

MARLENA L. DEBREAUX

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PRIMARY PROFESSIONAL AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

My area of scholarly interest centers on understanding African-descendant youth's mental health and normative development in response to exposure to interpersonal, internalized, and structural racism.

EDUCATION

- 2023
(expected) **Ph.D. in Community Research and Action**
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
Certificate in College Teaching
Dissertation: *Will the Children be Alright? Exploring how Black Adolescents Learn about and Respond to Structural Racism*
Committee Chair: Dr. Velma McBride Murry
- 2020 **M.S. in Community Research and Action**
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
Master's Thesis: *Black-ish*: Exploring Experiences, Attributions, and Emotional Reactions to Racial Discrimination among Monoracial and Biracial African American Adolescents*
Committee Chair: Dr. Velma McBride Murry
- 2013 **M.A. in Psychology**
American University, Washington D.C.
Advisor: Dr. Michele Carter
- 2009 **B.A. in Psychology**
University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- 2021-
Present **Program Manager**
Pathways to African American Success (PAAS) Pilot Study
Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University
Supervisor: Dr. Velma McBride Murry
- 2021-
Present **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University
Supervisor: Dr. David Carlone, Dr. Andrew Finch, Dr. Meaghan Mundy

- 2018-
2021 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Youth Violence Prevention and Research Center
Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University
Supervisor: Dr. Maury Nation
- 2017-
Present **Graduate Research Assistant**
Center for Research on Rural Families and Communities
Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University
Supervisor: Dr. Velma McBride Murry
- 2017-
2018 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University
Supervisors: Dr. Robert Marx, Dr. Tessa Eidelman, & Dr. Misha Inniss-
Thompson
- 2016-
2017 **Youth Program Coordinator**
Youth Violence Prevention and Research Center
School of Public Health, University of Louisville
Supervisor: Dr. Monica Wendel
- 2015-
2017 **Administrative/Research Assistant**
Behavioral Wellness Counseling Center
Louisville, KY
Supervisor: Dr. Monnica Williams
- 2015-
2016 **Research Assistant**
Center for Mental Health Disparities
Department of Psychology, University of Louisville
Supervisor: Dr. Monnica Williams

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- 2020-
2021 Institute of Critical Quantitative, Computational, and Mixed Methodologies
Spencer Cohort Scholar
- 2019 University of Southern California, Rossier School of Education – Center for
Empowered Learning and Development with Technology (CELD-TECH)
Development with Media and Technology Fellowship

PUBLICATIONS

Works in Refereed Journals

- Berkel, C., Murry, V. M., Thomas, N. A., Bekele, B., **Debreaux, M. L.**, Gonzalez, C., & Hanebutt, R. A. (2022). The Strong African American Families program: Disrupting the negative consequences of racial discrimination through culturally tailored, family-based prevention. *Prevention Science*, 1-12.
- Carlo, G., Murry, V. M., Davis, A. N., Gonzalez, C. M., & **Debreaux, M. L.** (2022). Culture-related adaptive mechanisms to race-related trauma among African American and US Latinx youth. *Adversity and Resilience Science*, 3(3), 247-259.
- Murry, V. M., Gonzalez, C. M., Hanebutt, R. A., Bulgin, D., Coates, E. E., Inniss-Thompson, M. N., **Debreaux, M.L.** ... & Cortez, M. B. (2022). Longitudinal study of the cascading effects of racial discrimination on parenting and adjustment among African American youth. *Attachment & Human Development*, 1-17.
- Wendel, M.L., Nation, M., Williams, M., Jackson, T., Jones., G., **Debreaux, M.**, & Ford, N. (2021). The structural violence of white supremacy: Addressing root causes to prevent youth violence. *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*
- Williams, M.T., Skinta, M.D., Kanter, J.W., Martin-Willett, Mier-Chairez, J., **Debreaux, M.**, & Rosen, D.C. (2020). A qualitative study of microaggressions against African Americans on predominantly White campuses. *BMC Psychology* , 8(4), 1-13.
- Murry, V.M., Berkel, C., Inniss-Thompson, M.N., & **Debreaux, M.L.** (2019). Pathways to African American success: Results of a 3-arm randomized trial to test the effects of technology-based delivery for rural African American families. *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*
- Kanter, J. W., Williams, M. T., Kuczynski, A. M., Manbeck, K. E., **Debreaux, M.**, & Rosen, D. C. (2017). A preliminary report on the relationship between microaggressions against black people and racism among white college students. *Race and Social Problems*, 9(4), 291-299.
- Williams, M., **Debreaux, M.**, & Jahn, M. (2016). African Americans with obsessive-compulsive disorder: An update. *Current Psychiatry Reviews*, 12(2), 109-114.

Works in Progress

- Debreaux, M.L.** (in progress). Black-ish*: Exploring experiences, attributions, and emotional reactions to discrimination among monoracial and biracial Black adolescents.
- Murry, V.M., Gonzalez, C., **Debreaux, M.L.**, Coates, E.E., & Berkel, C. (under review). Implications of built and social environments on academic disparities among African American youth: Testing SAAF intervention effects on parental academic socialization.
- Murry, V.M., Hanebutt, R., Han, H., **Debreaux, M.L.**, & Nyanamba, J. (accepted). Culturally sensitive and conceptually adapted exemplars of character development: Implications for reimagining frameworks.

INVITED TALKS

Debreaux, M.L. (2020). *All things considered: Contemplating the utility of critical race theory to enhance racial equity in prevention science*. Invited talk delivered to the Prevention Science & Methodology Group, Northwestern University, held virtually, November 17, 2020.

PRESENTATIONS

International

Debreaux, M.L. (moderator), Seaton, E., Santos, C., & Domenak, D., (2022, May 2-4). *Select all that apply: Conceptualizing Afro-Latinidad for developmental research*. Accepted roundtable at the 2022 Society for Research on Child Development Special Topic Conference: Construction of the Other in Rio Grand, Puerto Rico

Inniss-Thompson, M.N., Murry, V.M., Liu, N., & **Debreaux, M.L.** (2019). *Examining non-targeted effects of a family-based preventive intervention on African American youths' academic orientation*. Paper submitted to the 19th European Conference on Developmental Psychology. Athens, Greece. August 29- September 1, 2019.

National

Detrés-Gonzalez, C. **Debreaux, M.L.**, Murry, V.M. (2023, March 22-25). *African American family adaptive resilience: The impact of Covid-19 on rural youth's remote learning environment*. Accepted poster presentation at the 2023 Society for Research on Child Development Conference held in Salt Lake City, UT.

Bulgin, D., Gonzalez, C., **Debreaux, M.L.**, Murry, V.M., Hanebutt, R., Coates, E., Inniss-Thompson, M.N., & Wilson, W. (2021, April 6-8). *Contextualizing attachment theory: Examining implications of racial discrimination and parent-child relationship quality on attachment processes and adjustment among African American youth*. Accepted presentation for symposium at the 2021 Society for Research on Child Development Conference held virtually.

Debreaux, M.L., Murry, V.M., Inniss-Thompson, M.N. (2020, March). *Examining race-related exposure and experiences of monoracial and biracial youth*.

Accepted presentation for symposium at the 2020 Society for Research on Adolescence Conference in San Diego, CA. (Conference canceled)

Debreaux, M.L. & Tynes, B. (2020, March). *Creating to cope: Traumatic events online, content creation, and PTSD symptoms*. Accepted presentation for symposium at the 2020 Society for Research on Adolescence Conference in San Diego, CA. (Conference canceled)

Wendell, M., Williams, M., Nation, M., **Debreaux, M.L.** (2019, June). *Changing the narrative: Challenging White supremacist norms and structures to prevent youth violence*. Accepted presentation for symposium at the 2019 Society for Community Research in Action Conference in Chicago, IL.

Nation, M., **Debreaux, M.L.**, & Habian, L. (2019, June). “...*Things start to change and we don’t really like that*”: *Amplifying youth narratives of gentrification*. Accepted presentation for symposium at the 2019 Society for Community Research in Action Conference in Chicago, IL.

Nation, M., Wendell, M., Williams, M., Gardella, J., & **Debreaux, M.L.**, (2019, May). *A latent class analysis of youth civic engagement: Do sociopolitical attitudes differentiate civic engagement profiles*. Accepted poster presentation for symposium at the 2019 Society for Prevention Research Conference in San Diego, CA.

Debreaux, M.L., Inniss-Thompson, M.N., Williford, J.R., Murry, V.M. (2019, March). *Using family-based prevention to promote character and confidence among African American youth*. Poster presentation at the 2019 Society for Research on Child Development Conference in Baltimore, MD

Inniss-Thompson, M.N., **Debreaux, M.L.**, Murry, V.M. (2018, August). *Black adolescent identity development through parental messages and tech*. Poster presentation at the 2018 American Psychological Association Conference in San Francisco, CA

Debreaux, M.L., Inniss-Thompson, M.N., & Murry, V.M. (2018, April). *Racial socialization and the psychosocial adjustment of biracial and mono-racial adolescents*. Poster presentation at the 2018 Society for Research on Adolescence Conference in Minneapolis, MN

Local

Debreaux, M.L. (2018, March). *Black-ish: Examining racial socialization messages in mixed genotype families*. Presentation at the 2018 Community Research and Action Conference.

Debreaux, M.L. (2019, March). *Born a crime: Examining the role of racial ascription on adolescent development throughout the African diaspora.* Presentation at the 2019 Community Research and Action Conference.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2019- Society for Research on Child Development; Black Caucus Member (2018 -)
2018- Society for Research on Adolescence
2014- American Psychological Association

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant (Fall 2021, Spring 2022)

HOD 1250: Applied Human Development

Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University

Graduate Teaching Assistant (Fall 2017, Spring 2018)

HOD 1250: Applied Human Development

Department of Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

Debreaux, M.L., Inniss-Thompson, M.N. (2021). *“All we want is peace”*: Contextualizing Black youth experiences of community violence. Guest lecture delivered to PH-308: Black American Health, University of Michigan, March 9, 2021

Debreaux, M.L., Inniss-Thompson, M.N. (2020). *Roses in the concrete: Black youth development in the context of racial discrimination.* Guest lecture delivered to HOD 3650/7500-01: Positive Youth Development, Vanderbilt University, September 16, 2020

Debreaux, M.L. (2018). *The persistence of implicit bias.* Guest lecture delivered to HOD 1250: Applied Human Development, Vanderbilt University, October 29, 2018