

DEI Developments in Mental Health Ethics, Law and Policy

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Editor's Introduction

Welcome to the Inaugural Issue of *DEI Developments in Mental Health Ethics, Law and Policy*. This is a new, quarterly Bulletin of the DEI Ethics and Legislation Workgroup of the UNC Department of Psychiatry. The articles, information, and opinions included are not the endorsements of either the DEI Ethics and Legislation Workgroup or the UNC Department of Psychiatry. The purpose of this Bulletin is to raise awareness of pressing DEI issues in mental health services and research. We may include original work in future issues. Please direct any comments, future news items, or questions to the Bulletin Editor.

In this issue:

- Racial equity in police response to psychiatric emergency
- Psychiatry in Prisons
- Anti-trans legislation in N.C. and beyond
- Social Justice in Maternal Health Care
- How about a new President's Commission for the Study of Bioethics?
- New Resources

RACIAL EQUITY IN POLICE RESPONSE TO PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY

“Decoupling Crisis Response from Policing—A Step Towards Equitable Psychiatric Emergency Services” Eric Rafla-Yuan, M.D., Divya K. Chhabra, M.D., and Michael O. Mensah, M.D., M.P.H., May 6, 2021, *N Engl Med* 2021; 384: 1769-1773. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMms2035710
<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMms2035710>

“Navigating Care from Afar: Ethical Considerations for Police Wellness Checks” Evan Vitiello, M.D., Daniel Moseley, Ph.D.
<https://ps.psychiatryonline.org/doi/full/10.1176/appi.ps.202000732>

“Police Keep Using ‘Excited Delirium’ to Justify Brutality. It’s Junk Science” Meabh O’Hare, Joshua Budhu and Altaf Saadi, July 17 2020, *The Washington Post*
https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/chokehold-police-excited-delirium/2020/07/17/fe907ec8-c6bc-11ea-b037-f9711f89ee46_story.html

“In Mental Health Crises, a 911 Call Now Brings a Mixed Team of Helpers—And Maybe No Cops” Katheryn Houghton, Kaiser Family Foundation, June 14, 2021
<https://khn.org/news/article/in-mental-health-crises-a-911-call-now-brings-a-mixed-team-of-helpers-and-maybe-no-cops/>

PSYCHIATRY IN PRISONS

“Thoughtful Forensic Practice Combats Structural Racism”, Philip J. Candilis and Ezra E. H. Griffith *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*, Online March 2021, 49 (1) 12-15; DOI:10.29158/JAAPL.200091-20

Full article available: <http://jaapl.org/content/jaapl/49/1/12.full.pdf>

“Finding a Voice” Elizabeth Ford, MD. *Psychiatric Services*
<https://ps.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ps.72801>

ANTI-TRANS LEGISLATION IN N.C. AND BEYOND

“N.C. General Assembly’s Three Anti-Trans Bills Follow a Recent Nationwide Trend” Brian Rosenweig, 20 April 2021
<https://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2021/04/city-rising-anti-trans-legislation>

“Transgender girls deserve to play sports aligned with their gender identity” Kim Brownley, PhD, 23 April 2021
<https://www.outsports.com/2021/4/23/22399102/transgender-girls-deserve-to-play-sports-aligned-with-their-gender>

DO WE NEED A NEW PRESIDENT’S COMMISSION FOR THE STUDY OF BIOETHICS?

“An Overdue Executive Order: Reinstating the National Bioethics Commission” Eli Adashi, MD, MS, MA, I Glenn Cohen, JD, 10 May 2021 *The American Journal of Medicine*
[https://www.amjmed.com/article/S0002-9343\(21\)00307-7/fulltext](https://www.amjmed.com/article/S0002-9343(21)00307-7/fulltext)

An archive of the work of the 2009-2017 President’s Bioethics Commission is here:
<https://bioethicsarchive.georgetown.edu/pcsbi/index.html>

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN MATERNAL HEALTH CARE

“Extending Postpartum Medicaid: State and Federal Policy Options During and After COVID-19” Jamie Daw, Emily Eckerrt, Heidi Allen, Dristen Underhill, *J Health Polit Policy Law* (2021) 46 (3): 505–526.
<https://doi.org/10.1215/03616878-8893585>

NEW RESOURCES

Volume One, Issue One of the NC Civil Rights Law Journal is now available.
<https://journals.law.unc.edu/nccivilrightslaw/published-issues/>

The First Annual UNC Philosophy and Psychiatry Conference is available:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jY152uq7YO0>

The full program with the starting times for each talk is provided in the comments section.

Bulletin Editor

Daniel D. Moseley, Ph.D.

daniel_moseley@med.unc.edu