

Pamela R. Bennett
School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Bio

Pamela R. Bennett studies social stratification issues centered on race, ethnicity, and social class. She is Professor in the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Bennett received her doctorate in sociology from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where she specialized in social stratification and social demography. She held a National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation postdoctoral fellowship and, subsequently, positions at the Johns Hopkins University, Queens College, and the Graduate Center at the City University of New York prior to moving to UMBC. Bennett's research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, and the American Sociological Association among other entities. She has served on the editorial boards of the *American Sociological Review* and *Sociology of Education*. Her new book, *Parenting in Privilege and Peril: How Social Inequality Enables or Derails the American Dream*, is a mixed-methods study that analyzes the sources of social class differences in mobility-relevant parenting practices. It argues that the differential resources that working- and middle-class parents possess, and the divergent social contexts those resources make available, give rise to different parenting approaches that she and her co-authors call *defensive parenting* among the former and *strategic parenting* among the latter. Bennett's current research focuses on the pathways that African Americans and black immigrants take into the middle class.