

SUNY Downstate's Dr. LeConté Dill Receives APHA Women's Caucus Highest Scoring Abstract Award

LeConté Dill, Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at SUNY Downstate Medical Center's School of Public Health, received the APHA Women's Caucus Highest Scoring Abstract award. Dr. Dill's abstract, entitled "What if I stay?": Experiences of teen dating violence among urban African-American, Caribbean-American, and Latina girls," focuses on the role of gender and gender-based inequities in experiences of violence, specifically as it relates to violence experienced by teen girls in their dating relationships. This work is informed Dr. Dill's partnership with the Kings Against Violence Initiative (KAVI), a school-, hospital-, and community-based violence intervention program serving young people in Brooklyn, NY. Dr. Dill has served in many capacities with KAVI's Women's Program over the past three years, and during the last year she and SUNY Downstate MPH students have been engaged in a rigorous qualitative study exploring the experiences of multiple types of violence in the lives of urban girls of color. This larger study is funded by the SUNY Downstate Medical Center's President's Health Disparities Award.

During her presentation at APHA, Dr. Dill will detail how the participants struggle with navigating safety in their relationships and also how they engage in coping mechanisms and safety planning for themselves and their peers. She suggests that school-based violence prevention programs consider curricula and case management specifically related to teen dating violence in order to be responsive and equitable to the holistic health needs and rights of their participants. Dr. Dill will be presenting her work at this year's APHA conference in Denver on November 1, 2016, from 4:30-6pm. A full abstract can be found here: <https://apha.confex.com/apha/144am/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/358865>