

Addressing Racial/Ethnic Equity in Anti-Poverty Policies

Panel Discussion

Pamela Joshi

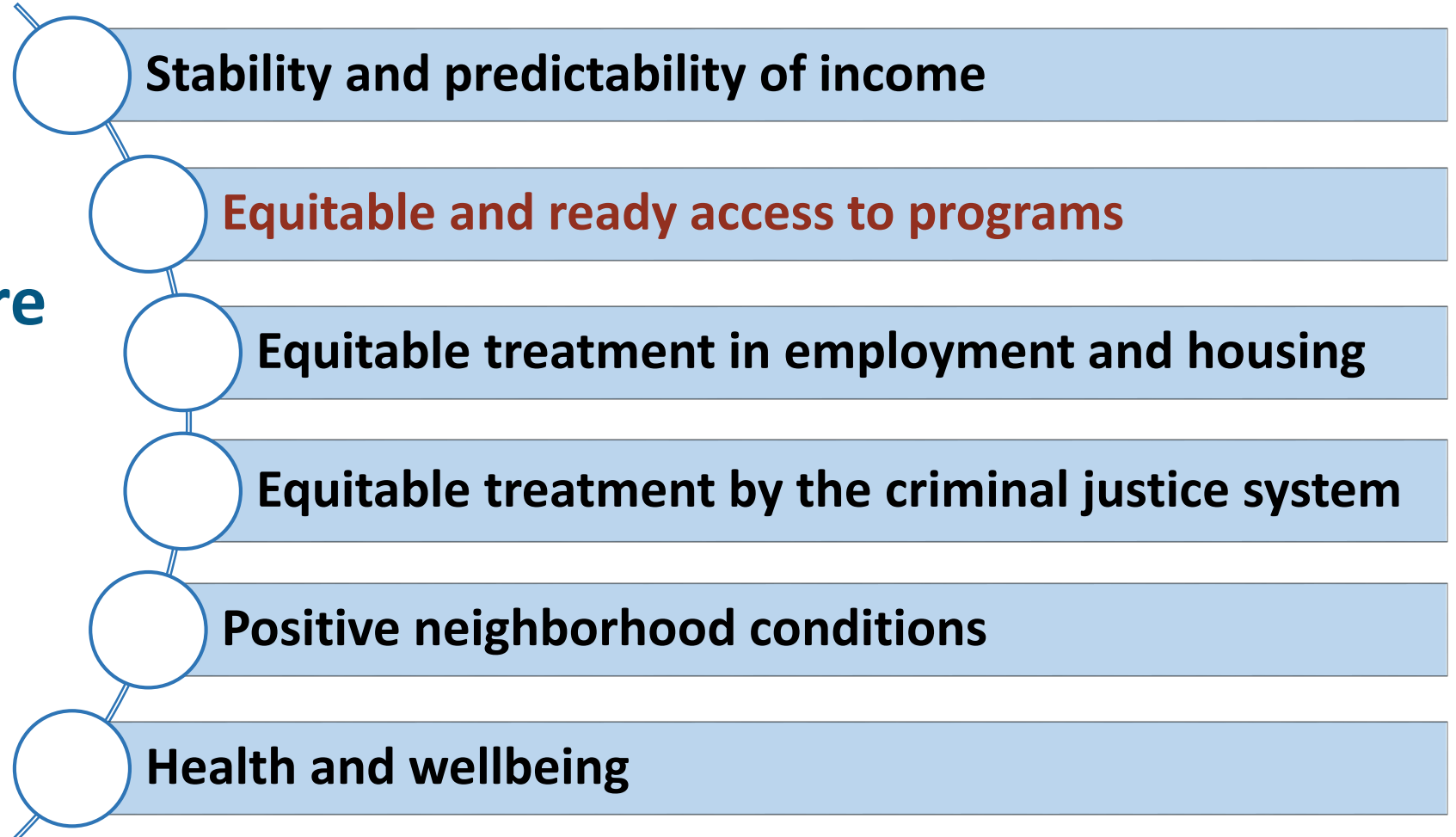
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Contextual factors can greatly influence the impact and success of anti-poverty programs and policies

Contextual factors are highly unequal by race and ethnicity



Policy equity analysis asks a key question

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**Ashira
Morris**

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Can government policies correct race and ethnicity disparities in child health?

Health Dec 16, 2014 6:00 PM EST

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

By Pamela K. Joshi, Kimberly Geronimo, Bethany Romano, Alison Earle, Lindsay Rosenfeld,
Erin F. Hardy, and Dolores Acevedo-Garcia

Integrating Racial/Ethnic Equity Into Policy Assessments To Improve Child Health

Policy Assessment Framework

Assessment Stage	Traditional Assessment Questions
Logic	Policy history, design/goals, targeting?
Capacity	Resources, access, implementation of services?
Research Evidence	Policy impacts?

Research strengths & limitations:

- Availability and quality of data

Policy Equity Assessment Framework

Assessment Stage	Traditional Assessment Questions	Racial/Ethnic Equity-focused Questions
Logic	Policy history, design/goals, targeting?	Racial/ethnic gaps targeted?
Capacity	Resources, access, implementation of services?	Differences by race/ethnicity?
Research Evidence	Policy impacts?	Policy reduces racial/ethnic gaps?

Anti-poverty programs discussed today



- Child care subsidies
- SNAP
- EITC
- Medicaid
- TANF

Identifying racial/ethnic disparities in human services



- **Marla McDaniel, Urban Institute**
- **Racial/ethnic differences in eligibility, services, treatment and outcomes**
- **Internal factors: worker bias, locations, language**
- **External factors: employer discrimination, work schedules**
- **Recommendation: need better data, systematic research**

Reducing administrative burden to improve access, take-up and retention for minority children



- Pamela Herd, Georgetown University
- Administrative burdens and racial/ethnic inequality
- Burdens are highest in programs most needed by black and Hispanic families
- Burdens are not equally enforced
- Recommendation: deconstruct burdens, use a transparent framework

TANF and reducing the black-white child poverty gap



- Zachary Parolin, Columbia University
- TANF spending decisions
- State spending priorities driven in part by state racial composition
- Changes in spending can reduce racial poverty gap
- Recommendation: monitor and shift spending

“



“Some of the potential solutions are well within existing policy tools. It’s moving toward knowledge from a lack of information.... It’s getting a smarter way of reaching these populations.”

**DOLORES ACEVEDO-
GARCIA**

Questions for Discussion

- What other policy resource allocation or program implementation factors might be contributing to racialized differences in child poverty and social outcomes?
- What else could be done on the state/local level to address inequities in spending, administrative burden or internal program practices?
- How can federal/state agencies address external factors such as nonstandard or unpredictable work schedules or employment/housing discrimination that affect program services and outcomes?
- What are the implications of these research findings for structuring packages of multiple policies?