

Professor John Gabriel Head of the Department of Applied Social Sciences would like to invite you to a lecture by

Professor Vernellia R. Randall

Author of *Dying while Black* *

Prof. Randall speaks on disparities in health and health care for minorities in USA

Chaired by Prof. Eileen O'Keefe

Monday 19 November 2007, 6.00 – 8.00pm

including questions & discussion, followed by book-signing



Room TG-30
Tower Building
London Metropolitan
University
166-220 Holloway
Road
London N7 8DB

RSVP: Email: DassLectures@londonmet.ac.uk

Nearest tube station: Holloway Road (Piccadilly line)

* Website: <http://dyingwhileblack.org>



Dying While Black

Vernellia Randall, J.D.



DYING WHILE BLACK

- Author: Vernellia R. Randall
- ISBN 0977916006
- Publication Date: October, 2006
- 292 pages; \$19.95; references; notes; index
- Website: <http://dyingwhileblack.org>

Prof. Eileen O'keefe

Prof. O'Keefe is the Professor of Public Health at London Metropolitan University where she works across the Department of Applied Social Sciences and the Department of Health and Human Sciences. Her publications are devoted to globalization, inequalities in health, human rights, health impact assessment and migrant communities.

See Prof. O'keefe's profile at:

<http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/depts/dass/staff/eileenokeefe/>.

Prof. Vernellia Randall

Professor at the School of Law since 1990, Vernellia Randall writes extensively on and speaks internationally about race, women, and health care. She is the recipient of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health Chairman's Award, and she was named one of the "Top 10 Most Influential African-Americans" on the 2001 Black Equal Opportunity Employment Journal list.

Professor Randall hasn't always been associated with the study or practice of law. "I grew up during Jim Crow in the South," she said. "If you were a black woman going to college, you either became a nurse or a teacher." She chose nursing. She did like the profession, though, and had worked in nursing homes while in high school. As a nurse, Professor Randall provided public health nursing services and served as an administrator for a statewide health program in Alaska.

Involved in public health work for more than 15 years, Professor Randall focused on eliminating disparities in health care for minorities and the poor. She believed a thorough knowledge of the law would help her become more effective in her mission, so she enrolled in law school. After graduating in 1987 from Lewis and Clark Law School, she became an associate with a Portland, Oregon, law firm specializing in health care law and issues relating to health and disability insurance coverage. She also served as an adjunct faculty member at Lewis and Clark College.

She soon turned to teaching full time, wanting to make a “greater intellectual impact.” She has never regretted the decision. “I love the ‘aha!’ moments that students get,” she said.

Currently the Director of the Academic Excellence Program, Professor Randall helps nontraditional law students get a head start on the skills necessary to succeed in law school. She says the program can benefit racial minorities, students with disabilities, students who are at an economic and educational disadvantage, and nontraditional students, such as older students or music majors. “Failing is not about intellect in law school,” she said. “It’s about learning styles, study behaviors, and access to appropriate exam preparation information. Our academic support program gives access to nontraditional students who don’t often receive the right information early on.”

Since coming to the School of Law, Professor Randall has also served as a consultant to the Clinton administration advisory committee on health care reform and as a grant reviewer for the National Institute of Health. She was an expert witness in the State of Missouri v. Philip Morris trial and has been recognized in Who's Who in the World since 1995 and Who's Who in the United States since 1998. Randall is also a co-organizer of the Miami Valley Community Summit on Eliminating Racism

In addition, Professor Randall is the editor and webmaster for four academic websites on race, health care, gender, and academic support. She maintains several website:

<http://academic.udayton.edu/race/> ,
<http://academic.udayton.edu/health/>,
<http://academic.udayton.edu/legaled/> .

She is the proud mother of her adult sons (Tshaka and Issa).

One of the most significant issues to be addressed by health community is disparities in health and health care for minorities, particularly African Americans. African Americans still suffer from the generational effect of a slave health deficit. African Americans lag behind on nearly every health indicator, including life expectancy, death rates, infant mortality, low birth weight rates and disease rates. African Americans are sicker than European Americans. Blacks have shorter lives - Blacks are quite literally dying from being black! This black health deficit is directly traceable to the slave health deficit. The slave health deficit that was

established during slavery was not relieved during the reconstruction period (1865-1870), Jim Crow Era (1870-1965) , the Affirmative Action Era (1965-1980) or the Racial entrenchment era (1980 to present). Also, established at the time was a health care deficit. That continues to exist.

Repairing the health of African Americans will require a multi-facet long term legal and financial commitment. Reparations is not merely a monetary cash payment, Reparation is also an equitable remedy that requires that the harm be repaired not that money be paid. The United States government because of its legal sanction of slavery, an international crime against humanity, is obligate to do whatever it takes to repair black health. I propose a specific program of equitable, rather than compensatory, reparations including a comprehensive health care civil rights law. This book will include approximately 200+ pages organized in the following chapters:

Chapter 1, "Introduction", provides and overview to the problem to be addressed in this book. That African Americans are sicker and die at a higher rate than European Americans is a well-documented fact. That current health disparities are directly traceable to slavery is a fact that is not well understood. African Americans still suffer from the generational effects of a slave health deficit. And reparations could repair that deficit. In health and in health care, race matters. The need to focus on African-American health care and health care reform is overwhelming. Not only are African-Americans sicker than European-Americans, they are dying at a significantly higher rate or "Dying While Black."

Chapter 2, "From Slave Health Deficit to Black Health Disparities", traces the health status deficit of African Americans from slavery through Jim Crow to the twenty-first century. It argues that the deplorable state of Black people's health is directly traceable to slavery. It discusses the current health status of African Americans. African Americans have disproportionately negative indicators on nearly every health indicator, including life expectancy, death rates, infant mortality, low birth weight rates and disease rates. African Americans are sicker than European Americans. Blacks have shorter lives. In short, they are literally dying from being Black!

Chapter 3, "Racist Health Care," addresses the racial disparity in the health care system This disparities exist in access to health care and the quality of treatment received. Racial disparity is manifested in racial barriers to hospitals, to nursing homes, and to physicians and other providers. Finally, shortage of minority health

professionals affects both access to health care and minority input into the health care system. The presence of a "racist health care" system is perpetuating the slave health deficit. However, racial barriers to access are only one aspect of a racialized health care system. The other aspect is racial disparities in the type of services ordered and in the provision of medical treatment. Discrimination in treatment is a substantial factor in disparity in the health status of African Americans. It is imperative that the health care system be free of both outright and inadvertent racial discrimination.

Chapter 4, "Targeting the Black Community",

Chapter 5, "Impact of Managed Care on Blacks" addresses the rationing goal of managed health care organization and its impact on African Americans. Managed care organizations (MCOs) complicate the problem of racially disparate health care because they increase the incentives for providers and facilities to engage in discrimination.

Chapter 6, "Slavery, Segregation and Racism: Trusting the Health Care System: It Ain't Always Easy to Trust the Health Care System", discusses the significant distrust towards the health care system in the African American community. This distrust is not just paranoia but is built on a history of abuses that includes experimentation, the Sickle Cell Screening Initiative, family planning/involuntary sterilization, and the complicity of the medical system in justifying racism and discrimination. Rebuilding the trust between African Americans and the health care system will be essential if the "Black Health Deficit" is to be eliminated.

Chapter 7, "Health Care in the U.S. as a Violation of International Human Rights" discusses how the combination of racial disparity in health status, institutional racism in health care and inadequate legal protection points to serious human rights violations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination "(CERD or Convention).

Chapter 8, "Reparations: Repairing Black Health", discusses the legitimacy of the demand for reparations, but restructures the call from a compensation request to an equity request. The Slave Health deficit will be removed only if the United States makes the same a significant and sustained commitment that it made to landing on the moon. in order to eliminate the slave health deficit, the government will need to: (1) eliminate disparities in morbidity and mortality, (2) assure access to health care (3) assure quality health care (4) eliminate racial disparities in health care and health research (5) enhance data collection and (6) enact a comprehensive

health care civil rights law. The burden of a slave health deficit has been a continuous burden and will only be relieved lifted with a well coordinated aggressive and comprehensive reparations and legal program.

**NEAR EXTINCTION OF BLACK NEIGHBORHOOD HOSPITALS
PART OF CYCLE OF POOR BLACK HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE,
SAYS HEALTH AND RACE LAW EXPERT IN NEW BOOK**

<http://www.dyingwhileblack.org/PressKit/pressrelease.htm>

[Accessed: 30 July 2007]

DAYTON, Ohio — Two generations of blacks have seen the number of their neighborhood hospitals decrease by nearly 90 percent, and 90,000 fewer blacks would die each year if Blacks had the same death rate as whites, according to *Dying While Black*, a book by a University of Dayton health care and race law expert due out in October.

“Unhealthy people living in unhealthy situations — not having suitable access to a hospital or other health care or facing discrimination and racism — perpetuates poor health from generation to generation,” Vernellia Randall said. “If experts believe child abuse is generational, why can’t we believe it for health and health care?”

Randall, one of two Americans invited to discuss health issues with the United Nations’ working group of experts on people of African descent, said African-Americans lag on nearly every health indicator, including life expectancy, death rates, infant mortality, low birth-weight rates and disease rates.

“We have shorter lives. We are quite literally dying from being black,” Randall, a former registered nurse, told the *Akron Beacon Journal*.

Randall’s recommendations include increasing the number of health care facilities and providers in black neighborhoods, removing dump sites and providing incentives to change institutional behavior as ways to improve minority health. She said institutions need to make changes.

“Educating doctors and other health care workers is not the solution,” said Randall, who is frequently quoted in the national

media about health care and race law. "We need to make changes to institutions that intentionally or unintentionally set policies, practices or procedures that have the effect of discriminating against blacks. If certain changes are made, it will not just help blacks but all minorities."

Because few discrimination suits are brought forth, the health care industry not only do not have any broad-based policies to eliminate racial discrimination, they hardly recognize that discrimination exist, Randall said. She advocates adopting new civil rights laws to help eliminate health care inequities.

"We allow inequities to continue, because we're unwilling to do the things we need to do to address them," Randall told the *Akron Beacon Journal*. "(Society) wants to address them in an egalitarian way, as to say, 'See, it's not about race. It's about being poor.' But without focusing on race, the problem never will be fixed."

Randall will be taking a break from teaching this semester to discuss the problem nationwide.

Stephanie Wildman, director of Santa Clara University's Center for Social Justice and Public Service, said *Dying While Black* is "essential reading for understanding how racial bias taints the delivery of health care in the United States. Professor Randall's analysis provides hope for correcting this injustice."

For more information on Randall's book and speaking engagements, visit <http://www.dyingwhileblack.org>.

The JD Project

<http://thejdproject.org/>

Vernellia R. Randall
Professor of Law
University of Dayton

Board Chair and Founder
The JD Project

The JD Project
<http://thejdproject.org/>

Whether you are a current law student, a future law student, a recent law graduate, a potential sponsor, ally or participant, you will find this site a vital source of information, advice and help about the pursuit of excellence in racially diversifying the legal profession.

We provide the academic, social and other support important to increasing lawyers from African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Asian American and Pacific Island American communities. We achieve our goal through collaboration with universities and colleges, law schools, law firms, corporations and professional associations and dedicated individuals.

If you are a professional, a current law student, a potential law student, a law school, a corporation, a law firm, law school, college or university, or interested individual, this site contains the information you need to facilitate participation in The JD Project.

Principles Press!

"A on-demand collaborative publishing entity, dedicated to Black Africans on the continent and in the diaspora through the promotion of the seven principles"



Umoja

[OO-MO-JAH]
("U-N-I-T-Y")

To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation, race.

"There is a battle to be fought, there are obstacles to be overcome. There is a world struggle for human dignity to be won. Let us address ourselves seriously to the supreme tasks that lie ahead." Kwame Nkrumah

Kujichagulia

[KOO-GEE-
CHA-GOO-
LEE-YAH]
(Self-
Determination)

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves instead of being defined, named, created for and spoken for by others.

"Up you mighty race, you can accomplish what you will."

Marcus Mosiah Garvey

Ujima
[OO-GEE-
MAH]
(Creative Work
&
Responsibility)

To build and maintain our community together and make our sisters' and brothers' problems our problems and solve them together.

"I freed thousands of slaves, I could have freed thousands more, if they had known they were slaves."
Harriet Ross Tubman

Ujamaa
[OO-JAH-MAH]
(Cooperative
Economics)

To build and maintain our own stores and other businesses and to profit from them together.

"I am not a millionaire, but I hope to be some day, not for the money, but because I could do so much to help my race." Madame C.J. Walker

Nia
[NEE-YAH]
(Purpose)

To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

"Policies change, programs change, according to time. But objectives never changes. You might change your method of achieving the objective, but the objective never changes. Our objective is complete freedom, complete justice, complete equality, by any means necessary." Malcolm X

Kuumba
[KOO-OOM-
BAH]
(Creativity)

To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

"Potential powers of creativity are within us and we have the duty to work assiduously to discover these powers." Martin Luther King, Jr.

Imani
[EE-MAH-NEE]
(Faith)

To believe with all our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

"Keep the faith, baby." Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

Quotes from *Pyramid Design Enterprises' KWANZAA MOBILE*

Information, Society and Justice

An inter-disciplinary electronic journal

<http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/depts/dass/research/informationandsocietyandjustice/informationandsocietyandjusticejournal.cfm>

Information, Society and Justice is a peer-reviewed, open-access electronic journal based in the Department of Applied Social Sciences (DASS) at the London Metropolitan University. The journal is governed by an Editorial Board drawn from UK and overseas. It seeks to provide a proactive space for critical discussion of the linkages between social information, justice and democracy. It will focus on issues of equality, human rights, social inclusion, economic justice, and struggles for liberation and democratic expansion.

The central role of information in these areas will be explored in depth. It will focus on the role that librarians and information workers together with libraries and information services can play in safeguarding, highlighting and communicating on issues such as equality, human rights, social/economic justice, social policy, and liberation. Creative work on these themes will also be considered.

The journal will publish original research, communiqués, interviews, reports and other material on these and other fields. It is not limited to any one disciplinary perspective and will accept contributions from academics, professionals and information workers working in any disciplines.

The journal invites relevant articles from academicians, policy practitioners, and civil society activists. It also encourages submission from students and their participation in the administration of the journal.

ISJ is expected to be published twice a year. The first issue will be published in December 2007.

Information for authors

Articles submitted to the journal should be the author's original work. Authors sending their work to us guarantee that this work does not break any copyrights laws or rules. Authors will retain copyrights for their work.

We welcome articles based on authors' personal experience and real-life stories. Work submitted should normally be between 1000-5000 words, but shorter summaries and reports will also be accepted.

References should use the Harvard style. See: "Using the Harvard Style" available at:

<http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/services/sas/library-services/referencing/using-harvard.cfm>

Please sign your submission with your full name and give contact address and e-mail. Every article should have a short title which indicates the scope of the article.

Works can be submitted by e-mail. Photographs and charts illustrating the content are also welcome. The editorial board reserves the right to make changes to your work before publishing it. The closing date of articles submission for the second issue is **30 April 2008**.

All submissions should meet requirements of London Metropolitan University's policies on Equality and Diversity and plagiarism (see below).

→ [Equality and Diversity Policy](#)

→ [Plagiarism](#)

Articles should be submitted to Shiraz Durrani at s.durrani@londonmet.ac.uk.

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Information, Society and Justice

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No. 1

December 2007

Contents (provisional)

Welcoming ISJ: Prof. John Gabriel

Shiraz Durrani: Information neutrality, activism and justice: the ISJ context

ARTICLES

Dr. Anna Gough-Yates: What do women want?

Dr. Usman Tar: Liberal Democratisation and Ethnic Politics in Africa

Dr. Duncan Bowie: Quality and Quantity; policy objectives and outputs

Dr. Shehina Fazal: Channel 4 and Celebrity Big Brother

SOUNDWAVES – what's making news

Mukoma Wa Ngugi: Justice for Mau Mau War Veterans

News and events

DASS Debates & Lectures

Research focus

Research in the Department of Applied Social Sciences

Davis, Mary and Dhaliwal, Sukhwant: The Impact of Religion on Trade Union Relations with Black Workers

Activists' corner

St. John's University DLIS Alum Speaks about her work at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

Creative corner

Elizabeth Akinyi: At the foot of the jacaranda tree

Shiraz Durrani: Sina habari, mwanangu (I have no news, my child)

Elizabeth Akinyi: I am woman

Books and reports

Information for authors

Editorial Board

DASS Debates & Lectures

The place to be at on last Wednesday of each month

Department of Applied Social Sciences (DASS)
London Metropolitan University

<http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/depts/dass/research/informationandsocietyandjustice/debatesandlectures.cfm>

DASS holds a series of public debates and lectures to highlight the contribution of leaders, movements and ideas that shape the world. Many of these have been forgotten, marginalised or deliberately hidden from public view. People everywhere are increasingly using new possibilities created by the Networked Society and Information and Communication Technology to liberate their minds and using alternative ideas to shape a new world where people are at peace with people. Information about emerging ideas and social movements around the world can now be shared instantaneously.

In this rapidly changing world, DASS Debates and Lectures aim to create a place to think, to debate and develop ideas so as to raise awareness about issues and ideas that are changing the face of the world today. We believe that it is only when our horizons are broadened that we can hope to meet the challenges we all face today – at economic, political and social levels. It is only when scientific ideas shape our thinking that we can create a world at peace with itself. They provide staff opportunities to launch their books on a variety of subjects in keeping with the Department's wide range of research interests.

DASS Debates and Lectures will also take up emerging themes from the Three Continents – Africa, Asia and Latin America which are beginning to play an increasingly important part in the 21st Century – both materially as well as in terms of science, arts, culture, ideas and ethics. At the same time, Europe and USA are also rapidly changing. With increasing internal and external contradictions facing these societies, a new creativity can be seen everywhere. New ideas are being forged in fierce debates at Universities, factories, workplaces, on the air waves, on the media and on the streets. DASS Debates and Lectures will bring the flavour of all these exciting thoughts and developments to a street near you.

Emerging spaces:

Tar, Usamn A. and Durrani, Shiraz (2007): Emerging spaces for debating Africa and the Global South. *Review of African Political Economy*. No.113, pp. 497-505.

DASS Debates & Lectures

Department of Applied Social Sciences. London Metropolitan University

<http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/depts/dass/research/informationandsocietyandjustice/debatesandlectures.cfm>

Further information: DassLectures@londonmet.ac.uk.

People and ideas shaping the world

Programme 2007-08 (6.00 – 9.00 p.m.)*

Date/venue	Speakers/ event	Title
24-10-07 Henry Thomas Room	Black History Month The story of a black Briton, David Monteith, retracing the life of his great great great grandfather, one of the last British slaves shipped from Africa to the Caribbean and one of only a handful of British slaves who left an account of his life as a slave. Paul Kerr will introduce it and answer questions. It will be of interest to both black studies and media studies. David Monteith may come along.	The Last Slave - Paul Kerr Screening of and discussion of the last documentary produced by Paul Kerr for Channel Four, first transmitted on 11th March 2007.
19-11-07 TG30 (6.00- 8.00 p.m.)	Vernellia R. Randall : Book launch: 40 minutes overview of the book, 20 minutes for questions. The book-signing will follow the talk	Dying while black (2006) http://dyingwhileblack.org
05-12-07 (Room T2-20)	Jane Soothill	Women and religion in Ghana
30-01-08 Rms. SHG-01, SHG-04	(1)Duncan Bowie (2) To be confirmed	(1) Strategic Planning in London
27-02-08 Rm. TG-30 Ref. 476383	Arun Kundnani	The end of tolerance in Britain
12 March 2008 HRSJ Seminar 6	Professor Eileen O'Keefe (London Metropolitan University) and Professor Paul Hunt (UN Special Rapporteur on Health, University of Essex), Chaired by Professor John Gabriel (London Metropolitan University)	Human Rights and Health: Analysing Health Impact Assessment
30-04-08 Rm. TG-30	Richard Skues	Freud and the history of Anna O. Reopening a closed case
7 May 2008 HRSJ Seminar 7	Martha Chinouya & discussant from US Centres for Disease Control	HIV/AIDS, Religion and the Trans-national African Family Dr. Martha Chinouya (London Metropolitan University) and Dr. Kevin Fenton (National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention - Atlanta, Georgia, USA)

DASS Debates & Lectures
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London Metropolitan University

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People and ideas shaping the world

2006-07

Date	Speakers	Chair	Title	Recording available? *
10-05-06	Professor Dhirendra Sharma	Tony Benn	Science and culture: discussion on the issues of knowledge development and belief systems	Yes
07-06-06	Professor Gus John	Pro. John Gabriel	Taking a Stand: Gus John Speaks on education, race, social action and civil unrest 1980 -2005	-
20-11-06	Sabur Ali Sayyid		Working Mothers; issues and policies in the UK: lessons for Pakistan	-
22-11-06	Shiraz Durrani; Amrit Wilson	Prof. Piyo Rattansi	Book launch: Durrani: <i>Never be silent; publishing and imperialism in Kenya, 1884-1963</i> (2006)	Yes
March 28	Amrit Wilson Antonia Byatt Sukhwant Dhaliwal	Sukhwant Dhaliwal	International Women's Day event: Struggles of the South Asian Women in Britain Antonia Byatt: Using collections and resources at The Women's Library Sukhwant Dhaliwal: Working Lives Research Institute	Yes
April 25	Prof. Piyo Rattansi Dr. Usman Tar Christine Coates	Prof. John Gabriel	Trade Unions, democracy and working class struggles in Africa Prof. Piyo Rattansi: Makhan Singh and the TU movement in Kenya Dr. Usman Tar: Organised labour and democratic struggle in Nigeria Chris Coates: TUC Library at London Met	Yes
May 2	Norman Ginsburg Kieron Hatton Sue Lawrence	Dr. Karen Lyons	(1) Norman Ginsburg: 'Whither or wither Social Europe?' (2) Kieron Hatton: 'Understanding Social Pedagogy' (3) Sue Lawrence: 'Taking forward the European Project'	-
May 14	Tamsin Bradley	Prof. Eileen O'Keeffe	Challenging the NGOs: women, religion and western dialogues in India. London, NY: IB Tauris (2006)	-
June 13	F. M. Bhatti	Prof. Gerald Hine	Sir Ganga Ram and his work on Hindu widows	Yes

Sound recordings and Handouts of these are available in Ladbroke House, Library
Check the library catalogue under DASS Debates:

<http://catalogue.londonmet.ac.uk/search/Y?SEARCH=dass+debates&SORT=D&searcscope=1>. For copies, please write to DassLectures@londonmet.ac.uk.

For further information or suggestions for future debates & lectures, please contact Shiraz Durrani at s.durrani@londonmet.ac.uk.