### PRESENTER



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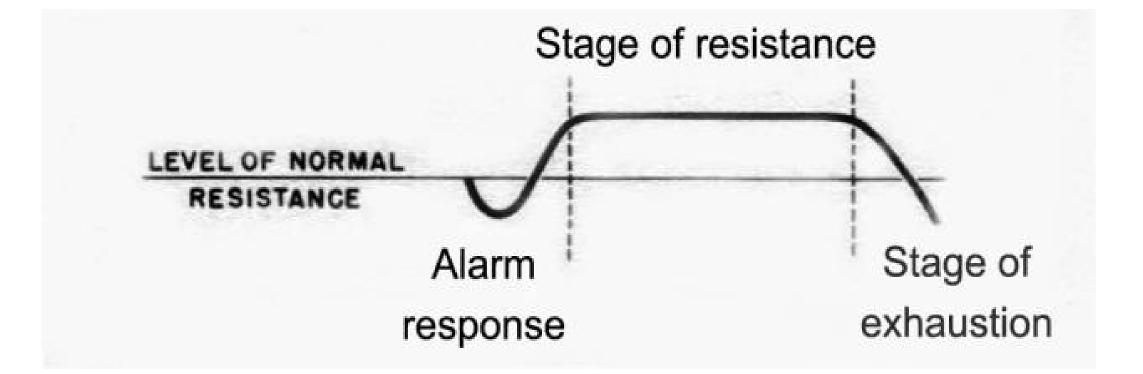


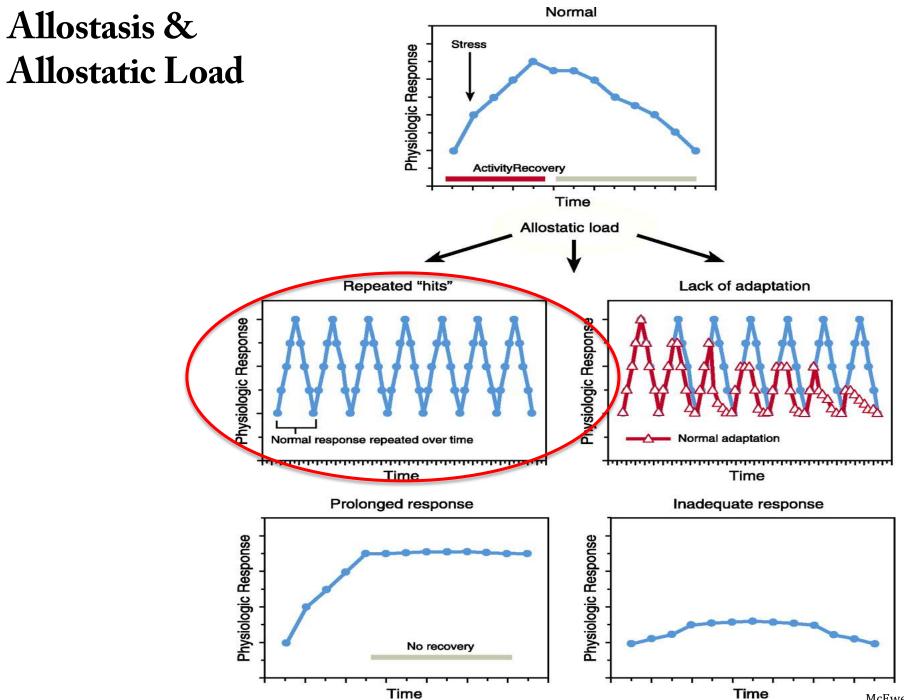
# The biology of racism To Biologize Racism is to Ignore Its Full Impact on the Human Body

Amani M. Allen UC Berkeley School of Public Health

June 9, 2020

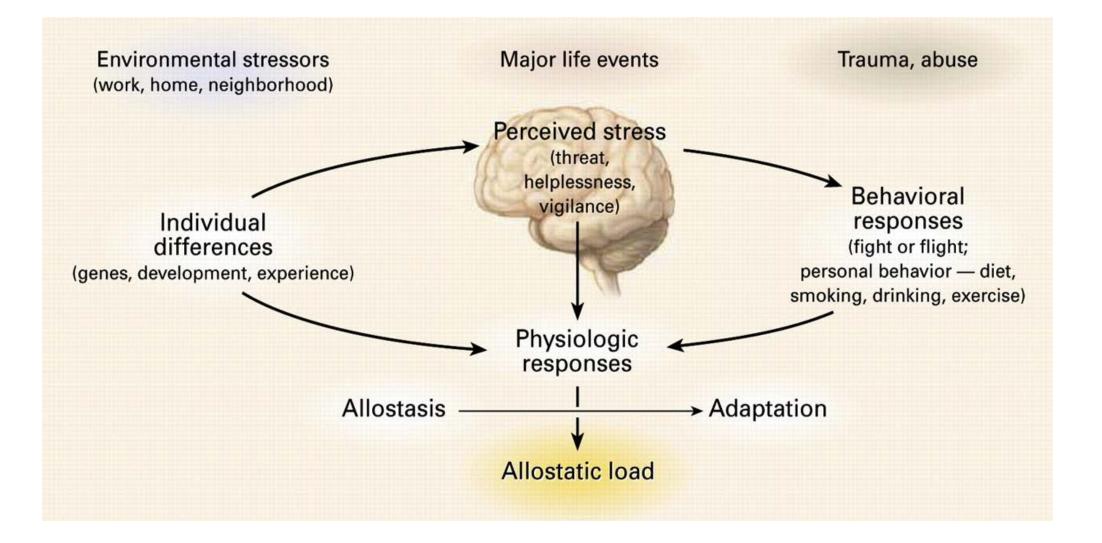
# General Adaptation Syndrome "fight or flight"



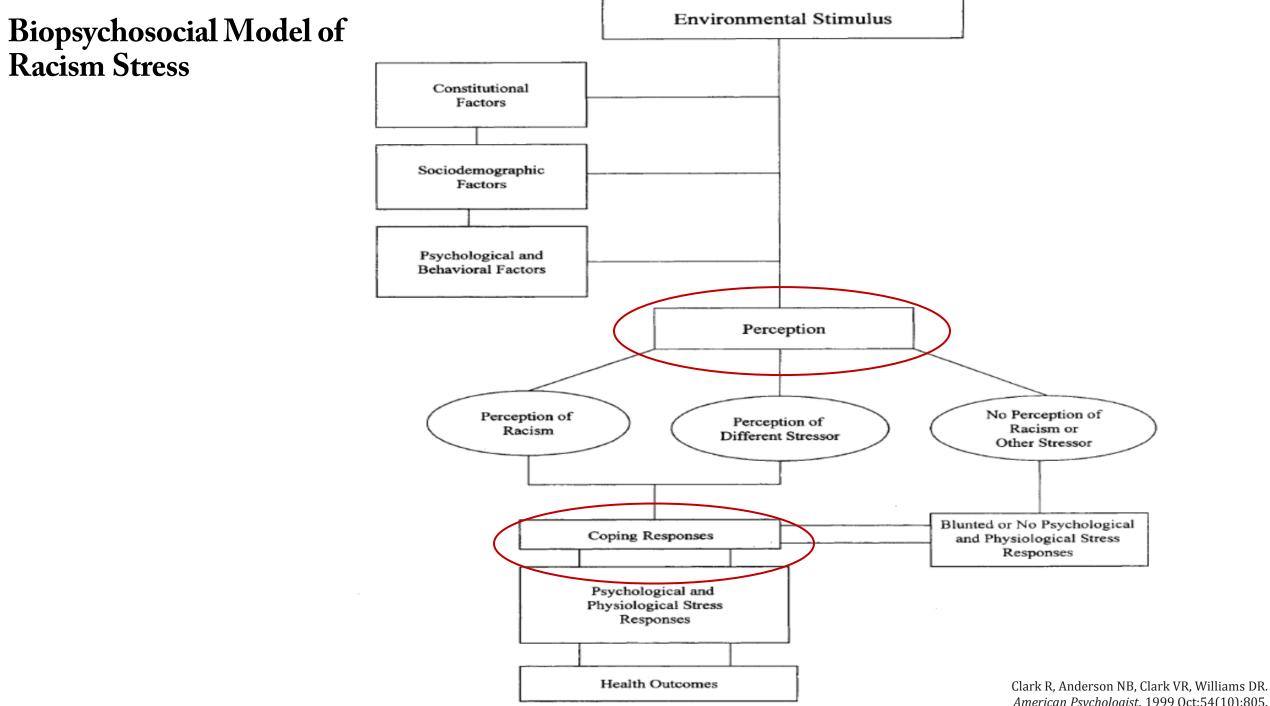


McEwen BS, Seeman T. Annals NY Acad Sci. 1999 Dec;896(1):30-47.

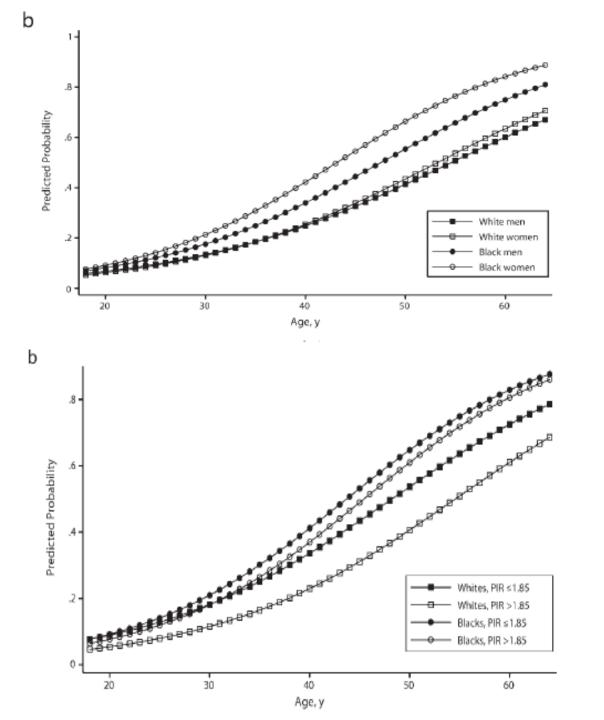
# The Stress Response Process



McEwen BS, Seeman T. Annals NY Acad Sci. 1999 Dec;896(1):30-47.



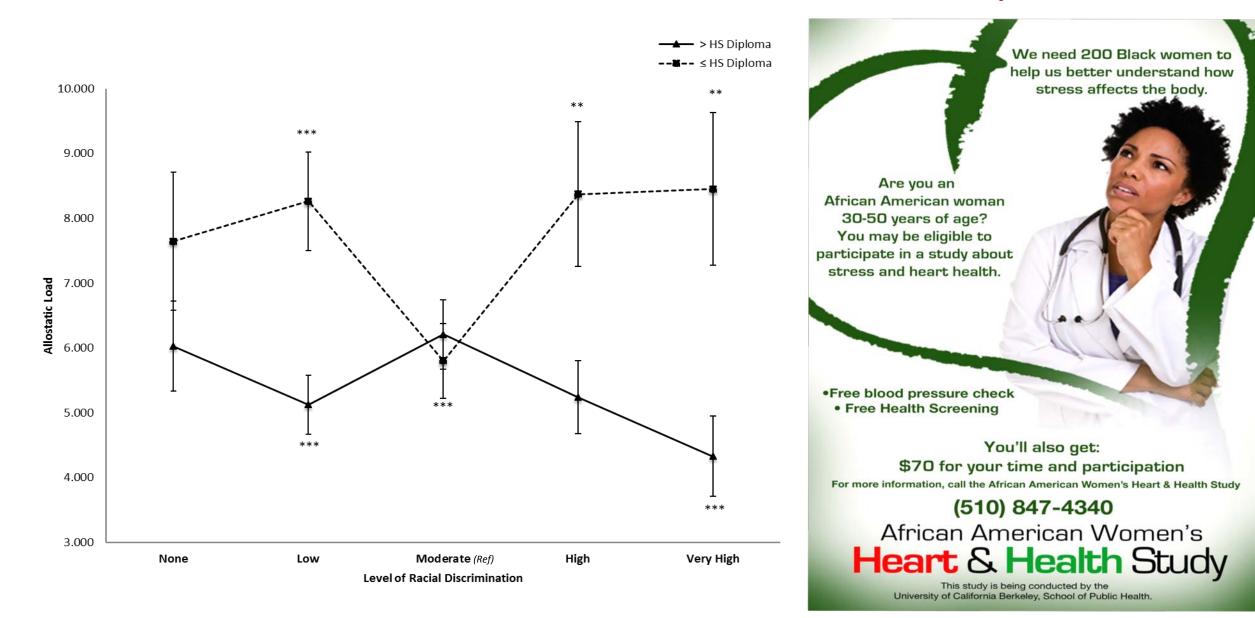
American Psychologist. 1999 Oct;54(10):805.



# "Weathering"

- Numerous studies show Blacks/African Americans have higher allostatic load whites.
- Greatest disparity observed among Black/African American women.
- Pattern consistent after controls for socioeconomic factors.

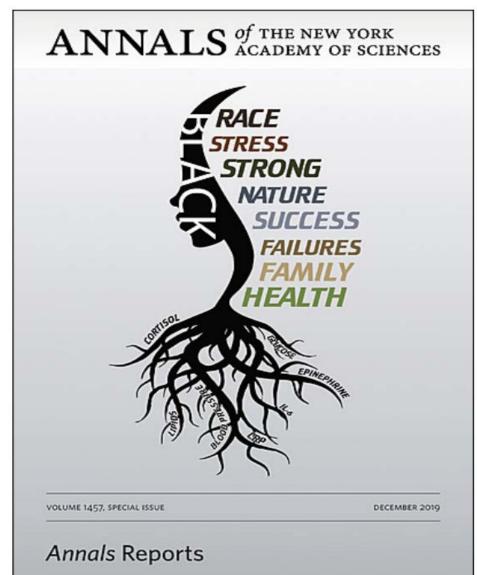
## African American Women's Heart & Health Study

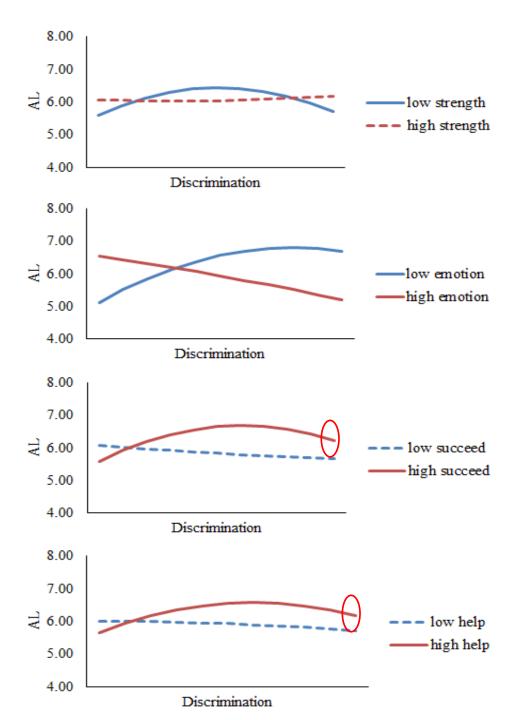


## African American Women's Heart & Health Study

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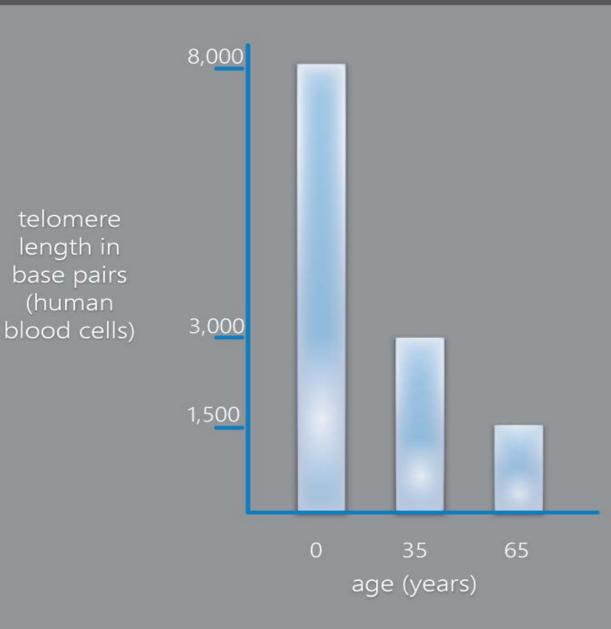
Alexis N Reeves, Elizabeth K Michaels, Marilyn D Thomas, Uche Okoye, Melisa M Price, Rebecca E Hasson, David H Chae, Amani M Allen. Precision in Stress Measurement: Racial Discrimination, Stress and Blood Pressure among African American Women. [embargoed-do not photograph/ share] **On the front cover**: The cover image, submitted by Allen *et al.*, is from the original article "Racial discrimination, the superwoman schema, and allostatic load: exploring an integrative stress-coping model among African American women," https://doi.org/10.1111/nyas.14188.

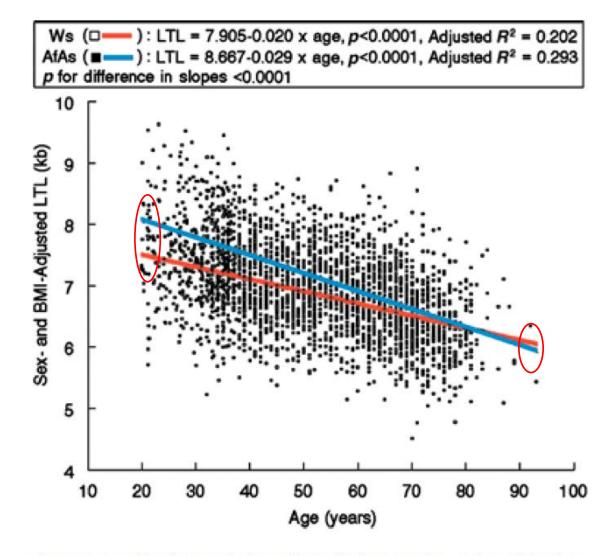




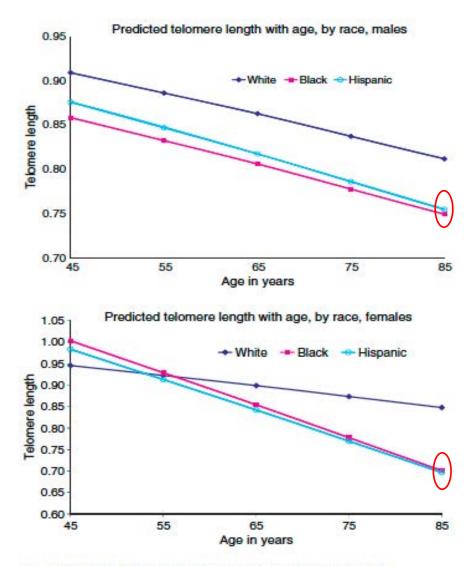


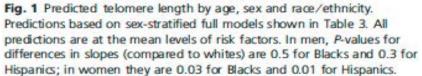
#### Telomere Length Declines in Dividing Cells as We Age



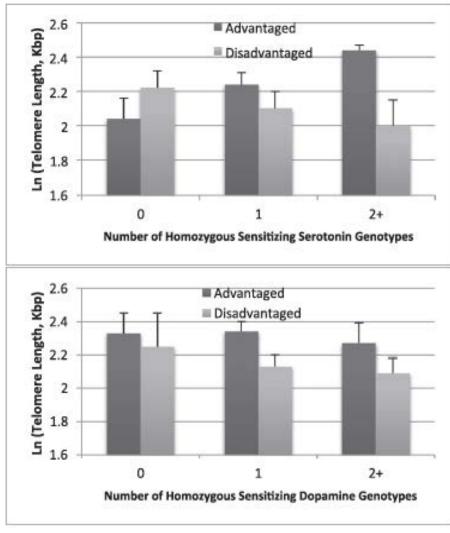


**Fig. 3** Sex- and body mass index-adjusted leukocyte telomere length (LTL) vs. age for African Americans and whites from the NHLBI Family Heart Study (FHS) and the Bogalusa Heart Study (BHS) combined.





# **Biological Sensitivity to Context**



African American boys age 9

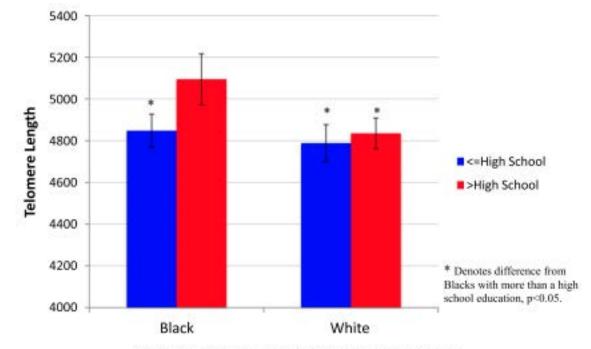


Fig. 1. Age- and gender-adjusted TL, by race and education.

#### Table 3

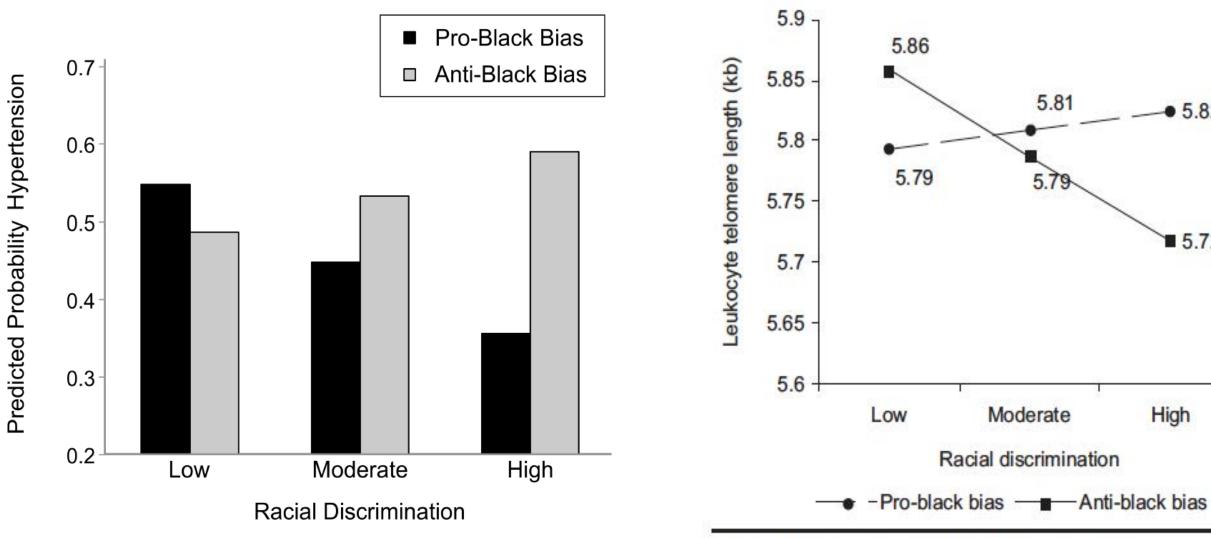
Linear regressions predicting telomere length (health behavior analysis), full sample.

N = 2599 variable	Model A				Model B				Model D			
	Coef	SE	p		Coef	SE	р		Coef	SE	р	
Age	-26.9	7.9	0.001	**	-26.3	7.9	0.001	**	-28.1	8.0	< 0.001	••
Female	270.5	46.3	< 0.001		277.3	46.3	< 0.001	**	244.1	48.2	< 0.001	
Black	64.0	49.0	0.192		98.0	50.6	0.053		107.4	51.0	0.035	*
Education > HS	-	-	-		125.0	47.6	0.009		119.7	47.6	0.012	
Exercise	-	-	-		-	-	-		-0.1	0.3	0.717	
Obesity	-						0-00		-85.5	54.2	0.114	
Smoking	-	-	-		-	-	-		-131.5	47.5	0.006	**

Notes: All models adjusted for chronic conditions, study site, and telomere batch.

p < .05.p < .01.

black and white men and women age 70–79 in Pittsburgh, PA and Memphis, TN



#### Figure 1.

Predicted probabilities of hypertension by racial discrimination and implicit racial bias among African American men in the Bay Area Heart Health Study (n = 91).

Note: Controlling for age, relationship status, poverty ratio, health insurance, waist-hip ratio, and number of chronic conditions.

Interaction between racial discrimination and implicit racial bias:  $\chi^2 = 4.89$ , 1 df, p = 0.027.

Figure 1. Predicted leukocyte telomere length by racial discrimination and implicit racial bias among African-American men

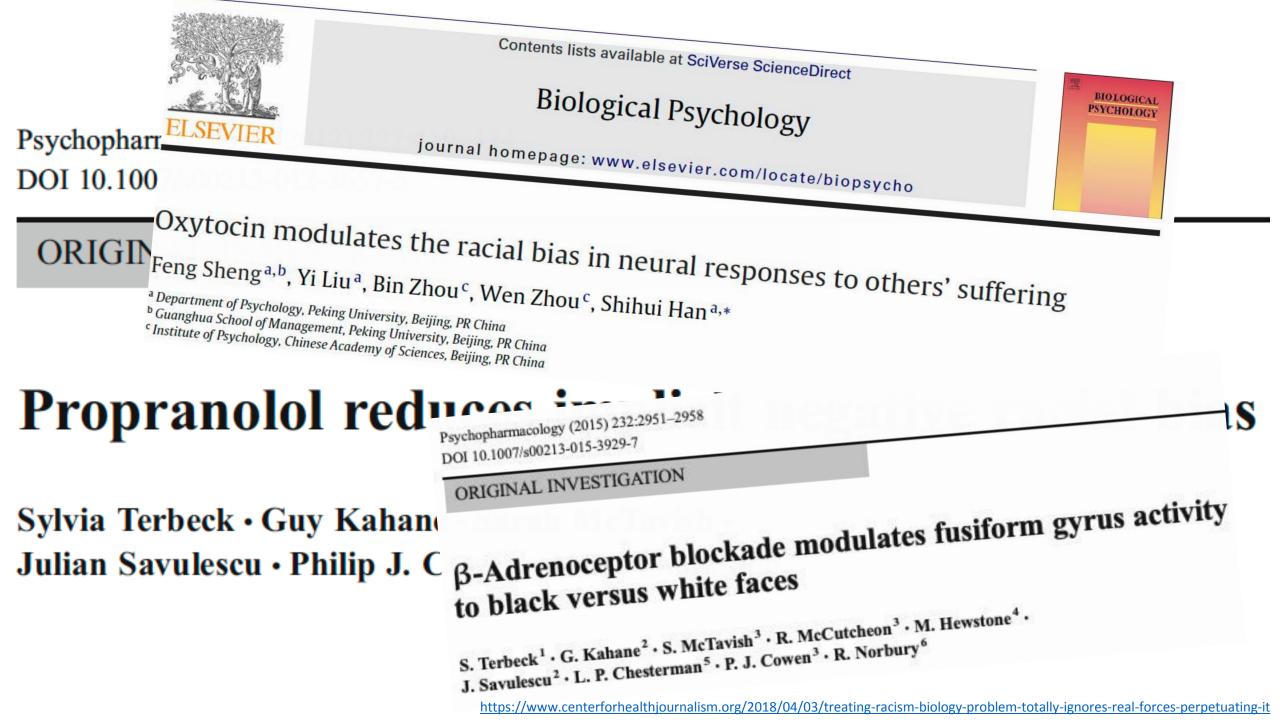
5.81

5.79

• 5.82

5.72

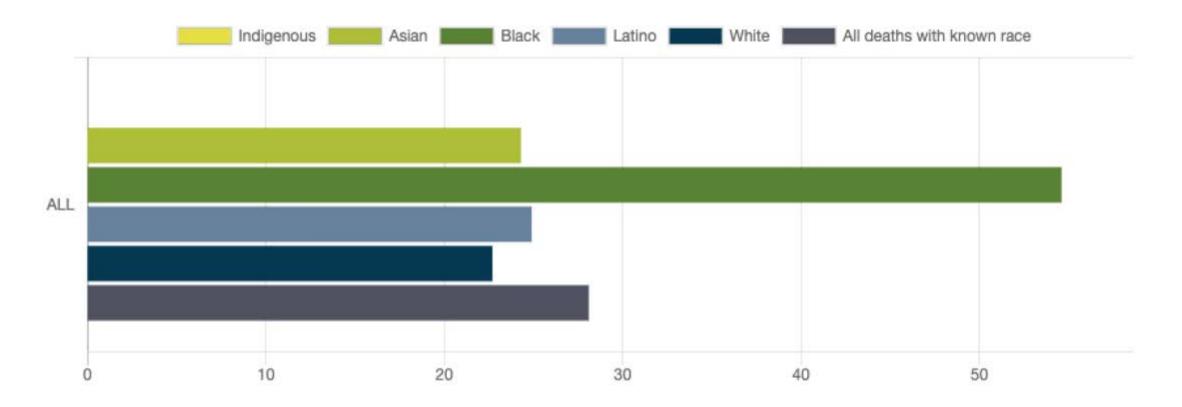
High



#### THE COLOR OF COVID-19: DEATHS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY IN THE U.S.

APM Research Lab, 5/27/20

#### COVID-19 DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE OF EACH GROUP, THROUGH MAY 26, 2020



Black Americans represent 13% of the population in the U.S. but 25% of Covid-19 deaths.

 $\left(1\right)$ 

## <sup>(2)</sup> The latest COVID-19 mortality rate for Black Americans is 2.4 times as high as the rate for Whites and 2.2 times as high as the rate for Asians and Latinos.

"In New Mexico, the Indigenous death rate is 8 times as high as the White mortality rate. In Arizona, it is more than 5 times the rate for all other groups."

# Indigenous Americans: Percent of COVID-19 deaths and population, through May 26, 2020

For all U.S. states with available data and Washington, D.C., in cases where 10 or more known deaths have occurred. Sorted from most overrepresented to most under-represented.

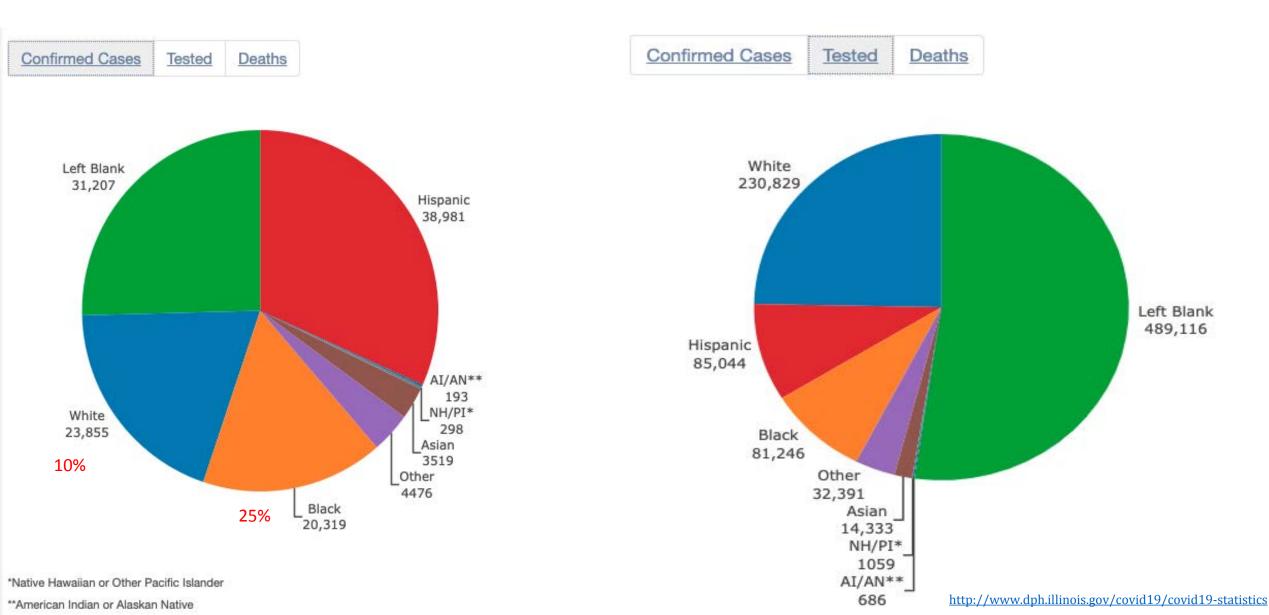


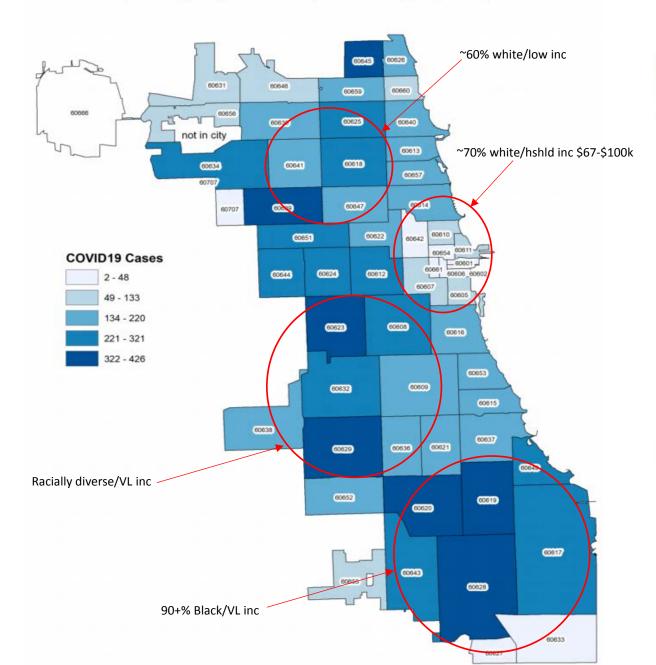
Includes data from the 6 states of Arizona, California, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi and New Mexico. These states are those reporting data that have experienced 10 or more known deaths among Indigenous residents. The states of Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin are also reporting Indigenous deaths, but have experienced fewer than 10 deaths each. However, those suppressed data are reflected in the "ALL KNOWN DEATHS" figure of 454, an undercount of Indigenous lives lost nationally due to the uneven data reporting across states. The remaining outstanding states are either not reporting Indigenous deaths (tallying them in "Other") or have experienced no Indigenous deaths. States employ varying methods for reporting race and ethnicity data. Population figures shown here align with method used by each state.

Source: APM Research Lab • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

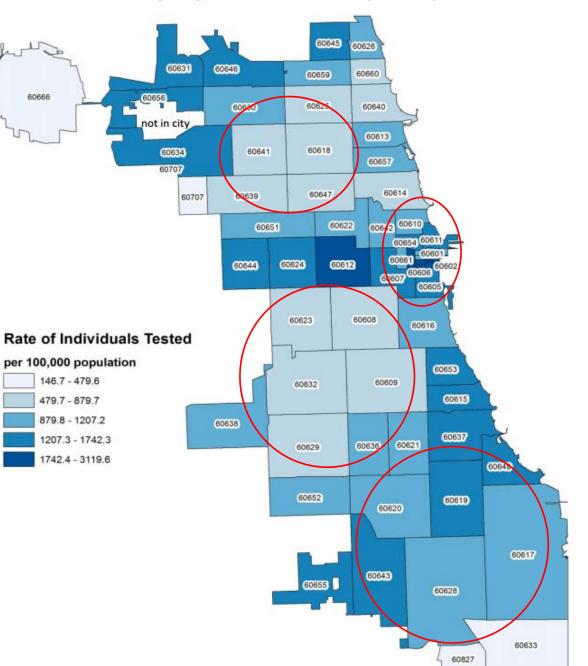
## Testing disparities $\rightarrow$ morbidity and mortality disparities?

Black residents make up 37 % of Illinois' Covid-19 deaths, but only received 13 percent of the state's tests, as of April 23.





### Rate of Individuals tested for COVID-19 by Chicago zip code n=29,428 through April 12, 2020, among Chicago residents



#### COVID19 Cases among Chicago residents by Chicago zip code n=10,506\* through April 16, 2020

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ETENE FRONTH WAR

SEORGEE I

Marilyn D Thomas, Nicholas P Jewel, Amani M Allen. Black and Armed: Statistical interaction with aging and with perceived mental illness among males fatally shot by police during 2015-18 using case-only design [embargoed - do not photograph or share]

R.I.P. Breonna!

#### **REMOVED: DATA EMBARGOED UNTIL PUBLICATION**

8. TRILON

118

Marilyn D Thomas, Nicholas P Jewel, Amani M Allen. Black and Armed: Statistical interaction with aging and with perceived mental illness among males fatally shot by police during 2015-18 [embargoed-do not photograph/share]

Interaction estimates of the risk of being armed versus unarmed for Black compared to White males fatally shot by police 2015-18, WaPO

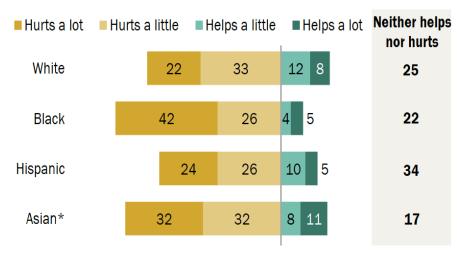
#### **REMOVED: DATA EMBARGOED UNTIL PUBLICATION**

Marilyn D Thomas, Nicholas P Jewel, Amani M Allen. Black and Armed: Statistical interaction with aging and with perceived mental illness among males fatally shot by police during 2015-18 [embargoed do not photograph/share]

Multivariable negative binomial regression of municipal and county-level police killing rates on 2013 LEMAS policies/practices by agencies in The Counted (2015-16) by all and race-specific killings

### **REMOVED: DATA EMBARGOED UNTIL PUBLICATION**

Marilyn D Thomas, Alexis N Reeves, Nicholas P Jewell, Eli K Michaels, Amani M Allen. The role of US law enforcement agency policies and practices on race-specific police killings, 2015-16. [embargoed - do not photograph or share] % of each group saying that <u>being black</u> helps/hurts people's ability to get ahead in our country these days



Among those who say being black hurts people's ability to get ahead, % of **whites** and **blacks** saying each is a major reason why black people in our country may have a harder time getting ahead than white people

role models

to work hard

Lack of motivation

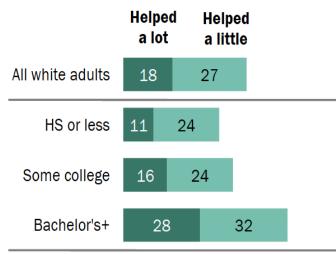
■ White ■ Black 54 Racial discrimination 84 51 Less access to high-paying jobs 76 60 Less access to good schools 72 50 Family instability 42 Lack of good 45

31

22

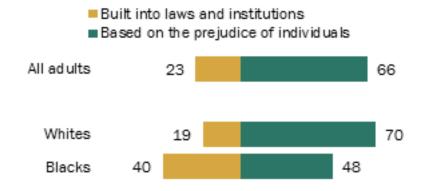
22

Among whites, % saying that, when it comes to their ability to get ahead, being white has ...



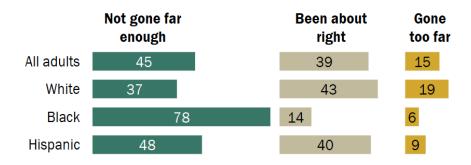
#### More see individual, rather than institutional, racism as a bigger problem

% saying discrimination \_\_\_\_\_ is the bigger problem when it comes to discrimination against black people in the U.S. today



#### About eight-in-ten blacks say we haven't gone far enough in giving blacks equal rights with whites

% of each group saying that, when it comes to giving black people equal rights with whites, our country has ...



#### THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT TO HOST RESISTANCE<sup>1</sup>

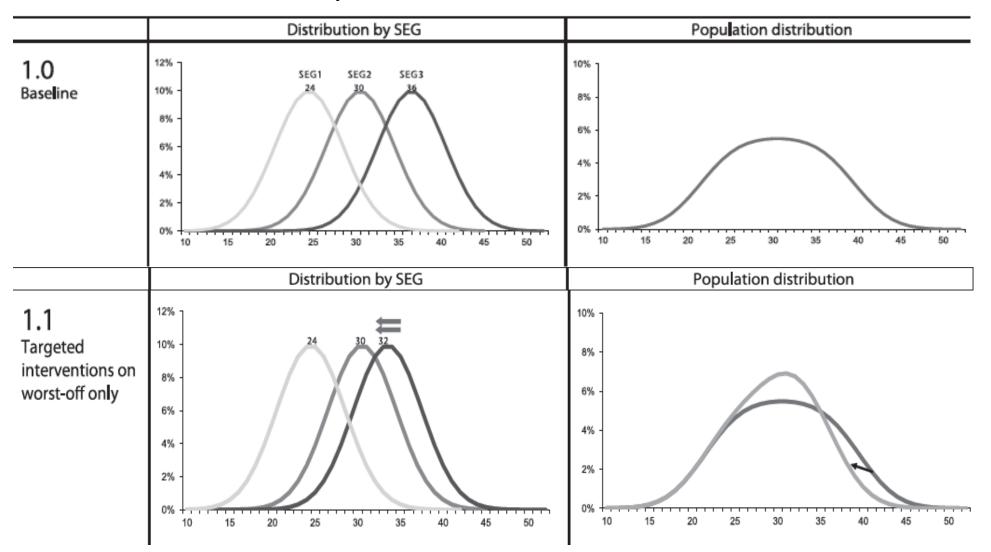
#### THE FOURTH WADE HAMPTON FROST LECTURE

JOHN CASSEL<sup>2</sup>

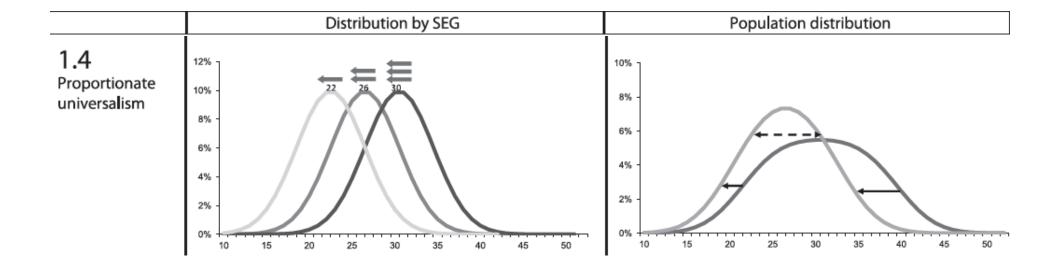
"throughout all history, disease...not been prevented by finding and treating sick individuals, but by modifying those environmental factors facilitating its occurrence,..." ... one unique experience, wever; I read his collected papers when practicing in South Africa before I had ever heard of the word epidemiology, much less knew what it meant. In a real sense, then, those papers were my introduction to the whole field, and for this I must thank my very wise chief, Dr. Sidney L. Kark, who introduced me to the papers, particularly

Unquestionably, in large part the answer is the model of disease causation which we (implicitly or explicitly) espouse. In Frost's day this model, stated in its most general form, was that disease occurred as a result of new exposure to a pathogenic agent. It was recognized, of course, that the consequences of such exposure would be determined both by the pathogenicity of the agent and the degree of resistance or sus-

## Population's-at-Risk



## Proportionate Universalism



## Targeted Universalism

**Policy & Practice** 

by john a. powell, Stephen Menendian, Wendy Ake



Step 1. Establish a universal goal based upon a broadly shared recognition of a societal problem and collective aspirations

Step 2. Assess general population performance relative to the universal goal

Step 3. Identify groups and places that are performing differently with respect to the goal and disaggregate them

Step 4. Assess and understand the structures that support or impede each group or community from achieving the universal goal

Step 5. Develop and implement targeted strategies for each group to reach the universal goal

Recognizes different groups are situated differently relative to the institutions and resources of society.