
Women in Africa and the African Diaspora

Edited by

**Rosalyn Terborg-Penn
Sharon Harley
Andrea Benton Rushing**

Howard University Press
Washington, D.C. 1987



Contents

Foreword— <i>Joseph E. Harris</i>	vii
Acknowledgments	ix
Overview—	
Women in the African Diaspora: An Overview of an Interdisciplinary Research Conference <i>Rosalyn Terborg-Penn</i>	xi
Part I Theoretical Approaches and Research Methods	
African Feminism: A Worldwide Perspective <i>Filomina Chioma Steady</i>	3
“The Status of Women” in Indigenous African Societies <i>Niara Sudarkasa</i>	25
African Feminism: A Theoretical Approach to the History of Women in the African Diaspora <i>Rosalyn Terborg-Penn</i>	43
Anthropological Research Methods for the Study of Black Women in the Caribbean <i>A. Lynn Bolles</i>	65
Psychological Research Methods: Women in the African Diaspora <i>Saundra Rice Murray</i>	79
Part II Women and New Roles in African Societies	
Privilege Without Power: Women in African Cults and Churches <i>Bennetta Jules-Rosette</i>	99
Afro-American Women Missionaries Confront the African Way of Life <i>Sylvia M. Jacobs</i>	121

Extended Family Involvement and Roles of Urban Kenyan Women <i>Harriette Pipes McAdoo</i> <i>and Miriam Were</i>	133
Part III Black Women in Folk Culture and Literature	
African Diaspora Women: The Making of Cultural Workers <i>Bernice Johnson Reagon</i>	167
The Black Female Presence in Black Francophone Literature <i>Karen Smyley Wallace</i>	181
God's Divas: Women Singers in African-American Poetry <i>Andrea Benton Rushing</i>	187
Images of Black Women in New World Literature: A Comparative Approach <i>Martha K. Cobb</i>	197
Conclusion— Research Priorities for the Study of Women in Africa and the African Diaspora <i>Sharon Harley</i>	209
Contributors	223
Index	229