# **CHANGING THE FRAME:** Painting a Vision for Health Equity



# PUBLIC HEALTH A D V O C A T E S

Flojaune Griffin Cofer, PhD, MPH Senior Director of Policy FC@PHAdvocates.org 844-962-5900 x230 Twitter: @WeArePHA @Flojaune



EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO BE HEALTHY

### The Life Course of Anakin Skywalker/Darth Vader



#### **Additional Reading:**

Anakins of Sacramento: <u>https://www.newsreview.com/sacramento/content/anakins-of-sacramento/24673401/</u> May the Life (Force) be with You: <u>https://nextcity.org/features/view/may-the-life-force-be-with-you</u>

### **SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH**

**Conditions in the environments** where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks

### • 5 domains:

- <u>Economic Stability</u>
- Education Access and Quality
- Health Care Access and Quality
- <u>Neighborhood and Built</u> <u>Environment</u>
- Social and Community Context



### **Social Determinants of Health**



**Source:** Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Retrieved 8/30/2021 from https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health

### "WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER"

- Sure, but...
  - More 3<sup>rd</sup> class passengers died than 1<sup>st</sup> class passengers
  - Men died more than women and children
  - 1<sup>st</sup> class women were most likely to survive compared to 3<sup>rd</sup> class men



The conditions in our environment are shaped by policy and systems

# The result: communities that are worlds apart











### SPOT THE PATTERN 2



Spot the pattern and then fill in the missing patterns.

1) Shade the shape to finish the patterns.



2) Shade the shapes to finish the patterns.



3) Shade the shape to finish the patterns.

4) Draw the next face to finish the patterns.



5) Shade the shape to finish the patterns.



6) Fill in the last letter.

A B C A B



# SPOT THE PATTERN

### Inequities reflect group history and power dynamics

### HISTORICALLY ADVANTAGED AND DISADVANTAGED A GROUP ANALYSIS FOR THE UNITED STATES

TYPE OF OPPRESSION	VARIABLE	ONE-UP	ONE-DOWN
Racism	Race/Ethnicity/Color	White	People of Color (African, Latinx, Native, Asian/PI,)
Sexism	Gender	Men	Women, non-binary, transgender
Heterosexism	Sexual Orientation	Heterosexual	LGBTQIA
Religious Oppression	Religion	Protestants	Sikhs, Muslims, Jews, Catholics*, Not religious
Classism	Socioeconomic Class	Owning, upper/middle class, managerial	Poverty, working class, low hourly wage workers
Elitism	Education level/ place in hierarchy	College-educated; top 20-40 schools	Not college-educated; less prestigious schools
Xenophobia	Immigration Status	U.S. Born	Immigrants (especially from nonwhite countries)
Linguistic Oppression	Language	English Speakers	Non-English Speakers
Ableism	Physical or mental ability	Able-bodied persons (body/mind)	People with disabilities

### **REDLINING: An Example of Institutional Racism**

- Official Practice 1934-1968
- Grades that FHA gave to neighborhoods
  - Green (A) "best"
  - Blue (B) "still desirable"
  - Yellow (C) "definitely declining"
  - Red (D) for "hazardous"
- System based on white supremacy and proximity to blackness

(iii)	
DON'T WAIT	-1
NOW	
is the time to select yo homesite in the new	ur
Vista de Vallej	0
Restricted! SUBDIVISION	
The displacements are to be used sufficiently for proteins any other services or an bulker set of the mend is and the set of proteins and a proper bulker set of the set of the set of the set of the set of the set of the set of the set of the	
en data tariby di fait destinations and the distribution of the di	-
CANINO ALTA CANINO ALTA COMINO ALTA	17
WE CUUD IS I STOP	7
CHAINO ALTA 21 22 35 30	
19 23 LOMA 7 0 0 50 50	1
9 17	
TI DAMINO REAL 48 12 LOUT	
The N m + 45 6 50 51 57 R +	-
Priesty h Marky Land SUNCR Nat Ber HIGH	
to the SCHOOL Section Vista de Vallejo affords an exceptional opportunity to right Shared	
Reservent FLEMING AVE possible environment. Here you will find protective build- ing and racial restrictions, combined with exceptional advantages for school and huse	
Junior     SCHOOL     50       High School     Safety, tool     Remember, children living in Vista de Vallejo will be able to reach grade, junior high and sen- ior high schools without the dangers of traversing or	
Golf Course Golf Course Date 5 HIGH crossing an automobile highway. All of these schools will be within 3 blocks of the most remote corner of	
Construction from SCHOOL Directory from SCHOOL Directory and Provide the set of th	
and the second s	-
O'HARA and HATCH	1
713 Marin Street, Vallejo OWNERS Telephone 12	11



## THE LEGACY OF REDLINING

### Fifty Years later in 2018...

- 2/3 of D areas are inhabited by mostly Black and Latinos
- 3/4 of D areas continue to struggle economically
- 91% of A areas remain middle-to-upper-income today
- 85% of A areas still predominantly white





#### THE SACRAMENTO BEE

### **REDLINING LEGACY**

#### THE SACRAMENTO BEE

EOUITY LAB

Sacramento's tree canopy reflects the city's inequities. How a \$250 million plan could help

BY ALEXANDRA YOON-HENDRICKS



#### THE SACRAMENTO BEE

EQUITY LAB

'The face of hunger': Thousands can't afford to eat in Sacramento. How COVID made it worse

Y f 🖾 🤿

BY ALEXANDRA YOON-HENDRICKS AND BENJY EGEL UPDATED IULY 22, 2021 01:53 PM



#### THE SACRAMENTO BEE

LOCAL

'A wound that never closes': Racism, police violence and the toll on Black mental health

BY DARRELL SMITH AND CATHIE ANDERSON

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020 05:36 PM



#### **COVID** shortens US life expectancy — with Black, Latino communities most hurt, study BY SIMONE JASPER THE SACRAMENTO BEE LARY 15 2021 12-39 PM CAPITOL ALERT **Capitol** Alert

🖌 f 🖂

'I'm not crazy': Why California Latinos carry more worries in pandemic and why many don't get help

BY KIM BOIÓROUEZ UPDATED ILUX 18 2020 12-16 PM





THE SACRAMENTO BEE

CORONAVIRUS

says

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

HOMEPAGE

Gun assaults increased during pandemic. See the trend for your Sacramento neighborhood

BY PHILLIP REESE NOVEMBER 23, 2020 05:00 AM



#### Source: Sacramento Bee

Education: https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/education/article247696815.html Tree Canopy: https://www.sacbee.com/news/equity-lab/article252661333.html Hunger: https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article251963088.html Violence: https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article247322914.html Policing: https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article245494580.html Health: https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article243889457.html Life Expectancy: https://www.sacbee.com/news/coronavirus/article248530625.html

#### EDUCATION

#### Updated report finds Sacramento City Unified suspends Black students at 'egregious' rate

BY SAWSAN MORRAR UPDATED DECEMBER 09 2020 05:11 PM





ILU Y 12 2021 05:00 AM

y f M d



### **CURRENT CONVERSATIONS**



### **PROGRESSIVE PREVENTION**





Ę

## YOUR PLACE IN THE LAYERS

- Systems are designed and maintained – or disrupted – by people
- Every other level of dehumanization sustains the dehumanizing systems that have been put in place and contribute to institutional dehumanization



### HOW WE FEEL ABOUT SYSTEMS CHANGE...



### **6 CONDITIONS OF SYSTEMS CHANGE**



The Water of Systems Change - FSG

Ē

### **STAGES OF CHANGE**

Ē



### **EXAMINE YOUR EXPERIENCE**

### SHIFT FROM SINGULAR VIEW OF SELF TO MULTI-DIMENSIONAL VIEW OF SELF

Some parts of us align with privilege and some parts with subjugation.



Each of us goes through the world thinking of self as subjugated self; this leads us to have a blind spot vis a vis others.

### LISTEN: LEARN THE STORY

- Communities have history and are writing a story
- Your interaction continues a conversation that may predate you
- Knowing it can help you recognize and pre-empt
  - Access Barriers
  - Concerns
  - Fears
  - Mistrust
  - Questions
  - Misconceptions
  - Structural Issues
- Identify shared goals

## **IDENTIFY POWER DYNAMICS**

### **Notice the Issues**

- Internally, are **ONE-DOWN** staff....?
  - ...leaving the organization at the same level?
  - ...underrepresented or absent from leadership?
  - ...expected to lead the equity work?
- Is there space for new ideas or new practices?
- Are there resources to support equity work?
- Does leadership value equity?
- Externally, is your organization...?
  - ...partnering with community members from **ONE-DOWN** communities?
  - ...paying or recruiting people into your organization from ONE-DOWN communities?
  - ...addressing structural barriers within **ONE-DOWN** communities?



# **CULTURE AND NORMS MUST CHANGE**

- Ongoing learning must be prioritized
- Develop common language, understanding and agreements
- Staff Performance Goals on Equity to reinforce priority and create sustainability





### **CHANGING THE FRAME: TELL YOUR STORY!**

- There is a role for health equity in every conversation don't back away!
- We have data to support our goals now we need to play offense in **setting narrative**
- Funding and advancing health equity is effective!
- Public Health Equity Leads have a key role in narrative change!
- Many of the stories told aren't true: yours is!



### **DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS**

- Equity will look and sound different
  - Discomfort is part of the process!
- Best practices must be institutionalized
  - Avoid superficial progress and tokenism
  - Address power imbalances
  - Avoid comfort and whataboutism
  - Focuses on sustainable change rather an individual-level progress





### **SUMMARY**

- KNOW THE CONTEXT: Learn the historical and ongoing context
- KNOW YOURSELF: Understand power dynamics to become a better practitioner and advocate
- CHANGE THE FRAME: Tell the story differently
- **DEVELOP A STRATEGY**: Identify needs and resources to thoughtfully put a plan into place
- **START, STOP, CONTINUE**: Commit to continuously improve your work

### MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!

Flojaune G. Cofer, PhD, MPH Nickname: Flo Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Senior Director of Policy Public Health Advocates FC@phadvocates.org (844) 962-5900 x 230

Social Media Twitter: @WearePHA @Flojaune

