

# “INTIMACY AND EMPIRE: CREATING OVER-LAPPING DIASPORAS IN POSTCOLONIAL NIGERIA”

DR. JUDITH BYFIELD, PROFESSOR  
OF HISTORY AT CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY



**October 14, 2020 @ 12:00 pm**

This is a virtual event, open to all. [Click here](#) to join.  
You may find the dial-in information [here](#).

Sponsored by the African Studies Program,  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

The talk draws from my new research project, *Curry Goat and Gari: West Indian Women in 20th Century Lagosian Society*. Men and women from the Caribbean forged a long history of migration and contributed significantly to the intellectual and material understanding of diaspora. This project focuses on English-speaking Caribbean women who migrated to Nigeria as wives of Nigerian men. The vast majority of these women met their husbands in Britain or Canada. This research project explores how these women contributed to new patterns and conceptions of diaspora formation in the post-colonial period through their marital and residential choices and how they defined and maintained their Caribbean identities.

Judith A. Byfield, originally from Jamaica, is a Professor in the Department of History at Cornell University. She is the author of *The Great Upheaval: Women and Nation in Post-War Nigeria* (Ohio University Press, 2020) and *The Bluest Hands: A Social and Economic History of Women Indigo Dyers in Western Nigeria, 1890-1940* (Heinemann, 2002). Byfield is former President of the African Studies Association (2011).  
Learn more about Byfield and the talk [here](#).