

Acknowledgements

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/cll.42.01ack>

Pages ix–x of

Phonological Variation in Rural Jamaican Schools

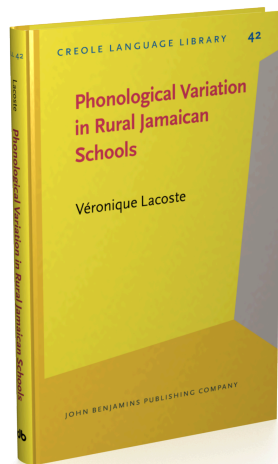
Véronique Lacoste

[Creole Language Library, 42] 2012. xiv, 293 pp.

© John Benjamins Publishing Company

This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights



Acknowledgements

Several people contributed in different ways to the accomplishment of previous versions of this book. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Peter L. Patrick and Philip Carr for sharing with me their expertise in the various theoretical fields addressed in this work, especially in variationist and quantitative sociolinguistics, usage-based approaches to language, descriptive statistics and multivariate regression analysis techniques. I have learnt a lot from both of them.

My stay in Jamaica was to a great extent facilitated by Rocky Meade from the University of the West Indies at Mona. I am extremely grateful for his constant guidance during my fieldwork, including his help regarding the choice of research sites, access to the school communities and governmental places where I needed to collect information for the pedagogical aspect of this study. I cannot express enough my gratitude to him for his generosity, accessibility and readiness to help. I also would like to express appreciation to the then Heads of the Language, Linguistics and Philosophy Department at the University of the West Indies, Mona – Katherine Shields-Brodber, and Hubert Devonish for giving me unrestricted access to the university library for study and research.

This project would have never been possible without the cooperation of my informants: the 24 children, their 3 teachers and the school principals. I thank all of them for receiving my project very favourably. I further wish to thank Erna Brodber for introducing me to the school community of Landforest and all the community members including my two host families in Landforest and Damont for making my stay in the rural localities a pleasant and memorable one. Special thanks go to Joan Meade who was always available when I needed to go to the doctor because of recalcitrant stomach infections caused by the tropical climate.

I made great friends during my stay at the University of Essex and would like to say to Pam, Bagamba, Lefteris and Ruby how much I enjoyed being around them and the support they provided me with was invaluable. I also would like to express my gratitude to Glenda at the University of Freiburg for her countless encouragements while I was getting the manuscript ready for publication, and for being such an attentive friend.

The most valuable support of course has been my family, my parents, my two sisters Florence and Marie-Pierre, and my grandparents. They always understand

what really matters. My three nieces, Léa, Lucile and Charlotte, and my nephew Arthur always give me a lot of joy whenever I get to see them in France.

Last but not least, I am indebted to the editors of the *Creole Language Library* series, Miriam Meyerhoff and Umberto Ansaldi, for their interest in my work and for their valuable comments in the editorial phase of the manuscript. I further thank two anonymous reviewers for providing various constructive suggestions for improvement of this work. Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the late Dennis R. Craig whose research in applied linguistics imbued various stages of the present study.