

Dr. Oliver J. Williams, Executive Director of the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community, is an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. He is a practitioner as well as an academician. As a practitioner, he has worked in the field of domestic violence for more than 20 years and has provided individual, couples, and family counseling. He has been a child welfare and delinquency worker, worked in battered women's shelters, and developed and conducted counseling on partner abuse treatment programs. As an academician, Dr. Williams' research and publications have centered on creating effective service delivery strategies that will reduce the violent behavior among African Americans. Additionally, Dr. Williams writes about ethnically sensitive practice, as well as aging and elder maltreatment. He has conducted training nationally on research and service delivery issues in the areas of child abuse, partner abuse, and elder maltreatment. Dr. Williams also serves on several national advisory boards focused on the issue of domestic violence and has been published widely in many journals and books. Dr. Williams' degrees include a BS in Social Work from Michigan State University; an MPH and an MSW from the University of Pittsburgh and Western Michigan University, respectively; and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.