



# A Legacy of Racism

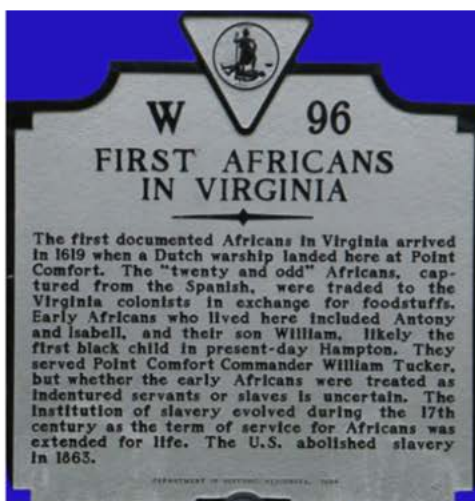
Race-based treatment  
in healthcare



**@DrLaurenP**

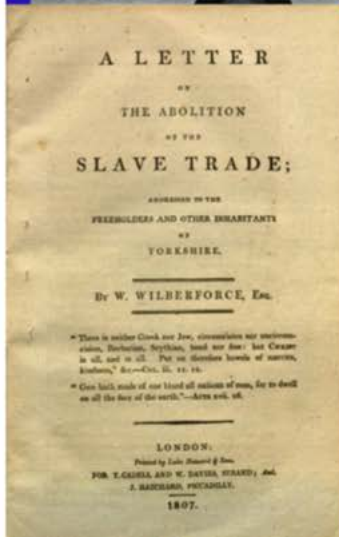


# Slavery & Exploiting Black Bodies



## 1619

First enslaved Africans arrive in America



## 1807

The Act Prohibiting the Importation of Slaves



North Carolina State Archives  
DEPT. OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
EUGENICS COMMISSION

Closed Cases (Operations Performed) File,  
1950 - 1974

Jones

to

# Eugenics

& Scientific Racism

This light flashes every 16 seconds

Every 16 seconds \$100 of your money goes for the care of persons with mental handicaps such as the insane feeble-minded criminals & other defectives

## Some people are born to be a burden on the rest.

This light flashes every 16 seconds

Every 16 seconds a person is born in the United States

United Family  
CONTEST



EASTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO.

This light flashes every 7 minutes

Every 7 minutes a high grade person is born in the United States who will have ability to do creative work & be fit for leadership. About 4% of all Americans come within this class



Apollo Belvidere



Greek



Negro



Creole Negro

1868



Young chimpanzee



Young chimpanzee



1933



# Eugenics & Scientific Racism



# Modern Medicine

A History of  
**Experimenting**  
on Black Bodies







# UNEQUAL TREATMENT

CONFRONTING RACIAL AND ETHNIC  
DISPARITIES IN HEALTHCARE

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

# A Legacy of Unequal Treatment

## 2003 IOM Report

### ABSTRACT

*Racial and ethnic minorities tend to receive a lower quality of healthcare than non-minorities, even when access-related factors, such as patients' insurance status and income, are controlled. The sources of these disparities are complex, are rooted in historic and contemporary inequities, and involve many participants at several levels, including health systems, their administrative and bureaucratic processes, utilization managers, healthcare professionals, and patients. Consistent with the charge, the study committee focused part of its analysis on the clinical encounter itself, and found evidence that stereotyping, biases, and uncertainty on the part of healthcare providers can all contribute to unequal treatment. The conditions in which many clinical encounters take place—characterized by high time pressure, cognitive complexity, and pressures for cost-containment—may enhance the likelihood that these processes will result in care poorly matched to minority patients' needs. Minorities may experience a range of other barriers to accessing care, even when insured at the same level as whites,*



# Mistrust

is not just  
about what  
happened  
40+ years ago.

## Man Dies in Parking Lot After Hospital Refuses to Treat Him, Says His Widow

David Alexander Bell, 39, died earlier this month after suffering from chest pain, his wife  
Sasha said.

January 29, 2021 07:18 PM



## How COVID-19 Hollowed Out a Generation of Young Black Men

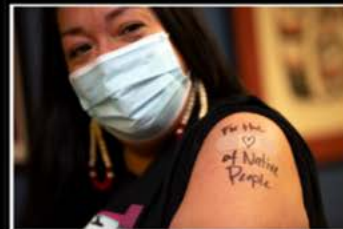
They were pillars of their communities and families, and they are not replaceable. To understand why COVID-19 killed so many young Black men, you need to know the legend of John Henry.

by Akilah Johnson and Nina Martin,  
Dec. 22, 2020, 5:30 a.m. EST

HEALTH

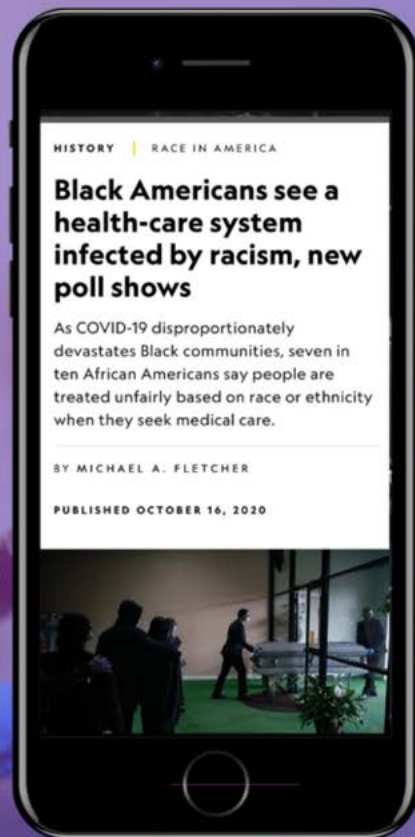
'It's not a pretty picture': Why the  
lack of racial data around COVID  
vaccines is 'massive barrier' to better  
distribution

Nada Massad/USA TODAY



# Shift Focus

from **mistrust**  
to **trustworthiness**



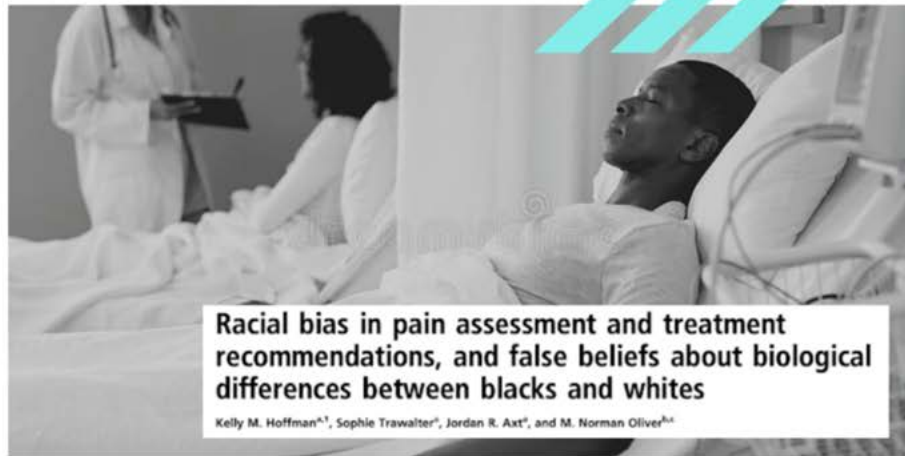
**mistrust**

to be suspicious of; to have no confidence in

**trust-  
worthiness**

the ability to be relied on as honest or truthful

# The Impact of Biased Treatment in Healthcare



**Racial bias in pain assessment and treatment recommendations, and false beliefs about biological differences between blacks and whites**

Kelly M. Hoffman<sup>1</sup>, Sophie Trawalter<sup>2</sup>, Jordan R. Axt<sup>3</sup>, and M. Norman Oliver<sup>4\*</sup>



RACISM & PUBLIC HEALTH

**Why Black Men in America Have Worse Health than White Men—and What Needs to Change**

Multiple factors including socioeconomic status and access to health care have combined to erode Black men's health.



Articles

**Medical Mistrust, Racism, and Delays in Preventive Health Screening Among African-American Men**

Wisdom Powell ✉, Jennifer Richmond, Dinushika Mohottige, Irene Yen, Allison Joslyn & Giselle Corbie-Smith  
Pages 102-117 | Received 01 Oct 2018, Accepted 17 Feb 2019, Published online: 25 Jul 2019



**Dr. Susan  
Moore**

## ***Black Doctor Dies of Covid-19 After Complaining of Racist Treatment***

“He made me feel like a drug addict,” Dr. Susan Moore said, accusing a white doctor of downplaying her complaints of pain and suggesting she should be discharged.

If a well-educated Black woman who is also a physician is treated this way, what will the rest of us experience?





# This Happens Everywhere

Not Just in Healthcare

Reminder: It's racism,  
not race that's the culprit here





**Racism is a public health crisis.**

## What can we do to stop racism in healthcare treatment?

- Detection- leverage data to highlight the problem
- Discipline- real accountability for healthcare leaders
- Dedication- time, resources, personnel to combat
- Determination- long-term commitment to change



# Thank You

Lauren R. Powell. MPA, PhD  
President & CEO, **The Equitist**

✉ [info@TheEquitist.co](mailto:info@TheEquitist.co)

