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## Endarkened Feminism in an Erasure Culture: The Transformative Voices of Black Women

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***Endarkened Feminism  
in an Erasure Culture:***

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***The Transformative Voices  
of Black Women***

# Joelina Robinson Machera

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# Audre Lorde

*“For the master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house. They may allow us to temporarily beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change. Racism and homophobia are real conditions of all our lives in this place and time. I urge each one of us here to reach down into that deep place of knowledge inside herself and touch that terror and loathing of any difference that lives here. See whose face it wears. Then the personal as the political can begin to illuminate all our choices.”*

Audre Lorde (2012, p.112)

# Do You Know Them

Linda Darling Hammond

Ruth Simmons

Valerie Smith

Evelynn Hammonds

Gloria Ladson-Billings

# Do You Know Them

Linda Darling Hammond (Stanford – 1<sup>st</sup>)

Ruth Simmons (Brown – 1<sup>st</sup>)

Valerie Smith (Princeton – 1<sup>st</sup>)

Evelynn Hammonds (Harvard – 1<sup>st</sup>)

Gloria Ladson-Billings (Univ of Wisconsin – Madison – 1<sup>st</sup>)



# Do You Know Them

Barbara Jordan

Patricia Hill Collins

Cynthia Dillard

Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot

Theodorea Berry

bell hooks

Denise Taliaferro Baszile

Beverly Daniel Tatum

Toni Morrison

Angela Davis

Morgan Jerkins

Audre Lorde



# A Story to Tell

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A Transformative Voice



# *Theories to Consider*

1. Endarkened Feminist Theory
2. Critical Race Theory
3. Critical Thought

# Maya Angelou

*I can be changed by what happens to me, but I refuse to be reduced by it.*

*Maya Angelou (2009)*

# Endarkened Feminism

## Endarkened Feminist Epistemology

A distinguishable difference in cultural standpoint, located in the intersection/overlap of the culturally constructed socializations of race, gender, and other identities and the historical and contemporary contexts of oppression and resistance for African ascendant women.

(Patricia Hill Collins / Critical & Indigenous Methodologies)



# bell hooks

*“Most of us did not learn when we were young that our capacity to be self-loving would be shaped by the work we do and whether that work enhances our well-being.”*

*bell hooks (2000)*

# Erasure Culture

Cultural erasure is a practice in which a dominant culture, for example a colonizing nation, attempts to negate, suppress, remove and, in effect, erase the culture of a subordinate culture.

(Merriam - Webster Dictionary)

# Alice Walker

*We are the ones we have been waiting for.*

*Alice Walker (2004)*



# Significance Counter Stories and Justice

**COUNTER STORIES** – personal narratives as an expression of self that challenges sexism, classism, and racism

Educators and students of all ages are able to experience full expression of self as well as learn from drawing on their own experiences when hearing stories that embrace inclusion, social justice and equity.

# *Critical Thought*

The theories described are not explicit in the literature, one must use personal thinking . . .

Inquiry of moving from doubt to belief . . .

The more a person thinks, the more a person knows, depth is imperative . . .

Shared thoughts and shared experiences . . .

Challenging assumptions . . . the counterstory . . .

# Shirley Chisholm

*“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”*

*Shirley Chisholm*

*(2010)*



# Transformative Voices

- Build trust
- Connect Individuals
- Strengthen Relationships
- Instill critical thought
- Promote inclusion
- Provide a full education

# 3-2-1 Evaluation

3 Things you learned

2 Questions you still have

Something you would do differently

*\*Please add your name and email if you would like to hear more about the study as it progresses . . .*

# Questions?

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Contact

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# Purpose

This study examines the correlation of the telling of personal narratives of women of color as leaders in educational institutions to better understand how they share their experiences of racial trauma, privilege, and discrimination.

# Questions to Consider

1. Does the telling of personal narratives predict the overcoming of racial trauma and discrimination?
2. How does the telling of personal narratives influence women of color as leaders in education to deliver a message of the counter story?
3. What is the effect of personal narratives on level of success achieved by women of color as leaders in education?