Harriet A. Washington

Harriet A. Washington’s writing focuses upon the intersection of medicine, ethics and culture. She has worked as a news editor, arts editor and science editor for two metropolitan dailies, followed by a stint as Page *One* editor for *USA Today* and subsequently spent 1992-1994 on a Harvard School of Public Health Journalism Fellowship for Advanced Studies in Public Health followed by the Stanford Professional Publishing Course and a 1998 Stanford John S. Knight Fellowship. Between 2002 and 2005 she was a Research Fellow in Medical Ethics at Harvard Medical School.

Ms Washington has been published in peer-reviewed medical publications including *Nature, the American Journal of Public Health, Harvard Public Health Review, the Harvard AIDS Review* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*. An article she co-authored in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* formed the basis for the AMA’s 2008 apology to the nation’s black physicians*.* She has been published in popular periodicals as well, including *The New York Times, the Times of London, Health, New Scientist, Essence* and *Psychology Today* and she has also written monthly columns for *Emerge* and Heart *& Soul* magazines.

Her copious national awards include the Congressional Black Caucus Beacon of Light Award, Science Desk award from the Alfred P. Sloan Science Foundation, several first-place awards from the National Association of Black Journalists, and two first-place Unity Awards She has also won a PEN award, the National Book Critics’ Circle Award for nonfiction, the Nonfiction Award of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the Gustavus Meyers award and others.

# Her most recent book, *Deadly Monopolies: The Shocking Corporate Takeover of Life Itself And the Consequences for Your Health and Our Medical Future,* was published in October 2011, garnering rapt media attention in the US and abroad.

She wrote *Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present* while a Research Fellow in Ethics at Harvard Medical School. *Medical Apartheid* has won a number of national awards, and was named one of the year’s Best Books by Publishers’ Weekly. Experts have praised its scholarship, accuracy and insights in reviews from the *New York Times*, the *Times of London, Washington Post,* *Newsweek, Psychiatric Services* and the *Oxford Journal of Social History* to the New York Academy of Sciences’ *Update*.

She is also the author of *Parkinson’s Disease*, a monograph published by Harvard Health Publications, of *Living Healthy with Hepatitis C* andis co-author of *Health and Healing for African Americans* as well as several academic book chapters on ethics history of medicine and genetics. She is in high demand as speaker on these topics.

Ms. Washington has taught at venues including New School University, SUNY, the Rochester Institute of Technology, and as a tutor in Latin at the University of Rochester, as a teaching assistant in public health law at the Harvard School of Public Health. She has also served as a senior research scholar at the National Center for Bioethics at Tuskegee University and a Visiting Scholar at the DePaul University College of Law.

She has worked as a laboratory technician, as a medical social worker, as the manager of a poison-control center/suicide hotline, and has performed as an oboist and as a classical-music announcer for *WXXI-FM*, a PBS affiliate in Rochester, N.Y. She lives in New York City where she is a graduate student at Columbia University.