

BIOGRAPHY

Leslie A. Anderson, PhD, LMFT

Dr. Anderson is an Assistant Professor of Family & Consumer Sciences at Morgan State University (MSU) and a licensed marriage and family therapist and clinical supervisor. She is also Research Faculty at MSU's National Center for the Elimination of Educational Disparities (NCEED). In this role, she oversees the social-emotional learning and psychological well-being research and intervention pillar at the Center. She received her Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Science with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Georgia. As a scholar-practitioner, Dr. Anderson's research focuses on the intersection of Black familial processes, race, and psychological well-being. Specifically, she examines racial socialization in Black families as a protective factor against racial harm and injury. Her research has been published in the Journal of Family Theory and Review, the Journal of Black Psychology, Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology, and the Journal of Research on Adolescence, among others. Dr. Anderson also serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Family Theory and Review, Qualitative Inquiry, and Family Process. The cornerstone of Dr. Anderson's scholarship involves deliberate actions towards amplifying the voices of the underserved and historically excluded and centering their lived experiences. She is currently working on a five-year NIH-funded project that began in 2023 that seeks to identify risk and protective factors for suicidality among young Black children. In addition to her teaching, research, and service endeavors, Dr. Anderson is also owner of Live Purposefully Counseling & Consulting, LLC.