

# NOOSES ACROSS GENERATIONS

Black Families, Contemporary Behavioral Health &  
American Enslavement

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Objectives

- Integrate historical factors with contemporary conditions.
- Evaluate disproportionality related to the intersectionality of the Black experience.
- Explain the mechanisms that create risk factors for Black families across generations.
- Apply post-traumatic growth and resiliency models to Black recovery & wellness.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Donald E Grant Jr., PsyD**  
Executive Director

### Qualifications

- BS, Biology; PsyD, Clinical Psychology-MCCP
- Middle School Science Teacher, Baltimore MD
- Homeless CaWORKS Families Homeless Families Program: Site Coordinator
  - CalWorks, MediCAL, LAHSA, Section 8
- Clinical Psychologist II: LA County DMH (Therapeutic Treatment/Foster Care)
  - Katie A, EPSDT, FSP, WRAP, TBS, ILP, ITFC, TAY, O-5
  - TDM's, IEP's, MDT's, LVL 12-14
- Evidence Based Practices
  - TFGBT, MTFC, IY, PCIT, FFT, MST
- Exec Dir: Center for Community & Social Impact; Pacific Oaks College, Pasadena, CA
- Program Director & Grant Primary Investigator
  - FYHEAC: Pepperdine University
  - Urban Fellows: Pepperdine University
- Published Author/Int'l Presenter

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# SYSTEMS & THEIR INFLUENCES

How do ecological factors influence systems?



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# WARNING

## THIS PRESENTATION CONTAINS SOME GENERALIZATIONS

THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS TO THESE GENERALIZATIONS

©JHBRNDL @WEAREHARKEN

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Bio-Ecological Theory of Human Development

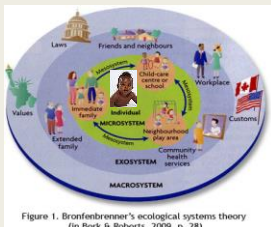


Figure 1. Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory (in Berk & Roberts, 2009, p. 28)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Systems

**Public Health** a scientific discipline that:

- focuses on **preventing deleterious conditions and outcomes by analyzing data from comprehensive sets of risk and protective factors** influencing a group of people.
- foci might be a small geographically proximate population of the public or a larger group spread across a wide swath of the globe who share a common ethnic heritage.

**Head Start** a systems based program

- comprehensive education,
  - health nutrition,
  - social service and
  - parent involvement
- Plans could provide children experiencing disadvantage with a 'head start' given the child development research exploring the:
- inequities of poverty &
  - food/housing insecurity

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# How It Happens

- Negationism
- European Nationalism
- Cotton & Industrialism
- Epigenetics
- Eugenics
- Contemporary Oppression




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Noble Nooses: Pre-Colonial Kings, Queens & Peopling the Globe



King Mansa Musa-Timbuktu (Mali)



Queen Amina- Hausa (Zazzau)



Sunni Ali Ber Songhai Empire



Queen Makeda (Sheba/Ethiopia)



King Ezana (Aksum/Asum)



Queen Nzinga (Angola)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Deliverance: 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings Chapter 19

<sup>35</sup>That very night the **angel of the LORD** went out to the Assyrian camp and killed 185,000 Assyrians troops. When the surviving Assyrians woke up the next morning, they found corpses everywhere. <sup>36</sup>Then King Sennacherib of Assyria broke up his camp and returned to his own land. He went home to his capital of Nineveh and slayed there."

King Taharqa -Nubia



King Hezekiah- Jerusalem




---

---

---

---

---

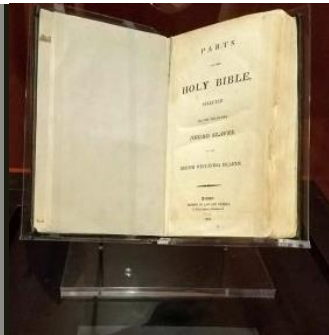
---

---

---

## Parts of the Holy Bible, selected for the use of Negro Slaves, in the British West-Indian Islands (1807)

- Christian Bible includes 1,189 chapters. This one consists of only 232.
- The majority of the Old Testament is totally absent, as is half of the New Testament.
- Printed by the Missionary Society for the Conversion of Negro Slaves
- Used to convert enslaved people to Christianity




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Birth of a Noose European Nationalism 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Centuries

Portugal: Canary Islands (1341), Prince Henry the Navigator (b.1394), Roman Catholic Church (Papal Bull), 1000's of enslaved Africans arriving annually after 1492

Spain (Castile): King Ferdinand & Queen Isabella I (1479), Christopher Columbus (b.1451)

England: Malacca, Bubonic Plague (1351) Peasants Revolt (1381), War of the Roses (1455-1485)

France: Feudalism, 90% Peasant population, \*Hundred Years War (1337-1453)

United States: 1492

Nationalism (Hass) – "the convergence of territorial and political loyalty irrespective of competing foci of affiliation, such as kinship, profession, religion, economic interest, race, or even language"




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Cross Continental Nooses

### Nationalism & Economic Globalism

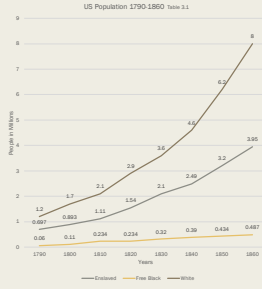
#### 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries

Portugal: Acieritos (100 years), 70 Slave Merchants in Lisbon by 1550, Apx 10% of Lisbon's population

England: 1553 Enslaved Men in London (returned in 5 yrs), 1562 Sir John Hawkins captured Portuguese ship & sent 30 Africans to Dominican Republic. The Royal African Company took enslaved Africans (1672), Industrial Revolution (1760)

France: Liberation of Saint-Domingue 1791 (Haiti), Françoise Mackandal, Toussaint L'Ouverture,

United States: Native American genocide, 1519 enslaved Africans arrive in Jamestown, Tobacco to Cotton (2M lbs 1791 to 50M lbs 1800), Louisiana Purchase (1803)




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

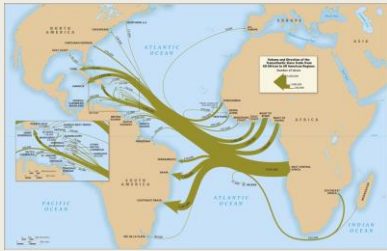
---

---

---

## Cross Continental Nooses

### Cotton & Industrialization




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

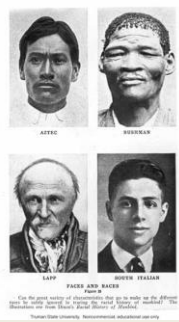
---

---

---

## Eugenics

improving the quality of the **human genetic community** by *eliminating* and/or *severely limiting* the ability of **non-desirable humans** to *reproduce* and *populate* future generations with their genes.




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

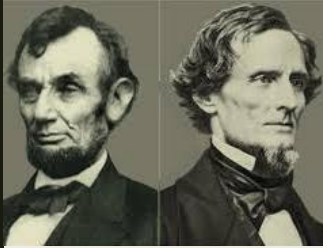
---

---

---

## Civil War & Emancipation

Civil War **1860-1865**  
South Carolina Secedes **1860**  
Confederate States of America **1861**  
Jefferson Davis First & Only President  
Emancipation Proclamation **1863**  
13<sup>th</sup> Amendment Us Constitution **1865**  
Cotton Embargo & Famine- Lancashire & Manchester **1861-1865**  
Vagrancy Act **1866**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**WARNING**

**UNPREDICTABLE TRIGGERS**

[www.sage-it.com/safety](http://www.sage-it.com/safety)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# BUSINESS CONTINUITY MODELS



---

---

---

---

---

---

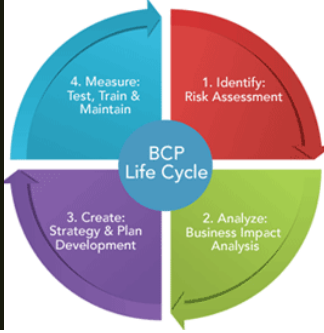
---

---

# Business Continuity Planning

*The Cotton Supply of the United States of America, an states: "Cotton can only be cultivated extensively in the Southern States by negro labour, and negro labour can only be controlled under the semi-patriarchal system called slavery."* - English Businessman

*Macon Telegraph of Georgia (1865): "the great question now before our people is how to appropriate all the African labor of the country."*




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Business Continuity Sharecropping




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Business Continuity Debt Peonage




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Business Continuity Convict Leasing

## BLACK CODES



United States, 1865 and 1866

In the United States, the Black Codes were laws that were passed on by the Southern states during the Reconstruction period after the Civil War around the years of 1865 and 1866. The laws purpose was to restrict the African American's freedom and compelled them to work in labor economy based on low wages and debts. Also, the Black Codes were part of a larger pattern of Southern Whites trying to surpass the law freedom. For instance, many states required blacks to sign a yearly labor contracts and if they refused, they could being arrested as vagrants and fined or were forced into unpaid labor.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

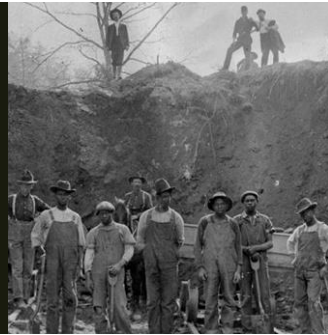
---

---

## Convict Leasing

- In 1886 there were 15,000 prisoners working as leased convicts, on average, the number would grow by 1,000 each year
- By 1890, there were 19,000 convicts being leased across the American south and the overwhelmingly vast majority of them were Black men.
- By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Black codes and vagrancy laws rendered Blacks severely over-represented in the US prison population.

This would mark the birth of the narratives that resulted in an array of intuitive associations between freed blacks and criminality



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

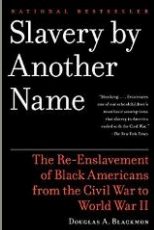
---

---

---

### Convict Leasing

...was nonetheless slavery, a system in which armies of free men, guilty of no crimes and entitled by law to freedom, were compelled to labor without compensation, were repeatedly bought and sold, and were forced to do the bidding of white masters through the regular application of extraordinary physical coercion.



- Alabama in 1864 made \$14K (\$426K); in 1890 made \$164 (\$4.6M)
- Arrests went up during harvest time
- 2/3rds of arrests were for burglary & larceny

"Their descendants have all been emancipated now, some for nearly 100 years, and some for hardly one. They have ... everywhere retrograded and gone back to barbarism."

- JT Milner White Men of Alabama Stand Together



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

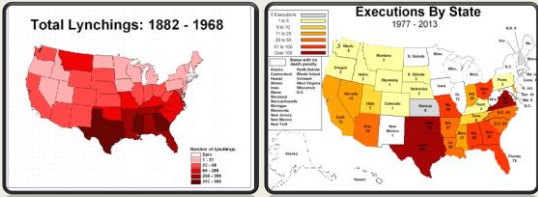
---

---

---



### Business Continuity




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Business Continuity



The Treaty of Berlin in the 1880's "divided" Africa among European powers.




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## BUSINESS CONTINUITY MODEL

Enslavement (1619-1865)  
Convict Leasing & Debt Peonage (1862-1920)  
Prison Industrial Complex

The figure shows three historical images illustrating the Business Continuity Model. The first image shows enslaved people carrying a heavy load on a yoke. The second image shows a group of men in prison uniforms. The third image shows a group of men in blue uniforms standing in a line. An infinity symbol is at the bottom.

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

# HISTORICAL TRAUMA & CONTEMPORARY INJURIES




---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

## Historical (Transgenerational, Inter-generational) Trauma

The cumulative emotional and psychological wounding over the lifespan and across generations, emanating from massive group trauma.

*Historical Trauma Response (HTR)*  
*Historical Unresolved Grief*




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Historical Trauma

Collective and cumulative emotional wounding across generations that results from massive cataclysmic events – Historically Traumatic Events (HTE)<sup>1</sup>

The trauma is held personally and transmitted over generations. Thus, even family members who have not directly experienced the trauma can feel the effects of the event generations later.

Intergenerational transmission of trauma is a relatively recent focus of mental health. First observed in 1966 by clinicians alarmed by the number of children of survivors of the Nazi Holocaust seeking treatment

The multigenerational aspects of trauma continue to be treated as secondary and, consequently, the behavior of many children of survivors of massive trauma is misunderstood and not treated appropriately

Brave Heart (1995); Yellow Horse Brave Heart (2000)




---

---

---

---

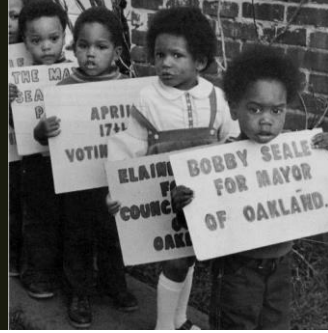
---

---

---

---

## 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## What is Domestic Terrorism?

Acts of domestic terrorism are those which:  
\*(A) involve acts **dangerous to human life** that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State;  
(B) appear to be intended— (i) **to intimidate or coerce a civilian population**; (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnaping; and  
(C) occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States."

**USA PATRIOT Act**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Domestic Terrorism



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Domestic Terrorism




---

---

---

---

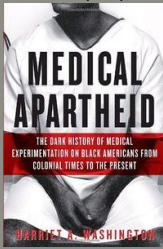
---

---

---

---

Explores a history of violations on black bodies by the scientific and medical communities of unwilling, non-consenting and uninformed participants




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Requesting Civility to Demanding Equality




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Black Codes in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



---

---

---

---

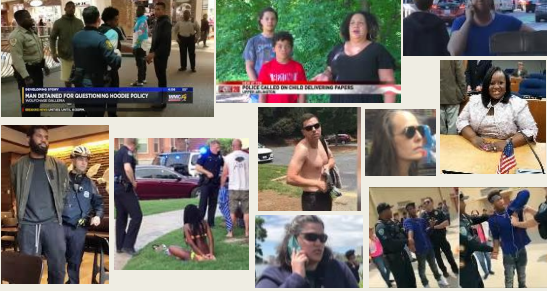
---

---

---

---

### Contemporary Black Codes



---

---

---

---

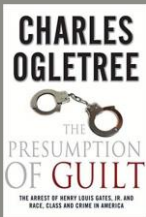
---

---

---

---

Categories for which Black people are subject to undue risks of injustice & racial injury



- Driving while black
- Mistaken criminal accusation by law enforcement absent evidence
- Public suspicion of criminal behavior in neutral or ambiguous circumstances
- Stimulated unwarranted and unprompted fear in innocuous scenarios
- Presumption of servitude when a guest or host
- Over-surveillance and profiling by police
- Disproportionate scrutiny of credentials

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Modern Eugenics

- Murders of black people by American government officials
- Malevolent intergenerational academic practices
- Pathways that disproportionately lead to institutionalization
- Promotion of environments that engender violence and poverty
- Government experimentation resulting in sterilization
- Deliberate over exposure to toxins and substances of abuse




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Modern Convict Leasing & Peonage

- Poor reintegration programs
- Discriminatory search and surveillance policies
- Bail and bond financing structures
- Expungement policies & practices
- Prohibitive educational costs
- Predatory pay day loans
- Post incarceration civil rights restrictions




---

---

---

---

---

---

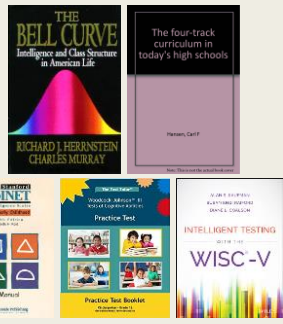
---

---

### Psychological Testing

...ever since the "measurement of minds" became a popular field in which to pursue investigations, the testing of Negro children has easily ranked as a major indoor sport among psychologists...The rules of the game are simple and seem to be standardized throughout the country with but few exceptions. First one must have a White examiner; a group of Negro children; a test standardized for White children tested by White examiners; and just a few pre-conceived notions regarding the nature of "intelligence" and the degree to which Negro children are endowed if at all...and the fact that social status of Negro children need not be considered as an extra allowance for scores different from Whites.

Horace Man Bond 1972




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

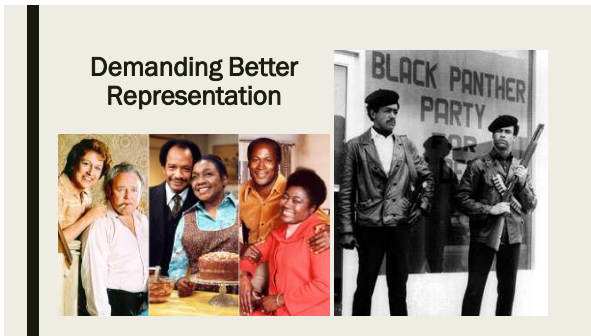
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Best Actor in a Leading & Supporting Roles 1958-2018

- Best Actor in a Leading Role
  - 20 Nominations
  - 14 Actors
  - 4 Wins
  - 38 years between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Win
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role
  - 17 Nominations
  - 15 Actors
  - 5 Wins

Actor	Year	Role	Movie
Sidney Poitier	1963	Homer Smith:	Lilies of the Field.
Louis Gossett Jr	1982	Emil Foley:	Officer and a Gentleman
Denzel Washington	1989	Private Trip	Glory
	2001	Alonzo Harris	Training Day
Cuba Gooding Jr	1996	Rod Tidwell	Jerry McGuire
Morgan Freeman	2004	Eddie Dupris	Million Dollar Baby
Jamie Foxx	2004	Ray Charles	Ray
Forest Whitaker	2006	Idi Amin	Last King of Scotland
Mahershala Ali	2016	Juan	Moonlight

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Best Female Actor in a Leading & Supporting Role**

- Best Actor in a Leading Role
  - 11 Nominations
  - 11 Actors
  - 1 Wins
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role
  - 22 Nominations
  - 21 Actors
  - 7 Wins

Actor	Year	Role	Movie
Hattie McDaniel	1939	Mammy	Gone With The Wind
Whoopi Goldberg	1990	Oda Mae Brown	Ghost
Halle Berry	2001	Leticia Musgrove	Monsters Ball
Jennifer Hudson	2006	Effie White	Dreamgirls
Mo'Nique	2009	Mary Lee Johnston	Precious
Octavia Spencer	2011	Minnie Jackson	The Help
Lupita Nyong'o	2013	Patsey	12 Years a Slave
Viola Davis	2016	Rose Maxson	Fences

---

---

---

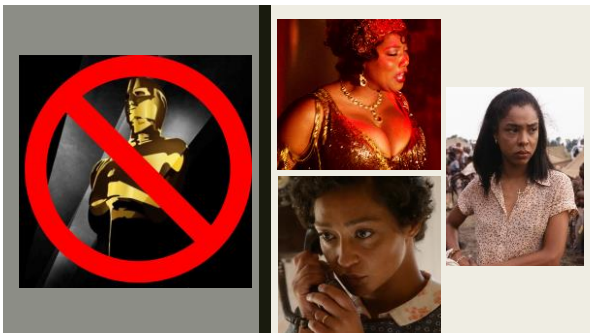
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### A Continuum of Consistent Trauma



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## TRANSMISSION & RISK FACTORS

How do these factors move across generations?  
What outcomes do these factors impact?



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Intergenerational Transmission



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Mechanisms of Transmission (Kellerman)

Theory	Transmission Medium	Main Factors Transmitted
Psychodynamic	Interpersonal Relationships	Unconscious displaced emotion
Sociocultural	Socialization	Parenting and Role Models
Family Systems	Communication	Enmeshment
Biological	Genetic	Hereditary vulnerability to PTSD

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

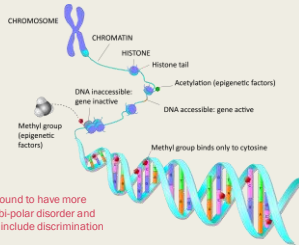
### Epigenetics- Changes in DNA expression not due to mutations or sequence alterations.

#### Methylation

- Frequent bodily chemical reaction
- Methyl-groups (hydro-carbons) attach to promoter genes blocking transcription factors.

#### Histone Modification/Chromatin Remodeling

- Chromatin Complexes help efficiently bundle DNA
- Histone Acetylation loosens the chromatin complex



People who experience racial discrimination were found to have more methylation on the genes affecting schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder and asthma than those whose lived experience did not include discrimination

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Stress

The American Psychological Association defines stress as "any uncomfortable emotional experiences accompanied by predictable biochemical, physiological and behavioral changes."

Research demonstrates that health problems like anxiety, depression, heart disease, weight gain and memory problems might ensue as a result of chronic stress experiences that increase body functions access to cortisol exposure.




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### Learned Helplessness

- Motivational: Giving up prematurely & Perceived Uncontrollability
- Cognitive: Poor problem solving skills & Wandering attention
- Emotional: Lack of self-confidence in challenging tasks

### Disidentification

The realignment of ones' self-concept and values so that ones' self-worth and esteem are no longer dependent on performance in a chosen environment. One might disidentify to in order to relieve the pain of failure in arenas where success is unlikely.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Mis & Over-Diagnoses

- Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder
- Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- Conduct Disorder
- Intermittent Explosive Disorder
- Schizophrenia
- Autism




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Drugs

- War on Drugs
- Rockefeller Drug Laws
- Crack Epidemic vs Opiate Epidemic
- Stop & Frisk
- Marijuana Tax




---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

# HEALING NOOSE SCARS

What do we do now?




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Conditions like racism, poverty, emotional abuse and neglect often trigger traumatic stress responses and symptoms consistent with PTSD.

### Black Poverty Rates

By Family Type compared to all US

Category	Black	All USA
<b>PERCENT OF FAMILIES IN POVERTY</b>		
with children under 18	38.8%	20.1%
<b>MARRIED COUPLE FAMILIES</b>		
with children under 18	18.4%	8.9%
FEMALE WITH NO SPOUSE	46.1%	31.3%
with children under 18	46.1%	31.3%
MALE WITH NO SPOUSE	31.2%	19.0%
with children under 18	31.2%	19.0%
<b>Individuals compared to all USA</b>		
PEOPLE IN POVERTY	27.4%	14.6%
MALES IN POVERTY	20.2%	12.0%
under 18	34.1%	21.7%
ages 18 to 64	18.8%	13.0%
65 years and older	14.7%	9.5%
FEMALES IN POVERTY	34.8%	16.0%
under 18	34.8%	21.7%
ages 18 to 64	24.1%	16.0%
65 years and older	19.9%	11.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates  
BlackDemographics.com

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Afrocentric**  
**THERAPY**  
A Healing Perspective

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Race-Based Traumatic Stress Symptom Scale (RBTSSS)

Reactions to Race-Base Encounters include:

- avoidance (people, situations, events)
- hypervigilance
- intrusive thoughts
- depression
- anger
- somatic symptoms
- low self-esteem

The scale further learns whether the recalled event was

- sudden
- unexpected
- out of their control
- emotionally painful

This is aligned with the assessment of more traditionally recognized trauma stimuli.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Racial Micro-aggressions

"Racial micro-aggressions refer to subtle and commonplace exchanges that somehow convey insulting or demeaning messages to people of color...frequently result(ing) in the communication of denigrating messages."

- Identify, monitor and address micro-aggressions within the context of each relationship.
- Accumulate tools that decrease likelihood of micro-aggressing.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Coping Flexibility

- Teaching coping flexibility promotes and reinforces self-efficacy.
- Effective resources to cope with racism related encounters reduces individual stress responses by changing situational and dispositional appraisals from threats to challenges.
- Promotes Resilience & Post-Traumatic Growth

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Post Traumatic Growth** is the "positive psychological change experienced as a result of the struggle with highly challenging life circumstances

- Opportunities that would not have emerged absent the struggle.
- Relationships that have changed in positive or self-preserving ways.
- New awareness and/or increase of ones' strength
- A greater appreciation for life in general
- A deepened sense of spirituality



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## School & Educational Work

- Increasing the numbers of black male teachers in elementary education.
- Implementing anti-bias education across all curriculum.
- Enhancing support for and research on Historically Black Colleges and Universities HBCU's.
- Providing Predominately White Institution's (PWT's) with tools, research and resources to support black male achievement and completion.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---