

DR. DONTÁ MORRISON

www.dontamorrison.com

Dr. Dontá Morrison is a dedicated writer, producer, director, community educator, advocate, and thought leader committed to improving the wellness of marginalized individuals, particularly Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) who identify as LGBTQ+. For over 20 years, he has worked to restructure traditional systems by fostering open and honest conversations about sex, sexual behavior, and human sexuality. Through his work, he challenges exclusionary frameworks and dismantles the stigma that often prevents individuals from embracing their full identities.

Dr. Morrison currently serves as the Director of Community Outreach and Engagement at the UCLA Care Center, where he advances inclusive health strategies and fosters collaborative relationships that prioritize equity, education, and empowerment for underserved populations. In this role, he is deeply committed to promoting awareness of HIV research and bridging the gap between scientific advancement and community engagement. Through culturally responsive outreach, he works to build trust, address medical mistrust, and encourage buy-in from marginalized communities—ensuring they are informed, included, and empowered to participate in research that impacts their health and well-being.

As the author of *Faithful and Forgotten: Navigating Race, Sexuality, and Belonging in the Black Church*, Dr. Morrison explores the deep and often painful intersections of race, faith, and sexuality within Black religious spaces. His book sheds light on the experiences of Black Christian gay and bisexual men who remain tethered to faith communities that historically reject them. Through compelling narratives and critical analysis, *Faithful and Forgotten* calls for a more inclusive, affirming, and just approach to spirituality—one that honors the wholeness of every individual.

Recognizing the glaring gaps in how sexual health and LGBTQ+ inclusion are addressed in communities of color, Dr. Morrison confronts the silence, misinformation, and intergenerational shame that perpetuate harm. He actively works to break down barriers rooted in religious teachings and oppressive ideologies, empowering individuals to seek healing, understanding, and liberation. His approach is one of joy, connection, and transformation, allowing him to engage globally with like-minded individuals striving to create inclusive spaces for growth and change.

Dr. Morrison is a sought-after lecturer who speaks at universities and conferences on a range of critical topics, including HIV prevention, sexual health, LGBTQ inclusivity, and the impact of religious trauma. His commitment to education and service has taken him across the United States and around the globe, with engagements in India, the United Kingdom, and West Africa. In addition to his academic and advocacy work, he serves in ministry at Church One Ministries in Long Beach, California, where he continues to bridge faith and social justice. His contributions have earned him numerous commendations from city, county, and state officials in recognition of his exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication to community empowerment.

Beyond his work in sexual health and faith-based advocacy, Dr. Morrison serves as a community educator for troubled youth, mentoring and guiding young individuals through the complexities of identity, self-worth, and resilience. His work with young people, particularly those facing systemic barriers, provides them with the tools to navigate adversity, develop emotional intelligence, and build pathways to success.

Dr. Morrison is also the co-owner of WATCH VIM, a groundbreaking streaming platform dedicated to amplifying LGBTQ voices of color. Through a curated selection of films, series, and stories, WATCH VIM highlights the diverse experiences, challenges, and triumphs of the LGBTQ community, creating a vital space for representation, storytelling, and cultural affirmation.

Dr. Morrison's mission is clear: to create spaces where marginalized voices are uplifted, where healing is possible, and where everyone can thrive without fear of exclusion. His work continues to inspire, educate, and transform communities in need of radical change.