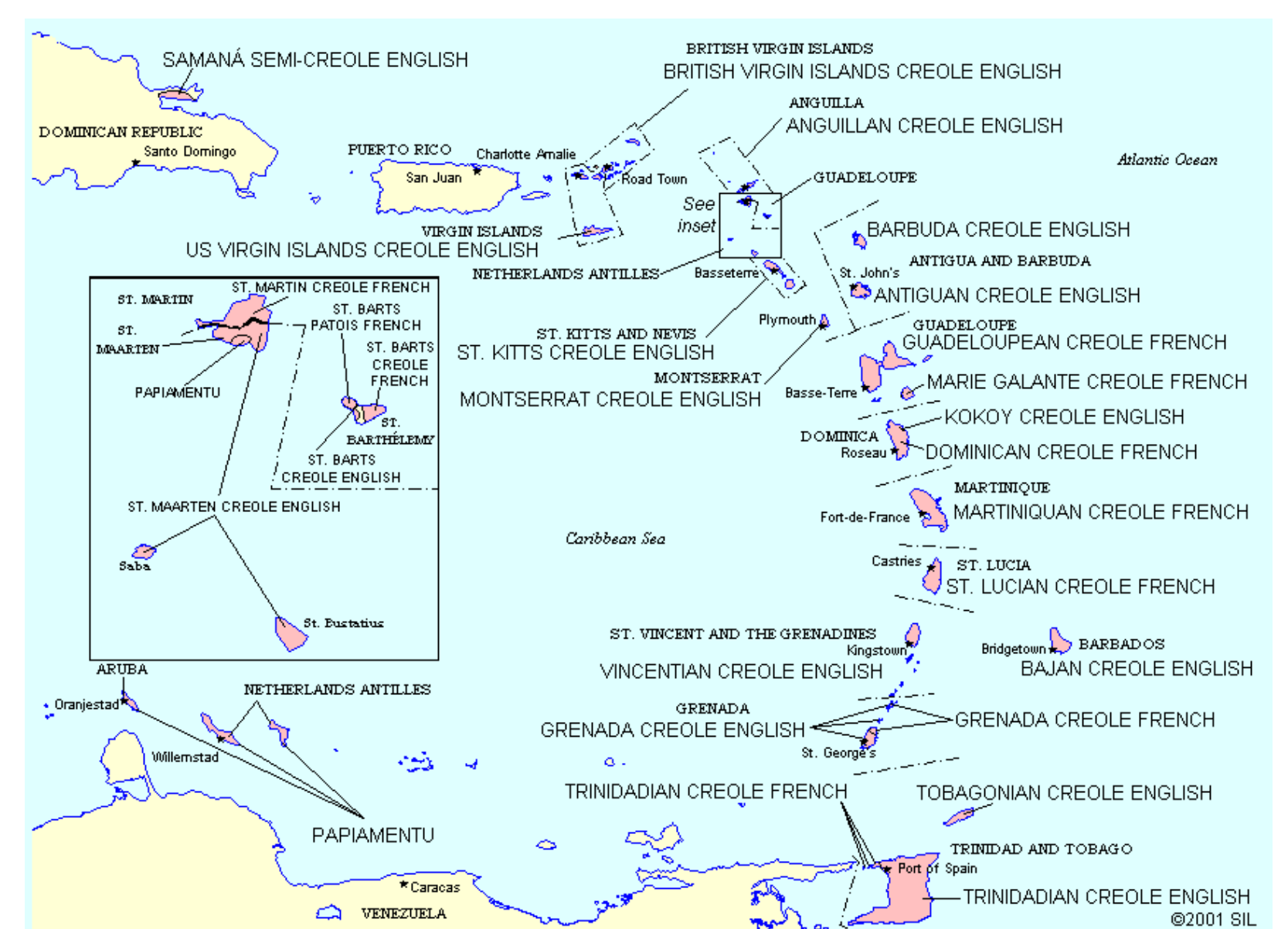


## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ENDANGERED LANGUAGES PROJECT (TTEL) PROJECT

### *Why the Fuss?* The Response of Communities and Scholars to Endangered Languages in the Caribbean



Without language, culture and civilization would be impossible (Linguistic Creed)

- The world has 7,000 languages:
  - 3,000 are facing extinction.
  - 577 are critically endangered.
  - Humanity loses 25 languages annually
- The Caribbean has 70 languages:
  - Indigenous
  - European
  - African
  - Creole
  - Immigrant/diasporic
  - Sign
  - Ritual
- Lost languages
  - Lost histories
  - Lost intangible cultural heritage
  - Lost socio-cultural and scientific knowledge
  - Lost world views
  - Lost linguistic structures
  - Lost identities
- Role of the University and Communities:
  - Emphasising community needs and wants
  - Teaching and literacy
  - Training
  - Policy and Planning
  - Supporting the Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights
  - Interdisciplinary/collaborative links
  - Archiving



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