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Community redevelopment: Catalyst or hindrance to equitable perinatal care in underserved minority populations

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Urban redevelopment/gentrification has been on an upward trajectory since the early 1990s. With the growing gentrification of low-income communities, many of which double as communities rich with people of color, a concern is the impact of gentrification on healthcare access and delivery and the long-standing effects on the health outcomes among this vulnerable population. Inadequate healthcare occurs for a host of reasons; however, recent studies have shown that urban redevelopment/gentrification is a factor in healthcare access and delivery for individuals residing within gentrified communities that were there before the change. Given the large number of women living in these areas, particularly African-Americans, concerns about access to consistent Pre-Natal Care (PNC) in gentrified areas is a growing public health concern. When African American women reside in communities that are also low-income, gentrification leads to housing displacement, increased stress, financial burdens and ultimately an increase in poor perinatal health outcomes. While recent studies and the CDC have shown a correlation between urban redevelopment/gentrification and adverse health outcomes, there is still a lack of research that centers this issue within maternal child health, more specifically, how urban redevelopment/gentrification impacts the perinatal health outcomes of Black and African American women. It's also unknown how urban redevelopment aids in the prevention of adverse perinatal health outcomes. My research will offer initial findings in this focus area.

Biography

Asiyah D. Franklin is a women's health nurse, public health practitioner and thought leader with a vested interest in community-based maternal and infant health. Her rich background in community-based health has well-prepared her for her current status as a PhD in Public Health student at Walden University. Here she is specializing in community health and has centered her research on the built environment and its impact on prenatal health outcomes among vulnerable populations of women and infants.

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