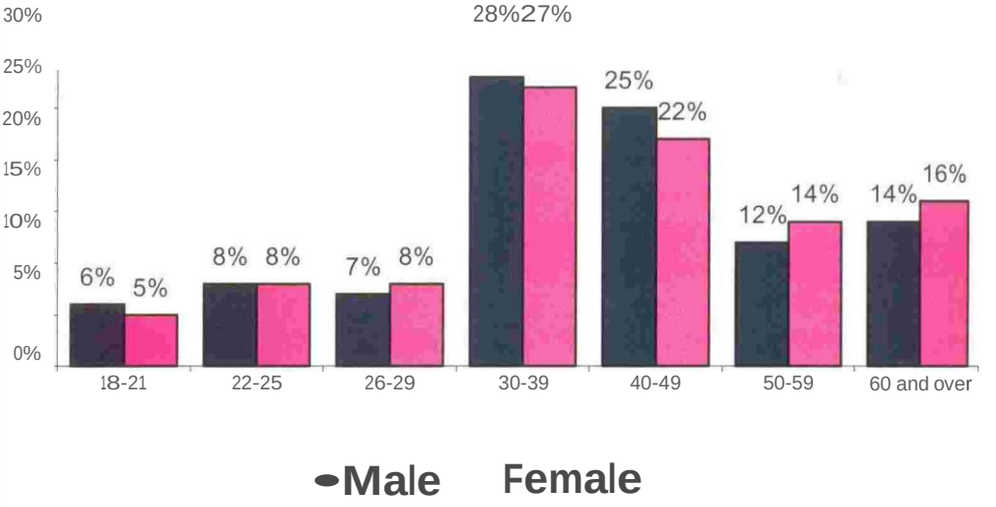
Gender Distribution of Respondents

The representation of Male and Female respondents was equal in the sample population of 1, 399 individuals, which closely matches the actual gender division in the population of the Island of Mauritius where in the Census 2000, Males made up 49.5 % of the population and Females 50.5%.[2]

Age Distribution of Respondents

All studies have to set parameters on the study group. For the purpose of this study, it was decided to canvass the attitudes of adults 18 years of age and over. As is to be expected, due to the equal gender representation in the sample, the figures obtained show relatively little gender difference by age group, other than the higher representation of women in the older age groups which is in line with the greater life expectancy of women in Mauritius. The main body of respondents was between 30 and 49 years old.

Chart 1 - Age Groups Of Respondents







Educational Attainment Level

The level of education achieved by a respondent is often a key variable in any attitudinal survey, as it can be a major determining factor in the shaping of the individual's attitudes to a whole array of issues.

For this study, a high percentage of the sample population of both sexes combined had an educational level that did not go beyond primary schooling. Over half of Female, 53%, and 40% of Male respondents had not studied beyond the primary level. A significant proportion of respondents had no formal education or had only enjoyed an incomplete primary education. Both of these latter categories of lower educational achievement contained a higher percentage of Female respondents.

The next largest group was made up of those respondents with an incomplete secondary education. More Male, 26%, than Female respondents, 21%, fell into this category. When taken together, those respondents with an educational level lower than the School Certificate or an equivalent accounted for almost 70% of the total population, a percentage that, for Female respondents alone, rises to almost 75%.

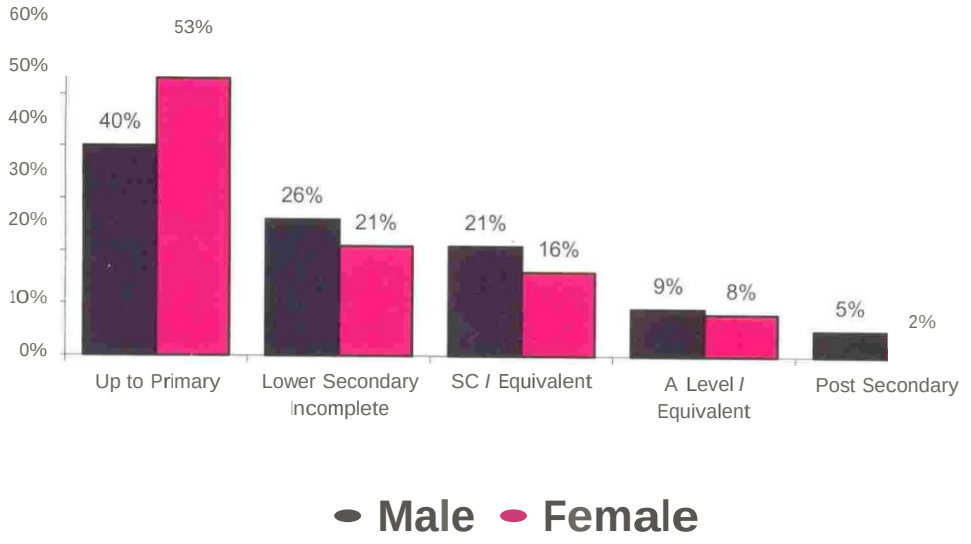
When looking at higher levels of education Male respondents were more highly represented than Female respondents. Although there were twice as many Males than Females with post-secondary qualifications the percentages should be interpreted with caution due to the relatively small numbers of applicable respondents.

Although recently there has been evidence of a considerable ingress of girls into the educational system at all levels, the figures reflect the continued discrepancy between Male and Female educational attainment. This is not unexpected, as any changes will take a long time to impact on the demographic profile of a population. As we have seen, the largest proportion of the sample is made up of older

[2] Central Statistics Office - Housing And Population Census 2000 – November 2001

persons who did not benefit from many of the relatively recent changes made to ensure increased access to education.

Chart 2 - Educational Level By Sex



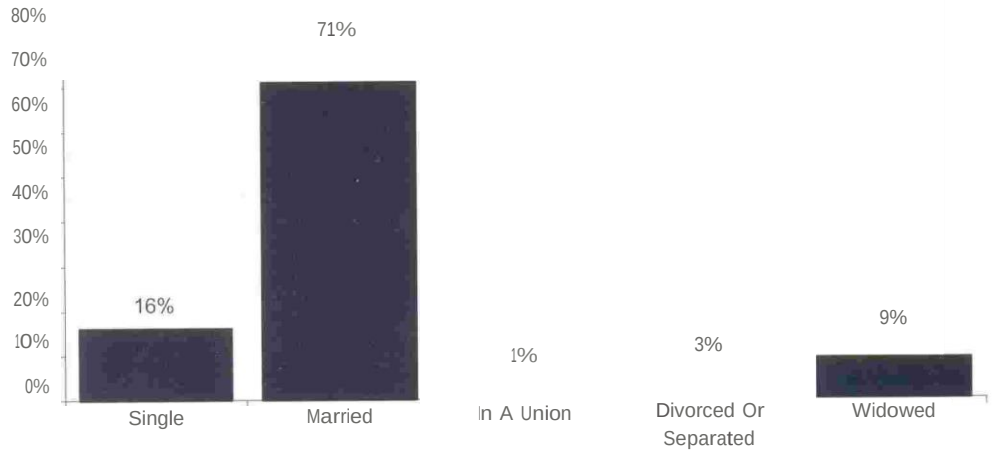
Marital Status of Respondents

The majority of respondents in this study, 83%, was currently, or had at some time been, married. Almost all of the other respondents, 16%, were single. Very few, amounting to only 1% of the total number of respondents, considered themselves as in a Union, that is living in a state of marriage without the relationship being formalized either civilly or religiously.



The marital status of an individual is an important factor in influencing attitudes towards certain issues such as personal freedom, gender relations and distribution of labour within the household as the analysis of the findings of this survey will later show.

Chart 3 - Marital Status Of Respondents



Ethnic Background And Religion Of Respondent

Although it is generally believed that with successive generations, people in a multi-ethnic society like Mauritius will tend to open themselves to the beliefs and customs of one another's community, there are still significant variations in attitudes with respect to certain issues.

In contemporary Mauritius, about half of the population is of Hindu origin, a broad category which also includes, among others, Tamils, Telegus and Marathis. In comparison the smallest minority group is the Sino-Mauritians. Muslims make up almost a fifth of the population while the category of General Population incorporates all of the others, although for the large part is made up of those of Creole ongms.

Chart 4 - Ethnicity of Sample

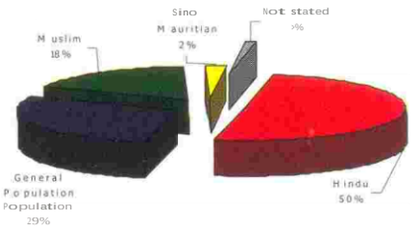
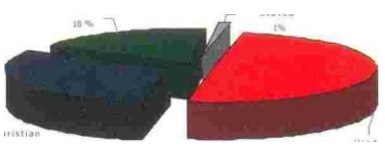


Chart 5 - Stated Religion of Respondents



A number of respondents, making up roughly 1% of the sample, preferred not to state any ethnic identity.

The percentages returned for Ethnicity and Religious Affiliation were almost identical tempting one to interchange the categories. For the purposes of this report, Religion has been the main variable used and Ethnicity has been used only where it was a crucial determinant in the analysis.[3]

Occupation of Respondents

In classifying the respondents of this survey in terms of their respective occupations, the national classification of occupations" was used. As the sample was not limited to the active population, other categories were added to regroup those who were unemployed, namely pensioners and housewives.

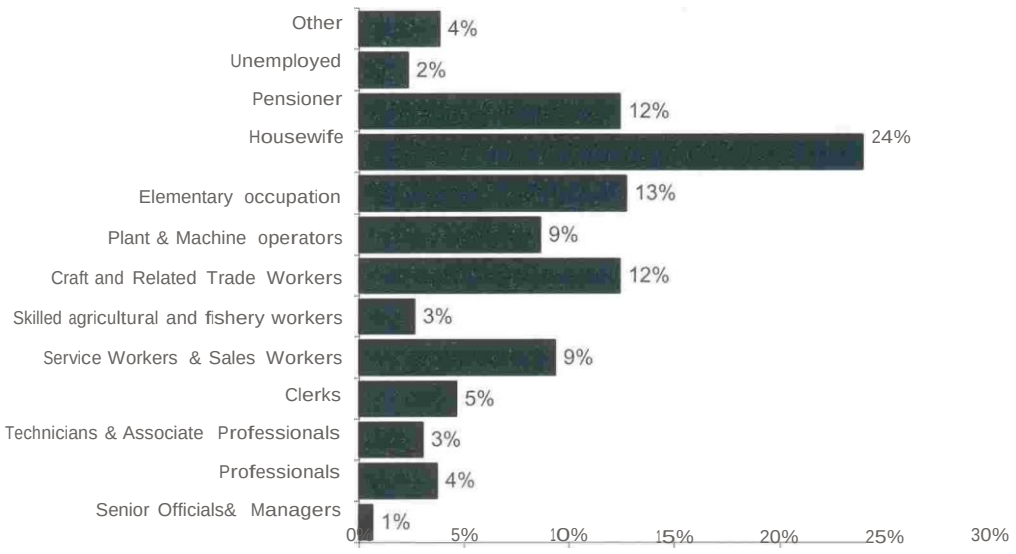
A sizeable proportion of the sample did not do any paid work. Housewives made up the largest category that did no paid work in the sample and, when added to pensioners and the unemployed, accounted for 37% of the respondents not in active employment.

[3] Although outstripped in this respect by those who gave their religion as none or other, the numbers of respondents for this "other" category was very small, which is in itself a characteristic of contemporary Mauritian society worthy of further investigation. The number of persons in the Island of Mauritians stating that they had No Religion in the Census 2000 was as low as 4, 851 or 0.4%. This should be borne in mind for all of the findings where religion is used as an analytical variable.

[4] See National Classification of Occupations (Alphabetical List), for 2000 Population Census, Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Economic Development, Productivity and Regional Development (2000)

Among those who were employed, those in the Professional and Senior Official and Managerial positions, jobs which usually require relatively high educational qualifications, were rather few in number compared to those respondents in Elementary Occupations, 13%, the Craft and Related Trades, 12%, and those in the Service and Sales and the Plant and Machine Operating occupations at 9% each.

Chart 6 - Occupational Categories



Income

Central to how a household operates is the income that comes into that household. Work is not the only source of income. It may be from various other sources such as from pensions, interest from saving or rentals of other properties, etc. In this study, information was gathered on two different sorts of income. The first was the total monthly income of the individual respondent and the second was the

total monthly household income. It is important to note that total incomes were asked for and not just income from the main job of the respondent or other members of the household.

The level of income provides more than just purchasing power, it can also be important in determining the class position of the individual as is explained further in Chapter 2.

As such, the level of income can very often have a direct and strong influence on their attitudes on a number of social issues.

Total Personal Monthly Income

Looking at personal total monthly incomes, over one third of respondents, 36%, stated tha this was less than Rs 2, 000 per month. However, it should be noted that this figure may have been inflated by the number of housewives who, earning no income, as a category by themselves, make up 24% of the sample. The numbers of pensioners and the unemployed were also included in this group of respondents with a personal monthly income of less than Rs 2, 000. However, having said that, one should also be aware that not all pensioners fall into this category as some continue to enjoy higher monthly incomes derived from such diverse sources as occupational pension plans, savings interest and rents.

Some 54% of the sample population had a total monthly personal income of less than Rs 4, 000. Turning our attention to those on higher incomes, we see that only 7% of respondents enjoyed a personal income of greater than Rs 10, 000 per month and only 5% brought in Rs 12, 000 or more.

Total Monthly Household Income

In the majority of households studied there was more than one income earner. When looking at the total household income, that is the aggregate income of all those who earn income from whatever source within the respondent's household, we find that slightly more than half of the respondents, 51 %, lived in households where the total monthly household income was less than Rs 8, 000 per month.

A quarter of the households earned between Rs 8, 001 and Rs 12, 000. At the higher levels of household income, those households where total monthly income was between Rs 12, 001 – Rs 16, 000 and where it was over Rs 16, 000 represented 12% of the sample each.

Chart 7 - Personal Monthly Income

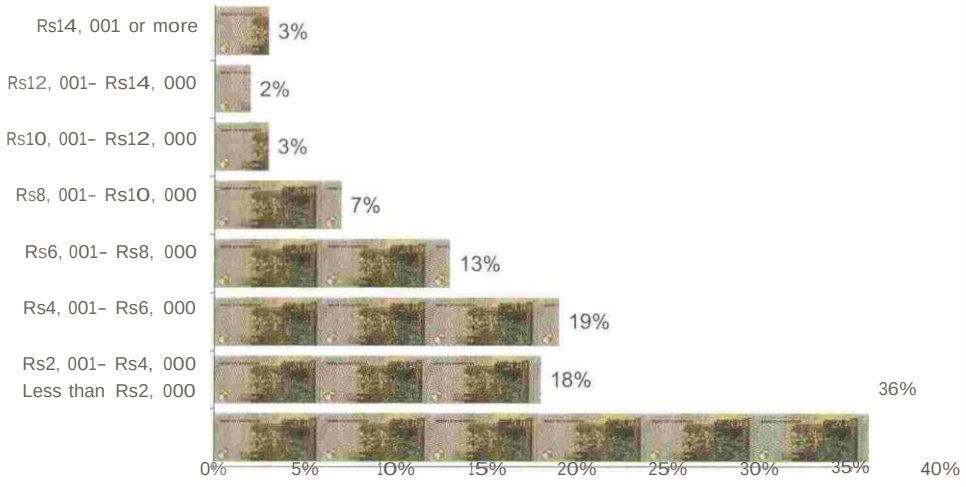
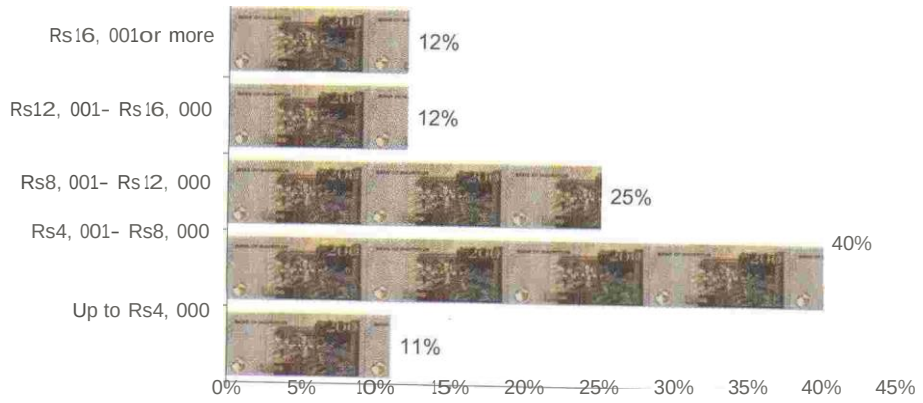


Chart 8 - Total Monthly Household Income



Ownership of Vehicle

We have previously seen that the income bracket to which the majority of households belonged, computed either by total personal monthly income of respondent, or the monthly total accumulated by all household members, is on the low side. However, having noted this, what is perhaps surprising is the number of respondents who were owners of vehicles. Some 41% of respondents said that they owned a motor vehicle of some description. Of this 41% of motor vehicle owners 43% owned a car.[5]

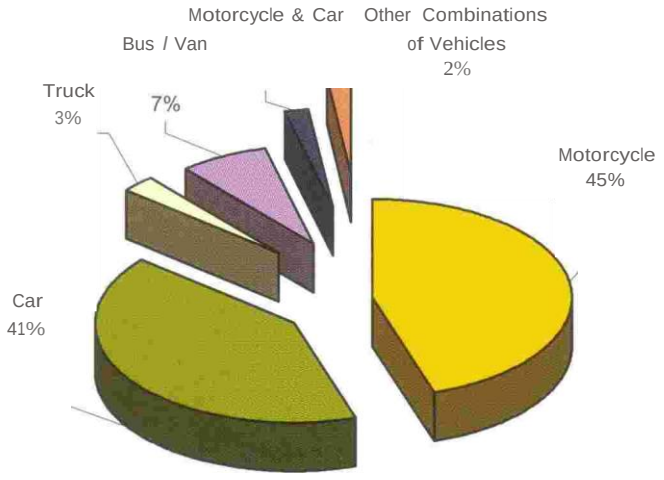
[5] This includes those who owned a car and a motorcycle but excludes other combinations of vehicles that might have included a car.

As a proportion of income, the purchase, running and maintenance of a car in Mauritius is relatively expensive. We have previously noted that those on higher incomes make up a small proportion of the population and yet the number of car owners appears to be quite high. For some it may be an essential item for their work.

This would include Taxi Drivers as well as any other respondents whose employment was of a peripatetic nature.

It is also more than likely that those with a combination of vehicles, that included buses, trucks or vans, would use these vehicles to generate income. For example, in Mauritius, there is a well• established network of mini – bus owners involved in the daily transport of children to and from school.

Chart 9 - Types of Vehicles Owned



Some 56% of those respondents living in a household with a total monthly income of up to Rs 4, 000 have a Motorcycle. On the other hand, 72% of respondents from a household with a total household monthly income of Rs 16, 001 and above have a Car.
This percentage of car owners in the total household income bracket of Rs16, 000 and over per month represents 38% of all of the car owners. Given what was previously stated about the expenses incurred in running a vehicle, particularly a car, then it is not

surprising that it is mostly those with a higher household income that have a car. We see that only 2% of all car owners are from households that bring in up to Rs 4, 000 per month and that 16% of all car owners live in households with a total monthly income of between Rs 4, 001 and Rs 8, 000.

Chart 10 - Ownership of Motorcycle by Household Income

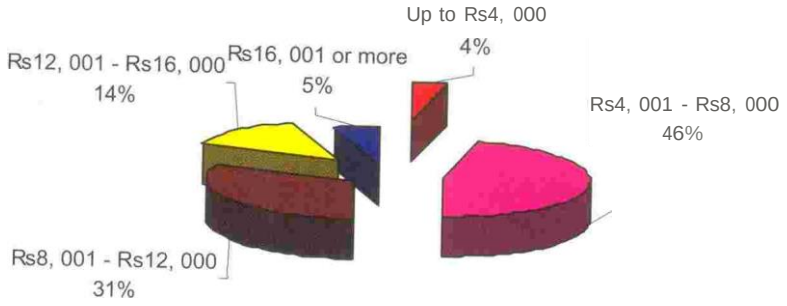
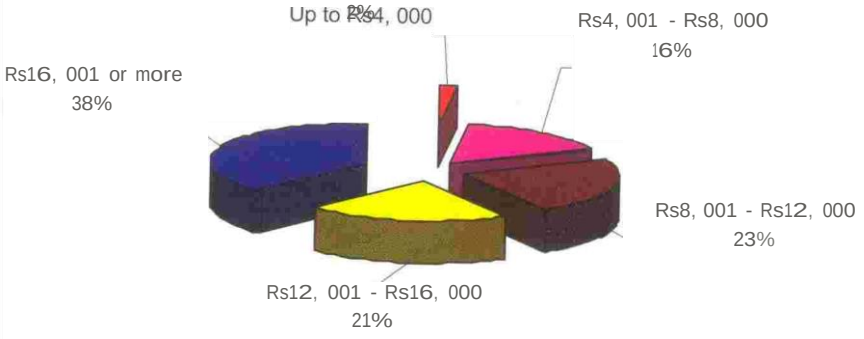


Chart 11 - Ownership of Car By Monthly Household Income



Newspaper Readership

Mauritius has a large range of newspapers on offer, the majority of which are published in French, although there are some in English and other languages such as Hindi. This range of newspapers includes those published daily and weekly. Some are specifically targeted towards select audiences, such as those that are published by political parties or their associate publicity wings and some religious organizations, while others cover more general issues including both local and international news. Others may be seen to be more like magazines than newspapers, as the news coverage is quite minimal compared to the space devoted to television schedules or sport prognostic sections.

Table 3 - Readership Of Daily Newspaper At Least 3 Times Weekly

	No.	%
Yes	515	37
No	874	63
Total	1389	100

Table 4 - Which Daily Newspaper Read

	No.	%
L'express	164	32%
Le Mauricien	124	24%
L'express & Le Mauricien	226	44%

Table 5 - Which Daily Newspaper Read Most Often

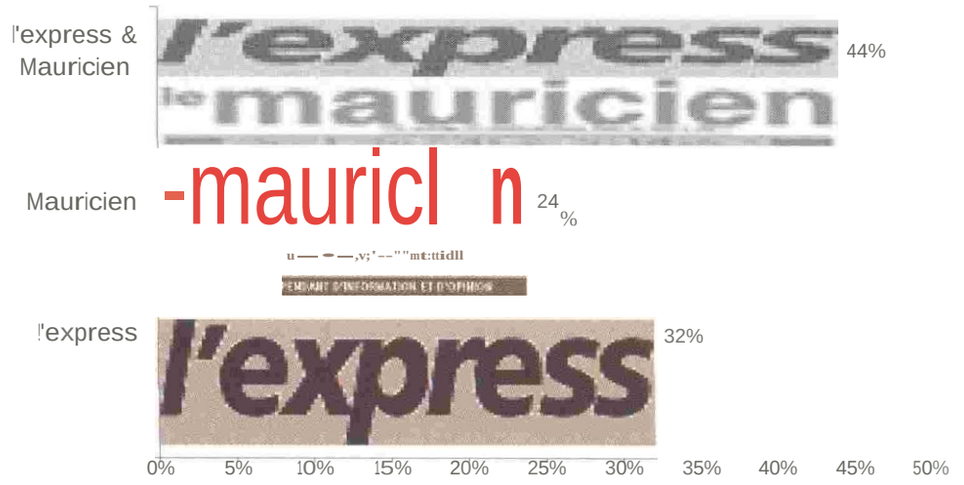
	No.	%
L'express	267	54%
Le Mauricien	220	44%

Official reports generally state that Mauritius has achieved high literacy rates and accordingly, we might expect a large percentage of respondents to be regular readers of newspapers. However, what we find is that only just over 1;3rd of respondents, 37%, read a daily newspaper at least 3 times per week and of these daily newspapers, 'L'express was the most popular choice followed by 'Le Mauricien'. Of those that regularly read daily newspapers 44% stated that they read both L'express and Le Mauricien.

Having established that L'express and Le Mauricien are by far the most popular newspapers of those that read newspapers regularly in any given week, what we don't know is how much of the content of the daily newspaper people actually read and how deeply they read many of the articles contained within their pages. This idea of levels

of functional literacy is very important as, although many people read, they may not necessarily read sufficiently well, or have sufficient interest in, many of the more in-depth articles in a newspaper.

Chart 12 - Which Daily Newspaper Read



What we see from this study is that almost everybody, 97%, watches the television news or listens to news bulletins on the radio at least once a day. This is in comparison to the relatively low percentage of people, 37%, who read a newspaper at least 3 times weekly.

Chart 13 - Read Newspaper Or Watch Television / Listen To Radio

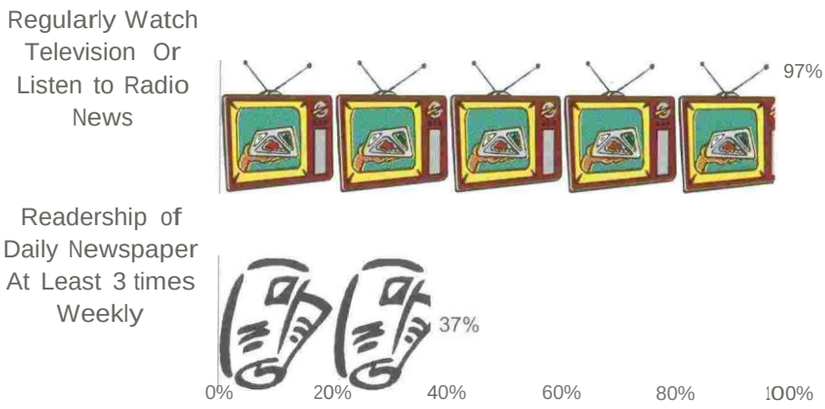
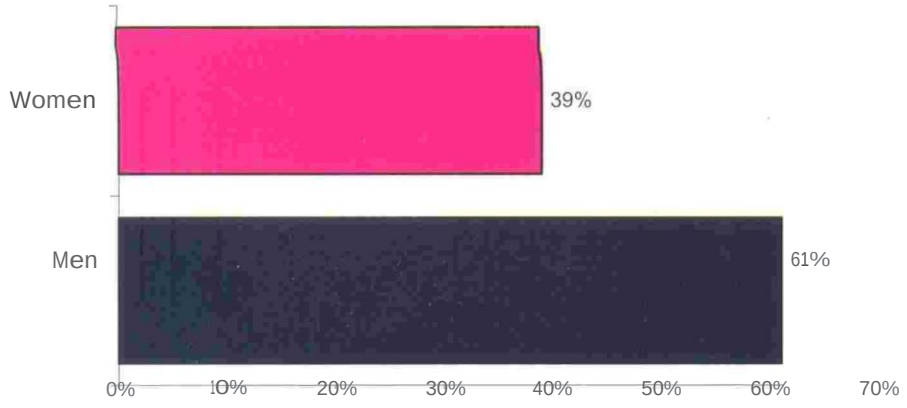


Chart 14 - Breakdown of Readership Of Daily Newspapers At Least 3 Times Weekly by Sex



One point worth noting is that of all respondents who fit this category of regular newspaper reader, a majority, 61% were male. Younger people are also more likely to be more regular readers of daily newspapers than those of older age groups. Some 45% of those in the age group 18 – 21 read a daily newspaper at least 3 times weekly, which is 8 percentage points higher than the general trend of 37%.

Table 6 - Regular Readership Of Daily Newspaper by Age Group

	18–21		22 - 25		26 -29		30 -39		40 -49		50 - 59		60 & Over	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	34	45	43	39	36	35	152	39	128	39	67	38	55	26
No	42	5	66	61	67	65	233	61	201	61	111	62	154	74

As well as the range of daily newspapers a wide variety of weekly newspapers are also published in Mauritius and a large number of people, 68%, stated that they read at least one of these each week.



Table 7 - Readership Of Weekly Newspaper

	No.	%
Yes	940	68%
No	450	32%

Table 8 - If Reads Weekly Newspaper First Preference

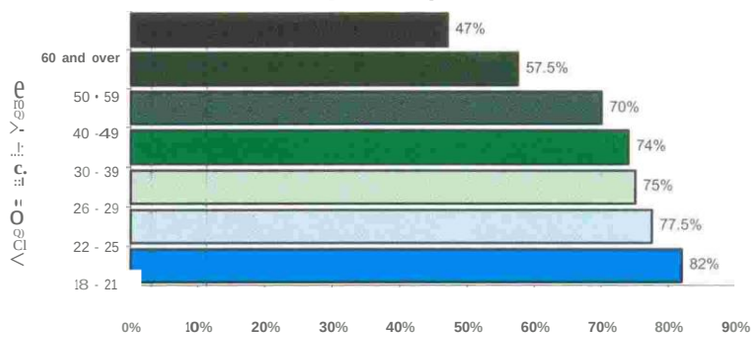
	No.	%
Weekend	520	55%
5 Plus	166	17%
Le Defi	149	16%
Le Dimanche	52	5%
Others	62	7%

Notwithstanding those who read the Sunday edition of L'express", Weekend was the most popular choice of weekly newspaper selected by 55% of the respondents who read a weekly newspaper. The next most popular was 5 Plus, at 17% followed Le Defi, at 16%[7] and Le Dimanche, at 5%. All of the other weeklies shared 7%.

With weekly newspaper readership, we again see a disparity of readership by sex as 57% of all readers of weekly newspapers were Male and 43% were Female. A picture begins to emerge of more men than women reading both daily and weekly newspapers.

Also in line with the observation of daily newspaper readership, we see that young people are more likely to read weekly newspapers than respondents from other age groups.

Chart 15 - Readership Of Weekly Newspapers By Age Group



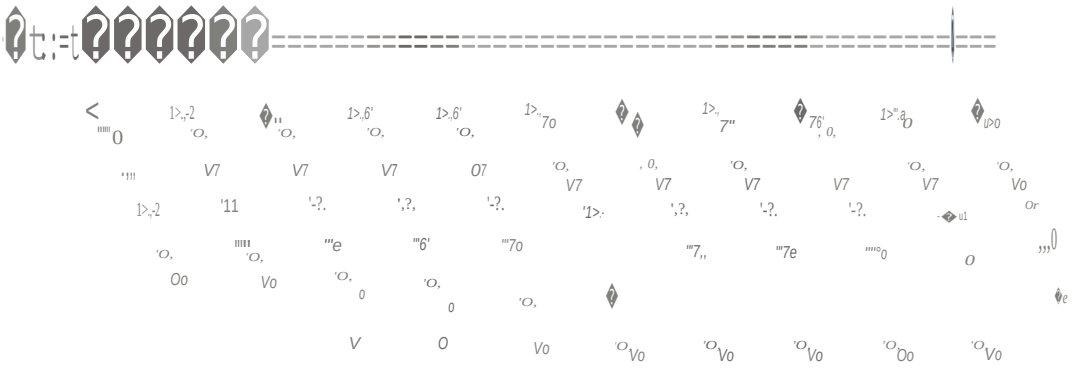
The percentage rates of those that read weekly newspapers also increase in line with increases in personal income, rising from 53% of

[6] Although L'express has a Sunday edition it has not been included here as a weekly newspaper but as a seventh daily edition ofL'express.

[7] Le Defi publishes several different editions throughout the week and the results have not been disaggregated with regard to these different editions.

those whose income was less than Rs2, 000 per month to 94% of those whose income was Rs20, 001 – Rs30, 000 per month. The percentage of people reading weekly newspapers reaches a plateau of around 93% or more from the personal income groups made up of those earning Rs 8, 001 or more.

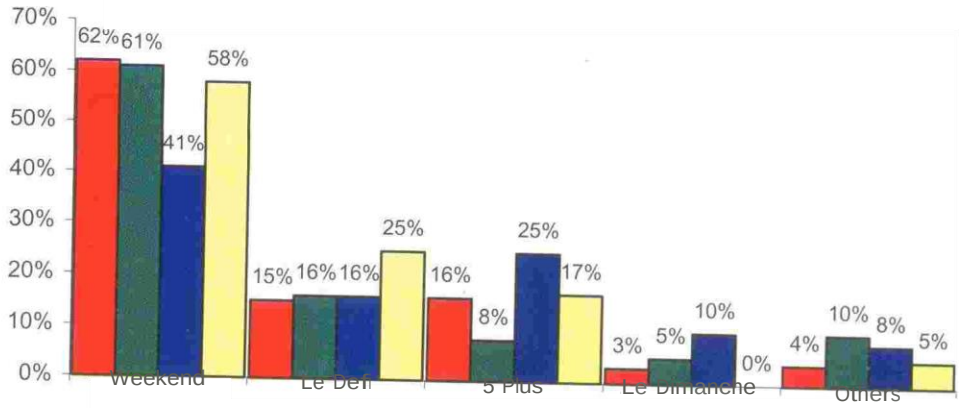
Chart 16 - Readership of Weekly Newspaper By Respondent's Personal Monthly Income



Weekend was also more popular among Hindu and Muslim respondents, at 62% and 61% respectively than Christian respondents, at 41%. Christian respondents also had a greater preference for 5 Plus, 25%, than either the Hindu, 16%, or Muslim, 8%, respondents.

It could be said that Mauritians from an Asian heritage tend to veer towards a preference for Weekend while the Christian population prefers a more varied pattern of reading, but with an enhanced preference for 5 Plus in comparison to the other communities.

Chart 17 - Readership of Weekly Newspapers by Religion



Ii Hindu • Muslim • Christian b Other or None Stated

News **On Radio & Television**

If it was a little surprising to see the relatively small number of people who regularly read a daily newspaper perhaps it is less so to see the percentages of people who tend to listen to the radio or watch television for their information.

Some 97% said that they regularly listen to, or watch, the news programmes on radio and television. It is often the habit in homes for a radio or television to be on in the background, but this is passive interaction with the media and what we would really wish to know is how often people actively sit to watch the news on television or listen to similar programmes on radio

The range of television stations in Mauritius has also increased dramatically from the 2 national stations of the early 1990s to at least 53 television channels in 2001. In just the 3 years from 1998 to 2001 the number of hours of television transmission time increased from 800 hours per week to 2, 016 hours per week and continues to increase with new channels being added to subscription packages on an almost monthly basis. This means that television viewers who subscribe to satellite television can access their news from almost anywhere in the world. Even those restricted to terrestrial non-subscription television can, at certain times of the day, have the choice to watch news programmes produced locally, from France via Reunion, on the BBC World Service Television network or from India on Doordarshan television.

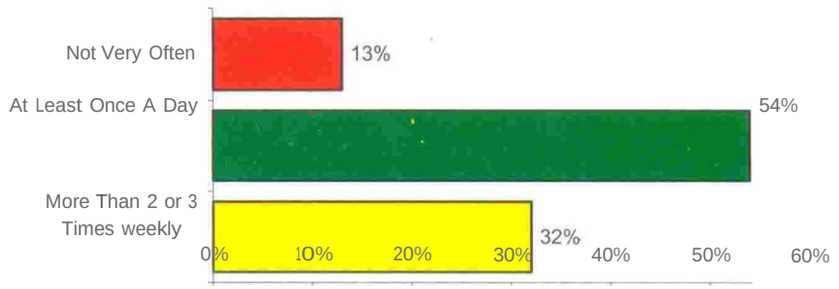
Table 9 - Television Broadcasting Services 1998 - 2001

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Channels	6	6	6	53
Transmitters	57	59	65	84
Weekly Transmission Time (Hours) Television	800	800	800	2016
Sets Licensed	214574	216691	219282	230676

Over half of the respondents, 54%, stated that they listened to radio news, or watched television news programmes, at least once a day, and almost another third of respondents, 32%, stated that they did so more than 2 or 3 times per week. This gives us a picture of how much people rely on radio and television as being their principal source of news. Some 86% of respondents are turning to the radio or television news at least 2 or 3 times per week compared to the 37% who stated

that they read a daily newspaper at least 3 times per week. There is a vast difference between the 3% who do not tum to the electronic media regularly and the 63% who do not read daily newspapers regularly.

Chart 18 - How Often Regularly Watch Television News or Listen to Radio News

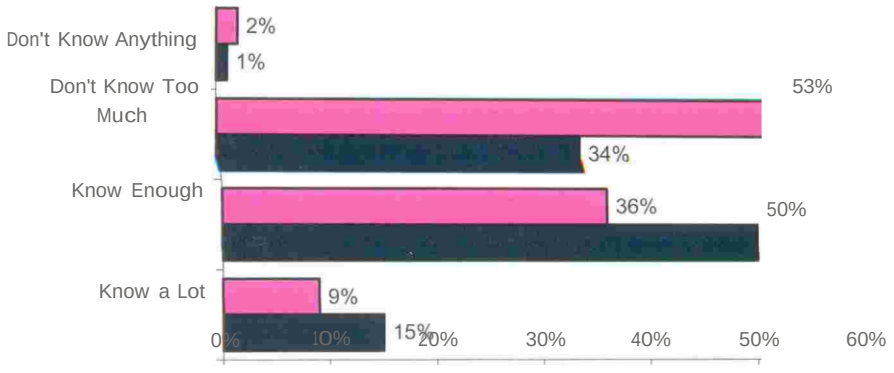


Although the responses were high for all age groups, never falling below 97%, it rose to 100% of all young people in the age groups 18 – 21 and 22 – 25 years old. Slightly more men than women, 98% and 96% respectively, watched television or listened to radio news regularly. Men, 56%, were also more likely to listen or watch than Women at 53%.

Respondents regularly watched television news, listened to radio news and sometimes read newspapers, yet only 12% felt that they knew a lot about local and international current affairs. Almost half of the respondents, 45%, stated that they either don't know too much, or, in fact, don't know anything about current affairs.

More Men than Women tended to state that they know a lot or know enough about current affairs while, conversely, more Women than Men stated that they didn't know too much or that they didn't know anything about local and international affairs.

Chart 19 - Personal Knowledge
***Of Local And International* Affairs**



Viewing and listening habits for men and women show little variation and yet we have seen that men are more likely to read a daily newspaper regularly. Perhaps, as we said before, there is a question of how much attention is devoted to the *television* and radio news or are these devices simply left switched on as a backdrop to other activities, giving one the idea that one is watching or listening to news programmes regularly when, in fact, it might be a rare occasion when one actually actively watches or listens to the news attentively. It may also be that the timing of the television news bulletins in particular clash with the timing of many duties that we have seen our respondents feel are a female responsibility, giving women little spare time to actually sit down and attend to the latest developments in current affairs that are being reported.

When we look at attitudes towards gender roles in the home we see that there is still a traditional flavour to what are considered women's duties, many of which such as childcare and meal preparation and serving take place just at the time that the television news in particular may be on.

Television And Radio

Table 10- Regularly Watch Television Or Listen to Radio

	No.	%
Yes	1353	97
No	44	3

Table 11 - If Regularly Watch Television News Or Listen To Radio News How Often

	No.	%
More Than 2 or 3 Times per Week	440	32
At Least Once A Day	738	54
Not Very Often	179	13

Table 12 - Personal Knowledge Of Local And International Affairs

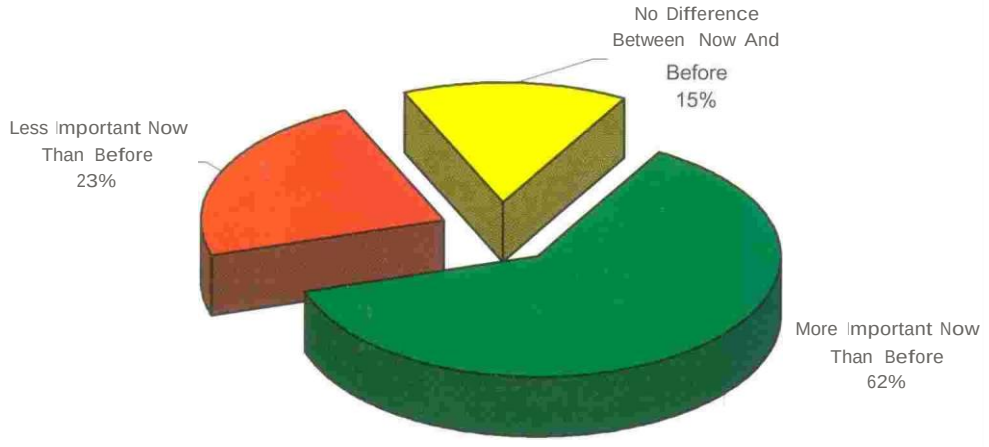
	No.	%
Know A Lot	167	12
Know Enough	601	43
Don't Know Too Much	610	44
Don't Know Anything	19	1

Chapter 2 - Social Class, Wealth and Quality Of Life

Social class is a notoriously difficult concept to describe and summarise. This is particularly so in Mauritius where there is no single established conceptual framework for the stratification of social class. What people tend to use when determining an individual's social standing is, more often than not, a loose affiliation of concepts based on family history, ethnicity, wealth, profession and other relative social factors.

However social class is defined, it appears that it is thought by people that it can affect the life chances of any particular individual. When asked outright how much they thought that a person's social position affected their chances to progress in contemporary Mauritius, 71% of all respondents stated that they thought that it did so a lot. Only 3% thought that it did not affect a person's chances of progress at all.

Chart 20 - Importance Of Social Status Now And Before



Having established that many respondents believed that social status had a big part to play in the attribution of life chances in Mauritius, respondents were canvassed on whether or not they felt if the importance and influence of social status was either growing or shrinking in importance. Some 61% of all respondents stated that they felt that it was more important now than ever before, leaving only around a quarter of all respondents, 23%, who saw it as being currently less important. The remaining 15% stated that they believed that there had been no change in the importance of social status

between now and before. However, this does not tell us whether this 15% believed that it was important or unimportant before.

Social Status

Table 13 - Affects Personal Progress

	No.	%
A Lot	544	39
Quite A Lot	447	32
Not Very Much	274	20
Not At All	48	3
Don't Know	86	6

Table 14 - Importance Now Compared To Before

	No.	%
More Important	855	61
Less Important	316	23
No Difference	212	15

Table 15 - Importance In 10 Years time

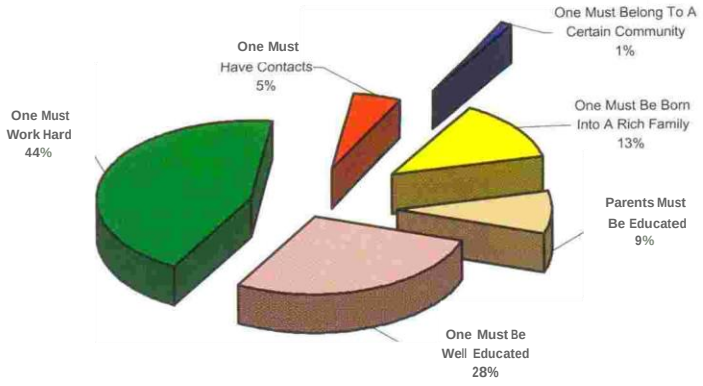
	No.	%
More Important	955	68
Less Important	193	14
No Difference	233	17

A similarly large percentage of all respondents, 68%, stated that social status would be more important in 10 years time, with 14% stating that they believed it would be less important. A further 17% saw there being little change.

It would appear then that many of the respondents felt that in contemporary Mauritius social status, whatever parameters are placed on the individual's perception of the concept, still counts for a lot. Indeed, many respondents saw the importance of an individual's social status not only consolidating its influence but also that this influence will increase in importance over the next ten years.

However, important though the majority of the respondents believed it to be, social status is not the only determining factor in the success or failure of an individual. Several other factors are also necessary to succeed in life, the most important of which, according to 44% of all respondents, was that one had to be prepared to work hard. Being well educated, selected by 28% of respondents, was seen as the next most necessary factor to achieving success. Although the impact of social position is still apparent we see that just 13% of all respondents thought that the most important thing necessary to succeed in life is to be born into a rich family. Perhaps one encouraging result, regarding life achievements being meritorious, is the small percentage of respondents, only 1%, who saw belonging to certain ethnic communities as being the most necessary factor for succeeding in life.

Chart 21 - Most Necessary to Succeed In Life



Just as many of the respondents felt that there was a widening gap in opportunities determined by one's social class, many also believed that there is a widening gulf between those who have and those who do not. Some 91% of all respondents stated that they agreed that, in contemporary Mauritius, the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. The purchasing power of one's income can be a prime-determining factor in how one feels about relative wealth.

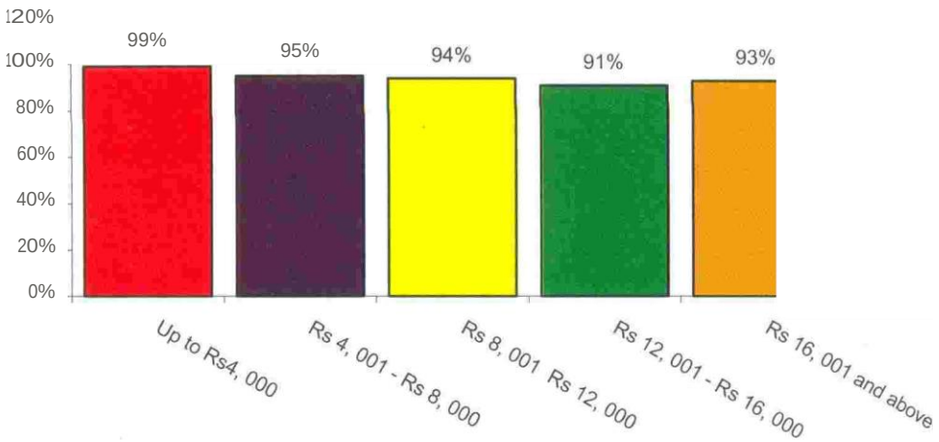
Table 16 - Rich Are Getting Richer & Poor Are Getting Poorer

	No.	%
Agree	1276	91
Disagree	105	8
Don't Know	18	

An overwhelming majority of all respondents, 94%, stated that they thought that in Mauritius nowadays it is more difficult to cope with the cost of living than it was two years ago. Of those respondents who lived in households where the total monthly household income was less than Rs 4, 000, the rate of agreement was as high as 99%. Even with those respondents who were from households at the higher end of the monthly income scale, at Rs16, 001 and above, the percentage of those who agreed that it was more difficult to cope with the cost ofliving now than two years ago was as high as 93%.

A quick glimpse at the chart shows how unified all respondents were in agreeing that it was now more difficult to cope with the cost of living.

Chart 22 - Agree More Difficult To Cope With Cost Of Living Than 2 Years Ago



But economic difficulties do not necessarily reflect on the quality of life. People can be worse off financially but enjoying a better standard of living, particularly if one has increasing access to labour saving devices, high quality leisure items or pursuits or can change their consumption habits and opt for better quality and more expensive goods. What we see, however is that less than half of all respondents, 41 %, agreed that people have a better quality of life now than 5 years ago. The majority, 55%, did not agree with this premise that the quality of life was better now.

At the time of implementation of this study there were probably few places in the world where it was becoming easier to cope with the rising costs of living. Overall what emerges is that many people, at least half or more of all respondents, feel that life is becoming increasingly difficult, that it is more difficult to cope financially, that the gulf between the rich and the poor is widening and that the quality of life is not improving. However, one would be well advised to not simply equate financial standing with quality of life. Although many may feel that it is more difficult to cope financially than before they may also feel that the actual quality of life has improved.

Cheeroo" has given some possible reasons for this mismatch between perceptions and reality. Comparing the steady rise in real income and the tantlard of h ,ng in Maun.fax over a\mo<;t 10 yeav:), he \\0ted that for the last five years the increase has been marginal. This 'crisis of expectations' has led this marginal increase to appear as relative stagnation and even gives the impression that the cost of living is rising. Repeated increases in Value Added Tax and the price of basic commodities such as water, electricity and petrol over a relatively short period of time and the rise in the unemployment rate may have added to the impression that the cost of living is increasing and that people are generally getting poorer.

The Household Budget Surveys of 1996-97 and 2002-03 indicated that over the last 5 years the annual increase in household real income has been around 1%, while the increase in consumption has varied between 3 to 5%, meaning that the increase in expenditure has been higher than the increase in the level of income. However, this additional expenditure can often be accounted for by hire purchase or loans, which, although they can add to the financial anxiety, have most likely been contracted to pay for items that have led to a better quality of life. If one looks at the rates of ownership of labour saving devices and luxury items in households over a similar period of time one sees a noticeable increase.

One other important point that emerges from the Household Budget Surveys is that the Gini Coefficient, which is a single comparative measure of inequality, has been improving since 1997 and yet the general perception seems to point to a widening gap between the rich and the poor.

In some ways, many respondents feel that the means of improving their situation is in their own hands, by working hard or by ensuring that oneself, or one's children, have a decent education, that is, through achievement rather than ascription. However, as we see in other aspects of this study, this striving for a better education is also felt to be unfair and biased towards those who can afford private tuition or to attend better schools. This reinforces to some degree the impact of the gap between the rich and the poor, as it is the richer

[8] 'Evolution du niveau de vie a Maurice: Perceptions et Realites' in L'Express 8'h of January 2003

members of society who will be most able to benefit from any additional paid services.

Sociological research has shown that industrial development very often contributes to a marked change in conjugal relationships. This change is in the direction of greater equality between husband and wife, a marked reduction in social distance between the conjugal pair and a greater sharing of power and authority. There is also a more equal sharing of household and familial responsibilities. However, the nature and extent of this change can vary depending on, among other factors, social class, religion, ethnicity and region. Certain critics, mainly addressing the issue from a feminist perspective, argue that although there have been certain positive changes there is still a lot of ground to cover before equality in gender relations in the domestic sphere is achieved.

Mauritius has, over the last 30 years, followed broadly similar trends as those experienced by other countries and a wide range of factors have contributed to a continual and substantial increase in female participation in the labour force. One often cited factor is the demand for female labour due to the rapid expansion of industry as seen in the manufacturing sector in Mauritius up till the late 1990s. This is an important element though it should be seen as only part of the explanation. The expansion of women's employment in the service and other sectors were the result of government policies and legislation aimed at increasing the equality of opportunity in the labour market. Equally important factors were the increase in the mean age of marriage and a greater tendency to remain at work after marriage and childbirth. This is especially so when social welfare benefits, such as maternity leave are available. The general trend towards female emancipation, aspirations of economic independence and a sense of identity, together with considerable improvements in girls' educational attainment, also contributed to improving their status. It is often said that this changing trend is reinforced by changing attitudes towards working-women both before and, more importantly, after marriage.

A substantial section of this Social Attitudes Survey has been designed to unveil some of the prevailing attitudes on the impact of work on women's' lives and on family life. The findings have shown that in certain respects there is evidence of a strong adherence to

stereotypical beliefs about the more traditional roles of women and men. However, in other respects, there seems to be a shift towards greater female assertion and lesser inequality.

Working Women And Children

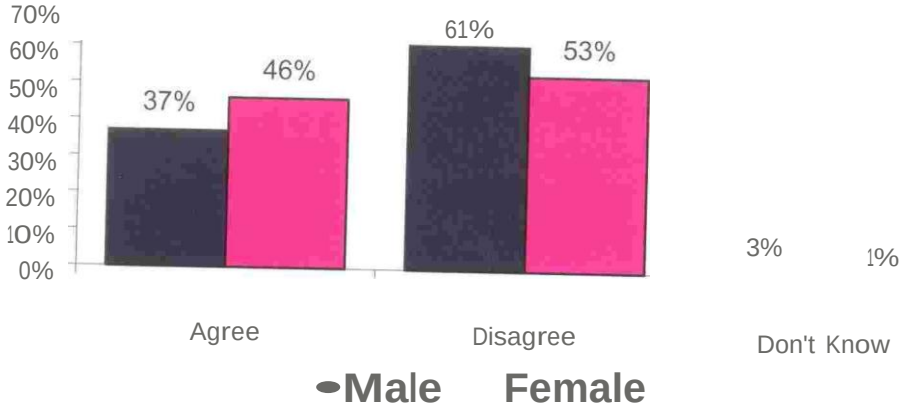
Looking at perceptions of a woman's role in the provision of a warm and stable atmosphere for family life, and particularly the care of children, a majority of respondents appear to retain the perception of women in the traditional role of the housewife, rather than as paid employees.

When asked whether women who work can show as much affection for their children as women who do not work, 57% of respondents disagreed compared to 41% who thought that they could. Perhaps it is not surprising to see more Men than Women displaying a more negative attitude towards the ability of women in this respect, 61% and 53% respectively, and more Women, 46%, than Men, 37%, showing a more positive attitude.

Table 17 - Women Who Work Can Show Just As Much Affection For Their Children As Women Who Do Not Work

	No.	%
Agree	576	41
Don't Know	29	2
Disagree	793	57
Total	1398	100

Chart 23 - Women Who Work Can Show Just As Much Affection For Their Children As Women Who Don't Work

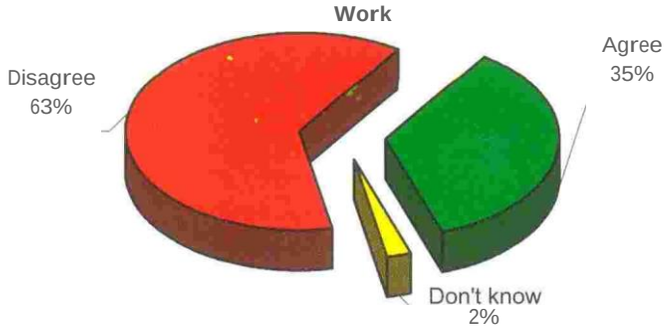


One interesting factor worth noting is that among Female respondents themselves, more responded negatively than positively to this statement showing that among women there perhaps still remains a

traditional attitude to many aspects of domestic and gender role divisions.

However, we should also be aware that, by stated occupation, "housewives" make up nearly half of the total number of female respondents. Of those that gave their occupation as housewife 63% thought that women who worked could not show as much affection for their children as those women who did not work. This may be a self-reinforcing attitude to strengthen a housewife's validity of her own social position. Differences by age of married female respondents were not significant.

Chart 24 - Housewives and Whether Working Women Can Show As Much Affection To Their Children As Women Who Don't Work



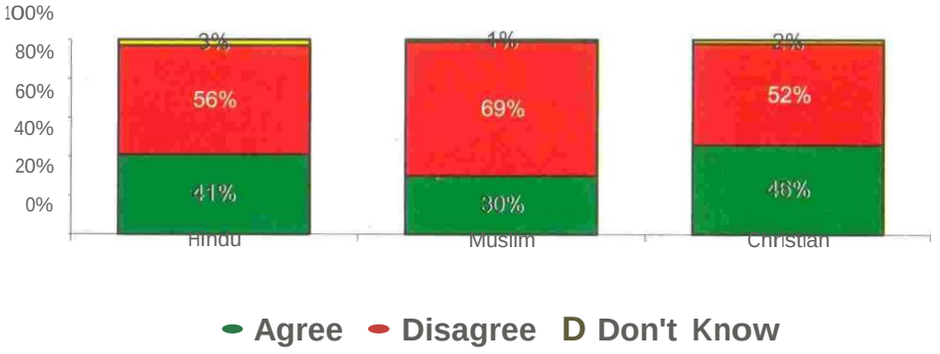
There was a more positive response among younger people of both sexes, with 55% of those in the Age Group of 18 – 21 years old feeling that working women were just as capable of showing affection for their children as other women. It may also be the case that education also plays a role in opinion forming here, as agreement with the statement was higher for those respondents with an education level of up to A Level or Equivalent, at 64%.

Table 18– Women Who Work Can Show As Much Affection For Their Children As Women Who Do Not Work by Educational Level

	Agree		Disagree		Don't Know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Up To Primary	226	35	406	63	13	2
Lower Secondary Incomplete	124	38	197	60	6	2
SC / Equivalent	122	47	129	50	7	3
A Level / Equivalent	77	64	41	34	2	2
Post Secondary	27	56	20	42	1	2

Looking at the findings by another major determinant factor in opinion forming, that of religion, we see that for the Muslim community the difference between those who agree and those who do not is more pronounced than for adherents to other faiths. For these respondents the disagreement with the statement ran to almost two thirds. As we will see as we look at other aspects of gender roles and family responsibilities there appears to be a confirmation of what is perhaps a widespread belief, namely that the Muslim community tends to be more conservative about what are thought to be acceptable social roles for women.

Chart 25 - Women Who Work Can Show Just As Much Affection To Their Children As Women Who Don't Work by Religion



Working Women And Family Life

Paid work for women more often than not has to fit into the pattern of family life. This theme of working women and elements of family life formed the basis for the next line of enquiry. Respondents were asked their level of agreement with the statement 'family life suffers as a result of women working'. Three quarters of all respondents were in agreement with this statement. There was little or no difference by the age, sex or marital status of the respondents. However, as before, when looked at by education level the percentage of respondents that agreed with the statement began to fall off from the level of those that have achieved an education up to A level or Equivalent, at 69%, and Post Secondary, at 67%. Nevertheless, as with all aspects of analysis, by these levels of education caution needs to be exercised, as the numbers of respondents are small and further statistical confirmation of any significance is necessary.

Table 19 - Family Life Suffers When Women Work by Educational Level

	Agree		Disagree		Don't Know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Up To Primary	516	80	112	17	17	3
Lower Secondary Incomplete	265	81	54	17	8	2
SC / Equivalent	187	73	65	25	6	2
A Level / Equivalent	83	69	34	28	3	3
Post Secondary	32	67	16	33	0	0

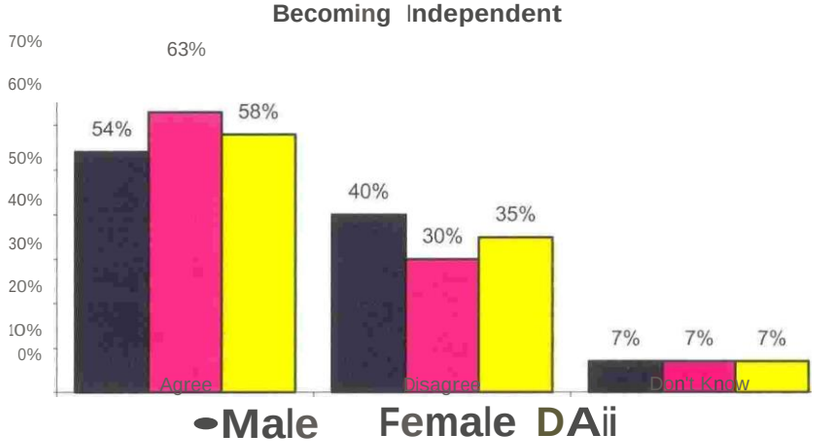
The Importance of Housework

A very high percentage of all respondents, 92%, agreed with the statement that 'housework is just as important as a full time job'. Any differences in response by other variables are largely insignificant. But, this does again appear to confirm that there is still a conservative attitude toward not only gender roles but also the perceived value of those roles.

Does Work Lead To The Independence Of Women?

In contrast with earlier responses, which mainly reinforced stereotypical beliefs about the importance of housework and the role of the housewife, respondents were quite split in their responses to the statement "working is the best way of a woman becoming independent".

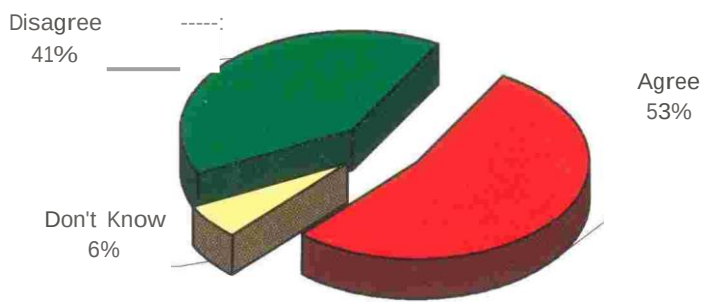
Chart 26 - Working Is the Best Way Of A Woman Becoming Independent



Looking at the general response we see that 58% of respondents agreed with the statement while 35% disagreed. Analysing the data by gender we see that Female respondents were more likely than Male respondents to agree with the statement. If men disagree what we don't know is what other means they think is the best way of a woman becoming independent. It is worth noting that nearly a third of Female respondents also believed that working is not the best way for women to become independent and we can also wonder as to what means they believe is a better route to personal independence. Digging deeper into the reasons for these responses might uncover whether or not there is a belief that there are other ways for women to be independent or if there is a tendency to believe that independence is neither possible nor desirable. At first sight we may be tempted to think that these female respondents are, in the main, the large group of housewives we previously identified, however this is not actually

the case. Although a sizeable proportion of housewives, 41%, disagreed with the statement, the majority, 53%, were in agreement.

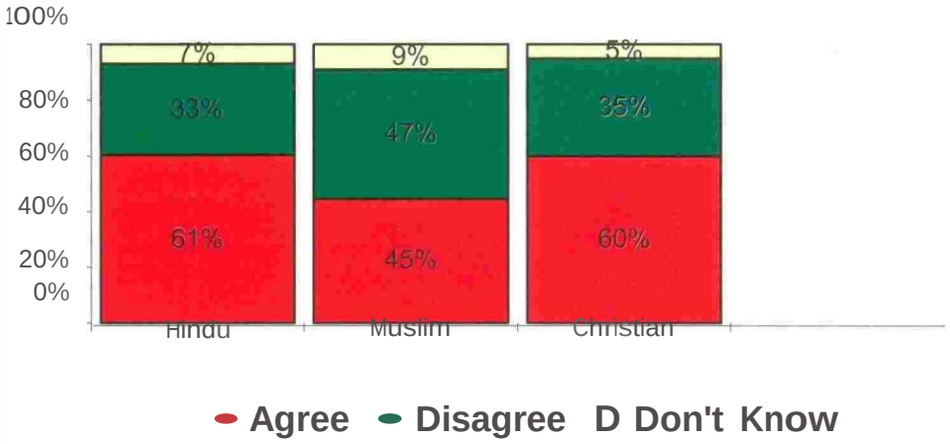
Chart 27 - Housewives' Level of Agreement With Whether Working Is The Best Way For A Woman To Become Independent



An analysis by religion shows that amongst the main religions in Mauritius, it is those respondents that make up the Muslim community who were least likely to be in agreement with the statement that working is the best way for a woman to become independent.

It should be noted that the "Other" category for religion has not been included in the analysis as the numbers were of respondents was relatively small.

Chart 28 - Working is the Best Way Of A Woman Becoming Independent By Main Religions



Respondents in the younger Age Group were more likely to agree with the statement, at 69% and nearly two-thirds of single respondents were in agreement with the statement compared to 56% of married respondents. Following the previously established pattern, those with an education up to A Level or higher were more likely to be in agreement with the statement at 63% and 71% respectively.

Attitudes Regarding Division Of Household Responsibilities

Although there has been a plethora of official documents and pamphlets on this subject and extensive media coverage of the need to achieve gender equality within the domestic realm, there does not appear to have been any systematic research of a sociological nature. Prior to this report, attitudes regarding domestic division of labour have mainly been based upon taken-for-granted assumptions and acceptance of opinions based on stereotypical beliefs.

Tasks within the home were divided into several categories covering the main aspects of daily life and shared responsibilities. In the questionnaire there was a question on housework but analysis has not been included. With hindsight, it was felt that the exact meaning of the term housework was open to individual interpretation and that the intended meaning did not translate exactly from English into Kreol.

Table 20 - Responsibility	Male		Female		Dual	
	No.	%	No	%	No.	%
To look after children	12	1	155	11	1230	88
To buy food	513	37	50	4	834	60
To do minor repairs in the home	1101	79	15	1	282	20
To cook meals	12	1	940	67	446	32
To earn the main household income	1039	74	12	1	347	25
To wash clothes	7	1	1207	86	184	13
To by major household items	620	44	36	3	742	53
To clean the home	6	0*	839	60	552	40
To take important decisions within the household	309	22	41	3	1048	75

The individual elements of housework were sufficiently covered by other parts of the question. When asked who they believed should have the responsibility to look after children, 88% of respondents saw this as the responsibility of both Men and Women.

The responsibility to buy food was also seen as a dual responsibility albeit by a lower percentage than for looking after children at 60%. A fairly substantial percentage, 37%, saw it as the responsibility of Men.

The next responsibility was for doing minor repairs in the home. We might have expected many to view this as a male responsibility and this was confirmed with 79% of respondents viewing it in this way. Men themselves were more likely to take this point of view and 82% of Male compared to 75% of Female respondents believed that men should take the lead in doing minor household repairs.

The responsibility to cook meals was, in general, seen as a female responsibility with over two thirds of respondents, 67%, stating that they saw it as such. Although we saw before that over a third of respondents believed that buying food was

Table 21 - Responsibility To Cook Food

	No.	%
Male	12	1
Female	940	67
Both	446	32

a male responsibility, fewer respondents, 32%, believed that men should be responsible for actually cooking it.

Almost three quarters of respondents believed that men should take the responsibility of earning the main household income, although the notion of this being a dual responsibility was more pronounced among the young, some 32% of those in the age group 18 – 21 years old. Single respondents were also more likely to see earning the main household income as a dual responsibility.

Turning to analysis by religious belief we again see a continuation of the previously identified trend with most respondents believing it to be a male responsibility including 85% of those respondents of the Muslim faith.

Table 22 - Responsibility To Earn Main Income by Religion

	Hindu		Muslim		Christian	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Male	531	75	209	85	292	67
Female	9	1	2	1	1	0*
Both	164	23	35	14	140	32

86% of respondents saw washing clothes as a Female responsibility. Of interest is the way that the percentage that see washing clothes as a female responsibility decreases steadily by the level of education achieved, from 94% of those with No Formal Education, to 55% of those with a Post Graduate Degree. By religion, it is again those of the Muslim faith who more predominantly see this as a woman's responsibility at 93%. This was also one of those rare occasions where the idea of this being a male responsibility received no votes at all as the remaining 7% of Muslim respondents saw the washing of clothes a dual responsibility at best.

Women, it seems should not take the responsibility to buy major household items unless in partnership with their spouses. Some 44% saw this task as being for men and over half of respondents, 53%, saw it as being a dual responsibility.

The cleaning of the house was seen as a Female responsibility for some 60% of respondents and for the remaining 40% it was thought of as being a responsibility that both men and women should adopt.

Table 23 - Responsibility To Clean The Home

	No.	%
Male	6	0*
Female	839	60
Both	552	40

Interestingly, not one respondent saw it as a Male responsibility. When looked at by Sex of respondent, then Female respondents, at 63%, were more likely to see this as a woman's responsibility than Male respondents, at 57%. Married respondents were also more likely to see it as a Female responsibility, at 60%, than Single respondents, at 53%. Those of the Muslim faith recorded the highest percentage of respondents who saw this a Female responsibility at 71%. When viewed by Age, the youngest age group of 18 – 21 years old were more likely to see it as a dual responsibility, at 53%, than any other age group. Whether this attitude of the young to be more likely to see tasks as being shared is because of their single status and whether this will change with any alteration in their marital status, only time, and further studies, will tell.

One area where the notion of dual responsibility was quite popular was as to who should have the responsibility for taking important decisions within the household.

Three quarters of respondents, 75%, saw this as being a dual responsibility and 22% saw it as a Male responsibility. Very few respondents, 3%, saw it as a Female Responsibility. This is fairly consistent whether looked at by age group, sex or the marital status of respondents. The idea of it being a Dual Responsibility tends to increase with educational achievement, peaking at 92% with those at A level or Equivalent. By religion it follows the trend of previous questions in this category. This is the main area of agreement that came closest to consensus that there should be a dual responsibility. Some 96% of the respondents felt that both men and women should contribute equally to the running of the household.

Table 24 - Responsibility To Take Important Decisions In The Household

	No.	%
Male	309	22
Female	41	3
Both	1048	75

If there is an element of dual responsibility, then who will have the casting vote in the event of a hung

Table 25 - If A Husband And Wife Disagree The Husband Should Have The Last Word By Sex Of Respondents

	Agree		Disagree		Don't Know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Male	370	53	316	45	13	2
Female	260	37	425	61	14	2

decision? Asked to indicate their level of agreement with the statement that if a husband and wife disagree the husband should have the last word, just over half of the respondents disagreed with the statement, at 53%, but the proportion of respondents who agreed with the statement was also high at 45%. This rate of agreement was significantly higher among men, 53%, than women at 37%. We again see that level of education is a factor in determining attitude and that those with A Level or above were less likely to agree with the statement at, 25%. Although there was little difference in opinion between those of the Hindu and Muslim faiths, Christian respondents were more likely to disagree with the statement, at 60%.

In essence, we have seen that traditional values and attitudes are still very much in place as regards the gender division of labour and responsibility in the household. In analysis by age groups there was no significant difference other than that those age groups of 50 years old and over tended to be more traditional and conservative in their responses. But, even then, the percentage differences tended to be more marginal than radical in difference from the responses of other age groups. There does appear to be some movement towards a different viewpoint as expressed by those in the younger age groups, but other studies such as the Work and the Family Report 2002[9] have highlighted the fact that although on paper many male respondents see some household tasks such as looking after children as being a dual responsibility, in reality relatively few women say that this attitude translates into action on the part of their spouse. Other differences are relatively minor and not enough to actually denote a definite shift in attitude. However, it may well be signalling the beginning of a change of attitude and it will be worth keeping a close eye on developments in this respect when looking at the results of future studies.

Attitudes Towards Marriage

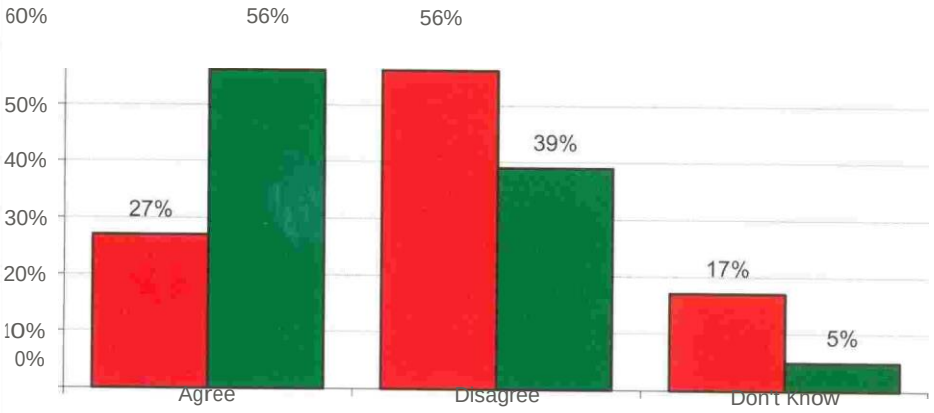
We move on now to look a little closer at what attitudes towards marriage prevail in contemporary Mauritius. In Mauritius, marriage is often portrayed as a solid social institution and this study offered an

[9] International Labour Office & W, Ministry of Labour & Industrial Relations, Work and the Family, CASR, University of Mauritius, Mauritius, 2002

opportunity to assess the attitudes that people have towards what are seen as some of the most common aspects, advantages and, perhaps, disadvantages of being married. The majority of respondents to this study, 83% were currently, or had at some time been, married. Almost all of the other respondents, 16%, were single. Very few, amounting to only 1% of the total number of respondents, considered themselves to be living in a Union, that is living in a state of marriage without the relationship being formalized either civilly or religiously.

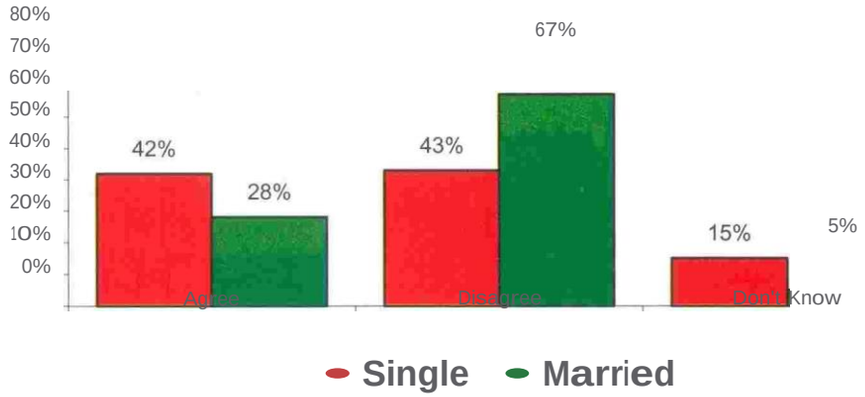
Given this high rate of marriage, it might be thought acceptable to believe that being married conferred some kind of benefits that being single lacked. Actually, the attitude of Mauritians to some of these supposed benefits are somewhat split. Looking at the high rate of respondents who were ever married it would be fair to ask whether married people are happier than single people. In fact, only just over half of the respondents believed this to be the case. Of those who were currently married, 39% believed that married people were not necessarily happier than single people.

Chart 29 - Married People Are Happier Than Single People



One often quoted maxim is that a successful marriage is based upon elements of give and take and when a couple decide to share their lives it perhaps has to be accepted that many of the personal freedoms that are often associated with being a single person have to be given up in return for sharing the marriage experience. But how do people in Mauritius view the importance of personal freedom? More single people than married people thought that personal freedom was more important than marriage, and it is perhaps not altogether surprising that more married people, at 67%, disagreed with this idea.

Chart 30 - Personal Freedom Is More Important Than Marriage



Sharing life experiences and sharing resources within a marriage is sometimes thought to make it easier for a couple to get by than two individuals. Pooled and shared resources, such as income, may make one feel less vulnerable financially. With this in mind we can look at whether or not people think that financial security is one of the major advantages of being married. More married people than single people would appear to think so and more Women, 57%, than Men, 49%, believe that this is the case. As before, we should remember the large proportion of the respondents who saw themselves as housewives and this may be an influential factor in determining an increased rate of women who see financial security as being not just a major advantage of marriage but, in fact, the biggest advantage. In general, over half of the respondents, some 53%, stated that they thought that financial security was the biggest advantage of being married.

Table 26	Agree		Don't Know		Disagree	
	No.	%	No	%	No.	%
Married people are happier than single people	705	51	102	7	590	43
Personal freedom is more important than marriage	425	31	105	8	865	62
The biggest advantage of marriage is financial security	736	53	89	6	571	41
Marriage is above all to have children	501	36	39	3	855	61
A single mother can raise children just as well as a married couple	559	40	37	3	801	57
A single father can raise children just as well as a married couple	306	22	56	4	1036	75
Married people should not have a sexual relationship outside of their marriage	1302	93	20	1	76	5
Marriage of people between different communities can be just as successful as marriage between people of the same community	829	59	77	6	492	36
Religion should not influence who a person chooses to marry	736	53	43	3	619	44

Chart 31 - The Biggest Advantage Of Marriage Is Financial Security By Sex

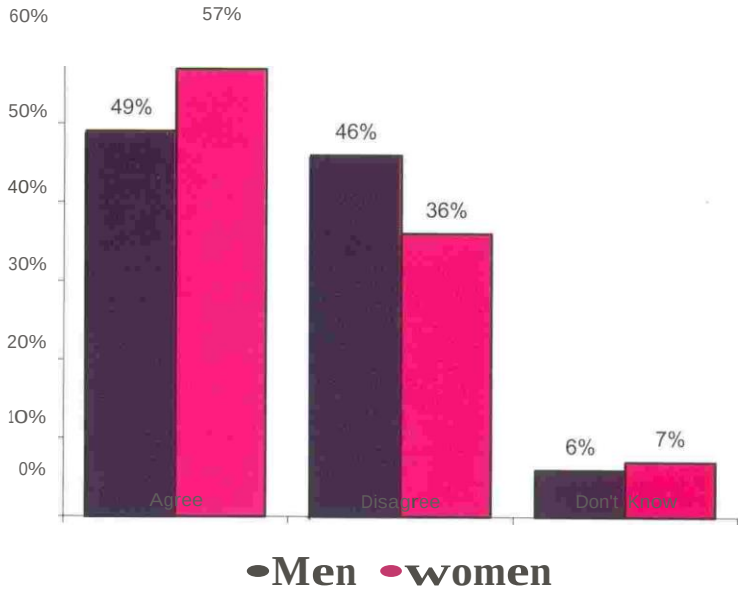
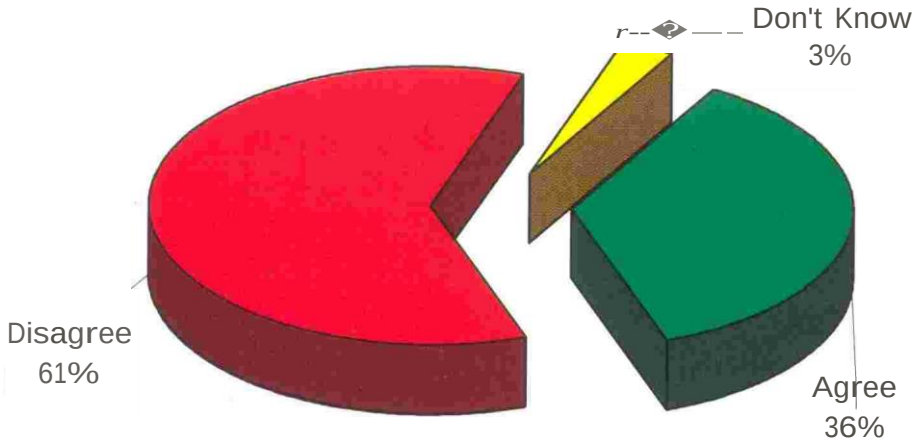


Chart 32 - Marriage Is Above All To Have Children



It is difficult to talk of marriage without bringing in the issue of children. Certainly it would be expected that most marriages will, at some time, produce offspring, but is marriage primarily simply to

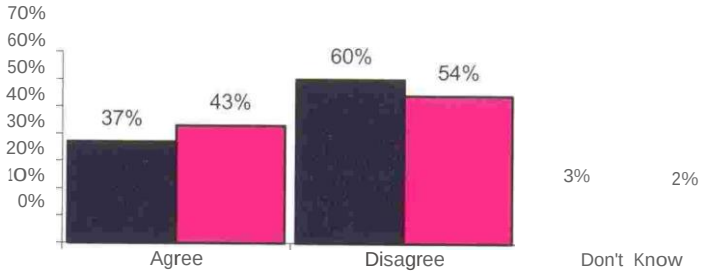
produce children? It would seem that in contemporary Mauritius a large part of the population think not, as 61% of those canvassed do not think that marriage is above all to have children.

There is little difference in attitude to this issue when looked at by the sex of the respondent, however one might not be surprised to see that there is a slight further shift to disagreement with the proposal by respondents whose marital status was single. It would perhaps be worth considering further investigation into what young and single people believe to be the most important reasons for getting married and how these attitudes might change over time as they become older and their marital situation perhaps changes.

We have seen that many people in Mauritius regard marriage as more than a convenient way of a couple providing for increased financial security and more than simply a socially sanctioned unit for the production of children.

Having children is one thing but other issues can arise, and there can often be disagreement over such topics as to who might be the best person to take care of their upbringing and whether or not single parents can raise children as well as a parental couple. Concentrating on females, the respondents were asked to respond to the statement that single mothers could raise children as well as a married couple. Over half of the respondents, 57%, thought that they could not, but there is also a sizable minority, of 40%, who believe that single mothers do indeed have this ability. Men are more likely to have a negative attitude to this issue than Women. Looking at younger respondents, 53% of those in the age group 18 – 21, stated that they believed that single women can raise children as well as married couples. This again indicates the possibility of the beginning of a shift of attitude in younger people in their approach towards more traditional views and it will be worth monitoring any further developments in this area.

Chart 33 - A Single Mother Can Raise Children A Well As A Married Couple

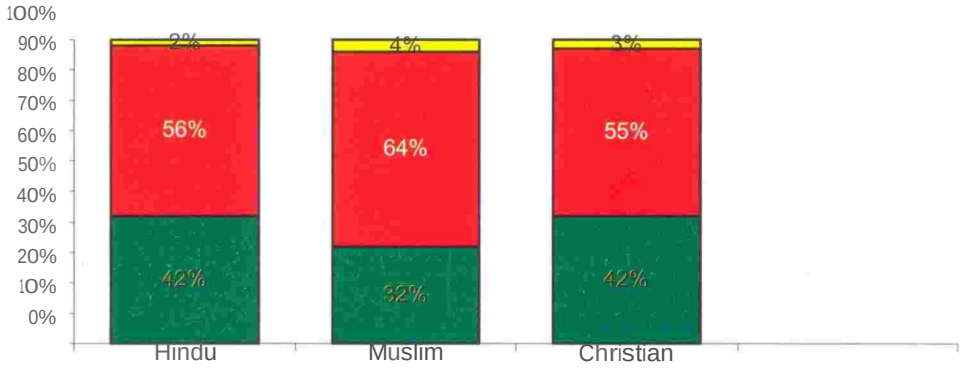


Attitudes towards marriage are coloured by many social influences and constraints and one of the more influential of these is religion. A person's religious beliefs are a very important aspect of both how one views the sanctity of marriage and the type of marriage contract that one may wish to enter into. Many religions promote clear ideas about what activities and responsibilities should be reserved for married couples. On the question of whether single women can raise children as adequately as married women, those of the Muslim faith were more likely to display a negative attitude, at 64%, than those of other faiths. The adherents to the two other major religions in Mauritius, Hinduism and Christianity, displayed attitudes closer to the general trends with 42% of each group agreeing with the premise of the statement.

Table 27 - A Single Mother Can Raise Children Just As Well As A Married Couple By Religion

	Agree		Disagree		Don't Know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Hindu	292	42	396	56	15	2
Muslim	80	33	157	64	9	4
Christian	183	42	237	55	13	3

Chart 34 - A Single Mother Can Raise Children Just As Well As A Married Couple By Main Religions

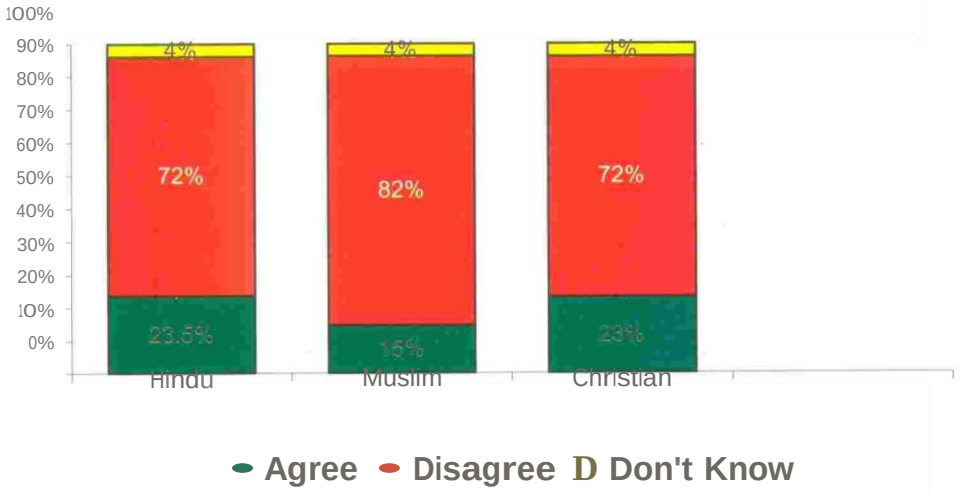


This trend carried over when the question was applied to whether or not single men are able to raise children as well as a married couple. There was an overall trend of negativity towards the ability of single men to adequately perform this role. In general, three quarters of respondents thought that single men could not do this as well as a married couple. Younger people were slightly more positive about the idea, but even with those in the age group of 18 – 21 years old, 66% disagreed with the original statement. This indicates that perhaps there are still many more conservative attitudes in the younger age groups than we might have begun to assume given the trend so far for younger people to display a more liberal attitude to many aspects of gender roles and married life.

Perhaps less surprisingly, at the other end of the scale, older persons were also displaying a negative attitude to this idea of single parenting with 81% of those aged 50 – 59 years thinking that single men could not raise children as well as a married couple. More respondents than usual couldn't make a decision and the percentage of "Don't Knows" was as high as 9%. This may be an indication of people beginning to give more consideration to this subject rather than simply coming down in favour of agreement or disagreement with the statement. It is worth further monitoring to see if a shift in attitude towards single parenting begins to emerge over the coming years.

and Hindu respondents were more or less m line with the general responses.

Chart 36 - A Single Father Can Raise Children Just As Well As A Married Couple By Main Religions



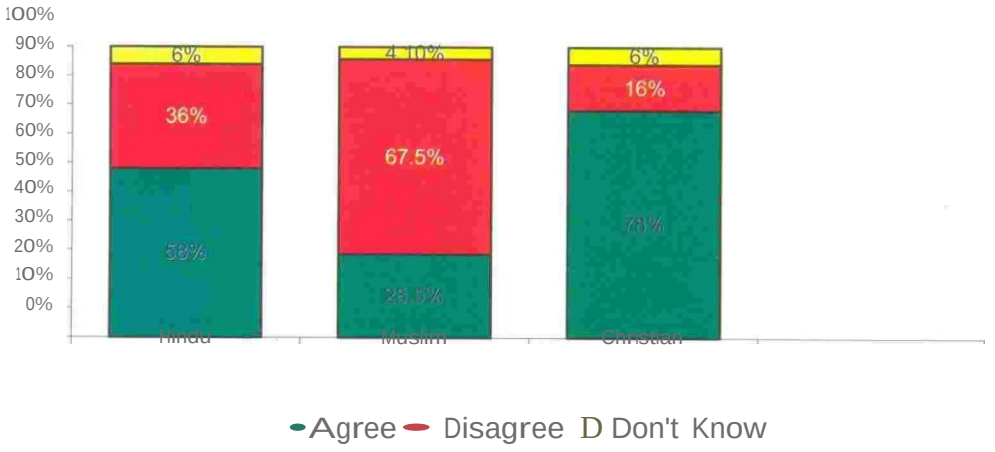
Fidelity within marriage is an issue that is always topical and perhaps has become even more so in an age where sexually transmitted infections such as HIV can affect the innocent partners of those who have had sexual relationships outside of marriage. It is not surprising that a very high percentage of respondents, 93%, agreed that married people should not have a sexual relationship outside of marriage while 5% of respondents disagreed with the statement. These percentages were fairly constant regardless of the respondents' marital status, so it is not just single people responding hypothetically without ever having experienced marriage.

A more divisive issue was whether marriage between people of different communities could be just as successful as marriage between people of the same community.[10] There was a majority response in agreement with the statement as it was presented but there was also a strong undercurrent of disagreement that ran to 36% of all respondents. This rate of disbelief in the equal success of

[10] Community meaning ethnic, family and religious ties.

marriages between people of the same community and marriages of people of different communities went as high as 48%, that is almost half, of respondents in the "Over 60s" age group. Breaking the responses down by religious affiliation, it was apparent that those respondents of the Muslim faith were more likely to disagree with the issue of the equal success of marriages between people of different communities, the rate of disagreement in this religious and ethnic category rising to 67.5%. On this issue, Christian respondents were more positive about the equal chances of success of marriages between people of different communities with 78% agreeing with the stated sentiment. There was more of a split response than was the case previously among Hindu respondents with 36% disagreeing and 58% agreeing with the statement.

Chart 37 - Marriage Between People Of Different Communities Can Be Just As Successful As Marriage Between People Of The Same Community By Main Religions

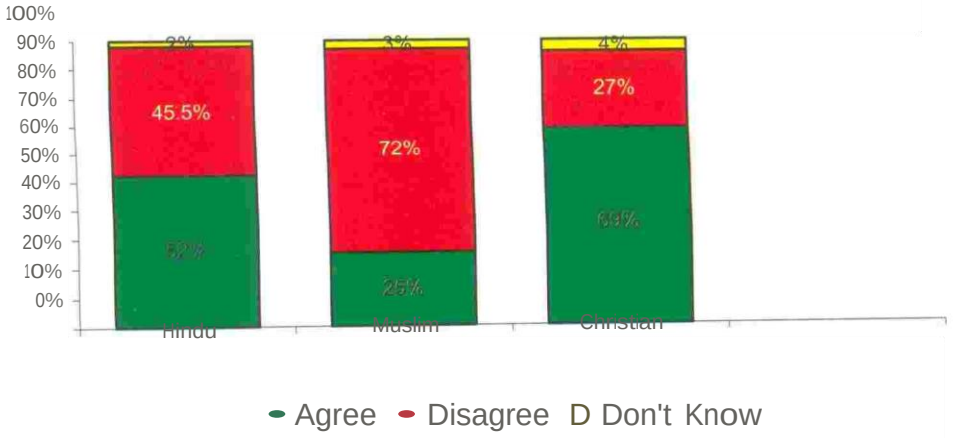


Expanding this topic of religion and its influence on marriage, the respondents were presented with a statement that said that one's religious affiliation should not have an influence on the person one chooses to marry. As it was closely tied to the previous statement this was an issue that again split our respondents. Only just over half of the respondents, 53%, agreed that religion should not influence whom a person chooses to marry with 44% of all respondents disagreeing with the statement and, in effect, stating that they thought that religion should have an influence over whom one chooses to marry. As with the question of the potential success of marriage between

members of different communities, it was respondents of the Muslim faith who were more likely to view as necessary the consideration of religion in the choice of who one chooses to marry, at 72%. As before, Christians were more likely to agree with the statement, at 69%.

This appears to reinforce what was previously stated about the strong undercurrents of doubt among many Mauritians with regard to the chances of success of, or even desirability of, marriages between people of different ethnic backgrounds and different religions.

Chart 38 - Religion Should Not Influence
Who A Person Chooses To Marry By Main Religions



If we were to now attempt to summarize general trends in attitudes towards family life in contemporary Mauritius, the first thing we might wish to remark upon is that some traditional attitudes are still in place, particularly towards the gender division of labour within the household. There are some minor signs that younger people are beginning to alter their view of certain aspects such as single parenting, but there is no firm evidence of any actual shift in popular opinion. Those trends identified in younger people may consolidate and become the basis for a more general attitude change as the respondents' become older and their opinions are seen as respected

influences on younger generations. Or their own attitudes may become more conservative and shift back towards a more traditional outlook, as their perceptions take on influences due to alterations in their marital status and increased social responsibilities. Further studies should keep a close watch on developments in this line of questioning, as, in many ways, it is the attitudes of these younger age groups that will be crucial to further social development in the country.

Where younger people are finding their influences is also worth investigating. Since the mid 1990s a whole new range of influences has been impacting on local people through the development and proliferation of the internet and satellite television. A large proportion of the Mauritian public is no longer restricted to accessing information or entertainment solely from locally produced sources. The effect that this exposure to other ways of life, particularly western cultural attitudes, may have on attitude forming in the local population is something that should be studied.

At present, classical influences on attitudes toward family life, such as gender and religious affiliation appear to be maintaining a strong position.

Abortion

In Mauritius, abortion is illegal, and yet it has often been stated that the number of abortions performed each year is very high. The exact number is impossible to quantify as, because of the illegality of abortion, no records are kept of numbers of pregnancy terminations performed. Family Planning organizations may differ on the actual number of terminations carried out each year from the high end of the scale such as the pro – choice Mauritius Family Planning Association which has previously estimated that the number of abortions each year is at least equal to the number of live births each year, to Action Familiale, who have an anti abortion stance and who set a much lower figure.

The hospital authorities can only report the number of post abortion complications that are presented for treatment at the hospitals each year and these include both involuntary spontaneous abortions, or miscarriages, and voluntarily induced abortions. These figures will

influences on younger generations. Or their own attitudes may become more conservative and shift back towards a more traditional outlook, as their perceptions take on influences due to alterations in their marital status and increased social responsibilities. Further studies should keep a close watch on developments in this line of questioning, as, in many ways, it is the attitudes of these younger age groups that will be crucial to further social development in the country.

Where younger people are finding their influences is also worth investigating. Since the mid 1990s a whole new range of influences has been impacting on local people through the development and proliferation of the internet and satellite television. A large proportion of the Mauritian public is no longer restricted to accessing information or entertainment solely from locally produced sources. The effect that this exposure to other ways of life, particularly western cultural attitudes, may have on attitude forming in the local population is something that should be studied.

At present, classical influences on attitudes toward family life, such as gender and religious affiliation appear to be maintaining a strong position.

Abortion

In Mauritius, abortion is illegal, and yet it has often been stated that the number of abortions performed each year is very high. The exact number is impossible to quantify as, because of the illegality of abortion, no records are kept of numbers of pregnancy terminations performed. Family Planning organizations may differ on the actual number of terminations carried out each year from the high end of the scale such as the pro – choice Mauritius Family Planning Association which has previously estimated that the number of abortions each year is at least equal to the number of live births each year, to Action Familiale, who have an anti abortion stance and who set a much lower figure.

The hospital authorities can only report the number of post abortion complications that are presented for treatment at the hospitals each year and these include both involuntary spontaneous abortions, or miscarriages, and voluntarily induced abortions. These figures will

also not be able to take into account the high number of successful terminations carried out where the lack of any complications means, that they are not included in any hospital admissions data.

Where all of the various methods do concur is that there are a large number of abortions performed each year in Mauritius and, according to current legislation, all of them are illegal.

This study has offered what is perhaps the first real chance to perform a scientific review of current attitudes towards abortion and its legal status. Respondents were given a number of alternatives whereby they were asked to select in which instances they believed that abortion should be legal. These ranged from at the demand of the pregnant woman to not being legal in any circumstances.

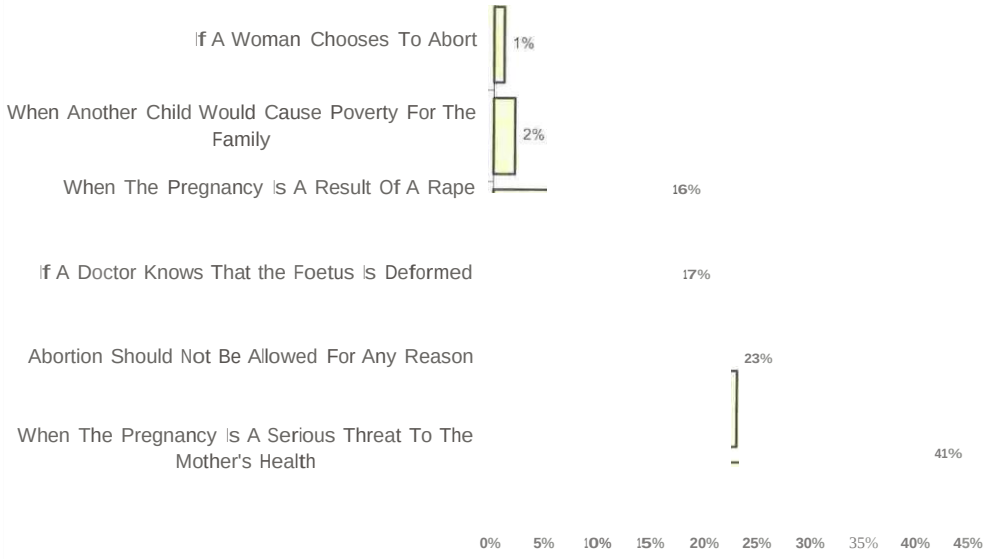
The first overall result is that less than one quarter of all respondents, 23%, stated that they thought that abortion should not be allowed under any circumstances. This of course means that over three quarters of all respondents, 77%, stated that they thought that there were certain circumstances where termination of a pregnancy should be allowed.

Table 30 - Circumstances When Abortion Should Be Allowed

	No.	%
When The Pregnancy Is A Serious Threat to The Mother's Health	588	41%
If A Doctor Knows That The Foetus Is Deformed	233	17%
When Another Child Would Cause Poverty For The Family	29	2%
When The Pregnancy Is The Result Of A Rape	228	16%
If A Woman Chooses to Abort	14	1%
Abortion Should Not Be Allowed For Any Reason	317	23%

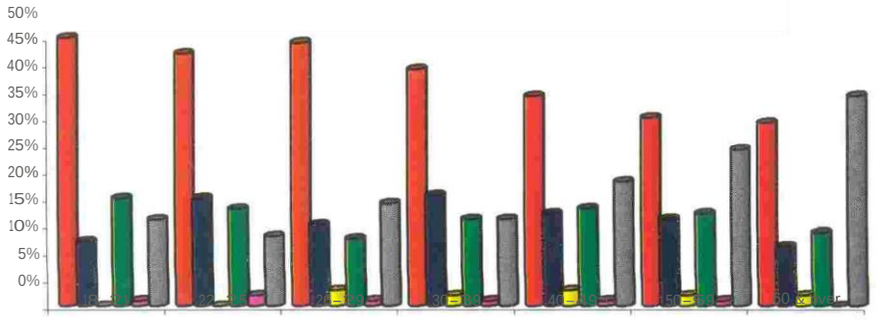
Although the majority of all respondents were in favour of pregnancies being terminated legally given certain circumstances, there were very few, only 1%, that thought that abortion should be available on demand based simply on the decision of the woman to terminate.

Chart 39 - When Abortion Should Be Allowed



The circumstance that was most thought by the respondents to be an acceptable reason for legally allowing abortion was when the pregnancy was a serious threat to the woman's health. Some 41% of respondents stated that they thought that this was the prime reason when abortion should be legal. There was little difference by sex or marital status of the respondent, although by age, agreement with this circumstance is more prevalent among those under 40 years old, falling off gradually according to the age of the respondent, from 50% of those in the age group 18 – 21 years old to 34% of those aged 60 years and over.

Chart 40 - When Abortion Should Be Allowed By Age Group

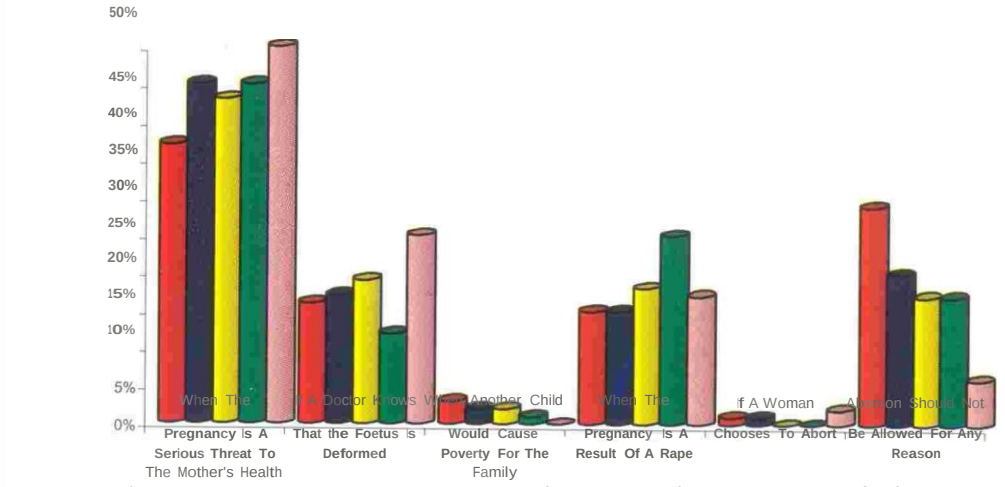


When The Pregnancy Is A Serious Threat To The Mother's Health
it A Doctor Knows That the Foetus Is Deformed
When Another Child Would Cause Poverty For The Family
When The Pregnancy Is A Result Of A Rape
If A Woman Chooses To Abort
Abortion Should Not Be Allowed For Any Reason

Looked at by the level of educational attainment of the respondent, there is a gradual climb in agreement according to the level of educational attainment reached. The lowest agreement with the legality of abortion under this circumstance being those with an education level of up to the primary level, at 37% and the highest being 50% of those respondents having reached the level of a post secondary education.

Staying with educational levels, if we look at those that believed that abortion should not be allowed for any reason then we see that 29% of respondents with an educational level of up to primary level agree with this statement. The percentages begin to tail off the higher the educational level attained, through 17% of those with SC or an equivalent to 6% of those having reached the level of post secondary education.

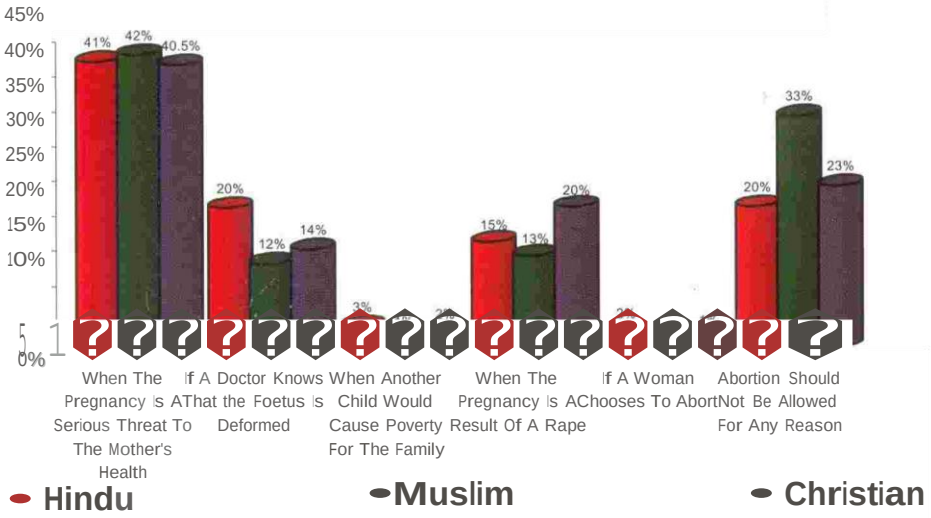
Chart 41 - When Abortion Should Be Allowed By Education Level



By religious affiliation the group most likely to agree with the statement that abortion should not be allowed under any circumstances was those of the Muslim faith at 32%, while 23% of Christian and 20% of Hindu respondents chose this option.

As to a reason when abortion should be allowed, adherents to all the major religions in Mauritius showed a similar preference, 41 %, for stating that they agreed with the statement that abortion should be allowed when the pregnancy is a serious threat to the mother's health. For Hindu respondents the second most favoured reason for allowing abortion was if a doctor knows that the foetus is deformed, at 20%, while for Christian respondents a pregnancy as the result of a rape was the second most acceptable reason, after danger to the mother's health, for making a pregnancy termination legal, also at 20%.

Chart 42 - When Abortion Should Be Allowed By Main Religions



Respondents from lower income households were also more likely to state that they thought abortion should not be allowed under any circumstances, at 32%, while this decreases in popularity of response the higher the rate of total monthly household income to 15% of those with a household income of Rs 16, 001 and above.

Interestingly, those households with a lower monthly income were just as likely as other respondents to not select increased poverty as being a reason for legal abortion with only around 2% or less of each income group seeing increased poverty as a valid reason for allowing the legal termination of a pregnancy.

Chapter 4 - Work and Employment

The 1980s saw the take-off of Mauritius, leaving behind levels of rampant unemployment and dismal poverty to become a middle• income state enjoying relative prosperity. As a result of adopting a labour intensive employment-creating strategy after 1970, full employment was attained by the early 1990s. However, as with many other parts of the world, Mauritius is currently facing a growth in unemployment and the EPZ sector is in difficulty due to heightened competition from some South East Asian and other countries. The unemployment rate rose from 5.1% in 1995 to 5.5% in 1996, increasing further to reach around 8% in June 2000[11].

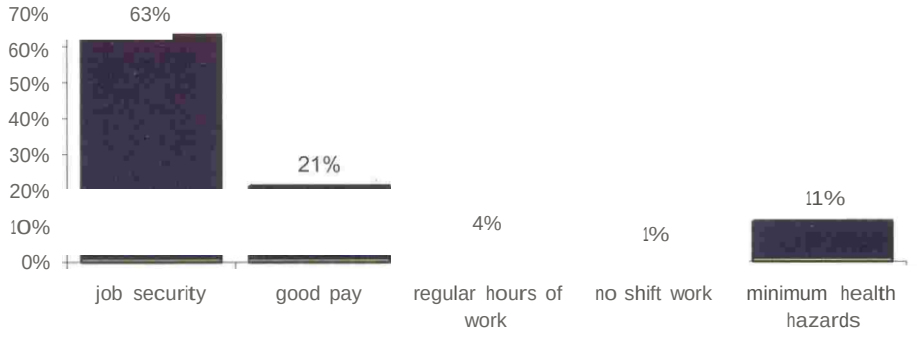
With the effects of globalisation, and the gradual dismantling of many of the previously well-exploited advantages, Mauritius, faces the challenge of having to almost start afresh in the world market. Expectations of the Africa Growth and Opportunities Act are high but before full advantage can be taken of the provisions of the Act, the EPZ sector will require major structural changes. As reported in the 'Attitudes of the Unemployed Regarding Accepting Employment In The EPZ' (CASR, 2001), the unemployed themselves tend to have a negative attitude to taking up jobs in this sector. A lot is also expected of the so – called 'New Economy', which is centered around the development of the country to a 'cyber-island', although only the future can tell to what extent these expectations will be met.

This chapter tries to throw light on people's attitudes to work and the extent to which they believe in equality of opportunity in the employment situation.

Some of the questions were set because of their relevance to the present context of rising unemployment. It is therefore not surprising to see that for 63% of all respondents, job security is clearly the most important aspect of work. This matches a similar finding in the Work And Family Study (CASR, 2002)[12].

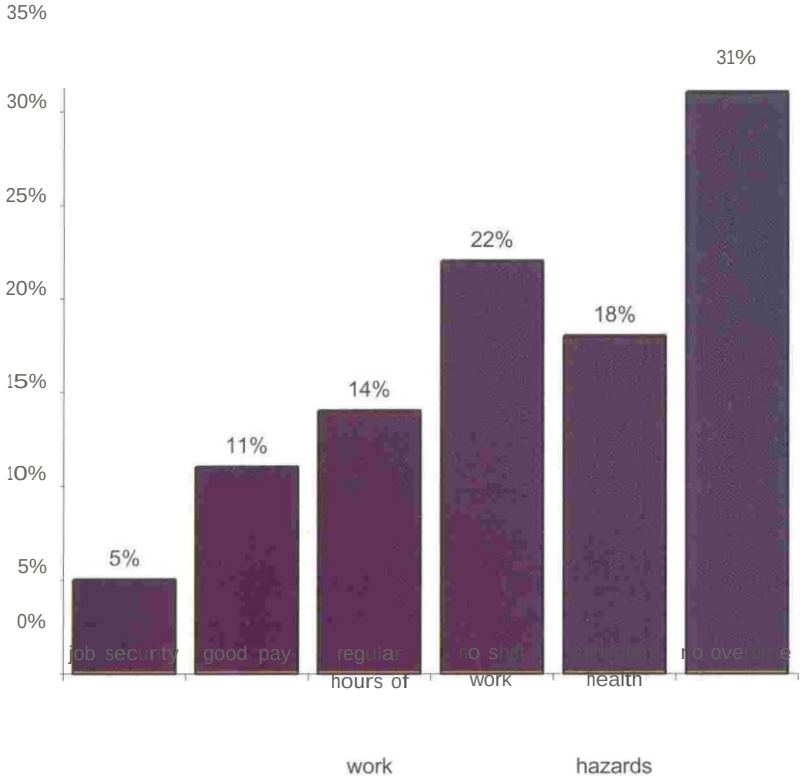
[11] The Present State of the Economy, Govt. of Mauritius (Nov 2000)
[12] International Labour Office & Ministry of Labour & Industrial Relations, Op Cite

Chart 43 - Most Important Aspect Of Work



Good pay is the most important aspect of work for just over one fifth of respondents, while working in a safe environment is considered to be the most important aspect of work for 11%. It is noteworthy that 'no overtime', which was also given as an option to the respondents, received very little response as to being the most important aspect of work. There was no significant variation by other variables such as age, gender, marital status, ethnicity or income group.

Chart 44 - Least Important Aspect Of Work



As to which is the least important aspect of work, the response rate tallied with the above. The option of no overtime working, which no respondent considered to be the most important aspect of work, sees a majority of respondents stating that it is the least important aspect of work. Only 5% of the respondents chose job security as the least important aspect of work.

In general, it can be seen that Mauritian workers are mainly concerned with their job security and less so with their pay packets. On the other hand, in contrast to the findings of the CASR studies previously mentioned, the length of the working day does not appear to be a major concern for the respondents to the current study.

One explanation may be that the two other studies had a particular focus of those working in the EPZ, a sector that is notorious for its irregular hours of work, shift work systems and compulsory overtime. This Social Attitudes Survey is more disparate in terms of occupational grouping, and includes a considerable number of housewives, pensioners and unemployed respondents.

Equality Of Opportunities

Table 31 - Equal Opportunities of Employment

	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
Employers should give preference to men over women	27	72	1
There should be equal opportunities of employment for handicapped and able-bodied people	91	8	1
A person's community can assist them in getting a job or a promotion	27	68	8
People should be allowed to work beyond 60 years of age	36	59	5
Should be Equal Opportunities of Employment for Ex-Offenders	66	28	6

Most of the respondents appeared to display fairly liberal attitudes, being in favour of the provision of equality of opportunities irrespective of sex, disability or previous history of conviction for drug or alcohol abuse. However, there are certain underlying issues that are worth closer scrutiny.

Equal Opportunities By Gender

Since 1984, when Mauritius acceded to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination Of All Forms Of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), there have been continued efforts to break down the barriers of traditional gendered occupations and to abolish gender inequalities in employment. Women have joined non-traditional sectors such as the police, civil aviation, politics, engineering, finance and the judiciary. Nevertheless, gender remains a fundamental aspect of the fragmentation of the labour force of contemporary Mauritius. Evidence from a number of sources[13] points to the fact that women are far more circumscribed than men in their choice of work and that horizontal segregation by sex - the tendency for men and women to be allocated to qualitatively different types of jobs – is a persistent feature of employment patterns in Mauritius.

The predominant manufacturing sectors of clothing and electronics in the EPZ are traditionally considered women's work and these remain jobs with low wages and little security of employment.

Vertical segregation by sex is also marked, in both the public and private sectors of employment, with women overwhelmingly concentrated at the lower levels of the occupational hierarchy in terms of wages, status and authority. This is self-evident by the gross discrepancies in the gender representations in such fields as the judiciary, medicine and politics.

Many of the attempts to explain, or to justify, these gender divisions in employment, have evoked essential differences between the sexes in abilities, interests or motivation as the major explanatory factors. However, such hypotheses rarely stand up to scrutiny.

Inasmuch as the high level of disagreement with the statement that employers should give preference to men over women is concerned, the prevailing attitude was that women are as capable as men. Traditional beliefs about men being the main breadwinners, with the employment of women being secondary to that of men, are being eroded. Several explanations, from economic, social, political and legal perspectives, can be put forward to account for this change of

[13] Primarily, A Statistical Profile on Women in the Republic of Mauritius' (1998), 'Beyond Inequalities, women in figures' (1997)

attitudes. However, it is open to question the extent to which these attitudes reflect a genuine shift towards equality, or whether they are merely a justification for the employment of women at a time when the employment of women is an economic necessity. If his were to change would the attitudes hold?

Looked at by occupation, in certain occupational groups there are somewhat significant variations in the level of agreement to the statement that employers should give preference to men over women. However, it should be borne in mind, that due to the disaggregation of the sample by occupation, the numbers of respondents in each sub• set are small and interpretation should proceed with caution. For respondents in clerical jobs the level of agreement was only 9% and this type of occupation draws a considerable proportion of its workforce from the female active population. In contrast, some other occupational groups such as 'craft and related trade workers', 'plant and machine operators' and 'elementary occupations' show a relatively higher level of agreement for opposite reasons.

Table 32 - Preference of Employment

	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
Senior Officials and Managers	11	89	
Professionals	15	85	
Technicians and associate professionals	26	74	
Clerks	9	89	2
Service Workers and Shop Sales Workers	25	74	
Skilled Agricultural and fishery workers	25	75	
Craft and related trade workers	32	68	
Plant and Machine Operators	33	67	
Elementary Occupations	30	70	
Housewives	26	73	1
Pensioners	31	66	3
Unemployed	31	69	

Among the female respondents who agreed that preference should be given to men, were almost 26% of housewives. It is quite likely that this particular group probably holds a very traditional picture of the gender division of labour.

Furthermore, almost a third of pensioners held more traditional attitudes to gender and employment. This is evident from response rates of

Table 33 - Level of Agreement to Equal Gender Opportunities By Age Group

	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
18 -29	19	80	1
30 - 39	27	72	1
40–49	30	70	0
50 - 59	26	73	1
60 and Over	33	64	3

respondents from different age groups. Apart from those in the 50-59 age bracket, there is an inverse correlation between sexist attitudes to employment and age. Those in the younger age-groups, 18-29 years old, are more likely to be in favour of gender equality in employment than those in the older age groups, 60 years old and above.

A correlation can be found between levels of education and a more favourable attitude towards equal opportunities by gender. The higher the level of education, the higher the level of disagreement with the statement that employers should give preference to men over women. This may be a result of the combination of the enlightening effects of higher education and the higher employability of an individual, whether male or female, as a result of higher studies.

Table 34 - Level of Agreement to Equal Gender Opportunities By Education

	Agree %	Disagree %	Don it Know %
Up To Primary	33	66	1
Lower Secondary incomplete	25	74	2
SC / Equivalent	23	77	0
A Level and Up	14	86	0

Equal Opportunities Of Employment For Handicapped And Able-Bodied People

The Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity fully subscribes to the concept of full participation and equality of opportunities in line with the UN World Programme of Action for Disabled Persons adopted in 1992. *Inter alia*, this programme seeks to expand education, training and job opportunities and to remove all barriers to full participation and to increase acceptance of the disabled person.

Although attitudes do not necessarily mirror actual facts, it is interesting to note that just over 90% of all respondents stated that they were in favour of equal opportunities for disabled people in the world of employment. There is legislation in place that is designed to ensure that people with disabilities can find employment but it is debatable how successfully this legislation protects the employment rights of disabled people.

Equal Opportunities Of Employment For Ex Offenders

In simple terms, the aims of imprisonment are punishment, deterrence and rehabilitation. However, the extent to which ex-offenders are able to reintegrate into society is the subject of a major debate, which raises questions about the effectiveness of the various types of reform institutions themselves. A great deal has been written about the amplification of deviance and criminal behaviour in ex-convicts as a result of the stigmatizing effects of being labeled an ex-offender. Reinsertion into society is fraught with difficulties, as mainstream society tends to be very suspicious of such individuals.

As far as attitudes to the employment of ex-offenders are concerned, 66% of all respondents were favourable to the statement that they should enjoy equal opportunities of employment. However, this again is an area where responses do not necessarily translate into real action. Ex offenders often find it very difficult find employment.

Equal Opportunities Of Employment For Ex Alcohol And Drug Abusers

Similar liberal attitudes were displayed in relation to ex-alcoholics and ex-drug users. A larger majority of 83% of all respondents agreed that there should be equal opportunities of employment for Ex-Alcoholics and 76% were in favour of equal opportunities for Ex• drug users.

One noticeable trend is that there seems to be a sliding scale of agreement: 91% for disabled; 83% for ex-alcoholics; 76% for ex• drug users and 66% for ex-offenders. Arguably, the lesser the individual's responsibility for their plight, as is the case with disability, the more sympathetic the attitudes.

Viewing the result by the main religions we see that disagreement is highest among those respondents of Hindu origin. For example, regarding ex-alcoholics the level of disagreement among Hindu respondents is higher than that for Muslim respondents who are known to be strictly against the consumption of alcohol. Hindu

respondents also tended to be less liberal in relation to ex- drug users and ex-offenders.

Table 35

	Equal Opportunities for the Disabled		Equal Opportunities for Ex-Alcoholics		Equal Opportunities for Ex-Drug Users		Equal Opportunities for Ex-Offenders	
	Agree %	Disagree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Agree %	Disagree %
Hindu	88	11	77	18	69	26	59	36
Christian	94	6	90	7	84	11	76	17
Muslim	91	7	86	12	81	16	70	23

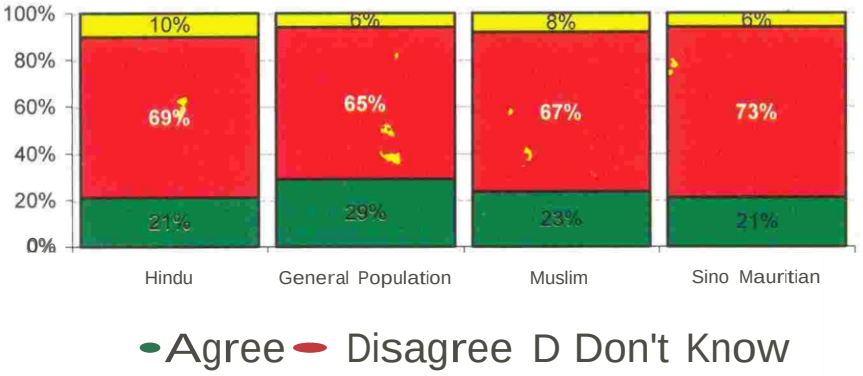
A Person's Community Can Assist Him In Getting A Job Or A Promotion

A number of commentators have argued that communalism prevails in Mauritius in the recruitment and promotion of workers. For instance Moutou (1996) and the Social Fabric Reports (1998, 2000) noted that Hindus have the highest representation in Government while Creoles are under-represented. Explanations for this phenomenon can alternate between individualist/victim-blaming approaches on the one hand and more structural and historical approaches on the other.

However, in this study, a majority of respondents, 68%, disagreed with the statement that a person's community can assist them in getting a job or a promotion.

By ethnicity of the respondent, those who stated that they were from the General Population were more likely to agree with the statement at 29%, although all of the percentage rates of agreement with this statement fell within the range of 21% to 29%.

Chart 45 - A Person's Community Can Assist Them In Getting A Job Or A Promotion By Ethnicity



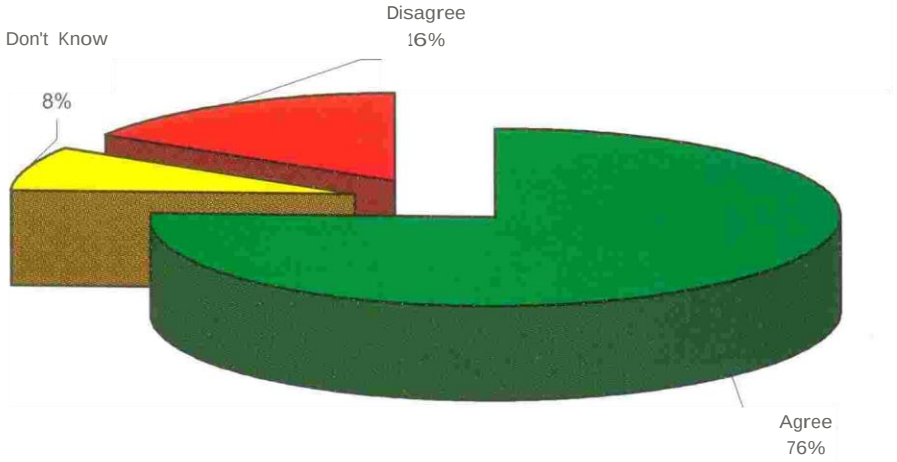
Chapter 5 - Law and Order

Law and order can be a contentious and sensitive issue at the best of times. Any statistics applicable to crime are also notoriously unreliable as, firstly, they can only be compiled from those crimes that are reported to the police and usually apply mainly to incidence rates, arrests and convictions. For this reason there has been no reference to previously available material in this section as this is perhaps one of the first attempts to scientifically study contemporary attitudes towards certain aspects of crime, law and order in Mauritius

Attitudes Towards Policing

As we have seen previously social status is regarded, by many respondents, as a very important determining factor in people's life chances. Concerning law and order it would seem that many also see this influence as extending to the ability of some people to be able to avoid prosecution through the personal contacts that they have. Over three quarters of respondents, 76%, agreed with the idea of certain persons being able to manipulate the law in this way. This percentage includes some 26% who *strongly* agreed that this was the case.

Chart 46 - Some People Can Use Contacts To Avoid Prosecution



Although the majority of both Male and Female respondents thought that contacts could be used to influence the process of law, Men were more likely to take this view. There is an eleven-percentage point difference between the 71% of Female and 82% of Male respondents who agreed with the original statement that some people could use contacts to avoid prosecution.

The occupation of the respondent also seems to affect the view an individual has on this problem. Among Plant and Machine Operators the percentage of respondents agreeing with the statement rose to as high as 82% and reached as high as 88% of the unemployed respondents.

The more educated one is the more likely it seems one is to take the attitude that contacts can be used by some individuals to avoid prosecution. Some 82% of those with an education of up to Lower Secondary Incomplete agreed with the premise while 88% of those with an A level or Equivalent did so, rising to 90% of those respondents with a post-secondary education.

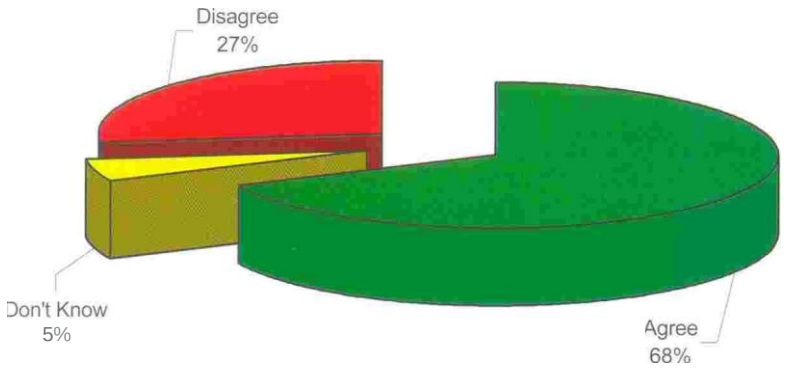
There is only some minor variance in the results when looked at by religion. Of the respondents subscribing to the three main religions in Mauritius, Hindu at 73%, and both Muslim and Christian at 79%, agreed with the statement.

By personal monthly income the percentage of respondents in each income group in agreement with the original premise rises steadily by the amount of income, from 70% of those with a monthly income of less than Rs 2, 000, through 81% of those respondents with a personal monthly income of between Rs 6, 001 and Rs 8, 000 to 100% of those with a monthly income of Rs 30, 000 or more.

Notwithstanding this predominant view that some individuals can use their personal contacts to avoid prosecution, some 68% of all respondents agreed that the police do a good job in controlling crime. However, this does mean that over one quarter of all respondents either disagreed, 27%, or was undecided, at 5%. Those with a higher level of educational attainment were less likely to agree that the police do a good job in controlling crime with less than half of those respondents with a post-secondary education in agreement. The levels of agreement with the premise fall as the educational attainment level rises, from 72% of respondents with an education up to primary level,

through 66%, 68% and 58% of those with Lower Secondary Incomplete, SC / or equivalent and A Level or equivalent respectively to the 48% of those respondents with a post secondary level of education.

Chart 47 - Police Do A Good Job In Controlling Crime



By ethnicity, 71% of Hindu respondents agreed that the police do a good job in controlling crime compared to 69% of Muslim respondents and 63% and 42% of General Population and Sino• Mauritian respondents respectively, with the usual caveat applying to the small numbers of the latter ethnic group.

Continuing with perceptions of the police we see that some 56% of all respondents stated that they agreed with the statement that the police work in the interests of politicians and industrialists, with a higher than usual number of respondents choosing the idonit knowi option, 17%. Again, we see a split in attitude by the sex of the respondent. Where 50% of Female respondents agreed v. ith the statement, joined by a relatively massive number who chose idonit knowi at 22%, 63% of Male respondents agreed. In genera], only around one quarter of all

Table 36 - Police Work In The Interests Of Politicians & Industrialists

	No.	%
Agree	186	56
Disagree	380	27
Donit Know	233	17

respondents were in disagreement that the police work in the interests of politicians and industrialists.

We again see the trend of the higher the level of educational attainment of the respondent the more negatively they see the activities of the police. Levels of agreement with the premise rise from 55% of those with a level of education up to primary level through 56% of those with a lower secondary incomplete and an SC or equivalent to 62% of those with an A Level or equivalent and 69% of those with a post secondary education.

When looking at whether the respondents felt that the police treat all people the same regardless of community we see that the percentages of all respondents in agreement are quite low at around one third, 32%. In this instance then it is perhaps better to look at the percentages of which groups of respondents disagreed. Concentrating on the results analysed by the ethnicity of respondents, 70% of those respondents who placed themselves in the General Population disagreed with the statement that the police treat members of al communities equally. The equivalent percentages for Muslim and Hindu respondents were 61% and 53% respectively. There was also a difference between the sexes with 64% of Male and 55% of Female respondents disagreeing with the original premise. By educational level, we see a similar trend as before with the percentage of those disagreeing rising steadily from 55% of those with an education up to primary level to 81% of those respondents with a post-secondary education.

Table 37 - Police Treat All People In The Same Way Regardless Of Community Or Wealth

	Hindu		General Populatio n		Muslim		Sino - Mauritian	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	268	38	103	26	71	29	7	21
Disagree	344	53	278	70	151	61	4	67
Don't Know	64	9	19	5	24	10	22	12

Another emotive issue is that of police brutality and the ethical issues of its acceptance in successfully controlling crime. Some 82% of all respondents agreed with the statement that police brutality cannot be tolerated as it infringes basic human rights. By educational levels, the percentages of respondents agreeing with the statement rose from 81% of those with lower levels of education to 90% of those with a post-secondary education.

Those respondents from the General Population were more likely to agree with intolerance of police brutality, at 88% compared to 84% of Muslim and 79% of Hindu respondents. With SinofiMauritian respondents the percentage is agreement was 67% but, as usually stated, the numbers in this particular ethnic group are small, which may affect the validity of the percentages.

Table 38 - Police Brutality Cannot Be Tolerated As It Infringes Basic Human Rights By Ethnicity

	Hindu		General Population		Muslim		Sino Mauritian	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	555	79	352	88	206	84	22	67
Disagree	89	9	35	9	25	6	8	24
Don it Know	62	13	13	3	15	10	3	9

However, notwithstanding what we have seen previously, almost three quarters of all respondents, 73%, stated that they thought that, in general, the police do a good job. Broken down by ethnicity, we se that 77% of Hindu, 74% of Muslim and 66% of those respondents who placed themselves in the General Population agreed that police performance was generally good.

The final aspect of inquiry in this particular section was on the serious subject of capital punishment. It is a fact that Human Rights movements all over the world are militating strongly for the total abolition of the death penalty and yet, in Mauritius, there is a strong

Table 39 - Government Was Right To Abolish The Death Penalty

	No.	%
Agree	525	38
Disagree	769	55
Don it Know	104	7

aspect of favourability for its inclusion on the statute book. Asked whether or not they agreed that the government was right to abolish the death penalty, 38% agreed while 55% of all respondents disagreed with the statement. Younger respondents were more likely to agree with the statement while there was little difference between respondents by sex. Those respondents of the General Population were most likely to agree with the premise, at 50%, while agreement fell to 30% of Hindu respondents.

Crime And Prevention

Sociological debates on criminology have shifted from attempts to explain crime and delinquency, such as the ecological, structural/sub• cultural, labeling theories, etc., to more pragmatic attempts at crime prevention. However, even in prevention, there has yet to be a consensus about which formula is the most successful.

Table 40 - To Prevent Crime	Effective %	Not Effective %	Don't Know %
Make punishments more severe	87	10	3
Less Violence and Crime on TV	80	16	4
People need to take more precautions	93	4	3
More people should be jailed	40	48	12
More discipline in the family	97		2
More Police in the streets	86	9	4
Levels of Poverty need to be reduced	90	6	3

An outstanding majority of respondents found all of the listed options of crime prevention effective, with the exception of jailing more convicted criminals. Only 40% of all respondents believed that this would be an effective measure in contrast to the 48% who stated the opposite. More discipline in the family, taking more precautions and reducing the general level of poverty all rated above the 90% mark in terms of effectiveness, while making punishments more severe, having more police on the streets and showing less violence and crime on TV were considered to be effective by slightly less

respondents. There was little evident variation in the results when analyzed by different categories.

The main deduction is that for the majority of respondents to this study, lack of discipline in the family, levels of poverty, lack of precautions, too much violence and crime on TV and too few policemen on the streets are among the leading reasons behind crime in Mauritius.

Chapter 6 - Social Welfare and Services

In Mauritius today, the State plays a key role in welfare and social security provision. This commitment to basic needs and human welfare developed as a result of the emergence of the social and political dynamism in the 1940s that generated significant political and social reform movements. Sustained efforts to maintain economic development in the 1970s and after also assisted in the development of the welfare system.

Among the most important achievements of the Welfare State are the provision of basic human services such as free education to all, compulsory primary education and free public health care. Housing is another area with considerable achievements. According to the CSO, 85.7% of households in Mauritius are owner occupied and over 70% of residential buildings have concrete walls and roofs[14]. Mauritius has also achieved an extensive social welfare system with a multi-pillar pension system, cash and in-kind safety net programmes, several disability insurance schemes and a variety of other social protection programs. The State also encourages and provides incentives for the active participation of NGOs in providing assistance to various vulnerable groups in society.

In terms of physical infrastructure, access to piped and potable quality water and electricity are close to the 100% mark[15]. Roads have generally improved in quality if not in total length and the telecommunications network has been at the centre of a technological revolution.

By and large, government spending on welfare has been growing in recent years and there has been a deliberate shift of welfare policy towards egalitarian social engineering.

[14] See Social Fabric Phase I (1998) MRC
[15] ibid

However, the welfare state has recently come under attack due to the heavy burden it represents on the economy. The World Bank estimates that the social welfare system absorbs no less than half the budget[16]. The challenges of an ageing population, growing unemployment and rising costs of living, as well as the lack of efficiency in the state provision of education and health, could justify the argument that the welfare state is far from being in a position of safety.

Education

Education has always been, and will probably always remain, a topical issue. New approaches to education can be some of the most hotly debated proposals for legislation. Over the last 40 years, there have been many changes to the education system in Mauritius. Currently, the most contentious issue is the changes to be made to the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) and the creation of a new system of enrolment to secondary education establishments.

In the present context of globalisation, the centrality of education is unmistakable. This argument becomes even more relevant for a country like Mauritius whose most important resource is human capital.

Mauritius resisted the demands made in the IMF/World Bank Structural Adjustment Programmes of the 1970s and 1980s to abolish its free education policy. But the cost of maintaining this system of education is quite high. The total Government investment on education increased from Rs2.8 billion in 1996-1997 to Rs 4.4 billion in 2000-2001. Public expenditure on education as a percentage of total public expenditure has increased from 14.2% in 1990 to 15.3% in 2001 and will undoubtedly increase further in the future. The Pre• primary enrolment rate has also increased to 96% in 2001 and Primary education is compulsory. However, it could be argued that there remains more to be achieved.

[16] See World Bank Aide-Memoire for Mauritius (2001)

Education & Inequality

Several studies have denounced the inherent elitist nature and profound inequalities anchored in the present system (Chinapah (1985), the MES study (1990), Bunwaree (1992; 1997; 2000), the SACMEQ (1998) and Griffiths (2000). Bunwaree (2000) sees a fundamentally unequal system of primary education in Mauritius, which hinders meritocracy, and an educational system that contributes to social exclusion. Pupils from groups other than those whose habitus is embodied at school are at a disadvantage, (Bourdieu and Passeron 1977). The fierce competition of the CPE examination, which marks the end of primary schooling, sorts and sieves individuals at a very young age. Out of 30, 000 students sitting the CPE, an average of 40% fail the exam at their first attempt and 25% after one repeat. (Bunwaree 2000).

Although Government has created a wide network of primary schools throughout the island, standards vary widely. This variation in standard is also more pronounced in the secondary school sector with only a handful of state and confessional schools being regarded as so• called 'star schools'. There has also been concern about the shortage of qualified teachers necessary for an effective and unbiased delivery of education to students irrespective of class, ethnicity or gender.

Educational Reform

This Social Attitudes Study has been implemented at a time that may come to be regarded as a turning point in the history of state education in Mauritius. Efforts are currently being made to achieve a breakthrough in the educational field through a major reform of the CPE system: 'Ending the Rat Race in Primary Education and Breaking the Admission Bottleneck at Secondary Level: The Way Forward (2001)'. Once operational, the new system is intended to alleviate the burden on primary school children by abolishing the CPE system and thereby removing the fierce competition,

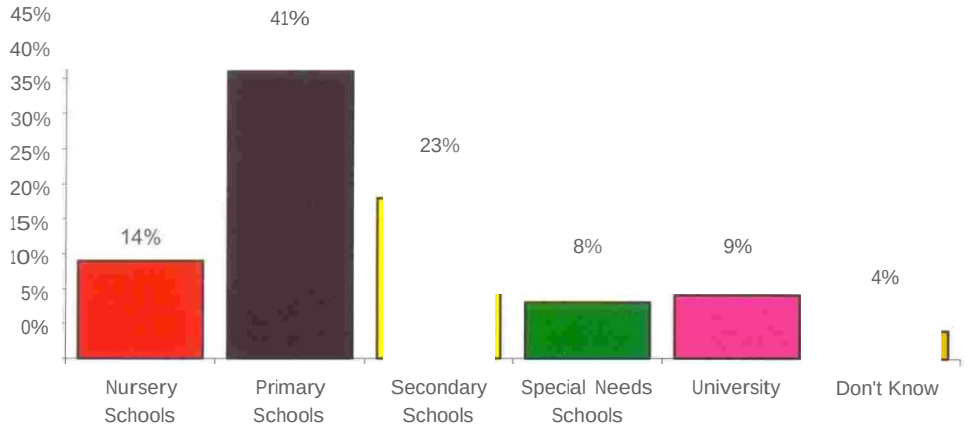
exemplified by the ranking system, for entry into the hierarchical secondary school set-up.

The new system seeks to regionalise access to secondary schools and level the standard by, reducing the quality gaps. By 2002, government had already invested heavily on the building and equipping of several new state schools throughout the island. However, only time will tell to what extent this new reform will enjoy more success than the two major earlier attempts at reform, The Master Plan of Education (1991) and the Action Plan of Mauritius (1998). This section examines people's attitudes towards education as a government spending priority and the extent to which they believe in the principle of a universal standard of education for all. It also looks at factors that can improve educational levels achieved.

Attitudes Towards Investment In Education

Each of the different education sectors is, in some way, a priority for investment. But resources need to be effectively targeted rather than spread thinly. Respondents were asked to state what they thought to be the main priority for government investment in education, should government have a sum of money available. The main body of respondents came down firmly in favour of investment at the Primary and Secondary school levels with 41% favouring the former and 23% the latter. Although 14% were in favour of prioritising Nursery Schools, only 9% thought the University a priority and fewer, 8%, felt that Special Needs Schools should be targeted for investment.

Chart 48 - Priorty for Investment in Education



Age relevant results are interesting. We see that for respondents aged between 26 and 29 years old the percentage opting for investment in Primary schools as a priority rises to 57% and is at 46% for those between the ages of 30 and 39 years old. This may well be because respondents from these particular age groups are those most likely to currently have children attending Primary schools. At the lower end of the age scale we see that 13% of those respondents aged between 18 and 21 years opted for investment in the University. This is more than other age groups, and may well again perhaps be out of self• interest, though they were also more likely to see the need for investment in Special Needs schools at, 14%. Investment in the University is also more favoured by the 19% of respondents with a Post Secondary education.

Table 41 - Priority For Investment In Education By Age Group

	18 - 21		22 - 25		26 -29		30 - 39		40–49		50 - 59		60 and Over	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Nursery Schools	11	14	16	14	11	11	42	11	59	18	22	12	35	17
Primary Schools	26	34	40	36	59	57	176	46	130	39	64	36	83	40
Secondary Schools	15	20	34	31	17	16	87	23	75	23	52	29	38	18
Special Needs Schools	11	14	8	7	9	9	28	7	24	7	16	9	22	11
University Students	10	13	8	7	7	7	44	11	34	10	14	8	10	5
Don't Know	3	4	5	5	1	1	9	2	10	3	11	6	21	10

Improvements To Education

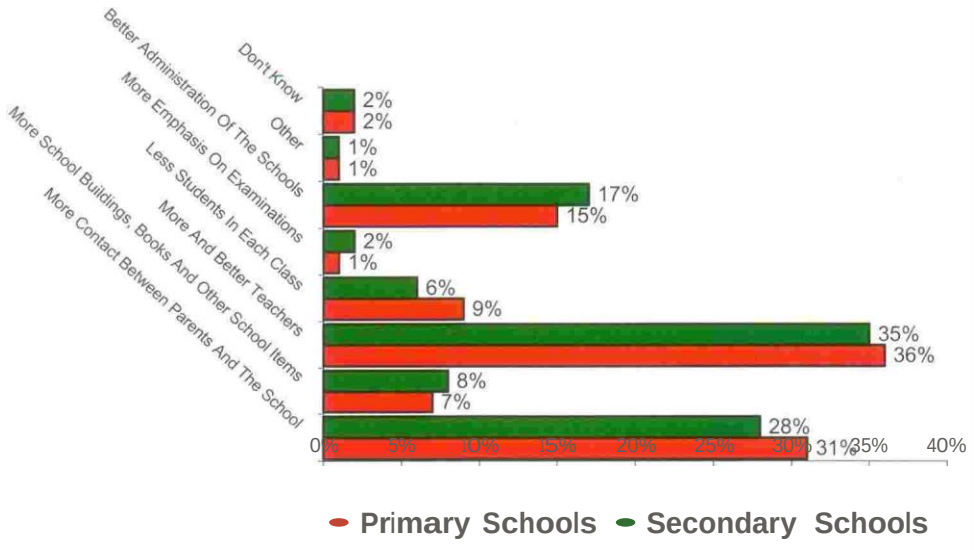
Other than increasing investment there are also things that can be done to improve schooling in general. Respondents were asked what they thought was important to improve children's education in, firstly, Primary schools and, secondly, Secondary Schools. The results for improvements in both levels of education were very similar. The number one choice, selected by 36% of all respondents with regard to Primary schools and 35% in regard to Secondary schools, was for more and better teachers. There was also a similarity of attitude on both educational levels towards more contact between the parents and the schools, with 31% and 28% of respondents choosing this option for Primary and Secondary schools respectively. Better administration of the schools was also seen as important, this time with more respondents believing this to be the case with Secondary schools, at 17%, than Primary schools at 15%.

With Primary schools, those respondents in the age group 22 to 25 years were more likely to choose the option of better contact between parents and schools at 40%, again perhaps reflecting the personal experience of respondents in this age group.

Respondents having achieved an education only up to Primary level were more likely to state that they thought having more and better teachers would improve a child's education in Primary school, at 44%, compared to the range of 19% to 36% of respondents with other levels of educational attainment. At the secondary level, the results are more even, though we do see 40% of those respondents having achieved an educational level of Up To Primary and 40% of those having achieved Post Secondary, seeing more and better teachers as the most important thing contributing to improving education.

d Over
%
17
40
18
11
5
10

Chart 49 - Important to Improve Children's Education



It is interesting that given the emphasis often placed on examinations and competitiveness in education, not least with the debate about the retention or abolition of the CPE, only 1% of respondents saw more

emphasis on examinations as being the first priority for improving education in Primary schools and only 2% saw it as being the first priority in improving secondary education.

Staying with this idea of the abolition of the CPE, 65% of all respondents agreed that abolishing the CPE would reduce the stress on school children, while 26% disagreed.

The idea of standards is often raised in discussions on this subject, whether they would rise, fall or remain the same should the CPE be abolished. Half of all respondents disagreed with the idea that if the CPE was scrapped standards would fall, while the other half of the respondents was split between 16% who couldn't make up their minds and went for the Don't Know option, and 34% who agreed with the premise that educational standards would fall upon abolition of the CPE.

As to whether those that do well in the CPE exams should attend better secondary schools than those who do not do so well, 60% of respondents came out in favour of the idea with 40% stating that they thought that all pupils should attend the same schools, regardless of CPE results.

Those over 60 years of age were more likely to agree with a higher standard of school based on CPE results, at 67%, than those of the younger age groups, 54% of those aged 18 – 21 years. It may be a generationally conditioned attitude and may have something to do with personal experiences, as we see that among those respondents with an educational attainment of SC or equivalent the percentage that thought that there should be different schools based on results rose to 67%, the same as those respondents with a post – secondary education. This compares to 56% of respondents with an education up to primary level and 59% of respondents whose education was at an incomplete lower secondary level. There was also a marked discrepancy in results between members of the main religions with 65% and 67% of Hindu and Muslim respondents respectively favouring better schools for CPE successes, a choice made by 47% of those of the Christian faith.

Table 42 - Type of Secondary Education for Post CPE Students by Main Religions

	Hindu		Christian		Muslim	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Should Attend Different Schools According To Result	458	65	179	47	163	67
Should All Attend The Same Types Of Schools Regardless	243	35	221	53	83	33

There was a noticeable and steady increase in the choice of better schools for students successful in the CPE when looked at by total monthly household income. This increase from 53% of those respondents from households bringing in up to Rs 4, 000 per month, through 60% of those on between Rs 8, 000 and Rs 12, 000 per month, to 66% of those enjoying Rs 16, 001 or more per month.

Table 43 - Type of Secondary Education For Post CPE Students by Total Monthly Household Income

	Upto Rs4, 000		Rs4,001 to Rs8, 000		Rs8,001 to Rs 12, 000		Rs12,001 to Rs 16, 000		Rs 16, 001 & Over	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Should Attend Different Schools According To Results	78	53	325	58	211	60	106	63	108	66
Should All Attend The Same Types Of Schools Regardless	68	47	234	52	141	40	63	37	56	34

Private Tuition

Because of the expectation placed upon children to do well in the CPE and other aspects of education, there is a burgeoning industry of private tuition for school children. Asked whether they thought that more children took private tuition today than ever before, a massive 97% of all respondents agreed. When probed as to whether they regarded this private tuition as unfair, as it favours only those who can afford it, 69% of respondents agreed that it was unfair with 27% disagreeing.

Table 44 - More Children Take Private Tuition Nowadays Than Before

	No.	%
Agree	1347	97
Disagree	24	1
Donit Know	28	2

Table 45 - Private Tuition Is Unfair As It Favours Only Those Who Can Afford It

	No.	%
Agree	968	69
Disagree	371	27
DonitKnow	60	4

Medium Of Instruction

Another issue often hotly debated is which language should be the medium of instruction in Primary schools. One quarter of all respondents, 25%, agreed with the statement that Kreol should be the language used in Primary schools while 72% disagreed.

By education level, it would seem that the higher the level of educational achievement of the respondent the more likely they would be to disagree with the premise of Kreol being the medium of instruction in Primary Schools. The percentage rates of disagreement rise from 65% of those with an education up to Primary Level to 84% of those with a Post Secondary education.

Looking at the results by religious affiliation, there is a recognizable group of respondents in agreement among those of the Christian faith at 35% in comparison to 25% of Muslim and 17% of Hindu respondents. The rate of disagreement is more pronounced among Hindu respondents at 78%, than among either Muslim or Christian respondents at 75% and 63% respectively.

Table 46 - Kreol Should Be The Language Ofinstruction In Primary Schools By Education

	Up to Primary		Lower Secondary Incomplete		SC/ Equivalent		A Level/ Equivalent		Post Secondary	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	201	31	75	23	40	16	20	17	6	12
Don't Know	25	4	7	2	7	3	1	1	2	4
Disagree	420	65	245	75	211	82	99	83	40	84

Table 47— Kreol Should Be The Language Offnstruction In Primary Schools By Main Religions

	Hindu		Christian		Muslim	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	125	17	143	35	60	25
Don't Know	29	4	8	3	2	1
Disagree	552	78	249	63	184	75

Public Health

The health of its citizens is one of the most important concerns of a welfare state. Up to now, Mauritius has made big strides in this area. As early as 1961, Titmuss mentioned the eradication of such deadly diseases as Cholera and Malaria, and the training of a large number of nurses and midwives, as two of the greatest achievements of the health services. In recent times, with a general rise in the standard of living and levels of hygiene, and an overall improvement in access to and provision of healthcare, life expectancy has been increasing to reach 68.3 years for males and 75.4 years for females. The Infant Mortality Rate, which until recently was a major concern, has also

shown a marked improvement, falling from 20.4 in 1990 to 13.7 in 2001.

Government expenditure on the health sector rose from Rs 1, 430 million in 1995/96 to nearly Rs 2,500 million in 1999/2000, making up approximately 8.4% of total Government expenditure.

Paradoxically, this increase on health-related expenditure has coincided with some disconcerting health indicators.

Rapid industrialization, and the increasing pace of economic growth continue to bring in their wake lifestyle changes and a resulting growing incidence of non-communicable diseases.[17] Heart disease and cardiovascular diseases have become the two leading causes of mortality. Mauritius also has one of the highest prevalence rates of diabetes in the world. The burden of disease in the rapidly expanding economy has increased due to accidents, another leading cause of mortality and disability, and is compounded by smoking, alcohol and drug abuse and obesity. Air pollution from an increasing number of vehicles has also been suspected of being another major cause of respiratory problems.

Notwithstanding some of these negative indicators, Mauritius has so far successfully completed its demographic transition from a society with high mortality and high fertility to one with low mortality and low fertility. One result of these two transitions has been a rapidly ageing population, creating a major burden on the health sector and on social security. Older persons are more vulnerable to illness and a considerable proportion of the users of the public health services are the elderly.

The healthcare system is having to face up to new challenges. It is now confronted with some illnesses, the treatment of which may often require the delivery of sophisticated tertiary healthcare. Cardiovascular, renal and neuro-surgery equipment and skilled and highly trained personnel vie for funding with recurrent expenditure such as maintenance and training. The deterioration of the quality of the physical infrastructure and outdated medical equipment calls for

[17] Biennial Report of the Regional Director, 'The Work of WHO in the African Region 1996-1997' WHO, Regional office for Africa. (1998)

major capital investment to bring the system up to acceptable standards.

The current system faces constraints in terms of a lack of human resources and management capacity, constraints that could impinge on future expansion and improvements. The creation and retention of high quality medical personnel within the country requires not only changes in the current salary structure and incentive system, but also an increase in the budget for staff training and career development. Furthermore, there is a need to not only increase the number of health personnel but also to change the skill mix and upgrade the knowledge and skills of the existing medical staff. Decisions on resource allocation are made centrally and health institutions function as executing agencies. Under the free-service system, medical staff and patients are often insensitive to the true costs of the services provided. Without substantial improvements in the current management system of the health sector, it will be difficult to enhance its efficiency.

The forthcoming Action Plan for Health envisages a number of reforms to meet some of the perceived shortcomings of the Public Health System. Greater priority will be given to primary care and to cost-effective procedures as well as to health promotion and preventive medicines. The 'Into the 3rd Millennium Report: National Strategy for Sustainable Development 1999-2005' (2000), mentions that investment will be undertaken to upgrade the standard of facilities and to bring in new services. Targets for 2010 include a four-year increase in life expectancy, a 25 % reduction in infant mortality, a 50% reduction in deaths from strokes and heart disease, a significant reduction in smoking and alcohol abuse and a substantial reduction in obesity.

This section looks at what people think about the current state of the public health sector and the extent to which they believe in the principle of a universal standard of healthcare for all. It examines satisfaction with and perceptions of inpatient and outpatient care and aspects of the public health service that are in need of improvement.

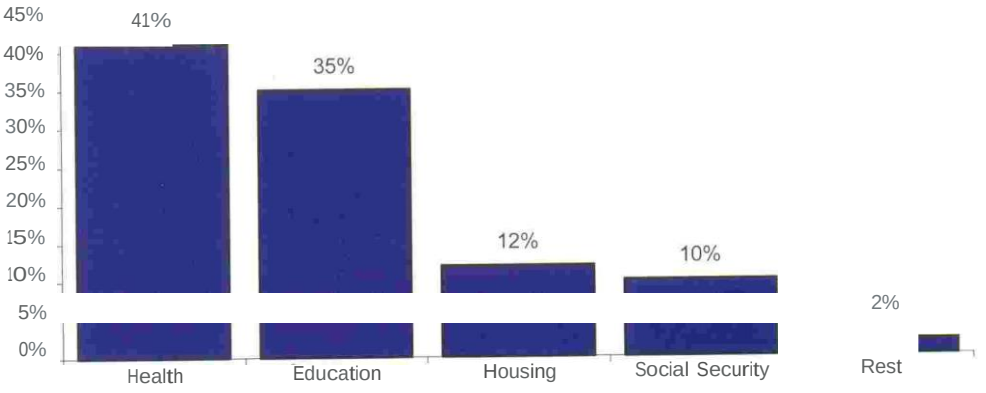
Areas For Increased Investment

Despite the considerable proportion of public expenditure devoted to the health sector, for 41% of respondents it was the main area where Government should spend yet more money. A further 35% of all respondents saw Education as the highest priority. However, as we will see confirmed later, the areas felt appropriate for increased investment are age related. The older the respondent the less likely they are to choose education and the more likely they are to opt for health and social security.

Table 48 - Areas For Investment By Age Group

	Education		Health		Housing		Social Security		Transport	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
18 - 29	125	43	107	37	31	11	20	7	6	2
30- 39	143	37	169	44	46	12	22	6	5	1
40-49	117	35	134	41	45	14	32	10	2	1
50 - 59	50	27	79	44	20	11	26	14	4	2
60 & Over	53	25	88	42	19	9	46	22	2	1

Chart 50 - On Which Service Should Government Spend More Money



Satisfaction With The Current Health System

Respondents were asked about the extent to which they were satisfied with the current health system and a majority, 58%, stated that they were satisfied with 41% stating that they were unsatisfied. There was little variation by other variables such as age, ethnicity, education or marital status.

However, in spite of this seemingly high level of satisfaction, further questioning on the perceptions of respondents regarding various aspects of the Public Health System revealed the predominant attitude that most aspects are in need of improvement.

Table 49 Service	Good (%)	Needs Improvement (%)	Don't Know (%)
Quality of medical treatment in Public Hospitals	32	67	1
General condition of buildings in Public Hospitals	36	62	2
Numbers of nurses in Public Hospitals	35	60	5
Quality of Service Given by Nurses in Public Hospitals	40	59	
Conditions of Waiting Rooms in Public Hospitals	29	69	2
Conditions of Waiting Rooms for Specialist Treatment	28	65	7
Level of Hygiene in Public Hospitals	31	68	
Quality of the food served to patients in Public Hospitals	42	43	15

For all of the services provided under the Public Health system, a majority of respondents answered that there was a need for improvement. Where 32% of respondents found that the quality of the medical treatment in public hospitals was good, over twice as

many, 67%, wanted further improvement. A somewhat similar trend can be found for features such as the level of hygiene in public hospitals and the condition of waiting rooms. A considerable majority of respondents wanted to see more recruitment of nurses and an improvement in the quality of the service they offer. A majority of respondents also wanted to see improvements in the general condition of the buildings in public hospitals.

The conditions of waiting rooms leave a lot to be desired as 69% of all respondents found them in need of improvement. In general, it seems, there is a high level of discontent with the quality of the infrastructure and services available in public hospitals.

When looked by occupation of respondent a pattern emerges. What we see is that although respondents tend to feel that all aspects of public hospitals have room for improvement, those not employed tend to be more acceptable of levels as they are now while those from higher occupational categories veer towards stating that there is a need for improvement.

Table 50 In Need of improvement In Public Hospitals By Occupational Group	Management Professional Clerical		Skilled & Skilled Manual		Manual & Operative		Not Employed		Other	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Quality Of Medical Treatment	74	72	298	74	203	68	323	60	41	77
General Condition Of Buildings	79	77	266	66	182	61	312	58	33	62
Numbers Of Nurses	61	59	275	68	181	61	294	54	35	66
Quality of Service Given by Nurses	65	63	249	62	182	61	286	53	36	68
Conditions of Waiting Rooms	81	79	293	73	207	69	350	65	33	62
Conditions of Waiting Rooms for Specialist Treatment	73	71	292	72	191	64	326	61	31	59
Level of Hygiene	82	80	297	74	185	62	345	64	40	76
Quality Of The Food Served To Patients	51	50	185	46	117	39	224	42	24	45

Percentages are those respondents that thought that the mentioned services were in need of improvement. The difference up to 100% is made up of those that thought these services were good and those that selected donit know.

in 1989/90 to Rs 3,678 million in 2000/01. Similarly, Contributory benefits increased from 45.7million to 328.6 mover the same period.

Challenges for the Welfare State

However, as the World Bank Aide Memoire for Mauritius (2001) reports, existing social welfare policies are expensive and, under current circumstances, are not achieving their current objectives of warding off exclusion and poverty. To the World Bank observers, it is most unlikely that existing policies and institutional set-ups are equipped to deal with the social challenges of a modem economy in the 21st century. There has been an emergence of new low labour cost garment producers in Asian countries such as China, Vietnam and Bangladesh, where the cost of labour is significantly lower than in Mauritius. An additional impact has been the gradual phasing out of Mauritius's preferential trade agreements. Rising unemployment, estimated at 8%, and inflation is eroding purchasing power, particularly of those working in the informal sector.

Because of the demographic transition, Government expenditure on the ageing population, which is now consuming about 3% of the GDP[18], is expected to grow significantly and will begin to exert yet more pressure on the Social Security system.

Accounting for Government Expenditure on Social Services

Social security schemes clearly redistribute income. As it stands, the present economy provides opportunities for people to earn an income and to acquire wealth but the opportunities for earning an income are not equally distributed. Some people are limited in their capacity to earn or they may have acquired a skill only to find the demand for that skill is declining. Individuals are also subjected to illness and incapacity and, inevitably, grow old. Once an inequality in the distribution of wealth arises it tends to be self-perpetuating because wealth can be inherited.

[18] See World Bank Aide-Memoire for Mauritius (2001)

- Basic Orphans Pension, payable to children under 15 years old years (or 20 if in full-time education) whose parents are dead.
- Guardian Allowance, payable to someone looking after an orphan.

Contributory Benefits

The second tier is made up of Contributory benefits that are eamings• related and paid to those who have contributed to the National Pensions Scheme and include:

- The Contributory Retirement Pension, payable to a person at 60 years of age
- Contributory Widow's Pension, payable to a widow whose late spouse contributed to the National Pensions Fund
- Contributory Invalidity Pension, payable to a person who suffers from a permanent or at least 60% incapacity
- Contributory Orphan's Pension, payable to orphans under 15 (or 18 if at school)
- Various forms of industrial benefits such as Industrial Injury Allowance, Disablement Benefits etc.

Social Aid

The Social Aid Scheme constitutes the third tier of welfare provision. Social aid provides support for families with income losses associated with illness or loss of employment and supports vulnerable individuals in society. Benefits under Social Aid are means-tested. The majority of social aid cases, 55%, are of 'abandoned women with dependents'. About 5, 000 individuals who suffer from ill health, and are consequently unable to work, form the second largest category of social aid cases.

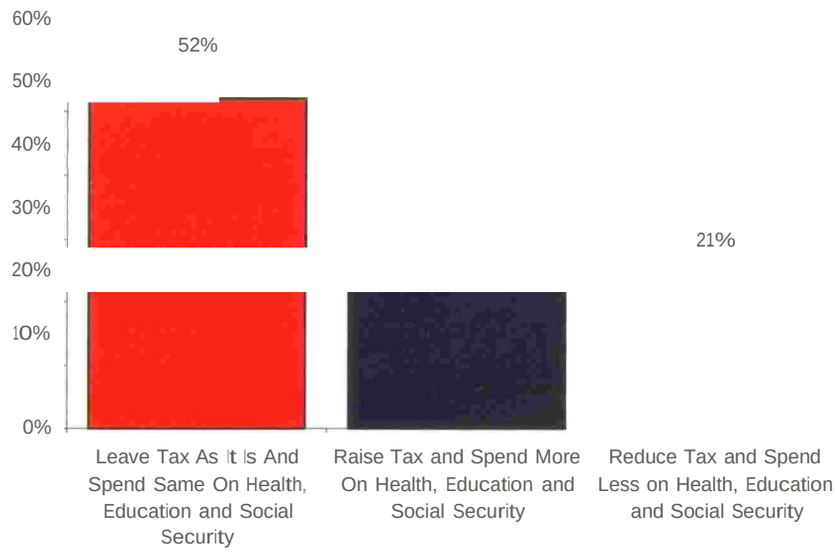
In addition, the Government and some NGOs also provide several different forms of assistance in kind to the most needy sections of the population.

The state expenditure on Social Security has been increasing over time, both in actual amounts and in percentage terms. Public expenditure on social service and welfare as a percentage of total public expenditure increased from 13.1% in 1989/90 to 20.3 % in 2000/01. Non-contributory benefits increased from Rs 568.9 million

In general, people expect the state to reduce the inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth by levying higher rates of taxation on the higher income groups and distributing benefits in cash, or in kind, to the vulnerable groups in society.

One question in the Social Attitudes Survey attempted to uncover present attitudes towards the interplay between levels of taxation, both direct and indirect, and Government expenditure on public services. Respondents were asked to express their preference for one of theses options a) leave tax as it is and spend the same on health, education and social security b) Raise tax and spend more on health, education and social security or c) reduce tax and spend less on health, education and social security.

Chart 51 - Taxation Rates And Welfare Provision



Just over half of the respondents, 52%, would prefer to leave taxation as it is and spend the same as at present on Health, Education and Social Security. 27% were in favour of raising tax and spending more on Health, Education and Social Security. Some 21% would prefer to reduce both tax and public expenditure on social services.

Table 52 - Choice Of Government Taxation And Spending By Total Monthly Household Income

	Upto Rs 4, 000		Rs4,001— Rs8, 000		Rs8, 001— Rs12, 000		Rs 12, 001— Rs 16, 000		Rs 16, 001 and over	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Reduce Tax And Spend Less On Health, Social Services And Education	28	20	147	27	72	21	22	13	13	8
Leave Tax As Is And Spend Same On Health, Social Services And Education	88	62	285	52	177	50	83	50	84	52
Increase Tax And Spend More On Health, Social Services And Education	26	18	120	22	102	29	62	37	65	40

By Total Monthly Household Income (TMHI), 62% of those with a lower income of up to Rs4, 000 were in favour of leaving taxation as it is and ensuring that government spending remains the same An increase in taxation for increased spending in social services becomes more acceptable as in line with the increase in TMHI, rising from 18% of those with a TMHI of up to Rs4, 000, through 29% of those with a TMHI of between Rs8, 001 and Rs12, 000 to 40% of those respondents with a TMHI of Rs16, 001 or more. About a quarter of respondents with a TMHI up to Rs12, 000 were in favour of reduced taxation and subsequent reduction in spending on social services. Following this the percentages fall to 13% and 8% of those with a TMHI of between Rs12, 001 – Rs16, 000 and Rs16, 001 and over respectively.

Looking more closely at the majority of 52%, who would prefer to maintain the status quo, it is fairly equally distributed among the different age groups, but more predominant among the younger age group, 18 – 21 years, at 61%.

Table 53 - Areas Of Investment By Age Group

	Reduce Tax Spend Less On Education, Health & Social Security		Leave Tax As Is Spend Same On Education, Health & Social Security		Raise Tax Spend More On Education, Health'& Social Security	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
18 - 21	14	18	46	61	16	21
22 -25	18	17	55	51	36	33
26 - 29	26	25	47	45	31	30
30 - 39	81	21	198	52	102	27
40–49	70	22	172	53	83	26
50– 59	47	26	87	49	45	25
60 & Over	27	13	113	56	63	31

Those with higher personal monthly incomes were also more likely to choose this option of keeping things as they are with 60% of those who earned Rs 14, 000-16, 000 per month and 67% of those who earned Rs 16, 000-20, 000 selecting this option.

The Elderly and Retirement Pensions Social Services

Respondents were asked what they thought about pensioners living on the basic retirement pensions.

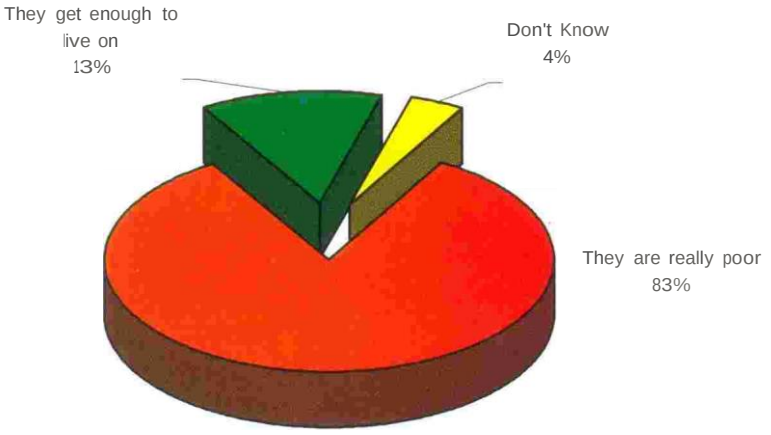
Some 83% of all respondents thought that old age pensioners living on the current state pension were really poor while only 13% thought that they got enough to live on.

Table 54 - Financial Condition Of Older People By Age Group

	They Are Realty Poor		They Get Enough To Live On		Don't Know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
18 - 21	55	72	16	21	5	7
22 - 25	80	72	21	19	10	9
26 - 29	88	85	14	14	2	2
30 -39	309	80	60	16	17	4
40 -49	286	86	36	11	10	3
50 - 59	151	84	27	15	2	
60& Over	192	92	14	7	3	

Broken down by age group, younger respondents tended to have a stronger belief that older persons get enough to live on and older respondents tended to the belief that pensioners on a state pension are really poor. This option of 'they are really poor' ranged from 72% of those in the youngest age group, 18 – 21 years old to 92% of those over 60 years of age.

Chart 52 - Old-Age Pensioners Living on State Pensions



Retirement Pensions: Selectivity or Universality?

The issue of an ageing population and the cost of retirement pensions has led to an active, and continuing, debate on retirement age and the payment of state pensions. As it stands, irrespective of wealth or additional income obtained through private pension schemes and other sources of income, everybody over the age of 60 years, from the most deprived to the most wealthy, are entitled to a monthly non-contributory retirement pension subject to satisfying residence requirements.

Asked whether retirement pensions should continue to be paid to people over the age of 60 years regardless of their means, 75% of the respondents were in favour of a continuation of the universal provision of the retirement pensions, compared to less than a quarter who preferred that retirement pensions should be selectively targeted.

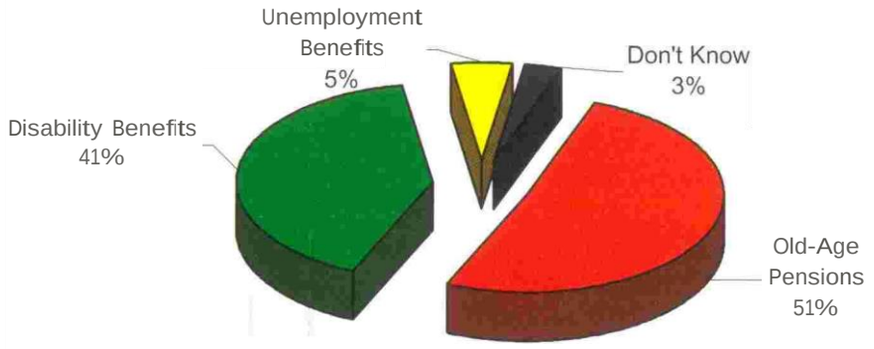
There was very little variation between the different categories apart from education. In fact, it seems that the higher the level of educational attainment the lesser the aversion to the selective provision of retirement pensions.

42 % of respondents with an educational achievement up to Post Secondary Education compared to around 20% of those having an

educational achievement up to Primary level, disagreed with universal provision.

Given this prevailing assumption that old-age pensioners living on state pensions are really poor, it is perhaps not surprising to see that when asked on which social security service the state should spend more, just over half of the respondents, 51 %, chose Old Age pensions.

Chart 53 - On Which Social Security Services Should Govt Spend More



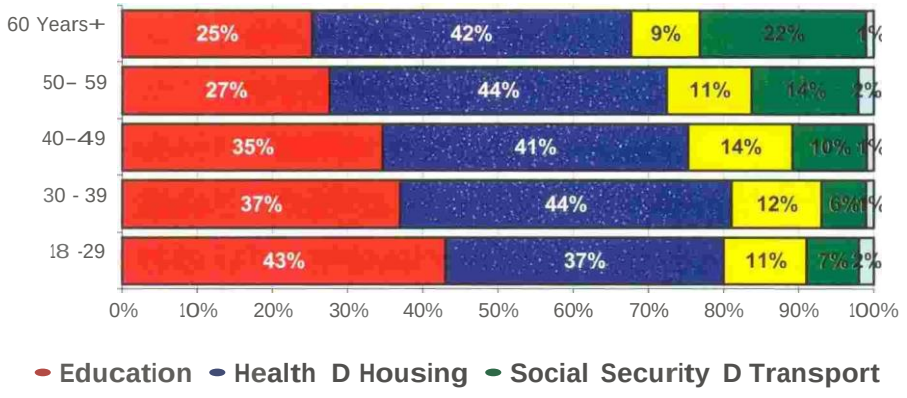
This choice is more popular among older age groups with 55% of respondents in the 50-59 age group and 66% of those aged 60 years and over choosing this option. As has been previously stated, the ageing population will increase the financial burden on the state and increased investment will have to be found from somewhere. Disability benefits appear slightly more popular among the younger respondents at 47% of those aged 18-21 years.

It seems that the older one gets the less one prefers investment in education in favour of greater investment in social security, that is, retirement pensions. In fact, one can see levels of personal interest shifting emphasis as an individual ages. Education as an area of investment decreases with the ageing of the respondents from 43% of those in the age group 18 to 29 years old to 25% of those in the age group of 60 years old and above. Conversely, Social Security increases in popularity as an area of investment as the respondents age, from 7% of those aged 18 – 29 to 22% of those aged 60 years or

more. It also takes a big leap from 14% of 50 –59 year olds to the 22% of the 60 + age group. Health remains fairly constant in popularity for investment through all of the age groups and is a high priority at around 40%.

Although it is slightly less popular among the young at 37% of the 18 – 29 year olds, it climbs to 44% of those aged 30 years old or more and remains stable from then on. Housing and transport remain fairly constant.

Chart 54 - Preferred Areas Of Government Investment By Age Group



It seems then that self-interest is a strong influence on what areas of social spending one sees as a priority for greater investment.

Attitudes Towards The Welfare State

Alongside the actual implementation of different aspects of welfare is the importance of the public perception of the welfare state and the services it provides. Taken at face value, the attitudes displayed by the respondents appear to show that current expectations of respondents towards the existing Social Security system are significantly greater than what is actually being offered.

Table 55 - Attitudes Towards Welfare Provision

	Agree	Disagree	Don't Know
	%	%	%
State Provision Encourages People To Depend More On The Government	43	43	14
State Provision Encourages People To Be More Self-Centred	27	51	22
Government Should Spend More On Social Security	88	8	4
A Lot Of People Who Get Social Security Do Not Deserve It	49	37	14
An Increase In Unemployment Benefit Would Discourage People From Working	20	73	6
It Is Important That Government Raises Revenue From The Rich To Distribute Among The Poor	78	17	4
Ordinary People Do Not Benefit From The Progress Of The Country	86	10	4
The Old Age Pension Should Continue To Be Paid To People Over The Age Of 60 Years Regardless Of Their Means	75	23	3

Many commentators, particularly those with a neo-liberal perspective, have put forward the contentious argument that a Welfare State encourages dependency rather than self-reliance. In this study, respondents were asked whether state provision encourages dependency on government. Respondents were equally split between the 43% who agreed with this concept and the 43% who did not agree. There was a relatively high percentage of 'Don't Knows', at 14%. As perhaps can be expected, among those who agreed with idea of welfare dependency was a relatively high percentage of respondents in the top educational, income and occupational profiles.

Table 56 - State Provision Encourages People To Depend More On the Government

	Management Professional Clerical	Skilled & Skilled Manual	Manual & Operative	Not Employed	Other
	%	%	%	%	%
Agree	53	42	43	42	42
Disagree	38	48	41	42	40
Don't Know	9	11	16	16	19

Almost three quarters, 73%, of responuen\s ni ◆g;re \\\1 \'y statement that an increase in unemployment benefit would discourage people from working. This perhaps suggests that, in a context of social inequality, respondents felt that people are most likely to need Government help not out of laziness, lack of self-help or initiatives but out of a lack of legitimate opportunities to be self-reliant.

However, as often argued by supporters coming from the left of the political spectrum, in a society that is ridden with inequalities, there are hardly any opportunities for self-reliance. This type of argument lays emphasis on state intervention as a necessary element of the redistribution of income in order to alleviate the problems associated with inequalities of life chances such as lack of education, unemployment, poverty and ill-health and all the other social problems that may ensue.

This point of view can perhaps be supported when we see the very high levels of agreement with the statements that government should spend more on Social Security, at 88%, that it is important that Government raises revenue from the rich to distribute among the poor, at 78%, and that ordinary people do not benefit from the progress of the country, 86%. Absolutely all unemployed respondents, and 93% of pensioners, agreed with the need for more social security provision.

At a time when several developed countries are rolling-back the welfare state, the implications of this dissatisfaction with the existing provision, which accounts for a considerable proportion of the national income, could be adverse for the economy.

Chapter 7 - Environment

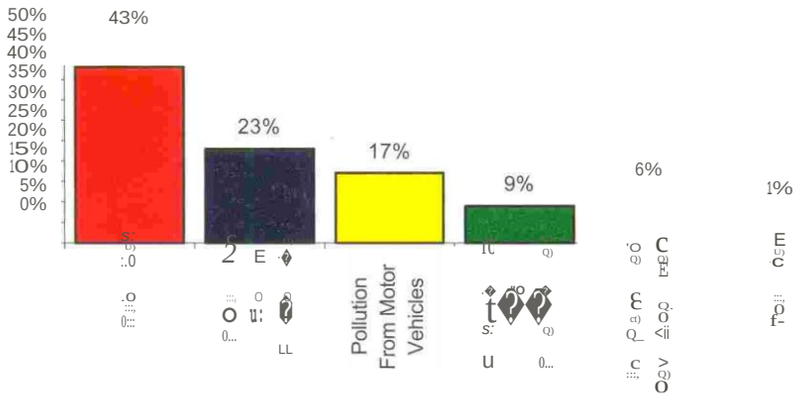
Mauritius is a small island covering 1,865 Km^2. It is also one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Many of the previous social changes over its short but dynamic history impacted heavily on the environment and, indeed, current changes in social and economic activity continue to do so. However, there is a growing concern for both the natural and built environments and a deepening reliance on its preservation. There are many reasons for this, not least because the population needs and deserves a clean, safe and noise free environment in order to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. On an economic front, the tourism industry needs clean and pollution free beaches and seas, the fishing industry needs a protected marine environment and modem industries increasingly expect quiet and natural surroundings in which to site their offices. Notwithstanding current concerns, there can be no doubt that there is a growing environmental problem in Mauritius. There is often little regard paid to littering or the dumping of waste materials, there is a high usage of agro chemicals and there has been a massive increase in road traffic over the last 10 years.

The growth of the manufacturing industry has also had an impact on the environment with there having been many reported cases of river water pollution by chemical dyes and waste.

This chapter examines people's attitudes towards aspects of environmental issues and throws light on the extent to which these attitudes mirror the policies of government. Topics covered include pollution and traffic problems.

Concentrating on aspects of pollution, 43% of respondents saw rubbish as being the biggest environmental problem, 23% regarded pollution from factories as the biggest problem and 17% pollution from motor vehicles. Chemicals and pesticides were also seen as a major problem by 9% of the respondents. Those respondents from the lowest income group were more likely to see rubbish as the biggest environmental problem at 52%.

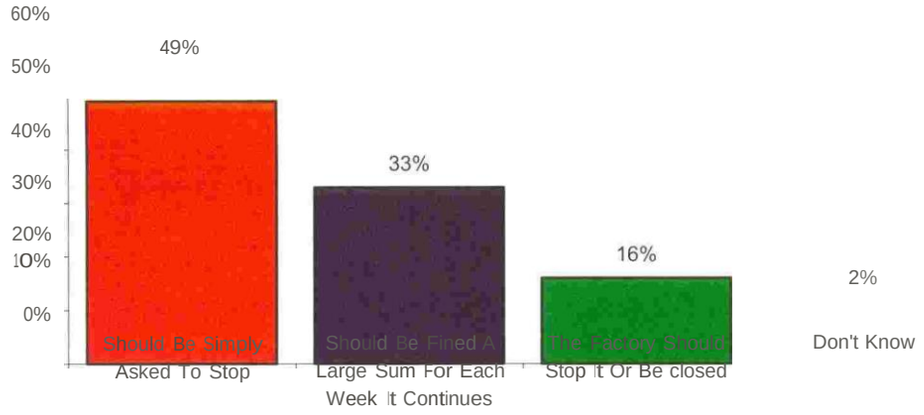
Chart 55 - Biggest Environmental Problem



Rubbish is a highly visible stain on the environment. It has an adverse impact on the lifestyle of people who live in close proximity to levels no matter how large or small and, on a broader front, does not help an island that promotes itself abroad as a paradise. However there are things that can be done about levels of pollution including a promotion of a different ethic as regards littering, stricter policing of the problem and stronger penalties for those that contravene environmental ordinances.

Turning to the problem of pollution from factories, when asked what action should be taken against a factory known to be polluting a river, 49% of respondents stated that they thought that the polluter should simply be asked to stop, while 33% thought that the polluter should be fined a large sum for each week that it continues to pollute. A further 16% would be in favour of the harsher penalty of closing down a factory that did not stop polluting. Those of the younger age groups were more inclined to opt for this latter option, with 26% of those in the age group 18 – 21 years old choosing this compared to a range of 14% to 17% of other age groups.

Chart 56 - Action Against A Factory Polluting A River



Many would argue that prevention is better than cure and that there should be a concerted effort to prevent pollution from occurring. As to what government should do to prevent pollution, a large number of respondents believed that government should make factories financially responsible for pollution prevention. Some 63% stated that they thought that government should insist that factories should pay to prevent pollution. A further 28% would soften this financial responsibility as they stated that they thought government should give factories financial aid for pollution prevention.

This idea of financial responsibility was continued as respondents were asked to determine who should be responsible for the cost of preventing pollution. Over half of the respondents, 53%, thought that the general public should bear the responsibility and 40% thought that businesses should pay. Looked at by the religion of the respondent those of the Christian faith, 49%, were less likely to favour the general public picking up the bill for pollution prevention compared to 53% of Hindu and 57% of Muslim respondents. Conversely, Christian respondents, 45%, were more amenable to business bearing the responsibility of the cost of preventing pollution than Muslim, 36% and Hindu respondents, at 40%.

Chart 57 - To Prevent Pollution What Should Government Do

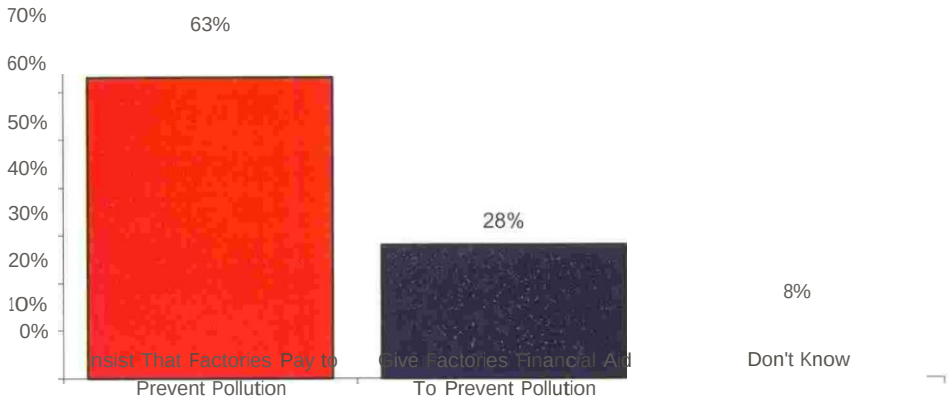
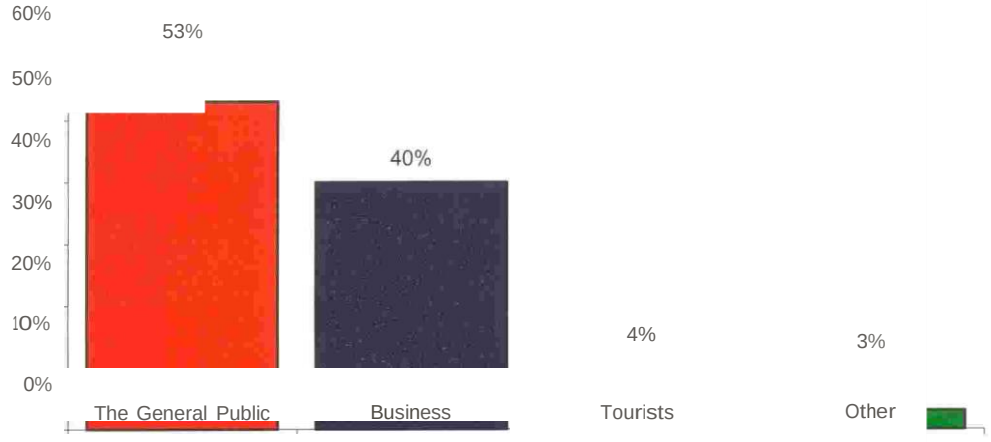


Chart 58 - Responsible For The Cost Of Preventing Pollution



It would seem that although there is the recognition of a problem to do with pollution by industries, the public is divided over who should bear the financial burden of dealing with its prevention.

Traffic

Traffic in the Island Of Mauritius is an increasing problem that affects almost everybody, whether a driver stuck in a traffic jam, a pedestrian unable to cross the road because of a never ending stream of fast moving vehicles, or somebody living or working close to a major road deafened by the roar of traffic or choking on the fumes. This final category is important, as studies done in other countries have identified the chemical content of traffic fumes as being a principal agent in the cause or exacerbation of such serious health problems as asthma and brain damage in children.

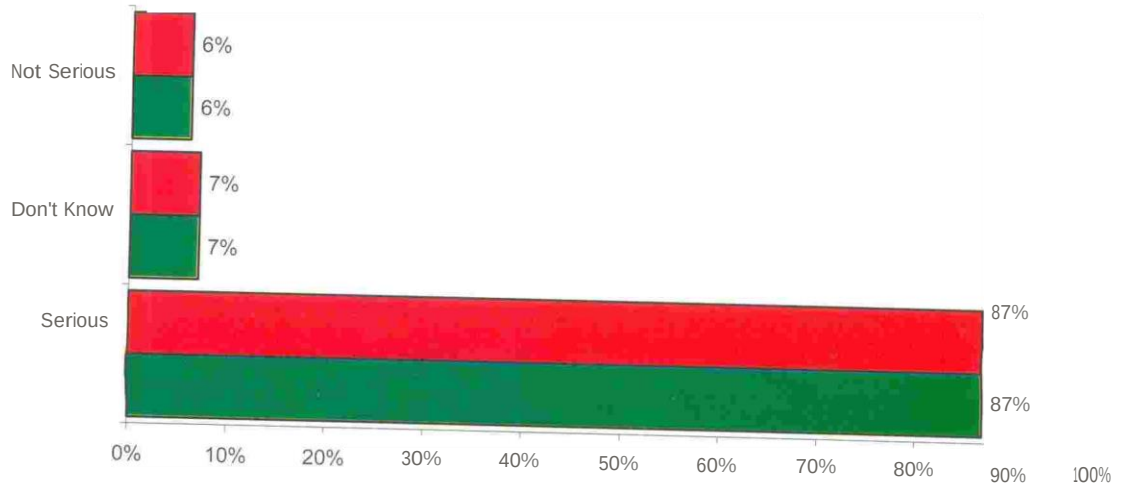
Over the last 30 years the number of vehicles on the road in Mauritius has increased almost 10 fold from around 26, 000 in 1970 to 255, 149 in 2001.

Between 1980 and 1998 the total length of roads increased by only 7% from 1775 Kilometres to 1910 Kilometres. Although the conditions of the roads have improved a large proportion of the increased road length was covered by the construction of the Motorway between Plaisance and Grand Bay and extensions to the road between Moka and Flacq. What this means is increasing traffic congestion, increased pollution and, often, increased travelling times.

Attitudes towards the three major topics of traffic congestion, traffic noise and traffic fumes have offered up some interesting results. In general there was an overwhelming opinion that the problem with traffic congestion was serious.

Looking firstly at traffic congestion on the motorway, 87% of respondents thought that this was serious, including 45% who thought it was very serious. This percentage of respondents viewing traffic congestion on the motorway as serious rose to 91% of motor vehicle owners, including 51% who saw it as very serious.

Chart 61 - Seriousness Of Traffic Congestion



Given that motorways are designed to ease congestion this is a serious consideration for road planners. Has the creation of the motorway eased traffic congestion in the towns? Not according to the majority of respondents to this study as 87% of respondents stated that they thought that traffic congestion in the towns was serious, including 41% who found it very serious. As before, more vehicle owners felt that the problem is serious compared to non-vehicle owners, 92% and 83% respectively. So the general attitude is that traffic congestion is serious on both the motorway and in the towns.

Because of this congestion the problem of noise and pollution from fumes is also exacerbated. As to traffic noise in the towns, 82% of respondents stated that they thought that this was a serious problem. With traffic fumes, the problem was seen as serious by even more respondents, as it rose to 92%. There was little, if any, difference of attitude between respondents towards these last two issues whether they were vehicle owners or not

Table 57 - Seriousness Of Traffic Noise In The Towns By Vehicle Ownership

	Don't Own Vehicle		Own Vehicle	
	No.	%	No.	%
Serious	662	81	474	81
Not Serious	86	19	160	11
Don't Know	70	9	10J	7

Table 58 - Seriousness Of Traffic Fumes By Vehicle Ownership

	Don't Own Vehicle		Own Vehicle	
	No.	%	No.	%
Serious	749	92	534	92
Not Serious	35	4	29	5
Don't Know	34	4	16	3

Town Centre Traffic

Many solutions have been proposed as to how to ease congestion and to create a better system of parking for motor vehicles in Port Louis and other town centres. One of the methods being tried out in other cities, and most recently proposed for London, is a system of drivers paying for the right to enter the city centre by motor vehicle. When asked whether drivers should pay to drive in Port Louis during the working day, 75% of respondents disagreed with the proposal. The percentage of respondents in agreement with the proposal was just 13%, only 1% more than the 12% who were undecided. We might expect that there was a difference of opinion between vehicle owners and non-vehicles owners, and indeed there is, but not to the level one might expect, with 79% of car owners disagreeing with the principle of paying to drive in Port Louis compared to 72% of non-vehicle owners disagreeing. However, for those in the non-vehicle owning group there was a higher rate of those choosing the Don't Know response at 15%.

Table 59– Drivers Should Pay To Drive In Port Louis

	No.	%
Agree	183	13
Disagree	1046	75
Don't Know	169	12

There was also a difference of attitude toward agreement with this statement when looked at by the religious affiliation of respondents. Hindu and Christian respondents were more likely to agree with the proposal at 14% each, while for Muslim respondents agreement fell to 8%. Muslim respondents accordingly recorded the highest level of disagreement with the statement at 87% while Hindu respondents were more likely to choose the Don't Know category at 16% compared to 5% of Muslim and 10% of Christian respondents.

Table 60 - Drivers Should Pay To Drive In Port Louis By Religion

	Hindu		Muslim		Christian	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	99	14	20	8	60	14
Disagree	490	70	215	87	331	77
Don't Know	115	16	11	5	42	10

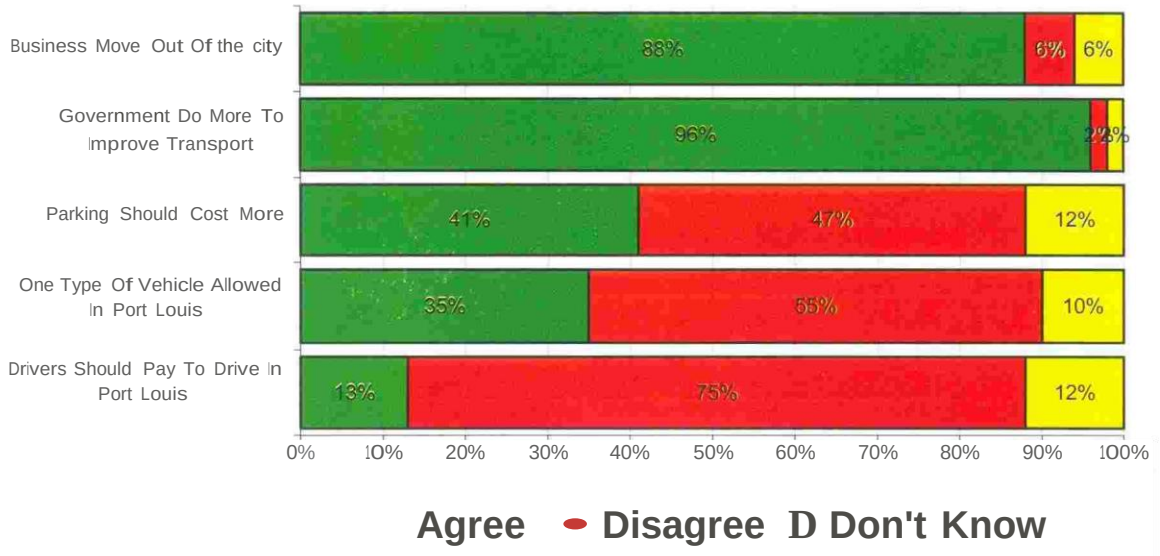
By occupation of respondent the highest percentage of disagreement with the idea of drivers paying to enter Port Louis during the working day was among Senior Officials and Managers at 89% followed by Craft and Related Workers at 86%, Plant and Machine Operators at 84% and Service and Shop Sales Workers at 82%. The highest levels of agreement with the proposal came from those working as Clerks, 18%, in Elementary Occupations at 17% and the Unemployed at 16%, although the range of agreement was quite tight overall from 11% to 18% of respondents from all categories.

Another option for easing traffic congestion in Port Louis is to reduce the numbers and types of vehicles that are permitted to use the city centre during the working day. This idea of the pedestrianization of a city centre, with only emergency, service and delivery vehicles allowed in, has been adopted by many other cities, the nearest example being St. Denis in Reunion.

On this suggestion there was a higher level of agreement with 35% of all respondents agreeing with the proposal. Disagreement ran at 55% with 10% undecided and choosing the Don't Know option.

Again, there was little difference in response to this proposal when comparing vehicle owners with non-vehicle owners.

Chart 62 - Proposed Solutions To Traffic Congestion



Apart from traffic congestion in the city centres, parking can be a major problem. Asked whether parking should cost more in Port Louis and other town centres the respondents were more evenly split between 41% who thought that it should cost more and 47% who thought that it should not.

Vehicles owners tended to be more in disagreement with the proposal that parking should cost more at 54% compared to 42% of non• vehicle owners

Table 61 - Parking Should Cost More In Town And City Centres By Vehicle Ownership

	Own Vehicle		Do Not Own Vehicle	
	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	229	40	343	42
Disagree	309	54	345	42
Don't Know	40	7	131	16

Having covered options to improve the traffic situations in the towns, attention turned to the traffic system itself. Some 96% of respondents agreed that the government should do more to improve the traffic system.

One option for easing congestion was to remove the need for large numbers of people to enter and leave the city centres at certain hours

of the day. Decentralizing the offices and headquarters of government ministries, commercial and other large companies would drastically reduce the numbers of people having to enter and leave the city centres by motor vehicle at either end of the working day, particularly in Port Louis.

This proposal elicited a favourable response with 88% of respondents in agreement. The remaining 12% were equally split between 6% who disagreed and 6% who didn't know. Although little difference was apparent in responses from vehicle owners and non-vehicle owners, 92.5% of car owners were in agreement with the proposal for decentralization.

Public Transport

The improvement of Public Transport facilities is an issue that is constantly topical and is often in the news. Over the last few years there have been several proposals for an improved transport system. One has been the creation of a dedicated rail service linking the main towns and Port Louis and another has been the use of various methods to improve the bus system. One shortfall with all bus systems being that if there are simply more buses on the road then this will impact on traffic congestion and any system that dedicates available road space to buses will exacerbate the road congestion problem for other vehicle users not to say adding to the air pollution problems.

Notwithstanding any changes proposed, 92% of respondents stated that they thought that government should do more to improve the bus transport system.

Government Action To Improve Public Transport

Table 62 - Improve Facilities For Cyclists & Pedestrians

Government	No.	%
A Lot More	424	30
A Little More	680	49
The Same	158	11
A Little Less	44	3
A Lot Less	16	1
Don't Know	75	5

Table 63 - Improve The Bus Transport System

Government Should Do	No.	%
A Lot More	741	53
A Little More	543	39
The Same	70	5
A Little Less	14	1
A Lot Less	7	1
Don't Know	22	2

Table 64 - Improve The Roads

Government Should Do	No.	%
A Lot More	818	59
A Little More	489	35
The Same	51	4
A Little Less	17	
A Lot Less	5	0*
Don't Know	17	1

A slightly higher percentage, 94%, thought that the government should do more to improve the roads. As roads are not solely for the use of car drivers or bus passengers, some 79% also stated that they thought that the government should do more to improve the facilities for cyclists and pedestrians. There was little difference between vehicle owners and non-vehicle owners on these issues, again reinforcing the fact that it is a general attitude that something needs to be done about improving the transport system.

However, we need to link the different issues of environmental protection and improved transport. Solutions should be implemented in such a way that they do not impact adversely on the natural and built environments. As much as people wish to have a good reliable, safe and clean transport system they also have concerns about increased pollution, particularly that caused by increased road traffic.

Chapter 8 Closing Comments

This study has brought into focus several interesting aspects of attitudes towards contemporary Mauritian society. Because education level and one's subsequent occupation can have a big role in attitude formation, there have sometimes been recognizable trends for differences in attitudes based on these and other variables such as age group and sex.

Although proud of its literacy levels it was perhaps surprising to see the relatively few numbers of respondents, particularly female respondents, who regularly read a daily newspaper. It would be worth digging a little deeper in functional literacy to find out which parts of the newspaper are read by those who do read and how well they have understood the content.

The power of television and radio in attitude formation is also clear from the number of respondents who mainly took their news on current affairs from the electronic rather than the written media. A significant finding worthy of further investigation is why such a small group of respondents felt that they knew a lot about current local and international affairs.

Social status is felt to be important, yet, at the same time, many respondents felt that the way forward was through working hard and having a good education. Factors toward the enhancement of one's quality of life that could be considered as being in the individual's own hands. However, this should be tempered with the finding that many of the respondents felt that ordinary people do not benefit from the progress of the country.

Although there was a seam of traditionality recognizable in many responses to family and home life, there was also some sign of gender equality being not just acceptable but a desirable aspect.

In many ways attitudes that are stereotypical of the various members of the major religions, which proved to be almost interchangeable with ethnic groupings, came to the fore. This was particularly noticeable when dealing with attitudes towards how the police deal with individuals from the different ethnic groups, attitudes towards equality of opportunity and in aspects of gender responsibilities in the

household. For the future it may well be worth looking at whether these attitudes translate into actions.

Concerning social welfare, education, health and social security were the main pnonues. Rea\'tn mam'tameo a s ab\e 'S\'a':U'S "a'S 'an. 'a're'a to necessary investment while education and social security seemed to mirror each other in priority according to the age of the respondents. This degree of selfishness in choosing priorities for investment is not surprising because as one moves through the generations one's personal needs, and the needs of one's peers, change and this need is reflected in the attitude displayed towards priority of investment.

In both primary and secondary education the attitudes towards necessary changes were almost identical, clearly pointing to where the people feel any problems lie. Later studies could also include questions the validity and efficacy of subjects in schools outside of the purely academic studies.

There was clear dissatisfaction with the current state of the health system. In all aspects, from quality of medical treatment to the quality of the food served in public hospitals, it was felt that there was a need for improvement.

People were also generally concerned with the state of the environment, particularly with pollution and with the effect of increasing traffic.

Overall concern was expressed about problems associated with traffic in town and city centres and on the main roads, which, it was felt have reached an almost intolerable level. In dealing with these problems the respondents were overwhelmingly in favour of decentralization and with improvements to the transport system, most noticeably public transport.

The study has also opened other avenues of research, which it is intended that future attitudes studies will cover and which it is hoped will stimulate other studies. One particular topic worth studying is people's attitudes to tourism.

Finally, all that remains is to thank all those respondents who took the time to take part in this study and whose cooperation has helped provide a glimpse into people's attitudes in contemporary Mauritius.

Bibliography

Bunwaree S, 2000, Marginal in The Miracle: Human Capital in Mauritius

Central Statistics Office, 2001, Housing And Population Census 2000

Central Statistics Office, Various Years, Economic and Social Indicators & National Accounts Estimates

Central Statistics Office, Various Years, Household Budget Survey

Government of Mauritius, 1998 Action Plan of Mauritius

Government of Mauritius, 2000, Into the 3rd Millennium Report: National Strategy for Sustainable Development 1999-2005

Government of Mauritius, 2000, The Present State of the Economy

International Labour Office & Ministry of Labour & Industrial Relations , 2002, Work and the Family, CASR

Mauritius Research Council, 1998, Social Fabric Phase I

Mauritius Research Council, 2000, Social Fabric Phase 2

Ministry of Economic Development and Regional Cooperation, 2000, Vision 2020, The National Long Term Perspective Study, Vol 1 and 11

Ministry of Economic Development and Regional Cooperation, 2000

Ministry of Education & Scientific Research, 1991, Master Plan of Education

Ministry of Education & Scientific Research, 2001, Ending the Rat Race in Primary Education and Breaking the Admission Bottleneck at Secondary Level: The Way Forward

Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, Various Years, Health Statistics Annual

Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity, 1998, The Directory of Services

Ministry of Women, Family & Child Development, 1997, Beyond Inequalities, women in figures

Ministry of Women, Family & Child Development, 1998, A Statistical Profile on Women in the Republic of Mauritius

Technical Supplement and Highlights, Into the Third Millennium

World Bank, 2001, Aide-Memoire for Mauritius

World Health Organization, 1998, Biennial Report of the Regional Director, The Work of WHO in the African Region 1996-1997 WHO, Regional Office for Africa.

'Evolution du niveau de vie a Maurice: Perceptions et Realites' in L'Express 8th of January 2003

University of Mauritius
Centre for Applied Social Research

Mauritian Social Attitudes Survey 2002

Number

Questionnaire DODD

Geographical District DD

Regional Stratum D

Enumeration Area D DD D DD

Household Number D D

Name of Interviewer .

Start time of interview DD D D Finish time DD DD

Signature of interviewer upon completion .

Supervisor .

Signature of Supervisor if present at the interview .

Date .

Coded by .

Input by .

Kish Selection Sheet

Number	First Name	Age Order
	(start with oldest down to youngest for the gender specified on the questionnaire cover)	
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Kish Selection Table

Number of male / female* adults in household	Last Digit Of Questionnaire Number						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6 or more							

* *delete as appropriate*

Recall Details

	Date	Remarks
Callbacks		
1		
2		
3		

Household Composition

Circle one number only for each of the respondent's characteristics and continue for each member of the household. Age and Occupation should be written in the appropriate boxes. *See Legend below each column*

Relationship to Respondent	Age	Sex	Occupation	Head of Household
Respondent		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 10		1 2		1
1 2 3 4 5 10		1 2		1
Spouse = 1 Offspring = 2 Parent or Parent in Law = 3 Sibling = 4 Grandparent = 5 Other = 6		Male = 1 Female = 2	For those attending school please write Student in the Occupation Box followed by the applicable code for the type of institution attended from the following legend: SPP = State Pre-Primary School PPP = Private Pre- Primary School SP = State Primary School PP = Private Primary School SS = State Secondary School PS = Private Secondary School ST = State Technical Institution PT = Private Technical Institution STT = State Tertiary PTT = Private Tertiary	Yes = 1 No = 2

Biographical Details

1. Sex

Please Circle one number only

Male 1 50% Female 2 50%

2. Age D D

Please enter respondent's age in the boxes

18–21 -5%
22–25 - 8%
26– 29 - 7%
30– 39 - 28%
40–49 - 24%
50–59 - 13%
60 + - 15%

3. Marital Status

Please Circle one number only

A. Single	1	16%
B. Married	2	71%
C. In a Union	3	1%
D. Divorced or Separated	4	3%
E. Widowed	5	9%

4. Education

Please Circle one number only

A. No Formal Education		7%
B. Incomplete Primary Education	2	19%
C. Passed CPE / Std VI	3	21%
D. Lower Secondary Incomplete	4	23%
E. SC / Equivalent	5	18%
F. A Level / Equivalent	6	9%
G. Degree / Equivalent	7	3%
H. Postgraduate Degree / Equivalent	8	1%
I. Other	9	(specify) ...0%*.....

5. Religion Put the respondent's religion in Box A or tick box B if respondent does not have a religion

A Hindu – 50% Muslim–18%
Christian – 31 % Other – 1 % (includes responses for (B))

B

6. Ethnic Group Circle One Number Only to indicate the respondent's ethnic group

A. Hindu 1 51 % B. General Population 2 29%

C. Muslim 3 18% D. Sino - Mauritian 2%

E. If respondent prefers not to respond tick this box

7. Income

A. Could you please tell me how much you personally earn each month taking into account all your jobs if you have more than one as well as any other sources of revenue?

Less than Rs 2,000	36%	Between Rs 2,001 – Rs 4,000	18%
Rs 4,001 – Rs 6,000	19%	Rs 6,001 – Rs 8,000	13%
Rs 8,001 – Rs 10,000	7%	Rs 10,001 – 12,000	3%
Rs 12,001—Rs 14,000	2%	Rs 14,001 – 16,000	1%
Rs 16,001 – Rs 20,000	1%	Rs 20,001 – Rs 30,000	1%
Rs 30,001 or more	0%*		

B. This next question is about the monthly income of the whole household i.e. the total monthly income of everybody in the household, wherever it comes from.

Less than Rs 2,000	3%	Between Rs 2,001 – Rs 4,000	8%
Rs 4,001 – Rs 6,000	21%	Rs 6,001 – Rs 8,000	19%
Rs 8,001 – Rs 10,000	15%	Rs 10,001 – 12,000	10%
Rs 12,001 – Rs 14,000	7%	Rs 14,001 – 16,000	5%
Rs 16,001 – Rs 20,000	5%	Rs 20,001 – Rs 30,000	4%
Rs 30,001 or more	2%		

8. Ownership of Vehicle

A. Do you, or anyone else in your household own a motor vehicle?

Yes 1 41% No 2 59%

B. If yes, what type of motor vehicle is it?

1 Motorcycle 45%

2 Car 41%

3. Truck 3%

4. Bus / Van 7%

Motorcycle & Car— 2% Motorcycle & Bus / Van – 1%
Other combinations equal to 1%

9. Newspaper readership

A. I'm are going to ask some questions about daily newspapers. Do you normally read any *daily* newspaper at least 3 times a week?

Yes	1	37%
No	2	63%

B. If yes, which one you normally read?
L'express - 32% Mauricien - 24% l'express & Mauricien - 44% Other - 0%

C. If you read more than one daily newspaper which one do you read most frequently?
L'express - 54% Mauricien - 24% Both - 1% Other - 0%*

D. Do you read any *weekly* newspaper? i.e. paper appearing on Sundays.

Yes	1	68%
No	2	32%

E. If yes, which one you normally read?
Weekend - 55% 5 Plus - 17% Le Defi - 16% Le Dimanche - 5% Other - 7%

F. If more than one which one do you read most often
Weekend - 50% 5 Plus - 20% Le Defi - 16% Le Dimanche - 5%
Other - 6% Reads More than One - 3%

10. News on Radio and Television

A. Do you watch the news on television or listen to the radio regularly?

Yes	1	97%
No	2	3%

B. If yes, how often?

More Than Two or Three Times per Week	1	32%
At least once a day	2	54%
Not very often	3	13%
Not applicable	4	0%*

C. In your opinion, how much do you know about local and international events?

Know a Lot	1	12%
Know enough	2	43%
Don't know too much	3	44%
Don't know anything	4	1%

Social Stratification

Now we move on to talk about social class and social position.

11. To what extent do you think a person's social position affects his or her opportunities in Mauritius to-day?

A great deal	1	39%
Quite a lot	2	32%
Not very much	3	20%
Not at all	4	3%
Don't know	5	6%

12. Do you think that the social position of a person is *more* important now or *less* important now in affecting a person's opportunities than it was 10 years ago, or has there been no real change?

More important now	1	61 %
Less important now	2	23%
No change.	3	15%

13. Do you think that in 10 years' time the social position of a person will be more or less important than it is now in affecting a person's opportunities, or will there be no real change?

More important in 10 years time	1	68%
Less important in 10 years time	2	14%
No change	3	17%

14. I will now read a few statements to you. Tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with them. *(show the PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. In Mauritius today, the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer.	1	2	3	4	5
	55%	36%	1%	7%	1%
B. The cost of living makes it harder to manage nowadays than two years ago?	1	2	3	4	5
	47%	47%	1%	5%	0%*
C. People in Mauritius live more comfortably today than 5 years ago.	1	2	3	4	5
	7%	34%	3%	45%	11 %

15. From your experience and from what you have heard, which one of the following is most important for somebody to succeed in life and which one is the next most important? (*show the RED card)*

	Most Important	Next Important
A. To come from a wealthy family	1 13%	1
B. To have well educated parents	2 9%	2
C. To have a good education	3 28%	3
D. To work hard	4 44%	4
E. To know the right people	5 5%	5
F. To belong to the right ethnic group	6 1%	6

Law and Order

We are going to move on to questions about law and maintaining order in the country.
16. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. *(show the PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. In Mauritius some people who have committed offences can avoid prosecution by using their contacts	1 26%	2 50%	3 8%	4 14%	5 2%
B. The police do a good job in controlling crime	1 6%	2 62%	3 5%	4 22%	5 4%
C. The police work in the interests of politicians and industrialists	1 18%	2 38%	3 17%	4 24%	5 3%
D. The Police treat all people in the same way regardless of their ethnic background or wealth	1 4 %	2 28%	3 8%	4 47%	5 12%
E. Police brutality is against basic human rights and can never be tolerated .	1 37%	2 45%	3 7%	4 10%	5 1%
F. In general, the police do a good job in Mauritius	1 5%	2 67%	3 5%	4 20%	5 3%
G. *Government was right* to abolish the death penalty	1 10%	2 28%	3 7%	4 36%	5 19%

17. Crime Prevention

We come now to questions on crime and violence.
Here are some possible ways of helping to prevent crime in Mauritius. How effective do *you think* each one will be? *(show the YELLOW card)*

	Very Effective	Effective	Don't Know	Not Effective	Not Effective At All
1. Make punishments more severe	1 10%	2 28%	3 7%	4 36%	5 19%
2. Less violence and crime on TV	1 35%	2 45%	3 4%	4 15%	5 1%
4. People need to take more precautions	1 40%	2 53%	3 3%	4 4%	5 0%*
5. More criminals should be imprisoned	1 12%	2 28%	3 11 %	4 42%	5 6%
6. Firmer discipline in families	1 60%	2 36%	3 2%	4 2%	5 0%
7. More police on the streets	1 41%	2 45%	3 4%	4 9%	5 1%
8. Levels of poverty need to be reduced	1 57%	2 33%	3 3%	4 6%	5 1%

Employment

This section has some questions on work.

18. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. *(show the PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. For jobs both men and women can do employers should give a preference to employing men.	1 9%	2 17%	3 1%	4 47%	5 25%
B. Disabled people should have the same chance of obtaining employment as anybody else	1 40%	2 51%	3 1%	4 7%	5 1%
C. A person's ethnic group Can assist them in getting jobs and promotions	1 6%	2 17%	3 8%	4 45%	5 23%
D. People should be allowed to stay at work beyond 60.	1 6%	2 30%	3 5%	4 43%	5 16%
E. Ex-Offenders should have the same chance of obtaining employment as anybody else	1 10%	2 56%	3 6%	4 22%	5 6%
F. Ex-drug abusers should have the same chance of obtaining employment as anybody else	1 12%	2 63%	3 4%	4 16%	5 3%
G. Ex-alcohol abusers should have the same chance of obtaining employment as anybody else	13%	2 69%	3 4%	4 12%	5 2%
H. Unemployed people could find a job if they really wanted to	1 21%	2 56%	3 4%	4 17%	5 2%
I. It is difficult to get a job these days no matter how hard one looks for it	12%	2 31%	3 4%	4 43%	5 9%

19. Suppose you were advising a young school leaver what qualities to look for in a job, which one of these 6 would be the first priority? And which would be your lowest priority? *(show the ORANGE card)*

	Most Important	Least Important
A. Job Security	1 63%	1
B. Well Paid	2 21%	2
C. Regular hours of work	3 4%	3
D. Not having to work shifts	4 1%	4
E. Little risk of injury or damage to personal health	5 11%	5
F. Not having to work overtime	6 0%*	6

Education

Moving on from work we come to some questions on education.

20. If Government was seeking to spend more on education. Which group would you rate as your first priority and following this your second priority. *(repeat question for second priority)*

	1st Priority	2nd. Priority
A. Nursery Schools	1 14%	1
B. Primary Schools	2 41%	2
C. Secondary Schools	3 23%	3
D. Vocational Schools	4 8%	4
E. University	5 9%	5
F. Don't know	6 4%	6

21. Here are a number of things that some people think would improve education in our schools. Which do you think would be the most important for improving the education of children in primary schools? *(now ask this question)* and which one is the next most important.

	Most Important	2nd. Most Important
1. More links between parents and schools	1 31%	
2. Spend more on buildings, books and equipment	2 7%	2
3. Better quality teachers	3 36%	3
4. Smaller class sizes	4 9%	4
5. More emphasis on exams	5 1%	5
6. Better administration of schools	6 15%	6
7. Other (Please specify.....)	7 1%	7
8. Don't know	8 2%	8

22. Which do you think would be the most useful thing for improving the education of children aged between 11 and 18 in secondary schools? (*now ask this question)* and which one is the next most important.

	Most Important	2nd. Most Important
1. More links between parents and schools	1 28%	1
2. Spend more on buildings, books and equipment	2 8%	2
3. Better quality teachers	3 35%	3
4. Smaller class sizes	4 6%	4
5. More emphasis on exams	5 2%	5
6. Better administration of schools	6 17%	6
7. Other, specify	7 1%	7
8. Don't know	8 2%	8

23. Which of the following statements comes closest to your views about what kind of secondary school children should go to? Please tick.

A. Children should go to a different kind of secondary school according to how well they do at primary school. 1 60%

B. All children should go to the same kind of secondary school, no matter how well or badly they do at primary school. 2 40%

24. Please indicate your level of agreement with each statement. *(show PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. Abolishing the CPE will reduce the stress on Schoo\chi.\dren	I 24%	2 41%	3 9%	4 23%	5 3%
B. Abolishing the CPE will lower educational standards	1 8%	2 26%	3 16%	4 44%	5 6%
C. Kreol should be the main medium of instruction at Primary School Level	1 5%	2 20%	3 3%	4 50%	5 22%
D. Private tuition is unfair as it gives an advantage to those who can afford it	1 23%	2 46%	3 4%	4 23%	5 4%
E. More students are taking private tuition today than ever before	1 60%	2 37%	3 2%	4]%	5 0%*

25. Environment

Following education I am going to ask some questions on the environment. Which of the following do you think is the greatest threat to the environment?

(show the BLUE card)

(now ask this question) Which one is the next?

		Biggest Problem	2nct. B"rggest Problem
A.	Industrial pollution	1 23%	1
B.	Use of chemicals and pesticides	2 9%	2
C.	Litter	3 43%	3
D.	Tourism and visitors	4 1%	4
E.	Unplanned development	5 6%	5
F.	Pollution caused by cars and other motor vehicles	6 17%	6
H.	None of the above. Please specify	7 14%	7

26. Suppose that it is discovered that some of a factory's waste has begun leaking into a nearby river. Should the factory:

A.	Just be asked to do something about it	1 49%
B.	Be heavily fined for every week it continues	2 33%
C.	Be shut down unless it does something about it	3 16%
D.	Don't know	4 2%

27. Do you think that Government should:

A.	Help factories meet the cost of preventing pollution	1 28%
B.	Make the factories that cause pollution pay the bills themselves	2 63%
C.	Don't know	3 8%

28. Looking after the environment costs a great deal of money. Which of the following should have the most responsibility for footing the bill?

(nest question) which is the next most responsible?	Most Responsible	2nd. Most Responsible
A. From government funds	1 53%	1
B. Tourists	2 4%	2
C. The business community	3 40%	3
D. Other please specify	4 3%	4

29. Now we come to a section on local transport systems.
How serious a problem is each of the following in Mauritius?
(show Pale Yellow card)

		Very Serious	Serious	Don't Know	Not Serious	Not serious At All
A.	Congestion of motorways	1 45%	2 42%	3 7%	4 6%	5 0%*
B.	Traffic congestion in towns and cities	1 41%	2 45%	3 7%	4 6%	5 0%*
C.	Noise from traffic in towns and cities	1 31%	2 51%	3 7%	4 11%	5 0%*
D.	Exhaust fumes from traffic	1 56%	2 36%	3 4%	4 5%	5 0%

30. A range of possible transport policies may be resorted to by government to ease traffic problems. Do you agree or disagree with the following policies? *(show PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. Motorists should be charged for driving in Port Louis during working hours	1 3%	2 10%	3 12%	4 54%	5 21%
B. Only vehicles with permits for essential business should be allowed in city centers during working hours	1 7%	2 28%	3 10%	4 41%	5 14%
C. Much higher parking charges should be paid in	1 8%	2 33%	3 12%	4 37%	5 10%
D. Government should do more to improve public transport	1 46%	2 50%	3 2%	4 2%	5 0%
E. Shops and offices should be encouraged to move out of the city	1 49%	2 39%	3 6%	4 5%	5 1%

31. Would you like to see more or less government spending on transport in respect of the following: *(show GREEN card)*

	A lot more	A little more	Same	A little less	Much less	Don't know
1. Improving facilities for cyclists and pedestrians	1 30%	2 49%	3 11%	4 3%	5 1%	6 5%
2. Improving public transport	1 53%	2 39%	3 5%	4 1%	5 1%	6 2%
3. Improving the road network	1 59%	2 35%	3 4%	4 1%	5 0%*	6 1%

32. Family

This section deals with questions about the family and family life
Please tell me your level of agreement with each of these statements
(show PINK card)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. Married people are generally happier than unmarried people	1 13%	2 38%	3 7%	4 37%	5 6%
B. Personal freedom is more important than the companionship of marriage	1 6%	2 25%	3 8%	4 54%	5 8%
C. The main advantage of marriage is that it gives financial security	1 12%	2 41%	3 6%	4 35%	5 6%
D. The main purpose of marriage is to have children	1 6%	2 30%	3 3%	4 49%	5 12%
E. A single mother can bring up a child just as well as a married couple	1 9%	2 31%	3 3%	4 46%	5 11%
F. A single father can bring up a child just as well as a married couple	1 13%	2 38%	3 7%	4 37%	5 6%
G. Infidelity in Marriages is always wrong	1 59%	2 34%	3 1%	4 4%	5 1%
H. Marriages between people of different ethnic groups can be just as successful as marriages between people of the same ethnic group	1 16%	2 43%	3 6%	4 28%	5 8%
I. Religion should not influence the choice of one's partner	1 16%	2 37%	3 3%	4 32%	5 12%

33. In the household, which of these tasks do you think should be mainly the man's responsibility, which should be mainly the woman's, and which are both.

	Mainly the man	Mainly the woman	Both
A. Childcare	1 12%	2 11 %	3 88%
B. Food shopping	1 37%	2 4%	3 60%
C. Home Repairs	1 79%	2 1%	3 20%
D. Cooking	1 1%	2 67%	3 32%
E. Earning the principal income	1 74%	2 1%	3 25%

F. Washing clothes	1 1%	2 86%	3 13%
G. Housework	1 32%	2 20%	3 48%
H. Purchasing major goods such as TV / HI fi	1 44%	2 3%	3 53%
I. Cleaning the house	1 0%	2 60%	3 40%
J. Making major decisions for the household	1 22%	2 3%	3 75%

34. Could you please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements *(show the PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work	1 9%	2 32%	3 2%	4 46%	5 10%
B. In general, family life suffers when the woman has a full time job	1 17%	2 61%	3 2%	4 18%	5 2%
C. Being a housewife is just as fulfilling as having paid employment	1 29%	2 63%	3 2%	4 6%	5 0%
D. Having a job is the best way for a woman to be an independent person	1 9%	2 32%	3 2%	4 46%	5 10%
E. It is right that both husband and wife should contribute to the household income	1 42%	2 54%	3 0%*	4 3%	5 1%
F. When there is a disagreement between a husband and wife, the husband should have the last word	1 17%	2 28%	3 2%	4 38%	5 15%

35. There is this one question on abortion. People have different views regarding the circumstances under which Abortion should be allowed. Which, according to you, is the most important one for allowing Abortion?
(show the BLUE card)
(now ask this question)
Which is the second most important?

	Most Important	2°d. Most Important
A. In cases where the pregnancy poses a serious risk to the mother's physical health	1 41%	1
B. In cases where there is a known deformity in the foetus	2 17%	2
D. In cases where another child would cause serious economic hardship	3 2%	3
E. In cases where the pregnancy is a result of rape	4 16%	4
F. In cases where the woman demands it	5 1%	5
G. Abortion should not be allowed for any reason	6 23%	6

36. Health Services

Let us tum to questions on health and the public health services.
All in all, how satisfied or dissatisfied would you say you are with the Public Health services in Mauritius?

Very satisfied	1
10% Quite satisfied	2
48% Don't Know	3
1% Quite dissatisfied	4
33%	
Very dissatisfied	5 8%

37. It has been suggested that the Public Health services should be available only to those with lower incomes. Do you support or oppose this idea?

Strongly Agree	1 10%
Agree	2 20%
Don't Know	3 3%
Disagree	4 52%
Strongly Disagree	5 15%

38. Please tell me what you feel about the following aspects of health care provision in Mauritius (*show the WHITE card)*

	Very Good	Good	Needs some Improvement	Needs a lot of Improvement	No Opinion
A. The quality of medical treatment available in public hospitals	1 4%	2 28%	3 45%	4 22%	5 1%
B. The general condition of public hospital buildings	1 3%	2 33%	3 46%	4 16%	5 2%
C. The staffing level of nurses in public hospitals	1 2%	2 33%	3 47%	4 13%	5 4%
D. The quality of nursing care in public hospitals	1 4%	2 36%	3 40%	4 19%	5 1%
E. The condition of Waiting Areas in Outpatient Departments in public hospitals	1 1%	2 27%	3 45%	4 24%	5 2%
F. The condition of Waiting Areas in Doctors' Surgeries	1 1%	2 27%	3 44%	4 21%	5 6%
G. The standard of hygiene in public hospitals	1 3%	2 28%	3 35%	4 33%	5 2%
H. The standard of food served to patients in public hospitals	1 5%	2 37%	3 31%	4 12%	5 15%

39. Welfare State

Moving on from health I'm going to ask some questions on the welfare state, social security and pensions. Think of pensioners living on the basic old age pension. Would you say that they

Are really poor	1	83%
Have enough to live on	2	13%
Don't know	3	4%

40. Do you think that health care should be the same for everyone, or should people who can afford it be able to pay for better health care?

The same for everyone	1	91%
People who can afford it should pay	2	7%
Don't know	3	1%

41. Should the quality of education be the same for all children, or should parents who can afford it be able to pay for better education?

The same for everyone	**1**	93%
People who can afford it should pay	**2**	5%
Don't know	3	2%

42. Do you think that pensions should be the same for everyone, or should people who can afford it be able to pay for pensions?

The same for everyone	**1**	74%
People who can afford it should pay	**2**	23%
Don't know	3	3%

43. Here are some items of government spending. Which of them, if any, would be your highest priority for extra spending?
(now ask this) Which would be your next priority?

		1st. Priority	2nd. Priority
A. Education	**1**	35%	**1**
B. Health	**2**	41%	**2**
C. Housing	**3**	12%	3
D. Social Security Benefits	**4**	10%	**4**
E. Transport	**5**	1%	**5**
F. Other please specify.....	**6**	0%*	**6**

44. Thinking now about government's spending on Social Security, which, if any, would be your highest priority for spending?

1. Old age pensions	51 %
2. Benefits for disabled people	41 %
3. Benefits for the unemployed	5%
4. Don't Know	4%

45. Suppose that government had to choose between 3 options. Which do you think it should choose to do?

1. Reduce taxes and spend less on health, education and social benefit 21%
2. Keep taxes and spending on these services at the same level as now 52%
3. Increase taxes and spend more on health, education and social benefits 27%

46. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements *(show the PINK card)*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A. A Welfare State encourages people to stop helping themselves	1 6%	2 37%	3 14%	4 37%	5 5%
B. A Welfare State encourages people to stop helping others	1 3%	2 25%	3 22%	4 44%	5 7%
C. The Government should spend more on Welfare Benefits	1 29%'	2 59%	3 4%	4 8%	5 0%*
D. Many people who get Social Security payments don't really deserve them	1 11%	2 37%	3 14%	4 33%	5 4%
E. Higher Social Security payments would discourage people from working	1 3%	2 18%	3 6%	4 60%	5 13%
F. It is right for the Government better off to the less well-off in society	1 34%	2 44%	3 4%	4 14%	5 3%
G. Ordinary working people do Nation's wealth	1 35%	2 51%	3 5%	4 9%	5 0%*
H. Old age pension should continue to be paid as of right to anybody over the age of 60 years old	1 33%	2 42%	3 3%	4 18%	5 4%

Biographical Details

1. Sex — Please Circle one number only

Male 1 Female 2

2. Age DD — Please enter respondent's age in the boxes

3. Marital Status — Please Circle one number only

A. Single 1

B. Married 2

C. In a Union 3

D. Divorced or Separated 4

E. Widowed 5

4. Education — Please Circle one number only

A. No Formal Education 1

B. Incomplete Primary Education 2

C. Passed CPE / Std VI 3

D. Lower Secondary Incomplete 4

E. SC / Equivalent 5

F. A Level / Equivalent 6

G. Degree / Equivalent 7

H. Postgraduate Degree / Equivalent 8

I. Other 9 (specify)

5. Household Composition

Circle one number only for each of the respondent's characteristics and continue for each member of the household. Age and Occupation should be written in the appropriate boxes. *See Legend below each column*

Relationship to Respondent	Age	Sex	Occupation	Head of Household
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2
1 2 3 4 5 6		1 2		1 2

Spouse= 1
Offspring= 2
Parent or Parent in Law = 3
Sibling= 4
Grandparent = 5
Other= 6

Male= 1
Female= 2

For those attending school please write Student in the Occupation Box followed by the applicable code for the type of institution attended from the following legend:

SPP = State Pre-Primary School
PPP = Private Pre- Primary School
SP = State Primary School
PP = Private Primary School
SS = State Secondary School
PS = Private Secondary School
ST = State Technical Institution
PT = Private Technical Institution
ST = State Tertiary
PTT = *Private Tertiary*

Yes= 1
No= 2

6. Religion

Put the respondent's religion in Box A or tick box B if respondent does not have a religion or does not wish to disclose

L----

[E]

7. Ethnic Group

Circle One Number Only to indicate *the respondent's* ethnic group

A. Hindu 1

B. General Population 2

C. Muslim 3

D. Sino - Mauritian 4

E. If respondent prefers not to respond tick this box

er of
each

8. Income

A. Au total, combien eski ou gagner personnellement par mois?

Less than Rs 2,000	D	Between Rs 2,001 – Rs 4,000	D
Rs 4,001 – Rs 6,000	D	Rs 6,001 – Rs 8,000	D
Rs 8,001 – Rs 10,000	D	Rs 10,001 – 12,000	D
Rs 12,001 – Rs 14,000	D	Rs 14,001 – 16,000	D
Rs 16,001 – Rs 20,000	D	Rs 20,001 – Rs 30,000	D
Rs 30,001 or more	D		

B. Astere-la nous coze pou ou la caze entire. Ene dans lotte, combien eski tout dimoune dans sa la caze-la gagner par mois?

Less than Rs 2,000	D	Between Rs 2,001 – Rs 4,000	D
Rs 4,001 – Rs 6,000	D	Rs 6,001 – Rs 8,000	D
Rs 8,001 – Rs 10,000	D	Rs 10,001 – 12,000	D
Rs 12,001 – Rs 14,000	D	Rs 14,001 – 16,000	D
Rs 16,001 – Rs 20,000	D	Rs 20,001 – Rs 30,000	D
Rs 30,001 or more	D		

ot

9. Ownership of Vehicle

A. Eski ou ena ene vehicule? Yes D No D

B. Si ou ena, ki type vehicul › eski ou ena?

Car	D	Truck	D
Motorcycle	D	BusNan	D

9. Newspaper readership

A. Normalement, eski ou lire ene la gazette *ki sorti tous les jours* au moins 3 fois par semaine?

Yes	1
No	2

B. Si oui, ou capave dire ki la gazette ?

C. Si ou lire plis ki ene sa banne la gazette-la, lequel eski ou lire plis souvent?

D. Eski ou lire banne la gazette *ki paraite ene fois par semaine'l*

Yes	1
No	2

E. Si oui, ou capave dire ki la gazette ou lire?

10. News on Radio and Television

A. Eski ou guette ou bien ecoute nouvelles lor Television/Radio regulierernent?

Yes	1
No	2

B. Si oui, ki kalite regulierement?

Ene la journee	1
Au moins ene fois par jour	2
Pas trap souvent	3
Pas conner	4

C. D'apres ou, combien ou penser ou conner lor banne l'evenernent ki passer dans Maurice et dans le monde?

Boucou	1
Assez boucou	2
Pas tellement	3
Nanrien	4
Pas conner	5

Social Stratification

11. Combien ou croire ene dimoune so statut dans la societe affecter so chances faire progres dans Maurice azordi jour?

oins 3 fois par

Boucou	1
Assez boucou	2
Pas tellement	3
Du tout	4
Pas conner	5

?

12. Pou reussi dans la vie, eski ou penser ene dimoune so statut dans la societe azordi, li plis important ou bien moins important ki li ti ete 10 ans de cela?

Plis important astere-la	1
Moins important astere-la	2
Pas finne ena changement	3

13. Dans 10 ans, ou croire li pou plis important ou bien moins important?

t?

Plis important dans 10 ans	1
Moins important dans 10 ans	2
Pas pou ena changement	3

14. Maintenant mo pou dire ou certains commentaires ki dimoune faire. Dire moi combien ou d'accord are sa?

asser dans

	Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas D'accord	Pas d'accord Du Tout
A. Dans Maurice azordi, banne dimoune riches pe vine plis riches: Banne dimounes pauvres pe vine plis pauvres.	1	2	3	4	5
B. Azordi, li plis difficile pou debrouiller parski la Vie plis chere ki li ti ete 2 ans de cela.	1	2	3	4	5
C. Zordi jour, dimoune vive plis bien ki 5 ans de cela.	1	2	3	4	5

15. D'apres ou propre l'experience et dapres seki oune tanne dire, ki plis important pou reussi dans la vie?

A. Ou bisin ne dans ene farnille riche

B. Ou parents bizin eduque

C. Ou merne ou bizin bien eduque

D. Ou bizin travaille dur

E. Ou bizin ena contact

F. Ou bizin appartenir à certaine communaute,

Law and Order

16. Combien eski ou d'accord avec seki mo pou dire ou la:

	Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas D'accord	Pas d'accord Du Tout
A. A Maurice, li possible pou certains dimounes ki commette ene offence echappe la justice parski zotte ena contact	1	2	3	4	5
B. La police pe faire ene bon travail pou resoudre criminalite	1	2	3	4	5
C. La police travaille dans l'interet politiciens et capitalistes	1	2	3	4	5
D. La police pe faire ene bon travail pou empeche criminalite	1	2	3	4	5
E. La police traite tout dimoune pareii	1	2	3	4	5
F. La police pas traite tout banne communautes pareil	1	2	3	4	5
G. Britalite policiere li contre les droits de l'homme.bizin pas tolerer sa!	1	2	3	4	5
H. Gouvernement ti ena raison pou abolir la peine de mort.	1	2	3	4	5

17. Maintenant nous vine lor *violence et crime*

Ena certaines choses dimoune dire bizin faire pou ernpeche criminalite a Maurice. Dire moi combien ou croire sa banne rnesures-la pou marcher?

	Pou Marche Tres Bien	Pou Marche Assez Bien	Pas pou Marche Trop Bien	Pas Pou Marcher	Pas Pou Marcher Du Tout
A. Faire pinition vine plis severe en general	1	2	3	4	S
B. Bizin montrer moins violence et crime lor television	1	2	3	4	S
C. Dimoune bizin prend plis precaution are zotte banne zaffaires	1	2	3	4	S
D. Bizin avoye plis dimoune dans prison	1	2	3	4	S
E. Bizin ena plis discipline dans famille	1	2	3	4	S
F. Bizin ena plis la police lor chemin	1	2	3	4	S
G. Diminuer la misere	1	2	3	4	5

Astere-la nous cause lor *Travail*

18. Combien eski ou d'accord avec seki mo pou dire ou:

	Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas D'accord	Pas d'accord Du Tout
A. Employeurs bizin donne preference banne zommes plitot ki banne femmes quand zotte employe dimoune	1	2	3	**4**	5
B. Dimoune handicappe bizin ena meme chance ki nimporte ki dimoune pou gagne travail	1	2	3	**4**	5
C. Cornmunaute ki ene dimoune appartenir capave aide ti pou gagnc travail ou ene promotion.	1	2	3	4	5
D. A Maurice, bizin laisse dimoune continuer travail, meme apres 60 ans.	1	2	3	**4**	5
E. Banne dimoune kinne faire prison bizin ena meme chance ki n'importe ki dimoune pou gagne travail.	1	2	3	4	5
F. Banne dimoune kinne finne kitte la drogue bizin ena meme chance ki n'importe ki dimoune pou gagne travait.	1	2	3	**4**	5
G. Banne anciens alcooliques ntmporte gagne travail					
H. Banne ch6meurs capave gagne travail si zotte ti vraimerne envie.	1	2	3	**4**	5
I. Li difficile gagne ene travail zordi jour qu'importe combien roder dimoune roder	1	2	3	**4**	5

Pou rcher Tout **5**

5

5

5

5

5

5

19. Sipposer ou pe donne ene jeunesse kinne fek kitte l'ecole conseil !or kikchose plis important li bizin roder dans ene travail. Laquelle dans sa la liste la pou ou *premier priorite* et ki pou le *moins important?*

A. Securite d'emploi D

B. Travail bien paye D

C. Banne l'heure travail regulier D

D. Pas ena pou travail !or shift D

E. Cotte pena risque accident ou danger pou la sante D

F. Cotte pas ena pou travail overtime D

Astere nous vine lor Feducation

20. Lor sa carte la, ki groupe bizin gagne priorite, si Gouvemement rode depense plis lor l'education. Ki vine deuxieme?

A. Z'enfants l'ecole matemelle D

B. Z'enfants l'ecole primaire D

C. Z'enfants l'ecole secondaire D

D. Banne recales CPE D

E. Z'eleve l'Universite D

F. Pas Conner D

Ala 2-3 kikchose ki ena dimoune penser capave ameliore l'education dans nous banne l'ecole.

21. Laquelle ou penser pou plis important pou ameliore l'education banne z'enfants dans l'ecole primaire? Ki deuxieme plis important?

A. Bizin plis contact entre parents zeleve et l'ecole D
B. Bizin depense plis dans batiments, livres et les zotte zaffaire servi dans l'ecole D
C. Gagne banne plis bon professeurs D
D. Moins zeleves par professeurs D
E. Plis l'emphase lor l'examens D
F. Bizin ena meilleur l'adrninistration chaque l'ecole D
G. Other (Please specify) D
H. Pas conner D

22. Maintenant nous vine lor colleze. Laquelle ou penser pou ameliore l'education banne *z'enfants colleze.*

A. Bizin plis contact entre parents zeleve et l'ecole D
B. Bizin depense plis dans batiments, livres et les zotte zaffaire servi dans l'ecole D
C. Gagne banne plis bon professeurs D
D. Moins zeleves par professeurs D
E. Plis l'emphase lor l'examens D
F. Bizin ena meilleur l'administration chaque l'ecole D
G. Other (Please specify) D H.
Pas conner D

23. Ki ou penser lor ki kalite colleze z'enfants bizin aller. Choisir entre sa deux-la:

A. D'apres zotte resultats CPE, z'enfants bizin alle dans collezes differents. D
B. Tous z'enfants bizin alle merne kalite colleze, peu importe si zotte travail bien ou mal pou CPE. D

24. Combien eski ou d'accord avec seki mo pou dire ou:

	Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas D'accord	Pas d'accord Du Tout
A. Abolition CPE pou reduire stress z'enfants l'ecole.	1	2	3	4	5
B. Avec abolition CPE niveau l'education pou baisser.	1	2	3	4	5
C. Dans l'ecole primaire, c'est kreol ki bizin langaze professere servi pou montrer z'enfants.	1	2	3	4	5
D. Lecon privee pas korek parski li favorise z'enfants ki ena les moyens	1	2	3	4	5
E. Zordi zour, boucou plis z'enfants pe prend lecon ki avant	1	2	3	4	5

25. Environment

Maintenant nous vine lor l'environnement. *Lor sa la liste-ts*, dapres ou ki plis grand problerne l'environnement? Ek ki deuxierne?

A.	Pollution causee par l'usine	D
B.	Produits chimiques et pesticides	D
C.	Salete	D
D.	Tourisme	D
E.	Developpernent sauvage	D
F.	Pollution l'air et lor la terre ek seki dimoune zette dans la riviere	D
G.	Pollution causee par l'auto et les zotte vehicules	D
H.	Aucun dans sa la liste la. Please specify.....	D

s d'accord

Du Tout

26. Sipposer inne decouvert ki ene l'izine pe deverse so banne saletes dans ene la riviere pres cotte ou. Ki ou penser bizin faire are sa lizine-la?

A. Simplement demande li faire kikchose pou arrete sa D

B. Bizin faire li paye ene gros l'amende pou chaque semaine li continier D

C. Bizin ferme li a moins ki li faire kikchose pou arrete sa D

D.  D

27. Ou periser ki Gouvememement bizin:

A. Donn b nn \' mdu trie, \' aide fmanciere pou ernpecne 1>01\ution D

B. Faire l'usine ki faire pollution payer zotte merne D

C. Pas Conner D

28. Proteze l'environnement coute boucou. Lequel ou penser plis responsable dans paye sa bill-la? Ki deuxierne plis responsable?

A. Public en general D

B. Touristes D

C. Banne businessmen D

D. Other please specify D

29. Ki kalite grave sa banne probleme-la ete dans Maurice?

		Bien Grave	Grave	Pas trop Grave	Pas Grave Du Tout
A.	Congestion lor l'autoroute	1	2	3	4
B.	Problerne traffic dans la ville	1	2	3	4
C.	Tapaze traffic dans la ville	1	2	3	4
D.	La fumee banne vehicules	1	2	3	4

30. Gouvemement capave prend certaines mesures pou resoudre problerne traffic. Combien eski ou d'accord ou contre sa banne mesures-la?

	Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas D'accord	Pas d'accord Du Tout
A. Bizin faire chauffeurs payer pou condire dans Port-Louis pendant l'heure travail	1	2	3	4	5
B. Seulement ene categoric vehicules bizin laisse rentre dans Port-Louis pendant l'heure travail	1	2	3	4	5
C. Bizin paye plis pou parking dans Port-Louis ek dans banne la ville	1	2	3	4	5
D. Gouvemment bizin faire encore plis pou ameliore systerne transport	1	2	3	4	5
E. Bizin encourage banne business et banne bureaux alle en dehors la ville	1	2	3	4	5

31. Mo pou mentionne 3 zaffaires ki dimoune dire gouvemement capave faire pou ameliore transport public. Combien ou penser ki gouvemement bizin depenserlorla?

	Boucou Plis	Un peu Plis	Pareil	Unpeu Moins	Boucou Moins	Pas Conner
A. Arneliore facilites pou cyclistes et pietons	1	2	3	4	5	6
B.Ameliore nous systeme transport	1	2	3	4	5	6
C. Arneliore la route	1	2	3	4	5	6

32. La famille

Astere nous vine lor famille. Dire combien ou d'accord are seki mo pou dire la.

as d'accord Du Tout		Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas Trop D'accord	Pas D'accord Du Tout
	A. En general, dimoune marie plis heureux qui dimoune pas marie	1	2	3	4	5
5	B. Liberte ene dimoune plis important ki la vie marriage	1	2	3	4	5
5	C. Plis grand l'avantage marriage c'est ki li ene securite financiere	1	2	3	4	5
	D. Si dimoune marie, c'est avant tout pou gagne z'enfants	1	2	3	4	5
5	E. Ene maman ki pena so bonhomme capave elever so z'enfants tout aussi bien ki ene couple mane	1	2	3	4	5
5	F. Ene zomme ki vive seul capave elever so z'enfants tout aussi bien ki ene couple marie	1	2	3	4	5
5	G. Li toujours pas bon pou ene dimoune marie pou ena relation en dehors so mariaze	1	2	3	4	5
	H. Mariaze entre banne dimoune de differents communautes capave reussi aussi bien ki mariaze entre dimoune merne cornmunautes	1	2	3	4	5
	I. Religion pas bizin influence ene dimoune quand li choisir kisanela li pou marier					

33. Dans ene la caze, ki plis responsabilite ene zomme; ki plis responsabilite ene femme; et ki responsabilite tous les deux?

	Surtout Zomme	Surtout Femme	Tous les deux
A. Elever Z'enfants	1	2	3
B. Acheter Manger	1	2	3

C. Banne ti reparations dans la caze	1	2	3
D. Cuit Manzer	1	2	3
E. Arnene plis boucou l'argent dans la caze	1	2	3
F. Lave Linze	1	2	3
G. Occupe la cour	1	2	3
H. Acheter Banne Z'affaires importants (Television, Hi-Fi)	1	2	3
I. Nettoye la Caze	1	2	3
J. Prend decisions importants pou la caze	1	2	3

34. Dire moi combien ou d'accord avec seki mo pou dire ou-la:

	Bien D'accord 1	D'accord 2	Pas Conner 3	Pas D'accord 4	Pas D'accord Du Tout 5
A. Ene maman ki travaille capave montrer autant l'affection pou so z'enfants ki ene maman ki pas travaille					
B. En general, la vie familiale souffert quand ene femme ena ene *travail a plein temps*	1	2	3	4	5
C. Travail ene menagere li aussi important ki ene l'emploi a plein temps.	1	2	3	4	5
D. Meilleure facon pou ene femme vine independent c'est ki li bizin ena ene travail.	1	2	3	4	5
E. Li bon ki mari femme contribuer tous les 2 pou route la caze.	1	2	3	4	5
F. Si mari-femme pas d'accord lor ene zaffaire, c'est mari-la ki bizin ena le dernier mot.	1	2	3	4	5

35. Dimoune ena different l'opinion lor l'avortement. D'apres ou, ki circonstance plis important cotte capave permette l'avortement. Ki deuxieme plis important?

A. Quand la sante Mama-la gravement menace D

B. Au cas cotte docteur conner ena ene malformation dans foetus D

C. Au cas cotte grossesse-la ene grave danger psychologique pou mama-la D

D. Quand ene lotte z'enfant pou pousse la famille dans la misere D

E. Quand femme la inne enceinte apres ene viol D

F. Quand femme-la meme envie debarasse z'enfant-la D

G. Avortement pas bizin laisse faire sous aucun pretexte D

36. Maintenant nous vine lor *la sante.*

En general, combien ou satisfait avec nous systeme la sante?

Mari Satisfait 1

Assez Satisfait 2

ccord
out

Pas Conner 3

Pas Trop Satisfait 4

Pas Satisfait Du Tout 5

37. Ena dimoune penser ki services medicaux bizin donne seulement banne dimoune ki pas ena les moyens. Combien eski ou d'accord avec sa l'idee-la?

Full d'accord 1

Un peu d'accord 2

Pas Conner 3

Pas Trop D'accord 4

Pas d'accord Du Tout 5

38. Ki ou penser lor seki mo pou dire ou lor service la sante?

	Bien Bon	Bon	Bizin Ameliorer	Ena Boucou Amelioration pou faire	Pas Conner
A. Qualite traitement medical gagner dans l'hopital	1	2	3	4	5
B. Condition banne batiments en general dans l'hopital	1	2	3	4	5
C. Quantite nurses/infirmiers dans l'hopital	1	2	3	4	5
D. Qualite service ou gagner avec nurses/infirrruers dans l'hopital	1	2	3	4	5
E. Conditions salles d'attente dans l'hopital so Outpatient	1	2	3	4	5
F. Condition banne salles d'attente cotte banne specialistes	1	2	3	4	5
G. Niveau l'hygiene dans l'hopital	1	2	3	4	5
H. Qualite manzer ki pe servi a banne maladies dans l'hopital	1	2	3	4	5

39. Astere nous coze L'Etat-Providence, Securite Sociale et Pensions

Mazine banne pensionnaires ki pe vive lor pension vieillesse. Ki ou penser lor zotte:

Zotte vraimeme pauvre	1
Zotte pe gagne assez pou vivre	2
Pas Conner	3

40. Eski service la sante bizin pareil pou tout dimoune ou bien dimoune ki ena le moyen payer bizin gagne meilleur service?

Pareil pou tout dimoune	1
Dimoune ki capave payer bizin gagne meilleur service	2
Pas Conner	3

41. Eski qualite l'education bizin pareil pou tous z'enfants ou bien dimoune ki ena les moyens payer bizin gagne meilleur l'education pou zotte z'enfants?

Pareil pou tout z'enfants	1
Dimoune ki capave payer bizin gagne meilleur service	2
Pas Conner	3

42. Eski ou penser pension vieillesse bizin pareil pou tout dimoune ou bien dimoune ki ena les moyens payer bizin gagne plis pension?

Pareil pou tout dimoune	1
Dimoune ki capave payer bizin gagne meilleur service	2
Pas Conner	3

43. Parmi sa banne services Gouvemement dormer-la, dapres ou cotte Gouvemement bizin depense plis. Ki vine deuxierne?

1. L'education D
2. La sante D
3. Logement D
4. Securite Sociale D
5. Transport D
6. Other D please specify.....

44. Nous coze Securite Sociale. D'apres ou, lor ki l'aspect securite sociale, Gouvemement bizin depense plis l'argent?

1. Pension Vieillesse D
2. Pensions pou banne dimoune handicappes D
3. Pensions pou banne chomeurs D
4. Allocations Farniliales D
5. Pensions pou banne mama ki pena bonhomme D

45. Sipposer ki Gouvemement ena pou choisir entre sa 3 zaffaires-la. D'apres ou ki meilleur choix?

1. Reduire Taxe mais depense moins lor la sante, l'education et banne services sociaux D

2. Laisse Taxe pareil et depense merne quantite lor sa banne service-la D

3. Augmente Taxe mais depense plis lor la sante, l'education et banne services sociaux D

46. Dire moi combien ou d'accord avec seki mo pou dire ou la:

	Bien D'accord	D'accord	Pas Conner	Pas D'accord	Pas D'accord Du Tout
A. L'Etat Providence encourage dimoune depende plis lor Gouvemement	1	2	3	**4**	5
B. L'Etat Providence encourage dimoune vine plis egoiste	1	2	3	4	5
C. Gouvernment bizin depense plis lor securite sociale	1	2	3	**4**	5
D. Boucou dimoune ki gagne securite sociale et pensions pas meriter	1	2	3	**4**	5
E. Augmentation pension pou decourage dimoune pou travail.	1	2	3	**4**	5
F. Li important pou Gouvernement prend are dimoune riche pou donne dimoune pauvre.	1	2	3	**4**	5
G. Dimoune ordinaire pas beneficier assez quand pays pe faire progres	1	2	3	**4**	5
H. Bizin continuer paye pension vieillesse tout dimoune ki ena 60 ans – ki li ena les moyens ou pas.	1	2	3	**4**	5