

## BIOGRAPHY

Robert Staples was born in Roanoke, Virginia, and educated in the State of California. Presently a Professor of Sociology at the University of California, San Francisco, he has held past faculty appointments at Howard University, Fisk University, California State University at Hayward and Bethune-Cookman College. He has been a visiting professor at Tougaloo College, Florida State University, the University of Michigan, the University of Southwest Louisiana, the University of Hawaii, Cornell University, the Institute of Family Studies in Melbourne, Australia, and the University of Warwick, Coventry, England.

Having received three college degrees in the State of California, he was granted the Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. One of the most prolific sociologists in the United States, his publication record includes over 200 articles in popular and scholarly periodicals in the United States, Yugoslavia, Austria, Venezuela, Australia and New Zealand. Considered one of the leading authorities on Black family life, he has written or edited ~~16~~ books on that subject. Those books have been adopted as texts in more than 500 colleges and universities in the United States, Africa, the West Indies and England. Among his books are *Black Masculinity* (The Black Scholar Press, 1982), *The Urban Plantation* (The Black Scholar Press, 1987), *The Black Family: Essays and Studies* (Wadsworth, 1991), and *Black Families at the Crossroads* (Jossey-Bass, 1993).

Among his other accomplishments, he has received the distinguished achievement awards from Howard University and the National Council on Family Relations, was invited to give the prestigious Simon Bolivar Lecture at the University of Zulia in Maracaibo, Venezuela and had his biography included in *Who's Who Among Black Americans*. His community activities include serving on the Board of Directors of the National Council of Family Relations, the Sex Information and Education Council of the United States and the Black World Foundation. In addition, he has been appointed to the

editorial boards of *The Black Scholar*, *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, *Journal of Social and Behavioral Sciences* and the *Western Journal of Black Studies*. A widely traveled speaker, he has lectured at over 400 colleges in the United States, Latin America, Europe and Asia.