



UC Center Sacramento

Structural Racism & U.S. Homelessness: Why Ending Homelessness Requires a Racial Equity Approach

Wednesday, June 24th

12:00 - 1:00pm

In light of the community concerns regarding COVID-19, this talk will be given as a webinar. The link will be provided on Tuesday, June 23rd to those that have registered by 5:00 pm on Monday, June 22nd at uccs.ucdavis.edu.

Structural Racism and U.S. Homelessness addresses the history of racial disparities in who experiences homelessness and presents recent research on what underlies these disparities. Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco Center for Vulnerable Populations have studied the role of structural racism in the life course of older adults experiencing homelessness enrolled in the HOPE-HOME Study (Oakland, CA). Their recent paper presented a structural map of how various elements of structural racism, including criminal justice discrimination, employment discrimination, exposure to violence, premature death, and limited family wealth increased susceptibility to homelessness. This structural map elucidates areas for policy intervention and has been incorporated into policy planning by the Oakland/Berkeley/Alameda County Continuum of Care Leadership Committee.



Kelly Ray Knight, PhD is a medical anthropologist and Associate Professor in the UCSF Department of Anthropology, History and Social Medicine and affiliated faculty with the Center for Vulnerable Populations at the Zuckerberg-San Francisco General Hospital and UCSF Global Health Sciences. Her work centers on the experience of addiction in clinical and policy contexts, racialized health disparities, and health conditions produced or exacerbated by structural violence. Dr. Knight's NIH-funded research explores the health, social and policy implications of homelessness in California and the consequences of reductions in opioid prescribing in safety net, primary health care settings. She is a faculty lead for addiction medicine and structural competency medical education at UCSF School of Medicine. Dr. Knight's award-winning ethnography, *addicted.pregnant.poor* (2015), is widely used to advocate for decreased stigma and increased services for women with substance use disorders who experience homelessness.



Dereck Paul is a 4th-year medical student at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. He studies the relationships between homelessness and health under his mentors at the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations. He was named a 2018 Student National Medical Association David E. Satcher MD, PhD Health Disparities Research Fellow for his work mapping the role of structural racism in susceptibility to housing insecurity and homelessness. Outside of his studies and research, he writes about health policy, medical education, and the underrepresented medical trainee experience.

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu

The views and opinions expressed during this lecture are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of UCSS.