

# Africentricity Meets Child Welfare

Vivian Jackson, ACSW, LICSW

Senior Consultant

National Child Welfare Resource  
Center for Family - Centered Practice

# Africentrism: a world view from an alternative standpoint

- Asante, Ak'bar, Nobles, Karenga, Schiele
- Origins in pre-colonial Africa
- Relationship to Eurocentric standpoint
- Nguzo Saba, Kwanzaa

# Africentrism: Themes

- harmony with nature
- survival of the group
- spirituality
- veneration of ancestors
- respect for tradition
- sociality of selfhood
- affective approach to knowledge is valid

# Africentrism and Human Services

- Liberation orientation, along with spiritual and moral development
- Healing through cultural learning and reconnection
- Healing within a “safe” context

# Examples

- Analysis of Human Problems (Schiele)
- African-Centered Model of Alcohol Abuse Prevention (Nobles)
- Social Skills Training (Banks)
- AIDS Education program (Foster)

# Examples

- Rites of Passage Program for Foster Children (Gavazzi)
- Rites of Passage Program for High Risk Adolescents (Harvey)
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services (Freeman)
- Psychotherapy Services (Oshodi)

# Example

- Human Service Delivery -  
NTU (Phillips)