

**INVISIBILITY, ANTI-BLACKNESS, AND PAN-AFRICAN CONNECTIVITY:
NARRATIVES OF AFRO-TRINIDADIAN FACULTY MEMBERS
NAVIGATING THE AMERICAN ACADEMY**

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Abstract: *Trinidad and Tobago, the twin island republic in the Caribbean, has produced a significant number of immigrants to the United States, many of whom are of African descent. Like many immigrant groups, they permeated all walks of American society, including the field of American higher education. This narrative exploration captured the perceptions, through scholarly personal narratives (SPN), of seven Afro-Trinidadian faculty members describing their experiences with (a) faculty and student interactions, (b) White populations, and (c) African American populations within the American Academy. The study generated the themes addressing the importance of cultural heritage as a tool for navigating negative workplaces and anti-Blackness, and the Pan-African commonality and camaraderie with African Americans. The study provided an emic look into the experiences and perceptions of an often overlooked, under-researched, and unique Black immigrant population that frequently, yet erroneously, is grouped with African Americans.*

Keywords: *Pan-African, Afro-Trinidadian, Faculty, Academics*

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