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## ISSUE 13

### African-Caribbean Women: Migration, Diaspora, Post-diaspora

#### Contributors

[Leith Dunn](#) is Senior Lecturer and Head of the UWI's IGDS, Mona Unit. Her academic and professional career spans over 25 years of teaching, research and publishing and programming on a wide range of social and economic development issues with gender as a cross-cutting human rights theme. These have included studies on: migration and human trafficking; labour, trade and tourism; climate change and disaster risk management; sexual and reproductive health, HIV and AIDS; leadership and governance. Dr. Dunn previously worked with regional and international development agencies including the United Nations. She has served as an Advisor to the Commonwealth Foundation and as a member of four (4) Commonwealth Observer Missions for Tripartite Elections in Zimbabwe (2002) ; Zambia (2006), Rwanda (2010) and Malawi (2014). She completed her BA (honours) in Languages and Social Sciences and her MSC in Sociology and Social Psychology at The UWI and her Ph.D. in Sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

[Suzanne Scafe](#) is a Visiting Professor of Caribbean and Postcolonial Literatures at London South Bank University. Her recent work includes essays on violence in

the spatial imaginary of Kingston fictions (ZAA, 2016, and forthcoming, 2019), and several essays and book chapters on black British women's autobiographical writing, black British fiction and drama, and Caribbean women's writing. Her most recent publications include "Black Women Subjects in Auto/biographical Discourse" in *The Cambridge Companion to Black and Asian Literature* (2016) and "Performing Ellen: Mojisola Adebayo's *Moj of the Antarctic: An African Odyssey*, 2008 and *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom; or, the Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery, 1860*" (*Journal of Commonwealth Literature* forthcoming, 2019). She is the co-editor with Aisha T. Spencer of a Special Issue for the journal *Short Fiction in Theory and Practice* entitled, Caribbean Women's Short Fiction: New Voices, Emerging Perspectives (2016); co-editor of a collection of essays, *I Am Black/White/Yellow: The Black Body in Europe* (2007), and of two Special issues of *Feminist Review*, Creolization and Affect (2013) and Black British Feminisms (2014). Suzanne Scafe was the Principal Investigator (2016-2018) of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK) Network grant entitled *African-Caribbean Women's Mobility and Self-Fashioning in Post-Diaspora Contexts*.

<http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/schools/arts-and-creative-industries/research/african-caribbean-women-post-diaspora-network>

[Andrea A. Davis](#) is Associate Professor in Black Cultures of the Americas, Coordinator of the Black Canadian Studies Certificate, and Chair of the Department of Humanities at York University in Toronto. She also holds cross-appointments in the graduate programs in English; Interdisciplinary Studies; and Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies. Her research on Black women's fictional writing and constructions of gender has been published widely in journals such as *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture, and Social Justice*; *Canadian Woman Studies*; *Caribbean Quarterly*; *Caribbean Review of Gender Studies*; *Journal of Canadian Studies*; *Journal of Education and Development in the Caribbean*; and *Topia: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*. She is currently working on a book manuscript, *Horizon, Sea, Sound: A Post-Diaspora Critique of the Nation* (Northwestern UP) that theorizes the complex ways in which Caribbean and African women in Canada negotiate and contest patriarchal and imperial definitions of the nation.

[Jenny Douglas](#) is passionate about the health and wellbeing of black women as evidenced through her research and public engagement. She has a PhD in Women's Studies and completed her doctoral thesis on cigarette smoking and identity among African-Caribbean young women in contemporary British society. This research brought together two divergent research traditions: medical public health and health promotion approaches with sociological approaches to researching cigarette smoking. This interdisciplinary research approach brings together sociology, public health and women's studies. Her commitment to comparative approaches finds expression not only in working across disciplinary and national boundaries, but also across theoretical and methodological traditions. Her research is both varied and wide ranging spanning 30 years on issues of race, health, gender and ethnicity. The key theme unifying her research and activism is intersectionality – exploring how 'race', class and gender affect particular aspects of African - Caribbean women's health. Jenny Douglas established and chairs the Black Women's Health and Wellbeing Research Network. ([www.open.ac.uk/black-womens-health-and-wellbeing](http://www.open.ac.uk/black-womens-health-and-wellbeing)) and her ambition is to establish an international research institute on the health and wellbeing of black women. Jenny Douglas is a Senior Lecturer in Health Promotion in the Faculty of Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies at the Open University. She has a PhD in Women's Studies from the University of York, an MA in Sociological Research in Health Care from the University of Warwick, an MSc in Environmental Pollution Control from the University of Leeds and a BSc (Hons) in Microbiology and Virology from the University of Warwick. She is an honorary member of the Faculty of Public Health and is a director of the UK Public Health Register. Jenny is a Research Affiliate of the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada and a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Psychology at The George Washington University, Washington D.C., USA. Member of the International Union of Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE)

[Natasha Kay Mortley](#) is a Lecturer and Research Specialist at the Regional Coordinating Office of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS) at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica. She lectures in the areas of Development Studies, Gender Analysis for Development Policy and Planning and Research Methods. Her research interests and work include: migration & diaspora studies; migration, health & development; medical tourism; diaspora tourism; sports tourism; gender & leadership; gender & entrepreneurship; gender

& climate change; and contemporary Caribbean masculinities. Natasha Mortley has extensive experience in the field of Development Studies, having been engaged in a multi-disciplinary approach to key developmental challenges of particular relevance to the Caribbean region. Her disciplinary focus over the past fifteen (15) years has been dedicated to integrating a gender perspective to Caribbean social development and policy issues. She therefore considers herself a social developmentalist working in the area of gender and development studies and an advocate for gender equity and social justice. Dr. Mortley is a member of the African-Caribbean Women's Mobility and Self-fashioning in Post-diaspora Contexts Network (Post-diaspora Network), which consists of scholars from the UK, North America and the Caribbean, who investigate how globalization works for African-Caribbean women migrants, even while acknowledging and addressing its exclusions and production of inequalities. She is also currently Expert Advisor to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat for the "Migration and Engaging OECS Diaspora Programme".

[Aisha Spencer](#) is a lecturer in Language and Literature Education in the School of Education at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, in Kingston, Jamaica. Her scholarly writing has largely surrounded the situation of gender and the nation in Caribbean Literature and has recently begun to focus on postcolonial and gender discourses in Caribbean Children's Literature by Caribbean women writers. Dr. Spencer has been teaching language and literature for over twenty (20) years. She lectures and leads workshop sessions for teachers and students in the area of Children's Literature, is a Caribbean Children's Literature advisor for Lantana Publishing and has worked closely with particular Caribbean female Children's Literature authors over the years. She works closely with teachers and students across Jamaica, engaging them in new ways of reading and responding to Literature. She is the co-editor of a recently published anthology of Caribbean poetry, entitled '*Give the Ball to the Poet : A New Anthology of Caribbean Poetry*'. Her areas of research interest are predominantly in Literature Education, Gender and Nationalism, Postcolonial Literatures, and Children's Literature.

[Saran Stewart](#) is a senior lecturer of Comparative Higher Education and Deputy Dean for the Faculty of Humanities and Education at the University of the West

Indies, Mona Campus. She was selected as a 2018 African Diaspora Emerging Scholar by the Comparative and International Education Society. She is a Salzburg Global Fellow and recipient of the 2017 and 2018 Principal's Awards for Most Outstanding Researcher and Best Research Publication from The UWI, respectively. At the core of her research, Dr. Stewart's research examines issues in comparative education, decolonizing methodologies, postcolonial theories, critical/inclusive pedagogy and access and equity issues in higher education. She is co-editor of the book, *Race, Equity and the Learning Environment: The Global Relevance of Critical and Inclusive Pedagogies in Higher Education* (Stylus) and editor of the 2019 forthcoming book, *Decolonizing Qualitative Methodologies for and by the Caribbean* (Information Age Publishing). Her research has been published in the Journal of Diversity in Higher Education, Journal of Student Affairs, Postcolonial Directions in Education Journal and the Journal of Negro Education, to name a few. She is also the Coordinator for the M.A. in Higher Educational Management and M.A. in Student Personnel Administration programmes as well as the Chief Editor for the Journal of Education and Development in the Caribbean.

[Shirley Anne Tate](#) is Professor of Race and Education in the Carnegie School of Education, Leeds Beckett University, UK, and Honorary Professor, Chair Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation at Nelson Mandela University, South Africa. Affiliation: Carnegie School of Education, Leeds Beckett University, UK and Nelson Mandela University, South Africa.

[Paulette A. Ramsay](#) is a Full Professor in the Faculty of Humanities and Education, at The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. She is an interdisciplinary academic, an established writer and researcher whose interests include Language Pedagogy, Writing Theories and Afro- Hispanic literature and culture. She has published many scholarly articles, mainly in the area of Afro-Hispanic literature and culture, in international journals such as *The Afro- Hispanic Review*, *PALARA*, *Bulletin of Latin American Review*, *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies*, *The Langston Hughes Review*, *Hispania*, *Caribbean Quarterly* and *College Language Association*. Her research draws on broad post- colonial/post- modernist theories, gender studies, feminist studies and cultural studies, especially as they relate to issues of identity, ethnicity and nationhood. She is

regarded as one of the leading researchers in the areas of Afro-Costa Rican and Afro-Mexican literary and cultural production.

She has published a rhetorical reader for Caribbean tertiary students *Blooming with the Pouis* (2009), as well as translations of a novel, poetry and short stories from Spanish into English. She is a writer of fiction and her novel, *Aunt Jen*, has been translated to German and Italian and is enjoying great popularity. She has also published three anthologies of poems entitled, *Under Basil Leaves*(2010), *October Afternoon, ( 2012)* and *Star Apple Blue and Avocado Green*(2016)respectively. She has been the recipient of several awards including OAS, AECI Fellowships, UWI 60 Under 60 Award for outstanding research, and the UWI Principal's Award,. IN 2014, she received the French National Award: *Chevalier* , Knight in the French Order of Merit , *Ordre du Mérite* from the French Government for her work as former Head of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and her collaboration with the French Embassy.

[Nadena Doharty](#) is a sociologist of education working in the School of Education at the University of Sheffield. Nadena read her undergraduate degree in Sociology and Politics and postgraduate degree in International Relations at Goldsmith's College, University of London. After a PGCE specialising in Sociology and Politics, Nadena earned her PhD at the University of Keele for a thesis entitled '*Black History Month and Black History with Key Stage 3 Students in English Secondary Schools: A Critical Race Theory Approach*'. You can find Nadena on twitter @PhD\_NDoharty. Nadena's areas of specialisation include: the sociology of education (racialised, gendered and classed inequalities in compulsory schooling); the teaching and learning of Black History/Black History Month in schools; identities and racialised cultural differences through the curriculum; critical (race) methodologies and, critical/anti-racist pedagogy.

[Pauline Muir](#) is a lecturer in Arts Management at Goldsmiths College, and was formerly Course Director on B.A. (Hons) Arts and Festival Management course at London South Bank University. Recently awarded a PhD from Birkbeck College, University of London exploring congregational music in Black Majority Churches in London, she is author of 'Sounds of Blackness ? Struggles for Freedom in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Congregational Songs in South London' in Ackah, Dodson & Smith (eds) (2017) *Religion, Culture and Spirituality in Africa and the African Diaspora* and 'A Virtuous Woman in the Twenty-First Century' in Aldred, (ed) (2000) *Sisters with*

Power. Pauline is also a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA) and Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA).

[Charmaine Crawford](#) is a Lecturer at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, Nita Barrow Unit, The UWI, Cave Hill Campus. Her work focuses on the diasporic and transnational experiences of Caribbean people on the move. She received her PhD in Women's Studies from York University, Canada, where she also taught part-time in the School of Women's Studies and the Faculty of Humanities. She has also participated in many activities in Toronto, Canada around anti-racist, feminist and human rights issues. Her research interests include gender and sexuality in the Caribbean, transnational motherhood, migration, domestic work and post-colonial/ queer/feminist theorizing. Her involvement as Chair of the National Gender Advisory Committee, the UN Women Civil Society Advisory Group and the Caribbean Policy Development Centre's Project Steering Committee for Domestic Workers and Artisans has been purposeful in centering gender in public policy.

[Leigh-Ann Worrell](#) is a Research Assistant at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, Nita Barrow Unit, The UWI, Cave Hill Campus. Her academic and activist interests focus on sexuality, love and desire at the margins. Leigh-Ann began her career in media, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Media and Communication from The UWI, Mona. After spending three years in active journalism in Barbados, she studied Social Development and Public Policy at Beijing Normal University. There, she investigated strategies for managing state and other third-party discrimination against African-Chinese couples living in Guangzhou. Leigh-Ann received further education at the master's level, pursuing Women's and Gender studies at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. She has worked as a Teaching Assistant in the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies and held the post of Sexual Assault Outreach Coordinator at Carleton University's Graduate Students Association, where she advocated for students on sexual assault policy and provided safer sex education across the campus. Leigh-Ann is the recipient of several awards and scholarships

[Christine Barrow](#) is Professor Emerita and, until retirement, was Professor of Social Development at the Cave Hill Campus, The UWI. She received a BA (Hons) and a DPhil in Social Anthropology at the University of Sussex. She has over forty years of experience as an academic researcher, lecturer and administrator at The UWI where she served as Head of Department, Deputy Dean and Deputy Principal. She was also Coordinator of the Women and Development Studies Group and Chair of the campus HIV & AIDS Response Programme (UWIHARP). Her publications include **11** authored and edited books and monographs, over 30 articles in peer reviewed journals and several reports. They focus on poverty and social exclusion, gender and family with specific reference to child rights and development, HIV & AIDS, sexual and reproductive rights and gender-based violence. She has conducted consultancies for several regional and international agencies and served on many public service organizations, local and regional. She was a Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation/Western Hemisphere Region (IPPF/WHR) (2014-17).

[Verene Shepherd](#) is Professor of Social History (The UWI, Mona Campus) and the former University Director of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies. She is currently the Director of the Institute for Reparations Research at The University of the West Indies. Professor Shepherd has published widely on Jamaican economic history during slavery, the Indian experience in Jamaica, migration and diasporas **and** Caribbean women's history. A prolific author, Prof. Shepherd is editor/compiler, author, co-author and co-editor of 16 important books, among them, *Transients to Settlers: The Experiences of Indians in Jamaica*; *Women in Caribbean History*; *Maharani's Misery: Narratives of a Passage from India to the Caribbean: Engendering Caribbean History: Cross-Cultural Perspectives*; *Livestock, Sugar & Slavery: Contested Terrain in Colonial Jamaica*; *Working Slavery, Pricing Freedom: Perspectives from the Caribbean, Africa and the African Diaspora*; *Slavery without Sugar* and *I Want to Disturb My Neighbour: Lectures on Slavery, Emancipation and Post-Colonial Jamaica*. As a scholar activist, Professor Shepherd is a member of several international organisations. In 2014, Professor Shepherd guided UN committees into the General Assembly's declaring 2015-2024 the *Decade for People of African Descent*. In 2015, she was elected to the United Nations Committee on the



Elimination of Racial Discrimination. She is the first national of the Caribbean Community to serve on the CERD. Professor Shepherd has been the recipient of several awards, among them the Order of Distinction, Commander Class from the Govt of Jamaica for her work in History and Gender Studies; the Jamaica National Heritage Trust Award for her work in History and Heritage and the Africana Studies distinguished African Award from Florida International University.

[Violet Eudine Barriteau](#) is a Grenadian-born Caribbean feminist, scholar and activist with considerable experience in research, senior administration and coordination of regional projects. She has been awarded many academic scholarships, awards and recognitions from universities and organizations, both regional and overseas. Professor Barriteau holds a PhD in Political Science from Howard University and an MPA in Public Sector Financial Management from New York University. She has written over thirty book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles. Professor Barriteau was the first Head of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, a position which she held for fifteen years. She was also the first woman at The University of the West Indies to be appointed Campus Coordinator, School for Graduate Studies and Research. In 2016 she advised that The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus should establish a Faculty of Sport. In July 2017, the University established the regional Faculty of Sport. As Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Cave Hill Campus, Professor Barriteau has spearheaded a number of initiatives to advance the internationalization of the Cave Hill Campus. In 2017 Professor Barriteau launched The Smart Campus Initiative which is designed to reconceptualise the model of the delivery of higher education goods and services in Barbados and the Caribbean by the harnessing of ICT technology. The Smart Campus Initiative transforms all services, facilities, administrative procedures and pedagogical strategies to support national and regional development. Her research interests encompass transformational educational leadership, feminist theorizing, gender and public policy and investigation.



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