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## Biographies

<u>Lisa Allen-Agostini</u> is a writer and editor from Trinidad and Tobago. She is reading for an MPhil in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine.

<u>Sue-Ann Barratt</u> is a member of the faculty at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. She is a graduate of The University of the West Indies, holding a BA in Media and Communication Studies with Political Science, MA Communication Studies, and PhD Interdisciplinary Gender Studies. Her current research areas are interpersonal interaction, social media use, gender and ethnic identities, beauty and body image, and Carnival studies. She is dedicated to gender awareness and sensitivity training through face-to-face sessions and mass media outreach.

<u>Dalea Bean</u> has been a Lecturer and Graduate Coordinator at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, Regional Coordinating Office at The University of the West Indies since 2008. Before working with the IGDS, she taught in the Department of History at The UWI in the areas of women's history and Caribbean history. She pursued a Bachelor of Arts in African and Caribbean History and Political Science at The UWI, graduating with first class honours in 2002. She then completed her PhD in History on the topic "Jamaican Women and World Wars I and II". Dr. Bean's general research interests include women and gender justice in Caribbean history, women in conflict situations, and gender relations in the hotel industry in Jamaica. She has written book chapters,

journal articles and has presented lectures internationally on these and other topics. She has also conducted gender equity and gender mainstreaming training regionally and has been engaged in research with the IGDS that facilitates gender mainstreaming in education, history writing and Caribbean masculinities.

Nicholas R. Gilbert, also known as AbioyeMunashe (which means 'born into royalty with God') was the first of nine children of his parents. He grew up in a family where history was preserved through an African practice known as storytelling. As a child he heard many stories about his ancestors from his grandparents and parents, and as a result he grew to love story telling and began to write stories from a young age. His passion for story writing evolved into poems as he grew older. Nicholas holds a BSc in Social Work (Hons) and a MSc in Gender and Development Studies both from The University of the West Indies. He was also given an award for "Best All-round Student" in Social Policy while an undergraduate. Nicholas received awards of "Poet of the Month" from Poetic Vibes\* in January 2009 and again in January 2011. In February 2010 he was awarded by Caribbean Youth Magazine (Cary'sma) for his contributions in the "Haiti 7.0 Poetry Writing Competition." He currently works with the Ministry of National Security as a Prison Welfare Officer I and is also a part time tutor at the Open Campus in St Augustine. He has a strong passion for community work and wants to work at curbing the impact of violence and crime caused by hypermasculine traits. He is a member of the Rape Crisis Society.

\*Poetic Vibes Arts Foundation was founded in 2007 initially as an online platform for the promotion of the arts in the Caribbean region and wider communities

<u>Tameka Hill</u> is a Communications and Gender and Development Specialist and has worked in the Cabinet Office, Office of the Prime Minister and Justice Ministry, Jamaica for most of her career. A former Jamaican Youth Ambassador, she represented the nation's youth at the national and international level speaking on several issues, chief among which was Human Trafficking. Ms Hill

was recently recognized as a Caribbean Youth Expert by the United Nations Envoy on Youths in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Ellie McDonald is a recent graduate of University College London. She wrote her thesis on feminism in the Anglophone Caribbean at King's College London. For her thesis, she undertook qualitative interviews with women activists in the region and worked with materials from the Making of Caribbean Feminisms project. Her research interests include women's activism, the gendered politics of development and the use of oral history. She currently works as a campaigner in London, UK, and plans to continue her postgraduate studies.

Patricia Mohammed is a scholar, writer and filmmaker. She is Professor of Gender and Cultural Studies and Campus Coordinator/Chair, School for Graduate Studies and Research at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, a post she has held variously since 2007. She has headed the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at St Augustine for various periods and from 1994-2002 was appointed as first head of the Mona Unit, Centre for Gender and Development Studies, UWI. For the Fall semester 2007 she was Visiting Professor at State University of New York at Albany and has had visiting fellowships at University of Warwick and Queen's University, Belfast. She was a recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's regional award for Excellence in Research at The UWI in 2015. She is a pioneer in second wave feminism and the development of gender studies at Tertiary level in the Caribbean and has been involved in feminist activism and scholarship for over two decades and increasingly over the last decade in Cultural Studies. She has been the architect of four national gender policies for the Caribbean. Her academic publications include Gender in Caribbean Development (Ed), 1988, Rethinking Caribbean Difference, Special Issue Feminist Review, Routledge Journals, 1998, Caribbean Women at the Crossroads, UWI Press, 1999, Gender Negotiations among Indians in Trinidad, 1917 – 1947, Palgrave UK and The Hague, 2001, and Gendered Realities: Essays in Caribbean Feminist Thought, (ed) University of the West Indies Press, Kingston, 2002, and Imaging the Caribbean: Culture and Visual Translation, Macmillan UK, 2010 along with over 100 essays in journals and books, magazines and newspapers. Her main areas of interest are gender and development studies, history and the study of aesthetics and visual intelligence. She has directed and produced 13 documentary films among Engendering Change: Caribbean Configurations (40) minutes, a six part series entitled A Different Imagination of which "Coolie Pink and Green" 2009 and "City on a Hill: Laventille" (40 mins) co-directed with Michael Mooleedhar are award winning films.

Ellen O'Malley Camps BA, MA, Post Grad. Dip. Mediation, is a counsellor and mediator with a background in teaching, theology and theatre. As a social activist she founded the Housewives Association of Trinidad and Tobago (HATT) working with single women heads of households and further developed the Little Carib Theatre as a theatre space. As an artist activist working as producer/director/actor/writer with four theatre companies she developed her Carnival Theatre transformative process. In 2003 she began a lifelong commitment to work with long-term and lifer inmates in Trinidad's Maximum Security Prison.

<u>Debra Providence</u> was born in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and is an educator, writer and researcher. Her doctoral thesis focuses on the intersecting literary spaces in the works of Edwidge Danticat, Nalo Hopkinson and Shani Mootoo and their implications for Anglophone Caribbean literary traditions.

Aleah N. Ranjitsingh gained her PhD in the field of Interdisciplinary Gender Studies at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies of The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago. Her dissertation is entitled: "Women and Change - Hugo Chávez's Bolivarian Revolution in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela" examines the development, political and social processes of Venezuela's Bolivarian Revolution under the late President Hugo Chávez, and seeks to situate women and implicate gender within these processes.

Angélica Rodríguez Bencosme received her BA in Interior Design with a thesis about furniture and went on to the study at the national Dominican polytechnic institute to become a furniture designer. She then completed interdisciplinary studies in furniture in Spain, at the Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña in Barcelona (Diploma) and the Universidad de Nebrija in Madrid (Master's). Once back home, she lectured at Dominican universities and attained a Master's Degree in Education from the Tecnológico de Monterrey. She published the book "El Mueble de Madera Dominicano" (2013) to rediscover design as a tool for social inclusion. Currently lecturing at Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo, Angélica is pursuing a PhD at the Institute for Gender and Development Studiess, St Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago.

Amilcar Sanatan, interdisciplinary artist and writer, is a Research Assistant and MPhil. candidate at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies. Sanatan is also the coordinator of the UWI Socialist Student Conference at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus.

Raquel LM Sukhu is a graduate of the IGDS, UWI, St Augustine Unit, and a Dean's Award recipient. In 2006 she earned an MPhil in Gender and Development Studies, thesis entitled "Why Men Batter: Male V{i}olence, Malevolence, Misogyny". She has worked as a higher education professional for almost twenty years and has developed and taught a broad range of tertiary level courses in sociology, gender studies and research methodology. Raquel has published in the areas of gender violence and masculinities, and is currently a PhD candidate at IGDS, St Augustine.



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