



Brandeis
UNIVERSITY

**Department of African and
African American Studies**

**AFRICAN REFUGEE WOMEN
AND GENDERED (IN)VISIBILITY**

TUESDAY 26 MARCH

11:15am-12:30pm (EST) | 4:15pm-5:30pm (GMT)

Dr Jaji's presentation addresses the stereotypical and homogenizing depiction of refugee women and how this obscures refugee women's political agency. It draws attention to gendered (in)visibilities in conflict situations and how these generate corresponding (in)visibilities in displacement contexts. It calls for evidence-based approaches to gender and, in doing so, challenges the binary division of violent and peacebuilding labor along gender lines. Drawing from specific cultural and political contexts in Africa, the paper highlights the need to understand refugee women's cultural and political backgrounds and how they shape refugee women's social status, worldviews, and self-representation. The paper demonstrates how women's positioning in society is not solely determined by gender but by an intertwinement of variables that challenge gender essentialism and the pathologization of refugee women.



DR ROSE JAJI (Speaker)

Rose Jaji is senior researcher at the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS). Her research areas of interest are migration/refugees and conflict and peacebuilding. She has published peer-reviewed articles on migrants/refugees and gender, refugees and social technology, identity, asylum seekers, and border crossing, return migration as well as gender and peacebuilding. She is the author of *Deviant Destinations: Zimbabwe and North to South Migration* (Lexington Books, 2020) and *Non-migration amidst Zimbabwe's Economic Meltdown* (Lexington Books, 2023). Her work is also published as blog posts, policy briefs, newsletter articles, and opinion pieces.



DR OLAJUMOKE YACOB-HALISO (Moderator)

Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso is Associate Professor of African and African American Studies at Brandeis University & co-author of *African Refugees* (Indiana UP, 2023).



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