



DAVID MOORE JUNE 1977 ©

Childhood

Growing up in the Caribbean

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"This picture evokes many memories as a young boy growing up in Jamaica. It brings back memories of a typical yard where children are playing marbles, mothers are baking, and people are generally at ease with life."

"There is a zinc covering for the stove and the kitchen it just brings back a lot of memories for me as a young boy around the age of 7 or 8 in the country with my grandmother and the cockerels playing up or maybe even

fighting in the yard. It just brings back so many vivid memories. I love this picture because memories are made of this."

"In this picture I can see the clay oven and the woman putting a nice loaf of bread into the clay oven on a long stick. I am familiar with this because we had one when I was little up to the age of 12 when I came to England."

"There are a load of people in the background and I think that's because there are a lot of children around because their parents had emigrated and they are waiting to join their parents."



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Backyard

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"Well ... this picture reminds me of watching other children playing in their backyard more than me. The cockerels fighting remind me of my childhood days when I watched them fighting. My adoptive parents had lots of chickens, ducks and everything so I had to look after all of them myself. There was nobody really to bother me."

"That's the trouble I was just on my own. I would put them to roost at night and get them up sometimes in the morning feed them, clean their

runs and all the general things you would do to livestock. I would have to look after the pigs and goats and see that they are okay. I looked after them myself because it was only me and my adoptive parents husband and wife. I had to do what I had to do."

"Each day when I come in from school I would look after them and see that they gone into their right run. That was hard work. They [the chickens] had corn, milliseed. They used to cook the coucou to feed the duck – we had loads of ducks, just the plain cornmeal, and feed the ducks. So that's why I don't like it because I used to call it duck /rat food."

"I lived in the City, in the concrete jungle. I never used to live where them have dem kind of house de. A pure concrete house me live inna."



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The Wheel

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"The picture of the children with the wheel, I remember if you want to go to the shop you just carry your wheel with you. And by the time they look round you come back, you run so fast."

"Why you think in Jamaica they so good at athletics because they run so fast to go to the shop because when you go to the shop you have to come back quick because if you stay too long them eat it off and you don't get none."

"I lived in Kingston, that is where I grew up. I used to go to Country for holiday. I was on holiday because it was somewhere different."



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Childhood play

Image created in Canva

During this project, members of the Caribbean Social Forum shared lots of memories of childhood play. Members spoke of flying their kites, skipping games, gig games, hopscotch, marble games, the sling shot and imaginary play that they remembered. Some were played alone, and some with siblings and friends.

"I used to fly my kite with a razor blade on it to cut the string of the other person's kite."

"Spin gig. The ultimate goal is to spin the gig and scoop it up and have it spin on the inside of your arm."