Ethical and political considerations in doing research in communities of color

by

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Friday, September 23, 2011 – 1:30 - 3:30 – Woodburn Hall 200

Political and ethical dos and don'ts in doing interviewing (survey and oral history), observational (ethnographic), and historical (archival) research in impoverished urban communities of color will be discussed as well as practical strategy options to build inter-cultures of trust and rapport. Also, some political and ethical problems culturally different and middle class researchers of the same cultural ancestry may experience while "in the community" and while attempting to get feedback while in the community and after departing.

Dr. Stanfield is a sociologist, historian, and religious studies scholar in the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University, where he is also Director of The Research Program on Transcultural and Intercultural Philanthropic Studies. He is a historical sociologist of knowledge and a community oriented public sociologist who has written extensively on the politics and ethics of epistemologies, theories, and methods in qualitative and quantitative research in non-white communities. His most recent publications, a trilogy, will be published by Left Coast Press this summer: Historical Foundations of Black Reflective Sociology; Black Reflective Sociology: Epistemologies, Theories, and Methods; and Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in Research Methods.

Financial support for the Workshop in Methods (WIM) provided by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. WIM Director: William Alex Pridemore, Professor of Criminal Justice and Associate Director of the Consortium for Education and Social Science Research: wpridemo@indiana.edu.