

## Biography of Berdine B. Gordon, Ed.D.

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Berdine B. Gordon, Ed.D. was born in Camden, New Jersey to her parents of Bahamian (Broadus B.) and U.S. (Cora B.) Citizenship. Dr. Gordon acknowledges both parents' rich cultural heritage: mother is of Creole and Native American heritages; father is from Cat Island to which she is entitled by descent citizenship of The Bahamas & U.S. An identical twin (oldest) to her sister, Belinda, who is the youngest of two living brothers: Horace (eldest) and Harold. Another brother, Ralph, was nine years older than the twins who preceded his siblings in death. Her daughters: Eboné (18) is a Freshman at University of Miami for Civil Engineering; and, Éva (8) is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, USATF Junior Olympic champion, and Kyokushinkai Karate (full contact, Brown belt) Martial Arts practitioner. Dr. Gordon and Eboné are former Martial Arts practitioners and USATF Junior Olympians. Not only a "track mom," she is active in her leisure time, performing Urban Ballroom, and occasional African dance. Spouse, Steven, is a NJ licensed journeyman electrician contractor. Family resides in Camden County, NJ.

As a *Rutgers University Distinguished Scholar*, she attended the College of Arts & Sciences at Camden, was on Dean's list, earning B.A. degree in Sociology and Music minor. Continued policy research studies were at Camden Graduate School, earning M.P.A. degree in Public Management with Educational Policy & Leadership specialization. January 2013, she received *Divinitatis Doctor (honoris causa)* in Ministry from ULC Seminary. Most recent accomplishment is earning *cum laude* degree honors for *Doctor of Education* at Rowan University. Action research study explored the impact of diversity leadership training skills on prejudice reduction for school personnel. Employed as a School Administrator, she also operates owned business as a professional education consultant. She is qualified for teaching/scholarship in Educational Leadership, Diversity, and Early Education. A certified educator, she holds credentials for two NJ Administrative Endorsements: Principal and School Administrator. Other credentials: NJ Head Teacher Approval and Job Development & Marketing. A professional substitute teacher, ongoing with alma mater high school at CCVTS (now CCTS) where she was *National Honor Society President and Salutatorian*. CCTS acknowledged her as 2009 Alumna of the Year (Pennsauken Campus). Gloucester Township Campus acknowledged her for *Businessperson of the Year* by FBLA-Phi Beta Lambda Chapter at NJ Leadership Conference 2013. Memberships: Bethany Baptist Church (Lindenwold); Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Order of Eastern Star, Oziel Grand Chapter-PHA, Inc. (NJ); NJ Professional Development Registry; and, Black Doctoral Network, Inc. Past Honors: *Dr. MLK, Jr. Camden Co. Freedom Medal Award*.

Dr. Gordon was chosen as an honoree for contributions to Education, acknowledging meritorious efforts for over 25 years of service in P-12 Education. Scope of work spans from young child to college bound. She believes one's early years of childhood form the basis of intelligence, personality, social behavior, and capacity to learn and nurture oneself as an adult. Therefore, a good foundation in early years makes a difference through adulthood and even gives the next generation a better start.