

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
PHD PROGRAM**

**DISSERTATIONS  
2001-2021**

**Tasha Smith**, Ph.D. (2021). Formerly Incarcerated Females: Concerning Historical Trauma, Treatment, and Current Needs Post Incarceration. **Committee Members:** Belinda D. Smith (Chair), Isiah Marshall, Jr., Theresia Johnson-Ratliff, Eunkyung Yoon, Jennifer Young-Wallace (Educational Leadership)

**Rosie Thomas**, Ph.D. (2020). A Study Exploring the Healthy Relationship Curriculum when Addressing Dating Violence Among Young Adults. **Committee Members:** Isiah Marshall, Jr. (Chair), Jaegoo Lee, Theresia Johnson-Ratliff, Belinda D. Smith, Bryman Williams (Dept. of Psychology)

**Tashinika McGee**, Ph.D. (2020). Factors Influencing Low-income Maternal Perceptions of Adolescent Obesity. **Committee Members:** Patrice Jenkins (Chair), Isiah Marshall, Pedro Hernandez, Sophia Leggett, Yolanda Walker, Girmay Berhie

**Raymond Adams**, Ph.D. (December, 2019). The effects of mental health, social networking, and spirituality on PRCA survivorship among rural African American men: A pilot study. **Committee members:** Belinda D. Smith (Chair), Patrice R. Jenkins, Isiah Marshall, Jr., Bryman Williams (Dept. of Psychology), Shaun Otis Owens (University of South Carolina, School of Social Work)

**Lucille Durham-Lacy**, Ph.D. (December, 2019). Coping strategies as predictors of stress among African American Patients receiving in-center hemodialysis in the rural Mississippi Delta. **Committee chair:** Susie Spence

**Robinson, G.**, Ph.D. (August, 2018). The effects of social influence on risky behaviors among college students. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Candace Carter**, Ph.D. (April, 2018). African American mothers' attitude toward teenage pregnancy and contraception. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Laken, M.**, Ph.D. (April, 2018). Chronic disease and psychological outcomes among older African Americans: The role of social support. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Jaworski T. Davenport**, Ph.D. (April, 2017). Maltreatments as predictors of placement instability among children in foster care: A trauma-informed approach. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Bridgette D. Harris**, Ph.D. (April, 2017). Effects of school based mental health intervention on academic achievement and classroom behavior: Pilot project. **Committee chair:** Julie Schroeder

**Tamara E. Pace-Glover**, Ph.D. (April, 2017). The experiences of African American single mothers who have reared academically accomplished children. **Committee chair:** Gauri Bhattacharya

**Jessica R. White**, Ph.D. (April, 2017). Effects of parental involvement on elementary school students' academic and behavior outcomes: Testing the Epstein-White Model. **Committee Chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Tanya N. Buckley**, Ph.D. (December, 2017). Self-esteem, self-efficacy, attitudes toward sexuality, father involvement, and neighborhood collective efficacy as predictors of sexual behavior among young African- American female college students. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**T'Willie L. Chandler**, Ph.D. (December, 2017). Alternatives to incarceration: An exploratory study of internal and situational factors impacting veterans with PTSD. **Committee chair:** Julie Schroeder

**Mary L. Figueroa**, Ph.D. (December, 2017). Housing, education, healthcare, and employment: Latino perceptions of discrimination in South Mississippi. **Committee chair:** Dr. Isiah Marshall Jr.

**Linda Pendleton**, Ph.D. (December, 2017). Factors influencing health care providers' diagnosis and treatment of behavioral health conditions. **Committee chair:** Jaegoo Lee

**Bradley D. Thomas**, Ph.D. (December, 2017). Pilot study: Factors affecting formerly homeless women veterans. **Committee chair:** Wendy Thompson

**Brookins, T.**, Ph.D. (2016). Complementary therapy use among cancer patients and survivors in the South: An exploratory study. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Lang-Lindsey, K.**, Ph.D. (2016). The efficacy of peer intervention to improve quality of life in African Americans with chronic kidney disease. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**Roberson, K.**, Ph.D. (2016). A pilot study: Exploring help-seeking behaviors among domestic violence victims in rural Alabama. **Committee chair:** Shonda Lawrence

**Smith, T.**, Ph.D. (2016). A pilot study: Factors associated with spouses/intimate partners' stressors, needs, and access to social supports during/post deployment. **Committee chair:** Shonda Lawrence

**Griffith, D.**, Ph.D. (2015). An examination of the quality of life of young African-American adults living with sickle cell disease: A qualitative approach. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**Mangum-Johnson, B.**, Ph.D. (2015). Exploring sources of empowerment among caregivers of children with disabilities and educational professionals: Parental involvement in the individualized educational plan (IEP) process. **Committee chair:** Gauri Bhattacharya

**Morton, D.**, Ph.D. (2015). A pilot study: Effective social support among parenting women in substance abuse recovery. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**Amenuke, M.**, Ph.D. (2014). Determinants of breast cancer screening practices among women in Ghana: A multivariate analysis approach. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Darnell, M. W.**, Ph.D. (2014). Living with childhood sexual abuse and substance dependence: A pilot case study of three male survivors. **Committee chair:** Julie Schroeder

**Neyland, T.**, Ph.D. (2014). African American fatherhood involvement: The myth of the invisible dad. **Committee chair:** Shonda K. Lawrence

**Birore, C.**, Ph.D. (2013). Social environmental and psychological influences on adjustment to the university and persistence toward a bachelor's degree attainment among African-American students. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Jackson, J.**, Ph.D. (2013). Arkansas addiction counselor: An exploratory survey analysis of practitioner characteristics. **Committee chair:** Safiya Omari

**Addae, R.**, Ph.D. (2011). Informal elder caregiving: The experience of women in the Kpando District of Ghana. **Committee chair:** Laurie Lawson

**Delozia, M.**, Ph.D. (2011). Childhood neglect and adult attachment as predictors of violence among incarcerated young adults. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Jenkins, P.**, Ph.D. (2011). An examination of alcohol expectancies, self-efficacy, and alcohol consumption among African American college students. **Committee chair:** Safiya R. Omari

**Mangum III, H.**, Ph.D. (2011). African American social work students' attitude and interest in the HIV/AIDS field: Testing the contact-willingness model. **Committee chair:** Eunkyung Yoon

**O'Neal, S. T.**, Ph.D. (2009). After death communication among African Americans and its role in coping with grief. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**West, Jr., G. E.**, Ph.D. (2009). A geographical and racial comparison of spiritually use among social workers. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**Wills, D. E.**, Ph.D. (2009). Cultural barriers to help-seeking behaviors among African American women with depression. **Committee chair:** Safiya R. Omari

**Estis, T. C.**, Ph.D. (2008). Hitting rock bottom: The necessary crisis experience for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and attorneys to confront their addictions. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**Laijui, M. N.**, Ph.D. (2008). Parental attachment, school bonding, self-control, and self-esteem as predictors of delinquent behavior among adolescent. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Zammit, K. A.**, Ph.D. (2008). Assessing social workers' attitudes toward gay and lesbians: An

implicit approach. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Hester, C. F.**, Ph.D. (2007). Factors affecting single women's decisions to become unwed mothers. **Committee chair:** Ruth M. Williams

**Honore-Collins, C.**, Ph.D. (2007). African American maternal drug offenders and their children. **Committee chair:** Shondra Lawrence

**Nyegaard-Holbrook, C.**, Ph.D. (2007). Hope, self-transcendence, spirituality, and positive/negative affect as predictors of quality of life in women with breast cancer. **Committee chair:** Safiya R. Omari

**Pilkinton, M. W.**, Ph.D. (2007). Pregnant substance users: The role of social supports, the effects of TANF sanctions and a comparison of urban vs. rural differences in use of supportive structures. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**Singleton-Walker, C.**, Ph.D. (2007). Exploring the life experiences of overweight and obese adolescents in Mississippi: An African American perspective. **Committee chair:** Mary S. Nelums

**Watson-Perkins, C.**, Ph.D. (2007). Hearing their voices: Understanding spirituality among HIV/AIDS infected African American women in the lower Mississippi Delta (LMD). **Committee chair:** Safiya R. Omari

**Avant, F. L.**, Ph.D. (2006). Leadership styles as predictors of job satisfaction and organizational commitment among faculty in social work education. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Bouie-Haynes, G.**, Ph.D. (2006). Factors that influence the behavioral adjustment of African American children who witness domestic violence. **Committee chair:** Ruth M. Williams

**Lee-Pruitt, G. M.**, Ph.D. (2006). An investigation into African American female social workers inclusion of spirituality in their work with African American female clients in mental health. **Committee chair:** Olga Osby

**Marshall, A.**, Ph.D. (2005). A study of elderly African Americans participation in advance directives. **Committee chair:** Ruth M. Williams

**Anderson, B.**, Ph.D. (2004). Middle-school students' self-reported level of school violence and its relationship to self-esteem, aggression, and family structure. **Committee chair:** Safiya R. Omari

**Wilkerson, P.**, Ph.D. (2004). Predictors of life satisfaction in elderly African Americans. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Walls, P.**, Ph.D. (2004). Multiculturally competent practice: Are BSW students adequately prepared? **Committee chair:** Dr. Alan Bougere

**Dunn-Morris, E.**, Ph.D. (2003). Contextualizing homelessness among veterans: A multivariate analysis of demographic, clinical, and context factors. **Committee chair:** Dr. Safiya R. Omari

**Saulsberry, P. H.**, Ph.D. (2003). Racial socialization, academic performance, and social adjustment in African American youth: A multivariate analysis. **Committee chair:** Safiya R.Omari

**Savage, J.**, Ph.D. (2003). Keeping the promise of permanence: Older child permanent placement stability predicted from externalizing behavior and adaptability. **Committee chair:** Ruth M. Williams

**Sims-Johnson, M.**, Ph.D. (2003). Developmental, abuse, and structural predictors of runaway behavior among African American adolescents. **Committee chair:** Susie A. Spence

**Gillespie, R.**, Ph.D. (2002). A comparative study of the impact of services satisfaction for African American mentally ill patients, families, and social workers. **Committee chair:** Edith Williams

**Smith, G.**, Ph.D. (2001). Factors associated with employment of single African American mothers receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. **Committee chair:** Ruth M. Williams

