

# BME Leadership Network Annual Lecture

23 October 2024

# Welcome

Joan Saddler OBE  
Director of Partnerships and Equality,  
Co-facilitator of BME Leadership  
Network  
NHS Confederation

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Introduction
- 'Accelerating change with anti-racism approaches in the NHS' with Professor Stephani Hatch
- Q&A
- Closing remarks
- Reception
- Finish

# **‘Accelerating change with anti-racism approaches in the NHS’**

Professor Stephani Hatch  
Professor of Sociology and Epidemiology,  
Vice Dean for Culture, Equality, Diversity  
& Inclusion, King's College London

# Where I'm Coming From

## Striving for Equity & Justice from My Lived Experience

- **My Education & Training**
  - Psychology, Sociology, Psychiatric Epidemiology
- **Frames My Thinking, Intentions & Purpose**

## Identifying Inequalities & Tackling Inequities

- Cumulative adversity over the life course
- Inequalities in mental health
- **Improving health services for service users & workforce**



**UK Context:  
Ethnic inequalities in health  
outcomes are evident at every  
stage throughout the life  
course, from birth to death.**

Kapadia, D., et al. "Ethnic Inequalities in Healthcare: A Rapid Evidence Review." NHS Race and Health Observatory (2022).





# ETHNIC HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN THE UK



BLACK WOMEN ARE  
**4x** MORE LIKELY  
THAN WHITE

women to **DIE** in **PREGNANCY**  
or childbirth in the UK.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3ihDwcN>



IN BRITAIN,  
SOUTH ASIANS HAVE A

**40%** HIGHER  
DEATH RATE

from **CHD** than the  
general population.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3iifo9V>



ACROSS THE COUNTRY,  
FEWER THAN

**5%** OF BLOOD  
DONORS

are from **BLACK AND MINORITY  
ETHNIC** communities.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3ulg17r>



**24%** OF ALL DEATHS  
IN ENGLAND &  
WALES, IN 2019,

were caused by **CARDIO  
VASCULAR DISEASE** in Black  
and minority ethnic groups.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3CYz22P>



SOUTH ASIAN &  
BLACK PEOPLE ARE

**2-4x** MORE LIKELY  
TO DEVELOP

Type 2 diabetes than white people.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3ulDy88>



BLACK AND  
MINORITY  
ETHNIC PEOPLE  
HAVE UP TO

**2x**

the mortality risk from  
**COVID-19** than people from a  
**WHITE BRITISH BACKGROUND**.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3EZS2Qd>

ESTIMATES OF DISABILITY-FREE  
LIFE EXPECTANCY ARE

**10 YEARS**

LOWER FOR **BANGLADESHI MEN**  
living in England compared to their  
White British counterparts.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3urjmlt>



BLACK AFRICAN AND  
BLACK CARIBBEAN  
PEOPLE ARE OVER

**8x**

more likely to be subjected to  
**COMMUNITY TREATMENT  
ORDERS** than White people.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3zK5ljL>



CONSENT RATES  
FOR ORGAN  
DONATION ARE AT

**42%**

for Black and minority ethnic  
communities and **71% FOR  
WHITE ELIGIBLE DONORS**.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/3ogH3fm>

IN THE UK,  
AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN  
MEN ARE UP TO

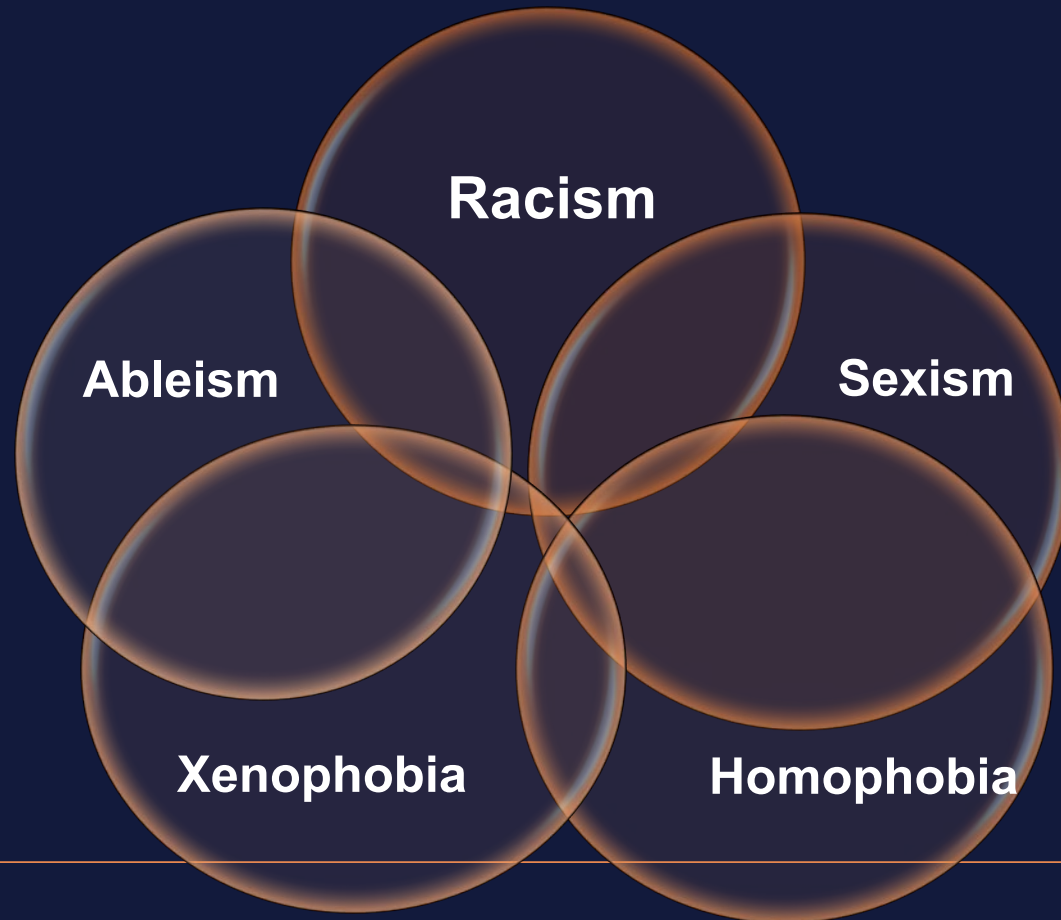
**3x**

more likely to **DEVELOP  
PROSTATE CANCER** than  
white men of the same age.

Ref: <https://bit.ly/39KWqEs>



# Acknowledging Systems of Oppression





# ***Confronting Institutional Racism Policy Review Framework -***

## **Prof Camara Jones**



Jones, C. P. (2016). Becoming actively anti-racist: The need to organize and act. *The Nation's Health*, 46(4), 3.

Jones, C. P. (2018a). Toward the science and practice of anti-racism: Launching a national campaign against racism. *Ethnicity and Disease*, 28(Suppl. 1), 231–234.

# NAME RACISM TO WEAKEN RACISM DENIAL

Jones, C. P. (2016h). The urgency of naming racism: Adding clarity in time of conflict. *The Nation's Health*, 46(7), 3.



# RACISM:

**System of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call “race”)**

*(Jones CP. 2018; Jones CP. 2003)*



# RACISM:

- Unfairly disadvantages some groups
- Unfairly advantages other groups
- Saps the strength of the whole society

*(Jones CP. 2018; Jones CP. 2003)*

# RACIALISATION:

- **Socio-historical process through which racial categories are produced and given meaning and transformed within racial hierarchies**
- **Process that generates and maintains inequities in healthcare**

*(Omi and Winant 2014; Bonilla Silva 2009; Gee and Ford, 2011)*

## **Mechanisms Upholding Racism: Discrimination**

Exposure to **adversity** with a **life course** narrative.

Shaped by multiple statuses and identities; entrenched in **social context**.

**Limits life chances**, e.g., in higher education and occupations.

Interrelated experiences in witnessing, anticipating and experiencing **discrimination**.

Consistent and **robust associations** with a range of health outcomes and health service practices.

*(Gee et al., 2012; Hatch et al 2016; Lewis et al., 2015; Priest et al., 2015; Williams et al., 2003)*



# Mechanisms Upholding Systems: Discrimination

- Exposure to **adversity** with a **life course** narrative.
- Shaped by multiple statuses and identities; entrenched in **social context**.
- **Limits life chances**, e.g., in higher education and occupations.
- Interrelated experiences in witnessing, anticipating and experiencing **discrimination**.
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*(Gee et al., 2012; Hatch et al 2016; Lewis et al., 2015; Priest et al., 2015; Williams et al., 2003)*



**WHO CARES FOR THOSE WHO CARE?**

## Marginalisation Processes

(Hall et al., 1994)

- How individuals and groups are **othered and peripheralised** on the basis of identities, associations, experiences, and in social context

## Silences Framework

(Serrant-Green, 2010)

- **Unsaid or unshared** aspects of beliefs, values and experiences of marginalised groups
- **Exposes issues shaping, influencing and informing** individual and group understandings of health, health behaviours and life chances
- Draws attention to **systemic erasure** of contributions and experiences

## Belongingness

(Shore et al., 2011; 2018):

- Individuals feeling that they belong and **valued for their unique attributes and contributions**

## Inclusion as a practice

- Feeling **respected and valued**; **psychologically, culturally and physically safe** to be authentically themselves
- **Able to share divergent views and opinions**, even when they differ from dominant cultures
- **Access** to key resources, having **decision-making influence** and perspectives that are listened to

## THREE AREAS FOR CHANGE

MORE INCLUSIVE RACE EQUITY EVIDENCE

TRANSFORMATIVE ANTI-RACISM TRAINING & RESOURCES

INTEGRATED CROSS-SECTOR ANTI-RACISM POLICIES



**Largest  
employer for  
racial & ethnic  
minoritised  
groups**

**NHS**

**200  
nationalities  
represented in  
the NHS  
workforce**





# Tackling Inequalities and Discrimination Experiences in health Services



🐦 @tides\_study

🌐 [tidesstudy.com](https://tidesstudy.com)







## Tackling Inequalities and Discrimination Experiences in health Services

**TIDES Phase 1:** Investigates how **discrimination** experienced by both patients and healthcare practitioners may **generate and perpetuate inequalities in health services**.

**TIDES Phase 2:** Identifying and mitigating **the impact of COVID-19 on racial and ethnic inequalities** experienced by health and social care staff.

## TIDES Phase 1: (2018-2021) London

### Quantitative

*Secondary data analysis & TIDES Survey of London based NHS staff to assess levels of discrimination and its impact*

### Qualitative

*Interviewers with TIDES survey participants to understand their **experiences of discrimination***

### Virtual Reality

*NHS staff Interact with virtual patients in a VR scenario - **assess how bias can affect clinical decision making***

## TIDES Phase 2: (2021-2023) England

### Quantitative

*Co-produce **Inequalities Module for NHS CHECK survey** - a national study (18 Trusts) on impact of COVID-19 on health and work experiences of NHS staff ([www.nhscheck.org](http://www.nhscheck.org))*

### Qualitative

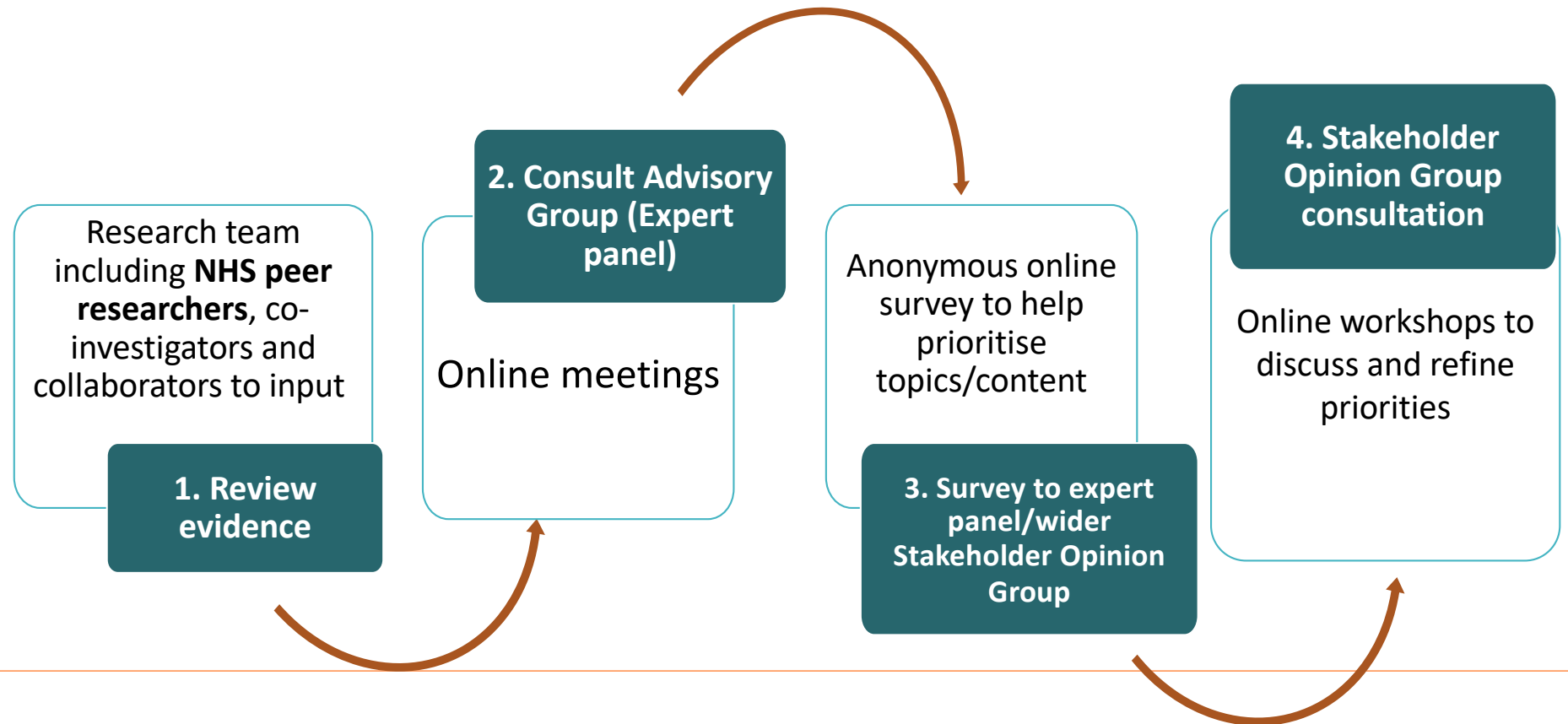
*Pre- and during COVID 19 interviews with NHS staff (primarily nurses) plus 3 groups: 1) Social care staff, 2) **Managers and leaders** and 3) **NHS CHECK** participants*

### Virtual Reality

*Develop **immersive virtual reality training scenarios** – “walking in the shoes of...”*

# Participatory Process with Healthcare workers

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# **GENERATING & CHALLENGING RACE EQUITY EVIDENCE**



THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigour, journalistic flair

# Racism, harassment and discrimination takes a terrible toll on ethnic minority NHS staff

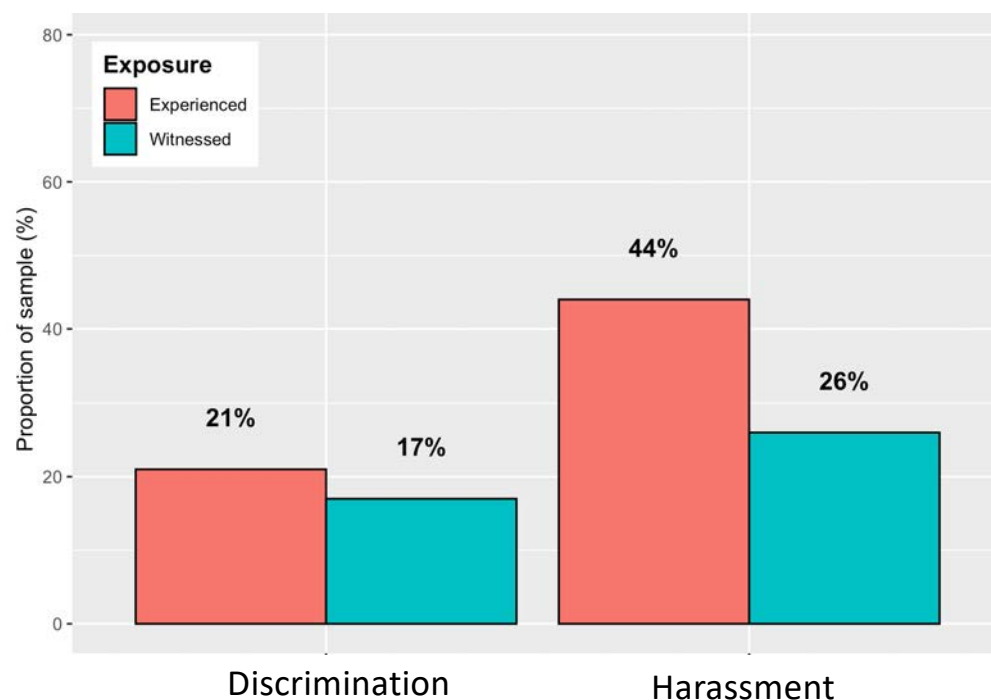
Published: April 3, 2024 5.30pm BST

# Impact of workplace discrimination and harassment among National Health Service staff working in London trusts: results from the TIDES study

Rebecca D. Rhead, Zoe Chui, Ioannis Bakolis, Billy Gazard, Hannah Harwood, Shirlee MacCrimmon, Charlotte Woodhead and Stephani L. Hatch



# TIDES Phase 1: Discrimination and Harassment from other staff



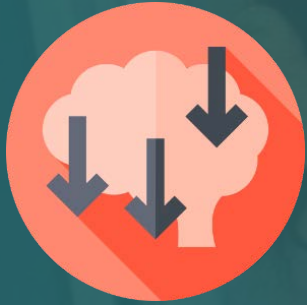
- **Women, Black ethnic groups, and migrants** were more likely to experience and/or witness both discrimination and harassment.
- Of the total sample:
  - 3% experienced discrimination only
  - 27% experienced harassment only
  - 18% experiencing both
- **52% of nurses in the sample experienced discrimination and/or harassment from other staff.**



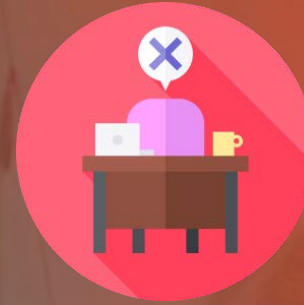
## **TIDES Phase 1: Perceived Reason for Discrimination**



<b>Migration and Ethnicity Group Status</b>	<b>Most common reason</b>	<b>2nd most common reason</b>
<b>Non-migrant</b>	Race/Ethnicity	Socioeconomic status
<b>Migrant</b>	Race/Ethnicity	Socioeconomic status
<b>White British</b>	Socioeconomic status	Age
<b>White Other</b>	Race/Ethnicity	Socioeconomic status
<b>Black</b>	Race/Ethnicity	Socioeconomic status
<b>Asian</b>	Race/Ethnicity	Socioeconomic status



**Poorer health,  
especially mental  
health**



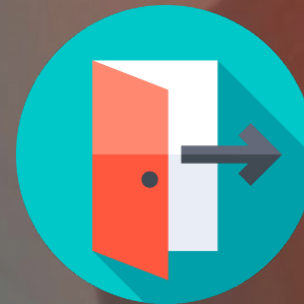
**Long periods of  
sickness absence**



**Underrepresentation in senior roles**



**More likely to face  
disciplinary action**



**Poor staff  
retention**

# TIDES - Qualitative

Received: 9 July 2021 | Accepted: 11 November 2021

DOI: 10.1111/1467-9566.13414



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH & ILLNESS

# **“They created a team of almost entirely the people who work and are like them”: A qualitative study of organisational culture and racialised inequalities among healthcare staff**

Charlotte Woodhead<sup>1,2</sup> | Nkasi Stoll<sup>1,2</sup> | Hannah Harwood<sup>1</sup> |  
TIDES Study Team | Obrey Alexis<sup>3</sup> | Stephani L. Hatch<sup>1,2</sup>



# TIDES – MSc Project

WILEY  Online Library



EMPIRICAL RESEARCH QUALITATIVE |  Open Access |  

## Ethnic inequalities during clinical placement: A qualitative study of student nurses' experiences within the London National Health Service

Chenel R. Walker, Cerisse Gunasinghe, Hannah Harwood, Annahita Ehsan, Farah Ahmed, Sarah Dorrington, Juliana Onwumere, Paula Meriez, Nathan Stanley ... [See all authors](#) ▾

First published: 03 October 2023 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.15891>

Chenel R. Walker and Cerisse Gunasinghe joint first authors.  
Stephani L. Hatch and Rebecca Rhead joint last authors.

# Identifying Racialised Organisations (Ray, 2019)

Enhance or diminish the agency of racial groups

- e.g., Lack of involvement in decision making and leadership

Legitimate the unequal distribution of resources

- e.g., Differential access to training/opportunities need for career progression

Racialised Organizations:

Treat whiteness as a credential

- e.g., Reported by White British student nurses in TIDES – Walker et al., 2023

Decouple formal rules from organizational practice in a racialised way

- e.g., Disproportionate disciplinary action

# Key Findings

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- **Racism, discrimination and bullying and harassment behaviours**, independently and in combination, exploit and maintain racialised hierarchies
- **High diversity-low inclusion dynamic** shaped exclusion processes within teams
- **Racism** linked to intersecting factors (e.g., race, ethnicity, migration, language and religion) and **increases segregation**
- Racial and ethnical minoritised groups **cope through in-group maintenance, moving teams or leaving the NHS**

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(Woodhead et al, 2021)

# Key Findings

## Themes Identified:

- Role of mentors
- Discrimination and unfair treatment
- Speaking up/out
- Career progression
- Consequences of adverse experiences

- Student nurses from ethnic minoritised backgrounds
  - **experienced racism, religious discrimination**
  - lack of mentor support, negatively impacting their learning and career progression
- White British students also faced discrimination due to their age, gender, sexual orientation but felt **valued for their whiteness**
- Ethnic minoritised students particularly noted a **lack of diverse representation in senior nursing roles** as a barrier to progression





Article  
Text



Article  
info



Citation  
Tools



Share

Workplace

Original research

## Ethnic inequalities among NHS staff in England: workplace experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic

 Rebecca Rhead<sup>1, 2</sup>, Lisa Harber-Aschan<sup>1, 3</sup>, Juliana Onwumere<sup>1, 4</sup>, Catherine Polling<sup>1, 4</sup>,   
Sarah Dorrington<sup>1, 4</sup>, Annahita Ehsan<sup>1</sup>,  Sharon A M Stevelink<sup>1, 5</sup>, Kamlesh Khunti<sup>6, 7</sup>, Ghazala  
Mir<sup>8</sup>, Richard Morriss<sup>9, 10</sup>,  Simon Wessely<sup>1, 5</sup>, Charlotte Woodhead<sup>1, 2</sup>, Stephani Hatch<sup>1, 2</sup>

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Psychology & Neuroscience, London, UK; [rebecca.rhead@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.rhead@kcl.ac.uk)



**Economic  
and Social  
Research Council**





# **TRANSFORMATIVE ANTI-RACISM TRAINING & RESOURCES**

# How is racialisation impacting health & work outcomes?

## Nursing & Midwifery Anti-racism Resource



## Anti-Racism Engagement and Oversight Group

**nmc**  
Nursing &  
Midwifery  
Council

**NHS**  
England

**KING'S**  
College  
LONDON

 **NHS Confederation**

## OUTCOME:

Racially inclusive leadership and workforce practices

# Combating racial discrimination against minority ethnic nurses, midwives and nursing associates

- The resource helps nurses, midwives and nursing associates recognise and challenge racial discrimination. By doing so, it supports staff wellbeing, physical and psychological safety.
- Includes practical examples and tools to help staff to discuss, explore and challenge racism safely and effectively.
- The resource also outlines the expected behaviours from NHS organisations and leaders, which include:
  - the provision of training to support zero tolerance policies
  - senior leaders acting as proactive allies by taking the appropriate action
  - the provision of safe spaces for conversations - such as robust staff networks and events
  - organisations working with staff to educate and reform practice.



<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/combating-racial-discrimination-against-minority-ethnic-nurses-midwives-and-nursing-associates/>

# How do we improve anti-racism training and support?

**Learning Module**

**VR Videos +  
Facilitated Guide**

**Artificial  
Intelligence Tools**

**NHS pilot uses virtual reality to tackle racism and discrimination among staff**

Immersive training scenarios highlight experiences of minority ethnic colleagues in health service



**OUTCOME:**

Scalable anti-racism resources



**IMPROVING TRAINING  
ACCESS TO BETTER  
CHALLENGE EVIDENCE**



**8658 learners**



**134 countries**



Centre for  
**Society and  
Mental Health**

## **Research Methods: A practical guide to Peer and Community Research**

Free Online Course

[REGISTER: bit.ly/CSMHPeerResearch](https://bit.ly/CSMHPeerResearch)



Economic  
and Social  
Research Council



 **Future  
Learn**

## Cultural Safety

- **Co-developed by Ramsden (1991), Maori nurse scholar with the Maori community in New Zealand**
- **Social justice focused**
- **Focus on cultural change in healthcare, education, research and policy through exposing and addressing:**
  - **Structural issues** (societal, institutional, and political power structures)
  - **Power imbalances** (service users and communities determine level of safety needed during healthcare interactions)
  - **Cultural dominance** (recognizes historical and contemporary colonization)
  - **Racism**

(Also see Cox and Simpson, 2015; Williams 1999; Kurtz et al., 2018; McClelland 2011)



# **INTEGRATED CROSS-SECTOR ANTI-RACISM POLICIES**

# ASKING “HOW IS RACISM OPERATING HERE?”

Jones, C. P. (2018a). Toward the science and practice of anti-racism: Launching a national campaign against racism. *Ethnicity and Disease*, 28(Suppl. 1), 231–234.

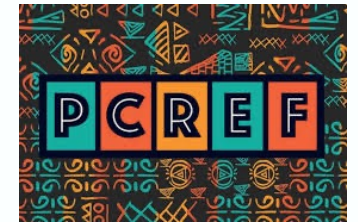
**Are anti-racism policies & strategies fit for purpose?**

**EVALUATE** existing policies

**IDENTIFY** unintended consequences

**INTEGRATE** siloed approaches

**DISSEMINATE** actionable insights



**OUTCOME:**

More rigorous, racially inclusive policies



***Confronting Institutional Racism Policy Review  
Framework: How is Racism Operating Here?***  
**Prof Camara Jones**

**Structures:**  
**who, what when and  
where of decision-making**

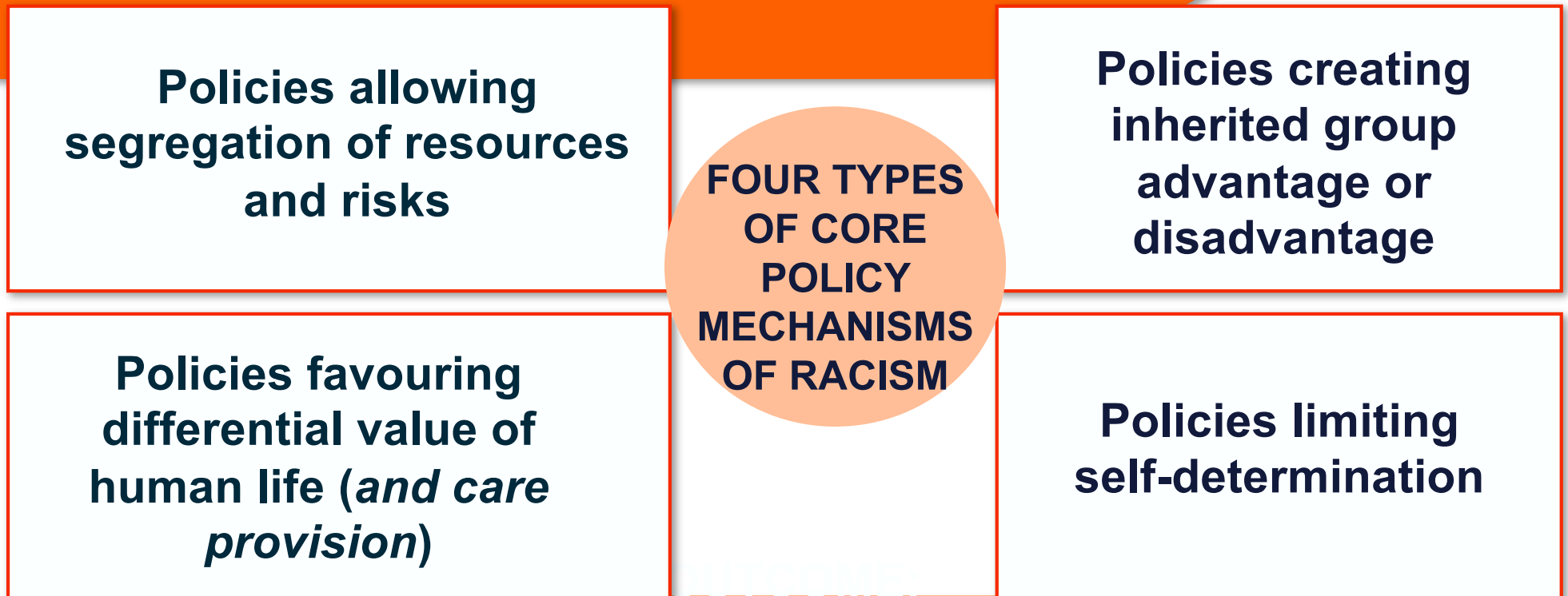
**Practices:**  
**how things are  
actually done**

**IDENTIFY  
LEVERS FOR  
CHANGE &  
TARGETS FOR  
ACTION**

**Policies:**  
**documents the rules  
for the 'how'**

**Norms & Values:**  
**unwritten embedded  
rules and why groups  
or actions valued  
over another**

***Confronting Institutional Racism Policy Review  
Framework: How is Racism Operating Here?***  
**Prof Camara Jones**



# COLLECTIVELY ORGANISE & STRATEGISE TO ACT!

Jones, C. P. (2016). Becoming actively anti-racist:  
The need to organize and act. *The Nation's Health*, 46(4), 3.

# Achieving Systemic and Cultural Change

## Two key underlying principles:

- **Cultural Humility:**

- Process of self-reflection and understanding one's own implicit and explicit biases and how these biases may influence research.

- **Cultural Safety:**

- Creating a safe environment where there is no assault, challenge or denial of their identity, of who they are and what they need.
- Establishing shared respect, meaning, knowledge, living and working together with dignity and truly listening

(Miller et al., 2019; Ramsden 1993; Williams, 1999)

# Achieving System & Cultural Change – Be Curious!



Move beyond knowing racialised cultures exist to detailing and evidencing how they work

Evidence how racialisation impacts education, training and development (e.g., hidden curriculums)

Evidence how racialisation plays out in institutional responses to discrimination, bullying and harassment and within disciplinary processes

Evidence how racialisation is enacted in interpersonal interactions and internalised

Also focus on how advantaged groups maintain advantages or 'inequality diversions' (Link & Garcia, 2021)



## Commit to Racial Inclusion in Everyday Practice

- How have you been **inclusive and created psychologically safe** services and workplaces today?
- What have you done to **increase support and representation of staff networks, patients and carers on decision making committees and boards?**
- How have you made sure that **opportunities for decision making and action are integrated?**
- How have you **involved racial and ethnic minoritised staff in development and leadership of training and policies?**

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ALL STAFF are impacted by structural and cultural contexts generating and perpetuating racial inequities

## Anti-racism Action

- **Must work towards structural, systemic and cultural change**
- **Challenge racialised organisational norms**
- **Increase focus on structural inequalities** in career progression and access to training and opportunities

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ALL STAFF are impacted by structural and cultural contexts generating and perpetuating racial inequities

## Interrogate Structures and Practices

- **Revise Codes of Practice/Conduct** as a structural and public demonstration of commitment
  - **Address the hidden curriculum:** identify and tackle practices in education, training/placements reinforcing inequity
  - **Failures to comply and progress** should be sanctioned by governing and regulatory bodies
-

## **Hold Managers and Leadership to Account: Be Courageous!**

- **Disrupt accepted norms within organisational culture**
- **Expect buy-in from all leadership levels**
- **Monitor and take action on resistance and collusion against cultural safety and anti-racism practice – especially among leaders**
- **Onus is on leaders, organisations and institutions across sectors to think about and demonstrate how they are not enabling systems of oppression**

# ***Confronting Institutional Racism Policy Review Framework -***

## **Prof Camara Jones**



Jones, C. P. (2016). Becoming actively anti-racist: The need to organize and act. *The Nation's Health*, 46(4), 3.

Jones, C. P. (2018a). Toward the science and practice of anti-racism: Launching a national campaign against racism. *Ethnicity and Disease*, 28(Suppl. 1), 231–234.



# Thank You & Thanks to my Team!



BME Leadership  
Network  
NHS Confederation

**Professor Stephani Hatch**  
Professor of Sociology and Epidemiology  
Vice Dean, Culture, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion  
Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience  
King's College London

Lead: Health Inequalities Research Group  
[stephani.hatch@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:stephani.hatch@kcl.ac.uk)

**Q&A**

# Closing remarks

Joan Saddler OBE  
Director of Partnerships and Equality,  
Co-facilitator BME Leadership Network  
NHS Confederation

# Reception