

Kani Diop, Ph.D.
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EDUCATION

- 2018 (August) **PhD, Family Science & Human Development**, Montclair State University, Family Science and Human Development, Montclair, NJ. Dissertation: *Female genital mutilation among West African im/migrants in the United States: A community-based Participatory Action research study.*
- 2013 **MA, Family and Child Studies**, Montclair State University, Family and Child Studies, Montclair, NJ. Thesis : *Risk factors and impacts of female genital mutilation practice Among Women in Senegal (West Africa).*
- 2008 **BA**, Family and Child Studies, Montclair State University, Family and Child Studies, Montclair, NJ. **Summa Cum Laude.**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019 (August) Specialized Teaching Faculty, the Department of Family & Child Sciences At Florida State University, College of Human Sciences, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2016/2018 Adjunct Faculty, the Department of Family Science & Human Development at Montclair State University, College of Education and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.
- 2017/2018 Doctoral Research Assistant, the Department of Family Science and Human Development, Montclair State University, College of Education and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.
- 2013/2015 Teacher Assistant, the Department of Family and Child Studies at Montclair State University, College of Education and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.
- 2013-2017 Doctoral Research Assistant, the Department of Family and Child Studies at Montclair State University, College of Education and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE- continued

- 2013/2017 Ph.D. Fellow, the Department of Family and Child Studies, Montclair State University, College of Education and Human and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.
- 2012/2013 Graduate Assistant, the Department of Family and Child Studies, Montclair State University, College of Education and Human and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.
- 2006/2011 Philosophy & Sociology Teacher, the Gifted & Talented Program, Montclair State University, College of Education and Human and Human Services, Montclair, NJ.
- 2008 Counselor Intern, the International Institute of New Jersey, Jersey City, NJ
- 2006/2007 Philosophy Teacher, PS 154 Harriet Tubman, Manhattan, NY.
- 2002 Cultural Competence Instructor, Head Start National Conference on Diversity, Lake George, NY.
- 1994 French Tutor, Bergen Community College, Paramus, NJ.

COURSES TAUGHT AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

FAD 3432 Stress and Resilience in Individuals and Families
 FAD 4265 Family Diversity

COURSES TAUGHT AT MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

FCST 445 Poverty and Families
 FCST 400 Senior Seminar

PUBLICATIONS: REFEREED ARTICLES

Diop, M.K. & Stewart P. E. (2016). Polygamy in Africa. In: *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies* (ed C. L. Shehan), 1595 – 1597. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell.

Stewart, P. & **Diop**, M.K. (Under review). Polygamy and West African family relationships. *Marriage & Family Review*.

Works in Progress

Diop, K. (In progress). Family solutions to African traditional cultural practices harmful to women: Exploring men's role in the eradication process.

Diop, K. & Stewart, P. (In progress). Female genital mutilation in the United States: Scope and prevention methods.

Diop, K. (In Progress). Challenges African immigrants face and their impact on the family.

Diop, K. (In progress). "Black African Feminist Theory a la Awa Thiam.

PUBLICATIONS: CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Diop, M.K. (2001). *Eye on Africa*. Africa Books. Bogota, New Jersey.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL MEETINGS

Diop, K. (2018). *Children of African immigrants facing bullying within the U.S. school system*. Round table leader for the Ethnic Minority Section at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, San Diego, California.

Diop, M.K., & Stewart, P. (2018). African Families focus Group. Presented the annual report and conducted the meeting of the African Families Focus Group at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference. San Diego, California.

Diop, M.K., & Stewart, P. (2017). A Black African feminist theory to examine FGM within African immigrant families. Paper presented for the Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Orlando, Florida.

Diop, M.K., Herr, K., & Stewart, P. (2017). Examining FGM and African immigrants using participatory action research. Paper presented for the Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Orlando, Florida.

Diop, M.K., Stewart, P., De Reus, L.A., & Thiam, A. (2016). Research challenges, ethics, and practices with African and African immigrant families: Considering cultural relativism or human rights. Symposium conducted at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations Annual, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Diop, M.K., & Stewart, P. (2015). Female Genital Mutilation in the U.S.: Scope and prevention methods. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Vancouver, Canada.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL MEETINGS- continued

Stewart, P. & **Diop**, M.K. (2015). Culturally specific aspects of violence in polygamous families. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Vancouver, Canada.

Diop, M.K. (2014). The role of men in the perpetuation and eradication of female genital mutilation. Paper Presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Baltimore, Maryland.

Stewart, P. & **Diop**, M.K. (2014). Gender, culture, and college attendance. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Baltimore, Maryland.

Diop, M. K. & Stewart, P. (2013). Female genital mutilation and children's well- being. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, San Antonio, Texas.

Diop, M. K. (2013). Exploring the issue of female genital mutilation in the global debate. Paper presented at Montclair State University Student Research Symposium, Montclair, New Jersey.

Stewart, P. & **Diop**, M.K. (2013). Influence of polygamy and immigration on West African child well-being. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, San Antonio, Texas.

UNITED NATIONS SPEECHES AND ACTIVITIES

U.N. Guest Speaker Activities

Diop, K. (2019, August). *African Immigrants & their Challenges Within Host Countries*. The 68th United Nations Civil Society Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Diop, K. (2019, March). *Understanding Gender Harmony*. African Views Organization's Special Commission on the Status of Women's side event (CSW63), New York, New York.

Diop, K. (2017, August). *Empowerment of African women with respect to family and child rearing practices*-Women empowerment in the changing Africa. United Nations side event at CUNY Graduate Center. United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61), New York, New York.

Diop, K. (2016). Family solutions to African traditional cultural practices harmful to women: Exploring men's role in the eradication process. United Nations NGO on Families, New York, New York.

UNITED NATIONS SPEECHES AND ACTIVITIES- continued

Diop, K. (2016). *The elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls*. United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60), New York, New York.

- Partner of the Senegalese Mission delegation
- Participant in the resolution session
- Setting recommendations for governments, intergovernmental bodies, civil society actors, institutions and other relevant stakeholders to be implemented at the international, regional, national, and local level.

Diop, K. (2014). *Female genital mutilation: Facts and scope*. Rotary United Nations' Day at the United Nations, New York, New York.

U.N. Session Moderator Activities

Diop, K. (2019, March). Moderator for session, *The thriving family: The best social Protection and empowerment of girls and women*. Universal Peace Federation side event of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), New York, New York.

Diop, K. (2017, August). *Education Solutions: Initiative for the ERA of SDGs*. Presentation given at the International Education and Training Conference for UNESCO's International Educators Conference on SDG-4: Character & Leadership Education in the development Agenda. United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61), New York, New York.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, AND LECTURES

Diop, K. (2018, November 10-13). *Overcoming Division, Building Peace*. Panel Presentation given at the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development Conference, New York, New York.

Diop, K. (2017, March 8th). *Historic Senegalese women of caliber and their works*. Guest speaker at the Association Des Senegalais D' Amerique, Celebration of the International Women's Day. Harlem, New York.

Diop, K. (2017). *Challenges African immigrant face and their impact on the family*. Guest speaker, *presentation given at the Senegalese Community of Staten Island conference*, Staten Island: New York.

Diop, K. (2017, March 11th). *Discovering a new paradigm to address our critical challenges*. Commentator for Session III on "Building community and civil society beyond the

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, AND LECTURES-continued

- boundaries of race and religion.” Workshop held at the American Leadership Conference (ALC). New York, New York.
- Diop, K. (2017, March 25th). *Discovering a new paradigm to address our critical challenges*. Commentator for Session III on “Building community and civil society beyond the boundaries of race and religion.” Workshop held at the American Leadership Conference (ALC). Clifton, New Jersey.
- Diop, K. (2017). *African families’ transition to Western spheres and how they perpetuate their cultural practices*. Guest speaker, presentation given at the Global Families Session, Montclair State University, New Jersey.
- Diop, K. (2016). *Promoting excellence in academic achievement*. Keynote speaker, speech given at the Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Montclair State University, New Jersey.
- Diop, K. (2015). *The gift of education: Facts about education in Africa*. Keynote speaker, speech given at the Women’s Federation for World Peace USA (WFWP-USA) annual conference, New York, New York.
- Diop, K. (2015). *Domestic Violence within African immigrant families*. Guest speaker, presentation given at the Global Families Session, Montclair State University, New Jersey.
- Diop, K. (2014). *What has been done to eradicate Female genital mutilation in Africa?* Keynote Speaker, presentation given at the Rotary Club of Teaneck conference. Teaneck, New Jersey.
- Diop, K. (2013). *Cultural aspects of Senegalese Families*. Guest speaker, presentation given at the Global Families Session, Montclair State University, New Jersey.
- Diop, K. (2008). *Girls’ empowerment*. Guest Speaker, motivational presentation given at the Montclair State University Women’s Center for young minority girls. Montclair, New Jersey.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- March 9, 2017 Advocate, participant at the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy. Student advocacy Day on the Hill, Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.
- *Female genital mutilation awareness raising*. Presentation given at the offices of Senator Cory Booker & Congressman Donald Payne.

HONORS, AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2019 Human Spirit & Cultural Harmony Award. Related to promoting peaceful, respectful, integral, and sustainable culture with lasting impact for generations of people around the world. African Views, United Nations Commission on the status of Women side event, New York.
- 2018 Humanitarian of the year. For working selflessly and tirelessly to better the lives Africans, African diaspora, others, and society at large. By A Touch of Africa, Long Island, New York.
- 2017 Community Leadership Award. The City of Newark and the Newark Municipal Council recognized and commended my impact and input in the Senegalese Diaspora community of New Jersey, Newark City Hall, Newark, NJ.
- 2017 Family and Child Studies Scholarship, Montclair State University, Department of Family and Child Studies, Montclair, NJ.
- 2013 – 2018 Family and Child Studies Graduate Fellowship (all semesters), Montclair State University, Department of Family and Child Studies, Montclair, NJ.
- 2013 Outstanding Graduate Student, Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ.
- 2013 Graduate Student Speaker, Commencement ceremony, Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ.
- 2012 – 2013 Family and Child Studies Graduate Assistantship (all semesters), Montclair State University, Department of Family and Child Studies, Montclair, NJ.
- 2006 – 2008 Dean's List, Demonstration of high scholarship, College of Education and Human Services, Montclair State University, NJ.
- 2008 Honoree of **Summa Cum Laude**, for achieving the highest academic distinction of all disciplines combined, Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ.
- 2007 Dean's Scholarship Award, for High Academic Achievement, Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ.
- 2007 Kappa Omicron Nu Induction, Demonstration of high academic achievement and leadership, Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ.

HONORS, AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS-continued

2005 Award for Best Multicultural Children's Book. Bergen County Board of Freeholders, Hackensack, NJ.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY BUILDING

2018 International Conference Organizer. Organized the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, a United Nations' parallel event at Montclair State University.

- Organized a two-day awareness campaign and dialogue about female genital mutilation between academia and the African immigrant community.
- Organized the panels discussions
- Selected local and international speakers and moderators
- Reviewed Conference Papers
- Invited the conference guests

2018 Association Jokoo-Japeulunte, Dakar, Senegal.

- Mobilized & organized Senegalese citizens to create a sense of community and their embracing of the collective goals of the group.
- Empower community members at the grassroots level to assess their needs and to take immediate actions to impact positively their communities.
- Developed a strategic vision with clear goals for the association of Senegalese community activists
- Engaged in grassroots fundraising

2018 Organization des Badianou Gokh, Medina, Senegal.

- Worked with Senegalese women, opinion & community leaders
- Built a base of community members committed to a project
- Initiated social networking & community-based participatory actions to identify their issues
- Organized, mobilized, & educated these women around issues, such as poverty, that affect their community
- Supported & trained women leaders to become the voices of the community
- It resulted in the group recognizing areas necessitating social services and initiating outreach programs to address their needs.

2017 Founder and CEO of African Women Global Initiatives (NGO)

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY BUILDING-continued

- Conceptualize, initiated, & actualized the organization
- Drafted a strategic vision with clear goals
- Designed an awareness program and learning outcomes
- Initiated partnerships with local communities in Jersey City, Newark, & Harlem
- Initiated interdisciplinary collaboration within academic departments
- Organized meetings, workshops, lectures, & community town hall like talks
- Wrote grant proposals
- Prepared annual reports

- 2015 Organization of the Street Children of Medina, Senegal.
- Mobilized, organized, and educated street children
 - Identified their needs & potentials
 - Established & built trusting relationships
 - Organized lectures & social events
 - Created a professional volunteer mentoring support for the street children.
 - Created a service-learning program within Medina's professional sector (shoe & handbag makers).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Service to the Discipline

- 2019 Proposal Reviewer. Reviewed research proposal submitted by graduate students and faculty for the National Council on Family Relations Conference.
- 2016 – Present Founder and Chair. Founded and still chairing the African Family Focus Group for the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)
- Conceptualized, Initiated, & actualized the African Families Focus Group
 - Set the vision, goals, and mission
 - Recruited focus group members
 - Built a community of researchers, students, and civil society
 - Connected academia & African immigrant communities through participatory actions

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-continued*Service to Montclair State University*

- 2018 - 2019 Teacher Education Policy Committee
- 2015 - 2017 Student Representative, the Middle State Commission on Higher Education

Service to Montclair State University-continued

- 2013 – 2015 Graduate Council Representative
- 2013 – 2014 Doctoral Program Committee Member
- 2012 Vice President_Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society
- 2008 Editor for Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society
- 2007 Volunteer Tutor for the Suburban Cultural Educational Enrichment Program (SCEEP)

LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

- 2019 Board Member, World Bridge Consulting Governing Board, Newark, NJ
- 2018 – Present Board Member, African Women for Peace Governing Board, New York
- 2010 – Present Member of the Senegalese Association of New Jersey, Jersey City, New Jersey
- 2005 – Present Member of the Association des Senegalais D’Amerique, Harlem, New York
- 1999 – 2001 Advisory Board Member, Bergen Community Action Program, Hackensack, New Jersey
- 1998 – 2004 Policy Council Representative, Bergen Community Action Program, Hackensack, New Jersey
- 1992 – Present Member of the Commission for the Abolition of Sexual Mutilations, La Commission pour l’Abolition des Mutilations Sexuelles, Section Senegal and France

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND LEADERSHIP

2019	African Studies and Research Forum (ASRF)
2018	African Women for Peace (AWP)
2018 - Present	African Studies Association (ASA)
2017 – Present	African Women Global Initiatives (AWGI)
2016 – Present	World Interfaith Community (WIC)
2015 - 2017	American Educational Research Association (AERA)
2013 – Present	United Nations NGO on Families
2012 – Present	National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)
2013 - Present	Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society
2013 – Present	Universal Peace Federation (UPF)
2013 – Present	Women’s World Peace Federation (WWPF)
1986	Member of the Commission pour l’Abolition des Mutilations Sexuelles, France and Senegal Sections

LANGUAGES

- Fluency in five (4) languages:
 - Western languages: English, French,
 - West-African languages: Wolof, Toucouleur
- Some reading, understanding, and speaking of Spanish.