

2017 Anne Berry Bonnyman Symposium “Is Inequality Bad for Our Health?”

Public Health and Race Resource List

The following is a resource list for those who would like to continue exploring and learning more about racial justice and public health. It is not a complete list nor does it cover all aspects of race and equity within our public health system. Consider it a conversation starter or a bookmark on a journey to learn about ourselves, our identities, and how we think and respond to race, equity, and health in our lives. Not every resource will appeal to everyone but hopefully at least one will appeal to you.

Books:

Bad Blood: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment by James H. Jones

The New York Times Book Review says: “As an authentic, exquisitely detailed case study of the consequences of racism in American life, this book should be read by everyone who worries about the racial meanings of government policy and social practice in the United States.”

Hundreds of Interlaced Fingers: A Kidney Doctor's Search for the Perfect Match by Vanessa Grubbs MD

“While she was a primary care doctor in Oakland, Calif., Dr. Vanessa Grubbs fell in love with a man who had been living with kidney disease since he was a teenager. Their relationship brought Grubbs face to face with the dilemmas of kidney transplantation — and the racial biases she found to be embedded in the way donated kidneys are allocated. Robert Phillips, who eventually became her husband, had waited years for a transplant; Grubbs ended up donating one of her own kidneys to him. And along the way she found a new calling as a nephrologist — a kidney doctor.” NPR

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

“The history of HeLa is a rare and powerful combination of race, class, gender, medicine, bioethics, and intellectual property; far more rare is the writer than can so clearly fuse those disparate threads into a personal story so rich and compelling. Rebecca Skloot has crafted a unique piece of science journalism that is impossible to put down—or to forget.”—*Seed* magazine

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures by Anne Fadiman

Amazon.com Review: Lia Lee was born in 1981 to a family of recent Hmong immigrants, and soon developed symptoms of epilepsy. By 1988 she was living at home but was brain dead after a tragic cycle of misunderstanding, overmedication, and culture clash: “What the doctors viewed as clinical efficiency the Hmong viewed as frosty arrogance.” *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* is a tragedy of Shakespearean dimensions, written with the deepest of human feeling. Sherwin Nuland said of the account, “There are no villains in Fadiman's tale, just as there are no heroes. People are presented as she saw them, in their humility and their frailty--and their nobility.”

Articles:

Always in My Heart: A Workbook for Grieving Children

Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Clementina M. Chéry

This is a resource to support children during the journey of sudden and violent death.

<http://www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org>

Are hate crimes a public health issue?

The bmj opinion (invited submission), Nancy Krieger PhD, August 24, 2017

Hate crimes are one example of structural racism, and those who are concerned must work with others to challenge those who promote hate and inequity.

<http://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2017/08/24/nancy-krieger-are-hate-crimes-a-public-health-issue/>

The deadliness of the opioid epidemic has roots in America's failed response to crack

Vox. Updated by German Lopez, October 2, 2017

The US could have used previous drug crises to prepare for the current one. But it didn't.

<https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/identities/2017/10/2/16328342/opioid-epidemic-racism-addiction>

The Fight for Health Care Has Always Been About Civil Rights

The Atlantic, Vann R. Newkirk II, June 27, 2017

In dismantling Obamacare and slashing Medicaid, Republicans would strike a blow against signature victories for racial equality in America.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/06/the-fight-for-health-care-is-really-all-about-civil-rights/531855/>

For Native Americans, Health Care Is A Long, Hard Road Away

NPR, Misha Friedman, April 13, 2016

<http://www.npr.org/2016/04/13/473264076/for-native-americans-health-care-is-a-long-hard-road-away>

Genes Don't Cause Racial-Health Disparities, Society Does

The Atlantic, Jason Silverstein, April 13, 2015

Researchers are looking in the wrong place: White people live longer not because of their DNA but because of inequality.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2015/04/genes-dont-cause-racial-health-disparities-society-does/389637/>

Health Inequalities in Boston by T Stops: A Pictorial Essay

BU School of Public Health blog, Sandro Galea, MD, DrPH

In this article the Dean of the BU School of Public Health describes in pictures and narrative the health disparities in Boston neighborhoods.

<https://www.bu.edu/sph/2015/03/29/health-of-a-city-health-inequalities-in-boston-by-t-stops-a-pictorial-essay/>

How racism hurts - literally

The Boston Globe, Madeline Drexler, July 15, 2007

http://archive.boston.com/news/globe/ideas/articles/2007/07/15/how_racism_hurts___literally/

Leaving Segregated Neighborhoods Lowers Blacks' Blood Pressure

NPR *All Things Considered*, Rob Stein, May 15, 2017

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/05/15/527966937/leaving-segregated-neighborhoods-lowers-blacks-blood-pressure>

Living and dying at the crossroads: racism, embodiment, and why theory is essential for a public health of consequence.

American Journal of Public Health, April 2016; 106:832-833, Nancy Krieger PhD

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2016.303100>

Survivors' Burial and Resource Guide: A Step-By-Step Workbook for Regaining Control

Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Clementina M. Chéry

This guide offers " ...families and providers who serve them ... a tool to manage the crisis and chaos after a homicide happens."

<http://www.ldbpeaceinstitute.org>

Reports:

Boston Community Health Assessment October 2014, Updated May 2016

The Boston Public Health Commission partnered with the Boston Alliance for Community Health to develop this comprehensive health assessment of Boston residents.

<http://www.bphc.org/onlinenewsroom/Documents/Boston%27%20Community%20Health%20Assessment.pdf>

Documentaries:

Soul Food Junkies | African American Culinary Tradition, PBS *Independent Lens*

<https://itvs.org/films/soul-food-junkies>

Filmmaker Byron Hurt explores the upsides and downsides of soul food, a quintessential American cuisine. Soul Food Junkies explores the history and social significance of soul food to black cultural identity and its effect on African American health, good and bad. Soul food will also be used as the lens to investigate the dark side of the food industry and the growing food justice movement that has been born in its wake.

Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?

A seven part documentary series exploring racial & socioeconomic inequalities in health.

http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/handouts_2.php#handouts

In Sickness and In Wealth (56 min.) How does the distribution of power, wealth and resources shape opportunities for health?

When the Bough Breaks (29 min.) Can racism become embedded in the body and affect birth outcomes?

Becoming American (29 min.) Latino immigrants arrive healthy, so why don't they stay that way?

Bad Sugar (29 min.) What are the connections between diabetes, oppression, and empowerment in two Native American communities?

Place Matters (29 min.) Why is your street address such a strong predictor of your health? (This episode is available as a stand-alone DVD with English, Lao, Hmong, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Cantonese audio, as well as English and Mandarin subtitles.)

Collateral Damage (29 min.) How do Marshall Islanders pay for globalization and U.S. military policy with their health?

Not Just a Paycheck (30 min.) Why do layoffs take such a huge toll in Michigan but cause hardly a ripple in Sweden?

TED Talks

How Racism Makes Us Sick

David R. Williams developed a scale to measure the impact of discrimination on well-being, going beyond traditional measures like income and education to reveal how factors like implicit bias, residential segregation and negative stereotypes create and sustain inequality.

https://www.ted.com/talks/david_r_williams_how_racism_makes_us_sick

The Problem With Race-Based Medicine

Global scholar, University of Pennsylvania civil rights sociologist, and law professor Dorothy Roberts exposes the myths of race-based medicine.

<http://www.tedmed.com/talks/show?id=530900>

Social & Cellular Pathways Underlying The Embodiment of Racism

Dr. David Chae gives TEDx talk on racism and mortality.

<https://sph.umd.edu/news-item/dr-david-chae-gives-tedx-talk-racism-and-mortality>

Why Your Doctor Should Care About Social Justice

Mary Bassett, the New York City Health Commissioner, is fighting what may be the greatest stumbling block to equitable health care in the US: institutional racism.

https://www.ted.com/talks/mary_bassett_why_your_doctor_should_care_about_social_justice#t-817584

Implicit Association Test (IAT)

Project Implicit was launched almost two decades ago. In 2011 the group launched Project Implicit Mental Health and published the book, **Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People**. Take the Implicit Association Test (IAT) which “measures the strength of associations between concepts (e.g., black people, gay people) and evaluations (e.g., good, bad) or stereotypes (e.g., athletic, clumsy). The main idea is that making a response is easier when closely related items share the same response key. “

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>