

Contents

Acknowledgements	7
I. Introduction	9
II. A Methodology of Afro-Curaçaoan History: Archival and Oral Sources	31
III. Afro-Curaçaoan Life and Culture Prior to Emancipation	63
IV. Celebrating Freedom: The Abolition of Slavery on Curaçao	101
V. The Role of the State and the Plantation Owners after Emancipation	119
VI. The Roman Catholic Church's Effort to Instill Respectability	147
VII. <i>Buska Bida</i> : Making a Living	177
VIII. <i>Biba un Bida Drechi</i> : Living a Respectable Life	215
IX. <i>Tambú di bida</i> : An Afro-Curaçaoan Concept of Life	235
X. Conclusion: Survival and Cultural Complexity	257
Archival Records, Oral Documents and Bibliography	265
Appendices	289
Samenvatting	295
Resúmen	299
Curriculum vitae	303