

Decolonizing Public Health Teach-In

IMMIGRATION AND HEALTH

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Abstract

Anti-immigrant rhetoric and policy proposals by President Donald Trump both during his 2016 presidential campaign and in his current administration, have increased uncertainty and fear among immigrant communities. Additionally, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers have increased their activity, resulting in a 40% increase in the detention of undocumented immigrants. This rise in policing of immigrant communities, along with anti-immigrant policies and rhetoric, has not only increased fear among immigrant communities, but also created an additional barrier to accessing health. In this session we will discuss the history of anti-immigrant rhetoric and Latinx migration, criminalization of communities of color, and impact of this structural oppression and racism on health access and disparities. The vision of this workshop is to broaden awareness around the impact of immigration and policing in communities of color, as well as collaboratively discuss how we, as public health professionals, can actively participate in changing these toxic systems and structures.

Readings

- De León, J. (2016). *The land of open graves: Living and dying on the migrant trail*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- Delva, J., Horner, P., Ramiro, M., Sanders, L., Lopez, W. D., & Doering-White, J. (2013). Mental health problems of children of undocumented parents in the United States: A hidden crisis. *Journal of Community Positive Practices*, 8(3), 25–35.
- Garcia, M.C. (2017). *The Refugee Challenge in Post-Cold War America*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Human Impact Partners. (2013). *Family Unity, Family Health: How Family-Focused Immigration Reform Will Mean Better Health for Children and Families*. Oakland, CA.
- Novak, N., Geronimus, A.T., Martinez-Cardoso, A.M. (2017). Change in birth outcomes among infants born to Latina mothers after a major immigration raid. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 46(3):839-849.