

Working with Black Young People

*Edited by Momodou Sallah and Carlton Howson
De Montfort University*

Offering insights into issues that confront Black young people - and presenting strategies for change – the chapters in this book are sometimes about specific sections of the community but often, and collectively, about the lives of many different people with shared experiences of oppression, immigration history and discrimination.

Herman Ouseley, writing in this book, sets the tone. “Many Black young people survive and thrive, in spite of the struggles and obstacles ... There are many people, working at local level with young people from all backgrounds with a view to helping them realise their aspirations, hopes and dreams.” Bringing together this work’s different dimensions and perspectives, this book seeks to challenge both the accepted status quo of Black young people’s **negative overrepresentation in most aspects of life** – including education, criminal justice, housing and health and their **under-representation in empiric literature**. It seeks to help find ways forward.

It charts the shifts in British social policy – recruitment, restriction, repatriation, multiculturalism, and mainly now integration. It shows how, before meaningful work around integration and cohesion can begin, there must be greater understanding of the ‘realities’ Black young people face, and of the various contexts for work with them.

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Tel: 01297 443 948
Email: help@russellhouse.co.uk
www.russellhouse.co.uk