THE BBS DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

INFLUENTIAL BLACK PSYCHOLOGISTS

These figures each performed groundbreaking work highlighting the ways that discrimination and injustice can impact the psychological experiences of Black people. In their own lives, they were trailblazers who helped to open the door for future generations of Black psychologists.

MAMIE PHIPPS CLARK, PHD
Dr. Clark was the first Black woman to earn a PhD in Psychology from Columbia University. She is perhaps best known for her "Doll Study", which found that Black children showed a racial preference for white dolls. Her work on self-concept in Black children was integral for ending school segregation in the United States.

HERMAN GEORGE CANADY, PHD
At a time when Black scientists and educators were shut out from many research organizations, Dr. Canady advocated for the creation of the first organization for Black psychologists. His research on the influence of examiner race on IQ test performance inspired later work regarding stereotype threat.

BEVERLY DANIEL TATUM, PHD
Author of "Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?" And Other Conversations About Race, Dr. Tatum's research focuses on racial identity, and the role of race in education. She continues to host panels and lectures about her work, and was awarded the APA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.

Information contributed by Desi Jones and psychology doctoral students interested in equity, justice and inclusion