Ghostly Trajectories: Ecologies of Black Health in Arizona

ASU Social Transformation Lab
Arizona State University

Mako Fitts Ward, PhD (she/her)
Director, Social Transformation Lab
mfw@asu.edu

" Without health and long life all else fails.

– Booker T. Washington

Overview

- Global pandemic & racial injustice

- Eliminating structural racism

- Black Ecologies Framework

- Social Justice Framework

Percentage of Population

6.6%
confirmed cases globally

24.9%
confirmed cases U.S.

13%
of confirmed cases are Af-Am

5%
of all deaths worldwide

Source: World Health Organization, 6/2/22

1/5th
U.S. accounts for world's deaths

Source: Johns Hopkins University, 6/2/22

14%
of deaths are Af-Am

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, 2/22/22

Global Pandemic & Racial Injustice

67.6%
partially vaccinated globally

57%
Af-Am vaccinations in U.S.

78%
partially vaccinated in the U.S.

51%
Af-Am vaccinations in Arizona

Understanding COVID-19 Disparities

Dual-Lens Approach

Biomedical

Disproportionate prevalence of chronic medical conditions

Lower access to quality healthcare

Higher uninsured rates

Social Determinants of Health

Poverty
Generational wealth
Essential workforce
Use of public transportation
Housing density & insecurity
Food insecurity
Environmental pollution

Racial Contract

Institutions and organizations are addressing **structural racism & bias** while promoting programs to remedy **socially-embedded disparities**

Accomplishing health equity begins with eliminating structural racism

Structural racism is the recognition that race-based advantages and disadvantages are embedded into the economic, social, political and cultural systems throughout our society, and impact everyone. Racial and ethnic inequities are a direct result of the historical and contemporary policies, practices and norms that create and maintain white supremacy.

Black Ecologies Framework

Black Ecologies

Historical Lens

Historicizing Black communities

Intersection of biological & social existence

Environmental Impacts

Climate change

Toxic stewardship of lands

Byproducts of production & consumption

Insurgent Solutions

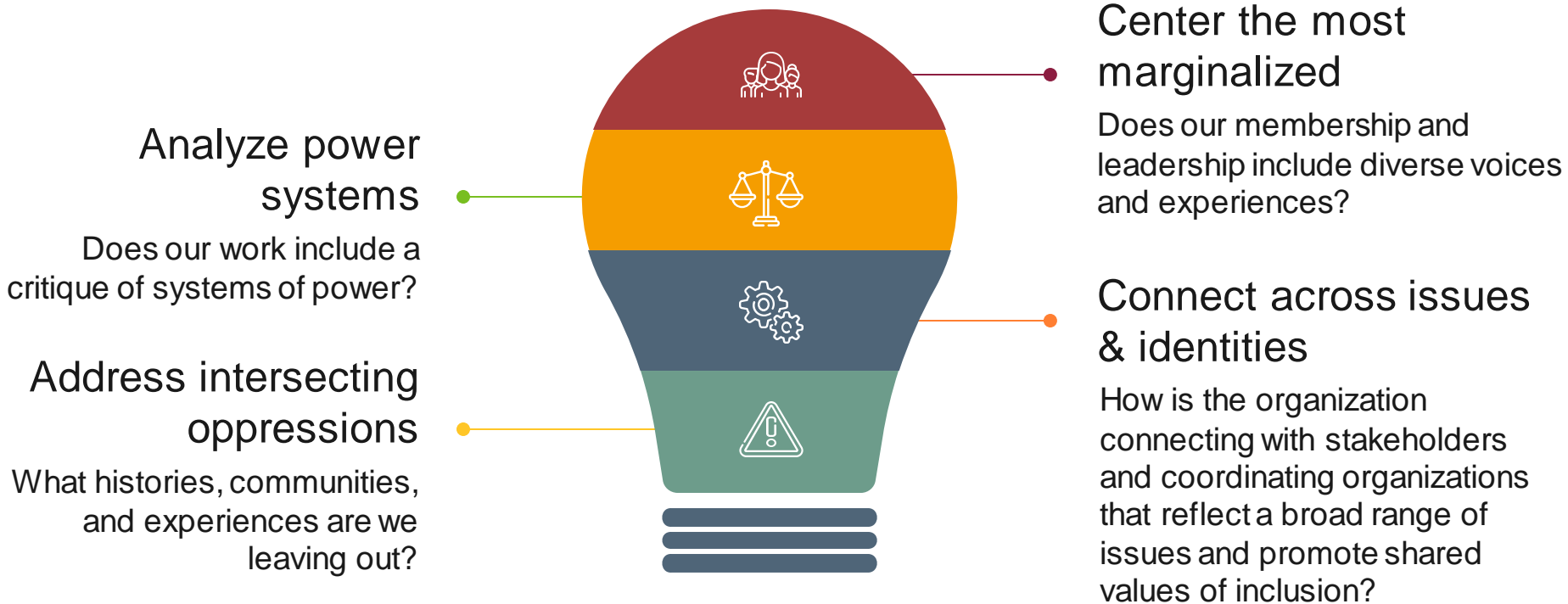Conceive of futures outside of destruction & lack

Collaborate across sectors and disciplines

Social Justice Framework

Social Justice Principles

Kindness · Awareness · Courage · Service · Ethic of Care · Respect · Integrity · Presence · Gratitude · Joy

Social Justice Framework

Center the most marginalized

Does our membership and leadership include diverse voices and experiences?

Analyze power systems

Does our work include a critique of systems of power?

Connect across issues & identities

How is the organization connecting with stakeholders and coordinating organizations that reflect a broad range of issues and promote shared values of inclusion?

Address intersecting oppressions

What histories, communities, and experiences are we leaving out?

When we hold an ethic of care, we...

Become aware that our identities are constructed and connected by political power as well as personal relationships

Recognize how difficult healing work is and why it must happen over a long period of time

Work within and across diverse networks of people whose power range from the most powerful to the most vulnerable

Social change begins with the core principles we model in relationship with our networks

To **inclusivize** is to take **continuous** action to make **systems** and **structures** inclusive and accessible for all through **intersectional, cross-sector** participation.

"This is not 'I' work. This is 'we' work."
— Dr. Chandra Crudup
Associate Dean of Inclusive Design for Equity and Access, Watts College, Arizona State University
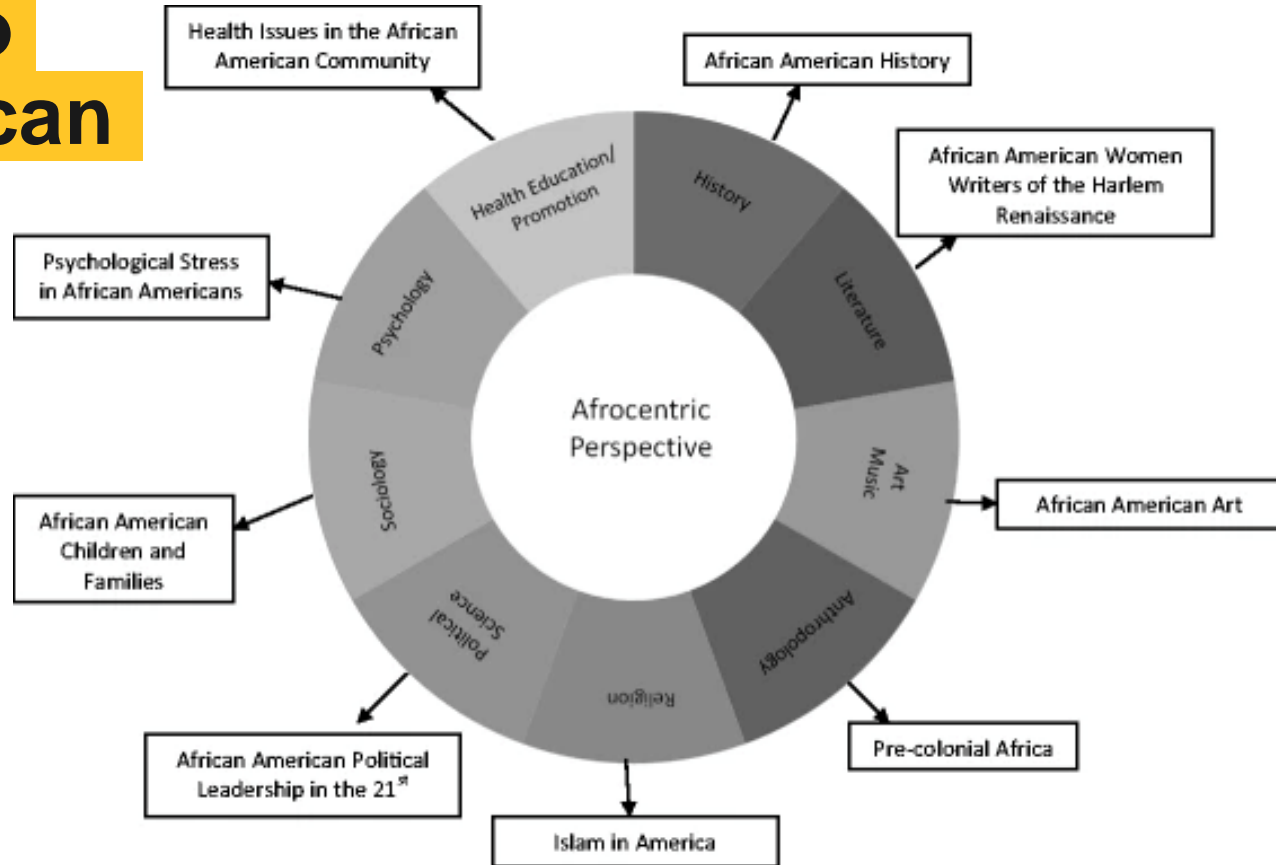
Culture plays a fundamental role in promoting health and wellness

Thinking critically about race, racism and power can promote positive health outcomes

Multidisciplinary Approaches to African-American Health

Health Issues in the African American Community

African American History

African American Women Writers of the Harlem Renaissance

Psychological Stress in African Americans

African American Art

African American Children and Families

Pre-colonial Africa

African American Political Leadership in the 21st

Islam in America

Health Education/Promotion · History · Literature · Art · Music · Anthropology · Religion · Political Science · Sociology · Psychology

Afrocentric Perspective

Source: Robillard et. al., Journal of African American Studies, 2014

ASU wants to hear from behavioral health providers!

Focus groups will be held in-person or via Zoom. The input you provide will be used to create and enhance Arizona's behavioral health care workforce in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

All participants will receive a $25 gift card

Participation is completely voluntary

To register or to learn more:

Call or text ASU Researcher Isaac Akapnitis @ 480-447-9493
to schedule participation or you can email us at

Email: BIPOCHDP@gmail.com

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Arizona State University

ASU Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center
Arizona State University

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Arizona State University

Thank you!

Mako Fitts Ward, PhD
mfw@asu.edu
https://stl.asu.edu