

JANAY MAE WATTS

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania Expected 2020
PhD Student Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Development
Graduate Researcher, Racial Empowerment Collaborative

California State University, Long Beach 2016
M.A. Social and Cultural Analysis of Education
Master's Thesis: The Critical Race Socialization of Black Children

Princeton University 2010
BA in Sociology; Certificate in African American Studies
Thesis: The Use of Corporal Punishment: Influences on Discipline Practices in African American Families

Distinction in Sociology Department for thesis presentation

University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa Jan 2009-Jun 2009
Princeton University Study Abroad Program

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH

Master's Thesis

The Critical Race Socialization of Black Children

Committee: Lindsay Perez Huber, PhD (Chair); Melina Abdullah, PhD, Patrice Collins, MA

Bachelor's Thesis

Defended Apr 2010

The Use of Corporal Punishment: Influences on Discipline Choices in African American Families

Committee: Thomas Espenshade, PhD (Chair); Douglas Massey, PhD

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Racial Empowerment Collaborative

Current

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Office of Research & Sponsored Programs Student Summer Research Award Summer 2015

California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA

Faculty Sponsor: Lindsay Perez Huber, PhD

- Only graduate student selected in program to conduct summer research with faculty
- Compiled children's books written by or about people of color from 2009-2014
- Developed an original qualitative method to study microaggressions in children's literature

- Conducted original research on how to analyze children's literature for microaggressions
- Provided a written literature review of racism and microaggressions in children's literature

Education Policy Research Intern

Summer 2009

California State Board of Education

- Served on the committee for the African American Achievement gap in California
- Developed policy recommendations and action plan to account for achievement gap
- Worked closely with state board of education for hearings and committee meetings
- Developed a report on the state of affairs for African American students in California (2009)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Teaching Assistant, Racial Literacy in Schools**

University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education

Spring 2017

- Teaching assistant for TFA Master's degree course
- Co-facilitate conversations or modules during class
- Grade assignments, journals, discussion responses to readings and classroom experiences
- Provide feedback on class discussions, course materials and assignments
- Co-write with faculty concerning the teaching and results of course

Summer Institute for the Gifted

Summer 2016

High School Instructor

- Design and implement curriculum for 3wk summer courses for Gifted students
- Facilitate graduate level classroom instruction for up to 20 local and international students
- Partnered with a teacher's assistant to deliver high quality, challenging lessons designed for gifted students
- Instructor of Social Justice Critical Thinking Course, Crime Scene Investigation, and Substitute for various other courses

Restorative Justice Coordinator and Strategist

Aug 2015-May 2016

Reid Continuation High School

- Lead trainings on Restorative Practices for teachers, school staff and parents
- Support students one on one to work through personal and academic concerns
- Facilitate conversation between students in conflict to build a safer campus community
- Support transition of new students and returning students from suspension to campus
- Facilitate circle spaces to help students discuss trauma connected to lived experiences
- Lead afterschool courses in Critical Music Pedagogy and Critical Conscious Childrearing
- Work closely with school psychologist to properly provide support to students

Campus Assistant, Synergy Charter Academy Aug 2014-July 2016

- Assistant teacher in both Kindergarten Classrooms
- Campus lead during nutrition, lunch and physical fitness breaks
- Curriculum planning and development

Lead Teacher, OMI Head Start Aug 2010-May 2011

- Lead teacher for classroom of 20 students with various development needs
- Oversee two staff members who served as support in the classroom
- Lead trainings for teachers and families on best practices for age appropriate learning
- Provide peer support in curriculum development and lesson planning

CONSULTING & COMMUNITY ORGANIZING EXPERIENCE

Co-Director, Building Bridges Camp Feb 2016

California Conference for Equality and Justice, Long Beach, CA

- Lead a camp of 120 youth and adult staff during three day camp experience
- Co-facilitate all anti-oppression curriculum for youth learning and dialogue
- Oversee volunteer staff before, during and after camp through training and staff meetings
- Lead camp staff training sessions in the months prior to camp
- Develop curriculum for camp staff, youth and future camp sessions

Fullerton College UMOJA Staff and Student Retreat Feb 2016

Fullerton College, Anaheim, CA.

- Lead workshops on trauma and its impact on the Black community
- Facilitate opening and healing activities connected to trauma
- Present on strategies for healing from collective and individual trauma

Community Building and Restorative Justice Strategist Jan 2015-Present

California Conference for Equality and Justice, Long Beach, CA

- Lead presentation and workshops on Community Building
- Train K-12 teachers and administrators on restorative dialogue and community building
- Develop and implement school and community plans for Restorative Justice
- Train all Building Bridges staff and volunteers on Restorative Justice

Building Bridges Leadership Team/Advisor Committee Jan 2015-Present

California Conference for Equality and Justice, Long Beach, CA

- Establish the vision for the coming three to five years of Building Bridges Camp
- Lead trainings for new camp staff, volunteers and leadership
- Serve as director of various Building Bridges Camps
- Assisted in re-writing curriculum for future camp seasons

Sisterhood Rising Leadership Retreat Planning Team & RJ Coordinator

Summer 2015

The California Endowment, Los Angeles, CA

- Selected for planning and leadership team for the 2015 retreat
- Emcee for community meetings with staff and youth
- Restorative Justice Coordinator for staff and youth
- Partner with mental health professional to assist one on one with youth
- Developed curriculum for week long leadership retreat

Reinvent South Stockton Education Committee Member

May 2015-Present

Reinvent South Stockton, Stockton, CA

- Facilitate brainstorming sessions around needs in schools and community
- Establish relationships across school districts to address stated needs
- Create action plans with city leaders to address needs of schools, students and families
- Launch Building Bridges Camp Program for Stockton area High Schools

Human Relations Education Trainer

January 2015-Present

California Conference for Equality and Justice, Long Beach, CA

- Develop curriculum to train new adult staff and youth leaders
- Train over 100 new adult staff and youth leaders twice a year for Building Bridges Camp
- Lead human relations education about racism and other forms of oppression
- Lead workshops on facilitation, energizers, and working with traumatized youth

Building Bridges Racial Affinity Group Facilitator

August 2014-Present

California Conference for Equality and Justice, Long Beach, CA

- Develop political education curriculum for Black youth and staff
- Lead dialogue amongst Black youth and staff while at Building Bridges Camp
- Support Black youth one to one as they work to build relationships with a diverse camp
- Develop the leadership of Black Youth Leaders through mentorship and active feedback

PUBLICATIONS

Watts, J.M. (January, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Long Beach, CA: JMW Publishing. (Children's book)

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Huber, P. & **Watts, J.M.** (May, 2016). *Microaggressions in Children's Literature*.

Watts, J.M. (March, 2017). *The Critical Race Socialization of Black Children*. Article

Watts, J.M. (April, 2017). *The Village: Perspectives on parenting with community*.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2017). *Decolonize Parenting from the Womb: Pre-Natal Crit*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Watts, J.M. (April, 2016). *From Discussion to Action*. Lecture and workshop presented at the Race. Access. Culture. Equity (R.A.C.E.) Summit. California State University, Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2016). *The Critical Race Socialization of Black children*. Lecture presented at the 28th Annual Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference. Las Vegas, NV.

Watts, J.M. (January, 2016). *Race Socialization and Non-Traditional Educational Spaces*. Paper presented at the 2016 CSULB Education Leadership Symposium. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (November, 2015). *You Ain't Gotta Lie to Kick It-Communication and Community Building as Key to Organizing*. Workshop presented at the 36th Annual Black Consciousness Conference. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2015). *Raising A Critically Conscious Black Child (revised)*. Paper presented at the Critical Race Studies in Education Association 9th Annual Critical Race Theory Conference. Nashville, TN.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2015). *Raising A Critically Conscious Black Child*. Paper presented at the #BlackLivesMatter Civil Rights and Social Justice in the 21st Century. Hayward, CA.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2015). *Discipline in African American Families*. Poster presented at the Graduate Student Research Colloquium at California State University, Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (March, 2015). *(Her)story: Keeping Y(our) Story Y(ours) in Pursuit of Success*. Workshop presented at the "Dream, Believe, Achieve," 8th Annual Young Women's Empowerment Conference, Tracy, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2015). *The Use of Corporal Punishment: Influences on Discipline Practices in African American Families*. Paper presented at the 39th Annual National Conference for Black Studies. Los Angeles, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2015). *The Use of Corporal Punishment: Influences on Discipline Practices in African American Families*. Poster presented at the 28th Annual Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference. Las Vegas, NV.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

Watts, J.M. (August, 2016). *The Courage to Heal: Restorative Justice Workshop*. Community Workshop Sponsor by South Stockton School Initiative. Stockton, CA.

Watts, J.M. (June, 2016). *Sacramento Black Book Fair*. Invited vendor and round table conversation participant. Sacramento, CA.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Invited book signing and reading at California State University Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (April, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Invited guest speaker at Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA) Zine Fest. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (April, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Invited guest speaker at Roses in Concrete School. Oakland, CA.

Watts, J.M. (April, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Invited guest speaker at Lincoln High School. Stockton, CA.

Watts, J.M. (April, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Invited guest speaker at Marshall Elementary School. Stockton, CA.

Watts, J.M. (April, 2016). *Hope Dealers*. Invited guest speaker at Langston Hughes Academy. Stockton, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2016). *Black Her Stories*. Invited guest EMCEE and speaker. California State University, Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2016). *Let's Talk Hip Hop*. Invited guest speaker and co-facilitator. California State University Dominguez Hills Black History Month Community Chat. Los Angeles, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2016). *Do Black Lives Matter?* Invited guest speaker at the Fullerton College 2016 Southern California African American Student Summit. Anaheim, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2016). *What's your Why? Telling your story*. Invited guest speaker at Fullerton College 2016 Southern California African American Student Summit. Anaheim, CA.

Watts, J.M. (January, 2016). *No Indictment: Hip Hop Activism and Black Lives Matter*. Invited guest speaker for the UC Riverside STEM/Rites of Passage Program. Riverside, CA.

Campbell, J. & **Watts, J.M.** (January, 2016). *Deconstructing socialized Black male masculinity: grappling with emotional expression and trauma on the path to success*. Workshop given at Fullerton College Males Achieving Success Conference. Anaheim, CA.

Watts, J. M. (December 2015). *Heart of the Matter*. Invited facilitator for dialogue about hope and healing for a grieving community between artists Karega Bailey and BAMR. Sacramento, CA.

Watts, J.M. (December, 2015). *Look Good, Feel Good, Do Good*. Invited Emcee for youth community event providing free services to South Sacramento families. Sacramento, CA.

Watts, J.M. (November, 2015). *Mindfulness, Co-Optation, Safe Spaces and Black Lives Matter on College Campuses*. Invited talk with undergraduate students in Dr. Mackenzie's Mindfulness and Healthy Development course, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Watts, J.M. (October, 2015). *Justice or Else Benefit Concert*. Organizer and Emcee for community concert to raise funds for a high school youth to attend Justice or Else March. Sacramento, CA.

Watts, J.M. (October, 2015). *Restoring Relationships: Restorative Justice and the College Campus*. Didactic series presented to the students, faculty and administration of the Umoja Program at Fullerton College, Anaheim, CA.

Watts, J.M. (September, 2015). *From the Books to the Streets: Theories and Practices as an Activist Scholar*. Workshop presented via Skype to undergraduate students at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

Watts, J.M. (July, 2015). *Stockton Student Summer Leadership Camp*. Discussion given to high school students at the Gary Podesto Teen City Center. Stockton, CA.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2015). *Unlearning Gender Binaries*. Workshop presented to 12th grade high school class at Langston Hughes Academy, Stockton, CA.

Watts, J.M. (May, 2015). *Transgender Issues: Un(learning) Gender Binaries and Debunking the myth "All Lives Matter."* Workshop presented to Clinical PsyD students at Alliant University, Sacramento, CA.

Watts, J.M. (February, 2015). *Black Lives Matter and Black History*. Invited talk at New River Elementary. Norwalk, CA.

Watts, J.M. (December, 2014). *Critical Dialogue: Black Lives Matter*. Panel discussion at California State University, Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

Watts, J.M. (October, 2014). *Nelson Mandela Legacy Series: Brown v. Board of Education: Are We Still Fighting Separate and Unequal?* Opening Remarks given at California State University, Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL MEDIA

Watts, J.M. (2016). Staff Writer, The Visibility Project www.thevisibilityproject.com

Watts, J.M. (April, 2015). *(Un)learning Cisgender Privilege*. [Blog post]. Posted at <http://sidebmagazine.tumblr.com/post/116465010746/on-unlearning-cisgender-privilege-by-janay-watts>

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- CAMRA Peer Mentor** August 2017-Present
Mentor for undergraduate emerging film makers
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Organizational Strategist** September 2014-Present
SunKissed Sistahs, Black Student Union, Afrikan Student Coalition
California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA
- Social and Cultural Analysis of Education Graduate Mentor** Aug 2015-Present
California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA
- Social and Cultural Analysis of Education Information Series Speaker** Apr 2015-Present
California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA

HONORS & AWARDS

- Sally Cassanova Pre-Doctoral Scholar Awarded Spring 2015
California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA
- Office of Research and Special Projects Summer 2015
Summer Student Research Assistantship
- Award for Best Paper at the #BlackLivesMatter May 2015
Civil Rights and Social Justice in the 21st Century Conference
California State University East Bay, Hayward, CA.
- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow Awarded Fall 2008