

82: 18, that's my number! Defined roles The defined roles for the girls are organised into systematic, conformist behaviour patterns and rules of socially acceptable conduct. (by Edward Seaga, published in the Sunday Gleaner | September 30, 2007) Looking out of any window or walking in any part of the Mona campus of the University of the West Indies, it is readily noticeable that there are many more female than male students. Professor Errol Miller believes that the shift in teaching education from a male dominated profession to female dominance in the post-war era had a direct impact on the underachievement of males in schools. Obviously, from a position of ignorance, the difference would only be a single vowel, which tells its own story as to why males feel that there is little necessity to be educated. Here is a problem of social interaction dying to be explored to determine to what extent it may be gumming up the wheels of progress. In fact, the latest figures reveal the exact ratio: 82 per cent female, 18 per cent male, which, I believe, is the widest gap ever. It is known that girls between 12 and 18 years old are generally two years more advanced than boys in scholastic aptitude. This teaches them how to organise and conduct themselves to gain recognition. The modes of organisation in the life of a girl are valuable tools for learning and they adapt themselves more readily to the learning process than boys. She was taken aback immediately by his presumption of a matchup between a 'doctor' and a 'ducter'. While it may be true that money makes the world go round, it is the social interactions that provide the oil or creates the rust. It is not for the lack of desire on the part of boys to gain entry; it is merely because they lack the qualifications for admission. Visit any rural or inner-city secondary school at graduation time and check the much smaller number of boys than girls in the graduating class. The social environment in which girls are raised define their roles more fully than for boys who are given a freer hand. Young girls are taught that they will be given recognition and praise if they conform. "Well", he replied expectantly, "I run the route through there from August Town, so I can check you when I coming through." The two genders do not level off until they are about to leave their teens. He is a distinguished fellow at the UWI. In a university with four girls to every boy, it would seem that boys would do anything possible to be enrolled there. This is not a university phenomenon. This is a product of the biological difference of the genders. "At the University at Mona. I am a doctor," she said. Edward Seaga is a former Prime Minister. But that is not the case. But this alone is not the reason. My view is only one of several from written accounts on this worrying situation. Who will take up the challenge?