

Title: COVID 19, Misinformation and The African American Community

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The African American community has historically distrusted the American public health establishment due to its complicit and complicated legacy of medical racism and unethical public health practices (Baker et al., 2009; Bankole, 1998). This historically under-represented demographic group has had a history of second guessing public health information from official sources at the height of major public health epidemics and pandemics which disproportionately impacts the health and life expectancy outcomes in this community as opposed to other communities in the United States (Jaiswal et al., 2020; Wells and Gowda, 2020). In the era of social media misinformation and propaganda, these issues of mistrust have created a challenging environment for effective public health promotion in a community that has been devastated by the COVID 19 pandemic. PhD student Kellon Bubb reflects on the impact of social media misinformation on the African American community's perception of the COVID 19 global pandemic, and how some in the community are combating the challenge of misinformation against the backdrop of a trust deficit between African Americans and public health.