

Kamesha S. Spates, Ph.D.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Pittsburgh| Pittsburgh, PA | January 2023

William S. Dietrich II Endowed Chair in Africana Studies

Kent State University| Kent, OH | December 2022

Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminology

Kent State University | Kent, OH | August 2019-2022

Founder and Director of the Racial Justice and Health Equity Research and Education Collaborative, Personal Initiative

Kent State University| Kent, OH | August 2013 - July 2020

Assistant Professor of Sociology

Colorado State University-Pueblo| Pueblo, CO | August 2009-August 2013

Assistant Professor of Sociology

Texas A&M University| College Station, TX| August 2006-August 2009

Diversity Program Coordinator-EDGE-SBE

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University, College Station

Ph.D., Sociology | August 2009

Concentrations: Race, Class, and Gender; Crime, Law, and Deviance

M.Sc., Sociology | December 2004

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

B.A., Applied Sociology | May 2002

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Racism

Trauma

Suicidology

Qualitative Methods

Gendered Racism

Health Disparities

Mental Health & Wellness

The Black American Experience

FUNDED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

January 2022

Project:

Funder:

CO-PI:

Funded | Spring 2022 Course Release

Readiness of African American communities of Northeast Ohio to Address Suicide, Phase II

Kent State University, Research and Sponsored Programs

Jenny Cureton, Kent State University

June 2021	Funded \$11,410
Project:	Community-engaged Initiatives to increase the readiness of Northeast Ohio's Black Community to address suicide.
Funder:	Kent State University College of Arts and Sciences Covid-19 Restart Research and Scholarship Award
CO-PI:	Jenny Cureton, Kent State University
December 2020	Funded \$5,000
Project:	Community-engaged Initiatives to increase the readiness of Northeast Ohio's Black Community to address suicide.
Funder:	Kent State University College of Health and Human Services (EHHS) Seed Grant
CO-PI:	Jenny Cureton, Kent State University
Summer 2019	Funded \$5,000
Project:	An Exploratory Study: Understanding the Impact of Trauma on College Age Students in Nairobi Kenya and Awareness of Trauma-Informed Practices Amongst Professionals Serving Students at KCA University.
Funder:	KCA University
CO-PI's:	Dakota King-White, Cleveland State University; Na'Tasha Evans, Kent State University
Summer 2019	Funded \$2,500
Project:	An Exploratory Study: Understanding the Impact of Trauma on College-Age Students in Nairobi Kenya and Awareness of Trauma-Informed Practices Amongst Professionals Serving Students at KCA University.
Funder:	Kent State University Research Council
CO-PI's:	Dakota King-White, Cleveland State University; Na'Tasha Evans, Kent State University
Spring 2019	Funded Spring Course Releases
Project:	Readiness of African American communities of Northeast Ohio to Address to Suicide, Phase I
Funder:	Kent State University, Research and Sponsored Programs
CO-PI:	Jenny Cureton, Kent State University

Book Manuscripts

Spates, Kamesha. 2016. *What Don't Kill Us Makes Us Stronger: African American Women and Suicide*. New York: Routledge.

Slatton, Brittany C., and **Kamesha Spates**, eds. 2014. *Hyper Sexual, Hyper Masculine? Gender, Race and Sexuality in the Identities of Contemporary Black Men*. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing.

+Reviewed by Linda J Henderson in *Teaching Sociology* Volume 44, Issue 4, (2016)

+Reviewed by Denton Callendar in *Sex Education: Sexuality, Society and Learning* Volume 16, Issue 4, (2016)

+Reviewed by Rayshawn Ray in *Gender and Society* Volume 30, Issue 4, (2015)

+Reviewed by Rayshawn Ray in *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* Volume 1, Issue 2, (2015)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles ^G graduate student collaborator ^U undergraduate student collaborator

Kirkland, Chelsey^G, Evans, Na'tasha, **Kamesha Spates**, and Cedric Mubikayi Kabasele^G. "Perceptions of Resettled Refugee Congolese Women: Maintaining Cultural Traditions during Resettlement in Ohio." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. Forthcoming.

Spates, Kamesha, and Brittany Slatton. "Repertoire of Resilience: Black Women's Social Resistance to Suicide." *Published Online First in Social Problems*.

James, Tierra A.,^G **Spates, Kamesha**, Jenny Cureton, Sweta Patel^G, Christina Llyod^G, Diamond Daniel^U. 2022. "Is this really our problem?: A qualitative exploration of Black Americans' misconceptions about suicide." *Deviant Behavior*: 1-18.

Evans, Na'tasha, **Kamesha Spates**, Cedric Mubikayi Kabasele^G, Chelsey Kirkland^G. Forthcoming. "Voices of Resettled Refugee Congolese Women: A Qualitative Exploration of Challenges Associated with Resettling in Ohio." *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 35(1): 1-15.

Evans, Na'tasha, **Kamesha Spates**, and Jiunn-Jye Sheu. 2020. "How my Provider Communicates: A Qualitative Exploration of Pregnant Women's Communicative Experiences When Receiving Prenatal Care in Ohio." *Ohio Journal of Public Health*, 3(2): 5-13.

Spates, Kamesha, Na'Tasha Evans, Tierra Akila James^G, and Karen Martinez^G. 2020. "Gendered Racism in the Lives of Black Women: A Qualitative Exploration." *Journal of Black Psychology* 46(8): 583-606.

Spates, Kamesha, Na'Tasha Evans, Nasra Abubakar^G, Brittany Watts^G, and Tierra James^G. 2019. "Keeping Ourselves Sane: A Qualitative Exploration of Black Women's Coping Strategies." *Sex Roles* 82(9): 513-524.

Spates, Kamesha, Michael Kreiter^G, and Jacqueline Coffey^G. 2019. "Suicide in Color: Portrayals of Suicide in Ebony Magazine from 1960-2008." *Issues in Race & Society: An Interdisciplinary Global Journal* 8(1): 235-270.

Spates, Kamesha, Xinyue Ye, and Ashley Johnson^G. 2018. "I Just Might Kill Myself: Suicide Expressions on Twitter." *Death Studies*: 1-6.

Spates, Kamesha. 2018. "We Have Closed Our Eyes and Sealed Our Lips: Black Women's Accounts of Discussing Suicide within the Black Community." *Sociological Focus*:1-16.

Spates, Kamesha, and Brittany Slatton. 2017. "I've Got My Family and My Faith: Black Women and the Suicide Paradox." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*. 3:1-9.

+Top 50 downloaded ASA journal articles in 2018.

+Cited in Huffington Post Article.

Cruz, Joëlle M., Oghenetoja Okoh, Amoaba Gooden, **Kamesha Spates**, Chinasa A. Elue, and Nicole Rousseau. 2016. "The Ekwe Collective: Black Feminist Praxis." *Departures in Critical Qualitative Research* 5(3):77-100.

Spates, Kamesha, and Wangari Gichiru. 2015. "Starting Where You Are: How Race Can Constrain Researchers within the Research Setting." *Qualitative Report* 11(20):1922-1934.

Spates, Kamesha, and Carlton Mathis. 2014. "Preserving Dignity: Rethinking Voting Rights for U.S. Prisoners, Lessons from South Africa." *The Journal of Pan African Studies* 7(6):84-105.

Spates, Kamesha. 2012. "The Missing Link: The Exclusion of Black Women in Psychological Research and the Implications for Black Women's Mental Health." *Sage Open* 2(3):1-8.

Spates, Kamesha. 2011. "African American Women and Suicide: A Review and Critique of the Literature." *Sociology Compass* 5(5): 336-350.

Spates, Kamesha, and Jennifer Davis. 2010. "Hegemonic Female Spaces: An Analysis of the Covert Meanings within *Ladies Home Journal* and *Ebony Magazines'* Advertisements." *MP: An Online Feminist Journal* 3(2):1-33.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters ^G graduate student collaborator

Royster, Michael, and **Kamesha Spates.** 2011. "Religious Convictions." Pp. 197-212 in *Key Issues in Crime and Crime and Punishment: Crime and Criminal Behaviors*, Vol. 1, edited by W. C. a. G. J. Golson. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publishing.

Spates, Kamesha, and Michael Royster. 2011. "Religious Rights." Pp. 245-60 in *Key Issues in Crime and Crime and Punishment: Corrections*, Vol. 4, edited by W. C. a. G. J. Golson. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publishing.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters ^G graduate student collaborator

Spates, Kamesha. 2014. "More Than Meets the Eye: The Use of Counter-Narratives to Expand Students' Perceptions of Black Male Crack Dealers." Pp. 133-48 in *Hyper Sexual, Hyper Masculine? Gender, Race and Sexuality in the Identities of Contemporary Black Men*, edited by Brittany C. Slatton and Kamesha Spates. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing.

Invited Publications * ^G graduate student collaborator

Spates, Kamesha, and Brittany C. Slatton. 2014. "Blackness, Maleness, and Sexuality as Interwoven Identities: Toward an Understanding of Contemporary Black Male Identity Formation." Pp. 1-4 in *Hyper Sexual, Hyper Masculine? Gender, Race and Sexuality in the Identities of Contemporary Black Men*, edited by Brittany C. Slatton and Kamesha Spates. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing (Introduction Section for Edited Book).

Spates, Kamesha, and Rogelio Saenz. 2014. "The Suicide Paradox in the US: Whites More Prone to Suicide than Racial/Ethnic Minorities, Especially at Older Ages." Pp. 606-09 in *Encyclopedia of Diversity and Social Justice*, edited by Sherwood Thompson. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield.

Coffey, Jacqueline,^G and **Kamesha Spates.** 2014. "Still Separate Still Unequal: Discussions of Racial Composition, School Funding, and Educational Achievement." Pp. 267-68 in *Encyclopedia of Diversity and Social Justice*, edited by Sherwood Thompson. Lanham Rowman and Littlefield.

Spates, Kamesha. 2012. "Elderly Offenders." Pp. 135-37 in *Encyclopedia of Community Corrections*, edited by Shannon M. Barton-Bellessa. Los Angeles: Sage Publications.

Spates, Kamesha. 2012. "Repeat Offenders." Pp. 674-75 in *Encyclopedia of American Law and Criminal Justice*, edited by David Schultz. New York: Facts on File.

Spates, Kamesha. 2011. "Systemic/Structural Violence." Pp. 477-78 in *Encyclopedia of School Crime and Violence*, edited by Laura Finley. Santa Barbra: Greenwood Press.

Manuscripts Under Review^G graduate student collaborator, ^U undergraduate student collaborator
Watts, Brittany^G, **Kamesha Spates**. “I Cry A Lot, Emotionally Eat, and Sometimes Refuse To Read My Bible”: Black Women and the Religion Paradox?. Under Review.

Spates, Kamesha, Na’Tasha Evans, Parishma Gutto^G, Richa Gairola^G, Jordan Smith^U, Rebecca Jindra^U, Cedric Mubikayi^G, and Chelsey Kirkland^G. “Africa is Different from Here: A Qualitative Exploration of Newly Resettled Congolese Refugee Women in the United States.” Under Review.

Spates, Kamesha, Na’Tasha Evans, Jordan Smith^U, Richa Gairola^G, Rebecca Jindra^G, Parishma Guttoo^G, Cedric Mubikayi^G, and Chelsey Kirkland^G. “I need you to Survive: A Qualitative Exploration of Family-based Beliefs among Resettled Congolese Refugee Women in the United States.” Under Review.

Spates, Kamesha, Gumiko Monobe, Tierra Akila James^G. “Big People’s Time Out: A Content Analysis of Children’s Books on the topic of Incarceration.” Under Review.

Spates, Kamesha, Oghenetoja Okoh, Amoaba Gooden, and Chinasa A. Elue. “Bolding Our Hashtags to Dismantle Our Erasure: Black women and Girls’ Activism.” Under Review.

Cureton, Jenny, **Kamesha Spates**, Tierra Akila James^G, Christina Llyod^G. “Readiness of a U.S. Black community to address suicide.” Under Review.

Evans, Na’tasha, **Kamesha Spates**, Yu-Lin Hsu^G, and Jiunn-Jye Sheu. “Discussing and Weighing my Options: A Qualitative Exploration of how Pregnant Low-Income African American Women Receiving Medicaid make Decisions regarding Prenatal Care.”

Mubikayi Kabasele, Cedric^G, Evans, Na’tasha, **Kamesha Spates**, and Chelsey Kirkland^G. “Coping Processes of Congolese Refugee Women Newly Resettled in the United States: A Qualitative Exploration.” Under Review.

Manuscripts in Progress^{*G} graduate student collaborator, ^U undergraduate student collaborator
Elue, A. Chinasa, **Kamesha Spates**, Na’Tasha Evans, Eboni Pringle, Yu-Lin Hsu^G, and Amoaba Gooden. “Cultivating Success: Supporting McNair Scholars during the Dual Pandemics.”

Kamesha Spates, Na’Tasha Evans, Brittany Watts^G, and Jordan Smith^U. “A Qualitative Exploration of African Americans perceptions of Depression.”

Singh, Parvati, **Kamesha Spates**, Arielle Sheftall. “Anti-Black Racism in Psychiatry: A Call to Action.”

Spates, Kamesha, James, Tierra A., Jenny Cureton. “A qualitative exploration of the Knowledge about Suicide Prevention Efforts in the Black Community of Northeast Ohio.”

Dakota King-White, Na’Tasha Evans, **Kamesha Spates**, and Priscilla Gachigi Njoki. “An Exploratory Study to Assess Gender Differences Amongst College Students in Kenya Access and Utilization of Mental Health Services.”

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Northern Illinois University Sociology Department Esteemed Alumnus Award | 2022

This award is given to alumni who have made significant contributions to the community and/or academia.

Kent State University Women’s Center Mothers, Mentors, and Muse Award | 2014

Given to university faculty or staff who have made a significant difference in the life of a student or colleague

Purdue University Pre-tenure for Women Conference Fellowship | 2012, 2013

Fellowship to cover the costs conference registration and hotel

Colorado State University-Pueblo Faculty Above and Beyond Award | 2012

Campus recognition along with a monetary award in the amount of \$125.00

Washington State University Summer Pre-Doctoral Fellowship | 2008

Awarded a \$3,000 stipend along with room and board for the summer

PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS ^G graduate student ^U undergraduate student collaborator

Distinguished Invited Talks

We've got work to do: The importance of Decolonizing historically white spaces, Association of Academic Support Educators Bi-Annual Diversity Conference (Virtual, October 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

A Class of our Own: Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Students of Color, Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health (Virtual, October 2019). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Changing Face of Suicide: A Closer Look at African Americans, Stark County Mental Health Board Annual Clinical Day Conference (Canton OH, May 2016). **Kamesha Spates.**

What Don't Kill Us Makes Us Stronger: Black Women on Suicide, Keynote Speaker, University of Oklahoma's Diversity Scholar's Event (Norman OK, January 2014). **Kamesha Spates.**

Invited Presentations

The Role of Key Stakeholders in the Battle against Suicide in the Black Community. UMADAOP, (Lima OH/Virtual, September 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

Will I Ever Be Enough: What Students of Color need to know about confronting and overcoming the Imposter Syndrome, Meeting of the Minds Peer Educator Weekend, (Virtual Workshop, April 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

Re-examining Suicidality using a Racially Conscious Framework, Meeting of the Minds/ Central College Health Association Annual Conference, (Virtual Workshop, April 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Role of the Black Church in Suicide and Mental Health Awareness Part II, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, (Virtual Workshop, January 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Role of the Black Church in Suicide and Mental Health Awareness, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, (Virtual Workshop, December 2020). **Kamesha Spates.**

Engaging Black Populations: Examining Suicide Prevention Efforts from a Racially Conscious Framework, The Ohio State University Suicide Prevention Conference, (Columbus OH/Virtual, September 2020). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Cookie Cutter Approach Doesn't Work: Reimagining Suicide Prevention in Black Communities using a Racially Conscious Framework, UMADAOP, (Lima OH/Virtual, September 2020). **Kamesha Spates.**

Cultural Awareness and Suicide, Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities (Canton, OH, June 2019). **Kamesha Spates.**

Effective Strategies for Balancing Teaching and Research, Western Campus of KCA University (Kisumu, Kenya, July 2019). **Kamesha Spates.**, Dakota King-White., Na'Tasha Evans., and Joshua Bagakas.

National Dialogue: Trauma-Informed Approaches to Thrive. KCA University (Nairobi, Kenya, July 2019). Dakota King-White., **Kamesha Spates.**, and Na'Tasha Evans.

Demystifying the Research Process for Graduate Students, KCA University (Nairobi, Kenya, July 2019). Na'Tasha Evans., **Kamesha Spates.**, and Dakota King-White.

The Art of publishing. KCA University (Nairobi, Kenya, July 2019). Joshua Bagakas., Na'Tasha Evans., Dakota King-White., and **Kamesha Spates.**

Quiet as It's Kept: The Tragic Reality of Suicide in the Black Community, North East Ohio Black Health Coalition (Cleveland OH, August 2017). **Kamesha Spates.**

Armors of Protection: Black Women's Accounts of Resiliency and Positive Life Strategies as an Explanation for the Black White Suicide Paradox, University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati OH, March 2015). **Kamesha Spates.**

Invited Panelist

The Road Ahead: Implementing Lessons Learned from COVID-19 to Propel Us Forward, Meeting of the Minds/ Central College Health Association Annual Conference, (Virtual, March 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Road Ahead: Implementing Lessons Learned from COVID-19 to Propel Us Forward, Meeting of the Minds/ Central College Health Association Annual Conference, (Virtual, March 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

Expanding Conversations of Suicidality among Black Americans: A Structural Racism Approach, Shaping a Better Future Town Hall Series: The Black American Experience, Kent State University (Virtual, February 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Other Pandemic: Why Racism is a Public Health Crisis, The College of Public Health, Kent State University (Virtual Panel, January 2021). **Kamesha Spates.**

Black Women Researchers, Invited Panelist, Department of Psychological Sciences, Dr. Angela Neal-Barnett's Black Girl Magic Course Kent State University (Kent OH, March 2019). **Kamesha Spates.**

Session Presider and Organizer

Racism: A Pre-existing health condition". Thematic Session at the American Sociological Association (ASA) conference (Virtual Session, August 2021). **Kamesha Spates**—Panel Organizer.

It Takes a Village: How to Get Tenure and Promotion without Losing our Minds. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting (Chicago IL, August 2015). **Kamesha Spates**—Panel Organizer and Presider.

Conference Presentations

A qualitative exploration: Racial impact of African American women lived experiences with depression. American Public Health Association (Virtual presentation, October 2021). Bethanie Mauerman., Na'Tasha

Evans., Siobhan Hicks., and **Kamesha Spates.**

Is this really our problem?: A qualitative exploration of Black Americans' misconceptions about suicide. North Central Sociological Association (Virtual presentation, April 2021). Tierra Akila James^{G.}, **Kamesha Spates.**, Jenny Cureton., Sweta Patal^{G.}, Seaven Weaver^{U.}, Diamond Daniel^{U.}

Voices of resettled refugee Congolese women: A qualitative exploration of challenges associated with resettling in Ohio, American Public Health Association (San Francisco CA, November 2020). Na'Tasha Evans., **Kamesha Spates.**, Chelsey Kirkland.

Voices of resettled refugee Congolese women: A qualitative exploration of challenges associated with resettling in Ohio, American Public Health Association (San Francisco CA, November 2020). Na'Tasha Evans., **Kamesha Spates.**, Chelsey Kirkland.

Hidden Figures: What the Data Does and Does Not Tell Us About Suicide Among Underrepresented Groups, MHR SB Cultural Competency Conference (Toledo OH, December 2019). **Kamesha Spates.**
A Class of our Own: Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Students of Color, Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health (Webinar, October 2019). **Kamesha Spates.**

Coping Processes of Congolese Refugee Women Newly Resettled in the United States: A Qualitative Exploration, American Public Health Association (Philadelphia, PA, November 2019). Cedric Mubikayi Kabasele., Na'Tasha Evans., **Kamesha Spates.**, Chelsey Kirkland., and Nasra Abubakar.

Looking Past and Present: An In-depth Analysis of Black Student Organizations and Movements at Kent State University, International Studies Association/Peace History Society (Kent, OH, October 2019). Tierra James., Brittany Watts., **Kamesha Spates.**

A Qualitative Exploration of Black Women's Stress and Coping, American Public Health Association (San Diego, CA, November 2018). **Kamesha Spates** and Na'Tasha Evans

A Qualitative Exploration of Low-Income African American Women's Experiences during Prenatal Care Decision-Making. American Public Health Association (San Diego, CA, November 2018). Na'Tasha Evans and **Kamesha Spates.**

Invisible Chains: A Closer Look at Children's Books in the Era of Mass Incarceration. Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (Cleveland, OH, October of 2017). **Kamesha Spates.**, Gumiko Monobe.

The Evolution of Black Feminist Thought. Africa and the Global Atlantic World Conference, (Kent, OH, April 2016). Joëlle M. Cruz, Oghenetoja Okoh, Amoaba Gooden, **Kamesha Spates**, Chinasa A. Elue, and Nicole Rousseau.

More Than Meets the Eye: The Role of Critical Hip Hop Pedagogy in Expanding Student Perspectives. Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting (San Francisco CA, August 2014). **Kamesha Spates.**

I Give All the Glory: Black Women, Faith, and the Racial Suicide Paradox. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Denver CO, August 2012). **Kamesha Spates.**

It's the God in Me: The Racial Suicide Paradox and Black Women's Use of Spiritual Capital. Association of Black Sociologist Annual Meeting (Denver CO, August 2012). **Kamesha Spates.**

Unmentionable Acts: African American Women's Accounts of Suicide Discussions in Their Communities. National Association of African American Studies (Baton Rouge LA, February 2011). **Kamesha Spates.**

Only the Strong Survive: Perceptions of Strength and Suffering in Relation to Black Women and the Suicide Paradox. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Atlanta GA, August 2010). **Kamesha Spates.**

Faith, Family, and the Suicide Paradox: An In-depth Analysis of the Role of Faith and Family in the Lives of Black Women. Southwestern Social Science Association (Houston TX, April 2010). **Kamesha Spates.**

The Suicide Paradox: An Assessment of White Males and Black Females Suicide Rates and Relevant Social Factors Associated with Rates of Occurrence. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting (Boston MA, July 2008). **Kamesha Spates.**

I Am Not Your Superwoman: Unpacking the Complexities of Strength and Resilience in the Lives of African American Women. Kent State University's Institute for African American Affairs (Kent OH, March 2017). **Kamesha Spates.**

Hegemonic Body Standards in a Minority Space: A Historical, Cross-Cultural Look at the Body in the Ad. Association for the Study of Food and Society Annual Meeting (Victoria Canada, June 2007). Jennifer Davis and **Kamesha Spates.**

Invited Guest Lecture

Black Women and Gendered Racism, Invited Lecturer, Department of Pan-African Studies, Dr. Amoaba Gooden's Race, Class, and Feminism Course at Kent State University, (Kent OH, March 2019).

Kamesha Spates — Invited Presenter.

Am I Good Enough? Confronting the Imposter Syndrome Parts One and Two. Kent State University's Ronald McNair Scholars Program (June 28, 2017, July 11, 2017, July 2019). Kizzy Albritton., **Kamesha Spates.**, Julie Glokobar., and Gumiko Monobe.

This Is What a Feminist Looks Like: Black Feminism, Kent State University's Womens Center (Kent OH, February 2016, and March 4, 2017). Chinasa Elue., Amoaba Gooden., **Kamesha Spates.**, Joëlle M. Cruz., Oghenetoja Okoh., and Nicole Rousseau.

The Spirit of Black Feminist Thought: Ekwe in Practice, Feminist Friday (Kent OH, April 2016). Amoaba Gooden, Joëlle M. Cruz, Oghenetoja Okoh, **Kamesha Spates**, Chinasa Elue, and Nicole Rousseau.

The Importance of Self Care in the Lives of Black Female College Students, Sister Circle Organization at Kent State University (Kent OH, September 2016). Amoaba Gooden., **Kamesha Spates.**, and Oghenetoja Okoh.

Know the Signs: Tips for Teens to Prevent Suicide, Sisters United Now, John R. Buchtel Community Learning Center (Akron Oh, June 2014). **Kamesha Spates.**

Incorporating Our Voices: Black Women's Protective Factors for Suicide, Karla Anhalt's Graduate Seminar on Interventions with Culturally Diverse Students (Kent State University, March 2014). **Kamesha Spates.**

So What's Sociology/Criminology all About?, Colorado State University-Pueblo's Annul Freshman Orientation (Pueblo CO, August 2012). **Kamesha Spates.**

Talking Race: Moving Beyond Your Comfort Zone, Young Women's Conference (Pueblo CO, October 2011). **Kamesha Spates.**

A Closer Look at Women in Federal Prison Facilities, Texas A&M University: Department of Sociology (College Station TX, November 2007). **Kamesha Spates.**

UNFUNDED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Spring 2019	Unfunded \$350,000
Project:	Make room for Daddy: Fathers, Emotional Health, Incarceration and Infant Mortality.
Funder:	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
CO-PI's:	Kamesha Spates along with Angela Neal Barnett, Christin Farmer
February 2018	Unfunded \$24,000
Project:	Examining Stigma Surrounding Suicide and Mental Illness among Black Ohioans
Funder:	Farris Family Foundation
PI:	Kamesha Spates, Kent State University
January 2017	Unfunded \$1,000,000
Project:	Policing for the Public Interest: Using Police-Citizen Value Congruence to Enhance Officer Decision Making
Funder:	Department of Justice
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Dr's Casey Boyd-Swan, Anthony Molina, and Ashley Nickels, Kent State University
March 2017	Unfunded \$1,000,000
Project:	NRT-IGE: Graduate Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion for STEM Disciplines
Funder:	National Science Foundation
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Dr's Ruth Washington, Mandy Monro-Stasiuk, Dana M. Lawless-Andric, Melody J. Tankersley, Kent State University
December 2017	Unfunded \$9,926
Project:	Ready or Not? A Transdisciplinary Approach to Assessing the Readiness of Northeast Ohio's Black Community to Tackle Suicide
Funder:	Healthy Communities Research Initiative Transdisciplinary Launch Pad Award
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Jenny Cureton, Kent State University
June 2016	Unfunded \$5,000
Project:	Examining Twitter Messages to Identify Suicidal Risk
Funder:	American Psychological Foundation
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Xinye Ye, Kent State University
October 2016	Unfunded \$49,091
Project:	Healing the Divide: Black Americans and Contemporary Policing
Funder:	Russell Sage, Invited
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Chinasa Elue, Kent State University

October 2015	Unfunded \$31,177
Project:	Examining Issues of Educational Access for Immigrant Children
Funder:	Russell Sage
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Chinasa Elue, Kent State University
June 2015	Unfunded \$150,000
Project:	An Intergenerational Look at African Americans Experiences with Policing
Funder:	Russell Sage
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Chinasa Elue, Kent State University
November 2014	Unfunded \$30,000
Project:	Reading the “Note” as It’s Being Written: Using Twitter Posts to Gain Insight into the Suicidal Mind
Funder:	American Foundation of Suicide Prevention Pilot Grant
CO-PI:	Kamesha Spates along with Xinye Ye, Kent State University

MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH

[The Other Pandemic: Why Racism is a Public Health Crisis](#) | Kent State University | January 26, 2021

[Saving Our Sisters: Suicide and the Black Community](#) | Essence Magazine | September 3, 2020

[Essence Wellness Check: A Conversation about Black Women and Suicide](#) | Facebook Live with Essence Magazine | September 23, 2020

[Self-Slaying](#) | Podcast Interview with Ami Tamakloe | September 23, 2020

[Portage County Facing Mental Health Crisis](#) | Record-Courier | September 30, 2019

[White Supremacy Is Deadly for Everyone](#) | Huffington Post | September 14, 2021

[Facebook Killer Brings Mental Health Issues for African Americans to the Surface](#) | Cleveland News Channel 5 | April 21, 2017

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate-Level

Introduction to Sociology
Sociology of Mental Health and Suicide
Minority and Ethnic Relations
Race (Minorities) and Crime
Penology
Gender and Society

Graduate-Level

Race and Ethnicity

Online

Introduction to Sociology
Race (Minorities) and Crime
Gender and Society

STUDENT MENTORING ACTIVITY

Kent State University

Department of Sociology | Brittany Watts, Dissertation Committee Chair, 2023

Department of Sociology | Madeline Steward, Master's Thesis Chair, 2023

School of Psychology | Ashley Johnson, Dissertation Committee Member, 2022

Department of Sociology | Tierra James, Dissertation Committee Co-Chair, 2022

Department of Sociology | Christopher Schnell, Dissertation Committee Member, 2021

Department of Sociology | Karen Martinez, Dissertation Committee Member, Present

Department of Sociology | Nasra Abubaker, Dissertation Committee Member, 2021

Department of Sociology | Erin Andros, Dissertation Committee Member, 2021

Department of Sociology | Michael Kreiter, Dissertation Committee Member, 2021

Department of Sociology | Tierra James, Master's Thesis Committee Member, 2019

Department of Sociology | Brittany Watts, Master's Thesis Chair, 2019

Department of Sociology | James Meeker, Dissertation Committee Member, 2019

Department of Sociology | Jacqueline Coffey, Thesis Committee Member, 2015

University of Akron

Department of Sociology, University of Akron | Kaitlyn Root, Dissertation Committee Member, 2020

Department of Sociology | Martina Grier, Dissertation Committee Member, Present

Comprehensive Exam Committees

Department of Sociology | Kent State University

Michelle Fretwell, Comprehensive Exam Committee Member, Fall 2022

Department of Sociology | Kent State University

Brittany Watts, Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair, Spring 2020

Department of Sociology | Kent State University

Tierra James, Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair, Fall 2019

Department of Sociology | Kent State University

Christopher Schnell, Comprehensive Exam Committee Member, Fall 2019

Department of Sociology | University of Akron

Kaitlyn Root, Dissertation Committee Member, 2017-2018

Department of Sociology | Kent State University
Jacob Church, Comprehensive Exam Committee Member, Spring 2018

School of Psychology | Kent State University
Ashley Johnson, Comprehensive Exam Committee Member, 2016-2017

Independent Studies Supervised

Kent State University

Dissertation Research Hours | Tierra James, Department of Sociology, Present

Dissertation Research Hours | Brittany Watts, Department of Sociology, Present

Master's Thesis Research Hours | Present Madeline Stewart, Department of Sociology, Present

Sophomore Research Experience | Jordan Smith, Public Health Major, 2020-2021

McNair Scholar | Keona Savage, Business Marketing Major, 2019-2020

McNair Scholar | Diamond Daniel, Public Health Major, 2019-2020

McNair Scholar | Seaven Weaver, Public Health Major, 2019-2020

McNair Scholar | Keona Savage, Business Marketing Major, Summer 2019

Master's Thesis Research Hours | Brittany Watts, Department of Sociology, 2019

Research Hours | Karen Martienz, Department of Sociology, Individual Investigation toward Dissertation Research, Spring 2019

Research Hours | Michael Kreiter, Department of Sociology, Individual Investigation toward Dissertation Research, Fall 2017

Research Hours | Jacqueline Coffey, Department of Sociology, Individual Investigation toward Dissertation Research, Fall; 2016

McNair Scholar | Nyarauch Chol, Criminology & Justice Studies Major, Summer 2015

Undergraduate Research Project | Madeline Stewart, Sociology Major, Spring 2015

Undergraduate Research Project | Vanessa Workman, Criminology & Justice Studies Major, 2014- 2015

Undergraduate Research Project | Denzel Ford, Criminology & Justice Studies Major, 2015-2015

Undergraduate Research Project | Carissa Burks, Criminology & Justice Studies Major, 2014-2015

Colorado State University-Pueblo

Undergraduate Research Project | Kenny Smith, Sociology Major, Spring 2010

Undergraduate Research Project | Juanita Whitaker, Sociology Major, Fall 2010

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

National Service to the Profession

American Sociological Association | August 2021
Organizer Thematic Session

Southwestern Sociological Association | 2017-2019
Elected Committee Member, Executive Council

Association of Black Sociologists | 2013-2015
Committee Member, Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Paper Committee

Black Women's Life Balance & Wellness Association | 2011-2012
Committee Member, Conference Planning Committee

Editorial Board Member

Social Problems | 2018-2021
Sociological Focus | 2017-2019

Manuscript Reviewer

Health Equity
Social Problems
Sociological Focus
Sociology Compass
Ashgate Publishing
Oxford University Press
Palgrave Macmillan

University Service to the Profession

Kent State University | 2020-21
Committee Member, Anti-Racism Task Force for Faculty and Staff Professional Development Committee

Kent State University | 2020-21
Committee Member, Quality of Faculty Work/Life Committee

Kent State University | 2020-21
Committee Member, Child Development Center's COVID-19 Health and Safety Re-Opening Task Force

Kent State University | 2020-2022
Advisory Board Member, Healthy Communities Research Institute

Colorado State University-Pueblo | 2011-2012
Coordinator, Faculty Writing Group Research Initiative

Colorado State University-Pueblo | 2011-2012
Elected Committee Member, Ethnic and Gender Studies Advisory Committee

Colorado State University-Pueblo | 2012
Registration Coordinator, Women's Studies Annual Conference

Departmental Service to the Profession**Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2022**

Committee Chair, Chair Review Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2022

Committee Member, Adhoc Lower Division Retention Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2021-2022

Committee Member, Social Justice, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2021

Committee Member, Target Hire Criminology Search Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University | 2018

Committee Member, Criminology Search Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2017

Committee Member, Criminology Search Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2016-2018

Committee Member, Curriculum and Undergraduate Studies Committee

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2014-2015

Committee Member, Criminology Graduate Curriculum Working Group

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2014-2015

Committee Member, Social Inequality Graduate Curriculum Working Group

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2014-2015

Committee Member, Research Methods Graduate Curriculum Working Group

Department of Sociology | Kent State University| 2014

Committee Member, Criminology Search Committee Member, 2014

Department of Sociology | Colorado State University-Pueblo| 2011-2012

Faculty Co-Advisor, the Sociology Club, 2011-2012

Department of Sociology | Colorado State University-Pueblo | 2011-2012

Committee Member, Sociology Curriculum Development, 2011-2012

Community Engagement**City of Kent Health Department| Health Equity Task Force| 2022****City of Akron | Racial Equity and Social Justice Healthcare and Public Health Taskforce | 2020-2022**

Elected Committee Member

City of Pueblo | Pueblo Center for Suicide Prevention | 2011-2012

Co-Developer for the Online Crisis Line Curriculum

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Columbia University | PI Crash Course: Skills for Future or New Lab Leaders | 2023

University of South Florida | Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate | 2021

QPR Institute | Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training Certificate | 2021

Kent State University | Center for Teaching and Learning, Remote Instruction: Student Engagement Workshop | 2020

Ball State University | Photovoice Workshop and Conference for Academic Researchers | 2019

Purdue University | Pre-tenure for Women Conference | 2011, 2013

Yale University | Urban Ethnography Conference | 2008

Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) | Institute on Teaching and Mentoring | 2007, 2008

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association
Association of Black Sociologists
American Public Health Association
Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated

National Association of African American Studies
Sisters of the Academy
Society for the Study of Social Problems
Textbook and Academic Writing Association