

Racial Disparities & Covid-19

YOUTH MISSION CO

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A resource for Youth Mission Co

Talking through Racism and Racial Disparities

* When you come across something you don't understand, use resources (people, books, internet, community, etc.)

CNN Clip of Elmo and his dad

- <https://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2020/06/06/elmo-louie-protests-racism-sesame-street-cnn-town-hall-vpx.cnn>

Elmo reaching far and wide:

On June 6th 2020, CNN and Sesame Street held a town hall to talk about Racism. While it was targeted for younger children, we as young people can still learn a lot from a 3 year-old Elmo.

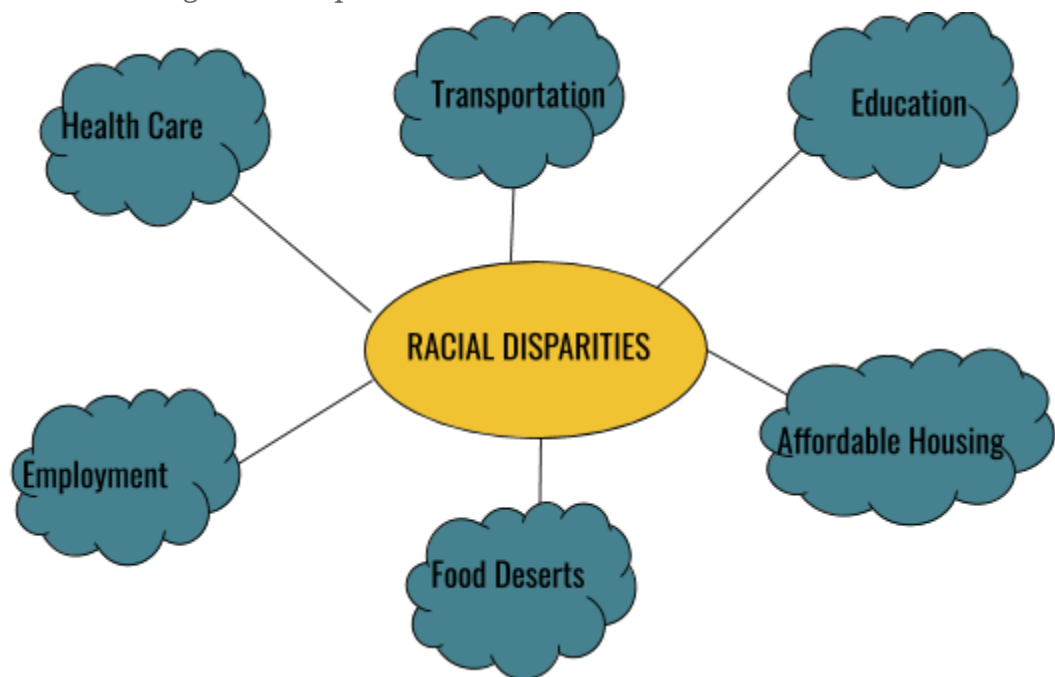
Think

- After watching the CNN clip have you ever felt confused like Elmo about racism?
- When was the first time you realized people were treated differently because of their skin color?
- Why do you think Sesame Street still reaches audiences after 51 years ?
- How are you as a church community wanting to take action against racism?

Diving Deeper: Racial Disparities

What do we mean by a Racial Disparities/Inequities?

- A Racial Disparity is defined as a condition existing in the system when "the proportion of a racial/ethnic group within the control of the system is greater than the proportion of such groups in the general population."
- Where we are seeing racial disparities:



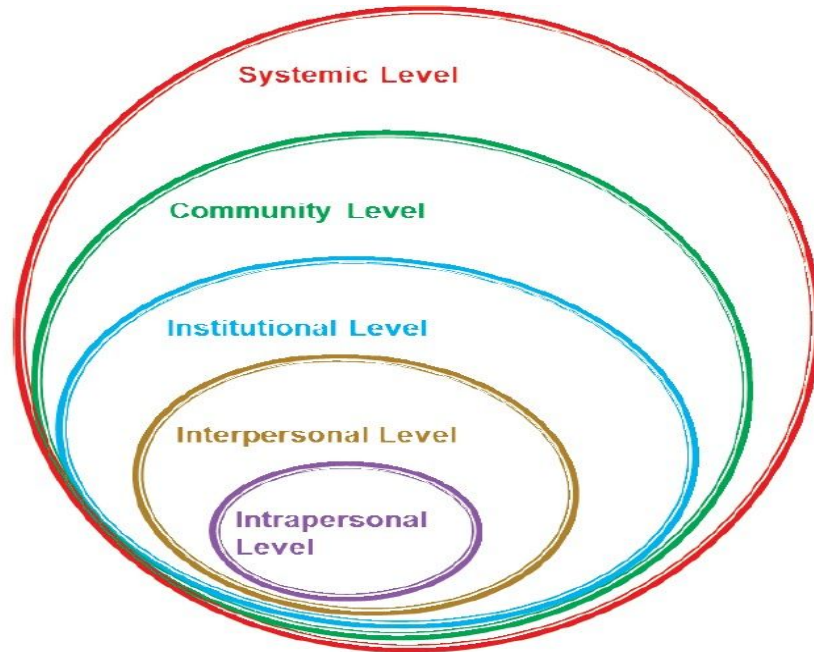
- **Health Care, unfortunately, is not a new disparity/inequality.**

It can be hard to think that because of the color of your skin a medical worker could dismiss your symptoms, but It happens all the time. A doctor at the Cleveland Clinic has seen this first hand. Dr. Charles Modlin, a Black surgeon says, **“Whites live longer than blacks, who suffer disproportionately from chronic conditions and illnesses, including diabetes, obesity, asthma and HIV/AIDS, and who are more likely to be exposed to lead-paint poisoning in substandard housing and to suffer from poorer nutrition.”** These are racial disparities in health care that are seen every day.

- **What's going on right now?**

With the Coronavirus pandemic, we see this racial disparity in health care illustrated as Black, Indigenous Latinx, and Asian Americans dying at disproportional rates than their white counterparts. **“The higher rate in deaths from the virus among Black and Latino people has been explained, in part, by a higher prevalence of underlying health problems, including diabetes and obesity.”**
(New York Times)

- Why is this happening? This is a BIG question but the short of it all is that covid-19 racial disparities cannot be explained without taking into account years of oppression people of color have faced.
- Here is a graph that shows the root causes of racism that can be helpful in understanding the day to day oppression many face:



Systemic Level

- Immigration policies
- Incarceration policies
- Predatory banking

Community Level

- Differential resource allocation
- Racially or class segregated schools

Institutional Level

- Hiring and promotion practices
- Under- or over-valuation of contributions

Interpersonal Level

- Overt discrimination
- Implicit bias

Intrapersonal Level

- Internalized racism
- Stereotype threat
- Embodying inequities

Pray & Reflect

Romans 12:2 says,

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

- **What is this scripture saying to us?** I believe God is calling us not to be perfect but to use our minds and be willing to ask tough questions. Even if we don't have questions, I believe we are called to push ourselves to keep learning .
- **Where's a place in your community you want to challenge yourself or your church to work on racial disparity?**
Example: In my community I want to challenge my church to take a look at the the way they do mission in our community. Is their approach to mission only helping white people?

What does Youth Mission Co. do to help?

Asheville

- Beloved Asheville
 - Creating innovative ways to solve problems in the community like the racial disparities that are around Asheville.
- 12 Baskets Cafe
 - An initiative that is aiming to end the injustices of poverty through community. They are actively seeking out ways to help with racial disparities like
- Manna FoodBank
 - The nation's largest domestic hunger relief organization helping distribute to food desserts or where food is not as available
- AND MANY MORE * visit website

Memphis

- Metropolitan Interfaith Association
 - Supporting the independence of vulnerable seniors and families in crisis through high-impact programs.
- Mid South Food Bank
 - Feeding and providing food to those in need in Memphis helping distribute to food desserts or where food is not as available
- Manna House Memphis
 - A nonprofit in Memphis providing hospitality and advocacy for the homeless population. By providing advocacy for the homeless population

we see access to food and to healthcare that many do not have when living without a home.

- AND MANY MORE *visit website

Raleigh

- A Place at the Table
 - A cafe that offers food and community no matter regardless of means helping take away from stigma as well as providing nutritious meals to others
- Interfaith Prison Ministry for Women
 - Providing women with tools to grow in their communities in and outside of prison. Tools such as how to grow a garden or helping set up job interviews help to give women tools to counteract ways racial disparities could get in the way.
- Shepard Table and Soup Kitchen
 - Provides mutual ministry by serving meals and fellowship to those who may not know where their next meal is coming from.
- AND MANY MORE *visit website

Resources

Racism/Racial Disparities

Podcasts

- 1619
- Code Switch
- Why aren't you a doctor yet?
- Politically Re-active
- Safe Space Radio

Movies

- The Hate U Give
- Just Mercy
- Selma
- 13th: A Conversation with Oprah Winfrey & Ava Duvernay

Books

- The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
- Can I Touch Your Hair?: Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship by Irene Latham, Charles Waters, Sean Qualls
- Stamped: Racism, Anti Racism, and You: A Remix by Jason Reynolds
- Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Instagrams to follow

- @ebonyjancie
- @equalitylabs
- @poorpeoplescampaign
- @rachel.carlge
- @blkivesmatter

* There are so many resources out there, explore!

COVID RESOURCES

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/07/05/us/coronavirus-latinos-african-americans-cdc-data.html?auth=login-google>

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/07/us/coronavirus-race.html?campaign_id=37&emc=edit_rr_20200516&instance_id=18545&nl=race%2Frelated®i_id=31517562&segment_id=28084&te=1&user_id=94875d7e9fdd2d145a8cc3064a5f344a

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/10/us/coronavirus-african-americans-bias.html?referrerSource=articleShare>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/05/opinion/coronavirus-social-distancing.html?referrerSource=articleShare&fbclid=IwAR3EBNT4HGJKe6EZ3p3NivkNJrCj1seLKjoVqNJHEezgHw16n79JG6-iPs>

Systemic Racism Explained

https://youtu.be/YrHIQIO_bdQ

YOUTH MISSION CO Website

<https://youthmissionco.org/>