



# **The Enculturated Gene: Sickle Cell Health Politics and Biological Difference in West Africa**

*Duana Fullwiley*

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In the 1980s, a research team led by Parisian scientists identified several unique DNA sequences, or haplotypes, linked to sickle cell anemia in African populations. After casual observations of how patients managed this painful blood disorder, the researchers in question postulated that the Senegalese type was less severe. *The Enculturated Gene* traces how this genetic discourse has blotted from view the roles that Senegalese patients and doctors have played in making sickle cell "mild" in a social setting where public health priorities and economic austerity programs have forced people to improvise informal strategies of care.

Duana Fullwiley shows how geneticists, who were fixated on population differences, never investigated the various modalities of self-care that people developed in this context of biomedical scarcity, and how local doctors, confronted with dire cuts in Senegal's health sector, wittingly accepted the genetic prognosis of better-than-expected health outcomes. Unlike most genetic determinisms that highlight the absoluteness of disease, DNA haplotypes for sickle cell in Senegal did the opposite. As Fullwiley demonstrates, they allowed the condition to remain officially invisible, never to materialize as a health priority. At the same time, scientists' attribution of a less severe form of Senegalese sickle cell to isolated DNA sequences closed off other explanations of this population's measured biological success.

*The Enculturated Gene* reveals how the notion of an advantageous form of sickle cell in this part of West Africa has defined--and obscured--the nature of this illness in Senegal today.

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Precisely why? Because this The Enculturated Gene: Sickle Cell Health Politics and Biological Difference in West Africa is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will shock you with the secret that inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book include such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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