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# SPEAKER BIO

**Dr. Kiara Butler,  
Author &  
CEO/Founder,  
Diversity Talks**



Dr. Kiara Butler, author of *Terms & Conditions: The Fine Print to an Anti-Racist Society*, is a speaker, advocate, and CEO and Founder of Diversity Talks, a Rhode Island-based nonprofit specializing in youth-led anti-racism professional development for adults. She was named to Forbes magazine's 30 Under 30 and has been featured in TEDxProvidence, PBS, EdSurge, The Boston Globe, and The Providence Journal.

Growing up in Jackson, Mississippi, Kiara is known for her adaptability and versatility. From being part of the college cheer squad and the Army Reserve at the same time, to becoming a natural hair influencer while unapologetically living as a Black, same-gender-loving woman in the deep south, she has always taken challenges head on while staying true to herself. She completed her undergraduate degree at the illustrious, historic Tougaloo College where she became a member of the Gamma Psi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and later earned her Masters's from Belhaven University and Doctorate from Johnson & Wales University. Inspired by her personal experiences with inequity, and as a part of her studies, she researched and established a groundbreaking methodology for measuring cultural competency, called the PERM Framework.

Now, as a Founder and CEO of her own nonprofit, she spends her days empowering youth, dismantling systems of oppression, and upsetting people who uphold white supremacy.

