



## **Black Sociology Matters!**

### ***46<sup>th</sup> Annual Association of Black Sociologists Meeting***

Thursday, 6 October, 2016 - Saturday, October 8, 2016

Sheraton Memphis Downtown Hotel • 250 North Main Street

Memphis, Tennessee

Since 1897, when W. E. B. DuBois completed the first comprehensive sociological study in the United States, Black sociology has mattered. Today, academicians, students, and community activists continue to raise this same scholar-activist baton by engaging in thoughtful, rigorous research that is both academic and applied in nature. Unlike some other disciplines, Black sociology has historically reflected culturally sensitive investigations that move beyond a positivistic approach to examine the unique voices and experiences of Blacks in particular and people of color in general. Work in Black sociology has helped ensure that the lives, trials, and triumphs of historically disenfranchised groups are illuminated, understood, and documented. Equally important, Black sociology is inherently public and emphasizes social justice, and thus has moved the broader discipline of sociology ahead in innovative ways. Yet continued challenges that vulnerable groups experience based on social problems such as poverty, health inequities, police violence, HIV/AIDS, and other injustices mean that Black sociology matters now more than ever.

The 46<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists will celebrate this tradition by considering how such tireless efforts matter in local communities, cities, the nation and worldwide. In addition to celebrating our history, the conference will endeavor to proactively imagine and re-imagine how Black sociology can continue to remain relevant in contemporary society. Plenaries, paper sessions, panels, student roundtables, and documentaries are just a few of the events that will celebrate this great tradition, and in doing so, keep the fires of academically-informed social activism burning bright.

All interested individuals are invited to submit papers as well as proposals for complete sessions (three or more papers), including Regular Sessions, Author Meets Critics, Regional Spotlight Sessions, Thematic Sessions, Poster Sessions, and Workshops. As ABS transitions to its new administrative format, each member of the Executive Committee will participate in organizing this singular event. Questions can be sent to Dr. Sandra L. Barnes, 2016 Program Coordinator, at [slbarnes@associationofblacksociologists.org](mailto:slbarnes@associationofblacksociologists.org), but **all submissions must be made through the online system by May 1, 2016**. Further, **all program participants must be current 2016 ABS members. The ABS membership year runs from January 1 through December 31 each year. To be included in the final program, all participants must register by the registration deadline of August 1, 2016. Membership renewal and conference registration can be completed [here](#)**. Other registration information and mail-in payments forms are available online via the [ABS website](#). On behalf of the entire Executive Committee, we look forward to your submissions and a historic conference in Memphis.

Dr. Sandra L Barnes, ABS 2016 Program Coordinator

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