

Dr. Donavon Johnson Jr.

Profile

The Illiterate of the 21st Century will not be those who are unable to read or write. It will be those who are unable to learn, unlearn, and relearn.

Dr. Johnson is a Policy Analyst and Research Consultant. He is a Lecturer, a Data Scientist, and specialist in digital Governance, digital transformation, and social policy. He is a 2016 Rhode Scholar Finalist and a 2018 Fulbright Scholar. He received in bachelor's degree in Politics (Major), Public Sector Management (Minor) and Criminology (Minor) from the University of the West Indies (UWI). He also received his master's degree in International Public and Development Management from the UWI and his PhD from Florida International University. He also holds an executive diploma in Artificial Intelligence and Governance.

Dr. Johnson is currently the Data Scientist leading data management for Jamaica's Citizen Security Plan.

He has led and co-led several research initiatives for entities at the local and international level such as the Government of Jamaica, the European Union, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United States Embassy in Jamaica. Dr. Johnson has also managed research projects for private corporations such as banks, global food conglomerates and other corporate entities. He has also led and co-led several research initiatives for other international entities such as the World Bank, European Union, Interamerican-Development Bank, and the Organization of American States.

Dr. Johnson's depth of experience in research and policy has been solicited to bring resolution to high-profile civil matters between international conglomerates in the International Court of Arbitration.

He is a published scholar whose first book was written as a challenge to the World Bank's research methodology for measuring Doing Business in developing Countries. His book championed the use of qualitative research methods as part of the research methodology to properly assess doing business in any country. He has also published his first sole-authored book on the impact Cryptocurrency on Democracy and Governance.

Dr. Johnson has earned a wealth of experience in youth related issues. In 2014, he led the secretariat that staged the first ever National Youth Conference in Jamaica. As a Youth Parliamentary Intern in the Parliament of Jamaica, he had the first-hand experience of producing research that guided landmarking legislations in Jamaica such as the decriminalization of marijuana legislation. He has also served on state boards as well as policy consultant to government ministries in Jamaica.