

Our Shared Future, Reckoning with Our Racial Past

The Big Picture with Akilah Hughes: Race, Health & Wealth

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Video Length: 1 minute 50 seconds

Graphics on screen

Our Shared Future Reckoning with Our Racial Past

Smithsonian Forum

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The Big Picture: Race, Health & Wealth

with Akilah Hughes

Visual

Akilah on screen

Akilah

It's me, Akilah, again, here with the big picture. Hey, you doing okay, friends? All right, see, it turns out we're still not done talking about race. I don't know if you got the memo, but it's going to take a whole day, minimum. I mean, I can go on for weeks. So you know how every young white couple on those list it or ditch it shows with an average income of \$30,000 always has an aunt with an extra \$60,000 for them to buy a forever home? That is way less common for people of color, and that's not accidental. See, there's all kinds of stuff at play here. Disparities in homeownership, loan allocations, student loan debt, and hey, subprime mortgages. You know, just to name a few things that you probably heard of. And there's probably no one hearing my voice right now who doesn't realize that money gives us access to everything, including better healthcare. And don't get me started on healthcare. All right? Actually, I'm going to get started. All right. So do you know why the CDC is reporting that people of color are less likely to get a COVID vaccine? You wonder why? Well, in 1932, there was a U.S. government experiment on Black men in Tuskegee, Alabama, who signed up for a "free treatment" for syphilis, only to have that very treatment withheld while being intentionally left to die for the sake of experiment. All without consent. All while penicillin, the cure, was readily available. And that is just one of many examples. Now do you see why people of color might be a little

skeptical with the medical establishment? I thought you might. I'll be back. Actually, I'm going to stay here and you're going to be back, but I'll be here.

Graphics on screen

The Big Picture:

Race, Health & Wealth

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Watch the entire forum and view additional resources at oursharedfuture.si.edu/race.