



POSITIVE WOMEN'S NETWORK



THE BODY
The Complete HIV/AIDS Resource

Why Race Matters

Women, Intersectionality, and HIV

WATCH! Webinar

July 7, 2016, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm ET

Together, we can change the course of the HIV epidemic...one woman at a time.

#onewomanatatime

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Webinar Agenda



**What Does Racism Have to Do With Health Disparities?
How Systems of Oppression Influence Health
Outcomes;** *Tonia Poteat, PhD, Johns Hopkins University*



**Everyday Intersectionality: The Impact of Social
Identities on HIV Care, Services and Advocacy;**
Naina Khanna, Positive Women's Network – USA



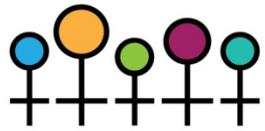
**Unpacking Privilege: Understanding What It Means,
and What Can Be Done With It;** *JD Davids, TheBody.com*



Co-Moderator: *Krista Martel, The Well Project*



Co-Moderator: *Olivia G. Ford, Consultant*



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About The Well Project

- Non-profit organization with a mission to change the course of the HIV/AIDS pandemic through a unique and comprehensive focus on women and girls
- Leverages technology to improve health outcomes and increase quality of life for women and girls living with HIV
- Focus is to provide accessible and comprehensive #information, #community support, and #advocacy building
- Access our resources and join our community at www.thewellproject.org



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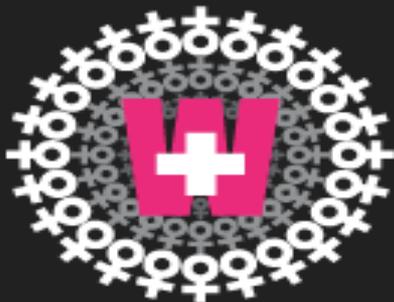
About Positive

Women's Network-USA

- Founded in **2008** by 28 diverse women living with HIV
- Today: 3,000 members nationwide, 11 formally affiliated regional chapters

Positive Women's Network-USA is the only national organization in the US led by and for women living with HIV

Our mission: *To prepare and involve women living with HIV, in all our diversity, including gender identity and sexual expression, in all levels of policy and decision-making.*



POSITIVE WOMEN'S NETWORK USA

Sisterhood · Solidarity · Action

www.pwn-usa.org



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LIVING WITH HIV WATCH AARON'S STORY >

Basics

- What Is HIV?
- HIV Testing 101
- Just Diagnosed
- HIV Medications
- Side Effects
- HIV/AIDS Resource Centers
- African Americans Aging
- Gay Men
- Keeping Up With Your
- Latinos
- Newly Diagnosed Starting Treatment Women
- Share Your Stories!

What's New in HIV/AIDS

NEWS & OPINION | RESEARCH | BLOGS | Q & A

Community Must Play a Greater Role in HIV Treatment Delivery

Countering the Slow Burn of HIV, Inflammation and Aging

The Unending Paradox: Why Are HIV Rates Higher in Black MSM?

MORE TOP STORES | ALL RECENT NEWS | EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

Inside TheBody.com

For the 10th anniversary of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NWGHAAD), women with HIV spoke forcefully about their lives, needs and priorities. We bring you their voices, plus other important news, stories and resources by, for and about women affected by HIV/AIDS.

- Positive Women Decry Lack of Consultation With White House for National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Event

HIV Research

- HIV-Positive Men With Detectable Viral Loads Need Fewer Drinks to "Feel a Buzz"
- CROI 2015: Women and HIV (Video)

MORE RESEARCH ON THEBODYPRO.COM

Watch & Learn

VIDEOS | SLIDESHOWS | INFOGRAPHICS

Antron Olukayode on Sexual Assault, HIV Disclosure and Spinning Life's Trials Into Art

Let Antron share with you how he came into himself as an artist and activist.

Watch More Videos From The Positive Living Series

TheBody.com's "Ask the Experts" Forums

Get Leading HIV Experts' Views on a Range of Subjects

Hot Topics at the Forums

- Are Steroids Safe While on HIV?
- Do I Have to Stay on Disability?
- The Risks of "Settling" for 350
- Low CD4 = Avoid Vaccinations?
- Can Diarrhea Reduce Med Effectiveness?

More hot topics >>

Is there already an answer to your question? Search All Answers:

Search

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HIV/AIDS Resource Center for Women

Michelle | Alora | Precious | Nina | Gracia | Loreen

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Spotlight Series: HIV Stigma & Discrimination

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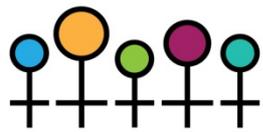
Feature

When Words Work Against Us: The Language of HIV Stigma

For many years, the language of HIV/AIDS has marginalized people living with HIV, and those in communities with high rates of infection. The time has come to reframe the language to empower rather than alienate, and to educate the general public.

"I knew it was time to start HIV-1 treatment when..."

Expand to



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HIV/AIDS NEWSROOM

HIV-Positive Men With Detectable Viral Loads Need Fewer Drinks to "Feel a Buzz"

CROI 2015: Women and HIV (Video)

Promising Antibody That Neutralises HIV Shows Why We Shouldn't Give Up on a Vaccine

Grading Severe Liver Disease and Predicting Survival

Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir With or Without Ribavirin in People With Liver Transplants

Recap and Highlights From CROI 2015

Sirius: Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir in Cases of Severe Liver Injury

Using Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir When Prior Treatment With Sofosbuvir Failed

Crazosin, Elbasvir and Other

Vaginal HIV Prevention Gel Fails Major Study

Disappointing new study results have dealt a serious blow to hopes for a vaginal gel to help women protect themselves from HIV infection.



CROI RECAP PREP WINS MICROBICIDES INFLAMMATION

HIV MANAGEMENT IN DEPTH

An interview series exploring key issues in HIV care.



Key Issues Affecting the Care of HIV-Positive Adolescents

An Interview With John Steever, M.D.

HIV CARE TODAY

A blog featuring profession the frontlines of HIV treatment prevention and care.



New HIV Treatment Guidelines, and the Dawn of an Era

A Blog Entry by Paul...



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CROI 2015

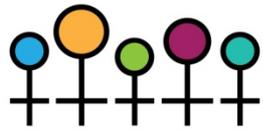
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6 Important HIV Research Findings From CROI 2015

By Josep M. Llibre, M.D., and Benjamin Young, M.D., Ph.D.

Here are six important HIV research findings from CROI 2015, selected by Josep M. Llibre, M.D., and Benjamin Young, M.D., two of the leading HIV doctors in the world.



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About *WATCH!*

- *WATCH!* (Women's Advocacy and Treatment Coalition on HIV) is an ongoing HIV treatment advocacy and capacity-building webinar series
- The 2016 *WATCH!* series will take place throughout the year, and will include 5-6 webinars
- For certification, participants must participate in live webinar or view recording, take a pre- and post-test, and final evaluation survey (end of series)
- Webinars will be recorded and can be accessed up to one month after they take place



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Webinar Details

- Webinar will last approximately 90 minutes with Q&A at the end
- Use live chat box on left side to enter questions while someone is talking; questions will be put in queue
- If you are listening to webinar via your phone, please enter second audio pin to connect your phone to computer * (3-digit number)#
- Participants' lines will be muted until the Q&A
 - To unmute your phone, press *6, or click on microphone icon at the top of your screen (if using computer microphone)
 - To mute, use your phone “mute” button



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Poll Question

What is your level of experience being part of conversations about race, gender, intersectionality, and/or how these topics relate to HIV advocacy? (Please choose one.)

- I have never been part of this kind of conversation
- I have some experience with these topics
- I often take part in conversations about these topics
- I have started, or led, conversations on these topics as part of my HIV work



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What Does Racism Have to Do With Health Disparities?

How Systems of Oppression Influence Health Outcomes

Tonia Poteat, PhD
Johns Hopkins University



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Why Race Matters



Race matters when it comes to HIV – and not just for women of color

- While differences in HIV rates by race get talked about a lot, *why* these differences exist is often misrepresented, rarely well explained, and even less often addressed



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What Is Race?

- Usually thought of as being tied to a person's
 - Skin color, eye shape, hair texture, other physical traits
 - Region of origin in the world
- As much a **social** category as a **biological** one
- Tries to explain differences in ways people live in society and how they are treated, based on how they look



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What Is Race?

- A **powerful idea** that is:
 - Fluid, and disputed
 - Racial definitions change over time
 - Used to dictate where people can live, what they are able to do, and what resources they have
 - These actions continue into the present day
 - Used to make opportunities available to some based on their race, while keeping the same opportunities out of reach for others



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What Are Health Disparities?

Health disparity: “the biological expression of **social inequalities**”

– *Paul Farmer (global HIV activist, physician, and medical anthropologist)*

- Difference in health linked to unequal or unjust social condition
- Can be a higher rate of a disease among certain groups than others despite prevention efforts
- May exist according to gender, race, education or income level, disability, sexual orientation, region, and more
- **Social determinants of health**, like poverty, lack of education, and racism, are linked to health disparities



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Why Race Matters

Fast Facts on Women, Race and HIV:

- The global “face of HIV” is overwhelmingly the face of a black or brown woman
 - Vast majority live in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia
- Transgender women worldwide are nearly 50x more likely to be living with HIV



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Why Race Matters

Fast Facts on Women, Race and HIV:

- In the U.S., African-American women and Latinas make up nearly 80% of women living with HIV (but are < 30% of U.S. female population)
- Study shows 3 times higher HIV rate among black transgender women than white or Latina transwomen



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Poll Question

*I have always been taught
not to see a person's race or color.*

- True
- False



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Everyday Intersectionality

The Impact of Social Identities on HIV Care, Services and Advocacy

Naina Khanna
Executive Director,
Positive Women's Network - USA

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What Is Racism?

- The system in which people are **valued differently because of their race**. This system:
 - Unfairly **disadvantages** some individuals and communities
 - Provides unearned **advantage** to other individuals and communities
 - **Damages the whole society**, because human resources get wasted when all people are not treated as valuable



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What Is Racism?

- Many reasons why people of some races may be more likely to acquire HIV than others have less to do with body differences, and more to do with **factors that structure *how* people live**

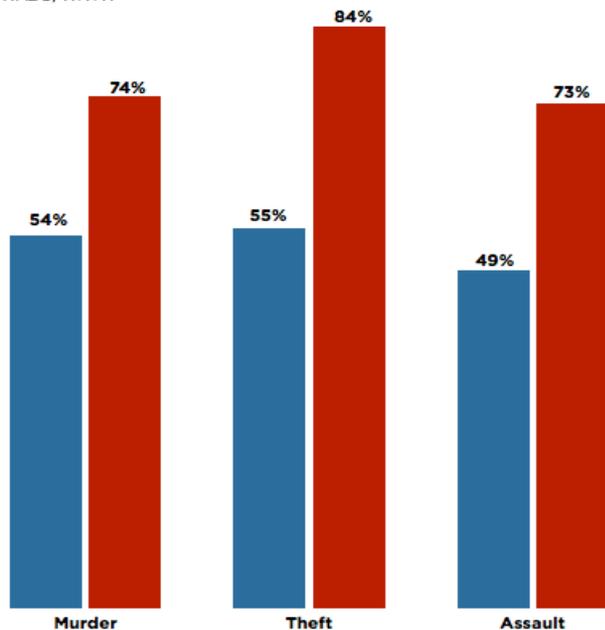


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What Is Racism?

Percentage of African-American Suspects in TV News Crime Reports vs. NYPD Data

Stations: WCBS, WNBC, WABC, WNYW

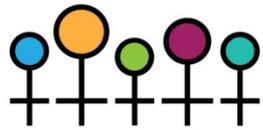


■ Percentage of Suspects Arrested Who Were African-Americans (2010-2013 Average)
 ■ Percentage of African-American Suspects in Reports (8/18/14-12/31/14)

MEDIAMATTERS



Original image sources: TheGazette.com and KCRG.com (Iowa - sister news sites); composite via Twitter



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What Is Racism?

- Racism causes stress; has been shown to be a form of trauma
- ***Racism is not just about individual behavior;*** a person who is white may:
 - Have many friends of different races
 - Have never intentionally harmed someone because of their race
 - *Still benefit from a racist system* – one that puts a higher value on the lives of white people than people of color



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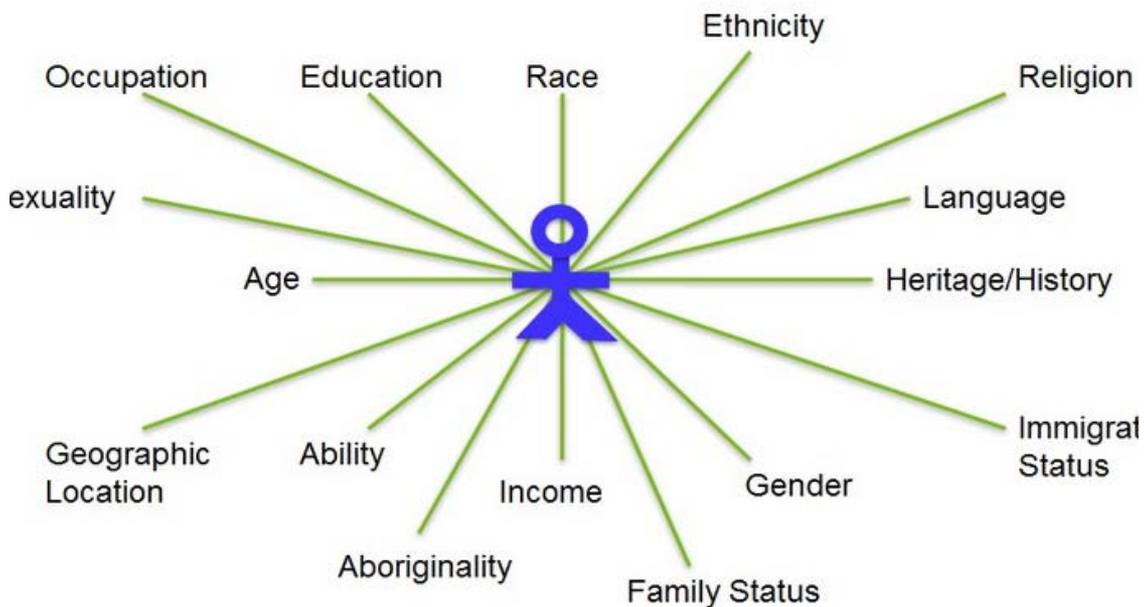
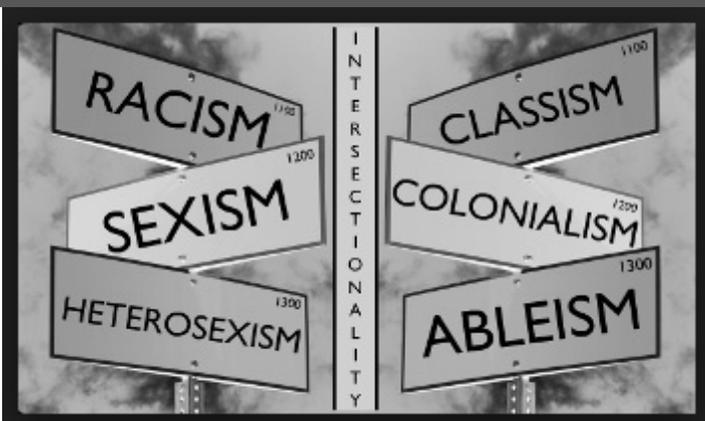
What Is Racism?

- Being **anti-racist** (against racism):
 - Does not mean ignoring race
 - Does not *just* mean white people treating individual people of color well
 - Means disagreeing with ways that racial bias shows up
 - Means recognizing ways we may benefit from systems that are biased against others (**privilege**)



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What Is Intersectionality?





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What Is Intersectionality?

- The idea that many parts of a person's **identity** and **ways their experiences and opportunities are socially structured** impact their life **simultaneously**
 - Privilege and oppression can both be experienced at the same time



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What Is Intersectionality?

- Parts of a person's identity cannot be separated; they work together
 - *Ex.:* While all women experience sexism, sexism experienced by black and white women will be different, because sexism experienced by black women **is also affected by racism**
- We miss key opportunities to reach and support women if we don't consider the many aspects of her identity that impact how she lives



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Poll Question

Based on your own experience, can you relate to the concept of intersectionality (how different parts of our identity impact our lives at the same time)?

Yes

No



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“I Live in the Basement”

*“I live in the basement: the **lowest floor of the social systems** we have here in America. ... Proud and jubilant footsteps drum upon my ceiling from the house parties of the heterosexual, the men, those not of color, and even the LGB crowd. ...*

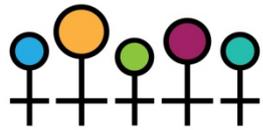
*“I ... first learn[ed] about the **perceived differences in skin color**, notwithstanding our commonality or upbringing ... As someone who was always feminine, I quickly then learned the **demeaning micro- (and outright violent) aggressions against women or femininity** in our male-dominated society ...*

*“When I started transitioning in the year of 1998 and entered my life as a transgender person, the **basement door became sealed.**”*

– Aryah Lester, [*“I Live in the Basement,” on A Girl Like Me*](#)

[Trigger warning: The blog entry linked above contains descriptions of sexual violence and discrimination.]

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What Can We Do?

- **Put those most impacted front and center**
 - If those most impacted by an issue are not at the table, get them there
 - When those most impacted by an issue speak about it, ***listen!***
- **Practice Active Allyship**
 - “Ally” is not a noun or a static identity; it’s an ongoing commitment to learn



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What Can We Do?

- **Challenge yourself**

- Take initiative to learn about ways other communities experience oppression – without expecting them to educate you
- Connect with advocacy groups fighting at the intersections of gender, race, immigration rights, income inequality, and more

- **Recognize your own privilege and use it for change**

- Privilege is not usually about choice. It is about social, political, and economic structures
- If you have privilege, you can choose not to be silent – and to make a difference! Calling out where systems are biased challenges them

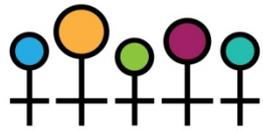


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Taking Action, Making Change

"The HIV epidemic in this country will end when America commits to addressing the underlying conditions which enable HIV to thrive, such as racism and poverty."

-- Positive Women's Network-USA leaders Vanessa Johnson and Waheedah Shabazz-El, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2016



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Poll Question

I recognize that I have some forms of privilege in society, but am uncomfortable discussing privilege.

True

False



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Unpacking Privilege

*Understanding What It Means, and
What Can Be Done With It*

JD Davids
TheBody.com



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What Is Privilege?

- A set of unearned, often invisible benefits experienced by people who, based on aspects of their identity, fit into ***social groups that have power***
 - White race; middle or upper class; male; cisgender; heterosexual; documented U.S. citizen; HIV-negative; etc.
- A few examples of **how privilege shows up**:
 - Most people you or your children study in classes and books will share your race, gender, or sexual orientation
 - Your errors will not be thought of as being due to your race or gender
 - You don't have to think about race, class, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, etc., on a daily basis



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“#BlackLivesMatter”

*"I am a white woman; **I have privilege**. I recognize that we don't have to have a hashtag for white lives. ...*

"Some would say that I experienced 'racism' as a 'Mzungu' [white person] living in rural Kenya; I was not treated the same. My hair was touched with fascination, kids would point and follow me ...

*“But **this is not racism**. I was not regarded as inferior, unworthy or as a 'lesser' person. ... mostly I was just **considered as another human being**, who looked different ...*

"What has brought this rant on? Because ... racism towards white people is up for discussion and it pains me!"

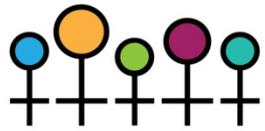
– MelPainter2014, [“#BlackLivesMatter,” on A Girl Like Me](#)



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Things to Remember About Privilege

- It's often easier to notice the **oppression you experience than the privileges**
 - Being mistreated leaves deeper impression than fair treatment
- Privilege **doesn't mean you didn't work hard or have trauma**
 - Doesn't mean your life is easy, but that it's easier than others' *in certain ways*
- Privilege **isn't "special advantages"; it's basic fairness**
 - Problem isn't that a privileged person gets *more than* they deserve, but that others who don't have privilege get *less than* they deserve
- Privileges and oppressions **don't cancel each other out**
 - Ex.: Poor or working class white people can be oppressed by poverty and still benefit from being white



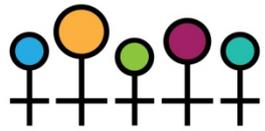
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The Invisible Knapsack

White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack

By: Peggy McIntosh

- “I have come to see white privilege as an invisible package of unearned assets which I can count on cashing in each day, but about which I was “meant” to remain oblivious. White privilege is like an invisible weightless knapsack of special provisions, maps, passports, codebooks, visas, clothes, tools, and blank checks.”
- List of 26 skin-color privilege conditions



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The Invisible Knapsack

- White people are taught to identify racism as putting others at a disadvantage; however, white people are not taught about how white privilege puts them at an advantage
- Similarly, we are taught that HIV stigma puts people with HIV at a disadvantage, but not that **others who are not living with HIV have an *advantage***



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JD's Adolescent Knapsack

- As an adolescent who experienced abuse and trauma, had several years of high rates of condomless receptive sex & drug and alcohol use
- Protected by knapsack:
 - Low community rates of HIV in mostly white, suburban, middle-to-upper class community in Northeastern US
 - Low background STI rates that could have increased risk of HIV infection
 - Stimulant and opiate use was not injection-based
 - Community was not under scrutiny of law enforcement – drug use and sales at low risk of arrest or sanctions
 - As someone who did not yet recognize myself as LGBT and was gender normative at the time, I did not experience additional trauma or violence related to being queer



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Ricardo Levins Morales

“White people are taught that racism is a personal attribute, an attitude, maybe a set of habits. Anti-racist whites invest too much energy worrying about getting it right; about not slipping up and revealing their racial socialization; about saying the right things and knowing when to say nothing. **It’s not about that.** It’s about putting your shoulder to the wheel of history; about undermining the structural supports of a system of control that grinds us under, that keeps us divided even against ourselves and that extracts wealth, power and life from our communities like an oil company sucks it from the earth.

The names of the euro-descended anti-racist warriors we remember – John Brown, Anne Braden, Myles Horton – are not those of people who did it right. **They are of people who never gave up.** They kept their eyes on the prize – not on their anti-racism grade point average. This will also be the measure of your work. Be there. There are things in life we don’t get to do right. But we do get to do them.”

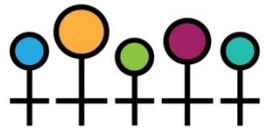
- Ricardo Levins Morales, 2015, for *Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)* work, quoted in *Southerners on New Ground (SONG)*, [THE ROLE OF WHITE PEOPLE IN THE MOVEMENT AT THIS TIME](#)



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Stepping Up Not On

- Show you are here for the long haul and don't expect others to jump right in
- Do what you say you will do or tell someone if you find you are not able to
- Make amends
- Social media battles are not easy and may not be worthwhile, and even detrimental
- Have an accountability buddy
- Be a force of racial justice outside HIV as well as in our movement



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ShowingUpForRacialJustice.org



- SURJ is a national network of groups and individuals organizing White people for racial justice.
- Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, SURJ moves White people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice with passion and accountability.
- SURJ works to connect people across the country while supporting and collaborating with local and national racial justice organizing efforts. SURJ provides a space to build relationships, skills and political analysis to act for change.



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Poll Question

Which of these statements best matches your thoughts about race and advocacy at this point?

- I don't think it is important to bring a racial-justice lens to my advocacy work at this time.
- I am ready to take steps toward racial justice in my work, but I don't think I have the tools I need in order to do that.
- I understand the need for bringing racial justice into my advocacy work, and I believe I have the information, resources, or support I need to make this happen.



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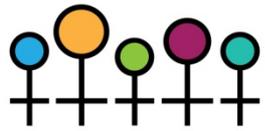
Taking More Action, Making More Change

- **United we stand**

- Learn from the HIV community's history of challenging privilege, fighting for voices of people living with HIV to be heard

- **Put those most impacted front and center**

- Again: *Listening is key!*
- Use the resources you may have to centralize those in the margins
- Refuse the mic and give it to two others
- Step away from the table and invite two others up, ensuring they have all the information you have
- Listen to what it would take for someone to want to and be able to step up. Don't set anyone up to go it alone



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Let's Talk!



Questions & Answers

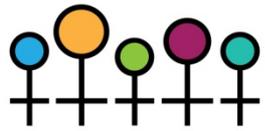
The Q & A will come from the questions submitted to the presenters through the chat box during the webinar session.



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Additional Resources

- [*Allegories on race and racism \[and health disparities\]*](#), By Camara Jones, MD, MPH, PhD (TED talk – YouTube)
- [*The Problem with Race-Based Medicine*](#), By Dorothy Roberts (TED talk)
- [*Intersectionality, HIV Justice, and the Future of Our Movement*](#) (Joint statement by PWN-USA and allies)
- [*As Race and Privilege Take Center Stage in HIV Community, a Call for Listening and Allyship*](#), By Olivia Ford (From TheBody.com)
- [*When Privilege Goes Pop: How Today's Mainstream Conversations On Privilege Can Hurt Justice Movements*](#), By Jamie Utt (Everyday Feminism)
- [*I, Racist*](#), By John Metta (Reprinted on Huffington Post)
- [*Explaining White Privilege to a Broke White Person*](#), By Gina Crosley-Corcoran (Reprinted on Thought Catalog)
- [*Black Lives Matter: Fighting violence and HIV*](#), By Olivia Ford



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Presenter Contacts



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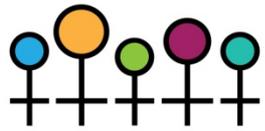
Olivia G. Ford, Consultant, olivia.g.ford@gmail.com



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Learn More!

- To learn more about this topic, please read the full fact sheet on this topic:
 - [Why Race Matters: Women and HIV](#)
- For more fact sheets and to connect to our community of women living with HIV, visit:
 - [www.thewellproject.org](#)
 - [www.facebook.com/thewellproject](#)
 - [www.twitter.com/thewellproject](#)



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Post-Assessment Test

Please go to

**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WATCH2016_posttest3 to
take today's webinar Post-Assessment Test**

An email message will be sent out on in the coming days, with the link to the webpage for today's webinar that has links to pre- and post-assessment tests, the webinar recording, and additional resources on this topic.

Thank you for your participation!