

Disability Justice Network of Ontario (DJNO)

Project: Literature review of medical racism and structural ableism

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About the Organization:

DJNO's [mission](#) is "to build a just and accessible Ontario, wherein people with disabilities:

- Have personal and political agency
- Can thrive and foster community
- Build the power, capacity, and skills needed to hold people, communities, and institutions responsible for the spaces they create."

DJNO's work is community-led and involves a mixture of research (e.g., needs assessment, policy research), education (e.g., resources, workshops), and campaigning (i.e., advocacy).

About the Initiative:

DJNO has funding from the Laidlaw Foundation to investigate experiences of medical racism and ableism in Ontario's healthcare system, as experienced by black and racialized disabled people across Ontario. One of their current research activities is to conduct focus groups with the target population in partnership with a faculty member from McMaster University. As part of the investigation, DJNO is seeking support with a literature review on the same topic to summarize what's been published in academic (and grey) literature. Findings from this investigation will help them develop interventions.

Research Question:

To what extent do Black disabled people experience medical racism and/or ableism in Ontario and Canada's healthcare system? How, if at all, do these experience impact their health outcomes?

Research Activities:

This project will involve a literature review according to the research question scoped above.

Audience:

This research will be used by DJNO and other stakeholders to support the development of a toolkit for black and racialized disabled people living in Ontario/Canada to help them navigate the healthcare system and overcome barriers related to medical racism and ableism.

Deliverable:

Plain language report with context, methods, and findings.

Timeline:

This project will occur over the Winter semester from January to the end of April (2023).

Community Partner Role:

The community partner will be an active collaborator in the project, including informing the scope, research process, and deliverable. The community partner will be available for consultation as mutually agreed upon with the Research Team.

Interest for Students:

Students interested in disability justice, health equity, and racism/ableism in the healthcare system.