Race, place & health

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Determinants of Population Health

1. Genes, biology
2. Health behaviors
3. Medical care
4. Total ecology, social & societal characteristics

Source: (original from CDC)
Health begins where we are born, work, live, and age.
(Un)equal opportunity to make healthy choices

Google’s office study

Google study and WaPo article

A food desert isolates residents from healthy foods. South Los Angeles is filled with fast-food restaurants -- about 400 -- but has only a few grocery stores. See more fast food pictures.

DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES
Latinos, esp. foreign-born, live longer than Whites; advantage decreases with time in US.

Advantage may dissipate due to changes in:
- Smoking
- Demographic patterns
- Obesity-related mortality

Source: Garcia et al. 2020
WORDS MATTER

Messaging affects accuracy and interpretation

Disparities affect “us”

Solutions to the problems

Colloquial language

- Fair chance for good health
- Opportunities for better health choices
- Giving a fair shot in all communities
- Enabling people to choose the right path
- Giving tools to make better decisions

Source: RWJF
Role of Journalism

Journalism shapes public’s understanding of health

Tell the whole story

Figure 2: Types of causes mentioned in media and organisational materials

- News Media Materials (n=209)
- Organisational Materials (n=182)

Source: Frameworks
Additional Resources

On framing health disparities:
• Robert Wood Johnson Foundation study
• Health Foundation (UK)

On Immigrant & Latino Health Paradox
• Cohort shifts in obesity and smoking (Van Hook et al. 2020)
• Functional life expectancy (Garcia et al. 2020)
• Biological risk profiles (García and Ailshire 2019)
• HIE and aging in 3 Western countries (Markides and Rote 2019)
• Selection and protection among Immigrants from 5 countries (Riosmena et al. 2017)
• Smoking trends and migration cohorts (Bostean et al. 2017)

Other Latino (Latinx) health issues
• Park access (Garcia et al. 2016)
• Tobacco retailer density (Rodriguez et al. 2011)
• Neighborhood stressors and Latino mental health (Bostean et al. 2019)
• Review of discrimination and Latino health (Andrade et al. 2020)
Racism and the Health of Asian Americans

Gilbert C. Gee, Ph.D.
UCLA
1. Racism makes you sick

2. “Race adjustments”
"Can you see as much as white people? You know, because of your EYES...?"

Adjusted for age, gender, acculturation, education, and other factors.


Adj usted for age, gender, acculturation, education, and other factors.

Sustained Scientific Interest

U.S. Surgeon General
Mental Health, Culture, Race & Ethnicity, 2001

National Academies of Science
Unequal Treatment, 2003
Measuring Racial Discrimination, 2004
Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity, 2017
Leading Health Indicators 2030: Advancing Health, Equity & well-being. 2019

National Institutes of Health
Science of Research on Discrimination and Health, 2011
Structural Racism/Discrimination, 2017
Seven Reasons to Care About Racism and COVID-19 and Seven Things to Do to Stop It

See also Morabia, p. 923, Tarantola et al., p. 925, and the AJPH COVID-19 section, pp. 939–977.

Prediction Psychological Distress Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic by Machine Learning: Discrimination and Coping Mechanisms of Korean Immigrants in the U.S.

Shinwoo Choi 1,*, Joo Young Hong 2, Yong Je Kim 3,*, and Hyejoon Park 4
Race Adjustments

Judicial awards

Bias in research
Additional Reading


Why we should treat Islamophobia as a public health issue

Goleen Samari, Contributor
# of Assaults against Muslims

Source: FBI Hate Crime Statistics
What is Islamophobia?

Islamophobia is social **stigma** towards Islam and Muslims, dislike of Muslims as a political force, and a distinct construct referring to **xenophobia** and **racism** towards Muslims or those perceived to be Muslim (Samari 2016).
Muslims in the U.S.

3.45 million Muslims in the U.S.
• 58% immigrants
• 42% U.S. born

By 2050, 8.1 million Muslims or 2.1% of the U.S. population

One of the most racially diverse groups in the U.S.

Source: Pew Research Center
Race/Ethnicity of US Muslims

All US Muslims

- White: 41
- Black: 20
- Asian: 28
- Hispanic: 8
- Other/Mixed: 3

US General Public

- White: 64
- Black: 12
- Asian: 6
- Hispanic: 16
- Other/Mixed: 2

Legend:
- White
- Black
- Asian
- Hispanic
- Other/Mixed
Research on Islamophobia and Health

Islamophobia and poor mental health
- Robust evidence
- Psychological distress, paranoia, depression, and anxiety

Evidence exists, but is more limited for impacts on
- Physical health
  - Self rated health, coronary heart disease, and preterm births
- Barrier to access and utilization of healthcare
Islamophobia and Health

Individual Pathways
• Stress
  - Stereotype threat
  - Identity concealment
  - Racism related vigilance

Interpersonal Pathways
• Interactions with providers and the health care system
• Social isolation

Structural Pathways
• Surveillance
• Policies
• Media
Anti-Sharia Legislation in the USA

Source: Haas Institute at UC Berkeley
NO MUSLIM BAN
NO WALL
References and Resources

UC Berkeley Othering & Belonging Institute:
https://belonging.berkeley.edu/global-justice/islamophobia

Media Portrayals of Minorities Project:
https://www.mediaandminorities.org/

Pew Research Center:

The Bias Brief by Council on American-Islamic Relations:

Islamophobia, Health, and Public Health: A Systematic Literature Review