

A CASE STUDY TO UNDERSTAND  
WHY  
BLACK MALE GRADUATES  
FROM DALLAS INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOLS HAVE LOW COLLEGE  
GRADUATION RATES

NICHOLE ROSS BRODEN

DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH MINI PROPOSAL - SPR 2019

# References

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**Unknown.** (2017). Mass incarceration costs \$182 billion every year. **Unknown.** (2015). State graduation data: States of emergency. Retrieved January 28, 2019, from <http://blackboysreport.org/national-summary/state-graduation-data/#>

**Washington, M.** (2013). *Is the Black male college graduate becoming an endangered species*

# Literature Review

“Black males face a difficult educational battle. Across America, graduation statistics for Black males are sobering.”  
–Bell

“too many teachers are inadequately prepared to teach ethnically diverse students.” - Gary

“The gap between black male college students and none-minority college students is significant and an indication of either discriminatory practices or inefficiencies within the system. - Washington

“Since the incarceration rate is highest for African-Americans, it makes it more difficult for blacks to rise out of poverty, receive higher levels of education, and escape a life of crime. Young African-Americans are more often imprisoned than employed.”  
– US News

# Title

A *Case Study* to Understand Why Black Male Graduates from Dallas Independent Schools have Low College Graduation

# Purpose

The *purpose* of this research is to understand the reasons why Black men are not completing higher education degrees.

The *goal* is to start conversations with my colleagues and others to encourage and motivate Black men to seek higher education and discover what types of strategies will allow Black men to complete a higher education degree.

# Research Questions

## Central Questions

- Why do Black male high school graduates from Dallas Independent School District have low college graduation rates?
- Why are Black men opting to enter the work force untrained instead of completing a four-year degree?

## Sub Questions

- Are low economically disadvantaged schools preparing the Black youth for college?
- Is there significant funding opportunities for economically disadvantaged, first generation college Black men?
- What motivates Black men to apply for college?
- Why some Black American men choose not to pursue a college degree?

# Methodology

By using a stratified random sample, this case study will consist of the Black American men between 17 – 35 years old

## Sample

3-Tier Groups of Black Males (n=12)  
Group 1: 4 graduating high school seniors  
(2 going to college; 2 not)  
Group 2: 4 college students  
(2 current; 2 recent “dropouts”)  
Group 3: 4 college graduations  
(2 bachelors; 2 terminal degrees)

## Data Collection

Preliminary Survey  
Individual Interviews  
Tier-Group Interviews

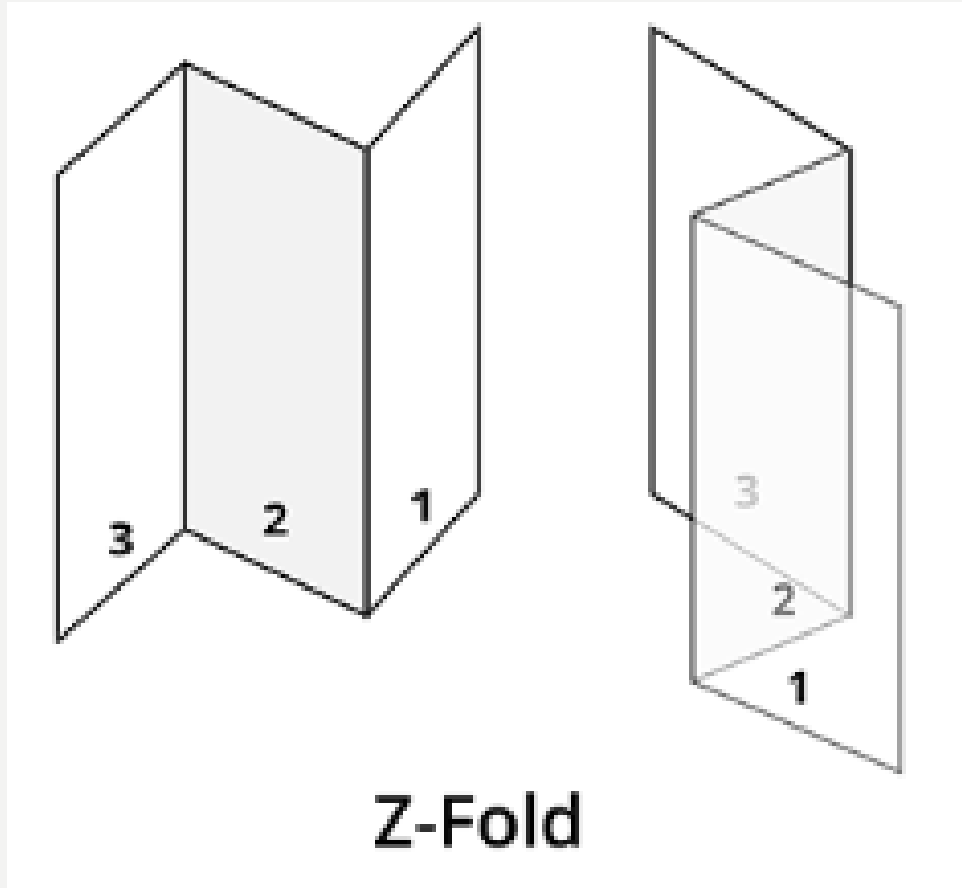
# Data Analysis

- *thematic content analysis* – code, find themes and patterns
- *narrative* – compare different stories and responses
- *deductive approach* - determine which factors were a key motivator in supporting Black men to complete their college degrees.

## Reliability and Validation

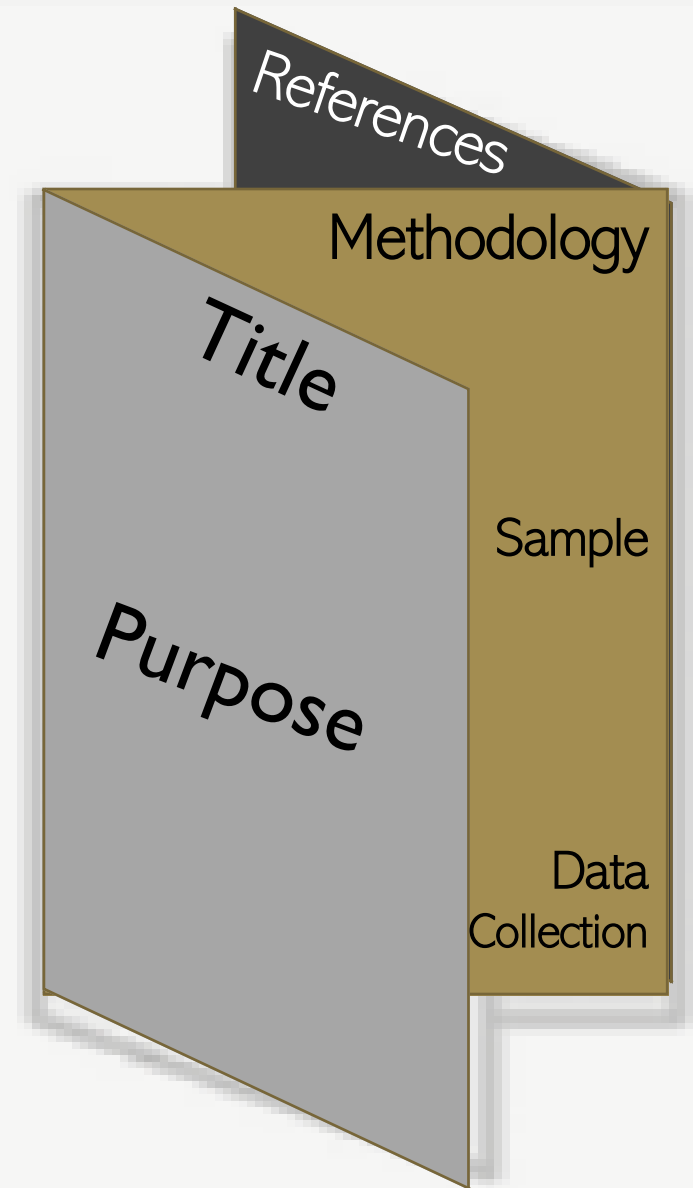
- *Triangulation* – ensure there is consistency with the surveys, interviews and group observations (creditable)
- *Transparency* – be clear in the methodology so that other researchers can duplicate the study (dependable)

# Please fold your handout in thirds



Please use the handout for additional information during the presentation.

**HANDOUT  
SHOULD  
LOOK LIKE  
THIS**



# MEET THE RESEARCHER

- **Name:** Nichole Broden
- **Title:** Secondary Educator
- **Affiliation:** Dallas Independent School District
- **Personal Bias:** As a Black female, I can relate to the community and the culture of the participants
- **Personal Interest:** I want the Black community to be informed and maintain a lifestyle without poverty and crime with strong educated Black male role models

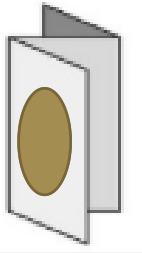


# PROBLEM STATEMENT

This problem of practice research study will focus on the **decline of Black American male college graduates**. This phenomenon has a major impact on the Black community (Gay, 2000; Callins, 2007). This problem of practice research study **needs to be conducted because there is a negative shift in the cultural wealth of the Black man and within the Black community and exposure to a higher education will positively impact the community**. This problem of practice research study is significant because we are **losing too many Black men to violence, imprisonment and death**



# PURPOSE



## Purpose

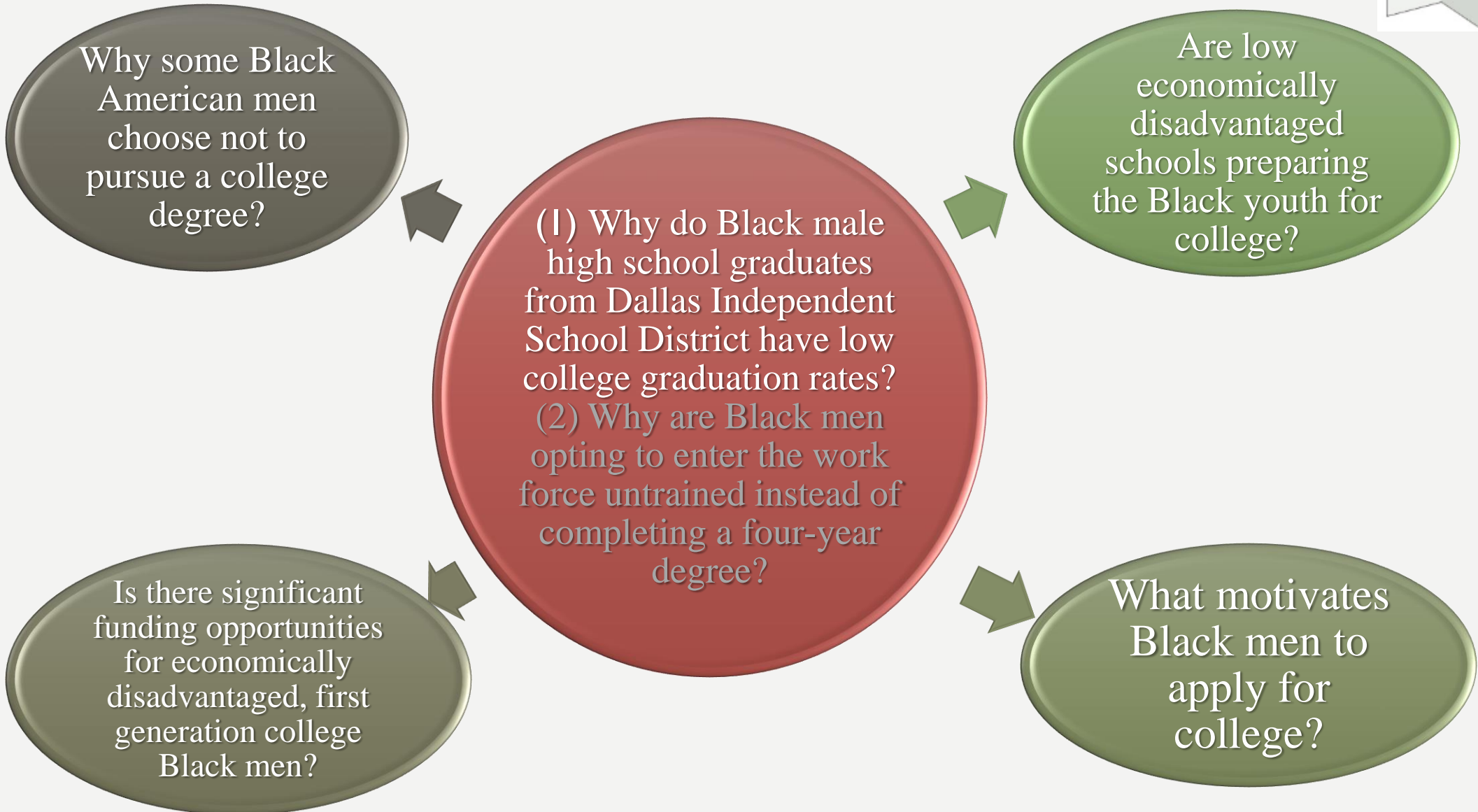
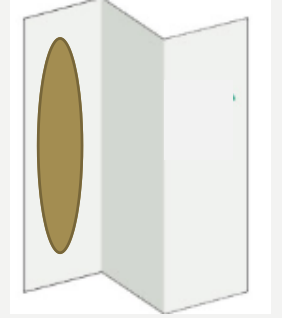
- The *purpose* of this research is to understand the reasons why Black men are not completing higher education degrees.

## Significance Statement

- The *goal* is to start conversations with my colleagues and others to encourage and motivate Black men to seek higher education and discover what types of strategies will allow Black men to complete a higher education degree.



# RESEARCH QUESTIONS



# QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN

## Case Study

stratified random sample case study consisting of the Black American men between 17 – 35 years old

### 3-Tier Groups of Black Males (n=12)

Group 1: 4 graduating HS seniors

Group 2: 4 college students

Group 3: 4 college graduations

## Data Collection

- Preliminary Survey
- Individual Interviews
- Tier-Group Interviews

- *TCA* – code, find themes and patterns
- *N* – compare different responses
- *DA* – determine which factors were a key motivator in supporting Black men to complete their college degrees.

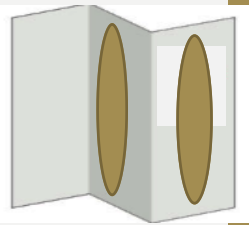
## Data Analysis

- Thematic Content Analysis
- Narrative
- Deductive Approach

## Reliability and Validation

- Triangulation
- Transparency

- ensure there is consistency with the surveys, interviews and group observations (creditable)
- clearly state the methodology process so that other researchers can duplicate the study (dependable)

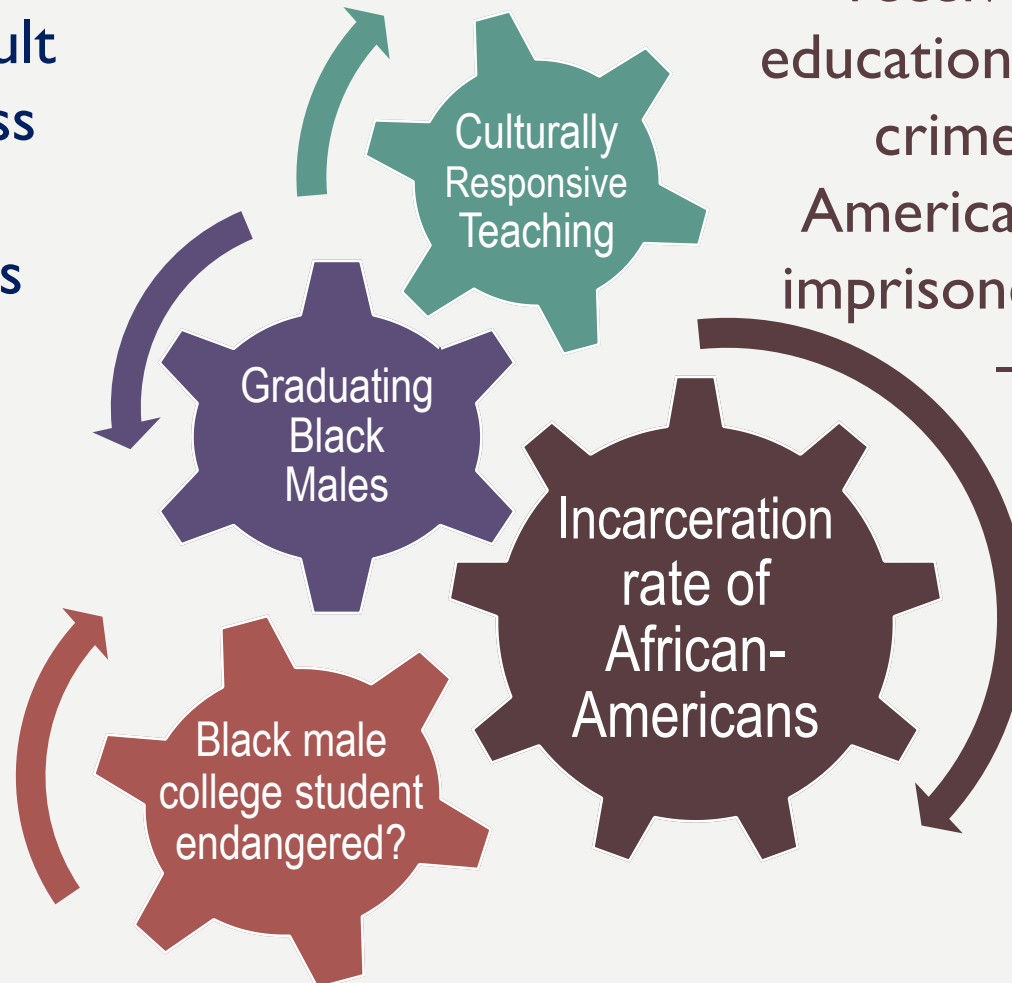


# LITERATURE REVIEW

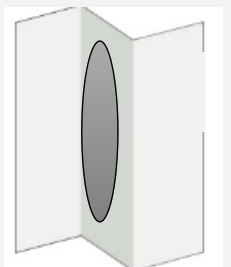
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BACK

Inspired this  
Problem of Practice

# CLOSING

## Question

- *High* incarceration rates for Black males
- *Low* college graduation rates for Black men
- *Low* representation of positive Black men in the community

## Problem

- *What* motivates Black men to apply for college?
- *Why* do Black male high school graduates from DISD have low college graduation rates?
- *Why* are Black men opting to enter the work force instead of completing a four-year degree?

- *Case study* on Black men college students
- *Incorporate* multicultural curriculum
- *Reduce* prison rate

## Framework

Thank you!

