

David H. Chae, Sc.D.

David H. Chae, Sc.D., is currently a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, and University of California, San Francisco site. Broadly, his professional goals are to make contributions to research on racial/ethnic minority disparities in health and social determinants of intra- and inter-group patterns in health. More specifically, his research interests focus on the influence of racism, structural and interpersonal forms of discrimination, and racial/ethnic identity as social determinants of health.

Dr. Chae received his Doctor of Science degree from the Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Society, Human Development and Health, with a major in Social Epidemiology and minors in racial/ethnic health disparities and social psychology, with an interdisciplinary concentration in Women, Gender and Health. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Chicago, where he majored in Psychology and Sociology; and Master of Arts degree in Psychology from Columbia University, Teachers College. He was previously a W.K. Kellogg Predoctoral Fellow in Health Policy; a Research Fellow at the Cambridge Center for Multicultural Mental Health Studies; and was affiliated with the University of Washington, School of Social Work where he conducted his dissertation research. He was the 2006 recipient of the Best Student Abstract Award from the Asian and Pacific Islander Caucus of the American Public Health Association. His memberships include the American Public Health Association and the Cross-National Initiative on Place, Migration and Health.

Dr. Chae has shown a commitment to racial/ethnic minority health throughout his work. His research has focused on racial discrimination, as a source of psychosocial stress, as a risk factor for poor mental, behavioral, and physical health outcomes among racial/ethnic minorities. For example, he conducted studies examining racial/ethnic discrimination in relation to cardiovascular health and mental health among African Americans; and another study examining routine experiences of racial discrimination in relation to self-rated health and physical pain and impairment among American Indians and Alaska Natives. He has also examined racial/ethnic discrimination in relation to health behaviors and mental health among Asian Americans. He is currently the principal investigator of a study examining the influence of self-reported experiences of racial discrimination, internalized racism, and racial identity on biological markers of cardiovascular health among African American men in Northern California. His empirical work has been published in *Health Psychology*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Public Health Reports*, *AIDS Education and Prevention*, and *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

The Impact of Racism and Discrimination on Racial/Ethnic Minority Health: A Conceptual Framework

David H. Chae, Sc.D., M.A.
University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco

Abstract:

In this talk, a conceptual framework for examining racial/ethnic disparities in health is presented, specifically considering the contribution of racism in the persistence and perpetuation of poorer health outcomes in racial/ethnic minority communities. While discrimination, defined as the experience of differential treatment, and in particular, unfair treatment attributed to membership in a social group, is one of the more obvious consequences of a racist ideology, among its more insidious consequences is internalized racism, or the acceptance of negative social values about the intrinsic worth of one's racial group. An overview of the growing body of literature suggesting that experiences of discrimination may have consequences for health outcomes among racial/ethnic minorities is provided. In addition, a theoretical model of how racism may be embodied via its influence on racial/ethnic identity and identification is presented. Implications for programs and policies to address racism and discrimination in ameliorating racial/ethnic disparities in health are discussed.