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Red Thread's Research: An Interview with Andaiye

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Abstract

In January 2013, on a visit to Georgetown Guyana, I had a special opportunity to interview Andaiye about research by the women's organization Red Thread. Andaiye is a co-founder and organizer of Red Thread, as well as an internationally renowned activist for working women's rights. While aspects of her work with Red Thread have been covered in various media, I hoped through the interview to hone in on her perspective of the roles and meanings of research in the organization's activities and to add to the documentation of Red Thread's unique experience with research. During the interview, Andaiye repeatedly stressed that she did not have all the information and that certain details needed verifying by other members of Red Thread. After the interview she filled in and elaborated on the transcript as much as possible. The following, then, is an example of a mixed method for documenting history and practice, incorporating a great deal of reflection and some dialogue, and bringing to light yet another dimension of the Red Thread story.ⁱ