

Stephanie Irby Coard, Ph.D.
Biographical Narrative

Stephanie Irby Coard, Ph.D. is currently a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNC-G). Prior to joining UNC-G in 2006, Dr. Coard held appointments at Duke University (2002-2006) in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, the Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity and Gender in the Social Sciences (REGSS), and the Sanford Institute of Public Policy. She is also a former Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the New York University School of Medicine, Child Study Center (1998-2002).

Dr. Coard earned a B.A. from North Carolina State University in both Psychology and Business Management; an M.S.Ed. in Developmental Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania; and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Columbia University. She completed a Pediatric Clinical Pre-Doctoral Internship in the Division of Behavioral and Developmental Pediatrics, University of Maryland Medical Center and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Division of Adolescent Medicine, University of Maryland Medical Center.

A psychologist and clinical researcher, Dr. Coard primarily conducts research on youth conduct problems, antisocial behavior and violence; racial, ethnic and cultural influences on child mental health treatment and prevention; and cultural adaptations of interventions and community dissemination. Her understanding of socio-cultural factors as they relate to the etiology, treatment and prevention of child mental health problems has informed her work on a number of federally funded studies. Most notably, she was awarded a Scientist Development Award (K01) from the National Institute for Mental Health to pursue research on translation, implementation and testing of clinically efficacious interventions into community settings; and in culturally adapting and testing those interventions to ensure successful dissemination within urban and inner-city communities. A primary focus of this research has been the development of culturally-relevant strategies to assist African American parents to prevent and manage common behavior problems of young children. She has also been awarded Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding from the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development. These funded studies have resulted in the development of an observational measure of racial socialization and a parenting curriculum and written materials. The *Parent-Child Race-Related Observational Measure (PC-RROM)* is a parent-child observational measure of the race-related communication and interaction. *Black Parenting Strengths and Strategies (BPSS)* is an evidence-based culturally relevant parenting program for use African American families for preventing and managing common childhood behavior problems. *Black Parenting Strengths and Strategies – Child (BPSS-C)* is a strengths- and culturally-based program that aims to promote cultural, social and emotional health and academic success within African American children. The BPSS programs have been developed to incorporate the most successful strategies used by parenting and child development specialists, while drawing on the strengths, unique parental strategies and processes inherent in Black families (e.g., racial socialization).

With close ties to the African-American community, Dr. Coard has always concerned herself with increasing awareness and sensitivity to how ethnicity and race impact the process and outcome of mental health treatment and in the implementation of evidence-based practices in communities of color. She has published original research in this area and regularly lectures at local and national professional meetings. She currently teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in *Applied Theories and Principles of Parenting*, *Issues in Parenting*, *Adolescent Development*, and *Ethnicity and Context in Child and Family Policy* in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of North Carolina - Greensboro.

Dr. Coard is a member of the American Psychological Association, Div.12 (Clinical), 53 (Clinical Child), 45 (Ethnic Minority Issues), Society for Prevention Research, Society for Research in Child Development, Society for Research on Adolescence, The Association of Black Psychologists and the National Black Child Development Institute, Inc.. She has served as Chair, American Psychological Association Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents and as Assistant Director, the Partnership for Excellence in Mental Health Interventions Education and Research (PREMIER) program at Duke University School of Medicine. PREMIER is an NIMH funded post-doctoral fellowship program which provides training for qualified persons of color who seek to become academic mental health intervention researchers.

Dr. Coard's consultation work raises awareness and sensitivity to how socio-cultural issues impact developmental, educational and mental processes and outcomes for African American youth and families. This includes the design, dissemination and evaluation of evidence-based and culturally-appropriate assessment tools and intervention programs for African American youth, families and professionals providing services to them. Specific topic areas of consultation include: prevention of conduct disorder, aggression and violence; racial, ethnic and cultural influences on youth and families; racial socialization processes, racial identity development; resiliency and empowerment, academic achievement, practical and culturally relevant approaches to parenting; and intervention development and community dissemination in diverse cultural contexts.