



Editors' Notes-Women of Color Sexual Health Across the Lifespan

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Editors' Notes-Women of Color Sexual Health Across the Lifespan

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Keywords

Women of Color; Sexual Health; Heterosexual Lifespan

This issue is the second in a series of special issues of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, focusing on the sexual health of heterosexual women across the lifespan. Women of color continue to experience disproportionate negative health outcomes in the United States. Sexual health among women of color is no different: chronic disease, various cancers, sexual assault and violence, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and AIDS and mental health all contribute to the constant threat to the sexual health and wellness among women of color.

The ever growing body of evidence focusing on the sexual health of women indicates that the picture is not a simple one. Various factors including the social determinants of health, stress and coping and basic survival continue to move the picture of women's sexual health out of focus. By exploring the health disparities, current and novel research and practices focusing on the sexual health of women of color in the United States across the lifespan the difficult, but much needed forums, interventions and programs can be spurred on to address the correlates that threaten the health and well-being of women of color. As the editors of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, Drs. Marya Shegog and Melva Thompson-Robinson believe that this special issue, as well as, another specifically focusing on heterosexual women of color will elucidate new information, drive research and establish a new trajectory of programs specifically addressing the sexual health of people of color across the lifespan.

Thank you for your continued support of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*. Please look forward to future issues, as well as, additional special issues in the upcoming year.

Marya Shegog, PhD, MPH and Melva Thompson-Robinson, DrPH
Editors