Parents and family members are often where children receive their first understanding of the nuances of society and how to navigate through their experiences. The implicit and explicit messages that parents and family members provide children have ramifications that can impact their perception of gender roles in the work force (Croft et al., 2014), gender based expectations in education (Gunderson et al., 2012) as well as gender based roles in society (Epstein & Ward, 2011). When it comes to parents and family members of children of color, they have the additional task of teaching their children how to navigate through society as a person of color (Bowman & Howard, 1985; Brown et al., 2010; Peck et al., 2014; Townsend, 2008).

This study will focus on parental racial and ethnic socialization and the impact these messages have had on young Black women’s perception of their roles in interpersonal and romantic relationships. This study will utilize Grounded Theory methods (Charmaz, 2014) to gain an understanding of racial and ethnic socialization messages that Black women received regarding their roles in interpersonal and romantic relationships. By gaining a better understanding of the impact that racial and ethnic socialization has on Black girls and women, clinicians may be able to better help parents have healthier and more effective patterns of communication with their children. This study will look to financially compensate participants and an estimation of expenses is approximately $1,000. The study will take place throughout the 2020-2021 academic year.