

**NEWLY  
SCHEDULED  
SESSION**

Bank Street College  
Graduate School of Education

**The Seventh Annual Distinguished Speaker Series**  
Educating for Democracy: What We Can Do

Presents

**Dr. Amanda E. Lewis**

April 22, 2008

4:30-7:30 pm

**Beyond Race? Educational Equity in the Post-Civil Rights America**

Both in popular culture and academic discourse there is a growing sentiment that we are “beyond race.” In this talk I argue that such sentiments are both incorrect and dangerous – particularly in discussions of education. In demonstrating the current significance of race, I will outline some flaws in the racial reasoning of much educational research. Ultimately, I make the case that we cannot educate for democracy – that is, we cannot educate our children or train new teachers or design more equitable educational policies and practices – without an honest and informed discussion about the persisting relevance of race in American society.



**Amanda E. Lewis** is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Sociology and African American Studies and a faculty fellow at the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her research focuses on how race shapes educational opportunities from kindergarten through graduate school and on how our ideas about race get negotiated in everyday life. A native of San Francisco, she was educated in San Francisco public schools and received her B.A. in educational studies from Brown University, her M.A. in education for the University of California at Berkeley and her PhD in Sociology from the University of Michigan. Her book on how race shapes everyday life in elementary schools, *Race in the Schoolyard: Negotiating the color-line in classrooms and communities*, (Rutgers University Press 2003)

was featured in a number of radio and newspaper outlets. She had two additional books published recently: her edited volume (with Maria Krysan), *The Changing Terrain of Race and Ethnicity* (Russell Sage, 2004), and *Challenging Racism in Higher Education: Promoting Justice* (with Mark Chesler and Jim Crowfoot – Rowman and Littlefield Press, 2005). Her research has appeared in a number of academic venues including *Sociological Theory*, *American Educational Research Journal*, *American Behavioral Scientist*, *Race and Society*, *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, and *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*. She lectures and consults regularly on issues of educational equity and contemporary forms of racism.

Location: Bank Street College•Evelyn Rome and Daniel Tabas Auditorium  
610 West 112<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10025

Dr. Linda Levine, Coordinator of the Distinguished Speaker Series

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