

MITIGATING THE MATILDA EFFECT ON GILA KURTZ: A JOURNEY IN EXPLORING PROGRESSIVE, PRAGMATIC, AND PROMISING SOLUTIONS FOR ONLINE LEARNERS

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ABSTRACT

The term, *the Matilda effect* was coined to reflect the incongruencies in social equality experienced by Matilda Gage. Gage's work, as an abolitionist and suffragette, has had ripple effects that include the lack of recognition of innovative women researchers and scientists. This paper serves as a launch pad to enhance one female's poignant academic background and blended research interests. This academic is Gila Kurtz. Gila Kurtz's accomplishments are recognized herein through a recounting of her academic background, research questions, and contributions to the field of education.

Kurtz has delved into researching and writing about a variety of relevant open and distance learning (ODL) topics, such as popular technology platforms, with possible functions as learning management systems, or online spaces for synchronous and asynchronous collaboration. Her recent focus in the area of human interaction with technology lends insights into artificial intelligence and Internet of Things (IoT). While her career continues to evolve, it remains illuminated by her constant search for pragmatic and promising practices, tirelessly aimed at the betterment of student-centered instruction, whether the learners are faculty or students.

Keywords: Matilda effect, women researchers, distance education, artificial intelligence