



**cira**

Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS  
at Yale University

## ***CIRA Talk: Interventions to Address HIV-Related Intersectional Stigma***

**The second in a series of panel  
presentations and discussions on  
intersectional stigma in HIV.**

Presenters (clockwise from top left):

- Jasmine Abrams, Boston University School of Public Health
- Devin English, PhD, Rutgers School of Public Health
- Carlos E. Rodriguez-Diaz, Milken Institute School of Public Health, The George Washington University

Moderator (bottom left):

- Skyler Jackson, Yale School of Public Health



**Thursday, April 1, 2021  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

**Register via Zoom:  
<https://bit.ly/38uR002>**

Contact Daniel Davidson ([Daniel.Davidson@yale.edu](mailto:Daniel.Davidson@yale.edu)) with any questions.

Organized by the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA).  
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# CIRA Talk: Interventions to Address HIV-Related Intersectional Stigma

## OVERVIEW:

Following on CIRA's November 2020 panel presentation on Understanding Intersectional Stigma and its Impact on HIV Prevention and Care, this virtual panel presentation and discussion will highlight research on interventions designed to reduce intersectional stigma and discrimination, and their impacts.

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**Jasmine Abrams, PhD, Assistant Professor, Boston University School of Public Health; Founder, Thrive Institute for Professional Development**



Talk Title: *Utilizing Intersectionality Theory to Understand and Address Global Health Disparities among Women*

As an international behavioral research scientist, Dr. Abrams' work is conducted with the goal of utilizing culture as an avenue to better understand and reduce health disparities. Dr. Abrams conducts domestic and international research in collaboration with community-based and health service organizations and is fiercely dedicated to sexual health promotion among women of African ancestry - with a focus on HIV prevention and promotion of sexual pleasure.

Dr. Abrams also has expertise in translational community-based and engaged research, prevention science, qualitative research, mixed methods, and intervention program development, adaptation, and evaluation. She has secured numerous federal funding awards to support her HIV prevention research and programming with women of African ancestry, including funding from NIMH, NIMHD, and Fogarty International Center.

Dr. Abrams has also founded 4 companies, including her newest venture - the Thrive Institute for Professional Development where they offer transformative trainings and workshops focused on advancing productivity and well-being among early career researchers at research intensive institutions.

# CIRA Talk: Interventions to Address HIV-Related Intersectional Stigma

**Devin English, PhD, Assistant Professor, Rutgers School of Public Health**

Talk Title: *Toward Critical Health Equity: Documenting Intersectional Oppression and Doing Something about it*



Dr. English earned his BA in Psychology from Macalester College and his PhD in Clinical/Community Psychology from the George Washington University. His pre-doctoral research focused on daily racial discrimination measurement and modeling its longitudinal effects on psychosocial outcomes among Black U.S. American adolescents and adults. He subsequently completed his postdoctoral research at Hunter College of the City University of New York where his research focused on examining the health effects of intersectional racial and sexual identity discrimination among Black sexual minority men.

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**Carlos E. Rodriguez-Diaz, Associate Professor, Milken Institute School of Public Health, The George Washington University**

Talk Title: *Developing community-based intervention research to address stigma among Latinx sexual and gender minorities*



Dr. Carlos Rodriguez-Diaz is a community health scientist with over fifteen years of experience practicing public health and conducting action research in Puerto Rico, the United States of America, and the Caribbean Region. His work has focused on infectious diseases, particularly HIV care and prevention, as well as sexual health promotion and health equity through actions on the social determinants of health.

Dr. Rodriguez-Diaz is currently studying health and racial disparities during the COVID-19 pandemic. He has lead in several programs and research projects addressing health inequities among populations made socially vulnerable including people with HIV, Hispanic/Latinxs, incarcerated populations, and sexual and gender minority groups.

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**Skyler Jackson, Ph.D., Associate Research Scientist, Yale School of Public Health**

*Dr. Jackson's current projects examine complex, understudied manifestations of stigma across sexual, racial, and gender minority populations.*



Dr. Skyler Jackson's research focuses on the ways individuals' social identities (e.g., race, gender, sexual orientation) shape their everyday lives and influence health and well-being. In particular, he is interested in how experiences of stigma—if not adequately coped with—interfere with psychological functioning and contribute to health disparities. Relying on a broad range of methodological approaches (e.g., microlongitudinal, experimental, qualitative), Dr. Jackson's current projects examine complex, understudied manifestations of stigma across sexual, racial, and gender minority populations, including (a) intersectional stress among individuals holding multiple marginalized identities (e.g., LGBTQ people of color, Black women), and (b) border identity stress among populations holding identities that defy binary categorization (e.g., bisexuals, multiracial people, transgender/nonbinary individuals). Emerging interests include assessing the mental health consequences of dehumanizing experiences and the study of interventions aiming to reduce stigma-related stress among marginalized populations.