HIV IS A SOCIAL AND RACIAL JUSTICE ISSUE

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Objectives

1) To define racial and social justice in the context of HIV.
2) To consider the intersections of trauma ascribed to people at the margins because of the micro-perspective foci of HIV.
3) To discuss how social determinants of health and social/racial justice are aligned.
Community Understanding

- This conversation may get uncomfortable, lean into that.
- Your feelings, perspective and ideas are valid.
- We are all in this together.
What is social justice?

The objective of creating a fair and equal society in which each individual matters, their rights are recognized and protected, and decisions are made in ways that are fair and honest. (Oxford)
What is racial justice?

The systematic fair treatment of people of all races, resulting in equitable opportunities and outcomes for all. (National Education Association)
So, what is a part of each of these?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Justice has a focus on</th>
<th>Racial Justice has a focus on</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◦ Gender or non-gender</td>
<td>◦ Race</td>
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<td>◦ Sex or non-sex</td>
<td>◦ Ethnicity</td>
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<tr>
<td>◦ Sexuality(ies)</td>
<td>◦ Culture</td>
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<td>◦ Physical presentation</td>
<td>◦ Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>◦ Sense of normalcy</td>
<td>◦ Community</td>
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<td>◦ Relationships</td>
<td>◦ Relationships</td>
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HIV Impacts

01 Black and Brown (Race) Gay and Bisexual and other Men who sleep with Men (Social).

02 Black and Brown (Race) Cisgender Heterosexual Women (Social).

03 Black and Brown (Race) Transgender (Social) Women of diverse sexualities (Social).
HOW WOULD REFOCUSING HOW WE END THE EPIDEMIC ASSIST THE MOVEMENT?
CASE STUDY
So, what did we see?

- One talking about eradicating stigma to get to zero new infections for HIV while the other gave an incredible perspective on the educational achievements of Black women.
- One talking about barriers and another talking about opportunities to highlight.
- Still, the wealth gap is huge for non-degreed and degreed Black families even when we highlight the power of education. (Brookings Education)
- Fact: Non-degreed white families net worth is 100K and degreed families just under 400K.
- Fact: Non-degreed Black families net worth is ≤ 20K and degreed families are worth is ≤ 70K.
IF YOU ONLY FOCUS ON THE ACT, THEN YOU MISS THE CONVERSATION.
Social (Racial) determinants of health are any factors in our society, including poverty, physical and sexual abuse, lack of education, homelessness, stigma, addiction, violence, untreated mental health problems, lack of employment opportunities, powerlessness, lack of choice, lack of legal resident status and lack of social support contribute to the transmission of HIV. (CATIE, Canada)

**White supremacy culture** is the idea (ideology) that white people and the ideas, thoughts, beliefs, and actions of white people are superior to People of Color and their ideas, thoughts, beliefs, and actions. (Showing up for Racial Justice)

How does white supremacy culture play a part in social (racial) determinants of health?
HOW WE APPROACH RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
OUTCRY

- Outcry Project is an ongoing program in collaboration with the Black Christian Church.
- We have built partnerships with church using a social and racial justice construct.
- De-sexualized HIV.
- Used a harm reduction lens to implement change.
- Used healing justice practices to engage in our communities.
- Increased awareness through digital storytelling.
TRANS ALLY COLLECTIVE

◦ We use healing justice and harm reduction strategies in tandem to build this coalition.

◦ Complete involvement of the community that we are trying to impact.

◦ The required sacrifice of privilege is ever-present in this allyship.

◦ We pay people. 😊

◦ "Protecting Black Transwomen" never has to say HIV, though it is included in that work.
So, using social and racial justice, how can we:

- Be more open to allowing people most impacted by HIV tell us what they need?
- Consider how white supremacy culture plays a part in ending the epidemic AND what changes can we make?
- Be more supportive to expanding the scope of public health?
- Be more inclusive to the social and racial justice movements in our work?
Ian L. Haddock, Servant Leader

More information found on www.normalanomaly.org and www.transallycollective.org

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