The Intersection of HIV, Poverty, and Race

Jayson K. Jones, LMSW
Women as the Face of Aids Summit 2016
Race and Poverty

People of color are disproportionately impacted by poverty

Poverty Rates by Race in 2014

(DeNavas-Walt & Proctor, 2015)
Racism

A system of oppression that is based on racial categories and domination that designate one group as superior and the other(s) as inferior, and then uses these perceived differences to justify inequity, exclusion, or domination.
Structural Racism

Personal beliefs, attitudes, and actions
• Individual
• Intentional or unintentional

Formal and informal Practices
• White is normal
• Behaviors or customs that lead to advantages to some

Policies and procedures
• Create advantages for whites and disadvantages for people of color
• May not mention race but have clear racial implications
• Personal, local, and national racial history may cause inequity

Personal

Cultural

Institutional
“...addressing the root *causes* and *consequences* of poverty.”
Racism and Poverty
Racism, Poverty, and Health

- Racism is a leading and contributing factor to many health disparities within the United States
- Psychological, physiological, and socio-economic toll on people of color
- Experiencing racism is linked to
  - Increased rates of depression, PTSD
  - Psychological trauma and injury
  - Binge eating
  - Binge drinking
  - Weight gain
  - Obesity
  - Hypertension
  - Heart disease

(Carter, 2007; Roberts, Gilman, Breslau, Breslau, & Koenen, 2011; Loo, C.M., 2015; NCHS, 2014)
Race and HIV

- Between 2008-2012 there were 238,139 diagnoses of HIV infection in the U.S.
- Blacks/African Americans accounted for
  - 47% of total
  - 64% of women
- Latinos/Hispanic Americans accounted for
  - 22% of total
  - 16% of women
- Together Black and Latino women account for 80% of the total diagnoses of HIV from 2008-2012 despite being 25% of the female population

(Blackstock et al., 2015; National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, & TB Prevention, 2015)
# Race and HIV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race or Ethnicity</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Diagnoses of HIV Infection, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaska Native</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>19,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>10,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>12,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Races</td>
<td>982</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, & TB Prevention, 2015)
### Race and AIDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race or Ethnicity</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Persons with Diagnosed HIV Whose Infection Was Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS) during 2014</th>
<th>Cumulative Estimated Number of Persons with Diagnosed HIV Infection Ever Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS), Through 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaska Native</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>3,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>9,815</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>10,045</td>
<td>504,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>4,279</td>
<td>219,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>5,303</td>
<td>439,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Races</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>33,260</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, & TB Prevention, 2015)
Race Matters. Place Matters.

RACISM (Structural Inequalities) → SDOH → Poverty → HIV

(Robinson, & Moodie-Mills, 2012)
Implications

- **In addition to behavioral interventions** we need to focus on:
  - Community level prevention programs
  - Housing discrimination and residential segregation
  - Improving daily living conditions
  - Economic inequity

- **Education**
  - Provide free health and sexual health education
  - Provide free condoms

- **Cultural humility**
  - Practitioners need to be trained in working with participants who have contracted HIV
  - Practitioners need to take the role of the learner-professional

- Treat the **individual and the community**

((National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, & TB Prevention, 2010); Robinson, & Moodie-Mills, 2012)}
References


References


Thank you!

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