

2018 SRA Biennial Meeting

April 12-14, 2018

Minneapolis, MN

Roberta Grodberg Simmons Prize Lecture

Ethnic-Racial Socialization Processes in Ethnically Diverse Families of Adolescents



Diane L. Hughes, New York University

Abstract. In the current racial climate, with widespread media attention to racial attitudes and race-relations in the United States, understanding how parents prepare children for the realities of race (and racialized dynamics in schools and communities) is timely and important. For the past 20 years, Dr. Diane Hughes' has conducted research on how adolescents learn race and how adults teach it. Her studies have sought to address the following questions: How do conversations about race take place in families? What is communicated, how often, and under what circumstances? Do messages from parents, in particular, influence how children view themselves, their intergroup relationships, or their academic or psychological adjustment? In this talk, Dr. Hughes will review her work on this topic. She will discuss the different types of messages parents transmit, variation in these messages for boys versus girls and for adolescents from different ethnic-racial groups, and the consequences across time of these messages for youths' academic engagement, self-esteem, and psychosocial adjustment.

Biography. Dr. Hughes is a professor of Applied Psychology in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Development, and Education and co-director of the Center for Research on Culture, Development and Education at New York University. Her research focuses on ethnic-racial dynamics within individuals, families, schools, and neighborhoods, focusing on topics such as ethnic-racial socialization, identity, and discrimination. Dr. Hughes conducts school- and community-based studies with adolescents and their parents using longitudinal and mixed methods designs.