

SPECIAL ISSUE
**STRUCK BY LIGHTENING:
THE TRANSDIASPORAN PHENOMENON OF SKIN BLEACHING**

Guest Edited by Yaba Amgborale Blay

Despite governmental attempts to ban bleaching products and the extreme health risks, including skin cancer, brain and kidney damage, and sometimes death, many African women, continental and Diasporan alike, continue to use chemical agents and homemade concoctions to lighten the complexion of their skin. Although the social practice of skin bleaching has had long history in Africana communities, it is seldom the focus of academic research and/or critical analysis. As such, this special edition invites articles that examine and further interrogate various dimensions for which skin bleaching has implications (social, cultural, gendered, health, economic, political, etc.). We are particularly interested in analyses that draw attention to the valuations placed upon and the perceived and actual privileges/liabilities associated with skin color, the extent to which skin bleaching is functionary of those valuations, privileges and liabilities, and the role that skin color plays in the lives and experiences of women of African descent. Book reviews of relevant texts are also welcomed.

About JENdA

Jenda: A Journal of Culture and African Women Studies, is a peer reviewed e-journal devoted to the promotion of the research and scholarship of African women to the global African community and friends of Africa. *JENdA* documents and responds to debates on women's history and studies in African social, cultural, political, and economic systems. It creates a forum for African women scholars, analysts and activists to participate on an equal footing with their contemporaries worldwide in debates, exchanges of ideas, and the creation and documentation of knowledge.

Submissions

Unless solicited, all submissions should be original and previously unpublished in English. Please include a coversheet with your name, title of article, keywords, and a brief biographical description. All publication decisions will be made by blind review - make sure your name does not appear on any page other than the coversheet. Please send an e-mail attachment (.doc or .rtf) to the guest editor in either Microsoft Word or Rich Text File. Articles should be submitted to: yab207@lehigh.edu.

Recommended Guide Style for Submission

It is the author's responsibility to prepare his or her document for conversion by adhering to the following Word document style formatting:

- Use heading level one (H1) for titles, abstract, endnotes, and references/works cited/bibliography.
- Use heading level two (H2) for the first level of heading used in the text. Use levels 3 through 6 for subsequent levels.
- Use paragraph tabs for basic paragraph text.
- Use indent tab for all quotes and indented text.

JENDA does not have a preferred form for citation and referencing. The style is left up to the author. The only requirement is that the author be consistent throughout the text.

Please address all inquiries related to this special issue to the guest editor at yab207@lehigh.edu.