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**Essay:** THE DIRECTION OF ETHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH in the Antilles and the Guyanas appears to have shifted over the past several years. Increasing emphasis is being placed on studies that can contribute directly to practical issues and problems, so that anthropological research on topics such as political behavior, race relations, health, education and development is on the upswing. Even though more conventional subjects of family structure, religion, and the nature of West Indian society continue to appeal to Caribbeanists, the objectives of such studies are now often linked to wider social issues. Reinforcing this shift is a new generation of American, British and Canadian scholars, with a variety of anthropological interests, which is just beginning to develop and to contribute meaningfully to Caribbean studies. North American training programs assure an adequate supply of professionals for the future. In the United States and Canada, a consortium of universities (Brandeis, Columbia, McGill and Montreal) in association with the Research Institute for the Study of Man and in close collaboration with the University of the West Indies, is providing systematic field training for advanced graduate students. In addition, the number of West Indian social scientists is gradually rising due, in part, to new university facilities and academic opportunities in the British Caribbean and Puerto Rico and to the independence of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. With the maturation of a corps of West Indian social scientists, Caribbean anthropology should take on new dimensions. Finally, recent anthropological interest in Cuba and the Dominican Republic should lead to a more balanced anthropological knowledge of the Caribbean. In summary, if these trends continue, the immediate future of the West Indies as a major ethnological region holds considerable promise and the coming years should show a marked increase in the volume and diversity of research. Journals such as Caribbean Studies, Nieuwe West-Indische Gids, Revista de Ciencias Sociales, and Social and Economic Studies continue to focus on the West Indies and to publish a large proportion of articles specifically ethnological in nature. New World, a quarterly founded in 1963 for the analysis of West Indian problems, is also accepting anthropological work in article form. For books or monograph-length publications, the Yale University Press Caribbean Series, edited by Sidney W. Mintz, remains the only clearly defined series which publishes new work in West Indian anthropology and social science and which occasionally reprints West Indian classics. However, with the increasing anthropological importance of the Caribbean region, a considerable and growing portion of Caribbean ethnology is being published in journals and series which have no particular West Indian focus. This has been especially true of West Indian works which have general theoretical significance such as the current debate over the validity and utility of the plural society concept. There has been a substantial improvement in bibliographical aids for the researcher. For those interested in archival data, the project of the University of the West Indies to survey and microfilm the archives of the British West Indies has produced to date A Guide to Records in Barbados by M.J. Chandler and A Guide to Records in the Leeward Islands by E.C. Baker (HLAS no. 28, items 29a and 7). Along the same lines, a UNESCO team

has completed the microfilming of newspapers in Barbados. As of 1964, the Ministry of Overseas Development in the United Kingdom has been publishing Technical Cooperation, a monthly bibliography which lists official publications of the Commonwealth countries (including all British West Indian units) as well as reports and bulletins from foreign institutes and organizations concerned with technical aid to developing countries. Current Caribbean Bibliography, a valuable source of information on publications in or about the Caribbean has been turned over by the Institute of Caribbean Studies of the University of Puerto Rico to the Caribbean Regional Library in Puerto Rico. The Library assumes the responsibility for the updating and continued publication of this bibliographic guide. With the advent of independence in four former British territories, there has been a pronounced interest in the compilation of national bibliographies. This interest has resulted in a number of small publications which, in general, reflect the library and archival holdings of these new nations. For example, in Trinidad and Tobago, the Central Library compiles and issues lists of its West Indian reference holdings as well as classified lists of accessions. The West India Reference Library issues the annual Jamaica Accessions as well as occasional publications, such as A Guide to Jamaican Reference Material in the West India Reference Library by Rae Delattre (Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, 1965). The Guyana Public Library has issued A Select Bibliography of the Works of Guyanese and on Guyana (1967). In honor of its independence, Barbados has published Barbadiana (Barbados Public Library, Bridgetown, 1966) a bibliography of publications about that country. If these national efforts continue and develop, the researcher will be a principal beneficiary. Bibliographic research on the West Indies and of interest to ethnologists has also expanded outside of the region. A bibliography on Cuba is being developed by the University of Miami, and the University of Florida continues its microfilm work on West Indian newspapers and other archival data. The Research Institute for the Study of Man, with its longstanding anthropological interests in the Caribbean, has sponsored a comprehensive bibliography, Caribbeana 1900-1965 by Lambros Comitas (University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1967). This lengthy bibliography contains 67 chapters and is organized in a way that is particularly relevant to the needs of the anthropological and social science researchers.