MODERATOR/PRESENTER

Daniel Webster, ScD, MPH

Bloomberg Professor of American Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

@DanielWWWebster1
BLOOMBERG AMERICAN HEALTH INITIATIVE

SEEKING CHANGE AGENTS!

• Bloomberg Fellows receive a full-tuition scholarship to earn a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
• Fellows can attend either full-time/part-time, on campus or online
• Degree candidate must apply with support from the organization for which they work, with a focus in one of the following areas:

Addiction & Overdose  Environmental Challenges  Obesity and the Food System  Adolescent Health  Violence

LEARN MORE: americanhealth.jhu.edu
Homicide Rates: United States vs. Other High-Income Nations, 2015

Grinshetyn & Hemenway 2019
Racial Disparities for Homicides

- 9,703 homicides among Blacks in 2018
- Leading cause of death for Black males age 15-34
- 2nd leading cause of death for Black males age 1-4, 10-14
- 2nd most important cause of Black-White disparity in life expectancy among males.
Police Killings: Civilians by Race of Victim

per 1M, 2013-2019

Mapping Police Violence
Motivation for many laws and the legal grounds for state powers to restrict individual behaviors are based on the idea that laws and their enforcement are needed to protect public health and safety.

Public health has long used laws to protect public health and safety with some noteworthy gains in public health.

1. Speeding and drunk driving
2. Carrying concealed firearms in public places
3. Wearing a mask and limiting large gatherings in closed spaces
Laws and Police as Protectors of Privilege and Tools of Oppression

- Racial disparities contributing to mass incarceration and trauma
  1. Car and street stops
  2. Arrests
  3. Prosecutions and sentencing
  4. Excessive use of force and police killings of civilians

- Health Impacts
  1. 1,000 deaths per year by police
  2. PTSD
  3. Suicides
  4. COVID spread in jails and prisons
Police New Models for Public Safety: Public Health Contributions

- Focus on healing and crisis response
- Role of social structure, racism, and social determinants of health
- Community empowerment to confront challenges
- Focus on policies that make environments safe *e.g., housing, firearms*
Role of Firearms in Police Violence

92% Police Killings are Shootings

Percentage of Victims Armed

- Shooting
- Gun
- Other weapon
- Unarmed
Police Killings: Legal System for Keeping Guns from Prohibited Persons per 1M, 2018

Handgun purchaser licensing, in-person application: CT, HI, IA, MA, NJ, NY