

# **Development Practice and the Power of Labelling R8473**

## **Final Report**

This project concerned the implications of classifying and labelling people in relation to development policy and practice. The outputs were (1) a special issue of a development studies journal (2) a workshop for those involved in shaping development policy, timed to coincide with the publication of the World Development Report on Inequality (3) a policy brief.

An interim report was submitted in December 2005.

### Activities and outputs

A two days writers' workshop for those who had agreed to contribute to the eventual publication was held at IDS in April 2005.

Fieldwork was conducted in Haiti by Dr Moncrieffe in May-June 2005. The fieldwork focused on the effects of labelling groups of children who are in poverty in Haiti. Findings were presented at a one day workshop (see below) and have now been written up as 'The Power of Stigma: Encounters with 'Street Children' and 'Restavecs' in Haiti' in a forthcoming issue of the IDS Bulletin 'Exploring Power for Change' to be published in November 2006. A copy of her article is attached with this report.

A conference on the power of labelling was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London. Participants included staff from DFID, the World Bank, JICA, IFAD, the DGIS, Oxfam, ODI, SOAS and the Open University. (A conference report was submitted with the interim report). This conference was followed by a writers' workshop on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, held at the same venue.

A policy brief was drafted by Eyben and Moncrieffe. The draft was circulated to participants at the November 7<sup>th</sup> conference and a revised version was published by IDS in early 2006. An electronic PDF copy is attached to this report.

Following extensive discussions with a number of journals, Eyben and Moncrieffe eventually decided to submit a book proposal to Earthscan who will be publishing the book in Spring 2007 with the title *Labelling People: How we categorise and why it matters*. In addition to the two editors the contributors are Geoff Wood, Arjan de Haan, Mark Hobart, Cassandra Balchin, Tony

Klouda, Andrea Cornwall and Mamoru Fujita, Lyla Mehta and Jaideep Gupte, Linda Waldman.

While the conference on 7<sup>th</sup> November was judged by all those who participated as very successful, DFID participation was limited. Following discussions with Andrew Long of CRD, it was proposed that Eyben and Moncrieffe present a lunch-time seminar in Palace Street in early 2006, following the publication the policy brief. A convenient date for this seminar could not be arranged so far and it is now proposed to use the launch of the book as a means for further sharing with interested DFID staff and others the issues that have been explored in this project.

Rosalind Eyben  
2<sup>nd</sup> October 2006.