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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, American Ethnic Studies Department, University of Washington; 2013-present

- Faculty Affiliate, West Coast Poverty Center, University of Washington; 2013-present
- Member, Relational Poverty Network; 2013-present
- Research Affiliate, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology; 2014-present
- Affiliate Faculty, Center for Communication, Difference, and Equity; 2014-present
- Adjunct Professor, Department of Sociology; 2015-present

National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology, Georgia State University; 2011-2012.

Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Research and Training Program on Poverty and Public Policy, National Poverty Center, The Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan; 2010-2011.

Instructor, Department of Sociology, Hiram College; 2007-2010.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Sociology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL; December 2010

M.A., Sociology, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT; 2000

B.S., Urban Government Administration, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA; 1995

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health/Medical Sociology; Aging; Social Inequality; Race, Class, and Gender; Urban Poverty; Public Policy; Family; Care Work; Research Methods

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Pittman, L.** and D. Oakley. (2018). "It Was Love In All the Buildings They Tore Down": How Caregiving Grandmothers Create and Experience a Sense of Community in Chicago Public Housing. *City & Community (In Press—due June 2018)*
- Pittman, L.** (2017). Safety Net Politics: Economic Survival Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation. In *Relational Poverty Politics! (Un)thinkable Forms, Struggles, Possibilities* edited by Vicky Lawson and Sarah Ellwood. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.
- Pittman, L.** (2015). How Well Does the Safety Net Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation. *The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*. 1(1): 78-97.
- Pittman, L.** (2014). Doing What's Right for the Baby: Parental Responses and Institutional Decision-Making of Custodial Grandmothers. *Women, Gender, & Families of Color*. 2(1): 32-56.
- Watkins-Hayes, C., **Pittman-Gay, L.**, and Beaman, J. (2012). 'Dying From' to 'Living With': Framing Institutions and the Coping Processes of Black Women Living with HIV/AIDS." *Social Science & Medicine*. 74(12): 2028-2036.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Pittman, L., Nodvin, J. and Howett, M. (2016). Grandparents as Caregivers for Grandchildren with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. In *Rubin and Crocker 3rd Edition: Health Care for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Across the Lifespan* edited by I Leslie Rubin, Joav Merrick, Donald E Greydanus and Dilip R Patel. Pp. 69-77. Switzerland. Springer International Publishing.

Pittman, L. (2012). African American Families: Still a Band of Slaves?" In *The African American Experience: Psychoanalytic Perspectives* edited by S. Akhtar. Pp. 229-270. Lanham, Maryland. Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group.

Watkins-Hayes, C., **Pittman-Gay, L.** and Beaman, J. (2011). 'Dying From' to 'Living With': Framing Institutions and the Coping Processes of Black Women Living with HIV/AIDS. Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research. Working Paper 12-01.

UNDER REVIEW

Pittman, L. (2017). Achieving Family Stability in an Unequal System of Kinship Care: The Experiences of African American Caregiving Grandmothers. (*Child Welfare- Special Issue on Kinship Care—Revise and Resubmit*)

BOOK MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS

Black Grandmothers from Slavery to the Present, in talks with executive editors at university presses.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Pittman, L. and Doll, K. Aging and Reproductive Identity among Black Women Living through Jim Crow.

Perla, M. and **Pittman, L.** Healthy Youth Survey Mental Health Outcomes by Caregiver Type.

Pittman, L. Constructing Womanisms: The Role of Black Sociology in Crafting a Research Agenda from the Inside Out, in *The New Black Sociologists: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*, edited by Marcus Hunter. Routledge Taylor & Francis Group.

Pittman, L. Child Care Decision-Making among African American Grandmothers Raising Their Grandchildren.

Oakley, D. and **Pittman L.** How Caregiving Grandmothers Create and Experience a Sense of Community in HOPE VI Relocation Communities.

Pittman, L. Creating 'Emotional Hygiene': Black Women's Experiences of Psychological Well-Being.

RESEARCH GRANTS

West Coast Poverty Center Mini-Grant, University of Washington (\$10,000); 2016

University of Washington, Royalty Research Fund (\$38,015.92); 2015

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Research Scholars Grant (\$30,000); 2009-2010

Integrated Entrepreneurship New Course Development Grant (Carework & Gender), Hiram College (\$3,000); 2009

Friesen Grant for Graduate Research, Northwestern University (\$500); 2009

Department of African American Studies Grant, Northwestern University (\$1,000); 2007

Weinberg College of Arts & Science Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University (\$2,998); 2007

MacArthur Faculty-Student Summer Research Grant Co-Investigator, with Dr. Celeste Watkins-Hayes (\$1,350); 2007

ADDITIONAL AWARDS & HONORS

Simpson Center Society of Scholars Fellowship, University of Washington; 2016

Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship, The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation; 2016

Visiting Scholar, University of Wisconsin, Institute for Research on Poverty; 2012

Samuel Du Bois Cook Postdoctoral Fellowship, Duke University, declined: 2010-2011

Hiram College Minority Dissertation Fellowship, Hiram College: 2007-2010

Nominee, Excellence in Leadership Award, Advisor of the Year, Hiram College: 2009

Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Honorable Mention: 2007-2008

CREST Dissertation Fellowship, The College of St. Rose, declined: 2007-2008

Diversifying Faculty in Illinois Higher Education Fellowship, declined: 2007-2008

Northwestern University, most fellowships awarded in graduate school division: 2007-2008
Northwestern University, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Fellowship: 2001-2007
Northwestern University, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Research Fellowship: 2005-2006
University of Connecticut, Multiculturalism Fellowship: 1997-2000

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Participant, Butler-Williams Scholars Program, National Institute on Aging. 2016.

- Research design relative to aging, including issues relevant to aging of ethnic and racial minorities
- Research on aging, including: the biology of aging; genetics and Alzheimer's disease; and health, behavior, and aging
- Methodological approaches and interventions
- Consultation on the development of research interests and advice on preparing and submitting research grant applications to NIA

Participant, Center for Innovative Aging Summer Research Institute, "Developing Behavioral Interventions," John Hopkins University. 2016.

- Logistical considerations of developing and implementing an intervention
- Introduction to grantsmanship
- Costing intervention
- Mixed methods
- Management of research studies
- Mediation and moderation-dose-response analysis
- Intellectual property

Participant, RAND Mini-Medical School, National Institute on Aging, NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research. 2015.

- Attended a series of lectures about biomedical issues relating to aging, including biology, genetics, patient care, psychiatry, and other areas.
- Learned from clinicians and researchers how the practice of medicine can inform, and improve, social science research.
- Gained insight into the science of aging and a greater understanding of relevant medical issues.

Research Assistant, The National Science Foundation's Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP). Northwestern University. 2005-2007.

- Created programs for current and matriculating underrepresented graduate students in the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBES), specifically the Peer Mentoring and Fall Transition Programs.
- Executed the implementation of SBES programs by determining and securing the participation of appropriate professors and university staff, developing and facilitating program agendas, and promoting programs among underrepresented SBES Ph.D. students.
- Assessed the effectiveness and relevance of SBES programs by formulating criteria, generating evaluations, and reporting findings to AGEP Program Director and Assistant Dean of Student Life and Multicultural Affairs (e.g. Academic Employment Workshop, Peer Mentoring and Fall Transition Programs).

Research Assistant, "Sister to Sister: An Ethnographic Study of the Social Consequences of HIV/AIDS for Black Women," Principal Investigator: Dr. Celeste Watkins-Hayes. Northwestern University. 2004-2007.

- Reworked interview protocol and produced project codebook.
- Coded and analyzed ethnographic and interview data using ATLAS ti and HyperResearch qualitative software for publication preparation.
- Taught postgraduate and undergraduate research assistants procedures for collecting, coding, and analyzing qualitative research and data and use of ATLAS ti qualitative software.

Urban Poverty Ethnographer, Dekalb County Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSES) Task Force. 2001-2004.

- Completed a series of eight focus groups with teenage sex workers aimed at examining issues salient to sex-work, including relationships, institutional interaction, and social psychological and embodied aspects of performing sex work.
- Executed and transcribed semi-structured, in-depth interviews with twenty-six teenage sex workers, as well as with pimps and sex worker consumers.
- Performed ethnography on “the track” (prostitution market), typed, and analyzed field notes.
- Produced a final assessment report for citywide juvenile prostitution prevention and intervention.

Urban Poverty Ethnographer, Center for Social Research, University of Hartford. 1998-2000.

- Performed ethnography and completed field notes on Healthy Families support workers as they administered the projects child abuse prevention protocol to single, at-risk mothers in several cities with high poverty concentrations, including Bridgeport, Waterbury, Hartford, and New Haven.
- Administered and transcribed in-person, semi-structured interviews with Healthy Families support workers and their clients.
- Trained new project researchers to use qualitative methods.

Research Assistant, Gary Oates, Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut. 1998-1999.

- Created an annotated literature review of articles focused on the intersection of social inequality and social psychology.
- Cleaned quantitative data sets for use in peer-reviewed academic publications using Statistical Analysis System (SAS) quantitative software.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, American Ethnic Studies Department, University of Washington. 2013-present

Courses taught:

African Americans in American Law (AFRAM 437)
Black Digital Studies (AFRAM 498)
African American Families (AFRAM 260)
Race, Ethnicity and U.S. Public Policy (AES 380)
Introduction to African American Studies (AFRAM 101)

Instructor, Department of Sociology, Hiram College. 2007-2010.

Courses taught:

Introduction to Sociology
Social Inequality
Carework & Gender
Sociology of Black Families
Sociology of Mental Health
South Africa Study Abroad Course

Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University. 2001-2005.

Courses taught:

Race, Poverty and Public Policy & Introduction to African American Studies (Celeste Watkins-Hayes)
Social Science Research Methods (Al Hunter)
Field Methods (Gary Alan Fine)
Social Inequality (Marika Lindholm)
Field Methods (Timothy Nelson)

Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut. 1997-2000.

Courses taught:

Society and the Individual (Gary Oates)

Sociology of the Family (Cameron McDonald)

Research Methods (Kathryn Ratcliff)

Introduction to Sociology (Davita Glasberg)

Social Inequality (Ronald Taylor)

Modern Africa (Josef Gugler)

Prejudice and Discrimination (Ronald Taylor)

INVITED TALKS

“Better Off in a Better Environment”: The Intersection of Urban Poverty, Public Policy and Grandparent-Headed Households. Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin. April 2018.

“Kinship Advocacy Day” Washington State Capital. Olympia, Washington. February 2016.

“Global Challenges — Interdisciplinary Answers on Health and Poverty” University of Washington Honor’s Program. Seattle, Washington. November 2015.

“It Was Love In All the Buildings They Tore Down: Public Housing Transformation and the Community Question.” Housing in an Unequal World Conference. Chicago, Illinois. September 2015.

“How Well Does the “Safety Net” Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation.” Critical Dialogue: Lifting the Veil on Grandparenting in the 21st Century. SSSP Annual Conference. Chicago, Illinois. August 2015.

“It Was Love In All the Buildings They Tore Down: Public Housing Transformation and the Community Question.” Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference. Miami, Florida. April 2015.

“They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. March 2015.

“How Well Does the “Safety Net” Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation.” University of Washington, West Coast Poverty Center Seminar Series. Seattle, Washington. October 2014.

“How Well Does the “Safety Net” Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation.” Russell Sage Foundation Conference on Severe Deprivation in America. New York, New York. October 2014.

Pecha Kucha Seattle, PKN SEA vol. 56 #Ferguson. Northwest African American Museum and Seattle People of Color Salon. Seattle, Washington. August 2014.

Critical Sociology Mini-Conference, Conversation on Racism and Capitalism. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. San Francisco, California. August 2014.

“They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Work and Family Researchers Network, Making it Fit: Employment and Caregiving Strategies of Low Income Families Panel. New York City, New York. June 2014

“Bridging Voice, Practice, and Policy: The Intergenerational Family Project.” Georgia State University, Center of Excellence for Health Disparities Research. Atlanta, Georgia. 2013.

“Bridging Voice, Practice, and Policy: The Intergenerational Family Project.” Southern Sociological Society, Beyond Publications and Teaching Evaluations: Public Sociology as a Remedy to Relational Inequalities Panel. Atlanta, Georgia. 2013.

“They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Administration for Children and Families, Welfare Research and Evaluation Conference. Washington, D.C. 2012.

“Does the State Help or Hurt Grandmother-Headed Households? A Simple Question with No Easy Answers.” University of Wisconsin, Institute for Research on Poverty. Madison, Wisconsin. 2012.

“When Ends Don't Meet: Economic Survival Strategies for African American Grandmothers Raising Their Grandchildren.” Eastern Sociological Society. Boston, Massachusetts. 2010.

- “Parental Response: The Missing Link in Understanding Institutional Decision Making of African American Caretaking Grandmothers.” Conference Honoring Carol Stack and the 35th anniversary of the publication of *All Our Kin*. Yale University. 2009.
- “Parental Response: The Missing Link in Understanding Institutional Decision Making of African American Caretaking Grandmothers.” Kent State University Colloquium Series. 2009.
- “Shackles on My Feet and High Heels: The Criminalization of Juvenile Prostitutes.” Yari Yari Pamberi Conference on Black Women Writers. New York University. October 2004.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PRESENTATIONS

- “Age and the Life Cycle in Black Studies” Panel Proposed for American Studies Association Meeting with Habiba Ibrahim (University of Washington). Atlanta, Georgia. November 2018.
- “How Well Does the “Safety Net” Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation.” Deviance Seminar, Department of Sociology. University of Washington. March 2016.
- “How Well Does the “Safety Net” Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation.” ABS Annual Conference. Chicago, Illinois. August 2015.
- “How Well Does the “Safety Net” Work for Family Safety Nets? Economic Survival Strategies Among Grandmother Caregivers in Severe Deprivation.” University of Washington, Relational Poverty Network Conference. October 2014
- “They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Society for the Study of Social Problems. San Francisco, California. August 2014.
- “They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado. August 2012.
- “They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New York, New York. February 2012.
- “They Told Me I Have to be Working or in School”: Barriers and Strategies to Child Care Subsidy Access among Custodial Grandmothers.” Society for Social Work and Research Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. January 2012.
- “When Ends Don't Meet: Economic Survival Strategies for African American Grandmothers Raising Their Grandchildren.” Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI), Mothers and the Economy: The Economics of Mothering Conference. Toronto, ON, Canada. October 2010.
- “When Ends Don't Meet: Economic Survival Strategies for African American Grandmothers Raising Their Grandchildren.” Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia. 2010.
- “Parental Response: The Missing Link in Understanding Institutional Decision Making of African American Caretaking Grandmothers.” American Sociological Association and Carework Network Annual Meetings. San Francisco, California. August 2009.
- “Parental Response: The Missing Link in Understanding Institutional Decision Making of African American Caretaking Grandmothers.” Hiram College, Library Forum. February 2009.
- “‘Dying From’ to ‘Living With:’ Framing Institutions and the Coping Processes of Black Women Living with HIV/AIDS.” With Celeste Watkins-Hayes and Jean Beaman. American Sociological Association and Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meetings. Boston, Massachusetts. August 2008.
- “Creating ‘Emotional Hygiene’ from the Ground Up: African American Women and Psychological Well-being.” American Sociological Association and Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meetings. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. August 2005.
- “Shackles on My Feet and High Heels: The Criminalization of Juvenile Prostitutes.” International Association of the Study of Sexuality, Culture, and Society (IASSCS). Johannesburg, South Africa. June 2003.
- “Shackles on My Feet and High Heels: The Criminalization of Juvenile Prostitutes.” Africana Studies Against Criminal Injustice: Research—Education—Action at Columbia University. New York City, New York. April 2003.
- “Shackles on My Feet and High Heels: The Criminalization of Juvenile Prostitutes.” Race, Class, Gender Workshop at Northwestern University. Evanston, Illinois. March 2003.

“The Embodiment of Juvenile Prostitution.” Gender, Class, Sexuality: The Power of Intersectionality. 5th Annual Research Symposium Sponsored by the Women's Studies Research Center and the Black World Studies Program. Miami University. Oxford, Ohio. March 2003.

“Scholaractivism: Revisited.” Locating Common Ground: Rethinking and Strengthening Our Collectivities. 13th Annual National Graduate and Professional Student Conference by Students of Color of Rackham (SCOR), the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies and the Center for Afro-American and African Studies. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, Michigan. February 2003.

“Creating ‘Emotional Hygiene’ from the Ground Up: African American Women and Psychological Well-being.” University of Connecticut’s Women’s Studies Conference on Women and Gender. Storrs, CT. April 2000.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

PBS “Beyond Ferguson” (Part I & II) Documentary Participant, *In Close*, KCTS 9, March 12 & 19, 2015.

Invited Guest, *The Emile & Friends Show*, WVON Radio, April 18, 2009.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Associate Editor, Social Problems (University of Cincinnati); 2018-2021

Poverty and Family Functioning Network (Institute for Research on Poverty—University of Wisconsin); 2017-2021

Community and Urban Sociology Section Council Member, American Sociological Association: 2017-2020

Member, Honors Council, University of Washington: 2014-present

Session Organizer, American Sociological Association, Poverty Session, Annual Meeting: 2016

Chair-Elect, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award Committee: 2015-2016

Steering Committee, The Carework Network: 2010-2013

Scholarship Selection Committee, Charles McKinley International Studies Scholarship, Hiram College: 2007-2008

Planning Committee, Chicago Ethnography Conference: 2006-2007

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

Association of Black Sociologists

Gerontological Society of America

Society for the Study of Social Problems

American Studies Association

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Sociologists for Women in Society

Work and Family Researchers Network

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Council Member, Mayor’s Council for African American Elders, Seattle and King County: 2013-present

Board Member, Institute for the Study of Disadvantage and Disability: 2012-2013

Awards Dinner Host Committee, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law: 2006, 2007

REFERENCES

Aldon Morris, Ph.D.
Leon Forrest Professor
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