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Racial Justice and Black Lives in Research: Consider these areas of inquiry

Doretha Walker dwimages46@gmail.com

Amy Krenzer

Montclair State University, krenzera@montclair.edu

Hila Berger Montclair State University, bergerh@montclair.edu

Michael A. Hunt University of Maryland - Baltimore County, michaelahunt@umbc.edu

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Montclair State University



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Black Lives Matter in Research

2022

Nov 1st, 12:00 AM

BLM in Research Ethics

Doretha Walker dwimages46@gmail.com

Amy Krenzer

Montclair State University, krenzera@montclair.edu

Hila Berger

Montclair State University, bergerh@montclair.edu

Michael A. Hunt *University of Maryland - Baltimore County*, michaelahunt@umbc.edu

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Researchers, Ethics & IRB Professionals:

Racial Justice and Black Lives in Research: Consider these areas of inquiry-

- Developed by the Black Lives Matter in Research Working Group 2021 - Researchers, Ethics & IRB Professionals

Engagement





How do you engage the community?

- Identify barriers to community participation, including fear
- Seek community stakeholders who benefit from participation
- Plan ways to return findings to the community in a meaningful way
- Create ongoing communication strategies, including centering black voices.
- E.g., if we're talking about lived experiences of Black women in their bodies, methods better leave room for Black women to express that.

White Normativity





How do you plan to assess white normativity in Research Design?

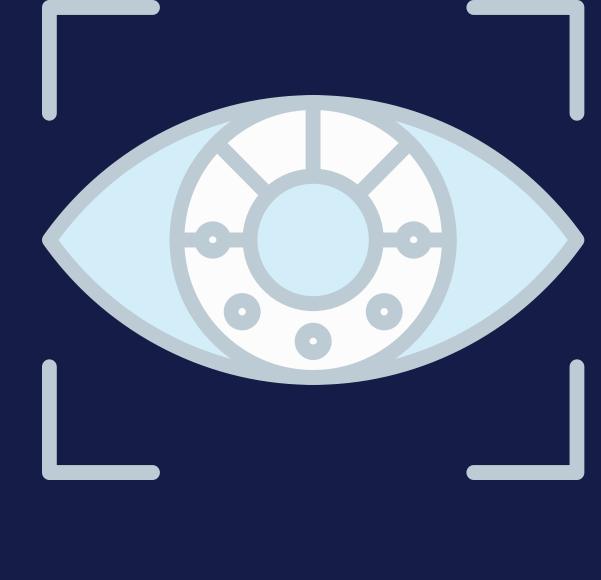
- Assess demographic question's added value to research design. Extend the latitude of what is researchable
- (research versus methodology). Evaluate the uniformity in data reporting and
- limit interference in non-uniform research design. Explore epistemologies or methods are limited
- based on "standard" set by institution. E.g. If the methodologists are all white how do
- we encourage and facilitate BIPOC methodologists

Participant Lived

How do researchers incorporate participant's lived experiences?

- Acknowledge the effects of lived and historical trauma, do not make assumptions
- Speak about lived experiences with compassion and sensitivity.
- Acknowledge and validate the connection between trauma and health in the experiences of Black folx.
- Center the joy, celebration, innovation, and genius of Black communities, Black families, and Black parents (e.g., in field of education).
- Prioritize Black or BIPOC communities' input and recruitment into therapeutic research for conditions which their community is most stricken.

Awareness



What is the level of awareness amongst IRB members and researchers?

- Honor and promote recognition of research on Black Lives. Recognize that internalized racism and bias can exist among Black researchers and IRB professionals. Recognize that POC researchers are often trained in white, cis
- male spaces. Assess diversity and inclusion of research teams. Has research
- been grounded in the knowledge and experience of the community (emic vs. etic approach)? Actively assess the cultural appropriateness of methods (data

Training Education

What additional considerations might you make for training and education?

Provide multicultural teaching and mentoring across all

collection strategies, tests, interviews) and request

- systems. Train IRB members with consideration of diversity in
- research teams. Train research teams in:
- cultural competence

adjustments accordingly

sound practices for community engagement methodologies best suited for all participants and

What additional considerations might you think about for

communities

Publication

publication and access to data? Consider the importance of information from a diversity of sources,



and Access

- not just "top-tier" journals. Recognize the value and make other resources available, create institutional change regarding what publications are valued. • Consider high-quality research that uses a range of methods, uses
- besides mainstream journals that might have limited inclusivity. Encourage open access research and research repositories. Evaluate research objectives for participant support and what can

alternate ways of understanding, and presents alternate theories

- be returned to them.
- projects to pursue, how to pursue them. Promote research that supports and uplifts participants in some

Revisit that question to find which journals to publish to, which

- way. Do not allow "Gatekeeping" in funding and publication.
- E.g. if a funder is not inclusive do not use the justification "the funder approved this study design" as ethical.

IRB Composition and Committees

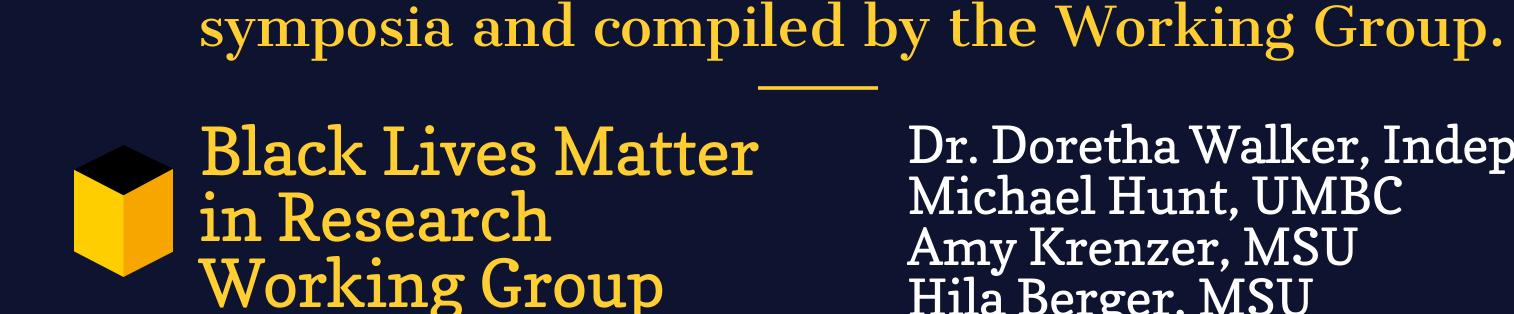
- What considerations should be made for IRB Composition? Representation and composition on IRBs should reflect the
 - Commit to time limits for IRB terms. Require transparency in the selection process.
 - IRB focuses on community advocacy (versus liability control.)

community; including racial representation and research

https://www.montclair.edu/institutional-review-board/blminresearch/

Created in collaboration with individuals attending the November 2020

representation.



Dr. Doretha Walker, Independent Scholar Michael Hunt, UMBC Amy Krenzer, MSU Hila Berger, MSU