CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The Twelfth Annual Diversity Challenge

What to Do about Race and Culture and Violence

October 19-20, 2012

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Diversity Challenge Committee:

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- **Understanding the Pressures of Ethnic Minorities: Suicide Prevention and Navigating Acculturation**
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- **Cultural Experiences within Universities and Communities**
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  Anthony Peguero, Ph.D., Virginia Tech; Robert Carter, Ph.D., Columbia University

- *WW _ D?*
  Fukuyama, Mary, Ph.D., University of Florida Counseling and Wellness Center

INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS

Arab American Survivors of Sexual Violence: Taking Culture into Account

Sexual violence (SV) as experienced by Arab Americans is a significantly under-researched issue, despite the increasing numbers of Arab American individuals in the United States population. Literature suggests that the experience of SV, as well as the likelihood of subsequent reporting, may be strongly influenced by cultural factors and norms. Arab culture is often characterized by collectivist values, which emphasize familial harmony and deference to one's elders; such values may be mediated by one's religiosity and level of acculturation. Enhancing understanding of these survivors, and potentially relevant cultural factors, can help better equip mental health professionals in providing culturally competent and appropriate services. Empirical research is required to investigate the occurrence and experience of SV in Arab American populations.

Hala Alyan
Rutgers University

A Reflection of Me: Ethnic Identity, Overreactivity, and Aggression in Minority Families

Parenting style is critical to behavioral outcomes of children showing early problem behaviors. This study aims to assess the relation between ethnic identity and overreactive parenting in predicting child aggression. Data come from a multi-site study of low-income Black, Hispanic, and White families at child ages 5 and 7 (N = 245). Results indicate that ethnic identity moderates overreactivity and child aggression, such that greater ethnic belongingness yields greater aggression while less ethnic search yields greater aggression. Results affirm literature regarding the impact of parenting style on aggressive behaviors in children, and add contextual relevance by evaluating the impact of ethnic identity on outcomes. Data can improve interventions targeting ethnic minorities by enhancing promotive factors of parenting and ethnic identity.

Riana Elyse Anderson
University of Virginia

Chasing Colorblindness: White Racial Socialization and Microaggressions

Theories of racial socialization and identity attempt to explain how discrimination and perception of racial inequities impact individuals of color across the lifespan. As many white families are embedded within increasingly racially diverse contexts, it becomes more significant to consider how white people are acculturated as racial beings and the impact of such acculturation on inter-racial relationships. This presentation reports on in-depth interviews conducted with thirteen white families (parent/s and a teen child). The results offer a sample of socialization dynamics within white families. Prevalent themes included the belief that whiteness wasn't a defining

characteristic and that colorblindness equated anti-racism. The presenter will discuss the implications of the findings for successful racial socialization within white families, promoting positive inter-racial relationships.

Eleonora Bartoli
Arcadia University

Understanding Privilege in India: Affluent Students' Perspectives on Solving Social Problems.

Seventy-five students from Bhubaneshwar, India were asked to describe social issues based on three prompts. The data was collected to understand the nature of privilege in Indian society. Their essays were analyzed using content analysis. Participants described many social problems, including caste discrimination, poverty, corruption, illiteracy, child labor, untouchability, and inequality. They expressed various sources are responsible for problems including the rich, the poor, and the government. They expressed various justifications and motivations for the desire to help others, but often deferred responsibility for solving issues onto external sources. Understanding younger generations' perceptions of social issues is necessary for understanding the most effective ways marginalization can be addressed and reduced in the future in India, and abroad.

Sriya Bhattacharyya
Boston College

Ami Popat
Northeastern University

Exploring Violent Propensity among Juvenile Delinquents

This study explores familial, sociological, psychological, and academic associations with juvenile delinquent behavior to uncover how these factors are related to one another and ultimately predict violent and non-violent delinquency. The study explores sociological, psychological, and academic associations with juvenile delinquent behavior among juveniles who engaged in covert (e.g. theft, truancy, and other non-violent crimes) and overt (e.g. assault with a deadly weapon, robbery, and other violent crimes) criminal activities. Data revealed non-violent offenders had more behavioral/social difficulties, while violent offenders have deeper emotional issues. These results provide areas of to explore in order to create more effective interventions aimed at reducing recidivism.

Christopher Bishop
Trinity Washington University

Charla Bishop
Bowie State University

Caitlin O'Brien-Masonis
Maryland Department of Juvenile Services

Meagan Whitfield
Chicago School of Professional Psychology

Urban African American Students and School Success: Creating a Climate of Care

The odds of academic success are stacked against African American students in urban schools. Some fault the students and parents; many blame hopelessness and disadvantage for student failure. We look at the education system and how it may hinder African American students. We will discuss the concept of care, reflecting on research related to cultural differences in behavior norms, racial socialization and critical race consciousness, traditional discipline in schools, and educator bias. School counselors can support systemic change, promote a climate of care among staff, and incorporate evidence-based approaches to support students as part of a comprehensive developmental guidance program. Counselors must rethink traditional approaches that are not working for this population, and advocate for change to improve outcomes.

Kathleen M. Christensen
Angela R. Gillem
Arcadia University

Listening to one boy.. Just one boy

This presentation offers the narrative of a young man, fifteen years old, traumatized by the discovery of his father who had been murdered. His story of failing at school, and becoming addicted to various substances is recounted as he sits in jail. He wonders aloud about the life he has lead and what will become of him. He wonders about his country, his culture, his family, his race, and offers his own perspectives on justice and violence and how people fail to maintain attachments to one another. He speaks as well about the fates of his father and mother and siblings, and the role that God has played, or has failed to play in the lives of those surrounding him.

Thomas Cottle
Boston University

Racial Differences in the Determinants of Anti-gay Aggression in a Community Sample

One in 10 sexual minority adults has been victim to violence. Numerous previous studies have established a strong link between sexual prejudice and anti-gay aggression and have concluded that sexual prejudice is partially determined by individuals' endorsement of male role norms and religious fundamentalism. Studies have found differences in Whites' and African Americans' levels of sexual prejudice in college samples. The purpose of this study was to examine these

differences between White and Black males in a community sample. Racial differences were found in participants' levels of male role norms, religious fundamentalism, and sexual prejudice. These results further differed among participants who had committed anti-gay aggression and those who never had. These findings may inform future prevention and intervention efforts.

Irene Daboin
Georgia State University

Intimate Partner Violence Among Same-Gender and Gender-Variant Partners

Intimate partner violence (IPV) occurs within all relationships regardless of the gender of the partners. The underlying commonality of IPV is the desire for one partner to exert and maintain power and control over the other. Research has shown that rates of IPV are similar among gay and lesbian relationships compared to heterosexual relationships. A paucity of empirically-based literature and research examines the unique factors associated with IPV within non-heterosexual relationships, particularly with regard to sexual minorities of color and gender minorities. The focus of this presentation is to acknowledge the existence of IPV within these populations. Presenters will discuss prevalence rates, intersecting adversities, barriers to intervention services, and suggestions for policy-making, social justice, clinical practice, and future research.

Angela Ferguson
G. Nicole Rider
Nicolle Hill
Howard University

"Yo/Eu, Gorda? Nunca!": An Exploration of Spanish and Portuguese Appearance-Related Microaggressions on Twitter

Latina women report high levels of eating disorders and poor body image. Appearance-related micro-aggressions on social media may contribute to these concerns. The aim of the present study was to explore the prevalence of Latina-specific appearance-related micro-aggressions on Twitter. We observed the frequency of occurrence of "gordo/a" and "barrigon/a" on Twitter, and determined the valence (positive or negative) of the context in which these terms were employed. Findings revealed a high frequency of occurrence of these terms. The term 'gordo/a" was more likely to be used in a negative context when referring to women compared to men ($p < .005$). These findings suggest that Latina women may be exposed to negative appearance-related micro-aggressions in social media.

Caroline A. Fernandes
Northeastern University

Racial and Sexual Orientation Comparisons in Police Response to Partner Violence

Intimate partner violence pervades gender, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity; however, law enforcement varies in its treatment of these differing populations. The current body of literature primarily focuses on the experiences of upper-middle class, White, female survivors. Exploration using a cross-disciplinary literature review provided results showing distinctions amongst same-sex and different-sex couples of varying ethnicities. Findings in police responses were underlined by qualitative interviews of current police officers. Emergent themes from literature and these interviews were discussed and integrated into suggestions for further research and police approaches to intimate partner violence within varying populations.

Marissa Floro
Stephanie Nave
Chelsea Corgan
Boston College

Risky Decisions: The Consequences of Violence Exposure on College Women of Color

The high rates of HIV in African American women have prompted efforts to identify factors related women's risk of HIV and behavioral risk factors such multiple sexual partners and failure to use condoms. While a range of factors may influence sexual risk-taking in women, increasing evidence suggests that exposure to violence (family, community, contextual violence in the form of racism and sexism) is related to psychological distress (depression, anger, low self-esteem) that is subsequently associated with risk-taking and poorer health outcomes, especially in African American women (Jipquep, Sanders-Phillips & Cotton, 2004). Exposure to violence, and the concomitant feelings of powerlessness and hopelessness, may decrease motivation for self-protection among African Americans. (Sanders-Phillips, 2002) Existing evidence suggests that exposure to violence may be associated with higher levels of drug use and sexual risking-taking in adult African American women who are more likely to be in stable relationships (Jipquep, Sanders-Phillips & Cotton, 2004).

Nicholle Hill
Jerez Roberson
Howard University

Critical Consciousness, Discrimination Stress, and HIV Disease Markers in African American Women

This study investigated whether critical consciousness (CC), the awareness of sociopolitical inequalities, moderates the relationship between discrimination stress (DS) and HIV disease markers (CD4 cell count and viral load) in African- American women. Participants were 73 HIV-infected African American women. Self-report questionnaires measured DS and CC. CD4 cell count and viral load were measured from blood specimens. Controlling for demographics, regressions revealed that at high levels of DS, higher CC significantly predicted higher CD4

count (b* = .36, p = .01) and lower viral load (b* = -.26, p = .047). These results suggest that promoting CC in HIV-infected African American women may slow HIV disease progression when discrimination stress is high.

Gwendolyn Kelso
Boston University

Violence and Survival among Gay and Lesbian Arabs in the Middle East

This proposal will illuminate the void in the literature needed to discuss the intersections of violence, culture, and religion among lesbian and gay (LG) Arabic individuals in some Arab countries in the Middle East. This theoretical presentation is intended to link current research on LG Arabic individuals and present violence experienced by this group. In addition, this presentation is intended to outline the intended doctoral level research and obtain feedback to strengthen research design. It will also review the major writings of homosexuality and Arabic culture. Additionally, acts of violence, including homicide, and the implications for this population will be discussed. This will include negative psychological impact, means of survival within Arab countries, and asylum of this population.

Marty Aaron Cooper
Salma Khshaiboon
Seton Hall University

Silence Is Collusion: Invisibility of Racism in Conversations about Disproportionate Minority Contact

Numerous studies show that youth of color are overrepresented at nearly all stages of the juvenile justice system, from arrest to confinement. A subject of much debate, disproportionate minority contact (DMC) within the system is commonly understood in terms of race and ethnicity. Yet, for all the attention given to the issue, there is an absence of critical conversations about these concepts among scholars and juvenile justice practitioners. More importantly, there is a virtual silence on the subject of racism. In this presentation, we argue that DMC is indeed a product of racism. Accordingly, we contend that addressing DMC in earnest requires recognizing and openly discussing the role of racism in generating and perpetuating DMC.

Iva Kosutic
Brandyn-Dior McKinley
University of Connecticut

Before their Time: Mothers Facing the Murder of their Sons

A three-phased, cultural psychotherapeutic model to treat mother's grief after losing their sons to street violence is described. During the first phase treatment focuses on healing patients' grief and pain. The main goal is to stabilize their symptoms and enhance affect regulation. In the second phase the focus is understanding how the context and ecological injustices, not patients, are responsible for the death of their sons. These issues were examined through the psychotherapeutic relationship as cultural differences were explored and addressed. During the third phase the focus was on strategies that fostered empowerment and growth. Treatment not only focused on changing the mother's symptoms, but also in improving an unfair and violent environment in which violence is frequent and on the rise. In this presentation I describe her efforts within the community to prevent further shootings.

Martin La Roche
Martha Eliot Health Center

Economic Consequences of Rape: Disparate Impact for Survivors of Color & Immigrants

Findings from a mixed-methods study show that sexual violence contributes to a range of economic costs and consequence for survivors. Rape can lead to direct financial costs, such as medical bills, and mental and behavioral health issues, which in turn have their own economic implications. In this study, rape frequently triggered changes in educational attainment, occupation, and earnings, which negatively affected survivors' short- and long-term economic stability. Immigrants, survivors of color, and low-income survivors faced myriad additional burdens and barriers to recovery. This presentation explores the range and depth of these recursive economic impacts, including differential effects for marginalized populations. I also consider the buffering role of financial assets and social services and identify opportunities for policy intervention.

Rebecca M. Loya
Brown University

The Acceptance Process of Women with Serious Mental Illness: Intersectional Stigma

Women with serious mental illness face multiple levels of stigma and intersectional oppression that impact the acceptance process surrounding mental illness. Practitioners and researchers can benefit from sensitivity to this "intersectional stigma" faced by women with serious mental illness from diverse backgrounds with regards to race, ethnicity, immigration, disability, sexual orientation, and other identities. Participant case narratives from a qualitative study with 30 participants will be presented in order to demonstrate the impact of intersectional stigma on the acceptance process for women with mental illness. Implications for research, practice, and policy

will be presented to raise awareness about the experiences of intersectional stigma of women with serious mental illness.

Lauren Mizock
Uma Chandrika Millner
Boston University, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation

Posttraumatic Growth After War in the Middle Eastern population

Millions of people globally have been physically and psychologically affected by the trauma of war. Understanding posttraumatic growth after a war and how it happens is vital because it helps clinicians to recognize this phenomenon and assist war-affected individuals. Studies on posttraumatic growth in war-affected areas show that growth is possible as the aftermath of war, and that this growth has been found in different populations across the globe.

Nazanin Moali
Alliant International University

Integrative Approaches to Psychotherapy for Immigrant Survivors of Torture and Trauma

Aspects of clinical work unique to the trauma experiences of refugees and asylum-seekers will be examined. In particular, the distinctive post-traumatic stress reactions that torture survivors typically experience will be explored. Such symptoms are further compounded and exacerbated by acculturative and legal difficulties, as well as disconnections from loved ones, that result from migration to a host country. Together, these experiences frequently contribute to identity disorientation, vulnerability to major depression and self-destructive behaviors, as well as intense feelings of guilt and powerlessness. For some, internalized shame may result from negative ethnic stereotypes in host countries, which can deleteriously impact a survivor's established sense of ethnic identity and contribute to increased social isolation. Given the complexity of the issues immigrant survivors of torture encounter, the trauma therapist working with refugees or asylum-seekers that survived torture must utilize flexible, integrative treatment strategies to address the sequelae of pre-migration, migration, and post-migration stressors. A unique combination of cognitive-behavioral, existential, meditative (e.g., yoga, massage, guided meditation), and empowerment-focused therapy techniques to reduce PTSD symptoms and improve adaptation to the United States will be discussed. The benefits of integrative individual and group psychotherapy with this population will also be addressed, as well as specific recommendations for clinical assessment, conceptualization, and research. Case examples will illustrate the process and effectiveness of this approach.

Saloomeh Nazari
Argosy University

Teen Girls Perspectives on the Issue of Teen Dating Violence Using Photovoice

Emerging research on teen dating violence and abuse has limitedly been explored from the perspectives of young people. The purpose of this research was to expand on the application of photovoice and PAR in exploring the issue of teen dating violence and abuse from the perspective of urban adolescent teens participating in a girls youth development program offered by a community-based organization in Miami, FL. This presentation will present data demonstrating the generative themes which emerged from the photovoice pictures and narratives, how their pictures and narratives translated into policy recommendations presented to the local school board and how the research process contributed to girls understanding of the social, political and economic oppressions that exist in their communities.

Saliha Nelson
University of Miami

Tanisha Fleming
Magalie Gabriel
URGENT, Inc.

Hispanic Young Adults' PTSD and Depression as Risk Factors for Revictimization

In the proposed study, we will examine the likelihood of revictimization amongst Hispanic Young Adults (ages 18-24). They often develop co-morbid post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression symptoms. Often their symptoms go unrecognized. Researchers have identified Hispanic Young Adults as a high-risk group for PTSD, depression, anxiety and substance abuse. Lack of cultural knowledge, Hispanic youth with mental illness are generally misdiagnosed as having anger problems or just conduct disorders. Oftentimes, symptoms of PTSD and depression may cause someone to be more vulnerable to being revictimized. The overall purpose of this presentation is to increase educational programs, support groups, and discussion within communities.

Samuel Nunez
Long Island University

Staying Safe: How Black Males Perceive and Negotiate Threat in Suburban Settings

Black males' significantly greater risk of victimization when residing in urban areas implicitly suggests that suburban settings should provide Black males with a greater sense of safety. While prior research has examined Black males' perceptions of threat in urban settings, there is scant research examining how these males perceive and deal with threat in suburban settings. The current study, which is based on twenty interviews with young adult Black male suburban residents, explores how Black males perceive and negotiate threat in the suburbs. We examine how various communal, interactional, and individual-level variables affect Black males' threat

perceptions and strategies. In addition, we examine whether prior residence in urban settings affects how Black males perceive and negotiate threat in suburban settings.

Paul Reck
Venus Hewing
Ramapo College

Abriendo Caminos: Determining the Effects of Violence and Stigma on Readiness for Psychiatric Rehabilitation among Latinos.

This qualitative study explored the effect that stigma of mental illness and subsequent discrimination experienced has on the utilization of rehabilitation services by Latinos with psychiatric disabilities. Twelve interviews were selected from a larger project on rehabilitation readiness conducted in Spanish with Latinos with psychiatric disabilities receiving services from mental health programs in San Diego and Boston. Participants responded to a semi-structured interview protocol regarding their readiness for rehabilitation. The research team analyzed the data using qualitative methodology. The results revealed themes related to how the stigma of mental illness affected rehabilitation readiness among the Latino population. Implications of the effect of stigma and discrimination on this population will be discussed with regard to rehabilitation services and policy.

Maria Restrepo-Toro
Uma Chandrika Millner
Lauren Mizock
Boston University Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation

Putting in Work: The Intersection of Violence, Labor and the Code of the Street Among Serious Violent Youth Offenders

Young African-American males living in poor disadvantaged neighborhoods are disproportionately socially disconnected, marginalized and alienated from mainstream opportunities and labor markets. As a result within the oppositional culture of inner-city communities, engaging in violence is perceived among many marginalized young black men as a form of labor, used to build credibility and respect in the underground economy of the street (Anderson 1999; Shakur 1993). Youth violence as labor is captured by the colloquial street term used among inner-city young African-African men 'putting in work.' Similar to a resume which captures legitimate labor market experiences and skills, in the sub-culture of the street, acts of violence also add to an individual's 'street resume' and aid in "getting known" (Brooks 2009). Some youth work to get known through the use of violence. Two decades after Sullivan's seminal classic Getting Paid (1989), this paper examines the contemporary concept 'putting in work' where non-economic violence and economic violence are forms of labor for inner-city

black male youth. Drawing on focus groups with African-American male serious violent youth offenders detained in an adult jail this paper explores the concept of 'putting in work.'

Joseph B. Richardson, Jr.
University of Maryland

Microaggressions as Psychological Violence among Female Black and Latina Professionals and Ph.D. Students

Data are presented on microaggressions from focus groups and semi-structured interviews conducted with female African American and Latina professionals and Ph.D. students. Microaggressions are common verbal, behavioral, and environmental indignities that communicate racial insults and can be psychologically harmful for the targeted person or group. This work seeks to accomplish the following: (1) Assess the extent to which hypervigilance, depressive symptoms, feelings of isolation, and diminished work performance are after-effects of microaggressions; (2) Identify and present a range of coping responses; (3) Address organizational changes that research participants perceive are needed and (4) Present healthy ways for newly minted graduate students and professionals to survive psychologically.

Tracy Robinson-Wood
Noreen Boadi
Caroline Fernandes
Northeastern University

Adolescents' Exposure to Violence and Substance Use: Differences across Racial Groups and the Role of Ethnic Identity

Exposure to violence (ETV) during adolescence is associated with an increased risk for substance use (Kilpatrick, 2000). Notably, ethnic minority youth are more likely to experience higher rates of ETV (Crouch et al., 2000). The present study examined the relationship between ETV and substance use in high school students. The role of ethnic identity in the relationship between ETV and substance use behaviors was explored. Analyses indicated that ETV was significantly associated with substance use for four of the five racial groups. Interestingly, ethnic identity only served as a moderator for the relationship between substance abuse and school violence for Asian adolescents. The implications of our findings for clinical practice and interventions with racial minority adolescents will be discussed.

Nina Sathasivam-Rueckert
Milena Claudius
Usha Tummala-Narra
Boston College

The Effects of Parental Trauma on Child Attachment in Iraqi Refugees

This study utilized qualitative grounded theory methodology to conceptualize the impact of war-related trauma on attachment relationships within Iraqi refugee families. Six families were interviewed as a means of exploring detailed experiences of the interconnection between trauma and attachment. Several themes from the interviews will be discussed, including secondary trauma of resettlement, intergenerational transmission of trauma and attachment, expectation of gender roles in Iraqi society, and the redistribution of familial roles during wartime and post-resettlement. Implications of applying attachment theory from a western paradigm to collectivist societies will be discussed. Recommendations will be made for future programming for refugee families.

Jenna Stowell
Illinois School of Professional Psychology

We Don't Know that We are under Verbal Violence

The purpose of the research was to examine the cultural and gender issues hidden in workplace in a Chinese culture. We interviewed 21 female workers age ranged from 27 to 38 (M=32.62; SD=3.35). Data collected were analyzed by grounded theory. In conclusion, we develop a hierarchical model to describe workplace violence perceived by females. The core category included verbal violence, behavioral violence, and sexual violence. More issues related to gender and culture were discussed. The possible approaches to increase female awareness of micro-violence were also explored. Questions related to "female rights as human rights" were also discussed from the Chinese culture comparing to Western societies.
National Taiwan Normal University

Hsiu-Lan Tien
National Taiwan Normal University

Sexual Trauma Disclosure in Women of Color

Sexual trauma disclosure is often viewed as a necessary step in the recovery process (Roth & Newman, 1990), but there may be times when reporting an incident may actually be harmful to the survivor. The contexts of such traumas do not evade cultural identities and perspectives. The current qualitative research study explored the lived experience for women of color who disclose sexual trauma. Nine mental health workers that provided sexual assault recovery services to women of color were interviewed. The researcher interviewed these workers about their clients' experiences. Rigorous data analysis, including multiple phases of coding and auditing of the qualitative data, was completed. Nine themes were found. Additionally, clinical implications of the themes found are discussed.

Jessica Vanderlan
Theodore R. Burnes
Alliant International University

Relational Aggression and Culturally-Charged Harassment: Is Bullying a Platform for Teaching Social Injustice?

This presentation will discuss the links between culture-based prejudice and bullying behaviors in youths. This literature will be used to support the argument that culturally-charged bullying (e.g., the use of racial and homophobic epithets) may be a primary way through which children learn about social injustice. The presenters will also discuss social-justice driven interventions that decrease prejudicial attitudes and relational aggression in children and adolescents. Such information is relevant to mental health/educational professionals who work with children and adolescents.

Elizabeth M. Vera
Loyola University Chicago

What Would You Do? A Preliminary Exploration of Black Americans' Reactions to Assumptions of Inferiority and Criminality

The subtle nature of contemporary racial discrimination is difficult to process and resolve due to the various levels of consciousness, explicitness, derogation and insensitivity which, taken together, is hurtful and invalidating. The current study expands the literature on Black Americans' perceptions and reactions to racial microaggressions. Fourteen self-identified Black individuals (2 males and 12 females; mean age 27) participated in this qualitative study. Participants listened to an audio clip describing an incident at a jewelry store. Exploratory content analysis revealed themes of avoidance, sadness, judgment and discrimination, frustration, anger, and laughter and behaviors of accommodation, boycotting/walk out, anger, self-advocacy, emotional distress, and questioning. Research, educational, and clinical implications will be discussed.

Lindsey West
Augusta State University

Female Veterans and Military Sexual Trauma

Military sexual trauma has been increasing in prevalence in recent years and is an urgent problem that will require innovative social justice and advocacy strategies to correct. Multilevel interventions could be an important part of this effort, combating the effects of sexual trauma on both the individual and institutional levels. By engaging in research about the complications of treatment in this situation and advocacy that could organize women veterans and prioritize their goals, this serious problem could be combated. Participants will be invited to learn more about this culture and how it is affected by military sexual trauma, and to take part in a conversation about the best future directions for advocacy efforts.

Crystal Winfield
Arcadia University

Video Games and Violence: Counseling Men of Color at Predominantly White Institutions

The presenter described case studies of Men of Color attending Predominantly White Institutions (PWIs) of higher education who sought therapy for online gaming difficulties and experiences with race-related violence. At the PWIs, the clients experienced race-related violence in a variety of ways including microaggressions, overt-aggression, and the desire to engage in violence. The online gaming facilitated new ways of expressing violence, but also restricted ways of facing reality on campus. The concept of playing with reality was presented as a way to guide treatment of these cases. The presentation included examples of how the therapist encouraged the clients to play with reality in order to find new ways of relating to race-related violence.

Benjamin Wood
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

WORKSHOPS

Masters in Counseling Accreditation Committee (MCAC): Creating leaders in Social Justice

The Masters in Counseling Accreditation Committee (MCAC) is part of a national accrediting body, the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Council (MPCAC). MCAC reviews master's counseling programs to determine whether they meet MCAC standards. MCAC's mission, reflected in its standards, is to promote training in the scientific practice of professional counseling and ensuring the provision of culturally responsive services in the context of social justice principles. MCAC was founded on the belief that social *in*justice leads to structural violence, which scientifically-based multicultural training can do much to prevent. This presentation addresses the role of accrediting bodies in ensuring the training of social justice counselors/leaders, describes the history of MCAC, presents its standards and accreditation process, and answers audience questions.

Eleanora Bartoli
Arcadia University

Theorodore Burnes
Alliant International University

Michael D'Andrea
University of Hawaii

Patricia O'Connor
The Sage Colleges

Clinical Interventions with Gang Adolescents and their Families: Lessons from the Field

Gang violence is a social issue that has a long and checkered history in many communities. Basic assumptions that are often made about gangs and gang violence are often contributory factors to proliferation of the problem. Clinical interventions are potentially helpful in counteracting gangs and their impacts on communities.

Curtis Branch
Columbia University

Committing to Nonviolent Research: Critical Qualitative Inquiry

This workshop will focus on the challenges and potential of engaging in non-violent research. The problem is that as a research community, there is a history of committing violence through research and this needs to change. Of particular interest for this workshop is the unintended and unacknowledged, subtle violence that continues to riddle research practices in the social sciences. The workshop will draw engage participants in reenacting an inter-racial interview Meagan Call-Cummings conducted in Jamaica followed by the enactment of an imagined scene of data analysis. The dramatizations provide an opportunity to discuss how inquiry can be liberated from violence in its most subtle forms.

Meagan Call-Cummings
Indiana University

Journeying Beyond Trauma and Re-Traumatizing: Restorative Justice with Survivors of Domestic Violence Living in Shelter

Renewal House, a program of the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry, provides shelter to survivors of domestic violence from all races and cultures. The trauma these individuals/families have experienced is enormous, from the violence in their relationships, to the violence in their communities and families of origin as well as the violence directed at them due to their race or culture. These multiple layers of trauma impede the development of community. Through integrating Restorative Justice principles into the program, Renewal House seeks to build bridges of healing and pathways for transformation while acknowledging the very real trauma each individual/family carries. Participants are encouraged to share from their unique racial/cultural experience to break down the barriers to self and to other.

Susan Chorley
Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry

Vilma Uribe
Renewal House

Pierre Berastain
Harvard Divinity School

Janet Connors
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Impact of Violence on the Emotional Stabilization of Hispanic Children

The influence of cultural variables and the impact of violence on the emotional stabilization of Hispanic children will be discussed. The workshop is designed to teach effective multi-modal assessment and treatment guidelines when working with Hispanic children and their families.

Tania Diaz
Toni DiDona
Carlos Albizu University

Utilizing Culturally-relevant, Mindfulness-based Interventions to Enhance Well Being among Black Americans

Despite claims that the U.S. has entered a post-racial era, Black Americans continue to report frequent experiences of discrimination and racism-related stress. Mindfulness and acceptance-based interventions (MBIs) have shown to be effective in reducing stress and anxiety, and enhancing well-being. Yet, these interventions are often framed without consideration for Black American cultural values and day-to-day stressors. Within this workshop, we describe (1) obstacles that sometimes interfere with Black Americans engagement in MBIs; (2) approaches for introducing culturally-relevant MBIs to Black American adolescents and adults; (3) methods for exploring clients' values and culturally-congruent, stress-reduction practices; and (4) strategies for working with Black American clients to develop an MBI treatment plan based on clients' values and practices.

Jessica R. Graham
University of Massachusetts Boston

Jesse Tauriac
Lasell College

Lindsey M. West
Augusta State University

Racial Trauma in the Educational Setting

The presenters will provide a background and definition of racial trauma. A brief overview of scholarly conceptual work that has paved the way to expand the clinical definition of trauma to include experiences related to racism and discrimination will be discussed. Additionally, the presenters will identify examples and consequences of racial trauma in college and university settings. Both clinical case material and students' organizational leadership experiences will be used to highlight negative academic, mental health, and interpersonal outcomes related to race-

related trauma. Strategies for assessing racial trauma in the academic setting and intervening will be discussed.

Carlton Green
University of Houston

Maryam Jernigan
Yale University School of Medicine

Working with System Involved Youth of Color: Violence, Trauma, and Cultural Identity Development

Youth in the foster care and juvenile justice systems are disproportionately represented by society's disfavored ethnic and/or cultural groups. Involvement in these systems invariably means having experienced violence and trauma in the community and/or inside the home. Breaking these cycles begins with the adults in supportive roles with youth being able to engage in meaningful dialogue, advocacy and psycho-education to empower these amazing dynamic young people. This workshop presents best practices in working with system-involved adolescents of color grappling with a variety of complicated issues. We will explore how system involvement can impact racial/cultural identity development and perpetuate cycles of violence and institutionalization. Participants will develop awareness and strategies for effective interventions in this critical time.

Robin Noel Morales
Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

A Matter of Survival: The Impact of Race and Violence on Ex-Offender's Reentery

Incarceration rates in the United States are the highest in the world and incarceration is the most common arrangement for rehabilitation and punishment in response to a criminal offense (Karberg & Beck, 2004). Violence experienced between and against prisoners increases hyper vigilance, distrust and suspicion, which are important for survival while incarcerated (McCorkle, 1992). But, the consequences of adapting to a short-term treacherous environment, is a threat to reentry back into mainstream society. For incarcerated racial minorities, oppression and discrimination was experienced before entering the prison system. But, the added suppression and racial segregation implemented by the prison system often contributes to the violence between inmates because prisoners become racialized (Goodman, 2008). This discussion will explore the consequences of being institutionalized and how that impacts ex-offenders adjustment into society. The discussants will examine the psychological effects of prison culture racial discrimination/segregation and violence.

Jasmine Reed
Kenneth Spears
Erica Holmes
California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant University

Surfacing and Understanding Racial Micro-Aggressions and Structural Violence in Educational Contexts

What are the subtle forms of racial violence that occur in educational institutions and how can they be disrupted? This workshop explores racial microaggressions and forms of structural violence that occur when race remains unexamined in educational systems and institutions. It applies current research to educational contexts to provide more culturally competent, socially and psychologically safe teaching and learning environments, for both students and staff of color. Participants will explore types of racial microaggressions and structural violence, as well as the presumptions of privilege that reproduce systems of oppression (Cullinan, 1999). This interactive workshop surfaces subtle forms of racial violence through scenarios and dialog. Participants will focus on recognizing and disrupting various forms of racial violence at their respective institutions.

Shawntay Stocks
Rachel Carter
Heidi Faust
University of Maryland Baltimore County

STRUCTURED DISCUSSIONS

"The Real Test": A New Way to Assess 21st Century Skills for Students in a Global Society

This interactive session engages participants to identify the essential competencies of one's identity needed to navigate successfully at any academic institution. In order to address the impact of education for all Latinas, an analysis of our undocumented immigration population is required. We cannot achieve educational excellence for all students without addressing the inequity of our most invisible student; undocumented immigrant children. Based on research of the resiliency of this population, participants will learn what barriers exist for all Latinas while learning the specific competencies of undocumented Latina immigrants that demonstrate the strength of this population. Participants will learn how educators can empower undocumented Latinas in their pathway towards academic success.

Juan Carlos Arauz
E3 Education, Excellence & Equity

Applying Mindfulness Techniques to Reduce Nonsuicidal Self-Injurious Behaviors in African American Boys

The purpose of this paper was to apply the principles of mindfulness, a component of Dialectical Behavior Therapy (Linehan, 1993) to therapeutic work with African American boys engaging in nonsuicidal self-injurious behaviors (NSSIB). NSSIB refer to actions that cause tissue damage but that are committed without the intention to kill oneself (Gratz, et al., 2012).Individuals may engage in NSSIB to help regulate emotions, and mindfulness focuses on helping individuals become more aware of their emotions. As a result, mindfulness seems well-suited to reduce these behaviors. Clinicians must consider cultural factors when using mindfulness in order to increase its effectiveness with African American boys.

Tyronn Bell
University of Indianapolis

Suicide Among American Indian Youth: Risk Factors and Cultural Solutions

Interventions utilizing cultural practices to intervene on health behaviors are associated with positive health outcomes. Data indicate that American Indian (AI) youth experience high rates of suicide. Our study aims to gain insight into the mental health needs of AI youth and implement a culture-focused, community-based suicide prevention intervention. We conducted 16 face-to-face interviews with mental health professionals to determine the availability and quality of local resources, and 4 focus groups with Lumbee American Indian youth to assess perceptions regarding mental health issues, suicidal behavior and associated risk factors. Using this

qualitative data to enhance tribal-run Boys & Girls Clubs' programming, the tribe delivered 6 months of culture classes to 42 youth and compared outcomes to a control group (38).

Alfred Bryant
The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Racial Positioning and Collaboration Between US and Ugandan Scholars

This panel brings together scholars from Uganda and the United States who are working together to develop collaboratively engaged academic programs aimed at rooting peace in our respective regions of the world: a doctoral program in liberation psychology at Kyambogo University (Kampala, Uganda) and a doctoral minor in liberation studies in inquiry and psychology at two campuses of Indiana University's School of Education (one in an urban center and the other in a "college town"). Combined, the partnership program in liberation studies will involve grassroots centers in Uganda and the U.S. as well as practicum and internship sites for praxis, evaluation, and research. Our commitment to peace-building is vital to our work in our separate regions and in our collaboration.

Meagan Call-Cummings
Chalmer Thompson
Indiana University

Addressing Racial and Cultural Factors Related to Sexual Assault on Campus

This presentation will discuss awareness, knowledge and skills regarding the relationship between race, culture, gender, and sexual assault. Sexual violence is the most prevalent violent crime in the college student population. Approximately 25% of college women are sexually assaulted by age 24. Female students are assaulted significantly more than men. Women of color are the target of sexual assault more than Whites, and are less likely to report the assault or seek support. Sexual assault consequences include negative impact on mental health and academics. Colleges need to understand the cultural dynamics and exercise culturally competent practices to sensitively assist students, protect their rights, and address cultural norms that perpetuate sexual violence. This presentation will use clinical case examples.

Elisa Castillo
Shawn Newton
Rebecca Forkner
Salem State University

Working with Refugee Youths Presenting a History of Violence and Trauma

Among the multiple adversities, experiences of violence and trauma exacerbate the learning and social development of refugee youths. In response to the needs of mental health service, research

(Murray et al., 2010) has suggested several effective interventions with this specific population. However, the self-sufficiency model and mental health disparity have become a huge issue for refugee youths and their families presenting a history of violence or trauma. Furthermore, resilience, strengths, and developmental challenges of refugee youths have not yet been addressed enough in literature. As a result, this structured discussion aims to create dialogues between participants to address the barriers and solutions that practitioners may experience when providing mental health interventions to refugee youths.

Chih-Ting Chang
Loyola University Chicago

A Pebble in the Pond: African Americans' Experience of Vicarious Trauma Caused by Race Related Violence reported in the Media

Incidents of race related violence targeted towards African Americans occurs more frequently than similar violence directed at other ethnic groups. (Ref). Frequently these incidents are reported in various media outlets. African Americans are regularly exposed to incidents of race related violence in their private lives or vicariously through the experience of other African Americans. The chronic exposure to these events results in emotional distress, physical illness, mal-adaptive behavior and reduces the overall quality of life. While African Americans have experienced social advancements in the past few decades, racism still serves as one of the main barriers for self actualization, or a sense of well being. Behavioral scientists/social service providers must partner with activists in the elimination of racsim, race related violence and its consequences.

Krystel Edmonds-Biglow
Erica Holmes
Alliant International University

Maladaptive Symptoms Displayed within the Black Community Resulting from Racial Oppression

A rationale for the maladies displayed both psychologically and behaviorally, as a result of years of racial oppression within the Black Community. The intent of this discussion is to teach the foundation for the development of symptoms, illustrate the symptoms and its effect, and offer solutions for healing. These symptoms will be expressed as it relates to the illness, internalized oppression. Internalized oppression is a byproduct of the systemic structures of racism that negatively impact the Black psyche, communal energies, and overall interpersonal relationships among Blacks. Focus is given to the maladaptive impact these symptoms have on promoting & maintaining healthy interpersonal relationships, motivation to enhance one's likelihood of self-actualization, and the ability to resume ancestral community energies within group.

Eugena K. Griffin
Creating Change Publishing, LLC

Second Generation Christian Arab American Adolescents: Risks and Challenges in the Field of Mental Health.

The field of mental health has been paying increased attention to diverse populations. The Arab American Institute (AAI; 2010), estimates that there are 3 million individuals of Arab descent in the United States. Arab Americans are diverse in relation to religion, language, socioeconomic status, and education (Moradi & Hassan, 2004). This session aims at increasing awareness of the challenges faced by Christian Arab adolescents. Participants will explore ways that their knowledge about immigration and adolescents may or may not generalize to this unique population. Further, addressing negative psychosocial outcomes and understanding positive factors that reduce distress among Arab Americans, and other underrepresented populations. Participants will also consider ways to better serve these groups, through clinical practice, research, training, and advocacy.

Salma Khshaiboon
Pamela Foley
Seton Hall University

Truth or Dare? In Psychotherapy with a South Asian Perpetrator of Violence

How can violent clients be engaged in an honest dialogue about their actions while being simultaneously dared to change? What are the barriers to change when both therapist and client speak the same language and share the same cultural heritage yet differ in other key dimensions of identity? These questions are raised through the case example of a South Asian immigrant man who physically, emotionally, and verbally abused his wife. Multiple challenges experienced by therapist and client enacted through transference and counter transference at the confluence of race, culture, gender, language, acculturation, and trauma are highlighted. Implications for expanding prevalent models of therapy for perpetrators of intimate partner violence are discussed.

Uma Chandrika Millner
Boston University

Eye for an Eye? A Discussion Regarding Multicultural Encounters Within Restorative Justice

Multicultural encounters allow opportunities for people of different backgrounds to learn about another's perspective. An important action that takes place within this encounter is to hear the other person and acknowledge their experience. When an act of violence has taken place against an individual or a loved one, a part of healing lies in processing the event and the feelings about the person who caused the harm. One philosophy behind restorative justice is that the experiences of both the wronged and the offender need to be heard. The purpose of the structured

discussion is to examine how race and culture influence perceptions and interact with the ability to recover from and reconcile with violators and violence within a cross-racial context.

Jennifer Moore
Kimberly Korobov
Columbia State University

Exploring the Influence of Mainstream Hip Hop Cultural Messaging on Black Adolescent IPV Beliefs

Although research has shown that mainstream Hip Hop culture informs Black adolescents general sexual risk taking and health decision making processes, its influence on their IPV attitudes and beliefs remains unknown. This interactive session will move beyond stereotyping by validating the importance of an influential youth culture. Participants will be provided with a brief overview of the incident and research on mainstream Hip Hop's relevance to Black adolescent behavioral outcomes. Facilitating questions will focus on intersection of race, gender, sexuality and violence in this culture as it relates to Black adolescents IPV experiences and attitudes. This structure discussion serves as a starting point for identifying innovative, non-deficit approaches to address the unique IPV experiences and beliefs of Black adolescents

Dionne Stephens
Florida International University

SYMPOSIA

Treatment Considerations for Ethnocultural Aspects of PTSD in the African American Male Population

African Americans are frequently exposed to micro-aggressions and overt racism which may result in a compromised ability to cope with everyday life stressors. A significant amount of psychological energy is needed to survive the barrage of race-related attacks experienced by African Americans. The consequence is an individual vulnerable for developing severe emotional reactions to life altering events. The ongoing experience of racism predisposes African Americans to develop PTSD in response to traumatic events. This is true across ecological contexts. This Panel will explore the experience of African American males in the Military, violent urban areas, and in homes where abuse is present. Further the panel will provide treatment recommendations that are culturally responsive and effective for this specific population.

Krystel Edmonds-Bigelow
Stacy Tylor
Gregory Crawford
Katherine Michaels
Isis Jones
Alliant International University

StronGirls and StrongBoys: Gender-Specific Bullying Prevention Programs for Seventh and Eighth Grade Junior High School Students

StronGirls and StrongBoys are psycho-educational anti-violence prevention programs developed to build healthy friendship skills and create awareness of bullying practices in junior high school girls and boys. These gender-specific programs are based on research and theory specific to girls' and boys' bullying behaviors. StronGirls and StrongBoys have been delivered to students in Chicago inner-city schools and in one racially diverse suburban school. The presentation focus is the observations of the four clinical psychology doctoral students as they co-facilitated ten-week programs with three groups of students, an African-American group, a Hispanic group, and a suburban multi-racial and multi-ethnic group of girls and boys. The differences in acceptance of violence across populations and graduate students reactions to these differences will be highlighted.

Karen Farrell
Hiren Ghayal
Angelo Bartocci
Marnice Gordon
Lauren Fetherolf
John Farrell
Midwestern University

Culture Matters: Influences of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender on Victimization and Trauma

Many scholars have critiqued how the field of forensic psychology tends to overlook the influence of culture in its research. The current symposium will examine the importance of understanding cultural factors when investigating victims of trauma. Several types of trauma victims will be discussed including victims of intimate partner violence; sex workers who have been victimized by their clients and within prison systems; and children who have been physically or sexually abused. Participants will discuss various elements of cultural variables, including race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, and the intersections of all of these identities.

Kevin Nadal
Kristin Davidoff
Larissa Barbaro
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Keila Simons
Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau

Whitney Fujii-Doe
University of Denver

Healing Violence through Native American Narratives: A Nexus of Narrative Approaches

Violence and crime in Indian Country exists in an alarmingly high proportion compared to mainstream society. This exposure to traumatic events and related sequelae has a devastating impact on the basic quality of tribal peoples' lives. While a wide range of social determinants of the disparities exist – poverty, geographical isolation, funding and understaffing of both social services and law enforcement, jurisdictional issues, etc. – an equally diverse set of solutions exist. On this panel, three scholars will contextualize the issue of violence in Indian Country through three distinct modes of inquiry: digital storytelling culturally situated qualitative research, and literary depictions. Promoting healthful discourse and regenerating domains of knowledge in tribal communities occurs best through storytelling.

Kathryn Shanley
Gyda Swaney
Annie Belcourt
University of Montana

POSTERS

Challenging the Deficit Discourse around Parental Involvement in Youth Mentoring Relationships

Research suggests involving parents in their child's mentoring relationships tend to yield better youth outcomes (DuBois, Holloway, Valentine, & Cooper, 2002). However, common discourse in mentoring literature positions parents as potentially supportive or purposely sabotaging their child's mentoring relationship (Taylor, LoSciuto, & Porcellini, 2005). Although the field of youth mentoring has adopted a positive and strength-based perspective of at-risk youth (Larson, 2006), this asset-based thinking has not fully carried over to the families of these children. The paper discusses a study of parental involvement in youth-mentoring matches. Findings indicate the presence of deficit-based language expressed by program staff and mentors when discussing parental involvement, which is out of sync with the assets that parents contribute in their child's mentoring relationship

Antoinette Basualdo-Delmonico
Boston University - School of Social Work

Religious and General Coping for Stress Associated with a Child's Disability among American Jews

This study aimed to reveal how American Jews of diverse religious and cultural affiliations may vary in their experience of religious and general coping for stress related to their child's disability. The sample (N=92) consisted of 81.5% mothers and 18.5% fathers (age 25-69, M= 47.76, SD=10.91). Positive and negative scales from the JCOPE (Rosmarin, Pargament, Krumrei & Flannelly, 2009) and COPE (Carver, Scheier & Weintraub, 1989) were used to assess religious and general coping respectively. Jewish group (Haredi-Orthodox, Modern-Orthodox, Conservative, Reform) was entered in a MANOVA as the independent variable and four coping scales (positive and negative scales for both religious and general coping) were entered as the dependent variable. Significant differences were found between groups in positive religious coping.

Emile Berk
Pamela Foley
Seton Hall University

Gender Differences in Intellectual and Achievement among Juvenile Delinquents

Juvenile delinquency has been linked to low school performance, being two years behind in academic ability, frequent school moves and low reading scores. In comparison to male delinquents, female delinquents are more likely to drop out of high school and have lower grades

than males. The research study examined 284 juvenile who were awaiting trial and were given a comprehensive psychological evaluation prior to adjudication. Fifty-four were female and 228 were male The study suggests that younger adolescent female delinquents have better processing speed ability, but older adolescent female delinquents have more non-verbal problem-solving and overall cognitive deficits. This may suggest that treatment facilities delivering academic intervention to juvenile delinquents should focus on female as they may potentially have greater difficulties.

Charla Bishop
Bowie State University

Christopher Bishop
Trinity Washington University

Domestic Violence within the Latina Population in the United States

Domestic violence in the United States is an issue that affects women of all races and ethnicities. As the largest growing minority population in the United States, recent research has found that Latina Americans report some of the highest rates of domestic violence, however, are 20% less likely than White women to seek help. Traditional cultural practices as well as limited social awareness and services act as barriers for Latina's to seek help and assistance. This poster presentation seeks to explore these barriers while educating mental health counselors and other practitioners to work with and advocate for this population in a culturally competent way. Recommendations for increased access and awareness, as well as further education on the Latina culture will be discussed.

Kathleen Bosse
Xavier University

Disparities in Physicians' Health Assessments versus Health Perceptions in Latino Patients

The Latino population represents the largest and fastest growing ethnic minority group in the United States. Despite this growth in the U.S. population, existing studies on health outcomes in Latinos are generally based on mainstream interpretations that focus on the presence or absence of disease. However, the emphasis on physical aspects of illness may be perceived and experienced differently in Latino individuals. The lack of physicians' cultural understanding to inform health assessments may lead to increased discrepancies between Latino patients' health perceptions versus physician-assessed health status, which can lead to increased perceived health care discrimination experienced by Latino patients. It is essential that physicians are sensitive to cultural influences in the assessment of health status for Latino patients.

Lisa Chan
Pacific University

School Consultation for Refugee Youths with a History of Violence and Trauma

There were total 209,002 refugees arriving in the United States between 2008 and 2010 and more than 50 % of these newly arrived refugees were between 0- 24 years old (Martin, 2011). The school environment and experience become the vital components in youth's refugee resettlement process. Among the multiple adversities, experiences of violence and trauma exacerbate the learning and social development of them. It is a timely and important topic for educators, teachers and staffs to understand and improve the positive educational experiences and social-emotional outcomes for refugee youths with a history of violence or trauma. This poster synthesizes existing research literature and identifies the barriers and difficulties of working refugee students who have experienced or are facing multiple traumas.

Chih-Ting Chang
Loyola University Chicago

Identifying Social Support Expressions in Therapy with a Salvadorian Trauma Survivor

Social support is a commonly accepted factor that is hypothesized to impact coping after traumatic events. However, existing research on trauma and social support does not adequately incorporate sociocultural factors. This poster will present a review of the literature on social support in posttraumatic experiences with multicultural populations. A directed coding system for identifying expressions of social support in therapy with trauma survivors based on theoretical models of social support and posttraumatic experiences will be outlined. The poster will share how the social support experiences of a Salvadorian immigrant woman who experienced community and family trauma was assessed through the directed content analysis, which will provide clinical insights for responding to social support expressions with multicultural survivors of violence.

Celine Crespi-Hunt
Susan Hall
Pepperdine University

Mindfulness-based Intervention for the Identity Development of Counselors in Training

This study posits that White racial identity development described in Helms (1993; Helms, 1995) is transferable to a model of heterosexual identity development, as both exemplify a process by which dominant groups become aware of dynamics of prejudice and oppression. For either developmental trajectory, cognitive growth may be curtailed by Information Processing Strategies that insulate prejudiced schemas. For individuals espousing liberal values, dissonance is often an unconscious contradiction between implicit bias and explicit pro-diversity values, which impedes the pedagogical and experiential interventions of multicultural training for counselors. In this study I propose a mindfulness-based intervention for multicultural training

that intervenes with dissonance directly through compassion, non-judgmental awareness and acceptance of one's prejudice to promote cognitive-emotional integration and development.

Sam Gable
Lesley University

Relationship Between Microaggression and Academic Achievement Among Mexican-American Adults

Microaggression is a controversial subject that impacts minority groups and may result in lower success rates of academic achievement, which may vary based on gender. Participants included 10 female and 10 male, ages 18 and older. The sampling method was employed by including a link to Qualtrics in the Facebook advertisement. Also, data was collected from students attending the California School of Professional Psychology, Los Angeles. The sample was comprised of high school graduates who did not attend college and individuals who have attended or completed college. There appeared to be a relationship between gender and experienced microaggression. Females experienced higher levels of microaggression than males. However, there was no significant difference between gender and experienced microaggression (p=.262).

Myra Irani
California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University

Ethnic Minority Middle School Students' Beliefs and Behaviors Regarding Violence and Bullying

Bullying is a widespread problem in schools. During the 2007-2008 school year, 25% of public schools reported that bullying occurred among students on a daily or weekly basis (CDC Fact Sheet, 2011). Evidence shows that social-emotional learning improves students' behavior and life outcomes and it is thought that these skills can also prevent bullying and violence (CASEL, 2010). This study aimed to examine middle school students' perceptions of safety and bullying. Participants were 322, 6th through 8th grade students and were largely ethnic/racial minorities. A combination of self-report likert-scale measures and qualitative open-ended questions were used. Results indicate that friendship and fears of victimization influence students' behaviors and beliefs and students' open-ended responses shed light on their beliefs and experiences.

Gagan Khera
Rivier University

Katia Miller
Tufts University

Objectification and Physical Appearance among Multiracial Women

Social scientists predict that by 2050, one in five people will identify as multiracial (Lee & Bean, 2004). Thus, research on multiracial women's experience is increasingly important. The present study examines relations between objectification and self-objectification (the internalization of objectification), and physical appearance satisfaction. Additionally, the buffering role of racial and feminist identities among multiracial women in relations between objectification/self-objectification and physical appearance satisfaction is examined. Participants will include 500 mixed race women, who are being recruited via email from a Northeastern public university, listservs, organizations for multiracial individuals, and snowballing. We will conduct regression analyses to examine the hypothesized direct, mediating, and moderating paths among constructs. Psychological and educational implications for multiracial women will be discussed.

Susan Lambe
University of Massachusetts Boston

What's Happening on Campus? Student Perceptions of Diversity, Conflict, Awareness, and Change

Ethnic minority students report more negative experiences and increased prejudice on campuses. A total of 202 undergraduate students at a private liberal arts college completed surveys on demographic and background factors, collective self-esteem (Crocker & Luhtanen, 1992), and campus community climate (adapted from Ancis, Sedlacek, & Mohr, 2000; Helm, Sedaleck, & Prieto, 1998). The current study examines the relationships between racial/ethnic status and collective self-esteem on (a) campus wide policies on diversity, (b) satisfaction on campus, (c) perceptions of racial/ethnic tensions, (d) current racial conflicts on campus, and (e) changes in awareness, attitudes and behaviors. Our findings will discuss the importance of multiculturalism in postsecondary institutions to foster community on college campuses.

Dylan Vaughn
Pacific University

Messages from the Death Camps: Lessons on Violence and Implications for Today

The Holocaust has long been defined as one of the most horrendous acts against humanity the world has ever seen. For the thousands that survived the atrocities of that time, the experience has left a tremendous impact on their lives. How they make meaning of their experiences and transmit those lessons are the driving questions behind our current research. Using constant-comparative theme analysis we extracted important and common themes across 7 participants from a larger cohort that experienced life in the ghettos, concentrations camps, and the death marches. We found that survivors wanted to share their stories and perspectives on humanity.

Additionally, many expressed their views on the violence currently happening throughout the world.

Kari Weiterschan
Nicole Ohebshalom
Megan Cox
Lisa Suzuki
Jehuda Kowalsky
Mineko Anne Onoue
New York University

Resisting Self-Sacrifice: Implication for the Study of Interpersonal Violence among Adolescent Girls

The purpose of this study was to gain a better understanding of the circumstances that motivate interpersonal violence among adolescent girls. The goal was to explore how girls resist and/or accommodate to harmful cultural stereotypes regarding femininity, and what implications this has for the study of youth violence. The construct of self-sacrifice was central to this objective and measured concurrently with incidences of peer victimization. Twenty-five participants were randomly selected for inclusion in this study and a constant-comparative theme analysis was applied and independently coded for in each interview. A group of four members then met to reach a consensus on the coding. The results reveal a co-occurrence of both accommodation and resistance to self-sacrifice and interpersonal violence.

Kari Weiterschan
New York University