



## **Shameka Gillespie, Johnson C. Smith University- c/o 2014, Criminology**



**Name** : Shameka Gillespie

**Your HBCU** : Johnson C. Smith University

**Graduation Year** : 2014

**Major** : Criminology

### **1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?\***

Wingate, NC. My God mom introduced me to HBCUs



### **2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?\***

I chose to attend an HBCU because the sight of seeing individuals who looked like me was admiring. I enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing African-Americans as a whole bettering themselves educationally.

### **3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?\***

Attending an HBCU, let alone college was something new to my family and the transition was difficult at first but as the years went by I joined various organizations on campus and tried to get involved as much as possible. I'm so glad I went because I've met some incredible people with interesting personalities and people who kept my four years live.

### **4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?\***

Attending homecoming and football games at the college level is a different level of fun and excitement. Before I went to college I didn't know much about anything so it was heartfelt to watch everyone especially alumni come back to support our alma mater. These were the best first time experiences.

### **5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?\***

I would say all my professors honestly. In high school the teachers try to make it seem as though college professors would show extreme "tough love" but I honestly felt like they were my family, people who made sure I made it to the finish line and beyond what I imagined. I've always been the great straight A student and college challenged me and my professors made sure my way of thinking always improved and that I broke out of my shell.



**6. What are the chants heard most often at the sporting events?**

The one everyone loved. Cause we the best in the bmm bmm bmm ayyyy CI-CIIIIIII double A!

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