

Dalila Grant

Prof.Brown

Writing For the Sciences

23 February 2023

Connections Between Race and Neglect Women

Racial disparities were found as the leading cause of death with pregnancy by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (C.D.C) have shocked society, as seen in the New York Times article, “Huge Racial Disparities Found in Deaths Linked to Pregnancy” by Roni Caryn Rabin, published in 2019. Studies have shown that women of color are more likely to die during or after labor than white women (Rabin, 2019). The author includes sufficient evidence presented by the C.D.C to support the topic of women of color being neglected during and after birth by implementing professional advice and well written claims.

After giving birth, women are often told to come back after six weeks for their checkup, but within those six weeks, it is more common for women to die from strokes and cardiovascular disease (Rabin, 2019). In many cases for black women, they begin developing cardiac disease during pregnancy. As a result, if their heart disease continues to develop and goes undetected after the baby is delivered, it may rupture, leading to death in severe cases. Due to the discovery of these events, many Obstetricians/Gynecologists believe that women need to now schedule their postpartum checkup three weeks after delivery and detailed visit no later than twelve weeks after birth (Rabin, 2019). The rise in death rates linked to pregnancy surrounding women of color has caused intensive studies by the C.D.C., leading to the development of a new federal law

called the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act (Rabin, 2019). This law allows for investigating pregnancy-related deaths up to 365 days after birth. Additionally, there was a professional opinion by Lynn P. Freedman, the director of the maternal death and disability program at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health mentioned in the article. Freedman states, "health issues of pregnancy don't just end when the baby comes out, and that hasn't gotten the attention it should" (Rabin, 2019). The inclusion of Freedman's opinion brings credibility and further professional insight on Maternal Death for women of color.

The article allows the reader to understand the unfortunate circumstance of race being tied to pregnancy-related deaths through studies done by the C.D.C. The author informs OBGYNs and women of color that may be interested in bearing children in the United States about the studies surrounding pregnancy deaths. The author effectively presents the information in a manner of non-bias because she informs with facts and evidence to back up the claims. There was also a professional opinion included by Freedman further advocates that a mother shouldn't stop being checked on. Additionally, the presentation of the evidence followed the claims without making it seem like facts were being thrown at the reader. Concerning Obstetrics/Gynecologists, the article informs them of ways to be more attentive to their patients during and after their pregnancy so they can be of the best assistance.

Overall, the article effectively gets the point across of women getting thorough evaluations before and after birth regardless of race because the many causes that lead to postpartum death can be easily identified and prevented. The author presents claims with evidence to back them up to negate the possible bias that a reader could assume.

References

Rabin, R. C. (2019, May 7). Huge Racial Disparities Found in Deaths Linked to Pregnancy. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/07/health/pregnancy-deaths-.html>