



## Contributors Biographies

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**Tyrone Ali** is a PhD candidate in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies at The UWI, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago. His thesis interrogates gendered language use among Trinidadian men in the areas of love, intimacy and sexuality. His MPhil in Literatures in English examined these indices in selected Caribbean canonical works as well as current works. Tyrone delivers the course *Men and Masculinities in the Caribbean* and his research interests include Caribbean Literatures in English, Masculinity Studies, and Tertiary Level Writing by Caribbean students.

**Barbara Evelyn Bailey**, Professor Emerita (Gender & Education) of The University of the West Indies held the position of University Director of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies from 1996 and up to her retirement in 2010. Professor Bailey's teaching and research focus has been on Gender and Education Studies, with particular emphasis on the relationship of educational outputs to outcomes in the economic, social and political spheres for both genders. Her work in this area has made a distinctive contribution to educational practice and policy with her leadership of the

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Regional Gender Differentials Research Project resulting in a policy framework developed in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank and adopted by CARICOM Ministers of Education at the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council on Human and Social Development (COHSOD) in October, 2010. She has also authored several related articles, including *Gender and Education in Jamaica: What About the Boys?* published in the UNESCO monograph series, *Education for All in the Caribbean: Assessment 2000* and *Gender and Political Economy in Caribbean Education Systems: An Agenda for Inclusion* published in Commonwealth Partnerships 2009.

**Sue Ann Barratt** is a PhD graduate from the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, The UWI, St. Augustine Campus. Her Interdisciplinary Gender Studies degree was achieved through a thesis which focused on the relevance of perceptions of gender identity to interpersonal communication conflict. Her previous undergraduate and post-graduate education was centered on communication studies – mass media and communication and human communication – and political science. Broadly, however, her research interests include human communication in the interpersonal, mass mediated and computer mediated contexts. Cultural studies, especially Trinidad Carnival and the arena of Endurance sports, and Sexuality and Gender studies are also key areas of interest. To explore these areas she focuses on the power of verbal and non-verbal language to construct and mediate shared realities.

**Ian Bethell Bennett** is Dean of Faculty of Liberal and Fine Arts at the College of The Bahamas. His research interests include gender in development and migration. His recent publications focus on unequal development in the Caribbean particularly in The Bahamas and Puerto Rico where tourist resorts take over land and so disenfranchise locals. He works around Haitian and Cuban migration to and through The Bahamas and is

currently working on a project on statelessness in The Bahamas. He writes in the daily newspapers on gender and development.

**Wesley Crichlow** is a Tenured Associate Professor in the Faculty of Social Science & Humanities, within the criminology specialization, at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology ([www.uoit.ca](http://www.uoit.ca)). He also currently sits as the Chair for the Community Advisory Board at the Toronto South Detention Center. He is also currently developing evidence-based research to inform rehabilitation counselling, residential treatment, interventions for gang-exit and offender desistance, as well as prevention programmes and policy that relate to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender and gender presentation, especially among racialized youth, for former and current LGBT gang-involved and incarcerated young adults. Wesley is an interdisciplinary youth scholar and community social justice activist who works with socially and economically disadvantaged youth, engaging in youth community empowerment.

"My academic life is a public expression of my commitment to equity and social justice and I dedicate my academic work to social justice, community-university collaborations, and effective community social justice empowerment models."

**Andrea A. Davis** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities, with cross-appointments in the graduate programmes in English and Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies, at York University in Toronto, Canada. She has published widely on black women's fictional writing and constructions of gender and sexuality. As the former director of the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLAC), Davis helped to strengthen research links between Canadian and Caribbean researchers, and York University and the University of the West Indies (Mona), and also led a research partnership exploring Jamaican and Toronto youth experiences with violence. Davis worked closely with Carl E. James in this partnership, and the research now

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informs their professional development work with high school teachers in Jamaica focusing on the teaching of boys. Her most recent publications include *Jamaica in the Canadian Experience* (2012, co-edited with James).

**Halimah DeShong** is a Vincentian Commonwealth Scholar who received her PhD in 2010 from the University of Manchester with a thesis entitled *Gendered Negotiations: Interrogating Discourses of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)*. She holds a BA (First Class Honours) from The University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill Campus and was one of two valedictorians in 2004. As recipient of a Wellcome Trust Fellowship, she completed an MPhil in Social Policy in 2007 at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The UWI, Cave Hill, with a thesis which focused on masculinities and violence against women in Barbados. She was also awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from the Centre of Gender Excellence (GEXcel) at the University of Linköping, Sweden in 2010. At present, she is a Lecturer at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, Nita Barrow Unit (IGDS: NBU) at The UWI, Cave Hill Campus. Halimah has published in the areas of violence against women and gender and language. Her research interests include the sociology of gender and violence, gender and language, feminist epistemologies and methodologies, and Caribbean men and masculinity studies.

**Karen Flynn** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies and the Department of African-American Studies Program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She received her PhD in Women's Studies from York University, Toronto, Ontario, in 2003. Her research interests include migration and travel, Black Canada, health, popular culture, feminist, diasporic and post-colonial studies. Dr. Flynn's recent book: *Moving Beyond Borders: Black Canadian and Caribbean Women in the African Canadian Diaspora*, published by the University of Toronto Press, won the Lavinia L. Dock Award from the American Association of the History of Nursing. She is currently

working on a second book project that maps the travel itineraries of Blacks across borders.

In addition to her academic work, Dr. Flynn has published numerous editorials in *Share*, Canada's largest ethnic newspaper, which serves the Black and Caribbean communities in the Greater Metropolitan Toronto area. She was also a free-lance writer for *Canada Extra*, and most recently for *Swaymag.ca* where she wrote passionately about contemporary issues considering issues of race, gender, class, sexuality, age, and nation. Dr. Flynn was recently a Dean's Fellow for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, a programme geared towards strengthening and expanding the cadre of leaders in the College.

**Nicholas R. Gilbert**, also known as **AbioyeMunashe** (which

means 'born into royalty with God') was the first of nine children of his parents. He grew up in a family where history was preserved through the African practice of storytelling. As a child he heard many stories about his ancestors from his grandparents and parents, and as a result he grew to love storytelling and began to write stories from a young age. His passion for story writing evolved into poems as he grew older. Nicholas holds a BSc in Social Work (Hons) and an MSc in Gender and Development Studies both from The University of the West Indies. He was also given an award for "Best All-round Student" in Social Policy while an undergraduate. Nicholas received awards of "Poet of the Month" from Poetic Vibes\* in January 2009 and again in January 2011. In February 2010 he was awarded by Caribbean Youth Magazine (Cary'sma) for his contributions in the "Haiti 7.0 Poetry Writing Competition." Nicholas currently works with the Ministry of National Security as a Prison Welfare Officer I and is also a part time tutor at the Open Campus in St Augustine. He has a strong passion for community work and wants to work at curbing the impact of violence and crime caused by hypermasculine traits. He is a member of the Rape Crisis Society.

\*Poetic Vibes Arts Foundation was founded in 2007 initially as an online platform for the promotion of the arts in the Caribbean region and wider communities.

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**Gabrielle Henderson** is currently the programme specialist with UN Women's Multi-Country Office (MCO) for the Caribbean with responsibility for the management of programming related to addressing violence against women and girls and the gender equality and human rights portfolio of work, particularly the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). In this role, Gabrielle provides and manages technical and programmatic support to governments and civil society organizations throughout the 22 Caribbean countries covered by the UN Women MCO for the Caribbean. Areas of support include: the development and implementation of national strategic plans on gender-based violence, community-based social mobilization initiatives to address GBV, gender policy, capacity building of law enforcement and judicial officers, legislative review and reform, design, implementation and evaluation of projects and programmes, CEDAW reporting and the implementation of concluding observations, reporting for the Universal Periodic Review and on the Belem do Para convention. Gabrielle also serves as the Evaluation Focal Point for the MCO. Gabrielle's background in both youth and feminist activism in the region is complemented by experience in programme management which includes work with organizations such as UNICEF Caribbean Area Office, the Caribbean HIV and AIDS Alliance, The Family Planning Association of T&T, Credo Centre for socially displaced children, CAFRA and the Youth and National Health Service in London, England. Gabrielle has also worked as an independent consultant and holds a Masters degree in Applied Anthropology with Youth and Community Work and a Bachelors in Sociology with Business Management from The UWI, St. Augustine Campus.

**Kyle Jackson** is a PhD Candidate (defending December 2014) at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. His work focuses on the transnational politics of sexuality, gender, and race. He is the recipient of a doctoral award from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of

Canada. He has also received a teaching award from Western University in London, Ontario. He has developed and taught undergraduate courses on various intersections of queer politics in the departments of Political Studies and Gender Studies at Queen's.

**Carl E. James** is a Professor in the Faculty of Education and in the Graduate Programs in Sociology and Social Work at York University in Toronto, Canada. The founding Director of the York Centre for Education and Community (YCEC), his interests include the examination of the educational, social, athletic and occupational experiences and attainment of students, as well as Black youth's experiences, performance and negotiation of masculinities. With Andrea Davis, James has engaged in research that explores Jamaican and Toronto youth experiences with violence. This research has helped to inform their professional development work with high school teachers in Jamaica focusing on the teaching of boys. His most recent publications include *Jamaica in the Canadian Experience* (2012, co-edited with Davis).

**Linden Lewis** is a Presidential Professor of Sociology at Bucknell University. He is the editor of *The Culture of Gender and Sexuality in the Caribbean*, the co-editor of *Color, Hair and Bone: Race in the Twenty-first Century*, and editor of *Caribbean Sovereignty, Development and Democracy in an Age of Globalization*. He has published widely in areas such as gender, race, labour, globalization and culture. He is currently co-editing with Anton Allahar, a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Latin American Perspectives on *Locating Oliver Cox: The Contradictions of Radical Liberalism*. Professor Lewis has also lectured throughout the Caribbean, Europe and Africa.

**Nalini Mohabir** is a long-time volunteer with ACAS;

**Richard Utama** is ACAS' Gay Men's Strategy Officer;

**Daniel Le** is the Program Coordinator at Action AIDS Singapore;

**Peter Ho** is a social worker at Regent Park Community Health Centre (Toronto);

**Ryan Tran** is ACAS' Men's Sexual Health Project Coordinator;

**Brian Ly** is ACAS' Gay Men's Outreach Worker.

Through co-authorship, we wish to ground the collaborative nature of our reflections (rather than highlight an ego-driven authorial voice).

**Crista Mohammed** has a keen interest in West Indian Literature and Feminist Discourse with specific reference to the developing world. She holds a BA in Literatures of English, Communication Studies and Gender Studies with 1st class honours; a Post Graduate Diploma in Education: the Teaching of English with distinction; and an MA in Technical Communication with distinction.

**Jorge Luis Morejón** has experimented with artistic genres as diverse as theatre, opera, dance and performance. He has performed in a number of different stage productions. He has also directed several stage productions and choreographed ballets. Parallel to voice, dance and theatre training with Prometeo Theatre, Creation Ballet and Teatro della Radicci, Dr. Morejón earned a Bachelor's degree in Special Education from Florida International University in 1998. He did Master's level studies in Expressive Arts Therapy at the European Graduate School in Switzerland in 2000 and 2002. He earned a Master's degree in Liberal Studies with an emphasis in Theatre from the University of Miami in 2006. He taught Dance and Expressive Movement at Miami Dade College and New World School of the Arts from 1993 - 2006. In 2011, he

graduated with a PhD in Performance Studies with emphasis on Practice as Research from the University of California, Davis. Since then he has presented in over 25 conferences and published several academic papers. From 2011 to the present, Dr. Morejón has been a Lecturer in the Department of Creative and Festival Arts, DCFA, The UWI, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago. Currently, he is the Coordinator of the Dance Unit at DCFA. In Trinidad, he has co-directed the production *Re-awakening the Caribbean Spirit* at Scherzando Panyard and directed the play *Maria Antonia*. Currently, he works towards obtaining his certification in Dance/Movement Therapy at the Harkness Dance Center, New York City.

**Kimalee Phillip** is an African cis-gendered woman, born and raised in Grenada and currently living in Toronto. She is a co-Director of the youth-led, Grenadian based collective, Groundation Grenada which focuses on the use of creative media to assess community needs and to build spaces for transformative change. She holds an MA in Legal Studies from Carleton University where she analyzed the coloniality of gender and sexuality and how that impacts rates of violence against women in Grenada. She is a counselor with the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre and serves as the Equity Officer with the Canadian Union of Public Employees, local 1281. She does organizing work with the Network for Pan-Afrikan Solidarity, the Black Women's Caucus and the Network for the Elimination of Police Violence, in Toronto. She desires to consistently remain in the sun, enjoy a good, heavy occasional rainfall and to always be near a body of water. She enjoys writing, reading and embracing good music. She longs for a world where her people can live, love, laugh and transition freely.

**Alissa Trotz** is an Associate Professor in Caribbean Studies at New College and Women and Gender Studies, University of Toronto. She is also Associate Faculty at the Dame Nita Barrow Institute for Gender and

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Development Studies at the Cave Hill Campus of The UWI. Her research interests include the gendered politics of neoliberalism, social reproduction and women's activism; gender, coloniality and violence; and transnational migration and diaspora. For the past eight years, Alissa has edited a weekly newspaper column, *In the Diaspora*, in the *Stabroek News*, a Guyanese independent newspaper, and she is a member of Red Thread Women's Organization in Guyana.

**Peter Weller** is a Jamaican born, Trinidad and Tobago residing, Caribbean man, husband, father and Clinical Psychologist (PhD, Emory University). A "people watcher", problem solver, advocate, and educator by nature, Dr Weller is currently the Co-coordinator of the MSc Clinical Psychology Programme and Practicum, in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at The Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex at The UWI, Trinidad and Tobago where he also lectures in Individual and Group Psychotherapy. Dr. Weller is a member of the Caribbean Network for the Study of Masculinity and is co-founder and current President and Chairperson of the Caribbean Male Action Network (CariMAN). You can learn more about his work from his TedX talk <https://youtu.be/FyVqKydor9U>. He currently serves on the Executive Steering Committee of the international entity, MenEngage Alliance, an alliance of NGOs working together with men and boys to promote gender equality (<http://menengage.org>), and has also been an advisor to the Gender Specialist at CARICOM.

**Hakim Mohandas Amani Williams**, a native of Trinidad and Tobago, is an Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Education at Gettysburg College, PA, USA, where he is also a faculty member of the Globalization Studies and Public Policy programmes. He received his BA (Hons) in psychology from St. Francis College, Brooklyn, and his Master of Arts, Master of Education and Doctorate of Education in the fields of Comparative and

International Education, and International Educational Development from Teachers College, Columbia University. His teaching and research interests include: peace education, human rights, education for social change, structural violence, educational inequity, youth empowerment, and Caribbean Studies. Recent publications include: "Postcolonial structural violence: a study of school violence in Trinidad & Tobago." (2013). *International Journal of Peace Studies*, 18.2: 39-64. and "Peaceableness as Raison d'être, Process, and Evaluation". In A. Karako, C. Del Felice, and A. Wisler (Eds.). (forthcoming). *Peace education evaluation: Learning from experience and exploring prospects*. North Carolina: Information Age Press.



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