



**Hey!! What is really
going on down
there in Florida?**

Olveen Carrasquillo, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine and Public Health Sciences

Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research

Co-Director, Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Always an Advocate

Hispanic Children and Youth in the United States *a resource guide*

Angela L. Carrasquillo

CHAPTER 7

*The Health of Hispanic Children and Youth**

Health refers to a condition of optimal physical, social and mental well-being, not just the absence of disease. This century has witnessed an unprecedented explosion in the phenomenal capacity of physicians to diagnose, treat, and cure disease. Concomitantly, advances in social and behavioral science research have elucidated relationships among biological, behavioral and social factors that affect health and illness. As a result, the health status of all American citizens has improved tremendously since the turn of the century. Although such tremendous strides have been made in improving the health and longevity of the United States population, certain subgroups of the American population have not benefited fully or equitably from the fruits of science or from those systems responsible for translating and using health science technology. Included in these minority subgroups are Hispanics, African Americans, Native Americans and those of Asian/Pacific Island heritage. This chapter discusses the health of Hispanic children and youth in the United States by summarizing some of the most recent data available about their health status. Areas addressed in this chapter are: infant mortality, maternal/childbearing factors, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, chemical dependency, and mental health.

* I wish to thank my son, Olveen Carrasquillo, a student at NYU Medical School, for his help in the research and writing of this chapter.

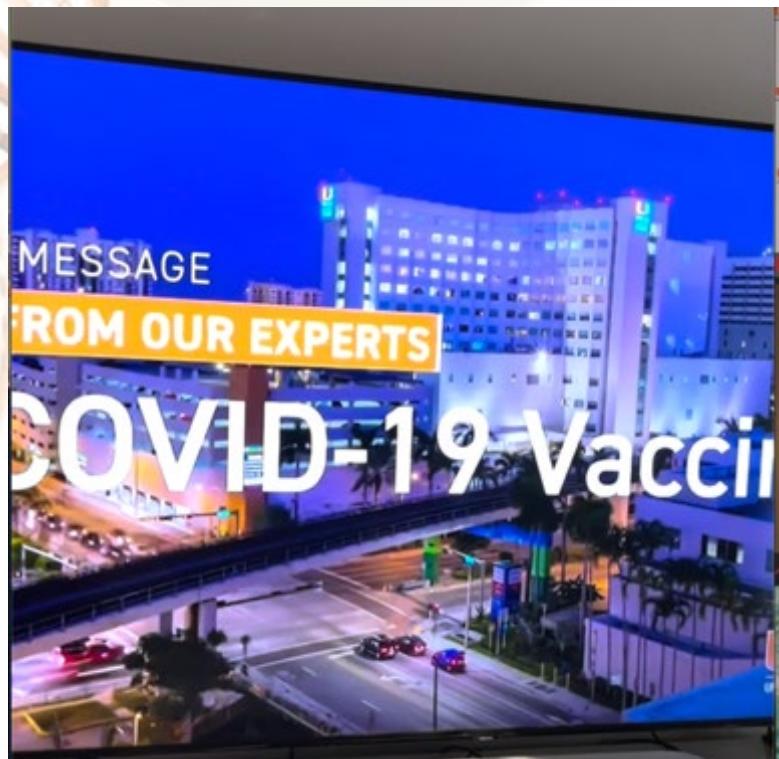
This century has witnessed. an unprecedented explosion in the phenomenal capacity of physicians to diagnose, treat, and cure disease... Although such tremendous strides have been made in improving the health and longevity of the United States population....not all groups have benefited fully or equitably from the fruits of science or health science and technology.

Always an Activist!!









National Institutes of Health

Replace H.M.O.'s With Universal Care; Children at Risk

Sept. 26, 1998



See the article in its original context from September 26, 1998, Section A, Page 14 | [Buy Reprints](#)

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TimesMachine is an exclusive benefit for home delivery and digital subscribers.

To the Editor:

In New York City most poor children receive their health insurance through Medicaid (news article, Sept. 20).

Children without health insurance are more likely to go without needed medical and dental care. A recent study showed that increasing Medicaid coverage is associated with lower child mortality rates.

Given budget surpluses, common sense dictates that efforts like those by the Federal and state governments to expand insurance coverage for children are warranted. Yet the Giuliani administration is choosing to invest \$6 million into fraud investigations that would deny mostly poor and minority children health insurance.

Perhaps the Giuliani administration anticipates that cost savings from this investment could be used to build a stadium for a multimillionaire.

OLIVEEN CARRASQUILLO, M.D.

New York, Sept. 22, 1998

A version of this article appears in print on Sept. 26, 1998, Section A, Page 14 of the National edition with the headline: Replace H.M.O.'s With Universal Care; Children at Risk. Order Reprints | Today's Paper | Subscriptions



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

There is just no denying that Medicare for all is the right solution

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Keep the government away from Medicare.

Seriously?

Herman Cain, former CEO of the National Restaurant Association and a former presidential candidate, ludicrously argues that single-payer healthcare would be a death sentence for seniors in his Sept. 19 op-ed in the Miami Herald.

He seems unaware seniors are already insured through single-payer health insurance — it's called Medicare.

He cites anecdotes from other countries, yet all academic studies show such nations have better access and quality healthcare. They also have better health outcomes at much lower costs.

But Cain is correct that Obamacare was problematic. It provided many with expensive private insurance with limited benefits. Wisely, Obama has seen the error of his ways and now advocates for an improved Medicare for All.

Medicare is the right solution for our seniors and now needs to be extended to everyone else!

Olveen Carrasquillo,
professor of medicine and public health,
chief, division of General Internal Medicine,
University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine

Public policy and health in the Trump era

Prof Steffie Woolhandler * • Prof David U Himmelstein, MD * • Sameer Ahmed, JD • Zinzi Bailey, ScD •

Prof Mary T Bassett, MD • Michael Bird, MPH • Jacob Bor, ScD • Prof David Bor, MD • Prof Olveen Carrasquillo, MD •

Merlin Chowkwanyun, PhD • Samuel L Dickman, MD • Samantha Fisher, MPH • Adam Gaffney, MD •

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Prof Marion Nestle, PhD • Prof Linda Prine, MD • Altaf Saadi, MD • Davida Schiff, MD • Prof Martin Shapiro, MD •

Lello Tesema, MD • Athendar Venkataramani, MD • Show less • Show footnotes

Published: February 10, 2021 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32545-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32545-9) •  Check for updates



Executive summary

Introduction

Section 1: The missing Americans

Section 2: White supremacy and the history of racism in the USA

Section 3: The assault on immigrants

Executive summary

This report by the *Lancet* Commission on Public Policy and Health in the Trump Era assesses the repercussions of President Donald Trump's health-related policies and examines the failures and social schisms that enabled his election. Trump exploited low and middle-income white people's anger over their deteriorating life prospects to mobilise racial animus and xenophobia and enlist their support for policies that benefit high-income people and corporations and threaten health. His signature legislative achievement, a trillion-dollar tax cut for corporations and high-income individuals, opened a budget hole that he used to justify cutting food subsidies and health care. His appeals to racism, nativism, and religious bigotry have emboldened white nationalists and vigilantes, and encouraged police violence and, at the end of his term in office, insurrection. He chose judges for US courts who are dismissive of affirmative action and reproductive, labour, civil, and voting rights; ordered the mass detention of immigrants in hazardous conditions; and promulgated regulations that reduce access to abortion and contraception in the USA and globally.

Although his effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act failed, he weakened its coverage and increased the number of uninsured people.



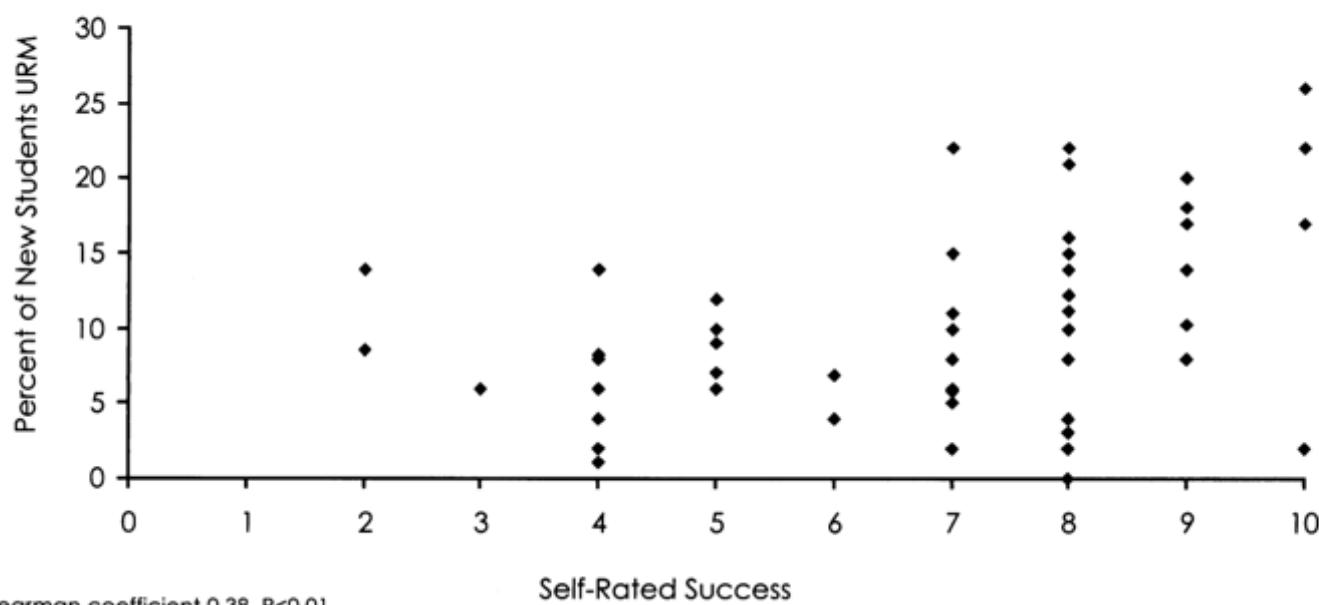
Always being a pain to the C-Suite

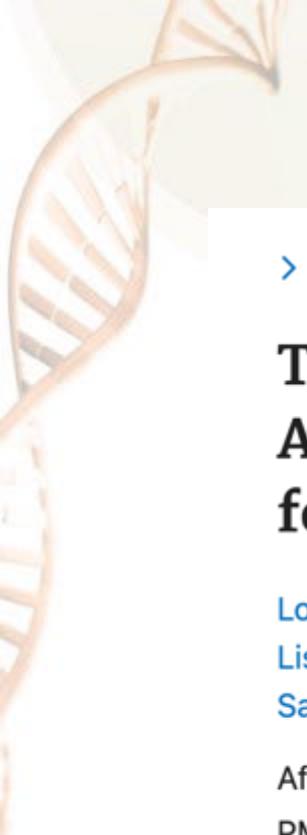
- Diversity Med School, Residency, Faculty
- Equity
- Language barriers
- Community Partnerships, Funding and Support
- COVID vaccine rollout

Progress and Pitfalls in Underrepresented Minority Recruitment: Perspectives from the Medical Schools

Jaya R. Agrawal, MD, MPH; Sorina Vlaicu, MD, PhD; and Olveen Carrasquillo, MD, MPH
Boston, Massachusetts; Arlington, Virginia; and New York, New York

Figure 1. Medical school self-evaluated success at underrepresented minority student recruitment versus the percentage of entering students who are URM





› J Clin Transl Sci. 2022 Dec 14;7(1):e41. doi: 10.1017/cts.2022.512. eCollection 2023.

The CTSA Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) Task Force's recommendations for the CTSA program consortium

Lori Carter-Edwards ^{1 2}, Maia Hightower ³, Vanessa Schick ⁴, Tung Nguyen ⁵, Bertha Hidalgo ⁶,
Lisa Cacari Stone ⁷, Rebecca Laird ⁸, Deborah Ossip ⁸, Mercedes Rubio ⁹,
Sanae ElShourbagy Ferreira ¹⁰, Olveen Carrasquillo ¹¹

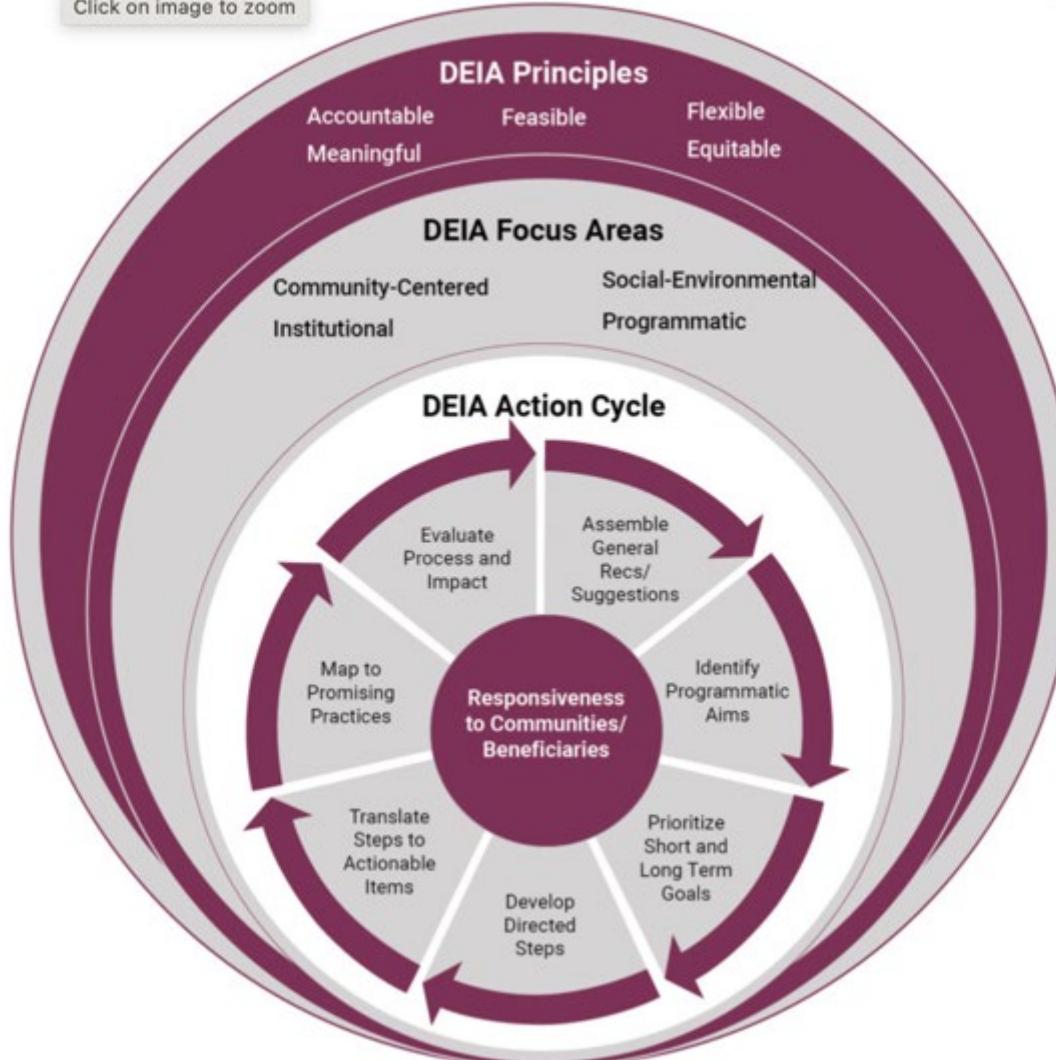
Affiliations + expand

PMID: 36845311 PMCID: PMC9947599 DOI: [10.1017/cts.2022.512](https://doi.org/10.1017/cts.2022.512)

Free PMC article

CTSA DEIA Learning System Framework

Click on image to zoom



Recs: Recommendations, **DEIA**: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility

Demographics – Leadership Team

Demographics (n=47)	Mean % of Leadership Team Members	% Range
Race		
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.52	0.00 – 4.50
Asian	9.56	0.00 – 29.00
Black or African American	8.96	0.00 – 36.00
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.09	0.00 – 3.00
White	72.86	7.06 – 100.0
Race not listed above	2.61	0.00 – 29.00
Not Sure	2.26	0.00 – 26.66
Ethnicity		
Hispanic or Latino	6.00	0.00 – 16.00
Ethnicity not reported	5.45	0.00 – 47.00
Gender		
Female/Woman	47.82	15.00 – 78.00
Male/Man	49.49	22.00 – 71.40
Transgender/Gender not yet listed	0.00	0.00 – 0.00
Non-Binary	0.28	0.00 – 5.00
Gender not reported	3.55	0.00 – 37.00
Disability		
Individuals with disabilities	4.42	0.00 – 25.00

While the leadership reported by the CTSA sites is roughly half for female and male, <10% of leadership reported each for Asian, Black, and Latino race and ethnic groups.

Note: For staff demographics (not shown), there was a higher mean % for Asian people and females.

Perceived Representativeness - Leadership

CTSA Leadership/PI Racial/Ethnic/Gender Composition Level	Value (n(%))
Represents the Local Service Area (n=58)	
Very Well	4 (6.9%)
Well	30 (51.7%)
Poor	22 (37.9%)
Very Poor	2 (3.4%)
Represents the State (n=59)	
Very Well	5 (8.6%)
Well	31 (53.4%)
Poor	21 (36.2%)
Very Poor	1 (1.7%)
Represents the Nation (n=57)	
Very Well	5 (8.8%)
Well	29 (50.9%)
Poor	21 (36.8%)
Very Poor	2 (3.5%)

While over half of the CTSA sites perceive leadership diversity to be well or very well, over 1/3 do not.

DEI- my “traditional” perspective outside Florida

- Despite tremendous progress in biomedical medicine (mRNA vaccines) DEI remains a persistent challenge for most medical schools
- Tremendous brainpower and resources have been unable to make much of a difference
 - Solutions and successful examples have existed for a long time
- One Problem: Many think they are making good progress in this area....
- On the positive....most C Suites will publicly state DEI is very important
- But then there is Florida....

Some places in Florida doing relatively well

Table 4. Racial/Ethnic Distribution of Faculty and Students

University	Hispanic	Black	Total URM	Female
Faculty	26%	5%	32%	42%
Students (All)	30%	10%	40%	54%
Medical School				
Faculty	28%	4%	35%	38%
Students (2021)	22%	15%	40%	58%

Table 3. Racial/Ethnic Enrollment in UM Research

	Hisp.	Black	Female	Age > 65
NIH Trials (2017)¹⁸	7%	11%	48%	NA
UM Clinical Trials N=7,011 (2021)	47%	17%	47%	31%
Cancer Ctr studies N=4,090 (2021)	53%	10%	51%	30%
All of Us (Miami Site) N=13,592 (2017-21)	42%	25%	47%	15%

Table 5: COVID-19 Vaccine Trial Enrollment

	Hispanic		Black	
Study	UM	USA	UM	USA
Moderna ²⁸	62%	20%	19%	10%
J&J ²⁹	50%	15%	12%	9%

- This does not happen by accident
- Need committed focus
- Need committed leadership

Then this happened....

POLITICS

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, top rival to Trump, jumps into the race for president

Updated May 24, 2023 · 6:15 PM ET ⓘ



Domenico Montanaro



DeSantis signs 'Don't Say Gay' expansion and gender-affirming care ban

The new Florida measures will expand what critics call the state's "Don't Say Gay" law through eighth grade and restrict transition-related care for minors.



- Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed bills that
 - ban gender-affirming care for minors
 - target drag shows
 - restrict discussion of personal pronouns in schools
 - and force people to use certain bathrooms.
- DeSantis has made anti-LGBTQ+ legislation a large part of his agenda as he prepares to seek the Republican presidential nomination.
- He signed the bills in front of a cheering crowd at the evangelical Cambridge Christian School in Tampa.
- The ceremony had a campaign-like feel, with DeSantis tossing Sharpies to a crowd
 - as opposed to when he privately signed measures on abortion

WYNWOOD
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**WE SAY
GAY
IN THIS
HAUS**



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signs a bill banning DEI initiatives in public colleges

May 15, 2023 · 5:46 PM ET

By Jaclyn Diaz



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, pictured here on April 21, 2023, signed a slate of bills Monday, one of which bans DEI initiatives in his state's universities.

Alex Brandon/AP



Our Governor....

- DEI is better viewed as standing for discrimination, exclusion and indoctrination
- Has no place in our public institutions
- The whole experiment with DEI is coming to an end in the state of Florida. We are eliminating the DEI programs.

DeSantis-controlled Disney World district gets rid of all diversity, equity and inclusion programs and staffers

Last spring, DeSantis, who is running for the GOP presidential nomination, signed into law a measure that blocks public colleges from using federal or state funding on diversity programs.



Disney World's Governing District Ends Diversity Programs



Diversity, equity and inclusion committee would be eliminated, as would any job duties connected to it.

Also axed were initiatives which awarded contracts based on goals of achieving racial or gender parity.

Florida Gov. DeSantis takes aim at what he sees as indoctrination in schools

July 13, 2022 · 10:27 AM ET

By Greg Allen



3-Minute Listen

+ PLAYLIST



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks at a news conference at Crooms Academy of Information Technology in Sanford to discuss Florida's civics education initiative of unbiased history teachings.

- Following woke indoctrination in our schools, that is a road to ruin for this country
- We're not going to let it happen in Florida
- civics education initiative will make sure students in elementary, middle and high schools aren't taught a distorted view of history
- Sets limits on how issues involving race may be taught
- Allows parents to sue teachers and school districts that violate it



University of Miami Faculty, Students, and Staff Opposing Florida HB999, Supporting Academic Freedom in Florida Higher Education

975 signatories as of May 8, 2023

The University of Miami and the colleges and universities of the State University System of Florida are linked through innumerable professional, academic, institutional, and individual ties. We, the undersigned faculty, students, and staff of the University of Miami, strongly oppose Florida House Bill 999, “Postsecondary Educational Institutions,” currently under consideration in the state legislature. We affirm our commitment to the principles and practices of academic freedom and shared governance in all Florida institutions of higher education, whether public or private.

Florida House Bill 999 would give public university boards of trustees and presidents control over curriculum, violating long-standing principles of academic freedom and threatening the accreditation of Florida public colleges and universities. The [Principles of Accreditation](#) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) require an accredited institution to place “primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty.”

Florida House Bill 999 would abolish all public college and university programs in support of diversity, equity, and inclusion, even though those programs have played a significant role in promoting educational access, social mobility, and viewpoint diversity. Furthermore, the bill threatens to abolish all undergraduate majors and minors in Black studies, ethnic studies, and gender and sexuality studies at public universities, violating the academic freedom of the students and faculty in these vital and long established fields of academic inquiry.

Nicholas Carcioppolo, *Associate Professor, School of Communication*

Milly Cardoso, *Gallery Director, College of Arts and Sciences*

Julia Carey, *Graduate Student, Frost School of Music*

Olveen Carrasquillo, *Professor of Medicine and Public Health, Miller School of Medicine*

Caleb Carter, *Undergraduate Student, Class of 2023, School of Nursing and Health Studies*

Julian Carter, *Staff Member*

Sarah Cash, *Lecturer, College of Arts and Sciences*

John Castro, *Undergraduate Student, Class of 2025, School of Education and Human Development*

UM 'can't wait until we're the targets': Faculty speak out against Florida higher ed bills

BY JIMENA TAVEL

APRIL 25, 2023 5:07 PM

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [Print](#)

A teach-in at the University of Miami's Coral Gables campus raised awareness to students and faculty about two bills before the Florida Legislature that would impact the state's 12 public universities and colleges, Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

BY ALIE SKOWRONSKI

Only have a minute? Listen instead

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00:00 05:52

1.0x

About 150 students and faculty members from the University of Miami gathered Tuesday to condemn two state bills — House Bill 999 and its companion Senate Bill 266 — that if approved as laws, would dramatically transform higher education in Florida.

The two-hour-long discussion that featured about 12 speakers and question-and-answer sessions took place at the Rock Plaza at UM's main campus in Coral Gables. About four faculty members organized the panel.

The effort follows another earlier this month, in which about 1,000 faculty, staff and students at the University of Miami signed an open letter opposing HB 999.

The university can't wait until we're the targets," said Charlton Copeland, a professor of law and the associate dean for intellectual life at the School of Law who's been at UM for about 16 years.

UM faculty joins FIU in fight against DeSantis-backed bills to overhaul higher ed

BY JIMENA TAVEL AND ANA CEBALLOS

UPDATED APRIL 21, 2023 9:37 AM



A group of Florida International University students, staff and community members participate in the "Fight for Florida Students and Workers" protest against Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Legislature on Thursday February 23, 2023. PEDRO PORTAL pportal@miamiherald.com

Only have a minute? Listen instead

Powered by Trinity Audio

00:00 06:03

Nearly 1,000 faculty, staff and students at the University of Miami have signed an open letter opposing a state bill moving through the Florida Legislature that they say is an "unprecedented attempt to exert political control over free thought and professional expertise in higher education."

As a private university, UM isn't funded or governed by the Florida Board of Governors, which oversees the 12 public universities in the state. As such, it wouldn't be affected by House Bill 999, and its companion Senate Bill 266, which could make it harder for professors to hold onto tenure and would give university presidents the authority to hire and fire faculty, instead of deans, department chairs and faculty committees currently making those decisions.

XXX a UM spokeswoman, didn't immediately respond to a request for comment

UF community condemns bill defunding DEI initiatives

Students plan to stand up to the bill's regulations

By [Nicole Beltrán](#) 

May 22, 2023 | 6:15am EDT



FILE - Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks after being sworn in to begin his second term during an inauguration ceremony outside the Old Capitol on Jan. 3, 2023, in Tallahassee, Fla. (AP Photo/Lynne Sladky, File) Photo by [Lynne Sladky](#) | The Independent Florida Alligator

The Black Student Union and Black Student Leaders at UF released a joint statement May 20 denouncing DeSantis signing the bill.

The organizations expressed heavy concerns over the bill's power to silence minority voices.

"This bill works to erase the accomplishments that people of color have worked toward for centuries while harming the efforts and protections set in place to make students of color feel represented on their college campuses in the state of Florida," the UF BSU wrote.



Ron DeSantis

46th Governor of Florida

HOME

GOVERNOR DESANTIS

FIRST LADY DESANTIS

LT. GOV. NUÑEZ

MEDIA

INFO CEN

◀ Governor DeSantis Receives Forty-One Bills from the Florida Legislature

Governor DeSantis Signs One Bill ▶

Governor Ron DeSantis Signs Strongest Anti-Illegal Immigration Legislation in the Country to Combat Biden's Border Crisis

On May 10, 2023, in *News Releases*, by Staff

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Today, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Senate Bill 1718 to combat the dangerous effects of illegal immigration caused by the federal government's reckless border policies. This legislation makes using E-Verify mandatory for any employer with 25 or more employees, imposes enforceable penalties for those employing illegal aliens, and enhances penalties for human smuggling. Additionally, this bill prohibits local governments from issuing Identification Cards (ID) to illegal aliens, invalidates ID cards issued to illegal aliens in other states, and requires hospitals to collect and submit data on the costs of providing health care to illegal aliens. More on today's announcement can be found [here](#).

BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS

GOVERNOR DESANTIS SIGNED SB 1718 THE STRONGEST ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION BILL IN THE NATION TO COMBAT THE BIDEN BORDER CRISIS

Requires employers to use E-Verify to check the employment eligibility of employees, and fines employers who fail to use E-Verify \$1,000 per day.

E-Verify

Suspends licenses of any employer who knowingly employs illegal aliens, and makes using a fake ID to gain employment a felony.



Enhances penalties for human smuggling, including making knowingly transporting five or more illegal aliens or a single illegal alien minor a second-degree felony subject to a \$10,000 fine and up to 15 years in prison.



Provides \$12 million to continue the Unauthorized Alien Transport Program to relocate illegal immigrants to sanctuary jurisdictions.



Bans local governments and NGOs from issuing identification documents to illegal aliens and invalidates all out-of-state driver licenses issued exclusively to illegal aliens.



Requires hospitals to collect and report healthcare costs for illegal aliens.



Group of Florida health workers criticizes immigration bill in a letter to lawmakers

WUSF Public Media - WUSF 89.7 | By [Stephanie Colombini](#)
Published April 27, 2023 at 8:03 AM EDT



▶ LISTEN • 1:35



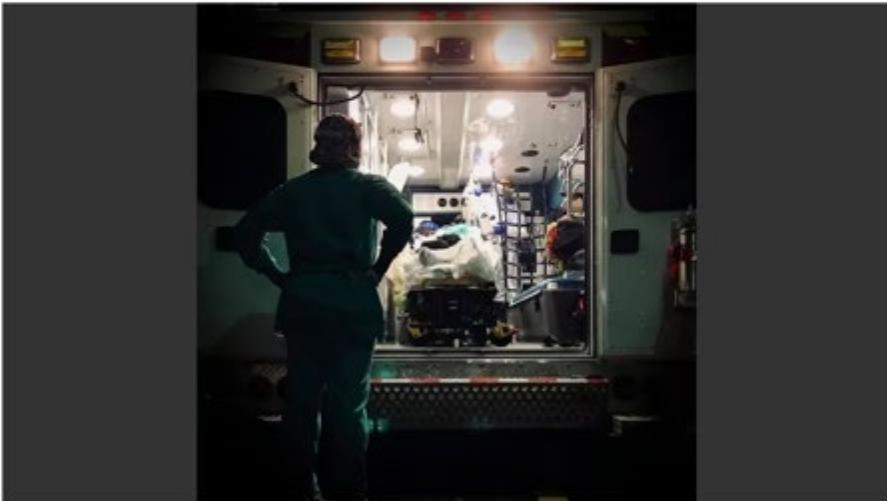
M. Levi / Stock Adobe Com

Some doctors are concerned undocumented people will avoid Florida hospitals if they're afraid they'll have to answer questions about their immigration status.

- Doctors like Miami-based internist Dr. Olveen Carrasquillo say the change would create a culture of fear.
- Undocumented people already struggle to access health care, and Carrasquillo worries some may avoid treating health issues until they become crises if they're worried about reporting their immigration status. That could lead to higher health costs and put their lives at risk.
- “It's costly, it's dangerous, morally unethical,” he said during a press conference hosted by the Florida Policy Institute. “It's not where we are as a civilized country; it is not what the medical profession wants.”

Doctors hesitate to ask about patients' immigration status despite new Florida law

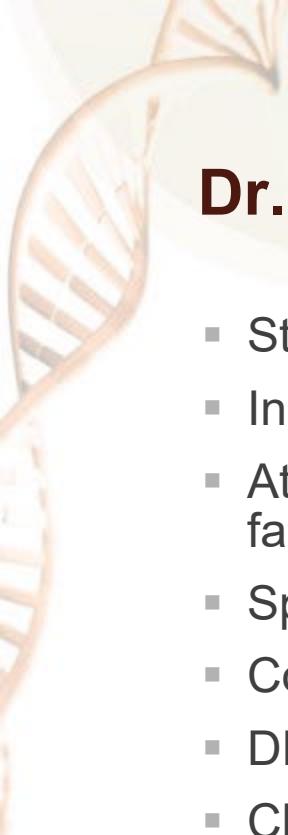
Asking patients for immigration status is unethical, says Florida doctors and nurses.



A patient is loaded into an ambulance in Miami in 2022. Florida law now requires hospitals to ask patients' immigration status. Patients are not required to answer the question and their response cannot affect their care. Still, advocates say, the law likely will deter marginalized people from

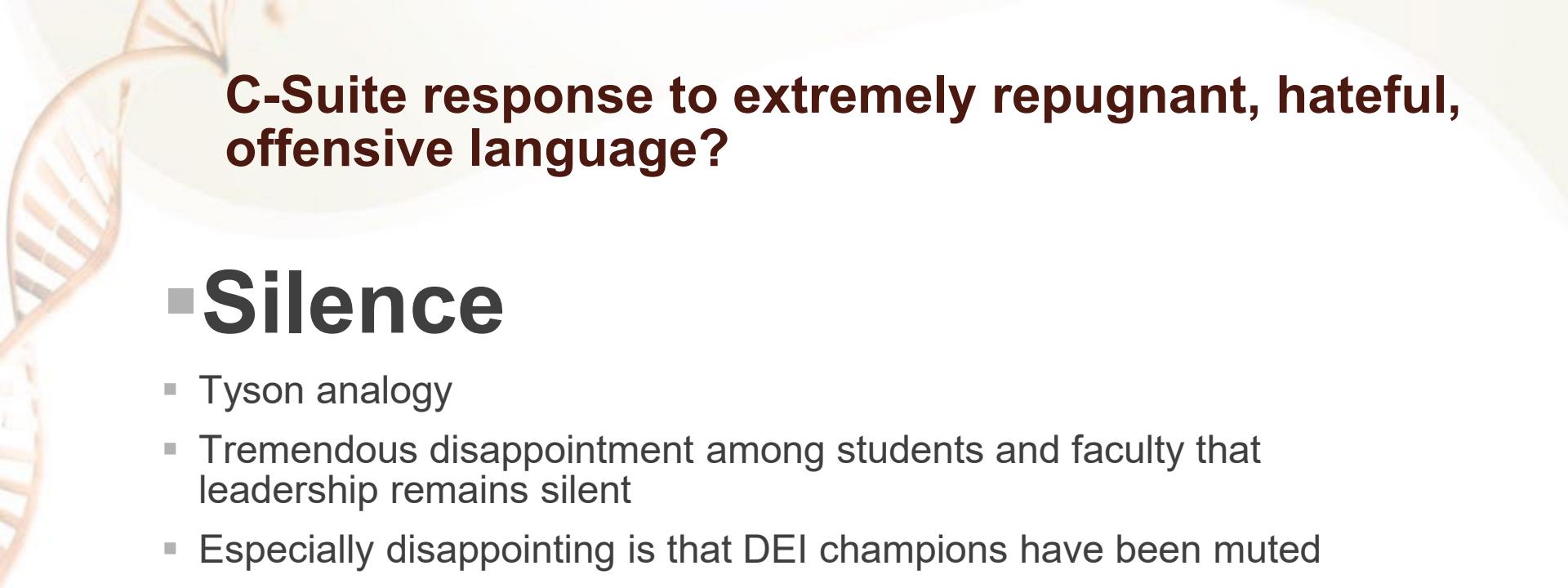
Olveen Carrasquillo, a practicing physician and professor at the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, said he's dismayed that more health care professionals aren't speaking out against the harm the law may cause.

"Imagine if all the hospitals said, 'This is wrong. We can't do it.' But they just stay silent because they may lose state funding," Carrasquillo said. "We do have political leaders who are very vindictive and who come after you."



Dr. Carrasquillo is an anomaly

- Students and a small number of faculty have been very vocal
- In general tremendous culture of fear and concern for retaliation
- At state schools where many DEI programs have been eliminated most faculty have been advised / told silence is golden
- Spill-over effects at private universities as many receive state funding
- Concerted effort to suppress being on the radar
- DEI and CRT programs have been eliminated at many state colleges
- Champions of DEI have been silenced
- Backlash is real- faculty going underground
 - ? Lose tenure
- Faculty have left the state
- Students / residents not coming



C-Suite response to extremely repugnant, hateful, offensive language?

■ Silence

- Tyson analogy
- Tremendous disappointment among students and faculty that leadership remains silent
- Especially disappointing is that DEI champions have been muted

Fostering acceptance of sexual minorities in the Hispanic community

A new intervention developed by a team of researchers and led by Guillermo "Willy" Prado, professor of nursing and health studies, aims to curb devastating mental health trends and drug use among Hispanic youth who identify as sexual minorities.



Guillermo "Willy" Prado and graduate student Alyssa Lozano developed a program to help Hispanic youth who identify as sexual minorities.

Miami's Diversity Provides Greater Research in Health Care

By: Jen Miller | August 29, 2023 | 5 min. read | Share 

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center works to navigate diversity in culture, language, history and social communities.

Health care disparities are not the result of one universal problem. Along those lines, patients sometimes face what feels like insurmountable barriers to accessing care. It is also well documented that research and clinical trials have traditionally included white patients while they often leave out both the genetic makeup and lived experiences of the rest of the world. Just one example: In 2020, 75% of trial participants were white, according to the Food and Drug Administration.

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, part of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, continues to be a leader in changing who can access world-class care, and who is considered vital to advancing scientific research. Sylvester works for and with a population that represents what the rest of the U.S. may look like in the next 20 to 30 years.



Erin Kobetz, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Miami Melting Pot

The 10,000 square miles of Southeast Florida Sylvester services is “the melting pot of the 21st century,” said **Erin Kobetz, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, associate director, Community Outreach and Engagement at Sylvester, co-director, Clinical Translational Research Institute, the John K. and Judy H. Schulte Senior Endowed Chair in Cancer Research and vice provost for research and scholarship.

Nearly 70% of residents of Miami-Dade County identify as Hispanic or Latino, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, and 17.1% as Black or African American. More than 50% of residents surveyed by the Census Bureau from 2017 to 2021 are also foreign-born. Just one example of the uniqueness of the patient population in Miami: More than 120,000 residents of Haitian descent live in the county, making up the largest Haitian community outside of Haiti.

Because of this makeup, Sylvester works to navigate diversity in culture, language, politics, history and social communities. Instead of seeing this as a challenge to overcome, Dr. Kobetz calls Sylvester’s community “extraordinary” and a driver of



A Message from President Julio Frenk

June 30, 2023

Dear University Community,

As many of you will have seen by now, the U.S. Supreme Court has issued its decision in two cases related to race-conscious admissions: [Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard](#) and [Students for Fair Admissions v. University of North Carolina](#).

I want to assure each of you that, as we comply with the law, we remain deeply committed to a culture of belonging where all are valued and have the opportunity to add value. We have been preparing for any outcome in this case and will continue to offer exceptional educational opportunities based on students' individual accomplishments and life experiences, as well as our commitment to the fundamental principle that access to higher education should remain a driver of opportunity and social mobility.

Solutions?

No, COVID isn't a benign infection in kids. Florida doctors urge unity to fight virus / Opinion

BY GLENN FLORES, F. DANIEL ARMSTRONG, PATRICIA EMMANUEL, MARK HUDAQ AND DESMOND SCHATZ

JANUARY 19, 2022 8:20 PM



Leo Johnson, 8, high-fives pharmacist Maylen Mesa after receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine from Mesa at a Walgreens in Miami on Nov. 6.. His masked mom, Allison Johnson, is in the background.
MATIAS J. OCNER mocner@miamiherald.com

Only have a minute? Listen instead

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00:00 05:12

As chairs of pediatrics in Florida's medical schools, we are unified in our fight to protect Florida's children against COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations, deaths and long-term sequelae. Protecting our children against COVID-19 requires alignment and collaboration among Florida's pediatricians, nurses, health systems, public-health experts, parents, schools, child-care centers, communities, media outlets and policymakers.

COVID vaccines for infants arrive in Florida. Here's why doctors are throwing them away

BY DANIEL CHANG

UPDATED JUNE 27, 2022 8:35 AM

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Julie Budejen, 35, watches as her daughter Zoey, 3, reacts after a healthcare worker administered a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at the Nomi Health Mobile Health Unit inside Tropical Park in Miami on Saturday, June 25, 2022. Saturday was the first day that children under 5 could receive a free COVID vaccination at one of eight sites throughout Miami-Dade County. The shots will be administered on Sunday and throughout the week.

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Ladapo issued guidance in March stating that “healthy children” younger than 16 years old are at “little to no risk of severe illness,” and that for adolescents 16 to 17 years old the vaccine’s risks “may outweigh the benefits.”

Dr. Lisa Gwynn, a University of Miami pediatrician and president of the Florida Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics.... “By denying Florida’s county health departments the authority to provide the vaccines to the newly eligible children, she said, the state has cut off access for some of its youngest and neediest children.

In DeSantis' Florida, Miami doctor learns: Criticize the government at your own risk / Editorial

BY THE MIAMI HERALD EDITORIAL BOARD

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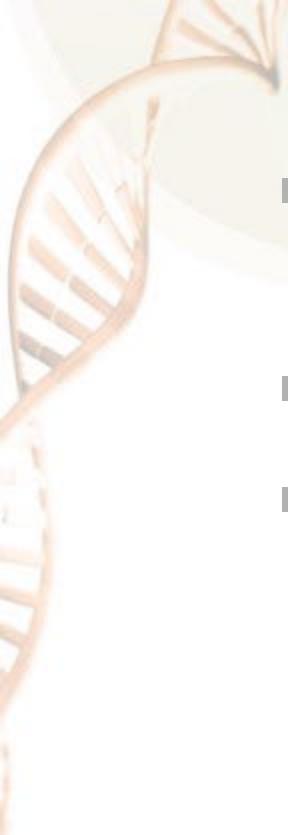
Dr. Lisa Gwynn, right, a University of Miami pediatrician and president of the Florida chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, at a UM mobile clinic in Homestead on June 24. SYDNEY WALSH
sywlsh@miamiherald.com

The suppression of dissent continues in Gov. Ron DeSantis' Florida...the latest example: the abrupt removal of a Miami pediatrician from the Florida Healthy Kids board after she dared to publicly criticize the state for delaying access to COVID vaccines for the state's youngest children.



Other solutions

- Let's not call it DEI
 - Give it another name!
- NIH funded initiatives OK- just stay quiet about it
- Fly under radar screen
 - Hopefully they will not notice
- We need external help!
- Large Companies? Disney?
- Who else?



Summary

- DEI has been very effectively suppressed in the state
- DEI champions have been muted
- C-Suite Implications
 - Silence= Complicity
 - Speak out and be fired
 - I am working “behind the scenes”
- Or is it simply complicity
- Yes Florida is different but this is coming to many other parts of the USA
 - Need to be ready and prepare