

# Albanian Women Study

John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
City University of New York

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The background of the slide features a soft, pink-toned illustration. In the upper portion, several hands are shown reaching upwards, some with fingers spread, creating a sense of collective effort or support. The lower portion of the slide is filled with a dense field of smaller, stylized hands, also reaching upwards, reinforcing the theme of community and shared experience.

## About the Study

The prevalence and type of intimate partner violence that Albanian women may experience in the US is unknown but previous research may suggest that Albanian-American women may have similar experiences of the physical and emotional proponents of domestic violence. Due to the large population of Albanian-Americans in the US, it is essential that Albanian women's experiences in the US are empirically studied to help the community build evidence-based interventions. This study uses survey research to explore the experiences of Albanian women in the US.

# Methods

This is a mixed methods study. We primarily use survey research design and utilize the CCB measure which is a Checklist of Controlling Behaviors an 84-item domestic violence assessment instrument that can be used to address multiple levels of violence and coercive control in violent relationships. The instrument is divided into 10 sub-scales including (1) physical abuse, (2) sexual abuse, (3) male privilege (we re-named it to patriarchy household), (4) isolation, (5) minimizing and denying, (6) blaming, (7) intimidation, (8) threats, (9) emotional abuse, and (10) economic abuse. This study utilizes participatory action research (PAR) methods and community based participatory research (CBPR) model to engage the community. The community reviewed the measure and added few items that are relevant to our culture and traditions.

The last part of the survey will ask participants to tell us anything else "is there anything else you would like to share with us?" This part is qualitative and narratives are usually very important to generate theory relevant to our cultural norms and traditions.

# About the Survey

- Qualtrics software analysis will be used to collect data.
- The survey will take participants approximately around 20 minutes to complete.
- The survey is available in both languages, English and Albanian.

## Translation

The translation was provided by Arjanita Elezaj, a graduate student at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, who is a Native Albanian and holds a Bachelor's Degree from UT - Tirana Albania. She has served as an unofficial translator for the entire Albanian American community in New York for more than 20 years and is endorsed by Blerta Alikaj, who is a member of the American Translators Association and holds Credentials from the US State Department, as an Albanian to English and English to Albanian translator.

# Community Engagement PAR & CBPR

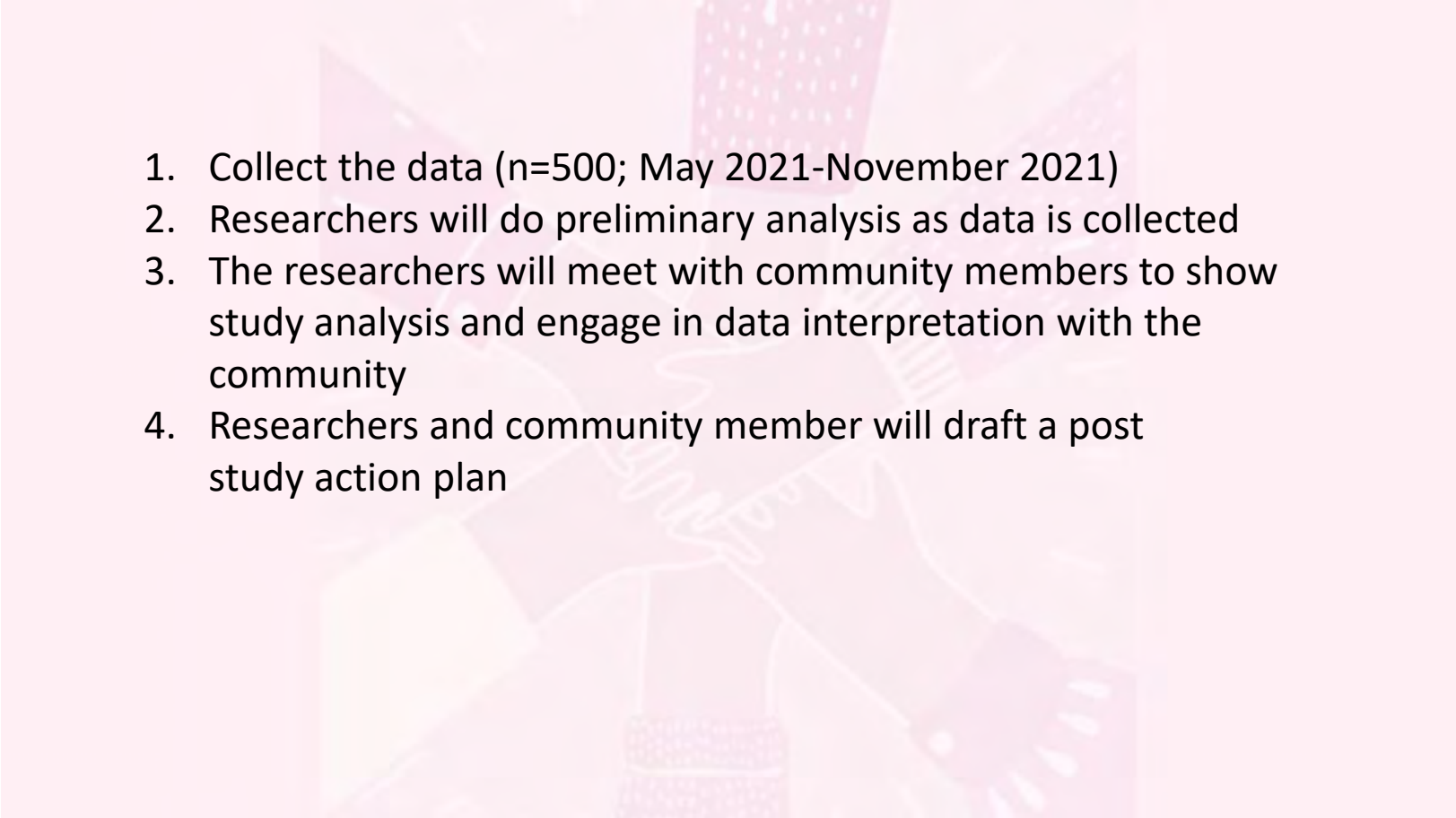
## Albanian American Groups & NGOs

- Shoqni-Albanian American Women Club
- Albanian American Cohesive Community
- Albanian American Women Organization-Motrat Qiriaz
- Albanian Women in US
- Progressive Albanians
- Albanian American Community Association
- Vafije's Initiative
- Albanian Professional Women Organization
- SOFRA-LGBTQIA Disapora

## Albanian American Community Members

- Beti Tale
- Ariana Metalia
- Drita Popovic
- Festa Berisha-Mati
- Elisabeta Ramadani
- Regisa Lahi
- Suada Cecunaj
- Ariana Elezaj
- Maria Lulgjuraj
- Valentina Djelaj
- Juna Kotori
- Teuta Peja
- Arbnore Cara

# Study Plan

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- A faint, stylized illustration in the background shows several hands of different colors (pink, purple, yellow) reaching up to hold a large heart shape. The hands are simple line drawings with some patterned details on the sleeves.
1. Collect the data (n=500; May 2021-November 2021)
  2. Researchers will do preliminary analysis as data is collected
  3. The researchers will meet with community members to show study analysis and engage in data interpretation with the community
  4. Researchers and community member will draft a post study action plan

# Let's Make a Difference For Our Albanian-American Community

## Contribute to the Albanian Women Project

### About the Project

Given the large population of Albanian-Americans in the United States, it is essential to understand Albanian women's relationship experiences with their partners to help build a healthier and more loving community. This is a research project inviting all Albanian women 18 or older residing in America to participate. The survey is available in English and Albanian. This research project uses participatory action research methods and community based participatory research models to engage the community in meaningful and effective post study action plan for the purposes of (1) educating and (2) providing information & resources. The expected timeline for this project is April 2021-December 2022.

### Funding

Donations will be used to reward participants, develop educational prevention programs, sponsor expert community speakers, provide local travel for participants and staff/consultants, run educational workshops for survivors and men, provide incentives for domestic violence victims/survivors and community subjects to participate in the educational workshops, create an awareness campaign, produce and distribute domestic violence educational materials and to provide research and professional staff salary to oversee the study and action plan post study. The projected expenses for this project range from \$70,000 to \$80,000.

### How to donate

1. Make immediate contributions via John Jay College's Giving webpage at [www.jjay.cuny.edu/donateAAW](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/donateAAW)
2. Once on the page, you can enter the amount you wish to donate.
3. From the drop-down menu select "Other" as the designation and type in "Albanian Study" in the comments.
4. You will automatically receive an email confirmation for tax purposes.

This project is administered and supported by the Office for the Advancement of Research, John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Contact Prof. Anila Duro at [aduro@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:aduro@jjay.cuny.edu) or (212)-484-1188 and Dr. Daryl Wout at [dwout@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:dwout@jjay.cuny.edu) with any questions.



## Funding

- ✓ The Office for Advancement of Research  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY (\$4, 000 Grant)
- ✓ Community Donations (requested \$6, 000)  
To donate visit [www.jjay.cuny.edu/donateAAW](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/donateAAW)  
Select "Other" as designation and type in "Albanian Study"

## Special Thanks to Community Donors & Leaders:

Megi Xhemali  
Drita Popovic  
Juna Kotori

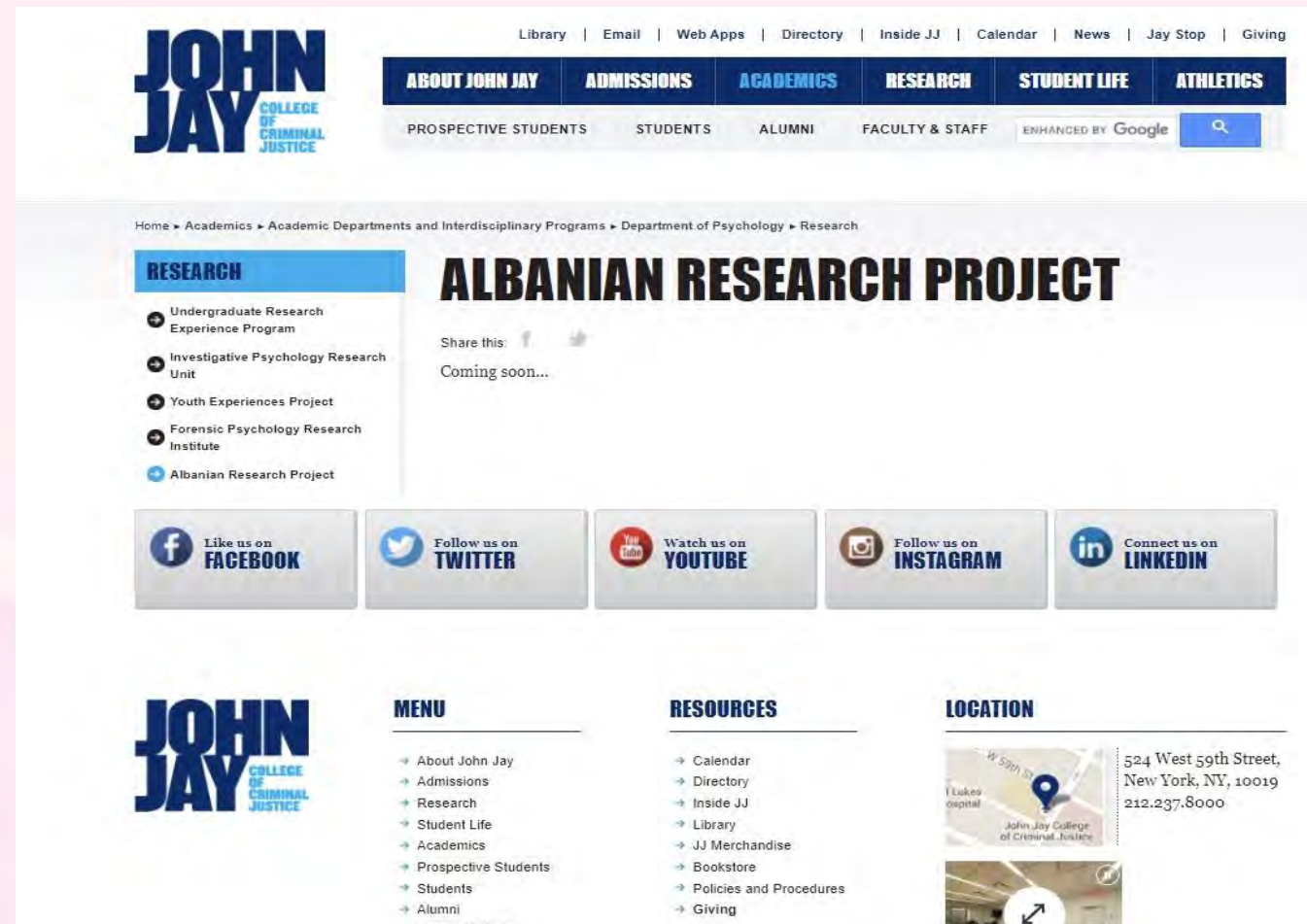
Klementina Sula  
Betira Shahollari  
Leonora Selmani

# Coming soon...

For future updates visit

<https://www.jjay.cuny.edu/albanian-research-project>

Together we can make a difference!



The screenshot displays the John Jay College of Criminal Justice website. The header includes the college's logo and a navigation menu with links to Library, Email, Web Apps, Directory, Inside JJ, Calendar, News, Jay Stop, and Giving. Below this is a secondary menu with links to ABOUT JOHN JAY, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, STUDENT LIFE, and ATHLETICS. A search bar is also present.

The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home » Academics » Academic Departments and Interdisciplinary Programs » Department of Psychology » Research. The title "ALBANIAN RESEARCH PROJECT" is prominently displayed. Below the title, there is a "Share this:" section with social media icons and the text "Coming soon...".

A sidebar on the left lists research opportunities under the heading "RESEARCH":

- Undergraduate Research Experience Program
- Investigative Psychology Research Unit
- Youth Experiences Project
- Forensic Psychology Research Institute
- Albanian Research Project (highlighted with a blue arrow)

Below the sidebar are five social media buttons: "Like us on FACEBOOK", "Follow us on TWITTER", "Watch us on YOUTUBE", "Follow us on INSTAGRAM", and "Connect us on LINKEDIN".

The footer contains the college's logo, a "MENU" section with links to About John Jay, Admissions, Research, Student Life, Academics, Prospective Students, Students, Alumni, and Faculty & Staff; a "RESOURCES" section with links to Calendar, Directory, Inside JJ, Library, JJ Merchandise, Bookstore, Policies and Procedures, and Giving; and a "LOCATION" section with a map and the address: 524 West 59th Street, New York, NY, 10019, 212.237.8000.