

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## **1. Dr. Joseph L. White**

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Known as the "godfather of Black psychology," Joseph White was one of just five Black Americans to hold a doctorate in clinical psychology, and the first to earn one from Michigan State University, when he received his degree in 1962. The lack of representation in his field – and how that affected Black people – was an issue White spent his life addressing."

<https://www.depauw.edu/stories/details/joseph-white-the-godfather-of-black-psychology/>

### **Accomplishments:**

"In 1968, during the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, White and a group of Black colleagues met to discuss their growing frustration with the organization's handling of race. The group decided to split off, forming the Association of Black Psychologists "to develop a nationwide structure for pooling their resources in meeting the challenge of racism and poverty."

"Two years later, White laid out his vision for change within the field in "Toward a Black Psychology," published in Ebony magazine. In it, White argued that psychology frequently and wrongly described Black people as deviant or lacking because it relied on Eurocentric norms for understanding behavior. His continued writings and research on the topic shaped a new generation of Black psychologists, one of many being Edward Garnes '99, whom White encouraged to study psychology during a visit to speak at DePauw. Garnes, an English writing major, went on to earn master's degrees in psychology and counseling, and founded a community-based organization that provides strategies for personal development to predominantly Black clients."

<https://www.depauw.edu/stories/details/joseph-white-the-godfather-of-black-psychology/>

### **Quotes:**

"Psychology is part of America, Black people are invisible in America, [and so] they're invisible in psychology. This invisibility, along with engrained expectations that Blacks were in general inferior to whites, was not based on data but culture – and therefore was hardly worthy of the name 'science.'"



### **Want to learn more?**

- The Psychology of Blacks: An African-American Perspective with Thomas Anthony Parham, Prentice Hall, 1990, ISBN 0-13-733791-4, ISBN 978-0-13-733791-0
- The Troubled Adolescent, Joseph L. White, Pergamon Press, 1989 ISBN 0-08-036820-4, ISBN 978-0-08-036820-7
- Black Man Emerging: Facing the Past and Seizing a Future in America with James H. Cones, Routledge, 1999, ISBN 0-415-92572-X, 9780415925723
- The psychology of Blacks: an African-centered perspective, with Thomas Anthony Parham, Adisa Ajamu, Prentice Hall, 1999, ISBN 0-13-095946-4, ISBN 978-0-13-095946-1
- Black Fathers: An Invisible Presence in America, with Michael E. Connor, Routledge, 2006, ISBN 0-8058-4510-0, ISBN 978-0-8058-4510-5
- Building Multicultural Competency: Development, Training, and Practice, with Sheila Henderson, Rowman & Littlefield, 2008, ISBN 0-7425-6420-7, ISBN 978-0-7425-6420-6

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *2. Dr. Francis Sumner*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Sumner earned a second bachelors degree at Clark in English (1916). Back to Lincoln and while teaching German and psychology, Sumner earned the M.A. degree (1917). Undecided whether to continue his doctoral studies in German or psychology, Sumner was offered full financial support by Hall, and Sumner returned to Clark University to study psychology. ""  
<https://psyc.franklin.uga.edu/sites/default/files/inline-files/Sumner.pdf>

### **Accomplishments:**

"Sumner was identified as the "father of black American psychologists" by the eminent black historian of psychology, Robert Guthrie (2004). Guthrie used this appellation to acknowledge Sumner's being the first black Ph.D. in psychology and also for his significant role in the educations of early generations of black psychologists"

"Sumner's theoretical contributions include his dissertation (see above) that applied the theoretical tenets of psychoanalysis to explain fundamental differences between two of its major founders, Freud and Adler. Sumner also acquired an interest in the psychology of religion from his mentor, Hall, and he did extensive research on American and European religions. As described by Guthrie, Sumner produced a "massive manuscript" titled The Structure of Religion: A History of European Psychology of Religion"

<https://www.depauw.edu/stories/details/joseph-white-the-godfather-of-black-psychology/>

### **Quotes:**

"In the current struggle between the respective protagonists of heredity and environment, the bone of contention [should not have] been whether heredity or environment contributes all but rather whether heredity or environment contributes more in the determination of an individual's achievement. The proponents of [heredity] in their eagerness to defend the myth of Nordic superiority have intentionally or unintentionally assumed that which is to be proved, namely, that heredity counts all."

"There is no need to describe the horrid American atrocities against the Negro. Not satisfied with having reduced a people to the level of slaves, they now burn them at the stake without trial. They shoot the Negro down in his tracks, they gag him, they rape and seduce his womenfolk and then gloat over what they term the Negro's inherent immorality, degeneration, and bestiality. His home is burned from under him. In sections of the country, at times, mob law is [the] supreme representative of federal government. It is indeed a shocking wonder that some compassionate and benevolent White citizen has not founded a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Negroes."



### **Quotes:**

"Within the soul of each member of my race the conscious self is saying, Serve your country, while the unconscious from out of the depths is thundering, You have a poor cause to serve."

[https://commons.trincoll.edu/macecourses/files/2016/11/Sumner\\_2000.pdf](https://commons.trincoll.edu/macecourses/files/2016/11/Sumner_2000.pdf)

### **Want to learn more?**

- Psychoanalysis of Freud and Adler (1922)

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *3. Dr. Mamie Phipps Clark*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Psychologist and activist Mamie Phipps Clark conducted groundbreaking studies on race and child development that helped end segregation in the United States."

[columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/collections/nny/clarkm/profile.html](http://columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/collections/nny/clarkm/profile.html)

### **Accomplishments:**

"Mamie and Kenneth Clark's research on children and race showed that black children became aware of their racial identity—and of society's negative view of blackness—at about 3 years old. The Clarks presented their results at several school desegregation trials and their work, along with other research on the effects of segregation on self-esteem, formed a moral foundation for the NAACP's case in *Brown v. Board of Education*, which overturned racial segregation in public schools in 1954."

Mamie Clark founded the Northside Center for Child Development in 1946, the first center to provide therapy for children in Harlem.

Clark served on the boards of organizations such as the American Broadcast Company, Mount Sinai Medical Center, the Museum of Modern Art, and the New York Public Library.

[columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/collections/nny/clarkm/profile.html](http://columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/collections/nny/clarkm/profile.html)

### **Quotes:**

"The discrepancy between identifying one's own color and indicating one's color preference is too great to be ignored. The negation of the color, brown, exists in the same complexity of attitudes in which there also exists knowledge of the fact that the child himself must be identified with that which he rejects."

"Social engineering is no more difficult than space engineering. If a program to get us to the moon didn't work, the engineers would try another program."

"A racist system inevitably destroys and damages human beings; it brutalizes and dehumanizes them, blacks and whites alike."



### **Want to learn more?**

- Master's thesis, "The Development of Consciousness of Self in Negro Pre-School Children" (Butler, 2009).

# Black therapists you need to know

## 4. Dr. Robert Williams

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Williams graduated from Dunbar High School in Little Rock at sixteen before attending Dunbar Junior College for one year. Williams earned a BA degree from Philander Smith College in 1953. He earned an M.Ed. from Wayne State University in educational psychology in 1955, when all graduate programs in the South remained segregated, and a Ph.D. in 1961 from Washington University in St. Louis in clinical psychology."

<https://aaregistry.org/story/robert-l-williams-psychologist-born/>

### Accomplishments:

"While these individuals' accomplishments and influence on the field cannot be understated, history has disregarded and excluded other key pioneers in the field on the basis of their minority status. This is particularly the case for Dr. Robert Williams, who despite having made a tremendous impact on the field, remains relatively anonymous compared to other figures of his era."

"The current commentary aims to fill in this gap in psychology's

history, by providing an inside look into the accomplishments of Dr. Williams. Particular attention will be paid to four notable accomplishments: the founding of the Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi), the development of the Black Intelligence Test of Cultural Homogeneity (BITCH100), the coining of the term Ebonics, and the development of the concept of racial scripting"

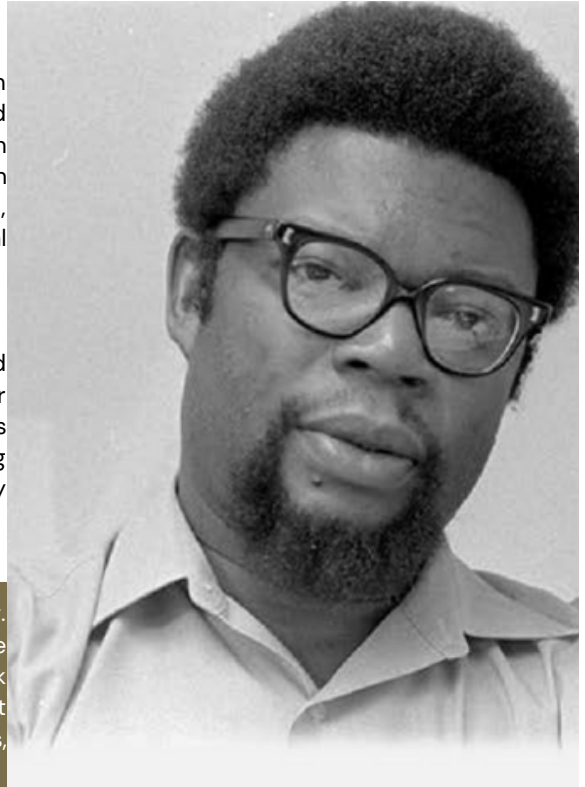
<https://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1012&context=psychologyfromthemargins>

### Quotes:

"The single, most salient conclusion is that traditional ability tests do systematically and consistently lead to assigning of improper and false labels on Black children, and consequently to dehumanization and Black intellectual genocide"

"First of all, the meaning of intelligence is rather diverse and although considerable attention and effort have been given this concept, it is still ill-used and poorly understood."

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0011000007100200314>



### Want to learn more?

- Ebonics: The True Language of Black Folks
- The Collective Black Mind: Toward an Afrocentric Theory of Black Personality
- Racism Learned at an Early Age through Racial Scripting (2007)

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *5. Dr. Robert V. Guthrie*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"He became the first African-American professor at San Diego Mesa College and a founding member of the Association of Black Psychologists."

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/robert-guthrie>

### **Accomplishments:**

"After a short stay in Pittsburgh he left to become a research psychologist for the National Institute of Education in Washington, D.C. His career was marked with many promotions, leading him to become the associate director of the psychological sciences division of the Office of Naval Research which brought him back to San Diego."

"In 1976, Dr. Guthrie penned his seminal book, "Even the Rat Was White: A Historical View of Psychology," which illuminated the contributions of pioneering black psychologists while challenging racial stereotypes in and out of the field of psychology. In 2001, he was the first black psychologist to deposit his papers in the National Archives of American Psychology. Guthrie's last academic appointment was at Southern Illinois University, where he taught applied experimental psychology and served as chairman of Black American Studies until 1997. An updated version of "Even the Rat Was White" was released in 1998 by Allyn & Bacon."

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/robert-guthrie>

### **Quotes:**

"There is a rich heritage in black psychology," Guthrie explains, "but even today not many textbooks mention the black psychologists who did solid research during segregation. As I wrote, I was leading the forgotten people out of the woodwork."

<https://www.apa.org/monitor/nov01/american>



### **Want to learn more?**

- "Even the Rat Was White: A Historical View of Psychology."



# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *6. Dr. Inez Beverly Prosser*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Dr. Inez Beverly Prosser was a psychologist best known for becoming the first Black woman to earn a Ph.D. in psychology."  
<https://awis.org/historical-women/dr-inez-beverly-prosser/>

### **Accomplishments:**

"She earned her teaching certificate taught while working on her bachelor's degree. She ultimately earned her master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Cincinnati. Her dissertation on school integration concluded that Black children in integrated schools had a harder time socially — which was controversial in the time before Brown v. Board in 1954. Throughout her teaching career, Prosser assisted several Black students with attaining loans and funds for college."  
<https://awis.org/historical-women/dr-inez-beverly-prosser/>



### **Want to learn more?**

Prosser's dissertation, *The Non-Academic Development of Negro Children in Mixed and Segregated Schools*, became an important text for issues relating to education, reform, social development, racial identity, and other prominent topics related to segregation

"In 1933 and 1934, Prosser also produced seven articles in the *Mississippi Educational Journal*, the official newspaper of the Mississippi Association of Teachers in Colored Schools, titled "A Monthly Magazine for Teachers in Colored Schools,".[1] In these articles, Prosser focused on topics such as English literature, composition, grammar, and overall subjects"

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inez\\_Beverly\\_Prosser](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inez_Beverly_Prosser)

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *7. Dr. Herman George Canady*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Dr. Herman George Canady (1901-1970) was born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. He attended Northwestern University Theological School as a Charles F. Grey scholarship student, where his interest in behavioral science began. Dr. Canady held several degrees from Northwestern University including a B.A. in sociology with a minor in psychology (1927), M.A. in clinical psychology (1928), and Ph.D. in psychology."

<https://advanced-hindsight.com/blog/black-history-month-spotlight-herman-george-canady/>

### **Accomplishments:**

"Dr. Canady has contributed to the field of psychology in many ways. Firstly, he became the first psychologist to study the relationship between an IQ test examiner and the tester. In his master thesis, "The Effects of Rapport

on the IQ: A Study in Racial Psychology" he explored whether the race of the IQ examiner (Black versus White) had an influence on IQ testers' scores.

Despite the results, conducting this research enabled Dr. Canady to be the first to explore how external factors such as the race of the examiner can potentially create bias in IQ testing. He also went on to provide suggestions on how to foster a testing environment that is suitable to help Black students succeed.

Secondly, he played a vital role in helping African Americans earn Ph.Ds. and join universities. For example, he helped to establish West Virginia's Psychological Association and West Virginia's state board of psychological examiners. He produced *Psychology in Negro Institutions*, which was the only known published research at that time which assessed the status, training, and research efforts of early psychologists in black colleges and universities.

Lastly, Dr. Canady held many leadership roles. For example, he served as the chairmanship of the psychology department at West Virginia Collegiate Institution (now West Virginia State College) and was a designated Diplomate of the American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology. Outside of being a social psychologist, he was also a part-time clinical psychologist."

<https://advanced-hindsight.com/blog/black-history-month-spotlight-herman-george-canady/>



### **Want to learn more?**

- master's thesis "The Effects of Rapport on the IQ: A Study in Racial Psychology"
- *Psychology in Negro Institutions*

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/george-canady>

# Black therapists you need to know

## 8. Dr. Albert Sidney Beckham

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Albert Sidney Beckham, PhD, is known as the first African-American to hold the title of school psychologist. He received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Lincoln University under the supervision of Francis Sumner."

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/albert-sidney-beckham>

### Accomplishments:

"Beckham became the first professor to teach psychology at Howard University. In fact, he taught all the psychology courses at Howard. He also established the first psychological laboratory on campus, which provided counseling, intelligence testing and consultations"

"He not only established the first psychological clinics in a public school at DuSable High School, but he also published

over 20 articles on the effect of counseling on high school students, childhood behavioral problems, intelligence testing and life satisfaction."

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/albert-sidney-beckham>

### Quotes:

"It will be valuable to know if these [segregated] schools and similar schools might profit by a wise consideration of economic-social status in the organization of courses of study."

### Wanted to learn more?

Beckham, A. S. (1924). Applied eugenics. *Crisis*, 28(1), 177–178.

Beckham, A. S. (1929). Is the Negro happy? *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, 24(2), 186–190. <https://doi.org/10.1037/h0072938>

Beckham, A. S. (1930). A study of intelligence of colored adolescents of different economic and social status in typical metropolitan areas [Doctoral dissertation, New York University]. <https://library.nyu.edu>

Beckham, A. S. (1931). Juvenile delinquency and the Negro. *Opportunity*, 9, 300–302. <https://doi.org/10.1080/OO224545.1933.9921558>

Beckham, A. (1932). The Negro child of pre-school age. *The Southern Workman*, 61, 221–226. Beckham, A. S. (1932). Race and intelligence. *Opportunity*, 10, 240–242.

Beckham, A. S. (1933). A study of the intelligence of colored adolescents of different social-economic status in typical metropolitan areas. *The Journal of Social Psychology*, 4(1), 70–91. <https://doi.org/10.1080/OO224545.1933.9921558>



### Want to learn more?

- Beckham, A. S., (1933). Over-Suggestibility in Juvenile Delinquency. *The Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, 28(2), 172–178. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/h0070124>
- Beckham, A. S., & Israeli, N. (1933). Political, racial, and differential psychology. *The Journal of Social Psychology*, 4, 1.
- Beckham, A. S. (1934). A study of race attitudes in negro children of adolescent age. *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology*, 29(1), 18–29. <https://doi.org/10.1037/h0070753>
- Beckham, A. S. (1939). The intelligence of a Negro high school population in a Northern city. *The Pedagogical Seminary and Journal of Genetic Psychology*, 54(2), 327–336. <https://doi.org/10.1080/O8856559.1939.10534339>
- Beckham, A. S. (1942). A study of social background and art aptitude of superior Negro children. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 26(6), 777. <https://doi.org/10.1037/h0056017>
- Beckham, A. S. (1942). A study of social background and music ability of superior Negro children. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 26(2), 210–217. <https://doi.org/10.1037/h0054822>
- Beckham, A. S. (1946). Albinism in Negro children. *The Pedagogical Seminary and Journal of Genetic Psychology*, 69(2), 199–215. <https://doi.org/10.1080/O8856559.1946.10533389>



# *Black therapists you need to know*

## **9. Dr. Alberta Banner Turner**

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Dr. Alberta Banner Turner was a distinguished African American psychologist. She was born in Chicago in 1909, where she later became the first person in her family to graduate high school. She completed her bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees from the Ohio State University, she was the first African American female to earn a PhD from the university."

<https://psychologistspotlights.chass.ncsu.edu/people/dr-alberta-banner-turner/>

### **Accomplishments:**

"While working towards her doctorate degree, with advising from psychologist Samuel Renshaw, Dr. Turner completed her dissertation titled, "The Effects of Practice on the Perception and Memorization of Digits Presented in Single Exposure"

After completing her doctorate degree, she worked at many universities, some of which include both Winston-Salem College and Bennett College in North Carolina, Lincoln University in Missouri, and Southern University in Louisiana. In 1941 she was awarded a fellowship to Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri to study consumer education.

She was a social rights activist and fought against policies that discriminated against her and her African American peers. Her lectures on race and interracial marriage in the United States give Dr. Turner a lasting memory after her passing in 2008.

<https://psychologistspotlights.chass.ncsu.edu/people/dr-alberta-banner-turner/>

### **Want to learn more?**

Her dissertation was entitled, "The Effects of Practice on the Perception and Memorization of Digits Presented in Single Exposure."



# Black therapists you need to know

## 10. Dr. Reginald L. Jones

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Professor Jones was an internationally known psychologist who made significant contributions to scholarship, to public service and to his profession."

[https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/\\_files/inmemoriam/html/reginaldjones.htm](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/inmemoriam/html/reginaldjones.htm)

### Accomplishments:

"Throughout his nearly 50-year career in psychology, Jones has engaged in research and writing in two primary areas: research on the psychology and education of exceptional children and writing and research on issues of race and psychology."

"He was instrumental in the development of black psychology as an area of academic scholarship. He promoted the work of more than three decades of prominent black psychologists through anthologies and collected works."

"He has been the associate editor of the American Journal of Mental Deficiency and editor of Mental Retardation, both journals of the American Association on Mental Retardation. His public service included appointments to President-elect Clinton's Council of Advisors to the Education Transition Team, President Richard Nixon's Task Force on Mental Health and a variety of other commissions and task forces at all levels of government"

[https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/\\_files/inmemoriam/html/reginaldjones.htm](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/inmemoriam/html/reginaldjones.htm)

### Quotes:

"Now, the research always has the middle-class black child compared to the lower-class white child. Nobody ever talked about the middle-class blacks or upper middle-class blacks. Everything was lower class, and that's a problem of methodology. It's a methodological flaw in the research because you need to have comparable social classes and comparable races to make a valid comparison. That was never done. So, what happened, since the government was pouring tens of millions of dollars into studying the black child in relationship to the middle-class white child—there were hundreds, probably thousands, of research studies—they all concluded that on whatever dimension was studied, practically, the black child was deficient in some way. (Jones, 2003)"

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reginald\\_L.\\_Jones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reginald_L._Jones)



### Want to learn more?

- Over the course of his distinguished career, Reggie produced 28 instructional videotapes in psychology; wrote over 200 papers, articles and reviews; and edited 22 books, including the widely adopted Black Psychology, New Directions in Special Education, Mainstreaming and the Minority Child, Problems and Issues in the Education of Exceptional Children, African American Children, Youth and Parenting, Black Adolescents, Black Adult Development and Aging, African American Mental Health, Advances in African American Psychology, and Handbook of Tests and Measurements for Black Populations (two volumes)

[https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/\\_files/inmemoriam/html/reginaldjones.htm](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/inmemoriam/html/reginaldjones.htm)

# Black therapists you need to know

## 11. Dr. Olivia Hooker

### Brief bio excerpt:

"University of Rochester alumnus. Psychologist and professor. Survivor of the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921. The first African American woman to serve active duty in the US Coast Guard."

<https://www.rochester.edu/2020-celebration/olivia-hooker/>

### Accomplishments:

"Enlisted with the US Coast Guard, becoming the first African American woman to serve in active duty."

"After the war, Hooker attended graduate school on the GI Bill, achieving a master's degree from Columbia University and, in 1961, a doctorate in psychology from the University of Rochester."

Hooker turned lives around at the Albion Correctional Facility for women in Albion, New York. She offered therapy and support to children with learning disabilities as a director at the Kennedy Child Study Center in New York City. And, she inspired and mentored students of color for 22 years as a senior clinical lecturer and an APA Honors Professor at Fordham University. Even after her retirement in 1963, Hooker continued to help children with developmental disabilities at the Fred Keller School for Behavioral Analysis until the age of 87.

<https://www.rochester.edu/2020-celebration/olivia-hooker/>

### Quotes:

"If you dwell on your misery, you're not helping yourself or anybody else. So, if you think, 'What can I do to keep this from happening again?' that helps you go forward, rather than spending your life pitying yourself."

<https://www.rochester.edu/2020-celebration/olivia-hooker/>



### Want to learn more?

- Over the course of his distinguished career, Reggie produced 28 instructional videotapes in psychology; wrote over 200 papers, articles and reviews; and edited 22 books, including the widely adopted Black Psychology, New Directions in Special Education, Mainstreaming and the Minority Child, Problems and Issues in the Education of Exceptional Children, African American Children, Youth and Parenting, Black Adolescents, Black Adult Development and Aging, African American Mental Health, Advances in African American Psychology, and Handbook of Tests and Measurements for Black Populations (two volumes)

[https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/\\_files/in-memorial/html/reginaldjones.htm](https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/in-memorial/html/reginaldjones.htm)

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## **12. Dr. Keturah Whitehurst**

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Dr. Keturah Whitehurst is an African American psychologist born in 1912, she is often referred to as 'the mother of Black psychologists'"

<https://psychologistspotlights.chass.ncsu.edu/people/dr-keturah-whitehurst/>

### **Accomplishments:**

"After 10 years at Florida A&M College, Dr. Whitehurst moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts for a master's program in personality and social psychology at Radcliffe College, where she would later go on to receive her PhD in developmental and experimental psychology."

"While obtaining her PhD, Dr. Whitehurst interned at the Harvard Psychological Clinic, here she was the first African American woman intern. She went on to teach at several universities, paving the way for many African American women. While at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee."

"Dr. Whitehurst conducted research on African American children and the cultural factors that impacted their development. She later moved to Virginia, where she became the first licensed African American psychologist in the state."

<https://psychologistspotlights.chass.ncsu.edu/people/dr-keturah-whitehurst/>

### **Quotes:**

"A child is a child but a Black child is something special. It is special because it is I, it is you; it is personal"



### **Want to learn more?**

The Professional Education of Teachers of the Disadvantaged.

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED105960.pdf>

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *13. Bebe Moore Campbell*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Bebe Moore Campbell was an American author, journalist, teacher, and mental health advocate who worked tirelessly to shed light on the mental health needs of the Black community and other underrepresented communities."

<https://mhanational.org/bebemoorecampbell>

### **Accomplishments:**

"She founded NAMI-Inglewood in a predominantly Black neighborhood to create a space that was safe for Black people to talk about mental health concerns."

"Throughout her time as an advocate, Campbell made her way to DC. On June 2, 2008, Congress formally recognized Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month to bring awareness to the unique struggles that underrepresented groups face in regard to mental illness in the US."

<https://mhanational.org/bebemoorecampbell>

### **Quotes:**

"While everyone – all colors – everyone is affected by stigma – no one wants to say 'I'm not in control of my mind.' No one wants to say, 'The person I love is not in control of [their] mind.' But people of color really don't want to say it because we already feel stigmatized by virtue of skin color or eye shape or accent and we don't want any more reasons for anyone to say, 'You're not good enough.'"



### **Want to learn more?**

- Sweet Summer: Growing up With and Without My Dad
  - <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/bebe-moore-campbell-41>



# Black therapists you need to know

## 14. Dr. E. Kitch Childs

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Kitch was one of the first Black women to graduate with a PhD in human development from the University of Chicago."

<https://practicetransformation.umn.edu/news/mental-health-practitioner-and-advocate-e-kitch-childs-phd/>

### Accomplishments:

"She was a founder in 1969 of the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP) and in the early 1970s of the Chicago Lesbian Liberation group."

"Kitch was an activist who sought justice for African Americans, the poor, gay/lesbians and prostitutes."

"In the 1970s Kitch moved to Oakland, California and opened a private practice in the home she inherited from her brother Kenny. She was a strong proponent of Feminist Therapy and utilized a treatment model that helped her clients advocate for themselves and for racial justice. She used a sliding fee scale that allowed her clients to pay what they could afford and frequently that was nothing."

<https://practicetransformation.umn.edu/news/mental-health-practitioner-and-advocate-e-kitch-childs-phd/>

### Quotes:

"Any approach which evades the production of guilt and denial can do more to expedite the erasure of racism than other approaches...We must generate a systematic method for conflict resolution so as to lose none of the power of our anger in useless wheel spinning. Being angry is not the end of the relation, nor of the conflict, we must agree to hear and listen to hard, difficult to hear, words and ideas. By so doing we may amplify and augment sisterly cooperation, understanding and in the meantime enhance our self empowerment." (Childs, 1992, p. 296)



### Want to learn more?

- Childs, E. K. (1966). *Careers in the Military Service: A Review of the Literature*. National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago.
- Childs, E. K. (1972). *Prediction of Outcome in Encounter Groups: Outcome as a Function of Selected Personality Correlates* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Chicago, Committee on Human Development).
- Childs, E. K. (1976). *An Annotated Bibliography on Prison Health Care*. Prisoners' Health Project, San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center.
- Childs, E. K. (1990). *Therapy, feminist ethics, and the community of color with particular emphasis on the treatment of Black women*.
- In H. Lerman & N. Porter (Eds.), *Feminist ethics in psychotherapy* (p. 195–203). Springer Publishing Company

# Black therapists you need to know

## 15. Dr. Beverly Greene

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Beverly Greene, PhD, ABPP is a Professor of Psychology at St. John's University, and the recently appointed founding co-editor of St John's Institute for Critical Race and Ethnic Studies journal. A practicing clinical psychologist licensed in New York and New Jersey, she is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and nine of its divisions, is Board Certified in Clinical Psychology (American Board of Professional Psychology), and is a Fellow of the Academy of Clinical Psychology."

<https://www.ackerman.org/people/beverly-greene/>

### Accomplishments:

"Dr Greene is the author/editor of over 100 scholarly publications of which 12 have received national awards for making pioneering and distinguished contributions to the psychological literature."

"She is the recipient of 40 national awards, that include the American Psychological Association's prestigious Senior Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest. She has received two APA Presidential Citations for distinguished contributions to scholarship, teaching, mentoring, leadership, service and advocacy in the form of longstanding pioneering professional contributions to the development of greater understandings of the intersections of race, gender and sexual orientation and the development of multiple identity/intersectional paradigms."

"Her groundbreaking theoretical formulations have forcefully advocated for the deepening of competencies in working toward the greater integration of psychological theory, research, practice and social justice and provides a public health framework for understanding and providing optimal mental health services to many of society's most marginalized and disenfranchised members. Her contributions have also been noted on Mental Health America's 2021 website salute to Black Pioneers in Mental Health."

<https://www.ackerman.org/people/beverly-greene/>

### Quotes:

"[W]hen I ask clients questions about something I assume I know, the answer is never what I assume it is. It has taught me that it is important to always ask those questions"

"Greene undertook graduate training at the Derner Institute, known for its psychoanalytic orientation, an orientation that emphasized themes of dominance and subordination. In that atmosphere, she notes, there 'wasn't a lot of room for looking at issues around women, around sexual orientation, around the role of race and how that is a part of the dialogue in psychotherapy, and how it changes the dialogue.'"



### Quotes (cont'd):

"As Greene points out, historically the feminist movement included "very little consciousness about the struggles of women who had multiple identities [and] the notion that the primary locus of oppression for all women was gender is, I think, overstated".

<https://feministvoices.com/profiles/beverly-greene>

### Want to learn more?

"She was the founding co-editor of the APA Society for the Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity's inaugural volume book series: Psychological Perspectives on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual and Transgender Issues and Co Editor of the award winning volumes, Psychotherapy with African American Women: Innovations in Psychodynamic Perspectives and Practice (with Leslie Jackson), Women of Color: Integrating Ethnic and Gender Identities in Psychotherapy (with Lillian Comas Diaz), and A Minyan of Women: Family Dynamics, Jewish Identity and Psychotherapy Practice (with Dorith Brodbar)."

<https://www.ackerman.org/people/beverly-greene/>

# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *16. Dr. Hope Landrine*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Dr. Hope Landrine was an expert in health psychology and public health."

<https://www.mhanational.org/black-pioneers-mental-health>

### **Accomplishments:**

In 1992, she published "The Politics of Madness" which presented her research on the presence of existing societal inequities in the diagnosis and categorization of psychiatric disorders. This was some of the first scientific data that showed that stereotypes of women, people living in poverty, and racial and ethnic minorities were likely affecting psychiatric diagnoses and helping to maintain the inequities already present in society. Dr. Landrine frequently applied a public health lens to psychology and psychiatry and argued that the field of psychology's focus on decontextualized individuals is insufficient for understanding overall health.

<https://www.mhanational.org/black-pioneers-mental-health>

### **Quotes:**

"[The arts] are probably our best hope for changing hearts and minds and behaviors and attitudes," she said. "People are more likely to listen to a song about health than take a class on health, let alone read a book on health. But if there's a song on health and the song is clever enough that people hum it to themselves and learn the lyrics, then I think we can do something."

"This is a challenge unlike any other I've faced," she said. "Trying to improve the health among people who have not only many, many health problems but who live in rural isolated communities is the challenge here."

<https://news.ecu.edu/2011/12/01/erasing-inequities/>



### **Want to learn more?**

- Sociocultural correlates of cigarette smoking among African-American men versus women: Implications for culturally specific cessation interventions Hope Landrine and Irma Corral *Journal of Health Psychology* 2014; 21(6): 954–961.
- Self-rated health, objective health, and racial discrimination among African-Americans: Explaining inconsistent findings and testing health pessimism Hope Landrine, Irma Corral, Marla B Hall, Jukelia J Bess, and Jimmy Efird *Journal of Health Psychology* 2015; 21(11): 2514–2524.

# Black therapists you need to know

## 17. Dr. Harriette Pipes McAdoo

### Brief bio excerpt:

"McAdoo taught at Milan and Ypsilanti High School from 1965 to 1967 and developed the first special education classroom at the latter, but she then realized her passion was not in teaching. She instead enrolled in the University of Michigan's PhD program in Educational Psychology and Child Development with her husband, John Lewis McAdoo, whom she met during her first year of graduate studies. She later completed postdoctoral work at Harvard as well as the University of Michigan.

<https://feministvoices.com/profiles/harriet-pipes-mcadoo>

### Accomplishments:

"McAdoo's PhD dissertation investigated the impact of a racially integrated environment on children from all-Black communities. This project revealed equally-distributed self-concepts in both Black and White children and famously challenged the myth of lower self-esteem in Black youth. According to her findings, children who were raised in all-Black communities exhibited higher self-esteem. Yet, Black children continued to prefer White over Black dolls, signifying the continued influence of systemic White supremacy despite community integration."

"Along with John, Harriette had always adopted activism in her teaching, research and writing. They participated in the Women's and Black consciousness movements from the 1960s and 1970s. The two led protests against the lack of Black enrolment at the University of Michigan, resulting in John's placement on the faculty admissions committee for the College of Education, and increased Black doctoral students' enrolment in the university's Psychology Department. A plethora of similar protests in the 1960s' saw a surge of newly-appointed young Black faculty members with training from historically Black and non-Ivy League colleges."

"Following a severe in-house conflict between the new and old faculty members, the McAdoos began professorships at Howard University. During this time, Harriette McAdoo was also a visiting professor at several US educational institutions, including the University of Washington, Smith College, George Warren Brown, Michigan State University, and the University of Minnesota. Over the course of her professorship, McAdoo had also mentored hundreds of students and colleagues."

"At Howard University, McAdoo replicated her doctoral dissertation and also received a large grant from the Office of Education to educate nationwide public school teachers on research methodology. She also made international contributions towards research on Black children and families across the US, Ghana, Zimbabwe and Kenya."



### Accomplishments

"McAdoo's contributions to Black Psychology were plentiful and did not go unnoticed. In 1978, The Association of Black Psychologists named her as Outstanding Researcher of the Year. From 1979 to 1981, she was appointed by US President Jimmy Carter to the planning group for the White House Conference on Families' National Advisory Council. Here, she chaired two sessions and listened to families across the nation describe their hardships. She used this information to write several grants to support studies on government impacts on family programs."

<https://feministvoices.com/profiles/harriet-pipes-mcadoo>

### Quotes:

"We must not forget a basic fact. The most efficient way of improving health services for young children is to ensure that their parents are paid a living wage. No other means of providing direct health care for poor children can have such an immediate and direct impact upon the family. Parents must be empowered, through job training and employment services, to earn enough to provide the medical services that their children require. Those who are not working need to be provided support and services that will allow them to enter the labor market."

### Want to learn more?

- McAdoo, H. P. (1978). Factors related to stability in upwardly mobile black families. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 40(4), 761-776.
- McAdoo, H. P. (1993). *Family Ethnicity: Strength in Diversity*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
- McAdoo, H. P. (2002). *Black Children: Social, Educational, and Parental Environments* (6th ed). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- McAdoo, H. P. (2007). *Black Families* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.



# *Black therapists you need to know*

## *18. Jacki McKinney, M.S.W.*

### **Brief bio excerpt:**

"Jacki McKinney, M.S.W., was a survivor of trauma, addiction, homelessness and the psychiatric and criminal justice systems. She was a family advocate specializing in issues affecting African-American women and their children and was a founding member of the National People of Color Consumer/Survivor Network."  
<http://www.narpa.org/bios/mckinney>



### **Accomplishments:**

"Ms. McKinney was a consultant and advisor to the Center for Mental Health Services and was well known for her moving presentations to national audiences on issues such as seclusion/restraint, intergenerational family support, and minority issues in public mental health and was a frequent presenter at NARPA conferences. The National Mental Health Association honored Ms. McKinney with the Clifford W. Beers award, its highest honor, for her work on behalf of people with mental disabilities. She was also the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration's Voice Awards program, presented to her for her distinguished leadership and advocacy on behalf of trauma survivors."  
<http://www.narpa.org/bios/mckinney>

### **Quotes:**

"I'd like to add to all the children, adult children, of parents who have mental illness, I think every single one of you should remember that there's a great deal of pain in your life no matter where you are and what you're doing that makes you vulnerable and that you should do whatever you can to find out all about this mental illness issue – to look into your own past and resolve some of those pains because one day out of the blue that may come back to haunt you – the fact that you've been asked to close the door and not deal with it."

"You are vulnerable and you need to know it and you need to go explore a wellness plan for yourself. You need to stop hiding behind the bushes and stop saying it's what your mom did or what your dad did or what your grandparents did and you need to look at what the effect is on you. It's a personal thing. I'm not asking you to help them. I'm asking you to help you because you don't and it hits you, you got all that blame that you've been blaming on someone else and now you see that you didn't take care of yourself and it can really be devastating. And you can end up sicker than any of us. Such a painful piece of knowledge. But now while you have the time, now while you're reading this archive and it points to you, go do some reading, do some looking. Go find a way to be well yourself. Go look. That's it."

<https://www.nyaprs.org/e-news-bulletins/2021/10/18/in-honor-and-memory-of-jacki-mckinney>



# Black therapists you need to know

## 19. Dr. Janet E Helms

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Professor Emeritus Janet E. Helms was previously the Augustus Long Professor in the Department of Counseling, Developmental, and Educational Psychology and Director of the Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture at Boston College. She is past president of the Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17 of the American Psychological Association [APA]). Dr. Helms is a Fellow in Division 17 (Counseling Psychology), Division 45 (Ethnic

Diversity), and Division 35 (Psychology of Women) of the APA. In addition, she is a member of the Association of Black Psychologists, the American Psychological Society, and the American Educational Research Association.

### Accomplishments:

"Dr. Helms has served on the Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Subspecialties, the Joint Committee on Testing Practices, and the APA Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessments, and she provided expert testimony to the Supreme Court in the case of Ricci v Destefano. Her service on editorial boards include the Psychological Assessment Journal and the Journal of Counseling Psychology. She has authored or co-authored nearly 100 empirical and theoretical articles and books on the topics of racial identity and cultural influences on assessment and counseling practice."

"Her books include *A Race Is a Nice Thing to Have*, 3rd Edition (Cognella Press) and (with Donelda Cook) *Using Race and Culture in Counseling Psychotherapy: Theory and Process* (MA: Allyn & Bacon)."

"Dr. Helms's work has been acknowledged with awards that include the national Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Award for mentoring students, an engraved brick in Iowa State University's Plaza of Heroines, and the "Distinguished Career Contributions to Research" Award from the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues (Division 45), the American Psychological Association's Awards for "Distinguished Contributions to Education and Training in Psychology" (2006) and the Award for "Distinguished Contributions to Research in Public Policy" (2008). She was a recipient of the Association of Black Psychologists' 2007 Award for Distinguished Psychologist. In 1991, she was the first annual recipient of the "Janet E. Helms Award for Mentoring and Scholarship in Professional Psychology." This award was inaugurated in her honor by Columbia University Teachers College. Dr. Helms was the recipient of the 2002 Leona Tyler Award awarded by Division 17 in recognition of an outstanding research career."

<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/lynch-school/faculty-research/faculty-directory/janet-helms.html>



### Quotes

"I ask my students, 'What are you willing to give up to end racism?'" The answer that comes back, she says, is usually, "Nothing." Some White people want to be helpful, but virtually none want to miss out on work opportunities, or send their children to inferior schools, or risk not living in a pleasant neighborhood, she says. Plenty of White people do live, work, and go to school in modest or even wretched circumstances, but often, "they hope to become one of the privileged eventually, and if that doesn't happen, they blame people of color," Helms says.

"All people should be treated equitably," Helms says, but that is not what happens, and she has spent her career exploring the mechanics of how and why that is.

"Race is a power system," a means of classifying people and "determining who has the power, and who doesn't," she says.

Take academic testing, which Helms also studies. "A lot of my work has been focused on looking at what's wrong with the tests," and with making them fairer, she says. High scores on standardized tests can open doors for people to better schools, financial aid, and good jobs. Helms says, "The general belief is that Black people are inferior, but we know that there are some Black people who have higher skills than some White people." Helms believes developers fortuitously tailor tests that assure that White people will score higher than Blacks. "That is my argument," she says.

"Only White people can end racism," Helms says.

<https://www.apa.org/members/content/race-mechanisms-inequality>

### Want to learn more?

- Helms, J.E. (1982). *A practitioners guide to the Edwards Personal Preference Schedule*. Springfield, IL: Charles Thomas.
- Helms, J.E. (1991). *A Training manual to accompany Black and White Racial Identity*. Topeka, KS: Content Communications.
- Helms, J.E. (1992). *A Race Is a Nice Thing to Have: A Guide to Being A White Person or Understanding the White Persons in your life*. Topeka, KS: Content Communications.
- Helms, J.E., & Cook, D.A. (1999). *Using race in counseling and psychotherapy: theory and process*. Needham, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

# Black therapists you need to know

## 20. Dr. Jennifer L. Eberhardt

### Brief bio excerpt:

Jennifer Eberhardt received a B.A. (1987) from the University of Cincinnati, an A.M. (1990) and Ph.D. (1993) from Harvard University. From 1995 to 1998 she taught at Yale University in the Departments of Psychology and African and African American Studies. She joined the Stanford faculty in 1998, and is currently a professor in the Department of Psychology and co-director of SPARQ, a university initiative to use social psychological research

to address pressing social problems.

<https://web.stanford.edu/~eberhard/about-jennifer-eberhardt.html>

### Accomplishments:

"A social psychologist at Stanford University, Jennifer Eberhardt investigates the consequences of the psychological association between race and crime. Through interdisciplinary collaborations and a wide ranging array of methods—from laboratory studies to novel field experiments—Eberhardt has revealed the startling, and often dispiriting, extent to which racial imagery and judgments suffuse our culture and society, and in particular shape actions and outcomes within the domain of criminal justice."

"Eberhardt's research not only shows that police officers are more likely to identify African American faces than white faces as criminal, she further shows that the race-crime association leads people to attend more closely to crime related imagery. In one experimental study, for example, people who were exposed to black faces were then more quickly able to identify a blurry image as a gun than those who were exposed to white faces or no faces"

"The race-crime association extends beyond the laboratory. Using an actual database of criminal defendants convicted of a capital crime, Eberhardt has shown that among defendants convicted of murdering a white victim, defendants whose appearance was more stereotypically black (e.g. darker skinned, with a broader nose and thicker lips) were sentenced more harshly and, in particular, were more likely to be sentenced to death than if their features were less stereotypically black. This finding held even after the researchers controlled for the many non-racial factors (e.g. the severity of the crime, aggregators, mitigators, the defendant's attractiveness, etc.) that might account for the results."

<https://web.stanford.edu/~eberhard/about-jennifer-eberhardt.html>



### Quotes

"Bias is not something we exhibit and act on all the time. It is conditional, and the battle begins by understanding the conditions under which it is most likely to come alive". – Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt in her book *Biased*.

"She states that "the most common mistake I see graduate students making is for them to begin conducting research in an area, simply because that area is 'hot.' It is really hard to do your best work when you are not completely passionate about it. So even though it may seem like the best choice or the most practical choice to invest in the 'hot' area, your most creative work, your most inspired work, is much more likely to happen in the area that you care about most."

"She writes, in her book *Biased*, that "the power of the gaze of others to define how you're seen in the world; it can shape the scope of your life and influence how you see yourself."<sup>2</sup> She reiterates her message, that "although we tend to think about seeing as objective and straightforward, how and what we see can be heavily shaped by our own mind-set."

### Want to learn more?

- *Imaging Race* February – March 2005 – American Psychologist Authors: Jennifer L. Eberhardt
- *Seeing Black: Race, Crime, and Visual Processing* December 2004 – Journal of Personality and Social Psychology Authors: Eberhardt, J. L., Goff, P. A., Purdie, V. J., & Davies, P. G.
- *Believing is Seeing: The Effects of Racial Labels and Implicit Beliefs on Face Perception* March 2003 – Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin Authors: Eberhardt, J. L., Dasgupta, N. & Banaszynski, T.

# Black therapists you need to know

## 21. Dr. Na'im Akbar

### Brief bio excerpt:

Akbar is an internationally known scholar, author, lecturer, researcher, and expert in the area of African American Psychology. He received his BA, MA, and PhD from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He served as chairman of Morehouse College Department of Psychology and faculty at Norfolk State University, prior to joining the Florida State University in 1979. Akbar served on the faculty at Florida State University for 28 years. Since his

retirement from FSU, he has devoted full time to his consulting and publishing company.

<https://www.apa.org/about/governance/president/citation/na-im-akbar>

### Accomplishments:

"Throughout his career, Akbar has been a distinguished author and scholar, writing numerous books and speaking publicly to share his expertise at conferences and interviews. His major contributions to the field of psychology have been centered on the topics of developing an African-centered approach in modern psychology — which for Akbar involves the deconstruction of Eurocentric psychological thought and the subsequent reconstruction/construction of an African psychology that includes the specific historical and cultural experiences of African Americans. Acclaimed by Essence Magazine as "one of the world's preeminent psychologists in the development of an African-centered approach in modern psychology", he has had numerous media appearances, and has been featured in numerous national and international publications."

"Akbar's professional service includes several terms on the Board of the National Association of Black Psychologists to which he was elected President in 1987, on the editorial board of the Journal of Black Studies, and associate editor of the Journal of Black Psychology. Along with his dedication to scholarly pursuits, Akbar has dedicated much energy and time to serving the community. He was a charter member of the Florida A&M University Friends of the Black Archives, a charter member of the Riley House Museum, co-founder of the Tallahassee chapter of the Association of Black Psychologists, president of the Board of the Frenchtown Community Development Corporation since its inception, and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc."

<https://www.apa.org/about/governance/president/citation/na-im-akbar>



### Quotes

"Black psychology must deal with racism. If black people think that slavery was just some blacks hanging around singing gospels until Abraham Lincoln freed them, then they better think again. The key is the expansion of self-knowledge. The more we understand the traditional values of people of African descent -- faith, family and respect for the dignity of all human beings -- the more we can mobilize our positive resources."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1987/04/21/the-biggest-threat-to-black-america/2d330b3c-19ca-4bc4-a2a6-529f41769c9d/>

### Want to learn more?

- Akbar, Na'im (2004). Rhythmic Pattern in African Personality in "African Philosophy, Assumption & Paradigms for Research on Black Persons". Los Angeles. pp. 175–189.
- Akbar, Na'im (1979). African roots of black personality. Washington, DC: University Press of America.
- Akbar, Na'im (1981). "Mental Disorder Among African Americans". Black Books Bulletin. 5 (2): 18–25.
- Akbar, Na'im (1984). "Africentric social science for human liberation". The Journal of Black Studies. 14 (4): 395–414. doi:10.1177/002193478401400401. S2CID 144882016.
- Akbar, Na'im (1985). Our destiny: Authors of a scientific revolution. In H. McAdoo and J. McAdoo (Eds.) Black children: Social, educational and parental environments". Beverly Hills: Sage Publications.
- Akbar, Na'im (1985). Nile Valley origins of the science of mind. New Brunswick, NJ: Journal of African Civilization.
- Akbar, Na'im (1991). Mental disorder among African Americans.
- Akbar, Na'im (1994). Light from ancient Africa. Tallahassee, FL: Mind Productions & Associates, Inc.
- Akbar, Na'im (2001). I'm trying to get you free. Tallahassee, FL: Mind Productions & Associates, Inc.

# Black therapists you need to know

## 22. Dr. Nancy Boyd-Franklin

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Nancy Boyd-Franklin, PhD, is an African American clinical psychologist and family therapist and is a Distinguished Professor in the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Her outstanding contributions have been recognized with awards from many professional organizations, including the American Family Therapy Academy, the Association of Black Psychologists, the American

Psychological Association (Divisions 45 and 43), the Association of Black Social Workers, and the American Psychiatric Association, and she has received an honorary doctorate from the Phillips Graduate Institute."

<https://www.guilford.com/author/Nancy-Boyd-Franklin>

### Accomplishments:

"Nancy Boyd-Franklin not only acknowledged the impact of race on mental health but also explored how it affected the dynamics of Black families in varying socioeconomic backgrounds. Her approach is intersectional and examines how African Americans are uniquely impacted by specific issues. She created clinical systems and frameworks to address these mental health issues by using her extensive work with Black patients as well as scholarly review of professional literature. This combination of clinical research and real-life experience proved to be a highly effective approach to mental health, one that shifted the landscape of mental health treatment."

"The Multisystems Model is outlined in Dr. Nancy Boyd-Franklin's instrumental book *Black Families in Therapy: A Multisystems Approach*. The model, according to the book's review by Henry E. Edwards in the journal *Psychiatry* (Vol 53, Feb 1990) is a theoretical framework meant to help therapists organize complex data to plan and prioritize intervention. In Dr. Boyd-Franklin's own words, this model should be used as "a flexible set of guidelines that can be adapted to the needs and problems of different families and can be adjusted to the therapist's own personality style" (p. 133). As you can guess from the name, the Multisystems Model is based on the fact that a family's issues involve multiple systems that need to all be taken into account in order to properly address them. Dr. Nancy Boyd-Franklin defines seven levels that affect families: the individual, family subsystems, the family household, extended family, non-blood kin and friends, church and community resources, social service agencies and other outside systems."

<https://therapybrands.com/blog/the-impact-of-nancy-boyd-franklin-on-the-mental-health-of-african-american-families/>



### Quotes

"Highlights fundamental strengths inherent in Black families that can and should be utilized in treatment. Five key areas of strength are delineated and followed by examples of how they can be integrated into a comprehensive treatment program that considers clinical implications and the diversity among Black families. The 5 strengths are (1) the bond of the extended family, (2) the adaptability of family roles, (3) strong religious orientation, (4) an integral belief in the value of education and the work ethic, and (5) the ability to develop and use effective coping skills in the face of economic hardship."

Boyd-Franklin, N. (1989). Five key factors in the treatment of Black families. *Journal of Psychotherapy & the Family*, 6(1-2), 53-69. [https://doi.org/10.1300/J287v06n01\\_04](https://doi.org/10.1300/J287v06n01_04)

### Want to learn more?

- "Dr. Boyd-Franklin is the author or coauthor of numerous articles and books, including *Adolescents at Risk: Home-Based Family Therapy and School-Based Intervention*; *Black Families in Therapy, Second Edition: Understanding the African American Experience*; and *Therapy in the Real World: Effective Treatments for Challenging Problems*"
-

# Black therapists you need to know

## 23. Dr. Lenora Branch Fulani

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Lenora Branch Fulani is an American psychologist, psychotherapist and political activist. In the 1988 presidential election, she became the first woman and the first African American to appear on the ballot in all fifty states and received more votes for president in a U.S. general election than any other woman before her."



### Quotes

"You see Dr. King didn't only speak to having a dream, he also spoke to the atrocities of the time, that he and we were living in. And his dream before he was gunned down in Memphis in 1968 was not so four decades later, millions of America's poor would still be living and dying in poverty or that 100,000s of our people would end up being forced out of the housing they were living in, and would wind up living in the streets or in shelters in cities all over this county. It's clear to me that if Dr. King was here today, he would be march in the streets in opposition to all of this. He would be teaching all kinds of people what a horrendous position and perspective this is, and he would be marching against the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), and what it is doing to poor people. He would have marched in the streets of Chicago and elsewhere in response to the housing issue. To me this is one of the most important issues in this country for poor people, for our communities who are being isolated, alienated and expected to live without any kind of shelter..."

<https://blackwestchester.com/dr-fulani-keynote-speaker-wbpc/>

### Want to learn more?

- The Psychopathology of Everyday Racism and Sexism By Lenora Fulani · 2014

<https://awpc.cattcenter.iastate.edu/directory/lenora-b-fulani/>

### Accomplishments:

"In 1982 Fulani ran unsuccessfully for lieutenant governor of New York on the New Alliance Party (NAP) ticket, in 1985 she was the NAP candidate for mayor of New York City, and in 1986, 1990 and 1994, she ran for governor of New York as the candidate for the NAP. In 1988, she ran for president in 1988 as the nominee for the NAP. In 1992, she again ran as the NAP candidate for president."

"After the 1992 election, Fulani helped launch an effort to create a multiracial, pro-reform, national political party. She has also been an advocate for structural political reform such as term limits, ballot access reform and same-day voter registration."

<https://awpc.cattcenter.iastate.edu/directory/lenora-b-fulani/>



# Black therapists you need to know

## 24. Dr. Carolyn Robertson Payton

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Dr. Carolyn L. Robertson Payton was the first African American and the first woman to become the director of the U.S. Peace Corps. She was appointed in 1977 by U.S. President Jimmy Carter."

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carolyn-l-robertson-payton-1925-2001/>

### Accomplishments:

"Payton is best known, however, for her career contribution as the director of the Howard University Counseling Service (HUCS) from 1970 to 1977, and later as dean of counseling and career development from 1979 until her retirement in 1995. While at Howard, she led the development of clinical material focused on providing counseling and psychotherapy to African American men and women. The Howard program was eventually adopted by the American Psychological Association (APA). Dr. Payton was also a pioneer in the use of group therapy techniques specifically for African American clients."

"Dr. Payton was an active member of APA for over forty years and was one of the original members on the Task Force on the Psychology of Black Women in 1976. The APA's Carolyn Payton Early Career Award is named in her honor. Payton also served on a number of APA boards and committees including the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP) and the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Concerns Committee. She received several of the APA's most prestigious awards including the Distinguished Professional Contributions to Public Service Award in 1982 and the APA Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contribution to Psychology in 1997."

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/carolyn-l-robertson-payton-1925-2001/>



### Quotes

"Who must do the hard things? Those who can. Who must do the impossible things? Those who care." Carolyn Robertson Payton Department of Psychology Class of 1948

[https://issuu.com/advisor-psych.wisc/docs/uar\\_program\\_4-27\\_final/s/10479058](https://issuu.com/advisor-psych.wisc/docs/uar_program_4-27_final/s/10479058)

### Want to learn more?

- Payton, C. R. (1994). Implications of the 1992 Ethics Code for diverse groups. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 25(4), 317-320.
- Payton, C. R. (1985). Addressing the special needs of minority women. In N. J. Evans (Ed.), *New directions for student services*: No. 29. 75-90
- Payton, C. R. (1984). Who must do the hard things? *American Psychologist*, 39, 391-397.
- Payton, C. R. (1981). Substance abuse and mental health: Special prevention strategies needed for ethnics of color. *National Institute on Drug Abuse Public Health Report*, 96(1), 20-25.

# Black therapists you need to know

## 25. Dr. Beverly Christine Daniel Tatum

### Brief bio excerpt:

"Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum, president emerita of Spelman College, is a clinical psychologist "

<https://www.beverlydanielatum.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Beverly-Daniel-Tatum-speakers-bio-Fall-2021.pdf>



### Accomplishments:

"Her thirteen years as the president of Spelman College (2002–2015) were marked by innovation and growth and her visionary leadership was recognized in 2013 with the Carnegie Academic Leadership Award. The author of several books including the best-selling "Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?" and Other Conversations About Race (now in a new 2017 20th anniversary edition) and Can We Talk About Race? and Other Conversations in an Era of School Resegregation (2007)"

" Tatum is a sought-after speaker on the topic of racial identity development, the impact of race in the classroom, strategies for creating inclusive campus environments, and higher education leadership. In 2005 Dr. Tatum was awarded the prestigious Brock International Prize in Education for her innovative leadership in the field. A Fellow of the American Psychological Association, she was the 2014 recipient of the APA Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contributions to Psychology."

"A civic leader in the Atlanta community, Dr. Tatum is engaged in educational initiatives designed to expand educational opportunity for underserved students and their families, as well as to connect communities across lines of difference. Locally she serves on the governing boards of the Westside Future Fund, Achieve Atlanta, the Tull Charitable Foundation and Morehouse College. Her national service includes her membership on the boards of Smith College, the Educational Testing Service, and Sesame Workshop."

<https://www.beverlydanielatum.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Beverly-Daniel-Tatum-speakers-bio-Fall-2021.pdf>

### Quotes

"Racially-based prejudice is not the same as racism," Tatum said. "Racism is a system." And, as she elaborated, "If someone says to you, 'You are racist,' usually the person hearing that feels like they've been insulted in some significant way." As a result, Tatum said, "I find no usefulness in trying to figure out, should this person be labelled a racist, or should that person be labelled a racist? My question is: Is that person, or is any person, working to interrupt the cycle of racism?"

<https://news.mit.edu/2019/beverly-daniel-tatum-conversation-race-0422>

### Want to learn more?

- "A nationally recognized authority on racial issues in America and a licensed clinical psychologist, she has toured extensively, leading workshops and presenting papers and lectures on racial identity development. Dr. Tatum is the author of the critically acclaimed book, *Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race*, which was released as a fifth anniversary edition in January 2003. Since its original publication in 1997, the book has been listed on the Independent Bookstore Bestseller list and was selected as the multicultural book of the year in 1998 by the National Association of Multicultural Education. The New York Times recommended the book as required reading for private school teachers and administrators in the greater New York area who were dealing with issues of race and class. Dr. Tatum is also the author of *Assimilation Blues: Black Families in a White Community* (1987) and has published widely in social science and education journals. In May 2007, Dr. Tatum released *Can We Talk About Race?: And Other Conversations in an Era of School Resegregation*."
- <https://www.spelman.edu/about-us/office-of-the-president/past-presidents/beverly-daniel-tatum>

# Black therapists you need to know

## 26. Dr. Amos Nelson Wilson

### Brief bio excerpt:

Amos Wilson was a scholar/activist who heeded the call of Bolekaja, which means to come on down and fight. Wilson was born and spent his formative years in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Eventually, he earned degrees from Morehouse College and Fordham University. Amos Wilson worked as a social caseworker, supervising probation officer, psychological counselor, and as a training administrator in the New York City Department of Juvenile

Justice. As an academic, Wilson taught at the City University of New York from 1981 to 1986 and at the College of New Rochelle from 1987 to 1995.

<http://www.jpanafrican.org/docs/vol6no2/6.2-1%20Description.pdf>

### Accomplishments:

"Amos Wilson wrote several books including: *The Developmental Psychology of the Black Child*, *Awakening the Natural Genius of Black Children*, *Understanding Black Adolescent Male Violence: Its Remediation and Prevention*, *The Falsification of Afrikan Consciousness: Eurocentric History, Psychiatry and the Politics of White Supremacy*, *Black-on-Black Violence: The Psychodynamic of Black Self-Annihilation in Service of White Domination and Blueprint for Black Power: A Moral, Political and Economic Imperative for the Twenty-First Century*. His travels took him throughout the United States, to Canada and the Caribbean. Dr. Wilson's activities transcended academia into the field of business, owning and operating various enterprises in the greater New York area."

<http://www.jpanafrican.org/docs/vol6no2/6.2-1%20Description.pdf>



### Quotes

1. "You cannot consume yourself into equality you must produce yourself into equality you move into equality and beyond by productive thinking" – Dr. Amos Wilson

2. "If you want to understand any problem in America, you need to focus on who profits from that problem, not who suffers from that problem." – Dr. Amos Wilson

3. "When you are filled with self-hate your mind is reversed. Meaning you will love the things that destroy you, and you will hate the things that advance your growth." – Dr. Amos Wilson

4. "To manipulate history is to manipulate consciousness; to manipulate consciousness is to manipulate possibilities; and to manipulate possibilities is to manipulate power." – Dr. Amos Wilson

5. "If our study of Black history is merely an exercise in feeling good about ourselves, then we will die feeling good. We must look at the lessons that history teaches us. We must understand the tremendous value of the study of history for the re-gaining of power. If our education is not about gaining real power, we are being miseducated and misled and we will die "miseducated and misled." – Dr. Amos Wilson

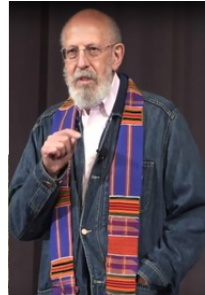
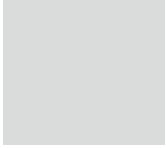
<https://theblackdetour.com/10-dr-amos-wilson-quotes/>

### Want to learn more?

- *The Developmental Psychology of the Black Child* (1978)[14][4] *Black-on-Black Violence: The Psychodynamics of Black Self-Annihilation in Service of White Domination* (1990)[14][4] *Understanding Black Adolescent Male Violence: Its Remediation and Prevention* (1992)[4] *Awakening the Natural Genius of Black Children* (1992)[15][4]
- *The Falsification of Afrikan Consciousness: Eurocentric History, Psychiatry and the Politics of White Supremacy* (1993)[14][4]
- *Blueprint for Black Power: A Moral, Political and Economic Imperative for the Twenty-First Century* (1998)[15][4]
- *Afrikan-Centered Consciousness Versus the New World Order: Garveyism in the Age of Globalism* (1999)
- *The Developmental Psychology of the Black Child – Second Edition* (2014) *Issues of Manhood in Black and White: An Incisive Look at Masculinity and the Societal Definition of Afrikan Man* (2016) *The Psychology of Self-Hatred and Self-Defeat: Towards a Reclamation of the Afrikan Mind* Paperback – (January 1, 2020)

# Black therapists you need to know

## 27. Dr. William Cross



### Brief bio excerpt:

"Cross is a leading theorist and researcher of racial identity development and professor emeritus at the University of Denver."

<https://education.tamu.edu/black-identity-scholar-dr-william-cross-visits-texas-am/>

### Accomplishments:

"His most prominent contribution to the field is his Nigrescence Theory, which distinguishes the different stages of life as it relates to identity exploration and race. Cross' model eventually became the template for other models like Native American identity and Gay-Lesbian identity."

"His book "Shades of Black: Diversity in African-American Identity" is considered a classic among psychology and racial identity scholars. It dissolves the myth that self-hatred is a dominant theme in Black identity."

<https://education.tamu.edu/black-identity-scholar-dr-william-cross-visits-texas-am/>

### Quotes

"Discovering the humanity of the enslaved is not romanticism, it is the comprehension of how humanity expresses itself, even under the most restrictive, punishing, and heinous conditions. . . It is to comprehend the origins of Martin Luther King Jr.'s words form the Birmingham Jail; it is how Nelson Mandela walked out of prison with his humanity intact. We are the birds that sing while caged." (Cross, 2021, p. 156)

<https://www.apa.org/about/governance/president/outstanding-william-e-cross-jr>

### Want to learn more?

- The Negro to Black Conversion Experience (1971)
- The Thomas and Cross Models of Psychological Nigrescence: A Review (1978)
- The Negro-to-Black conversion experience: An empirical analysis (1979)
- Shades of Black : diversity in African-American identity (1991)
- The stages of Black identity development: Nigrescence models (1991)
- The psychology of Nigrescence: Revising the Cross model (1995)
- Nigrescence and ego identity development: Accounting for differential Black identity patterns (1996)
- The everyday functions of African American identity (1998)
- African American identity development across the lifespan: Educational implications (1999)
- Encountering nigrescence (2001)

# Black therapists you need to know

## 28. Dr. Ruth Winifred Howard Beckham, PhD



### Brief bio excerpt:

"Ruth Howard, PhD, was born on March 4, 1900, in Washington, D.C. Unknown to Reverend and Mrs. William James Howard, their eighth and youngest child Ruth would leave a lasting imprint in history. Dr. Howard became the first African American woman to

earn a PhD in psychology, marking a significant milestone in American history. Prior to her completing her doctorate, Howard earned a degree in social work from Simmons College in Boston. Her dedication to helping families and children within her community was evident early on in her career. She started work as a social worker through the Cleveland Urban league and then worked with the Cleveland Child Welfare Agency. She recognized the importance of participating in community planning, often meeting with families, representatives from schools and clinics, to help children in foster care and to support women who were unemployed and undereducated."

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/ruth-howard>

### Accomplishments:

"While she worked in the area of social services, Howard believed her compassion and understanding for cultural diversity was not shared by her colleagues, rather their egocentric views created a barrier between them understanding and having empathy for the communities which they served as social workers. Spurred on by the importance of being culturally competent, Howard would go back to school and earn a doctorate degree from the University of Minnesota's Institute of Child Development. Her dissertation was the first of its kind, which studied the developmental history of 229 sets of triplets."

"After graduating and marrying fellow psychologist Albert Beckham, Howard moved to Chicago and continued to work in the community sector. She completed an internship at the Illinois Institute of Juvenile Research before working at a community hospital and state school for troubled girls. Eventually the Howards started a private practice. Although Howard had her plate full at times, her commitment did not waiver as she served in numerous community and professional organizations. She was a volunteer for the Young Women's Christian Association and helped organize the National Association of College Women. Some of Ruth Howard's professional memberships included the American Psychological Association, the International Psychological Association, and the International Council of Women Psychologist."

<https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/psychologists/ruth-howard>

### Want to learn more?

- "Her dissertation, A Developmental Study of Triplets was the first of its kind and examined the developmental history of 229 sets of triplets who ranged in age from infants to 79 years old. Her work was eventually published in the Journal of Psychology in 1946 and the Journal of Genetic Psychology in 1947."
  - <https://icd.umn.edu/diversity/tribute-ruth-winifred-howard/>