Methods for Assessing Power, Privilege, and Public Health in the United States
Lorraine T. Dean, ScD; Keilah Jacques, MSW; Kate Leifheit, MSPH; Men & Families Center: Leon Purnell, MA; Quandra R. Gaines, MA

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Objectives

- Recognize structures of power and privilege in the US and the rest of the world, and articulate how that impacts health
- Describe strengths and limitations of quantitative and qualitative methods used to evaluate structures of power and privilege and how they influence health
- Identify our own roles in structures of power and privilege, and how that influences approach to epidemiological analysis and interpretation of results
- Determine the role of data in a community-based organization
- Collaborate with a community-based organization as an equal partner in developing a data-related product appropriate for community usage
- Interpret community-based health data in the context of structures of power and privilege

Activities

- In-class discussions of academic and grey literature (news articles, rap lyrics, reports)
- Privilege experiments with real-life consequences
- Critical reflection
- Skills-building of: intersectionality measures; segregation measures; race & racism; photo elicitation; values-based communication

“I think this class should be mandatory for all students because it forces you to look at the ways your own participation in oppressive systems reinforces these systems to the detriment of human health.”

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