



Black Maternal Mortality: A result of the haunting past

Jaylynn C. Arnold

Psychology

Dr. Carolyn West

University of Washington, Tacoma

What is the Issue?



Issue #1

Black women Have the highest rate of maternal mortality.

Issue #2

84% of these deaths are preventable.

Issue #3

The Rates of Maternal mortality only continue to rise.

What can be done?



01

Address racism

HCP can better understand
BW's experiences.

02

More data

With more data researchers
can find solutions.

03

Eliminate MCD

Build and expand healthcare
facilities .

04

Be an advocate!

Support organizations &
initiatives.

Theoretical Framework

Mistreatment of Bw Bodies

- Medical racism
- Sexual exploitation

Controlling Images

- Jezebel
- "Angry Black women"

Racial Segregation

- Jim Crow
- Structural racism

**"The legacies of slavery today
are seen in structural racism
that has resulted in
disproportionate maternal
and infant death among
African Americans"**

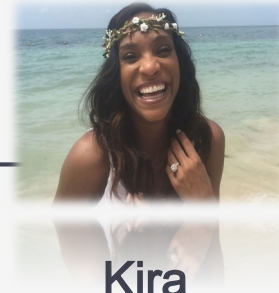
-Dr. Deirdre Owens

Lost Mothers



**Dr. Chaniece
Wallace**
1990-2020

**Shamony
Gibson**
1988-2019



**Kira
Johnson**
1976-2016

Serena Williams



"Giving birth to my baby, it
turned out, was a test for how
loud and how often I would
have to call out before I was
finally heard"

Bibliography

Allers, K. (2023). Opinion: When addressing maternal mortality, “we must leave no black woman behind.” CNN. <https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/29/opinions/wealthiest-black-moms-childbirth-mortality-allers/index.html>

Horton, A. (2022). *“you are not being heard”: The devastating black maternal mortality crisis in the US.* The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2022/jul/20/you-are-not-being-heard-the-devastating-black-maternal-mortality-crisis-in-the-us>

Hoyart, D. (2023). *Maternal mortality rates in the United States, 2021.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hestat/maternal-mortality/2021/maternal-mortality-rates-2021.htm>

Maternity Care Deserts Report. March of Dimes. (2022). <https://www.marchofdimes.org/maternity-care-deserts-report>

Pahr, K. (2023). “my wife’s legacy gives a voice to the voiceless.” Parents. <https://www.parents.com/pregnancy/giving-birth/stories/my-wifes-legacy-gives-a-voice-to-the-voiceless-charles-johnsons-loss-launched-a-maternal-health-revolution/>

Taylor, J. (2019). Eliminating racial disparities in maternal and infant mortality. Center for American Progress. <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/eliminating-racial-disparities-maternal-infant-mortality/>

Williams, N. (2023). *This father had to turn his pain into purpose after losing his wife in childbirth.* SheKnows. <https://www.sheknows.com/health-and-wellness/articles/2553864/father-black-maternal-mortality-advocate/>

2023 Social Media Toolkit. Black Mamas Matter Alliance. (2023b). <https://blackmamasmatter.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/BMHW23-SM-Toolkit.pdf>