

## MITIGATING THE MATILDA EFFECT ON ARLENE M. C. YOUNG: CELEBRATING HER PIONEERING INFLUENCE IN COUNSELLING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN DISTANCE EDUCATION

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### ABSTRACT

The *Matilda Effect* shines a revealing light on the widespread inclination to disregard, belittle, or marginalize women, depriving them of the recognition, credit, and inclusion they rightfully deserve in their professional fields and academic research. In short, it pertains to the systemic undervaluing of women's achievements within scientific domains (Rossiter, 1993). This paper highlights the transformative impact of Arlene M. C. Young, from her role as a counsellor to that of a professor, while tirelessly serving as a stalwart advocate for social justice and gender inclusivity in distance education. Young's biographical profile, encompassing her educational journey and notable publications, is acknowledged, leading to an examination of three select pieces that she authored.

**Keywords:** Matilda Effect, distance education, women's research, online learning, social justice, assertiveness, counselling, Arlene M. C. Young