



David R. Williams, PhD, MPH

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David R. Williams is the Florence and Laura Norman Professor of Public Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Professor of African and African American Studies and Sociology at Harvard University. His prior academic appointments were at Yale University and the University of Michigan. He holds an MPH from Loma Linda University and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Williams is an internationally recognized authority on social influences on health. He has been invited to keynote scientific conferences in Europe, Africa, Australia, the Middle East, South America and across the United States. The author of more than 400 scientific papers, his research has enhanced our understanding of the complex ways in which race, socioeconomic status, stress, racism, health behavior and religious involvement can affect health. The Everyday Discrimination Scale that he developed is one of the most widely used measures of discrimination in health studies.

He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was ranked as one of the top 10 Most Cited Social Scientists in the world in 2005, as the Most Cited Black Scholar in the Social Sciences in 2008 and as one of the World's Most Influential Scientific Minds in 2014. He has also received Distinguished Contributions awards from the American Sociological Association, the American Psychological Association and the New York Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Williams has served on the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics and on eight committees for the National Academy of Medicine, including the committee that produced the *Unequal Treatment* report. He has also played a visible, national leadership role in raising awareness levels of the problem of health inequalities and identifying interventions to address them. This includes his service as the staff director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Commission to Build a Healthier America and as a key scientific advisor to the award-winning PBS film series, *Unnatural Causes: Is inequality Making Us Sick?* His research has been featured by some of the nation's top news organizations and in his TEDMED talk released in 2017.

References

Videos

How Racism Makes Us Sick

https://www.ted.com/talks/david_r_williams_how_racism_makes_us_sick

Dr. David R. Williams: "Racism and Health: Findings, Questions and Directions"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BAh2A2qld80>

Harvard Longwood Campus 2016 Diversity Dialogues | David R. Williams, PhD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOfvtCSYVY>

David R. Williams speaking on Health in Social Context

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uuQ-rtSoxY>

Publications

Discrimination Scale

<https://scholar.harvard.edu/davidrwilliams/node/32777>

Racism Is Literally Bad For Your Health

<https://www.npr.org/2017/10/28/560444290/racism-is-literally-bad-for-your-health>

OHSU, Moda and Legacy Partner to Address Oregon Health Disparities

<http://www.theskanner.com/news/newsbriefs/26582-ohsu-moda-and-legacy-partner-to-address-oregon-health-disparities>