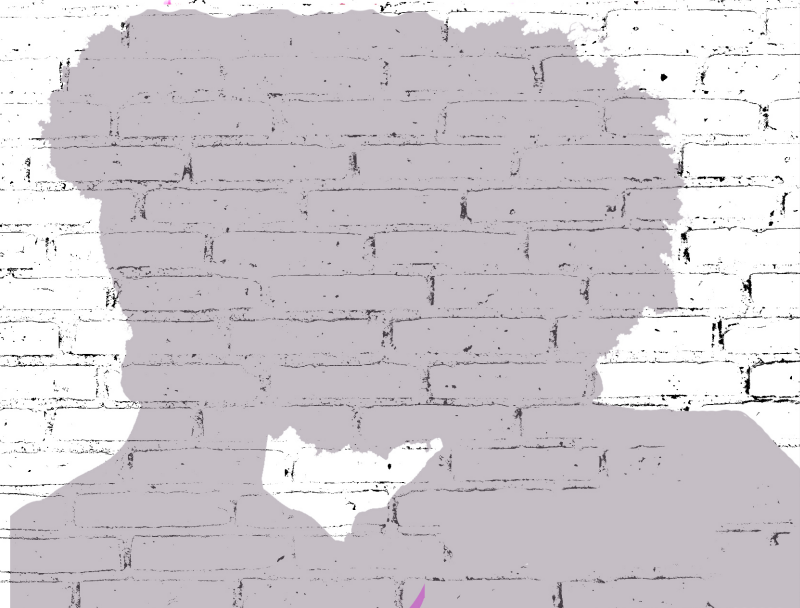


# UNAPOLOGETICALLY DOPE



**Lessons for Black Women and  
Girls on Surviving and Thriving  
in the Tech Field**

**A. NICKI WASHINGTON, PH.D.**

## ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF

I'm Dr. Nicki Washington, computer science professor, advocate, author, speaker, and entrepreneur. My mission is to help black women and girls succeed in computer science, a field that still lacks proper diversity and inclusion. If technical skills were all that

were required, then black women would be well ahead of the rest in the tech field. *Unapologetically Dope* is full of lessons learned as one of the few black female Ph.D.'s in computer science; lessons that aren't taught in a class or textbook, including:

- Assembling your tribe.
- Understanding the twice-as-good rule.
- Knowing your worth.
- Owning and trusting your dopeness.

These lessons and more are a culmination of my experiences from childhood through HBCU (Johnson C. Smith University) and PWI (North Carolina State University) graduations, moving first into industry before becoming a professor at both an HBCU (Howard University) and PWI (Winthrop University). As a result of my work, I was also featured in Essence Magazine's "Essence Tech Stars: 15 Black Women Disrupting the Tech Industry."



I don't want to be the only one in the room. I want more black women and girls to enter and thrive in this field, and I am committed to making this happen.

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## Contact Me

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# NUMBERS DON'T LIE

**1<sup>ST</sup>**

**BLACK FEMALE** TO EARN A PH.D. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE FROM NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS INCLUDE**

blackcomputeHER, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Red Ventures, Google, NSBE, ACT-W, ACM-W, NCWIT, Grace Hopper Celebration, UC-Irvine, University of Virginia, UMBC, NC A&T, Marist College, Bennett College, Johnson C. Smith

JOHNSON C. SMITH

**1<sup>ST</sup>**

**GRADUATE** TO EARN A PH.D. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

## **I'VE WORKED WITH**

Google, Lockheed Martin, Red Ventures, Exploring CS, Howard University MS2, Washington, DC Public Schools, SC Board of Education, Code.org

**\$2 MILLION**

IN **RESEARCH** GRANTS

**1<sup>ST</sup>**

**BLACK FEMALE COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSOR** AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

**4**

**BOOKS** AUTHORED

**10 MILLION**

**K-12 STUDENTS** AND

**3500**

**K-16 STUDENTS** TAUGHT

**2000**

**TEACHERS** IMPACTED ACROSS

**22**

**STATES (AND MORE PENDING)**

## **MY WRITING AND INTERVIEWS INCLUDE**

Essence Magazine, VerySmartBrothas/The Root, Code.org, The New Yorker, Howard University Capstone, Blacks In Tech Podcast, Mama Knows It All

**25**

**BLACK UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE RESEARCHERS** MENTORED

## SEE WHAT OTHERS THINK

“ For generations, Black women technologists (myself included) have learned through the school of hard knocks the critical wisdoms that weren't written so completely anywhere. It is rare for that knowledge to be addressed to us, written down for us to read over and again. Finding it for me, at this time, spoke to me in a way that was unexpected and so very powerful. ”

*Brenda Darden Wilkerson  
President and CEO - AnitaB.org*

“ This book is not only an amazing testament to Nicki's Black girl magic, but also her passion for helping women and girls coming behind her in a field where there are still too few of them present. If there is one book that any Black woman or girl needs (regardless of their interest in technology, business, or beyond), then THIS is it. ”

*Dr. Dorothy C. Yancy  
President Emerita - Johnson C. Smith University and Shaw University*

“ Unapologetically Dope is one of the most dynamic texts I have read in quite some time. As a K-12 educator and administrator for more than 18 years, I have mentored several Black girls and women; this is truly a text that I intend to share with my students as well as the teachers and principals I support as they begin to discover their own purpose and journey. ”

*LeTrecia Gloster  
Director of Learning - Washington, DC Public Schools*

“ Unapologetically Dope is exactly what our Black girls need! As a parent of a college student and social worker in K-12 schools, this book provides critical information that extends beyond classroom lectures. ”

*Nikia Harrod-Long  
Social Worker - Anacostia High School, Washington, DC*