

Christopher St.Vil, Ph.D., M.S.W

685 Baldy Hall  
Buffalo, New York 14260  
TEL: 716-645-9091  
FAX: 716-645-3456  
cstvil@buffalo.edu

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Social Work

Howard University, Washington, DC

July 2012

Dissertation: Neighborhood Perception and Risk-Taking Attitudes among Adolescent and Young Adult Men

Advisor: Dr. Tricia Bent-Goodley

Masters of Social Work (M.S.W.)

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY

May 2002

Bachelors of Social Work (B.S.W.)

Minor in African American Studies

Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY

May 2000

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

August 2015-

Assistant Professor

Present

University at Buffalo, SUNY

School of Social Work

August 2013-

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

July 2015

University of Maryland, College Park, MD

African American Studies Department

**PUBLICATIONS**

**PEER REVIEWED**

Bent-Goodley, T., Henderson, Z., Youmans, L., & **St.Vil, C.** (In press). The role of men of faith in responding to domestic violence. *Social Work & Christianity*.

Richardson, J. B., Van Brakle, M., & **St. Vil, C.** (2014). Taking boys out of the hood: Exile as a parenting strategy for African American male youth. In K. Roy & N. Jones (Eds.). Pathways to adulthood for disconnected young men in low-income communities. *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*, 143, 11-31.

Richardson, J., Johnson, W., & **St. Vil, C.** (2014). I want him locked up: Juvenile confinement as a parenting strategy for pre-delinquent African-American male youth. *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 43(4), 488-522.

Richardson, J., & **St. Vil, C.** (2015). "Putting in Work: Black male youth joblessness, violence, crime and the code of the street." *Spectrum*.

UNDER REVIEW

Richardson, J., **St. Vil, C.**, & Cooper, C. Synthetic cannabinoid use among low-income black male victims of violent injury. *Submitted to Health & Justice*.

Richardson, J., & **St. Vil, C.** Rolling dolo: The code of the street and how inner-city youth negotiate violence in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Submitted to *Ethnography*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Richardson, J., Sharpe, T., **St. Vil, C.**, Wagner, M., & Cooper, C. Understanding risk factors for recurrent violent injury among young African-American men

Richardson, J., & **St. Vil, C.** Situating a Clinical Ethnography of Violent Injury among young African-American men in a Level II Trauma Unit.

Simmons, S., **St. Vil, C.**, Richardson, J., & Brandon, B. The application of historical trauma theory to the understanding of black familial social outcomes.

**St. Vil, C.** Cross-cohort socialization and black male development: Implications for Social Work Practice.

**St. Vil, C.**, Richardson, J., & Cooper, C. Perceptions of Cross-cohort socialization among black male victims of violent injury.

**St. Vil, C.**, Richardson, J., & Cooper, C. The punitive aspect of religiosity and its impact on perceptions of suicide among a sample of violently injured black men.

**St. Vil, C.** Using the concept of capital as the basis for a culturally competent positive youth development program.

**St. Vil, C.** Knuckles Up, Guns Down (KUGD): A culturally competent public awareness campaign to reduce gun violence.

**St. Vil, C.** Religiosity & violent victimization: A gendered analysis using the NLSY.

BOOK CHAPTERS

St. Vil, N., **St. Vil, C.**, & Johnson, W. (2014). Diversity of Black Marriages. In T. Bent-Goodley (Eds.). *By Grace*. Washington, DC: NASW

PRESENTATIONS

Richardson, J. & **St. Vil, C.** (2014). I'm on papers: Synthetic cannabinoid use among violently injured young Black men. Presented at the 142nd annual conference of the American Public Health Association in New Orleans, LA.

Richardson, J. & **St. Vil, C.** (2014). Exploring recurrent violent trauma, linkages to care and HIV risk related behaviors among African-American men. Presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Community Empowerment through Black Men healing Conference in St. Paul, MN.

Richardson, J. & **St. Vil, C.** (2014). I'm on papers: Synthetic cannabinoid use among violently injured young Black men. Presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the National network of hospital-Based Violence Intervention programs in Philadelphia, PA.

**St. Vil, C.** & Richardson, J. (2013). Situating a clinical ethnography of violent injury among young African-American men in an urban trauma unit: Methodological issues. Presented at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists in New York City.

**St. Vil, C.** (2011). An Evaluation of a Housing Program for Families with Multiple Needs: Is It Culturally Responsive? Presented at the American Evaluation Association in Anaheim, CA.

**St. Vil, C.** (2010). One accord: Black men and healthy relationships; A facilitated discussion. Presented at the Howard University School of Social Work "One Accord: Black Men and Healthy Relationships" conference in Washington, DC.

Bent-Goodley, T.; Dunson, N; **St.Vil, C.** (2008). Girls, gangs & violence: The health & child welfare connection. Presented at the Black Administrators in Child Welfare Conference in Baltimore, MD

**St.Vil, C.** (2007). The Importance of Soft Skills for Black Males. Presented at the National Association of Black Social Workers Conference in Detroit, MI

### **GRANTS IN PREPARATION**

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute. Assessment of Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment Options. April 2014 Funding Cycle. \$1.5 million. Co-Investigator. (*not funded*)

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Fall 2013-2014**      **University of Maryland, College Park**  
Department of African American Studies  
Teaching Fellow

*AASP 499M A Socially Constructive Historical Account of Black Masculinities*

This elective course concerns the exploration of black masculinity and the various policies that shape how black male identity is viewed in America and how those policies shape the gendered perspectives/behaviors of the black male. Consistent with an interdisciplinary approach the course focuses on a number of domains that impact black men such as the prison industrial complex, poverty, violence, education and draw from a number of disciplines such as social work, history and sociology.

**Spring 2014-2015**      **University of Maryland, College Park**  
Department of African American Studies  
Teaching Fellow

*AASP 305 Theoretical, Methodological & Policy Research Issues in African American Studies*

Broadly speaking, this course concerns the application of the scientific method to social phenomena within the black American population and, pursuant to those applications, the subsequent ability of policy to address those conditions.

**Spring 2011/2012/2013 University of the District of Columbia**

Department of Urban Affairs, Social Sciences and Social Work  
Adjunct Professor

*1173 311 Social Welfare as a Social Institution II (Policy II)*

Major emphasis is placed on residual and institutional concepts of social welfare and their role influencing the formulation, implementation and execution of social welfare policy and program.

**Fall 2010/2011/2012 University of the District of Columbia**

Department of Urban Affairs, Social Sciences and Social Work  
Adjunct Professor

*1173 310 Social Welfare as a Social Institution I (Policy I)*

This course provides a framework for examining the historical, political, and economic influences of social welfare policy development as well as an understanding of the implications for the social work generalist within the context of the values of the profession of social work. Course also focuses on an historical and contemporary analysis of social welfare policy and forces that influence policy development as well as the roles of social workers in developing, evaluating and shaping social welfare policy and subsequently, service delivery.

**Fall 2012**                      **Morgan State University**  
Department of Social Work  
Adjunct Professor

*SOWK 507 Social Welfare & Urban Economics*

This course explores historical dynamics of class, race, and other oppressions impacting U.S. social welfare policy. It analyzes groups' struggles for empowerment directing community action toward urban injustices. Students become familiar with political strategies, organizational tools and social work values effectuating social change.

**Summer 2012**                      **University of the District of Columbia**  
Department of Urban Affairs, Social Sciences, Social Work &  
Criminology  
Adjunct Professor

*292-01 Contemporary Youth: Risk & Resiliency*

This elective course utilizes a risk and resiliency approach within a contemporary urban context to examine how youth interpret various events and relationships that they experience within their socio-ecological environments. The first part of the course focuses on the bio-psychosocial-spiritual development of adolescents and emerging adults in urban communities. The second part of the course focuses on the protective and risk factors associated with urban adolescents and emerging adults. The last part of the course focuses on prevention and intervention models utilized to address positive adolescent development.

**Spring 2012**

**University of the District of Columbia**

Department of Urban Affairs, Social Sciences, Social Work &  
Criminology

Adjunct Professor

*1125 234 Juvenile Justice*

Gives students a fundamental understanding of juvenile justice. The class will highlight the following areas: 1) The Nature and Extent of Delinquency (discover how delinquent behavior affects the larger society and reports on the measurement of the nature and extent of delinquency), 2) The Causes of Delinquency (learn about the four types of delinquent behavior – individual causes, social structure factors, social process factors, and social reaction theories), 3) Environmental Influences on Delinquency (understand the relationship between delinquency and gender, problems of the family, impact of school, peer pressure and substance abuse), and 4) Preventing and Controlling Delinquency (learn about District agencies created to address juvenile delinquency and public safety).

**Fall 2008**

**Howard University**

School of Social Work

Teaching Assistant, Dr. Lawrence Gary

(Master's Level Courses)

*SWHB- 205. Human Behavior and the Social Environment I*

Examines human development through the life cycle using biological, psychological, sociological and cultural perspectives. Gives an introduction to: the family, the social systems model, personality theories and ego defense mechanisms.

**Fall 2007**

**Howard University**

School of Social Work

Teaching Assistant, Dr. Lawrence Gary

(Master's Level Courses)

*SWHB-207. Human Behavior and the Social Environment II*

Studies human behavior at the levels of small groups, the family, formal organizations, and communities. The social systems model is used to integrate this content with the individual-level development content from the HBSE I course.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

May 2013-

Co-Investigator

Present

University of Maryland, Dept. of African American Studies

Project: Exploring Recurrent Violent Trauma, Linkages to Care and HIV Risk Related Behaviors among African-American Men in Prince George's County, MD

Primary Investigator: Joseph Richardson, Ph.D.

- Engaged in qualitative research design and analysis
- Conduct ethnographic interviews

- October 2010-  
January 2012
- Research Analyst  
Westat Research Corporation, Rockville, MD  
Project: High Needs Families  
Primary Investigator: Debra Rog, Ph.D.
- Conducted reviews of literature and empirical instruments
  - Interpretation of data and drafting of final reports
- October 2010-  
September 2011
- Research Assistant  
University of Maryland, Dept. of African American Studies  
Project: An Examination of Expressive Cool-Pose using the MADICS  
Primary Investigator: Odis Johnson, Ph.D.
- Cleaning and preparation of longitudinal data sets
  - Statistical analysis
- January 2006-  
January 2008
- Research Assistant,  
Casey Family Programs, Washington, DC  
Project: Powerful Families  
Primary Investigator: Kristin Ward, Ph.D.
- Prepared and mailed survey packages to partner agencies
  - Collected, managed, and stored survey data
  - Analyzed and interpreted survey data
  - Served as contributing author on final unpublished reports
- May 2006-  
December 2006
- Research Assistant,  
Howard University School of Social Work, Washington, DC  
Project: Context Matters  
Primary Investigator: Von Nebbitt, Ph.D.
- Assisted with the development of the survey instrument
  - Assisted with the administration of the survey instrument
  - Stored, organized, cleaned, and prepared data for analysis
- September 2005-  
June 2006
- Research Assistant  
Howard University School of Social Work, Washington, DC  
Project: Risk and protective factors among adolescents living in Montgomery County Public Housing  
Primary Investigator: Charles Lewis, Ph.D.
- Assisted in administering the survey to youth and their families
  - Assisted with the collection, organizing, and storing of data
- September 2005-  
December 2005
- Research Assistant  
Council of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC  
Project: Prevention of Youth Violence  
Primary Investigator: Council Member Vincent C. Gray
- Conducted background research and collected relevant data on the status of youth violence within the District of Columbia
  - Assisted with the planning and execution of a pilot study to

- understand why youth commit crimes in the District of Columbia
- Identified policies that prevented the sharing of information between agencies for the delivery of services to individual youth

## **AWARDS**

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Department of African American Studies, University of Maryland, 2013.

Buffalo State College Educational Opportunity Program Distinguished Alumnus Award, 2013.

American Evaluation Association Graduate Education Diversity Internship Program (GEDIP), 2010-2011.

## **TRAINING**

Certificate, The Alphabet Soup of NIH Training and Career Development Awards, University of Maryland, Fall 2013.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

Center for Substance Abuse Research

American Evaluation Association

Association of Black Sociologists

National Network of Hospital Based Violence Intervention Programs

Society for Social Work Research