

Ruth Winifred Howard, Ph.D.

1900 - 1997

Ph.D. Psychology & Child Development, 1934 University of Wisconsin Ruth Winifred Howard was the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in Psychology. Her dissertation research was the most comprehensive study of triplets of the time.

She established and ran the Center for Psychological Services in Chicago with her husband, Albert Sidney Beckham, while pursuing postdoctoral studies at the University of Chicago. She

is known for her published study of play interviews with kindergarteners and fourth graders and for her many contributions as a tireless advocate for mental healthcare.