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Gender and Anti-colonialism in the Interwar Caribbean

Contributors

[Rose Mary Allen](#) studied Anthropology at the University of Nijmegen, and obtained her doctorate degree at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands. She has been conducting oral history interviews on the islands of the Dutch Caribbean. She is working as a freelance researcher and as a part-time lecturer in Caribbean studies at the University of Curaçao. She has co-published, edited and published several books and articles on the cultural and social history of Curaçao with special attention on cultural traditions, migration, gender studies and cultural diversity.

In 2015, she was awarded the Cola Debrot Prize, Curaçao's most prestigious national award in the area of culture, art and science. At the moment, she is setting up a program of Cultural Studies at the University of Curacao. She is the local coordinator of the research program *Traveling Caribbean Heritage*, a four-year project of the University of Leiden, Erasmus University of Rotterdam, University of Aruba, UNESCO Bonaire and the University of Curaçao. She is also the local coordinator of the project *Cultural practices of citizenship under conditions of fragmented sovereignty: gendered and sexual citizenship in Curacao and Bonaire*, of the University of Curaçao and the University of Amsterdam.

Amrita Bandopadhyay is a third year PhD candidate in English at the University of Florida, Gainesville, USA. Her doctoral dissertation is on Indo-Caribbean women's literature, with a particular focus on the refashioning of women's identity, education and cultural practices through migration and travel. Her doctoral research explores how women imagine resistance and create narratives of negotiation in the context of racial and patriarchal conflicts in multiethnic societies. Her research interests include narratives of the South Asian and the Asian Diaspora, women's literature, travel writing, Global Anglophone literature and digital humanities. Her dissertation also makes use of archival materials, particularly from the Digital Library of the Caribbean and archives in Trinidad and Tobago.

Amrita previously received her MA and M.Phil. in English from Jadavpur University, Calcutta, India. Her M.Phil. thesis focused on nineteenth century Anglophone literature by women where she examined English novels of Swarnakumari Devi. Amrita is also an active member of the graduate students' union (Graduate Assistants United) of the University of Florida. She also loves to cook, paint and write creative fiction.

Dalea Bean is a Lecturer and Graduate Coordinator at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, Regional Coordinating Office at the University of the West Indies. Before working with the IGDS, she taught in the Department of History at UWI in the areas of women's history and Caribbean history. She pursued a Bachelor of Arts at UWI in African and Caribbean History and Political Science and graduated with a first class honours in 2002. She then completed her PhD in History on the topic "Jamaican Women and World Wars I and II". She has been the recipient of awards for scholastic achievements, including Inaugural Robert Marley Scholarship and Walter Rodney Prize for African History.

Her general research interests include women and gender justice in Caribbean history, women in conflict situations, and gender relations in the Caribbean hotel industry and Caribbean masculinities. She has written book chapters, journal articles and has presented numerous lectures internationally on these and other topics. She has also conducted gender equity and gender mainstreaming training regionally and has been engaged in research with the IGDS that facilitates gender mainstreaming in education, history writing, and masculinity studies. Her first single authored book:

“Jamaican Women and the World Wars: On the Front Lines of Change” was published by Palgrave MacMillan in 2017.

Dr Bean serves on the Editorial Board of *Identity Papers: A Journal of British and Irish Studies* and is also the reviews editor for *Jamaican Historical Review*. She also sits on the Board of Directors of the Kiwanis Club of Young Professionals Jamaica, which allows her critical engagement in youth advocacy and service to children and vulnerable communities in Jamaica.

Nicole Bourbonnais (PhD, University of Pittsburgh 2013) is an Assistant Professor of International History at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. Her research interests include reproductive politics, transnational activism, social history, gender history, and the history of public health. Her first book, *Birth Control in the Decolonizing Caribbean: Reproductive Politics and Practice on Four Islands, 1930-1970* (Cambridge University Press, 2016) explored how family planning campaigns in Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados, and Bermuda intersected with the politics of nationalism and working class women's efforts to control their reproductive lives in the context of decolonization. She is currently working on two new projects. *The Gospel of Birth Control: Prophets, Patients, and the Transnational Family Planning Movement* will explore the networks and strategies that linked together birth control campaigns, family planning activists, and reproductive rights movements across the globe from the 1920s onwards. *The New Woman, the Race Mother, and the Working Girl: Sex and Gender in the Early 20th Century Anglo-Atlantic World* will examine the connections between activist movements and debates over sex, family, and gender roles in the UK, North America, and Anglophone Caribbean from the 1920s-1960s.

Bridget Brereton is Emerita Professor of History at UWI, St Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago. She is the author of several books on the history of the Caribbean and of Trinidad, including standard works such as *Race Relations in Colonial Trinidad, 1870-1900* and *A History of Modern Trinidad, 1783-1962*. She is the editor or co-editor of several more (including Volume V of the UNESCO *General History of the Caribbean*), and the author of many journal articles, book chapters and book reviews. A university teacher for many decades, she has taught history courses to undergraduates and

postgraduates, and has successfully supervised many doctoral and master's theses and research papers. She is a former Head of the Department of History, Deputy Principal, and Interim Principal, all at the St Augustine Campus of UWI. She has also served as Chair of the Board of NALIS, Chair of the Trinidad & Tobago Nominating Committee for the ANSAMcAL Caribbean Awards for Excellence, and Chair of the Cabinet-appointed Committee to consider the Trinity Cross and other National Symbols and Observances, among other public service positions.

Kaysha Corinealdi is an Assistant Professor of History in the Institute for Liberal Arts and Interdisciplinary Studies at Emerson College. Her research interests include twentieth century histories of empire, migration, and activism in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States. Her current book manuscript, *Defining Panama: Diasporic Possibilities, Nationalism and U.S. empire in the Americas*, focuses on the activism of Afro-Caribbean Panamanian journalists, teachers, labor union organizers and civic association leaders as they navigated imperialist and hyper nationalist policies of racial exclusion, xenophobia and disenfranchisement spanning from the interwar to the early Cold War periods. Dr. Corinealdi's most recent work includes the essay "Creating Transformative Education" (*International Journal of Africana Studies* Fall-Winter 2017), which explores questions of empire, segregation and pedagogy as they pertain to Afro-Caribbean Panamanian public school educators in the Canal Zone and New York City during the 1950s and 1960s. Her reviews and essays have also appeared in journals such as *Western Folklore*, the *Hispanic American Historical Review*, and the *Global South*.

Natanya Duncan is an Assistant Professor of History and Africana Studies with an affiliate status in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Lehigh University. A historian of the African Diaspora, her research and teaching focus on global freedom movements of the 20th and 21st centuries. Duncan's research interests include constructions of identity and nation building amongst women of color; migrations; color and class in Diasporic communities; and the engagements of intellectuals throughout the African Diaspora. Her current book manuscript, *Crossing Waters and Fighting Tides: The Efficient Womanhood of the UNIA*, focuses on the distinct activist strategies enacted by women in the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), which Duncan calls an "efficient womanhood." Following the ways women in

the UNIA scripted their own understanding of Pan Africanism, Black Nationalism, and constructions of Diasporic Blackness, the book traces the blending of nationalist and gendered concerns amongst prominent and lesser-known Garveyite women. Duncan's publications include several works that explore the leadership models of UNIA women. Her research has appeared in the *Journal of Liberty Hall* (2017), the *Journal of New York History* (2014), and *The American South and the Atlantic World* (University of Florida Press, 2013).

Reena Goldthree is an Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University. She earned her B.A. in History-Sociology from Columbia University and her M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Duke University. During the 2008-2009 academic year, she was a Fulbright fellow at the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.

As a historian of modern Latin America and the Caribbean, Goldthree's current research explores transnational social movements, labor and migration, black intellectual history, and gender and feminist theory. Her current book project, *Democracy Shall be no Empty Romance: War and the Politics of Empire in the Greater Caribbean*, examines how the crisis of World War I transformed Afro-Caribbeans' understanding of, and engagements with, the British Empire. Beyond the book manuscript, her research has appeared in the *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas*, *Radical Teacher*, *Caribbean Military Encounters* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017) and *Global Circuits of Blackness: Interrogating the African Diasporas* (University of Illinois Press, 2010). Her research has been supported by fellowships and grants from the American Historical Association, Coordinating Council for Women in History, Ford Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Social Science Research Council, Mustard Seed Foundation, and Fulbright.

Gladys M. Jiménez-Muñoz is an Associate Professor and Director of the Undergraduate Studies Program in the Sociology Department at Binghamton University. She has a PhD in U.S. Women's History from Binghamton University, 1994. She was a Gaius Charles Bolin Fellow in History at Williams College, 1992; a Ford Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellow, 1998 and President of the Puerto Rican Studies

Association, 2009-10. She has published numerous articles on race and representation among Latinas; Puerto Rican women's history; Puerto Rican Popular culture and Nuyorican artistic production. She is currently working on two manuscripts: "*A Storm Dressed in Skirts*": *Race and Women's Suffrage in Puerto Rico, 1898-1929* and *Womanhood, Race, and the National Question in Interwar Puerto Rico*. Before Professor Jiménez came to academia she was a public school teacher in Puerto Rico working in schools located in some of the most socially-economically depressed areas in San Juan. She was also a union organizer and a founding member of "Encuentro de Mujeres," a feminist activist group that organized workshops on popular education, anti-sexist, anti-homophobia and trans-gender issues in poor communities in San Juan during the 1980s.

W. Chris Johnson is an Assistant Professor in the Women and Gender Studies Institute and the Department of History at the University of Toronto. An interdisciplinary writer and historian of black diasporas, his current research and teaching interests orbit themes of black feminisms and black freedom in the 20th and 21st centuries. Chris is currently completing a transnational history of gender and black liberation. Using postwar Black Britain as a point of departure, the book traces the interwoven itineraries of revolutionaries who lived, loved, dreamed, and struggled for solidarity at the conjuncture of diasporas.

Aliyah R. Khan is a native of Guyana and an Assistant Professor of Caribbean Literature in the Department of English and the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is also a board member of the Arab and Muslim American Studies Program at the University of Michigan. She holds an M.F.A. in Fiction Writing from Hunter College of the City University of New York, and a Ph.D. in Literature and Feminist Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her current research areas are postcolonial Caribbean literature, and contemporary Muslim and Islamic literatures, with emphases on race, gender, and sexuality. Khan's academic and nonacademic writing appears elsewhere in venues including *GLQ*, *Studies in Canadian Literature/Études en littérature canadienne*, *The Rumpus*, and *Agents of Ishq*. She is currently working on a book on 19th-21st-century literary representations of Islam and Muslims in the Anglophone Caribbean and

Suriname, during and after the transatlantic African slave trade and Indian plantation indentureship.

Tyesha Maddox is an Assistant Professor at Fordham University in the Department of African and African American Studies. She received her PhD in History from NYU in 2016. She is currently a 2017-2018 Scholar in Residence at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture as a Ford Foundation/Mellon Foundation Fellow. She received a BA in History and Africana Studies and a MPS in Africana Studies both from Cornell University. Her research and teaching interests include the African Diaspora, Caribbean, Black Atlantic, Women and Gender, African American History, Race, Transnational Communities, Migrational Movements, Immigration, Black Identity Formation, Social and Cultural History.

Her current manuscript, "From Invisible to Immigrants: Political Activism and the Construction of Caribbean American Identity, 1890-1940," examines the significance of early twentieth century Anglophone Caribbean immigrant mutual aid societies and benevolent associations in New York. It explored how immigrant social organizations played a vital role in the formation of transnational identities and facilitated in community building, arguing that participation in these organizations created kinship networks that both empowered immigrants to form a collective "Caribbean" identity and unleashed a political activism among immigrants fighting alongside African Americans to insure their equality in the tumultuous era of American Jim Crow.

Janelle Rodrigues is an assistant professor of English Literature at Auburn University, Alabama. Before that, she was a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Bremen, Germany (2015-2018), specialising in postcolonial literary and cultural studies. Her first monograph, under contract with Routledge press, is tentatively titled *Tracing Obeah's Margins in Twentieth-Century Anglophone West Indian Fiction*. Her research interests include Obeah, and other African/Caribbean syncretic religious praxes; trickster studies; Afropessimism and Afrofuturism; Migration and diaspora; and Black Atlantic studies.

Grace L. Sanders Johnson is Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her doctorate from the University of Michigan in the Joint History and Women's Studies Program. Sanders Johnson has been awarded fellowships from the Thomas J. Watson Foundation, the Andrew C. Mellon and Ford Foundations, the Canadian Embassy, and was awarded an Emerging Scholar Fellowship from the Haitian Studies Association. She has worked with various archival projects including Concordia University's Oral History Project *Histoire de Vie* (Montreal 2011). She has published work in several journals and books including *Reconstruction, The Journal of Haitian Studies, Sisters or Strangers? Immigrant, Ethnic, and Racialized Women in Canadian History* (University of Toronto Press, 2016; edited by M. Epp and F. Iacovetta), and *Caribbean Military Encounters* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2017; edited by S. Puri and L. Putnam). She is currently completing her first book manuscript entitled, *White Gloves, Black Nation: Gender and Citizenship in Early Twentieth Century Haiti*. In addition to her study of gender and politics in Haiti, she is the founder of *Harriet's Hike* – an ecological literacy program for girls and elder women in North Philadelphia.

Faith Smith teaches African and Afro-American Studies, English and American Literature, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Brandeis University in Massachusetts. She is the author of *Creole Recitations: John Jacob Thomas and Colonial Formation in the Late Nineteenth-Century Caribbean* (2002) and the edited volume *Sex and the Citizen: Interrogating the Caribbean* (2011). "Strolling in the Ruins: The Caribbean's Non-Sovereign Modern in the Early Twentieth Century," is a book manuscript that tracks the silences and fantastical resolutions of that era's novels, and the complex responses to photography, to examine Caribbean people measuring the growing imperial interests of the USA against the fortunes of their particular European empire, in the wake of the Spanish American and Boer Wars. Another manuscript, "Dread Intimacies," is a study of 21st-century Caribbean fiction and visual culture.