

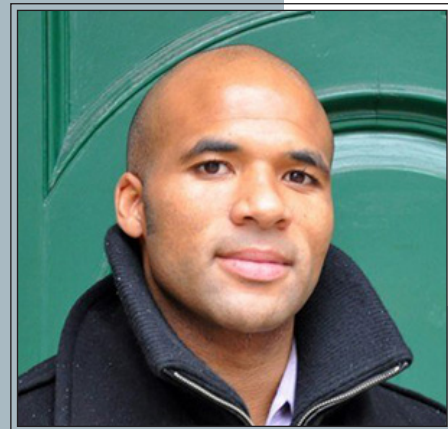
The Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (CRRES)
presents

Black Men and Urban Policing *Toronto Style*

Canada is commonly thought of as a diverse and tolerant immigrant-receiving nation, accepting of individuals of various racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Nevertheless, Canadian institutions have not been immune to allegations of racial bias and discrimination. For the past several decades, Toronto's Black communities have directed allegations of racial discrimination at the police services operating within the city. This paper examines Black males' perceptions of and experiences with the police in the Greater Toronto Area. The findings suggest that Black males' tenuous relationship with the police is a product of their increased involvement in crime, as well as racism on the part of police officers and police services. Using insights drawn from Critical Race Theory, I suggest that both the increased levels of crime and the current manifestations of racism have a common origin in Canada's colonial past.

Akwasi Owusu-Bempah
Department of Criminal Justice
Indiana University

Thursday, January 29, 2015
Walnut Room, Indiana Memorial Union
4:00-5:30pm



Akwasi Owusu-Bempah is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Indiana University. He received his Ph.D. in Criminology and Sociological Studies from the University of Toronto, where his dissertation research was funded by a fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Dr. Owusu-Bempah's research focuses primarily on the intersections of race, crime, and criminal justice. He is currently completing a project that examines the views and experiences of Black police officers in Toronto.