

# WANAKAYI KAVANGAVA OMOKA (DR. PROF.)

## **EMPLOYING INSTITUTION:**

Catholic University of Eastern Africa

## **EDUCATION:**

### **Qualifications**

- B.A (Sociology and Economics), Whittier College, California, USA.
- M.A. (Sociology), Kent State University, Ohio, USA.
- Ph.D. (Sociology), Kent State University, Ohio, USA.

### **Postgraduate Coursework**

- Advanced research techniques
- Comparative family life
- Comparative race relations
- Conflict Sociology
- Contemporary theories
- Data analysis
- Early theories
- Human ecology
- Medical Sociology
- Philosophy of Science
- Psychiatric Sociology
- Q Methodology
- Quantitative techniques
- Research design
- Research in deviance and disorganization
- Research in social change and urban process
- Research in social(complex)organization
- Seminar on sociological methods
- Seminar on research in Africa
- Social change and urban process
- Social organization
- Social stratification
- Sociology of science
- Theory construction

### **Current teaching areas:**

- Research Methods
- Statistics
- Socio-economic change and development
- Sociology of Science

**Research interests:**

- Inter-ethnic conflict
- Methodology
- Relief and development assistance
- Social studies of Science

**Undergraduate and postgraduate****Courses currently teaching:**

- Environmental Sociology
- Relief and development assistance
- Research methods
- Psychoanalytic approach to sociology
- Social support to Sociology
- Social Capital
- Social Psychology
- Sociology of Science
- Statistics

**Courses taught in toto:****Department of Pan-African Studies, Kent State University**

- Interpreting the Black experience.
- Towards a Black Cosmology
- Towards a Black perspective in the Social Sciences

**Department of Sociology, Kent State University.**

- Community development
- Introduction to sociology
- Sociology of religion.

**Department of Sociology, University of Nairobi.**

- Criminology
- Formal organization
- Methods of Social investigation
- Research methods and quantitative techniques
- Social change and development

**Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi.**

- Contemporary theories in anthropology
- Ethnicity and national identity
- Leadership and ethics in Africa
- Methodological approaches in gender studies
- Methods of social science research and statistics
- Psychological anthropology
- Theoretical perspectives in gender studies

**Department of Sociology, Egerton University, Njoro, Kenya**

- Criminology
- Formal organization
- Research methods
- Statistics

**DPM Department, Catholic University of Eastern Africa.**

- Project planning and implementation
- Social psychology

**Education Department, Catholic University of Eastern Africa.**

- Research methods

**Department of Social Sciences, catholic University of Eastern Africa.**

- Environmental Sociology
- Philosophy and the Social Sciences
- Social theory
- Social psychology
- Comparative institutions
- Psychoanalytic approach to Sociology
- Relief and Development assistance
- Representation anthropology
- Research methods
- Social capital and development in Africa
- Sociology of development
- Sociology of Science
- Statistics

**Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations, Hekima College (a constituent college of Catholic University of Eastern Africa).**

- Social Science research methods
- Statistics

**Institute of Social Ministry, Tangaza College (a constituent college of Catholic University of Eastern Africa).**

- Leadership for non-profit organizations
- Research methods
- Social psychology

**SUPERVISEES**

Bachelor's degree research project (University of Nairobi, Catholic University of Eastern Africa)

- 118 students

Postgraduate Diploma, Master of Arts, Doctor of Philosophy (University of Nairobi, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Hekima College).

- 41 students

**PRIMARY RESEARCH**

- (2007) Conflict in rural Kenya: A survey of behaviour, attitudes and causes in areas highly prone to inter-ethnic conflict.
- (2006) The ethnic factor in civil strife and criminal violence in Nairobi.
- (2003) Factors of hunger in Kenya's sugar belt: the case of sugarcane earnings expenditure among Mumias out grower farmers.
- (1995) Dynamics of health seeking behaviour in a context of parallel systems of therapy – Bondo District.
- (1993) Polygamy as a species of traditional family planning: an offspring based comparison of monogamous families in rural places – Kenya and Tanzania.

Ethnic identity and expression among genders: a comparison of selected predominantly monoethnic and prominently multiethnic urban places.

The contribution of women to economic diversification in Western Kenya.

Correlates of successful small-scale farming in Malava and Trans-Nzoia districts: a contribution to rural sociology knowledge.

- (1989) Social organization in Bungoma district: District socio-cultural profile research (DSPR). DSPR was a Government of Kenya research project in the 1980s funded by the Government with assistance from development partners, and administered by Institute of Africa Studies, University of Nairobi. At that time Kenya had 24 districts.

Social organization in a settlement scheme district – Nyandarua (DSPR).

Social organization in Nyeri district (DSPR).

- (1984) (With Dr. Thomas Mataro Sabai and Dr. Stephen Nyirabu Mohabe). Modes of technology in use: a survey of )
- (1981) (With Prof. Canute Mutebi Khamala) Library acquisition in Kenya.
- (1979) (With Prof. Ann Adams Graves). Student mothers: academic and non-academic problems seemingly specific to Black student mothers in selected colleges and universities in Northern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania, USA.
- (1978) Determinants of Africa's academic dependency pertaining to social sciences and humanities: a large scale sample survey of Africanist in Africa, Europe, and North America attending the annual meeting of the African Studies Association held in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, USA. The survey tapped data of research, writing and teaching about Africa.
- (1976) The impact of technology on the life experiences of steel mill workers: a comparative study involving USA, India and Yugoslavia. (Funded by Ford Foundation with Prof. S. Lee Spray as principal researcher. My research activity was confined to USA, Pittsburg Steel Mills).
- (1974) (With Prof. Alexander Boros) Problems of chemically-dependence (i.e. alcoholics and drug addicts), deaf persons with law in the cities of Akron and Cleveland, Ohio, USA.
- (1973) Healthcare provision in the city of Kent, Ohio – a longitudinal study. (This was an applied sociology research project of the department of Sociology, Kent State University.
- (1973) Culturally based resistance by Hopi Indians to USA government initiated socio-economic projects/programmes designed to bring about change in Hopi society.

This was an anthropological investigation by Prof. Malcolm Farmer in which I participated as a field (non-participant observer) research assistant – New Mexico State.

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

- (1972) “Introduction”, African American Monograph Series. Vol.4, No.1 (Winter): 1-7.
  - (1974) Strategies and tactics of Christian missionization in East Africa – M.A thesis.
  - (1975) “Racial victimization of Black students: a psychological analysis”, African American Monograph Series Vol.6, No.2 (Spring): 18-26.
  - (1976) (With Thomas M. Sabai) “And Mazrui”, Transition (February): 29-35.
  - (1979) (With Edward W. Crosby, Ann A. Graves and Wiley Smith), (eds.) The Black Experience. Kent: Kent State University Press.
  - (1979) “Strategies and tactics of inauguration of African underdevelopment: the case of Christian Missionization in East Africa, Ufahamu, 9,3: 43-63.
  - (1981) Structural and Cultural aspects of Social Science dependency in Africa – Ph. D dissertation.
  - (1982) “Hegemonic dominance in world political economy: an essay on it characteristics and trends”, African Journal of Sociology, 2, 2: 84-100.
  - (1989) “Against technology as applied science with reference to Kenya” African Journal of Sociology, 3, 1: 64-83.
- “Social organization”, pp.166-176 in Gideon S. Were and Osaga Odak (eds.) District Socio-Cultural profiles: Bungoma, Nairobi: Republic of Kenya.
- (1991) “Effects of community power on local developments projects – Kakamega district”, pp.79-87 in Orieko Chitere and Roberta Mutiso (eds.), Working with Rural Communities.Nairobi: Nairobi University Press.
  - “Participant observation: determinants of researcher’s participation in the everyday life activities of a social setting”, pp.57-66 in Paul N. Nkwi (ed.) Proceedings of the Second Pan-African Association of Anthropologists Conference. Held at Pan-African Hotel, Nairobi, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June, 1991. Published by University of Younde.
  - (1991) “Applied Science and technology: a Kenyan case consideration of their interrelationship”, pp.14-31 in Kwesi Prah (ed.), Culture, Gender, Science and Technology in Africa. Windhoek: Harp Publications.

- (1996) “The social construction of scientific facts and its implications for social-scientific inquiry”, *Mila (New Series)*, 1: 28-43.
- (1998) “Explaining cultural anthropology’s postmodernism: a reproduction of Eurocentrism” *Africa Development*
- (2001) “Ethnocentrism and its historical manifestations”, pp.100-109 in Patrick Ryan (ed.), *Ethnocentrism and Ethnic conflict in Africa*. Nairobi: Catholic University of Eastern Africa Press.
- (2002) “Anti-science in cultural anthropology: a critique of opposition to objectivity”, *Eastern African Journal of Humanities and Science*, 2, 2:19-33.
- (In the press)  
“A critical consideration of the bearing of heritage on science and development in Kenya” In *Symposium on Rethinking African heritage, University Education and Technological Advancement in the 21st Century*. Held at Catholic University of Eastern Africa, 16th to 18th May 2007. (Publisher: Catholic University of Eastern Africa Press).
- (Forthcoming)  
“Correlates of inter-ethnic conflict in rural Kenya” To be published in *Eastern Africa Journal of Humanities and Sciences*. The paper is based on survey data from all areas of rural Kenya that are prone to inter-ethnic conflict. I carried out the research during the months of June through October 2007.
- (Forthcoming)  
With Patrick Devine. “Factors of Turkana-Dassenach conflict: an empirical exploration”(\* The paper used large sample survey data from primary research done by Fr.Patrick Devine on frequent conflict between Turkana’s and Dassenachs in the months of June through August 2008).

- Unpublished Conference papers: Canada (Toronto), Ethiopia (Addis Ababa), Japan (Tokyo), Kenya (Kakamega, Malindi, Nyahururu, Webuye) Senegal (Dakar), Tanzania (Arusha), United States of America (Chicago).

Aspects of native (Kenya) cultures that are resistant to accepting science as a major value system.

- Beyond low salary and greed as causes of corruption.
- Bitching as a way of life: a manifestation of workplace related stress.
- Disjunction between state's role and expectations of social formations in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Environmental scarcity, conflict and ethnic difference as factors of marginalization in IGAD countries.
- Greedy organizations: a comparison of hegemonic political parties with total institutions.
- Home country determinants of African's illegal immigration into European Union countries and brain drain of African countries.
- How social thinking is causally linked to civil strife and conflict in Africa.
- Impediments to rural development projects, meeting expectations of targeted populations
- Knowledge, attitudes and behavior pertaining to AIDS: a comparison of categories of population differentiated by occupation and socio-economic status.
- Mediating variables of the causal connection between tertiary education and socio-economic development Kenya.
- Negative effects of interplay between political party affiliation and ethnic identity on merit.
- Q sort based analysis of economic disparity.
- Urban unemployment dependence: a critique of economy of affection thesis.
  - Why developed world aid to Sub-Saharan Africa is tending to decrease.