



WASHINGTON CHAPTER
ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE

American College of
Emergency Physicians

ENA™

Washington State Council

ANTI-RACISM AND HEALTH JUSTICE BOOK CLUB

A Moderated Discussion of excerpts from:

*“Black & Blue: The Origins and Consequences of Medical Racism”
- John Hoberman*

“Superior: the Return of Race Science” - Angela Saini

*“Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Healthcare” - Dana Bowen
Matthew*

Moderated by: Java Tunson, MD, FACEP & Kelly Allen, MSN, RN, CEN

“A uniquely comprehensive exposé on racism in American medical practice.”

Carl C. Bell, M.D., President/CEO, Community Mental Health Council, Inc.

BLACK & BLUE

The Origins and Consequences of Medical Racism

JOHN HOBERMAN

PASSAGE SYNOPSIS

- Physicians hold a high place in regards to social hierarchy and generally have been considered to have values that may separate them from others in our society.
- Their perceived altruism has led them and our society to believe they are less biased and racist than others.
- John Hoberman’s research argues they are no different in regards to our racial attitudes, racist beliefs or discriminatory practices towards the Black population and suggests that perhaps because of our exposure to “afflicted black bodies and minds” we may be even more biased.
- There are differences between conservative physicians and liberal physicians but both have mechanisms of denial of responsibility for racial attitudes and their consequences.

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BLACK & BLUE

The Origins and Consequences of Medical Racism

JOHN HOBERMAN

DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS?

- What do you believe regarding racial attitudes and discriminatory practices of physicians and nurses?
- Do you believe physician attitudes differ from nurses attitudes in this regard?
- Where does the perspective that we are ethically superior as health care providers come from?
- What are the mechanisms of denial discussed in this passage both liberal and conservative?

With a New Introduction

JUST MEDICINE



**A CURE FOR
RACIAL INEQUALITY
IN AMERICAN HEALTH CARE**

DAYNA BOWEN MATTHEW

PASSAGE SYNOPSIS

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- ▶ Review of case study of Mr. Thompson and unconscious biases of provider in scenario
 - ▶ Implicit biases had a direct impact on this patient's healthcare and outcomes.
- ▶ Evidence that implicit biases are malleable.
- ▶ Biases can be revised depending on current information. Not necessarily set in stone. Longstanding unconscious thinking can change.

With a New Introduction

JUST MEDICINE



**A CURE FOR
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DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS?

- What are some strategies for addressing implicit biases and reducing the impact it has on health outcomes?
- What are some ways in which we can address implicit bias as healthcare providers to improve the care of our patients?
- Have you had personal experience with unconscious racism that you can share?
 - How did it impact you and/or the patient?

"Deeply researched, masterfully written, and sorely needed, *Superior* is an exceptional work by one of the world's best science writers."

—Ed Yong, author of *J. Common Molecules: The Microbes Within Us and a Grander View of Life*

SUPERIOR



THE
RETURN
OF
RACE
SCIENCE

angela
saini

Author of Inferior

PASSAGE SYNOPSIS

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- ▶ After WWII a shift in how the world and scientific community thought about race occurred
- ▶ In 1949 UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) redefined race and there was a reconfirmation that race was a social construct and that what made people different (culture and language) is not hereditary.
- ▶ Despite this, many scientists didn't believe this claim and continued to work to prove biological differences in race and UNESCO revised its statement.
- ▶ What was not addressed was the implicit racial bias that continued to live in scientists minds.

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SUPERIOR



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DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS?

- ▶ The scientific process is depended upon for its objectivity? How does this challenge your perception of this?
- ▶ What parallels do you see with the shift in perspective of the scientific community in 1949 with what is happening in the medical and scientific community now?
- ▶ Why has history repeated itself?

OPEN
DISCUSSION...