Racism versus Social Capital: Investigating Racial Discrimination, Social Capital,

and Mental Disorders among Chinese Americans

Abstract

This study aims to investigate the effects of racial discrimination and social capital on lifetime mental disorders prevalence among Chinese Americans. Data from the first study of first national epidemiological psychiatric study for Asian Americans-the National Latino and Asian Americans Study (NLAAS) was used for the analysis. After controlling for the demographical variables, results shown that racial discrimination was associated with increased mental disorders prevalence, whereas social capital measures had mixed effects on different types of disorders as well as populations (US-born respondents and immigrant).