

5

# Racialized Bodies

Race shapes sexual and reproductive health outcomes. Not because of biology, because of systems.

**Black women are two to three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women in the United States. Similar disparities are documented across high-income countries.**

Structural racism operates through healthcare, housing, employment, and education to produce persistent disparities in sexual and reproductive health outcomes. Inside clinical settings: unequal access, differences in how pain is assessed, and discrimination that causes people to avoid seeking care.

