



Addressing the Rise of Racial Discrimination on AAPI Communities Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Literature Review

Jem Doan^{1,2}, Janice Enriquez, PhD³, Yue Yu, PhD³, Deborah Son, MSW⁴

¹ Maternal Child Health Careers/ Research Initiatives for Student Enhancement-Undergraduate Program at Kennedy Krieger Institute,

²UC Davis, ³UC Davis MIND Institute, ⁴National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter



Center for Diversity in Public Health Leadership Training at Kennedy Krieger Institute



INTRODUCTION

- COVID-19 emerged in Wuhan, China in 2019 and has spread to nearly every country in the world
- As cases rose, so did reports of racial discrimination and hate crimes against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders
- Stop Asian American and Pacific Islander Hate recorded almost 2000 reports of anti-Asian discrimination between March 19, 2020, and May 13, 2020 (Lee & Waters, 2021)
- Racial discrimination plays a major role in predicting mental and physical health outcomes

OBJECTIVE

- To identify the health impacts of COVID-19 related discrimination on AAPI communities and the factors that play a role in shaping these incidents
- To explore how we can address these specific impacts on the AAPI community through policy and advocacy work

METHODS

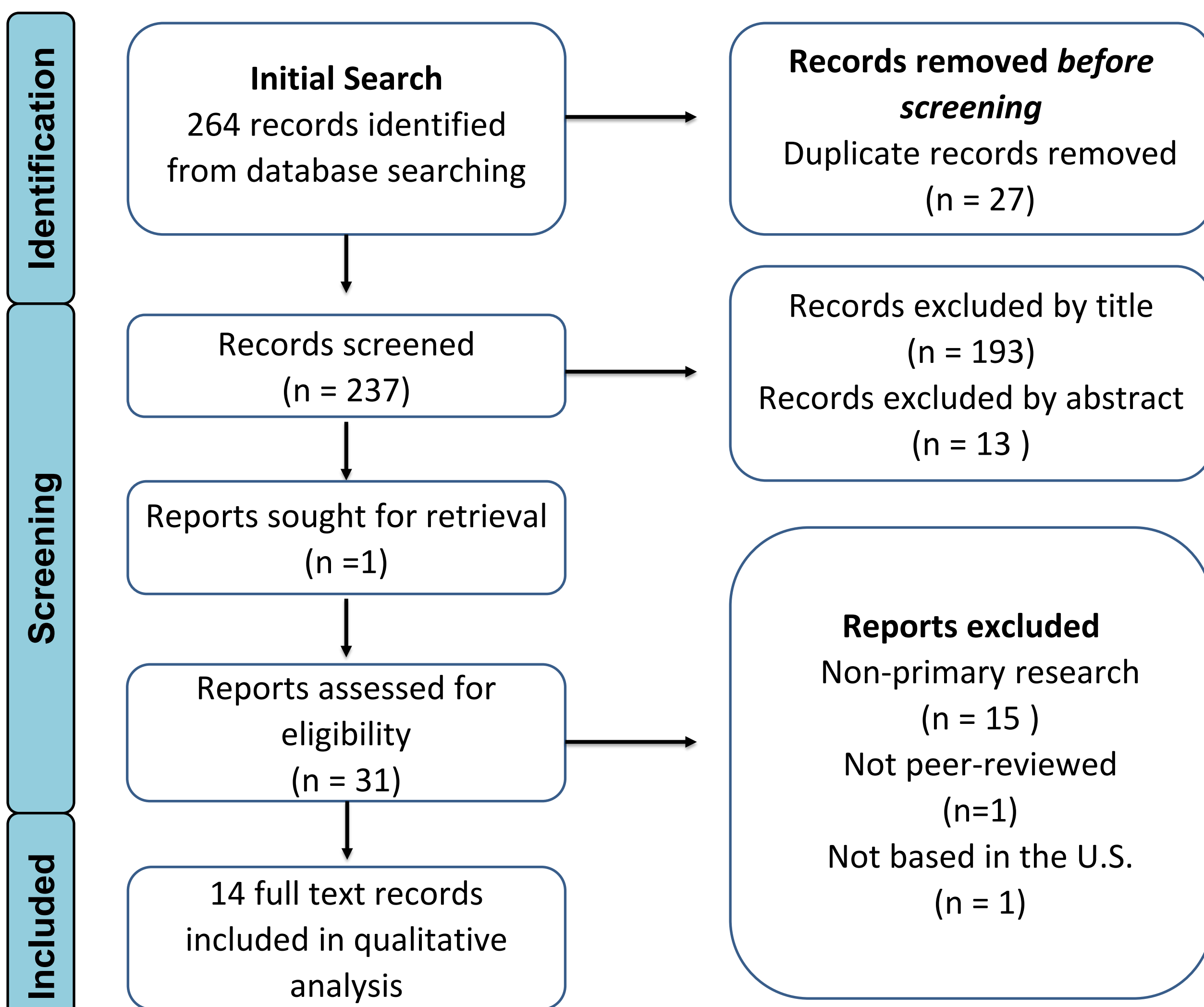


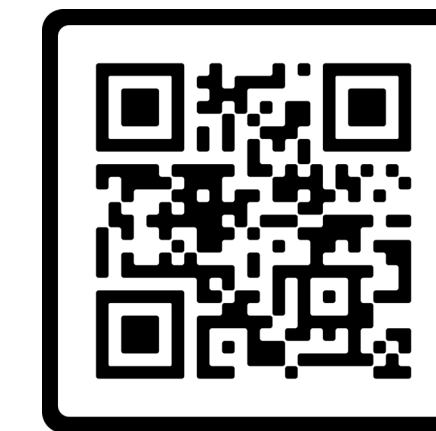
Figure 1. PRISMA Flow Chart

RESULTS

Figure 2. Factors associated with racial discrimination in included studies

Authors	Factors			
	Mental Health	Social media	Bias/stigma	Community/resilience
Chae et al. (2021, USA)	X	X		
Cheah et al. (2020, USA)	X	X		
Dhanani et al. (2020, USA)	X		X	
Dhanani et al. (2021, USA)	X		X	X
Haft & Zhou (2021, USA)	X	X	X	X
Lee & Water (2021, USA)	X	X	X	X
Litam et al. (2021, USA)	X	X		X
Pan et al. (2020, USA)	X		X	X
Quach et al. (2021, USA)	X	X		X
Shah et al. (2021, USA)	X		X	X
Woo & Jun (2021, USA)	X	X		X
Wu et al. (2020, USA)	X	X		X
Yang et al. (2020, USA)		X	X	X
Yu et al. (2020, USA)		X	X	X

Scan QR code for a detailed guide on included studies!



SCAN ME

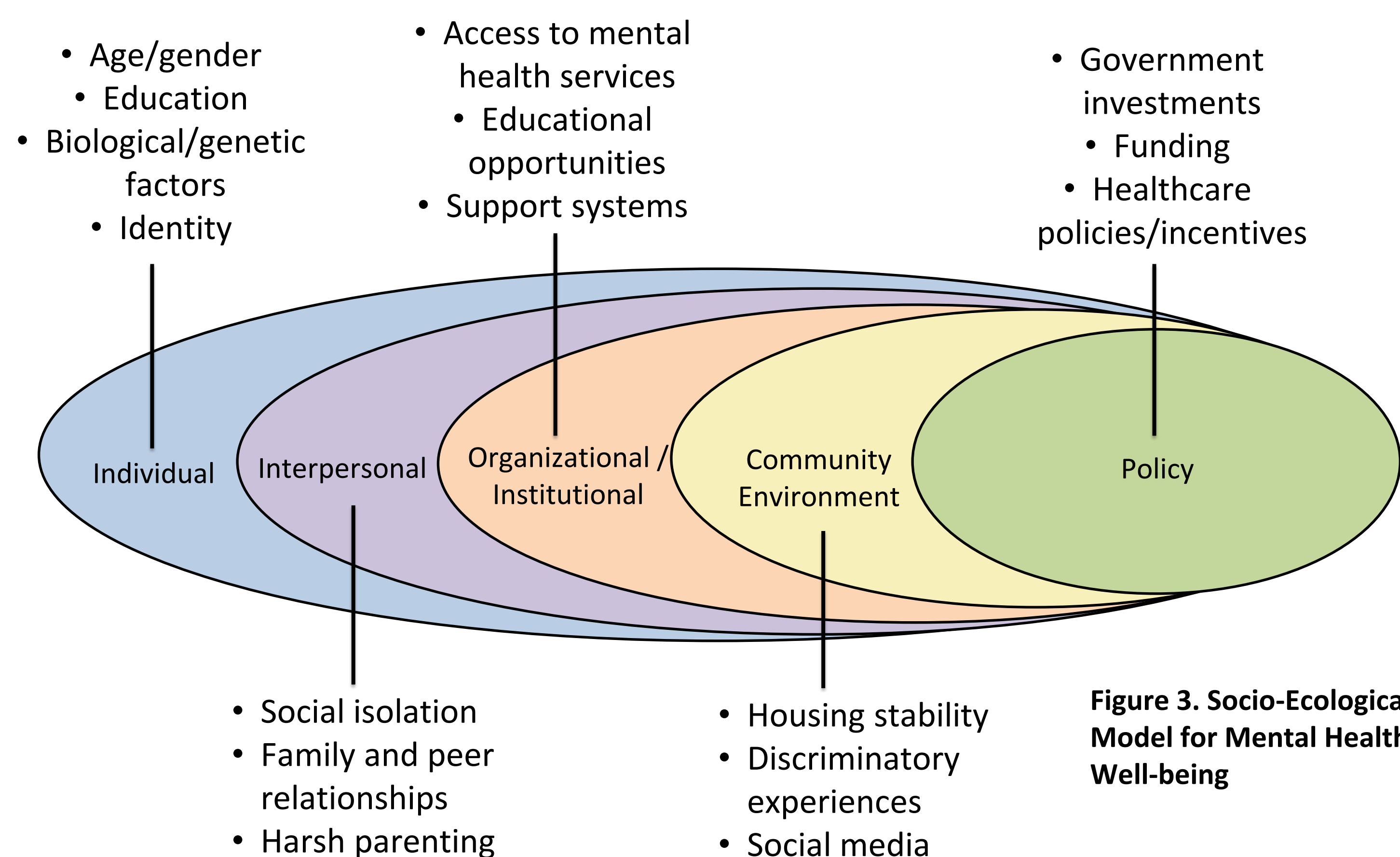


Figure 3. Socio-Ecological Model for Mental Health & Well-being

SUMMARY

- AAPI communities have experienced more racial discrimination since the pandemic and their mental health concerns should be addressed
- Social media and public health framing plays a tremendous role in influencing bias and stigmatization of AAPI communities

CONCLUSIONS

Conclusion

- The racialization of disease is not a unique experience
- Increased symptoms of anxiety and depression due to discrimination reveal a significant need for mental health services among AAPI communities

Implications for Policy & Practice

- Anti-racism policies should be implemented across all institutional settings along with cultural competency trainings to address and debunk anti-Asian sentiment
- Investment in mental health services and community-based efforts for AAPI communities
- Continue to acknowledge race as a Social Determinant of Health

STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS

Strengths

- Overwhelming evidence that anti-Asian discrimination has increased since COVID-19, resulting in a detrimental toll on health
- Highlights the multi-faceted factors that allow racism to persist

Limitations

- Search limited to 2 databases
- Intersectionality of racial identity and disability not mentioned

RESOURCES

For more information on stopping AAPI hate or to report a hate incident, please scan the QR code.



Kennedy Krieger Institute