Milwaukee Public Schools- Student Discipline Committee "Lesson" Ideas

Topic: Systemic Racism in Public Health

Overview for facilitator:
Short summary of lesson for facilitator.

Materials Needed:
LIst any materials, videos, handouts or anything the facilitator needs to prepare prior to session.

Intro:
Short introduction to the session including quotes, video, short passage or rhetorical reflection question.

Discussion/Activity:
Watch video: How American Health Care is Defined by Systemic Racism (Now This): https://youtu.be/3xZRTLnfeqU and read article: https://www.theskimm.com/well/systemic-racism-in-health-care-2mDaudjbx11MFU6lDqsy0A

- What stuck out to you as examples of systemic racism in public health?
- What role does the doctor bias have to play in these outcomes?
- What role does where the individual live have on these outcomes?

Show graphic on pages below of health disparities for different racial groups (or can save graphics prior and display online or in a Google Classroom):

- https://networklobby.org/20190416healthequity/ https://www.ncrp.org/2019/04/u-s-maternal-mortality-points-to-institutional-racism-is-philanthropy-listening-to-black-women.html
- https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/newsletter-article/2018/sep/focus-reducing-racial-disparities-health-care-confronting

Have students read article (and watch commercial embedded within) on 'Why tobacco is a racial justice issue" https://truthinitiative.org/research-resources/targeted-communities/why-tobacco-racial-justice-issue
Discuss

- What stuck out about you in this article?
- Have you noticed commercials, movies, music videos, etc marketing menthol directly towards Black individuals?
- Why do you think the tobacco industry decided to market menthol this direction?

Extension:

How structural racism is magnifying the public health crisis (8 minutes)
https://youtu.be/_rdOjtVi56w

This med student wrote the book on diagnosing disease on darker skin:
https://www.healthline.com/health-news/this-med-student-wrote-the-book-on-diagnosing-disease-on-darker-skin

Next steps:
What are any next steps or reflections from the students as a result of the session. These should be captured in the minutes.