Reexamining What We Know about African American College Student Alcohol Use and Perceptions

Alicia L. Battle, PhD, MCHES American College Health Association 2017 Annual Meeting

Session Outline

- Icebreaker and Introductions
- Presentation of Research
- Small Group Discussion
- Guided Discussion
- Questions & Answers
- Closing Remarks & Next Steps



Research – African American College Students Participation in National Alcohol Studies

College Alcohol Study

- ♦ Initial sample included 140 institutions (17,592 students)
 - Only 6% of the respondents identified as African American



Research – African American College Students Participation in National Alcohol Studies

American College Health Association – National College Health Assessment

- - ♦ 6.15% of the respondents identified as African American

Research – African American College Students Participation in National Alcohol Studies

Core Institute Alcohol and Other Drug Surveys

- ♦ Initial samples included 209,576 students
 - ♦ Only 6.7% of the respondents identified as African American



Research Purpose & Questions

- 1. Do African American college students consume alcohol, if so, how much?
- 2. Is there a difference in African American college student drinkers' attitudes about alcohol use compared to the attitudes of African American college students that do not drink?
- 3. Is there a difference in African American college student drinkers' perceived norms about alcohol use compared to the perceived norms of African American college students that do not drink?

Research Questions

- 4. Is there an association between attitudes and perceived norms about alcohol use based on:
 - a. GPA
 - b. classification
 - c. age
 - d. gender
 - e. participation in athletics
 - f. participation in Greek-letter organizations
 - g. living arrangement

Research Design & Data Analysis

- ♦ Non-experimental, descriptive, quantitative
- ◆ 24-item survey was administered to students attending an HBCU in a variety of classes
- ♦ 500 surveys were included in data analysis

Results

- Being classified as a freshman or sophomore was a predictor for perception of increased alcohol use
- Being male was a predictor for perception of increased alcohol use
- Living off campus was a predictor for the perception of increased alcohol use.
- Students perceived that Greek-letter organization members drank more than students non-Greek affiliated
- Participation in athletics, classification gender and living arrangement were predictors for alcohol use.

Conclusions

- An overwhelming percentage of students perceived that students on campus drank too much, but the actual numbers regarding use indicate moderate use.
- ♦ African American college student alcohol use is not dissimilar to that of national predominantly Caucasian samples.

Small Group Discussions

What barriers are inherent in how you approach alcohol prevention on your campus?

Unconscious Bias

Microaggressions

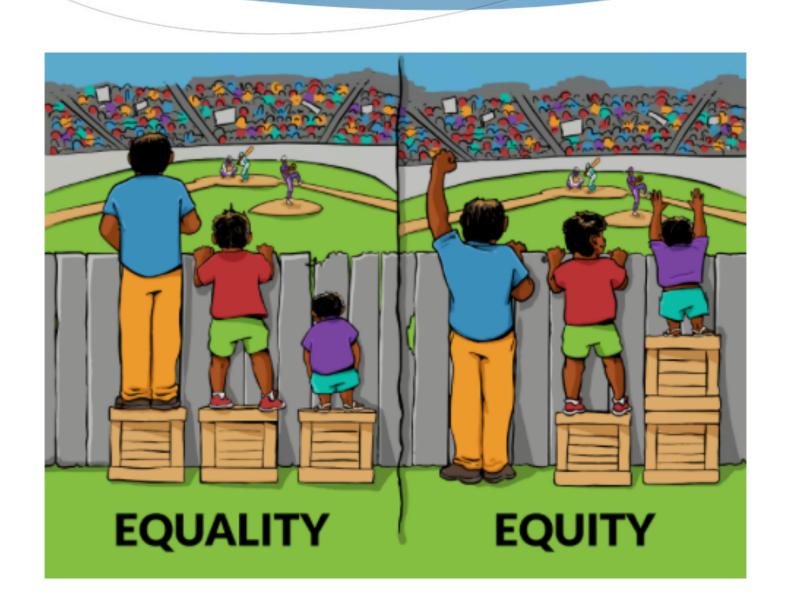
Stereotype Threats

Guided Discussion

In education, there is a golden triangle of quantity, quality and equity. You just can't ignore one while strengthening the others.

QUOTEHD,COM

Sitaram Yechury





'Equity-Minded' policies, practices, and mindsets...



... are Race Conscious.

Pay attention to racial inequities in educational experiences and outcomes



'Equity-Minded' policies, practices, and mindsets...



...are Institutionally-Focused.

Acknowledge that institutional, faculty, and staff practices may not be working



'Equity-Minded' policies, practices, and mindsets...



...are Systemically Aware.

Understand inequity as a dysfunction of structures, policy, and practices



'Equity-Minded' policies, practices, and mindsets...



... are Evidence-based.

Question assumptions, recognize stereotypes and implicit biases, rely instead on disaggregated quantitative data and qualitative inquiry findings.

'Equity-Minded' policies, practices, and mindsets...



...are Equity Advancing.

Take action to eliminate inequity



Equity-Minded Prevention

- Collaborative
- Deliberate
- Inclusive

- Constructive
- Safe
- Connected

Closing Remarks



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Questions, Comments, Concerns