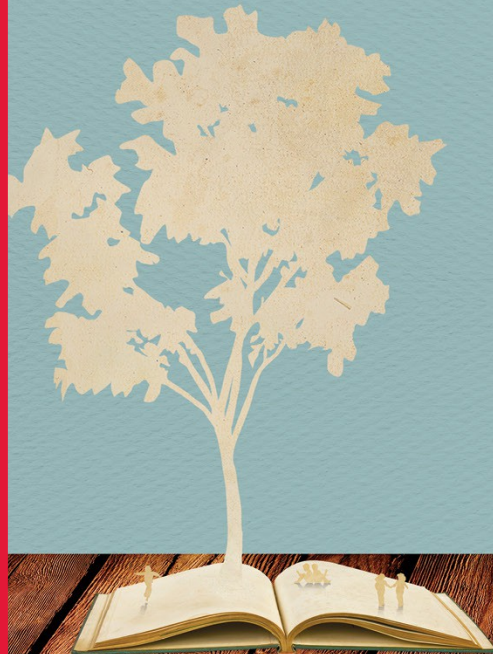


Race, Wellbeing and the Healthcare of African Canadians

November 16, 2018

Carl E. James

Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community & Diaspora



Session Learning Objectives

- Recognize the significance of race and its interlocking relationship with other identity factors in individuals' lives
- Identify that equitable access to healthcare and a healthy life is reliant upon the collection of race data
- Identify the impact of anti-Black racism as a determinant of health

"I never go so deep"



If birds were suddenly endowed with scientific curiosity they might examine many things, but the sky itself would be overlooked as a suitable subject.

If fish were to become curious about the world, it would never occur to them to begin by investigating water.

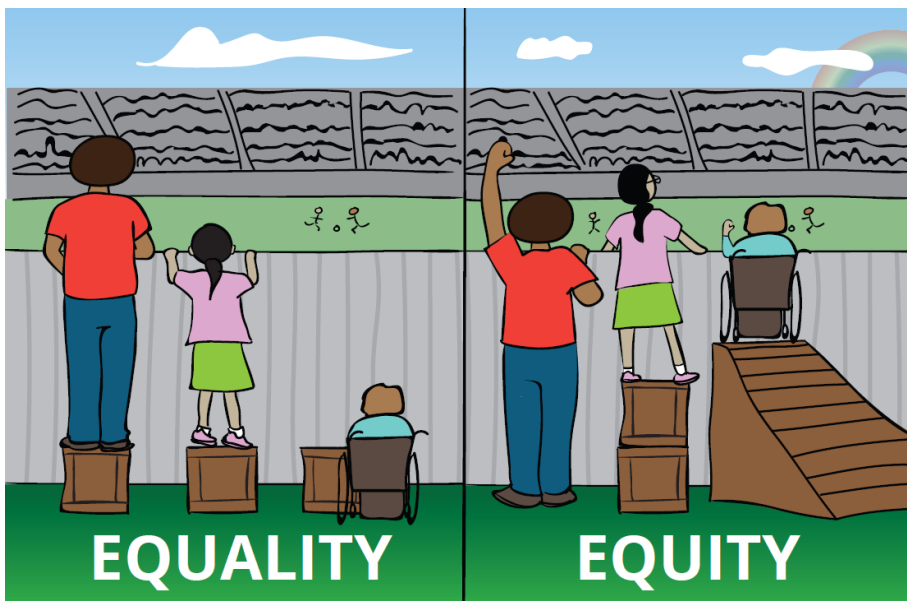
For birds and fish would take the sky and water for granted unaware of their profound influence because they comprise the medium for every act.

Barlund, D.C. 1988. "Communications in a Global Village." In L.A. Samovar and R.E. Porter (eds). Intercultural Communication: A Reader. New York: Wadsworth.



Equity

- Opportunities and conditions provided to individuals are responsive to their particular needs, interests, and aspirations.
- Differential treatment will support equal outcomes.
- Premised on the notion of justice.



My Perspective...

- Race is important to our understanding of individuals' experiences.
- Racism is endemic in societies
- Whiteness should not be considered a universal classification
- Claims of 'colourblindness', merit, neutrality, objectivity, etc., are illusionary.
- Space is not neutral. It is an active archive of social processes and social relationships.
- Center the experiences and knowledge of racialized people

Race & Well-Being



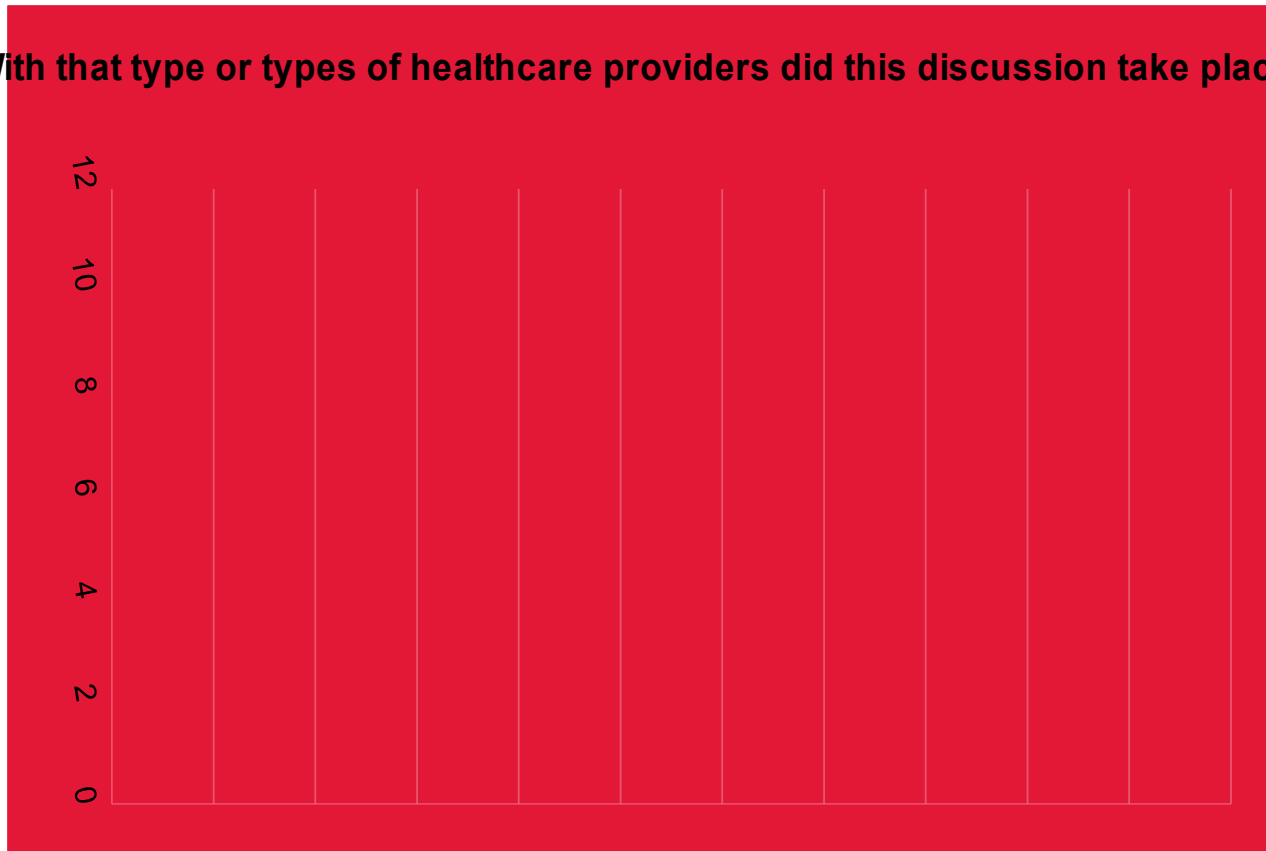
“The effect of fish oil even more pronounced among African-Americans...”

Talking about Race with Healthcare Providers

Black Experience Project (Environics).
2017. Toronto: Jean Augustine Chair in
Education, Community & Diaspora,
York University.

Talking about Race with Healthcare Providers

With that type or types of healthcare providers did this discussion take place?



Black Experience Project (Environics). 2017.
Toronto: Jean Augustine Chair in Education,
Community & Diaspora, York University.

Talking about Race with Healthcare Providers

Discussion initiated by you or by the healthcare provider?

Talking about Race with Healthcare Providers

Was this healthcare provider Black?

Black Experience Project (Environics).
2017. Toronto: Jean Augustine Chair
in Education, Community & Diaspora,
York University.



Talking about Race with Healthcare Providers

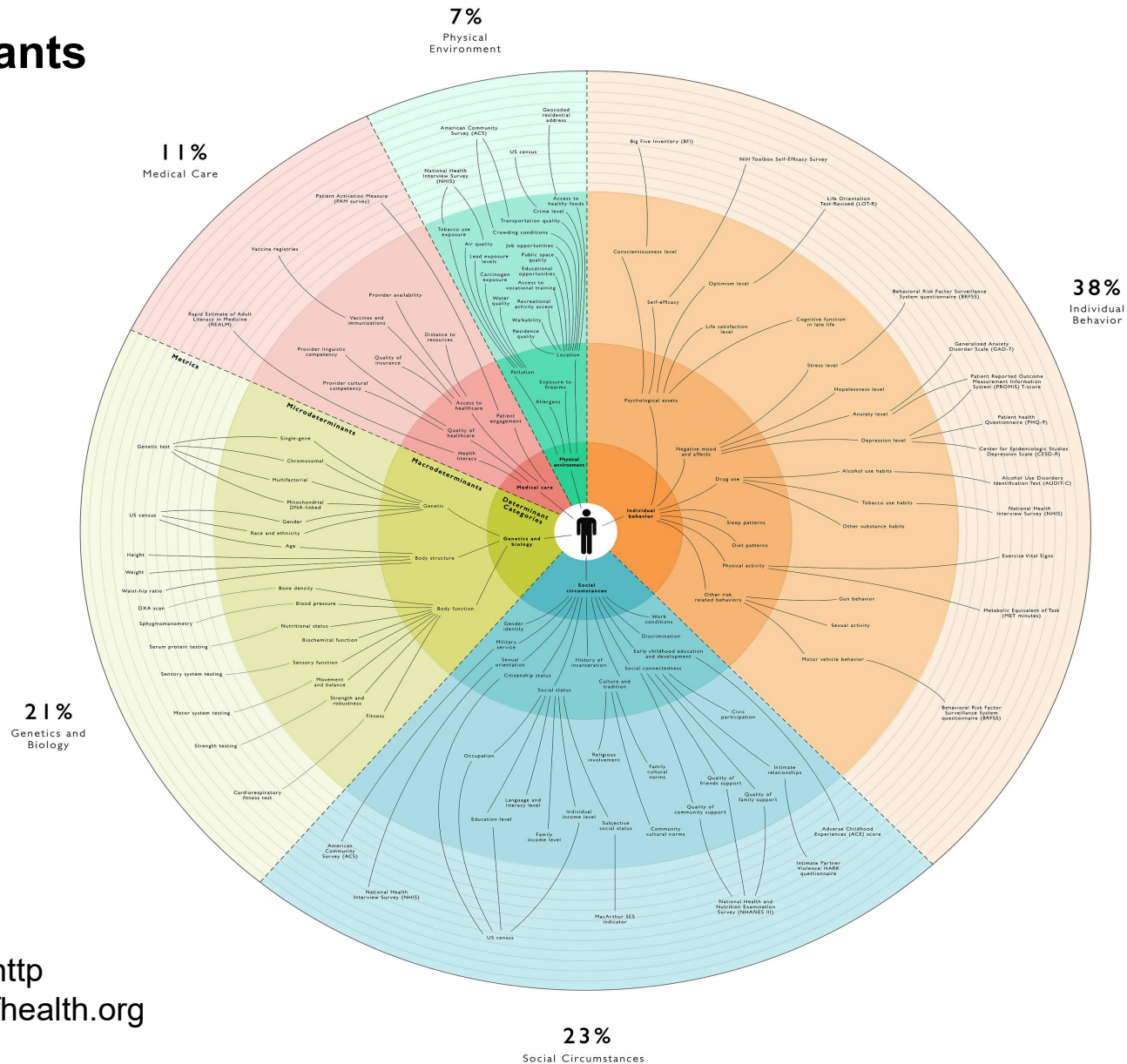
Rate the availability of healthcare services in your community



“Race, and more importantly racism, are two of the most fundamental determinants of health because they structure the way in which one experiences and has access to many, if not all, of the other social determinants of health.”

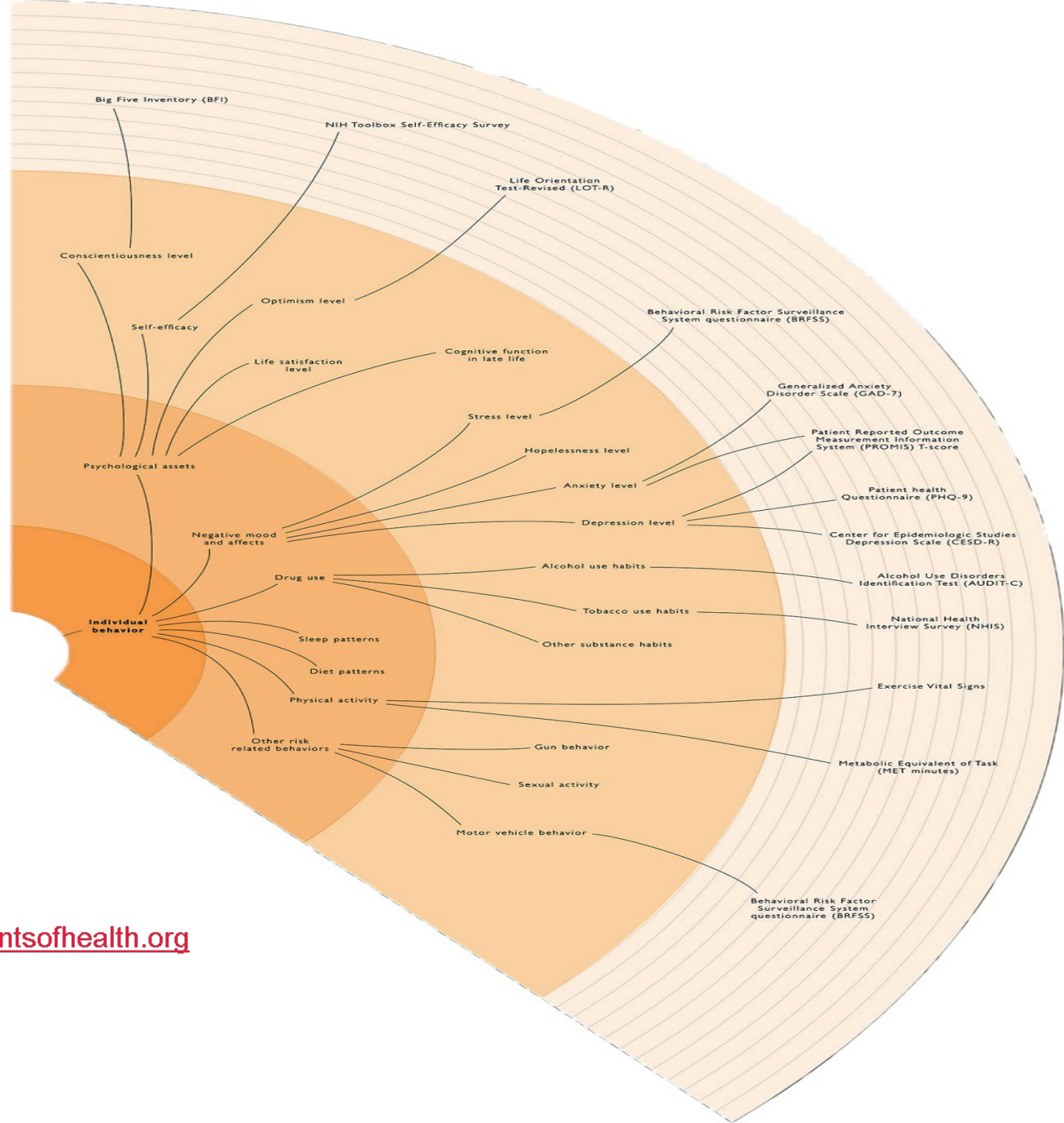
Sultana, Anjum. 2017. “Racial Justice Matters: Why Racism is a Public Health Issue,” Ontario Health Promotion E-Bulletin, p.2

Social Determinants of Health Map



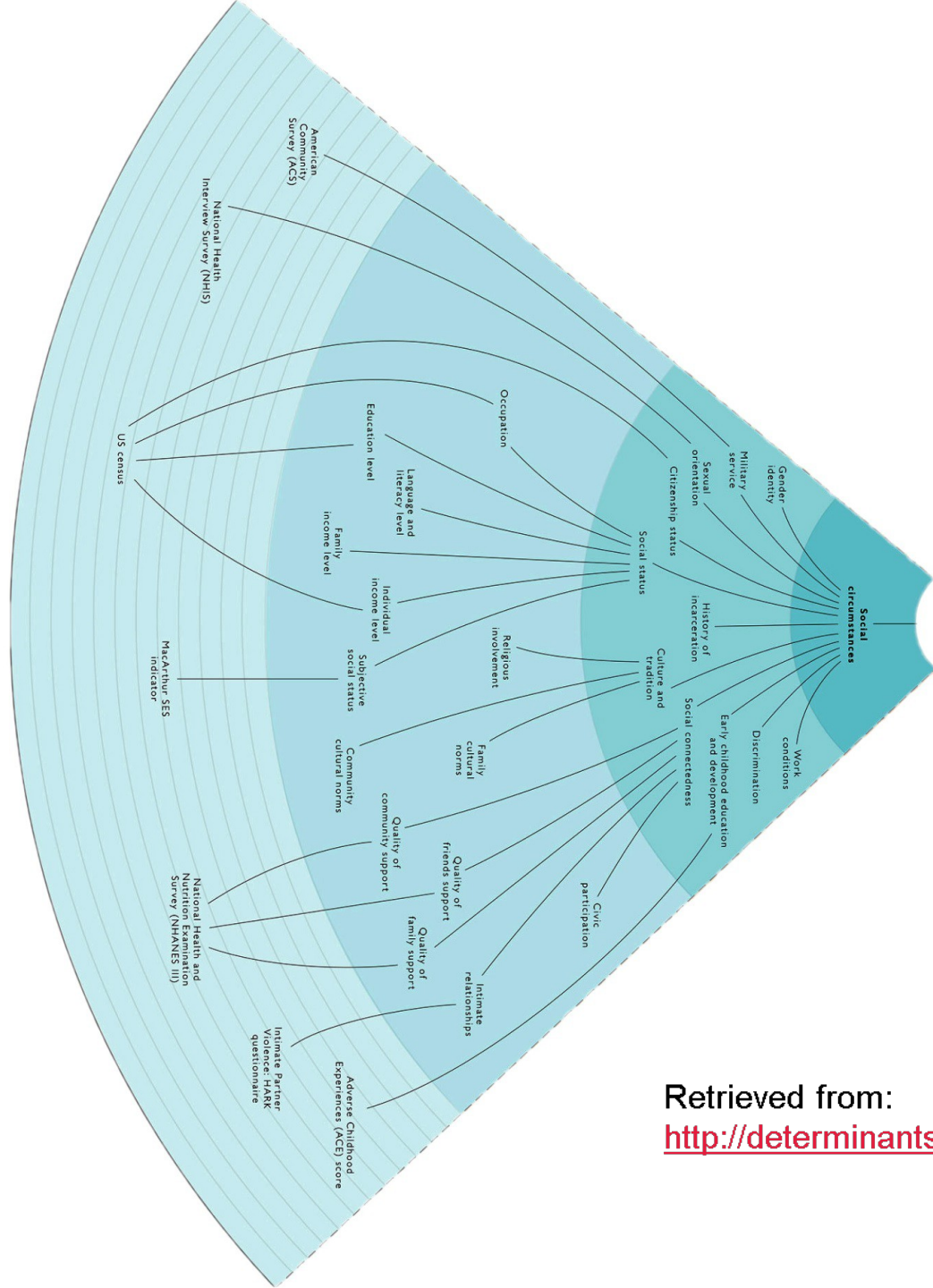
Retrieved from: <http://determinantsofhealth.org>

Individual Behaviour



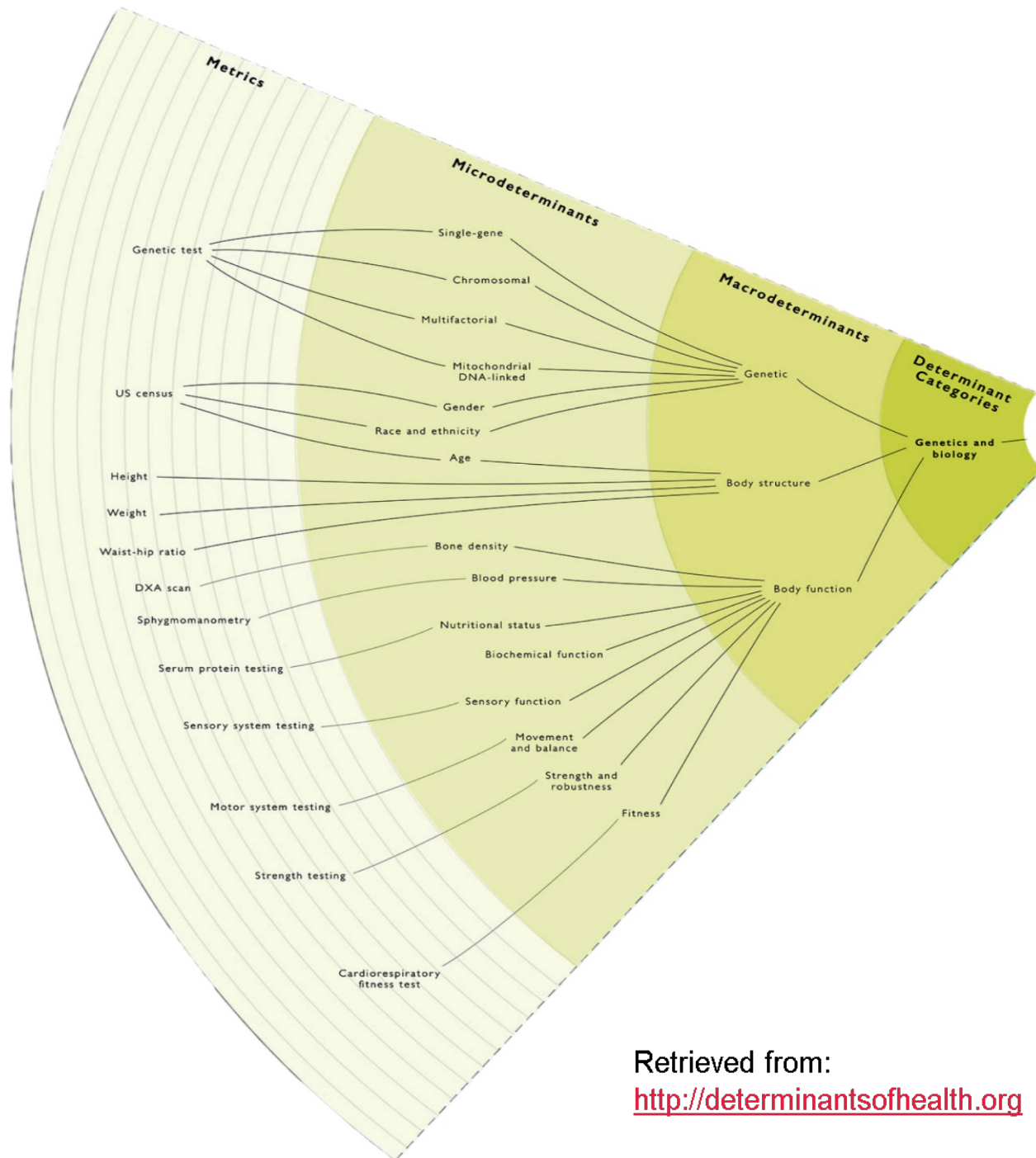
Retrieved from:
<http://determinantsofhealth.org>

Social Circumstances



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<http://determinantsofhealth.org>

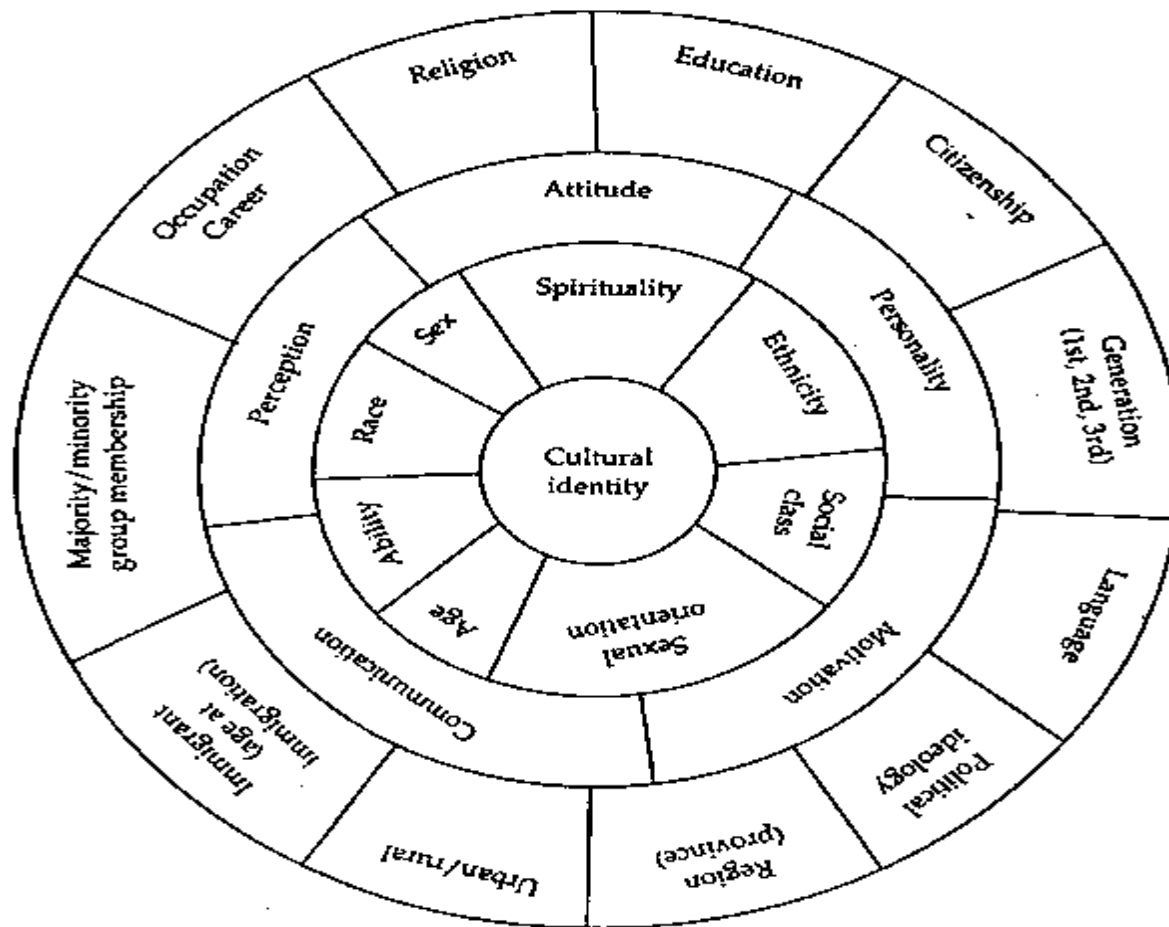
Genetics & Biology



Retrieved from:
<http://determinantsofhealth.org>

Explanations about the cause of a disease that focus strictly on the biological causes are **incomplete and misguided** if they do not also incorporate the influence of **risk differences** based on **social factors** such as racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, homophobia and xenophobia and others and related discriminatory practices.

Cultural Identity



James, C. E. 2010. *Seeing Ourselves: Exploring Race, Ethnicity and Culture*. Toronto: Thompson Educational Publishing, Inc. p. 47



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Editor
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The Health Effects of Anti-Black Racism

Black Torontonians face a variety of specific health challenges. Racism is one of them.

By Eternity Martis



“Discrimination doesn’t just impact the care that Black people in this city receive – it permeates every aspect of their health.”

What's to be done?

- Examine the specificity of racialized people's experiences with racism
- “Visible minority” does not identify the differences amongst racial groups
- Recognize the agency that individuals exercise in accessing healthcare
- Encourage individuals' active resistance

Racism, Health & What You Can Do About It

- Dr. Kwame McKenzie, CEO of Wellesley Institute
- 15 Ideas under 3 broad themes:
 - Decrease Racism
 - Increase Resilience
 - Increase Equity in Services

13. Fund programs based on equity compliance

14. Collect Data

15. Get the Right Research



Blog Post by Dr. Kwame McKenzie on
Wellesley Institute Blog - Racism, Health and
What You Can Do About It. Retrieved from:

“If you do not count people, they do not count.” – Dr. K. McKenzie

Blog Post by Dr. Kwame McKenzie on
Wellesley Institute Blog - Racism, Health and
What You Can Do About It. Retrieved
from: <http://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/health/racism-health-what-you-can-do-a...>

“Moving the lens of research away from inequalities in access towards looking at inequalities in outcome of treatment may be more likely to have an impact on disparities....” – Dr. K. McKenzie

Blog Post by Dr. Kwame McKenzie on
Wellesley Institute Blog - Racism, Health and
What You Can Do About It. Retrieved
from: <http://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/health/racism-health-what-you-can-do-a...>

DANKSCHEEN
 GRACIAS
 ARIGATO
 SHUKURIA
 GOZAIMASHITA
 EFCHARISTO
 JUSPAXAR
 TASHAKKUR ATU
 SUKSAMA
 EKHMET
 MEHRBANI
 PALDIES
 BOLZIN
 MERCI
 BIYAN
 SHUKRIA
 TINGKI
 YAQHANYELAY
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 PALDIES
 BOLZIN
 MERCI

