

**MYSTORY/OURSTORY: USING HEURISTIC INQUIRY AS A TOOL FOR
EXAMINING THE RESEARCHER'S ROLE IN THE STUDY OF CARIBBEAN-
BORN WOMEN IN THE FIELD OF MATHEMATICS IN THE UNITED
STATES**

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Abstract: *This paper focuses on the researcher's journey of becoming a mathematics educator. The reflection on the process is an integral part of a broader dissertation research study with which this paper does not deal. It however provides an outlet for the dialogue with one of the advisors and co-author and the resulting paper. Using heuristic (Moustakas, 1990) as the methodology and figured worlds (Holland et al., 1998) as the conceptual framework, the authors examine stages of the mathematical experiences and pedagogical practices that contribute to the student researcher's identity and agency. This paper is important to the process of learning about self as one goes through the dissertation research process.*

Keywords: *mathematics education, Caribbean women, teaching and learning, figured worlds, heuristic, agency, identity*

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