## naming racism

#### Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD

"How does inequality affect health?"

Disparate Income, Wealth and Opportunity: Implications for Social Insurance
National Academy of Social Insurance

Washington, DC January 28, 2016

A system

Jones CP. Confronting Institutionalized Racism. *Phylon* 2003;50(1-2):7-22.

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race")

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race"), that

Unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race"), that

- Unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities
- Unfairly advantages other individuals and communities

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race"), that

- Unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities
- Unfairly advantages other individuals and communities
- Saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources

## **Levels of Racism**

- Institutionalized
- Personally-mediated
- Internalized

#### Institutionalized racism

 Differential access to the goods, services, and opportunities of society, by "race"

#### Examples

- Housing, education, employment, income
- Medical facilities
- Clean environment
- Information, resources, voice

Explains the association between social class and "race"

## Personally-mediated racism

- Differential assumptions about the abilities, motives, and intents of others, by "race"
- Differential actions based on those assumptions
- Prejudice and discrimination
- Examples
  - Police brutality
  - Physician disrespect
  - Shopkeeper vigilance
  - Waiter indifference
  - Teacher devaluation

Jones CP. Levels of Racism: A Theoretic Framework and a Gardener's Tale. Am J Public Health 2000;90(8):1212-1215.

#### **Internalized racism**

 Acceptance by the stigmatized "races" of negative messages about our own abilities and intrinsic worth

#### Examples

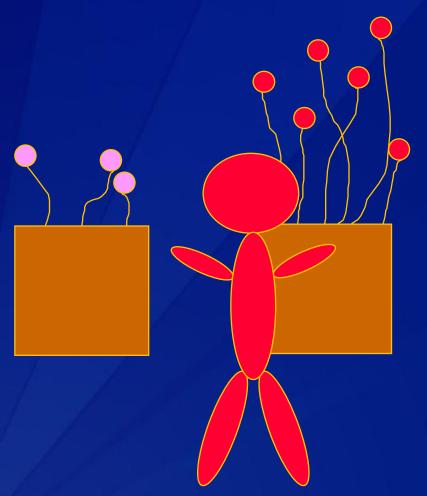
- Self-devaluation
- White man's ice is colder
- Resignation, helplessness, hopelessness

Accepting limitations to our full humanity

# Levels of Racism: A Gardener's Tale

Jones CP. Levels of Racism: A Theoretic Framework and a Gardener's Tale. Am J Public Health 2000;90(8):1212-1215.

## Who is the gardener?



- Power to decide
- Power to act
- Control of resources

#### Dangerous when

- Allied with one group
- Not concerned with equity

Jones CP. Levels of Racism: A Theoretic Framework and a Gardener's Tale. Am J Public Health 2000;90(8):1212-1215.