

Kimya N. Dennis, Ph.D.  
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## **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. 2010 Sociology, North Carolina State University  
Concentrations: Crime, Deviance, and Social Control (Criminology)  
Inequality: Class, Race, and Gender  
Doctoral Dissertation “[Black Political and Socioeconomic Status Attainment and the Direction of Lethal Violence: Comparing the Suicide of Young Black and White Males in U.S. Counties](#)”
- M.S. 2003 Criminal justice, Virginia Commonwealth University
- B.A. 1999 Pre-law, Political science, criminal justice minor, University of Richmond

## **COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH**

Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary  
Demographic and cultural variance  
Suicide and suicidal self-harm  
Mental health and mental illness  
Sexual health and freedom  
Reproductive health and freedom  
Crime: Sociopolitical and sociocultural  
Law enforcement  
Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT)  
Criminal justice system

This community advocacy and research include:

- (1) Help students and general population learn about mental health and physical health and access health services;
- (2) Liaison for community members to help at-risk community members contact crisis intervention outlets or schedule meetings with community members at mental health offices;
- (3) Help health organizations/experts/professionals/practitioners address demographic and cultural variance in health conditions and health services;
- (4) Help health organizations/experts/professionals/practitioners improve teaching and training in patient advocacy and cultural consciousness;

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Department Chair                | Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies<br>Salem College<br>Fall 2018—current   |
| Coordinator of Criminal Studies | Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies<br>Salem College<br>(Kimya N. Dennis created the program) Fall 2011—Fall 2018 |
| Associate Professor             | Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies<br>Salem College<br>Tenured, Fall 2017—current                                |

Assistant Professor	Department of Sociology and Criminal Studies Salem College Fall 2010—Spring 2017
Visiting Assistant Professor	Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship 2016—2018, volunteer
Academic Tutor	Student Athletes Services Wake Forest University Fall 2012—Fall 2018
Adjunct Faculty	Department of Sociology and Social Work Meredith College Fall 2009
Visiting Instructor	Department of Sociology and Anthropology North Carolina State University Spring 2006-spring 2009/spring 2010
Teaching Assistant	Department of Sociology and Anthropology North Carolina State University Fall 2003-fall 2005

***Honorarium Keynote Speaker***

September 2018, “Throughout College and Careers: Teaching and Training about Demographic and Cultural Variance for Health Students, Health Professionals and Health Practitioners,” 15th Annual Statewide Training Conference, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence, Inc. (MACC), Columbus, OH <http://www.maccinc.net/training-conference/>

August 2018, “Understanding mental health: Reach K-12 children and families,” Guilford County Schools, Annual Conference of School Social Workers and School Counselors, Greensboro, NC.

***Honorarium Presenter and Trainer***

December 2018, “Redefining mental health and behavioral outcomes: Cultural consciousness to better reach communities and better teach-train health students and health professionals-practitioners,” six-hour training, South Central Church of Christ, Raleigh, NC.

December 2018, “Understanding gender and reducing gender discrimination,” Guilford County Schools, Guilford County Program.

September 2018, “Difference between personal preference and official policy: School dress code,” Guilford County Schools, Greensboro, NC.

July 2018, “Personality or mental illness? Demographic and cultural variance in mental health,” Guilford County Schools, Annual Conference of School Social Workers and School Counselors, Greensboro, NC.

July 2018, “Mental health for mothers and daughters,” Honorable Youth, SG Atkins Community Development Corporation, Winston-Salem, NC

July 2018, “Community mental health,” Summer Youth Employment Program, Winston-Salem Urban League.

July 2018, "Gender identity and outreach," Guilford County Schools, Equity Leadership Development Program Summer Boot Camp, Greensboro, NC.

July 2018, "Racial and ethnic identity and outreach," Guilford County Schools, Equity Leadership Development Program Summer Boot Camp, Greensboro, NC.

April 2018, "Mental health and gender identity," Intersectional Feminist Exploration Day, UNC Charlotte.

March 2017, "Health and Freedoms: Sociocultural Identities and Experiences," Maya Angelou Center for Women's Health and Wellness: International Women's Health Summit 2017 - A Global Priority, Winston-Salem, NC.

September 2016, "Expanding Perspectives of Black Suicide and Black Suicidal Self-Harm." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, OH.

September 2016, "Ways to Reach 'Our People' for Mental Health Outreach." Cleveland Urban Minority Alcoholism Drug Abuse Outreach Project (UMADAOP), Cleveland, OH.

### ***Consultant and Workgroup***

2017-2018, Academic Assessment, Norfolk State University's Friends of Assessment.

2014-2015, Consulting Group and Working Group, NC Suicide Prevention Plan, Injury and Violence Prevention (IVP) Branch and UNC Department of Health Behavior, Raleigh, NC.

<https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/preventionResources/docs/2015-NC-SuicidePreventionPlan-2015-0505-FINAL.pdf>

### ***Awards and Fellowships***

2018-2023, Salem College Distinguished Professor Award: teaching, community work, conference presentations, and qualitative research.

December 2017-January 2018, Megan Regan and Kimya N. Dennis, Visiting Fellows, Winston-Salem State University Center for the Study of Economic Mobility (CSEM): surveys and interviews of residents of East Winston to address component of housing costs, housing conditions and poverty in East Winston.

2017, Megan Regan, Kimya N. Dennis and Salem College student Keiry Bonilla Valladeres, Patricia Flynt C'57 Faculty/Student Summer Research Project Grant.

2016, Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship.

2015, Salem College Summer Research Sabbatical.

2014, Salem College Summer Research Sabbatical.

### **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Kimya N. Dennis and Kendra Jason. 2018. "Black women academics: Artistic expression through teaching, research, and activism," Association of Black Sociologists, Issues in Race & Society: An Interdisciplinary Global Journal.

<https://nebula.wsimg.com/5aa7b8abb757853912eb3413e367de5a?AccessKeyId=64EA3CDB1E78C3451D63&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

Kimya N. Dennis. November 2018. "Black Male Suicide: Inward-Expressed Frustration and Aggression" of Part 5 "The Criminal and Social Justice" In Ransaw, Gause, and Majors (eds.) Handbook of Research on Black Males. Michigan: Michigan State University Press.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.14321/j.ctv4g1qgh?fbclid=IwAR1QGtQgbOuKKk6GCiDY0LLODPjBiiir53b0LNc5IaLkfCiWFECDF9P8xb8Q>

### **RESEARCH: DATA CODING OR MANUSCRIPT DRAFTING**

***Kimya N. Dennis. "Being black, a woman, and childfree: The intersection of race and gender"***

First known study solely conducted for childfree-by-choice people of African descent. International study with 62 respondents, 59 women and 3 men, in 6 nations: Kenya, London, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America, Canada. Respondents expressed freedom to choose childfree life regardless of why they do not want to have children; and resources needed for physical and mental health, healthy sexuality and reproductive rights. Race and ethnicity and gender are among the demographic and cultural components discussed in the interviews—some respondents are rejected by African diaspora institutions and families.

***Kimya N. Dennis. "Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)"***

Interview of 5 law enforcement representatives who participated in The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team Training between 2010-2013: Forsyth County and Guilford County law enforcement representatives; 1 Lieutenant, 1 Investigator, 1 Officer, 2 Telecommunicators; 6.5 years – 20 years of law enforcement experience

***Kimya N. Dennis. "Black males: Thoughts, beliefs, and behaviors"***

Ongoing interviews and surveys of the beliefs and experiences of African diaspora men. Items include self-identity, opinions of news stories and topics, positive and/or negative experiences with law enforcement, and physical and mental health. Study currently has 21 respondents, 19 men and 2 women, all in the United States. Two women were interviewed to express their experiences with African diaspora men.

### **MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER**

Journal of Black Studies  
Sociology of Race and Ethnicity  
Sociological Spectrum  
Michigan Family Review: University of Michigan-Flint

**COURSES CREATED AND TAUGHT**

Criminological and Criminal Justice Theory  
Criminal Studies Senior Seminar  
Serial Killers  
The Childfree  
Race and Crime  
Gender and Crime  
Media and Crime  
Mental health: Cultural competence and community outreach  
Black feminism  
Independent Study: Applied Qualitative Research

**COURSES TAUGHT**

Introduction to Criminology  
Introduction to Criminal Justice  
Race and Ethnic Relations  
Social Stratification  
Urban Community  
Sociological Theory  
Introduction to Sociology

**PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter, “Redefining suicide and suicidal self-harm: Cultural consciousness to better reach communities and better teach-train health students and health professionals-practitioners.” American Association of Suicidology Annual Conference, Denver, CO, April 2019.

Presenter, “Deciding to never have children is mentally-emotionally healthy for some Black women,” Wake Forest School of Medicine, Women in Medicine and Science (WIMS) Women’s Health Research Day, April 2019.

Presenter, “Does CIT Training Help African-Americans with Mental Illness?” Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, March 2019.

Roundtable, Fear of Crime and Public Policy, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA, November 2018.

Presenter, “Black men, mental health, and suicidal self-harm: Not ‘criminals’ and ‘thugs’,” American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA, November 2018.

Panelist, “The Black Health Forum: Embracing Black Mental Wellness.” North Carolina Chapter of National Association of Health Services Executives. UNC Chapel Hill, September 2018.

Presenter, Mental Health Breakout Session, “The state of mental health among African-Americans,” State of Black Health National Conference. Atlanta, GA, September 2018.

Presenter, “Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT): Connecting Communities and Law Enforcement,” Conference Banquet for Furniture City Chapter of North State Law Enforcement Officers Association, June 2018.

Co-presenter and co-facilitator, “Providing services for children/families in homes with substance use,” Break Out Session for State and Research University Partnerships in the Opioid Crisis, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy, May 2018.

Presenter, "No, we are NOT all the same: Being of African diaspora and childfree-by-choice," Sociology of Reproduction Mini-Conference within 2018 Annual Meeting, Southern Sociological Society (SSS), New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2018.

Co-Presenter, "'You Feel Me?': Social-Emotional Intelligence and Mental Health among Men of Color," North Carolina Community College System, Minority Male Mentoring Conference, Bridging the Gap: Innovative Approaches to Minority Male Success. Durham, NC, March 2018.

Co-Presenter, "Suicide as the Ultimate Social Risk: Mental health and cultural correlates and how this impacts the juvenile justice population," North Carolina Juvenile Services Association Conference. Carolina Beach, NC, March 2018.

Panelist, "Overcoming racialized and gendered challenges in the classroom and in research," UNC-Charlotte, Department of Africana Studies 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Africana Studies Symposium: UNC Charlotte at the Intersection of Black Studies in the Carolinas. February 2018.

Roundtable, "Developing and Strengthening Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, February 2018.

Open Seminar, "Black 'Boys II Men': Masculinity shapes, and is shaped by, mental health and suicidal self-harm," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2018.

Policy Presenter and Panelist, "Transitions in Public Policy for Mental Health," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2017.

Session Chair and Presenter, "'Violent Criminals' or Suicidal: Re-conceptualizing Suicide and Suicidal Self-harm," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2017.

Co-Presenter, "Racial and Economic Segregation: A Spatial Perspective of Persistent, Concentrated Poverty," Class, Power, Gender, and Poverty Session. Southern Economic Association Conference, November 2017.

Open Seminar, "Ways to Reduce the Mental-Illness-to-Incarceration Pipeline", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO, March 2017.

Presenter, "Black 'Boys II Men': Re-conceptualize and Re-categorize." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting. High Point University, February 2017

Roundtable, "Factors Contributing to Criminalization of Blackness and Medicalization of Whiteness," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 2016.

Roundtable, "Black Suicide and Self-Harm", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, March 29-April 2, 2016.

Presenter, "Mental Health Outreach and Cultural Correlates." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Winston-Salem, NC, February 2016.

Roundtable, "Self-Defense, Castle Doctrine, and Stand Your Ground: Race and Ethnicity, Socioeconomic Status, and Gender," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Washington, DC, November 2015.

Roundtable, "Careers in Criminal Justice and Related Fields: Networking among People of the African Diaspora," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Washington, DC, November 2015.

Thematic Panel Discussant, "Socio-Historical Explanations for Race and Perceptions of Criminality," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting. Washington, DC, November 2015.

Roundtable, "Felon Disenfranchisement and Tension between Black Men and Law Enforcement: Illustrations of Disconnect between Criminal Justice Research, Policy, and Practice", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, March 2015.

Roundtable, "Extreme Applications of Self-defense, Stand Your Ground and Castle Doctrine", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida. March 2015.

Program Committee Chair, "Critical and Conflict Theories", Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida. March 2015.

Co-Presenter, "Need for understanding between civilian CIT trainers and law enforcement CIT trainees," NC CIT State Advisory Committee, Raleigh, NC, December 2014.

Presenter, "Being Black, a Woman, and Childfree: The Intersection of Race and Gender." Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC, October 2014.

Presenter, "Being Black, a Woman, and Childfree: The Intersection of Race and Gender." North Carolina Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC, April 2014.

Session Chair, "CIT Training: Police Practices and Mental Health Consumers," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 2014.

Roundtable, "Second Phase of a Preliminary Analysis of Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2013

Co-Presenter, "A Preliminary Analysis of Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training," Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas, March 2013

Roundtable, "Black Empowerment and the Direction of Lethal Violence: Comparing Young Black and White Male Suicides in U.S. Counties," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois. November 2012.

Co-Presenter, "Understanding the Role of Faculty Mentors for Black Women in Academia," Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. March 2012

Co-Presenter, "Ebony in the Ivory Tower," Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, New York. August 2007.

Presenter, "Discrimination as a Source of Strain," Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, New York. August 2007.

Co-Moderator, "The Black Bourgeoisie in the 21st Century," Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. August 2005.

Co-Moderator, "The Black Church from DuBois to the 21st Century," Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. August 2005.

Roundtable, "Strain and Delinquent Outcomes: Assessing the Impact of Racial Discrimination and Other Types of Strain on African American and White Adolescents," American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada. November 2005.

## **COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter, [Father Figure Breakfast](#), Jefferson Elementary School, Greensboro, NC, April 2019.

Panelist, discussion of law enforcement and community engagement, "Black Super Hero Magic Mama," NC Black Repertory Company, UNC School of the Arts, November 2018.

[https://www.journalnow.com/relishnow/events/community-discussion-will-follow-reading/article\\_dc410868-dfcf-11e8-8c8d-ff2a216948c6.html](https://www.journalnow.com/relishnow/events/community-discussion-will-follow-reading/article_dc410868-dfcf-11e8-8c8d-ff2a216948c6.html)

Guest Lecture, "Urban farming, food access, poverty, crime, and health outcomes," Green Infrastructure: The Functional Role of Plants in Urban Areas course, NCSU Department of Horticultural Sciences, November 2018.

Guest Lecturer, "Teaching medical students about community outreach: How to use art to explain neuroscience," Wake Forest School of Medicine class for neuroscientist Dr. Siobhan Hoscheidt, July 2018.

Planner and Presenter, Open Seminar, "African-American Healthcare Access," Winston-Salem Juneteenth Festival, June 2018 <http://triadculturalarts.org/index.php/juneteenth-festival/schedule/>

Planner and Presenter, "Bring Your Lunch and Let's Discuss: How Housing Conditions Affect Us," Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods, Winston-Salem, NC, April 19, 2018, April 26, 2018.

Presenter, "Black Women Freedom Includes the Freedom to Control Our Own Uterus," Black Girl Empowerment Conference, Wake Forest University, Wake Downtown, April 2018.

Planner and Presenter, "Stress in Our Lives and Communities: Open Discussion and Relaxing Introductory Yoga," Triad Cultural Arts, Winston-Salem, NC, March 2018.

Support Speaker, "Ways Patients and Consumers Can Communicate with Mental Health Practitioners and Medical Professionals," Greentree Peer Center, Winston-Salem, NC, March 2018.

Support Speaker, "Self-Expression and Self-Improvement," The Salvation Army Center of Hope Transitional Housing, Winston-Salem, NC, March 2018.

Speaker, "Our Health is Always Important: How do we promote LGBTQ Mental & Physical Health Year-Round," North Star LGBTQ Potluck with a Purpose, Winston-Salem, NC, December 2017.

<http://www.northstarlgbtcc.com/newsevents/>

Co-Moderator, "Tribes within the Tribe," The NotMom Summit, Cleveland, OH, October 2017

<https://notmomsummit2017.sched.com/>

Panelist, "Breakfast with NotMoms from around the World," The NotMom Summit, Cleveland, OH, October 2017 <https://notmomsummit2017.sched.com/>

Breakout Session, "African Diaspora Life Stressors Contribute to Mental Health and Suicide," Black Mental Health Symposium, UNC-Charlotte, September 2017 <http://blackmhsymposium.com/>

Workshop, "Sexuality and sexual freedom do not require human reproduction," NC Sexual Health Conference, Raleigh, NC, September 2017 <http://www.ncsexcon.org/>

Planner and Presenter, Open Seminar, "Stress," Winston-Salem Juneteenth Festival, June 2017

<http://triadculturalarts.org/index.php/juneteenth-festival/open-seminar-juneteenth/>

Co-Presenter with Carolyn Burns (Beacon Health Options), "Community event to address mental health and suicide", Sunrise Towers N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Winston-Salem, NC, May 2017.



Co-Presenter with Tiffany Hall (Veterans Affairs) and Terry Cox (Cardinal Innovations), "Suicide outreach and awareness," Stokes County Wellness Center, NC, May 2017.

Guest Speaker, "Just Keep Swimming: A Discussion on Mental Health in the Black Community and Coping with Stress and Anxiety", Winston-Salem State University Sociology Club, NC, April 2017.

Guest Lecturer, "Diversity of Mental Health Outreach," Winston-Salem State University class for psychologist Dr. Naomi Hall-Byers, March 2017.

Speaker, Winston-Salem State University Homecoming Colloquium, "Health Disparities in America: Working toward Social Justice," October 2016.

Panelist, "Suicide: A Public Health Issue in Adolescents & Young Adults," Old Salem Visitors Center, James A. Gray Auditorium, Winston-Salem, NC October 2016.

Guest Expert, "Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention: Black Youth Suicide," Blackdoctor.org Facebook Q&A, September 2016: <https://www.facebook.com/BlackDoctor.org>  
Republished <http://blackdoctor.org/506662/black-children-suicide-prevention-a-call-to-action/>  
Republished <http://communityjournal.net/black-children-suicide-prevention-call-action/>  
Partially Republished <http://www.afro.com/rates-for-black-kids-increase/>

Presenter, "Intersecting Dynamics in Suicide and Self-Harm: Being Black, LGBT, and Faith-Based," NCAFSP LGBTQ Research to Real Life Suicide Prevention Conference, Asheville, NC, August 2016.

Panelist, Community Relations with Police, North State Law Enforcement Association Conference, Winston-Salem, NC, June 2016.

Presenter, "Self-Harm and Suicide among Blacks: Redefining and Re-Categorizing Behaviors", Lunch and Learn on Mental Health, Community Outreach, and Resource Availability, CenterPoint Human Services, Eden, NC, June 2016.

Panelist, "Black Family Forum", sponsored by Winston Salem/Forsyth County National Pan-Hellenic Council, Juneteenth Festival Winston-Salem, NC, June 2016.

Presenter, "Mental Health, Spirituality, and Human Understanding," Konnoak Hills Moravian Church Winston-Salem, NC, May 2016.

Panelist, Health Panel for Generational Conversations: A Day of Facilitated Fruitful and Positive Dialogue, The ACEY (Achievement Commitment Encourage Yield) Group, Winston-Salem, NC, May 2016.

Speaker, AFSP OOTD Campus Walk, Appalachian State University, April 2016.

Panelist, Roundtable 1: The State of Public Education in NC, Transforming Education Community Roundtable, Winston Salem State University, April 2016.

Committee and Panelist, Ladies First Summit, Winston Salem State University, April 2016-2018.

Panelist, "The State of the Black Family", Winston Salem/Forsyth County National Pan-Hellenic Council, Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church, February 2016.

Guest Sermon, "Mental Health Outreach and Faith-Based Communities," Medical Professionals Appreciation Sunday at Konnoak Hills Moravian Church Winston-Salem, NC, January 2016.

Presenter, "Mental Health Outreach: Understanding Cultural Variation", Not-for-Profit Training: Supporting Clients Who Present Mental Health Challenges, sponsored by Winston Salem Urban League and CenterPoint, October 2015.

Roundtable, “Social, Mental, and Physical Health: Correlates of Black Suicide and Self-Harm”,  
Community Conference: Sustaining and Strengthening Communities to Improve Health Outcomes.  
Winston-Salem, NC, September 2015.

Presenter, “Community-Police Relationships and Community Health”, Winston-Salem Urban League  
Summer Youth Employment Program, July 2015.

Panelist, Winston-Salem Urban League Teen Talk, National Black Theatre Festival, August 2015.  
Moderator and Presenter, May Week Mental Health Panel, Winston Salem Alumnae Chapter of Delta  
Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., WSSU RJR Center, May 2014, May 2015.

Presenter, Women’s Mental and Emotional Health, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Kernersville, NC, April  
201.

Presenter, Mental Health and the Black Community, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Nutrition, Health and Wellness Fair, NC  
A&T, Greensboro, NC, March 2015.

Presenter, Black Suicide and Mental Health in the Black Community, Second Calvary Baptist Church,  
Winston-Salem, NC, March 2015.

Presenter, Mental Health and the Black Community, General Meeting Winston Salem Urban League  
Young Professionals, March 2015.

Panelist, MLK Day Town Hall: Solutions for Improving Police - Community Relations, WSSU, sponsored  
by The Minister’s Conference, January 2015.

Co-Organizer and Discussant, My Brother’s Keeper: Black Violence Breakfast Symposium, sponsored by  
Diggs Memorial Unity Holy Church, Winston Salem, NC, March 2014.

Panelist, Stop the Violence: Community Meeting and Forum, sponsored by the City of Winston-Salem,  
Winston Salem State University, February 2014.

Presenter, Stokes County Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Seminar: “Proposed Transfer of 16-18 Years  
Old Offenders to Adult Courts in NC” and “Juvenile Recidivism and Rehabilitation,” Pilot Mountain, NC,  
January 2014.

Panelist, “Gun Violence: A Conversation,” sponsored by the Winston Salem State University Sociology  
Club, September 2013.

Panelist, Under the Gun: Panel Discussion and Symposium, sponsored by Inter-Section Gallery and Art  
Space, February 2013.

Presenter, “Black Empowerment and the Direction of Lethal Violence: Comparing Young Black and  
White Male Suicides in U.S. Counties,” Department of Psychology, Wake Forest University, August 2010.

### **COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

Board of Directors, [The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County](#), 2014—current

Board of Directors, [Forsyth Futures](#), 2018—current

Previously, Board of Directors, NC Chapter of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, 2014-2017

Previously, Board of Directors, LEAD Girls of NC, 2016-2018

Member, Standing Strong Committee, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, 2018—current

Member, Education Committee, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, 2018—current

Advisory Panel, United Kingdom-based Reproductive Freedom, Saschan Fearon-Joseph [The Womb Room](#), 2017—current

Collaborations with [Working America NC](#) to address living/family wage and social inequities, 2017-2018

Monthly Contributor, [Mental Health America of Virginia](#), February 2017—current

Mental Health Contributor, FaithHealth Committee, [Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity](#), 2017—current

Co-Planner and Co-Moderator, Winston Salem Urban League Black & Blue Town Halls, 2016

<http://www.wsurban.org/black-blue-town-hall-3-set-november-9-2016/>

Featured in [http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/civilians-police-officers-have-racial-bias-against-black-males-researcher/article\\_44997bbc-0d77-5a29-a2ba-057bd88aa754.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/civilians-police-officers-have-racial-bias-against-black-males-researcher/article_44997bbc-0d77-5a29-a2ba-057bd88aa754.html)

Featured in <http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/11/final-urban-league-town-hall-tackles-implicit-bias/>

<http://www.wsurban.org/black-blue-town-hall-2/>

<http://www.wsurban.org/community-partners-host-community-police-town-hall-series/>

Planning Committee and Volunteer, Juneteenth Festival, Triad Cultural Arts, Winston-Salem, NC, 2015-2018

2013, Planning Committee, “Gun Violence: A Conversation,” Winston Salem State University Sociology Club

2012-2015, Volunteer, Forsyth County Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) Trainings, The Mental Health Association (MHA) in Forsyth County, Inc.

2012-2014, Living Wage Subcommittee, Program in Community Engagement and Implementation, Wake Forest School of Medicine

## **PUBLIC WRITING**

Guest Column, “Connecting our communities with medical-health professionals,” January 2019

<https://www.wschronicle.com/2019/01/connection-our-communities-with-medical-health-professionals/>

MHA Virginia Blog, “Minority Mental Health: Important Every Month and Every Day,” July 2018

<https://mhav.org/minority-mental-health-important-every-month-and-every-day/>

“Suicide isn’t just a ‘white people thing,’” The Conversation: Academic rigor, journalistic flair, February 2018 <https://theconversation.com/suicide-isnt-just-a-white-people-thing-77367>

Featured <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/5-important-stories-that-have-nothing-to-do-with-the-trump-kim-summit>

Republished [https://tonic.vice.com/en\\_us/article/evmzxn/suicide-research-underrepresents-people-of-color](https://tonic.vice.com/en_us/article/evmzxn/suicide-research-underrepresents-people-of-color)

Republished [https://www.salon.com/2018/02/15/suicide-is-not-just-a-white-people-thing\\_partner/](https://www.salon.com/2018/02/15/suicide-is-not-just-a-white-people-thing_partner/)

MHA Virginia Blog, “Demographic and Cultural Variance in this ‘Opioid Crisis,’” November 2017

<https://mhav.org/demographic-and-cultural-variance-in-this-opioid-crisis/>

MHA Virginia Blog, “First Responders Need Mental Health Too,” July 2017

<http://mhav.org/first-responders-need-mental-health/>

iam1in4 republished “Mental-health outreach, spiritual communities can work together,” May 2017  
<https://iam1in4.com/2017/05/23/mental-health-outreach-spiritual-communities-can-work-together/>

MHA Virginia Blog, “Mental Health and Substance Abuse,” April 2017  
<http://mhav.org/mental-health-substance-abuse/>

MHA Virginia Blog, “How will Virginia Address Mental Illness in Jails and Prisons?” March 2017  
<http://mhav.org/will-virginia-address-mental-illness-jails-prisons/>

Guest Column, “What’s So Wrong with Self-Indulgence,” January 2017  
<http://noirecare.com/whats-so-wrong-with-self-indulgence/>

Guest Column, “Another Meaning to ‘Just Say No,’” December 2016  
<http://noirecare.com/another-meaning-just-say-no/>

Guest Column, “When It Comes to Kids, Does Love Require Complete Conformity?” December 2016  
<https://www.thenotmom.com/single-post/2018/02/14/Does-Love-Require-Complete-Conformity>

Guest Column, “Balancing social action with self-care,” November 2016  
<http://noirecare.com/balancing-social-action-selfcare/>

Guest Column, “How our mood impacts our health and relationships,” November 2016  
<http://www.zeroinhrsolutions.com/single-post/2016/11/02/How-our-mood-impacts-our-health-and-relationships>

Guest Column, “Resources available to reduce stress, violence,” October 2016  
<http://richmondfreepress.com/news/2016/oct/31/resources-available-reduce-stress-violence/>

Guest Column, “The childfree, cultural identity and intracultural diversity,” October 2016  
<https://www.lauracarroll.com/childfree-cultural-identity-intracultural-diversity/>

Guest Column, “How can we foster healthy black communities?” October 2016  
<http://noirecare.com/fostering-healthy-black-communities/>

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<http://www.capitalcommunitynews.com/content/mental-cost-violence-0>

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[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/minaa-b/cultural-variations-in-he\\_b\\_8478822.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/minaa-b/cultural-variations-in-he_b_8478822.html)

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[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/city-homicide-rate-nearly-doubles-from-to/article\\_19ed288a-e16f-595f-9f6e-9a1303074e96.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/city-homicide-rate-nearly-doubles-from-to/article_19ed288a-e16f-595f-9f6e-9a1303074e96.html)

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[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/wfu-baptist-study-taser-shots-to-chest-don-t-increase/article\\_2bb22bef-61fb-500c-8763-48714bc111a8.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/wfu-baptist-study-taser-shots-to-chest-don-t-increase/article_2bb22bef-61fb-500c-8763-48714bc111a8.html)

### **VISUAL RECORDING**

Interviewed for “Out of the Darkness” documentary about bullying and youth suicide, Dr. Thomas Keith, projected 2019 release.

Interviewed for “The Cycle: Generational Curses” documentary about mental health in African-American families and communities, A Terrence Graham Film, September 2018 release.

Christopher Cox [Real E Savvy](#) radio show, October 2017  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkS9tSLEnVc&t=275s>

Childfree Voices from NotMom Summit, Trixie Films, Theresa Shechter, October 2017  
<https://vimeo.com/237807105>

Christopher Cox [Real E Savvy](#) radio show, February 2018  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DjXuLDAqyMA>

### **AUDIO RECORDING**

Interviewed for “How do we approach our (sometimes uncomfortable) history in Winston-Salem,” Winston-Salem Journal, September 2018 [https://www.journalnow.com/twincitytalks/blog/how-do-we-approach-our-sometimes-uncomfortable-history-in-winston/article\\_006451e0-d939-5203-b7a7-2c2e1900040f.html](https://www.journalnow.com/twincitytalks/blog/how-do-we-approach-our-sometimes-uncomfortable-history-in-winston/article_006451e0-d939-5203-b7a7-2c2e1900040f.html)

Suicide and Black America, Scholars Strategy Network, No Jargon, August 2018  
<https://scholars.org/podcast/suicide-and-black-america>

Shattering Mental Health Stereotypes, Susan Lambert, LCSW: In the Balance Podcast, August 2018  
<http://liftingtheself.libsyn.com/shattering-mental-health-stereotypes-a-conversation-with-dr-kimya-n-dennis>  
<https://player.fm/series/in-the-balance-1485269/shattering-mental-health-stereotypes-a-conversation-with-dr-kimya-n-dennis>



61: Unclassified Woman, The Childfree with Dr. Kimya N. Dennis, Michelle Marie McGrath, June 2018  
<https://www.michellemariemcgrath.com/61-kimyadennis/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJ6YmxPRwLw>

Suicides across Cultures, The Matt Townsend Show, BYU Radio, May 2018  
<http://www.byuradio.org/episode/b7c00a8d-1815-4454-b700-359b7afd4c0d?playhead=752&autoplay=true>

Mental Health and Minority Communities, All Sides with Ann Fisher, WOSU-NPR, March 2018  
<http://radio.wosu.org/post/mental-health-and-minority-communities>

Seeing Suicide Through A Non-White Lens, Straight Fruit: 89.3 WFPL, March 2018  
<http://wfpl.org/strange-fruit-seeing-suicide-through-a-non-white-lens/>

Demographic and Cultural Variance in Suicide and Mental Health, All Sides with Ann Fisher, WOSU-NPR, February 2018  
<http://radio.wosu.org/post/wellness-wednesday-exercise-science-and-suicide-demographics>  
<http://radio.wosu.org/programs/all-sides-ann-fisher#stream/0>

Guest Podcast, Episode 15 – Vaginspirational, Promoting Secular Feminism, March 2016  
[http://k003.kiwi6.com/hotlink/ra2nnybk4h/Episode\\_15\\_-\\_Vaginspirational.mp3](http://k003.kiwi6.com/hotlink/ra2nnybk4h/Episode_15_-_Vaginspirational.mp3)

### **MEDIA FEATURES**

Featured in “We’re the Campbells’ Confronts Suicide Amid Worrying Statistics For Black Women,” July 2018  
<https://newsone.com/3818485/suicide-black-race-statistics/>

Featured in “Juneteenth Festival celebrates freedom,” June 2018  
<http://www.wschronicle.com/2018/06/juneteenth-festival-celebrates-freedom/>

Featured in “5 important stories that have nothing to do with the Trump-Kim summit,” June 2018  
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/5-important-stories-that-have-nothing-to-do-with-the-trump-kim-summit>

Featured in “The Politics of Being a Black Woman and Childfree,” May 2018  
<https://theblackdetour.com/black-woman-child-free/>

Featured in “Juneteenth Festival includes serious discussions,” June 2017  
<http://www.wschronicle.com/2017/06/juneteenth-festival-includes-serious-discussions/>

Featured in “Panel discussion shines light on veteran suicide,” June 2017  
<http://www.wschronicle.com/2017/06/panel-discussion-shines-light-veteran-suicide/>

Featured in “Final Urban League town hall tackles implicit bias,” November 2016  
<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/11/final-urban-league-town-hall-tackles-implicit-bias/>

Featured in “Civilians, police officers have racial bias against black males, researcher says,” November 2016:  
[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/civilians-police-officers-have-racial-bias-against-black-males-researcher/article\\_44997bbc-0d77-5a29-a2ba-057bd88aa754.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/civilians-police-officers-have-racial-bias-against-black-males-researcher/article_44997bbc-0d77-5a29-a2ba-057bd88aa754.html)

Featured in “Rates for Black Kids Increase: National Suicide Prevention Week,” September 2016  
<http://www.afro.com/rates-for-black-kids-increase/>

Featured in “WSPD takes the stage during Part Two of Black & Blue Town Hall,” August 2016  
<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/08/34479/>

Featured in "Is there an epidemic of suicides," August 2016

<http://www.estherproductionsinc.com/single-post/2016/08/15/IS-THERE-AN-EPIDEMIC-OF-SUICIDES>

Featured in "Mentoring program makes debut in W-S," August 2016

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/08/34434/>

Featured in "Forum explores relationship between community and police," July 2016

[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/forum-explores-relationship-between-community-and-police/article\\_3c218917-b376-5a57-aaec-dcc99a8af7b3.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/forum-explores-relationship-between-community-and-police/article_3c218917-b376-5a57-aaec-dcc99a8af7b3.html)

Featured in "W-S community partners host Community-Police Town Hall Series," July 2016

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/07/w-s-community-partners-host-community-police-town-hall-series/>

Featured in "Urban League to host community-police forum tonight," July 2016

[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/urban-league-to-host-community-police-forum-tonight/article\\_a6f2d60e-73cb-5e8c-a039-b04a4e026472.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/urban-league-to-host-community-police-forum-tonight/article_a6f2d60e-73cb-5e8c-a039-b04a4e026472.html)

Featured in "Our view: A timely chance for police, community to talk," July 2016

[http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-a-timely-chance-for-police-community-to-talk/article\\_470ff0e5-0513-5210-b050-6713b1dd2c98.html](http://www.journalnow.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-a-timely-chance-for-police-community-to-talk/article_470ff0e5-0513-5210-b050-6713b1dd2c98.html)

Featured in "The economic approach to fighting injustice," July 2016

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/07/33961/>

Featured in "We have to change the way that we do things," June 2016

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/06/33567/>

Featured in "Experts say build trust, prepare for worst with mental illness," May 2016

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/05/experts-say-build-trust-prepare-worst-mental-illness/>

Featured in "Students Hug It Out with Brooklyn Youth Who Was Being Bullied," April 2016

<http://atlantablackstar.com/2016/04/13/students-hug-it-out-with-brooklyn-youth-who-was-being-bullied/>

Featured in "Documentary confronts being black and gay in church," March 2016

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2016/03/documentary-confronts-black-gay-church/>

Featured in "Panel addresses stigmas of mental illness in the black community", May 2015

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2015/05/panel-addresses-stigmas-mental-illness-black-community/>

Featured in "UL Young Professionals Engage Police Chief, Council Member in Dialogue," January 2015

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2015/01/ul-young-professionals-engage-police-chief-council-member-dialogue/>

Featured in "Tackling crime, punishment", March 2014

<http://www.wschronicle.com/2014/03/tackling-crime-punishment/>

Featured in "Community Says More Opportunities, Resources are the Answer," February 2014

[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/community-says-more-opportunities-resources-are-the-answer/article\\_bef7749e-8bc0-11e3-855b-0017a43b2370.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/community-says-more-opportunities-resources-are-the-answer/article_bef7749e-8bc0-11e3-855b-0017a43b2370.html)

Featured in "Panelists discuss the effects of gun violence," October 2013

[http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/panelists-discuss-the-effects-of-gun-violence/article\\_512e0e42-2198-11e3-9bae-0019bb30f31a.html](http://www.journalnow.com/news/local/panelists-discuss-the-effects-of-gun-violence/article_512e0e42-2198-11e3-9bae-0019bb30f31a.html)

### **CERTIFICATES AND TRAININGS**

2019, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Connections Capstone Symposium  
2018, WRAP: Wellness Recovery Action Plan, Mental Health Association in Forsyth County and Cardinal Innovations  
2018, Policy Engagement Training for Researchers: How to Build Relationships for Long-term Impact, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy and SSN: Scholars Strategy Network  
2010, 2017, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (A.S.I.S.T.), NC AFSP  
2016, Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship  
2016, Advanced Issues in Suicide Intervention, Northwest AHEC and Wake Forest School of Medicine  
2016, Certificate, Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research, 3-hour training, Wake Forest School of Medicine  
2016, Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation  
2016, Mental Health First Aid Certification Training  
2015-2016, Community Contributor, safeTALK, NC AFSP  
2015, safeTALK, NC AFSP  
2010, SafeZone, Salem College

### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **Professional memberships**

American Association of Suicidology (AAS), Individual Member  
2019 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Connections Capstone Symposium Advisory Panel, United Kingdom-based Reproductive Freedom  
North Carolina Alliance for Health, Individual Member  
The Women's Fund of Winston-Salem, Associate Individual Member, Research, Education, and Advocacy (REA) Committee  
2016 Wake Forest School of Medicine Health Equity Research Opportunity (HERO) Fellowship  
Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), Life Member  
The American Society of Criminology (ASC)  
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS): Public Policy Committee, 2015-2018; Elections & Nominations Committee, 2017  
Honorary Member, Gate City Chapter, North State Law Enforcement Association (NSLEA)  
Alpha Kappa Delta, International Sociology Honor Society  
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International  
North Carolina Sociological Association (NCSA): Council Member, 2016-2020  
North Carolina Criminal Justice Association (NCCJA)  
SSN: Scholars Strategy Network, <http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/>  
Winston-Salem Urban League Young Professionals

#### **Personal memberships**

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (Spring 1998, Rho Rho Chapter, University of Richmond)  
Co-Chair, Richmond Spiders in Carolina Triad, University of Richmond