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MOVING TARGETS:

RACIALIZED AND SOCIAL BARRIERS TO ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

DR. JENNIFER D. ROBERTS

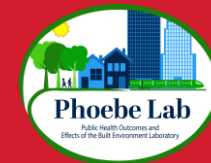
ACCELERATING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION CHANGE IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

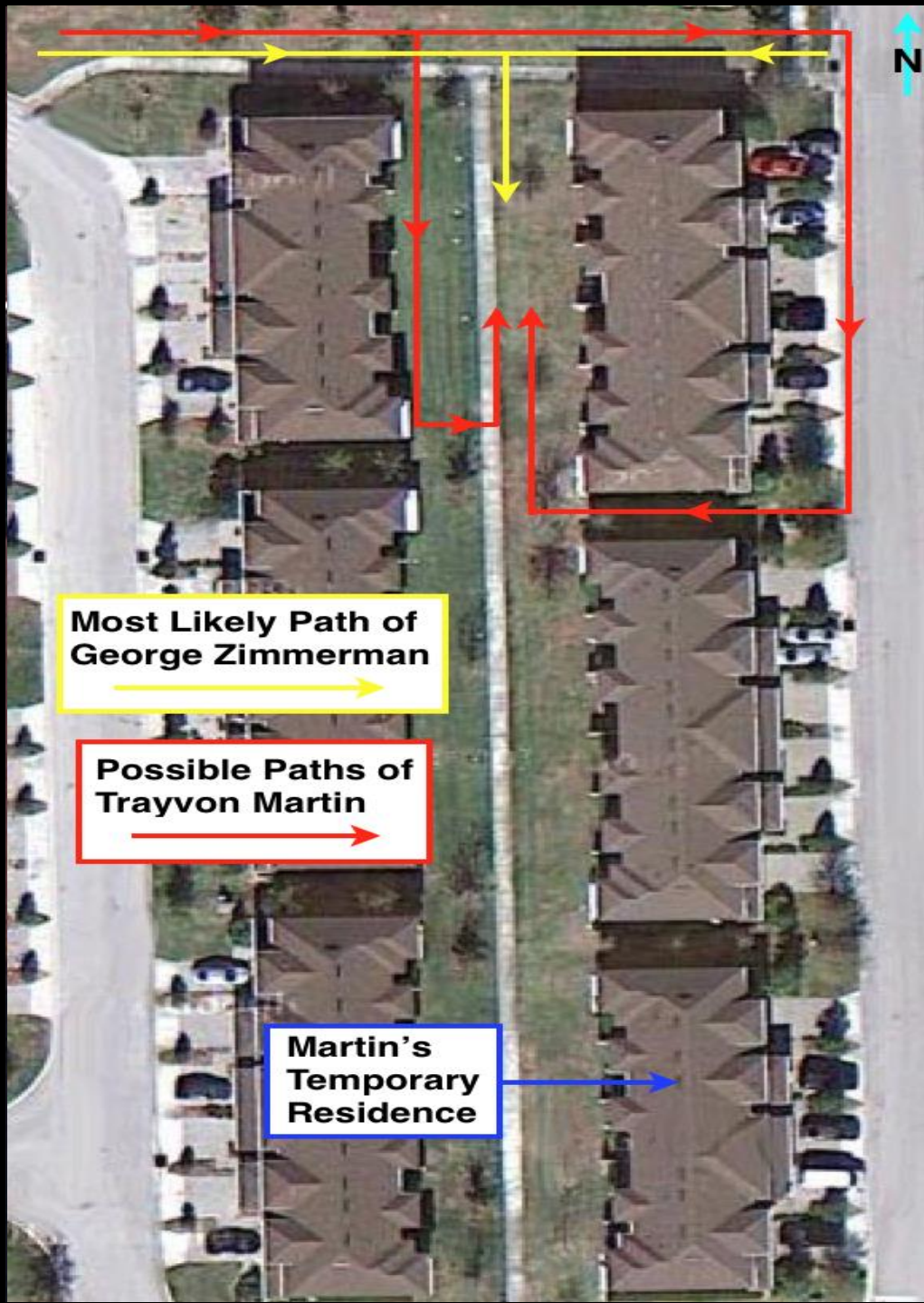
MARCH 25, 2021



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH



REMEMBER THIS BOY?



“MOVING WHILE BLACK”

❑ DOUBLE ENTENDRE

- Expression derived from U.S. “driving while intoxicated” criminal offense

❑ RACIAL PROFILING

- Demonstration of the racial profiling endured by many African Americans
 - Pedestrians, Runners
 - Cyclists, Scooterist



2018 E-SCOOTER FINDINGS REPORT

While many East Portlanders and Black Portlanders expressed enthusiasm for e-scooters, some focus group participants also expressed an overall concern for traffic safety and the risk that Black e-scooter riders would be targeted for racial profiling and harassment.

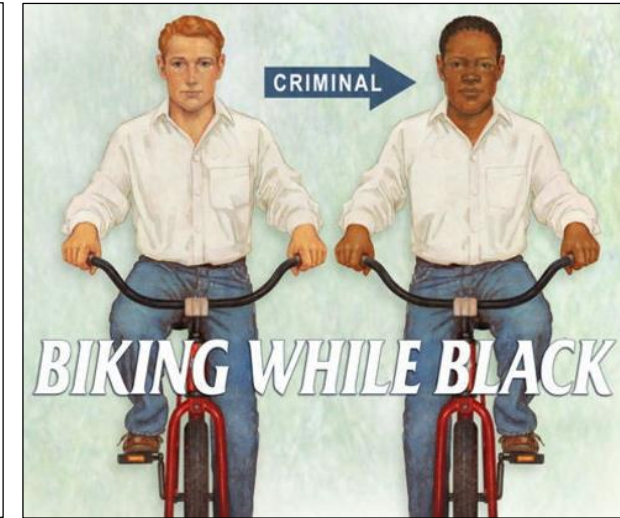
Source: PBOT. At: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/709719>

Chicago Tribune

MARCH 17, 2017

'Biking while black': Chicago minority areas see the most bike tickets

By Mary Wisniewski · Contact Reporter
Chicago Tribune



RUNNER'S WORLD RUNNING TIMES

Black Men Less Likely to Run in White Neighborhoods

Sociologist's survey sought to understand racial disparity among activity

OCTOBER 2, 2013



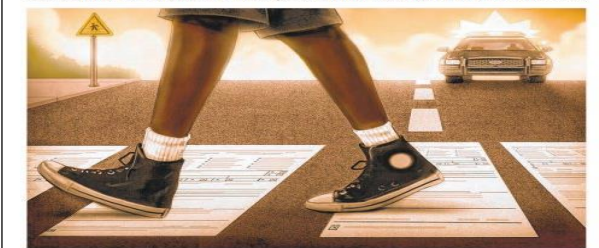
Recent research by sociologist Rashawn Ray, Ph.D., an assistant professor at the University of Maryland, found that black men are less likely to run outside if they live in a predominantly white neighborhood. The opposite, however, was true for black women. They were more likely to be active in predominately white communities.

Ray surveyed 500 college-educated African-Americans living in urban and suburban areas across the United States in 2011 to explore why middle-class blacks were less physically active than their Caucasian peers.



WALKING WHILE BLACK

Jacksonville's enforcement of pedestrian violations raises concerns





POLL QUESTION #1

WHICH GROUP HAS THE HIGHEST PEDESTRIAN DEATH RATES?

A

WHITE PEDESTRIANS

B

BLACK PEDESTRIANS

C

HISPANIC PEDESTRIANS



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“MOVING WHILE BLACK”

□ SAFETY AND PERCEPTION

– Research Findings

- Overall, pedestrian deaths increased
 - 1.7/100K in 2009 to 2.2/100K in 2018
- Drivers less likely to brake for African American pedestrians
 - More cars passed through crosswalk with African American pedestrian compared to the White pedestrian
- Compared to White (1.8) pedestrians, the age-adjusted pedestrian death rate
 - **Double for African Americans** (3.6)
 - One and half greater for Hispanics (2.9)

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

OCTOBER 26, 2015

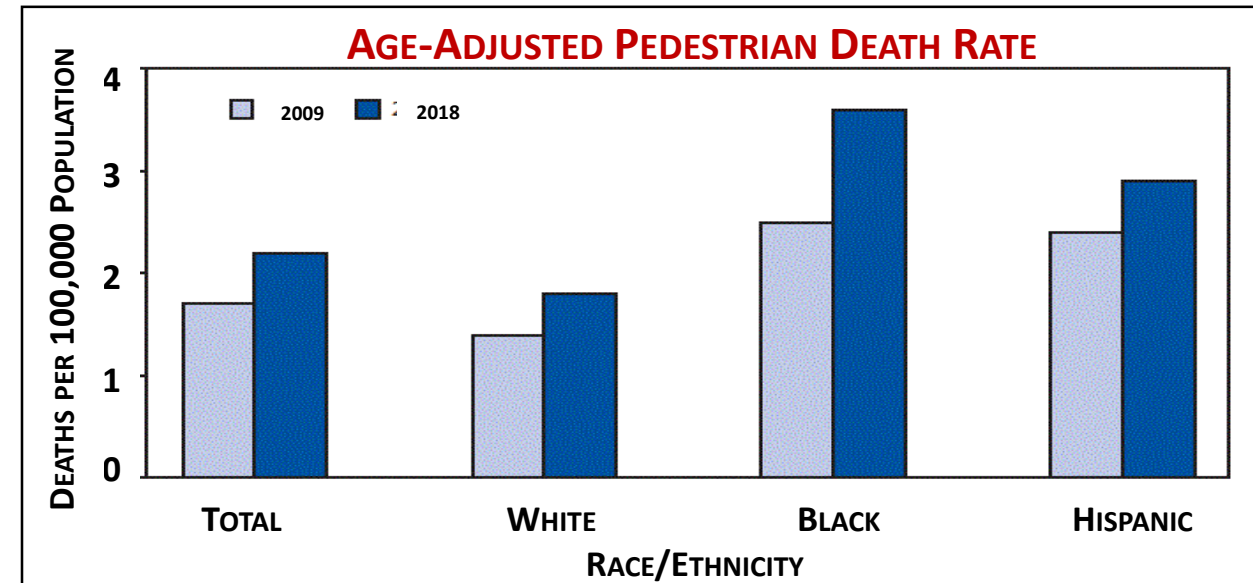
‘Walking while black’ can be dangerous too, study finds

BY FREDRICK KUNKLE

MARCH 22, 2017

Study finds more evidence for ‘walking while black’

BY FREDRICK KUNKLE



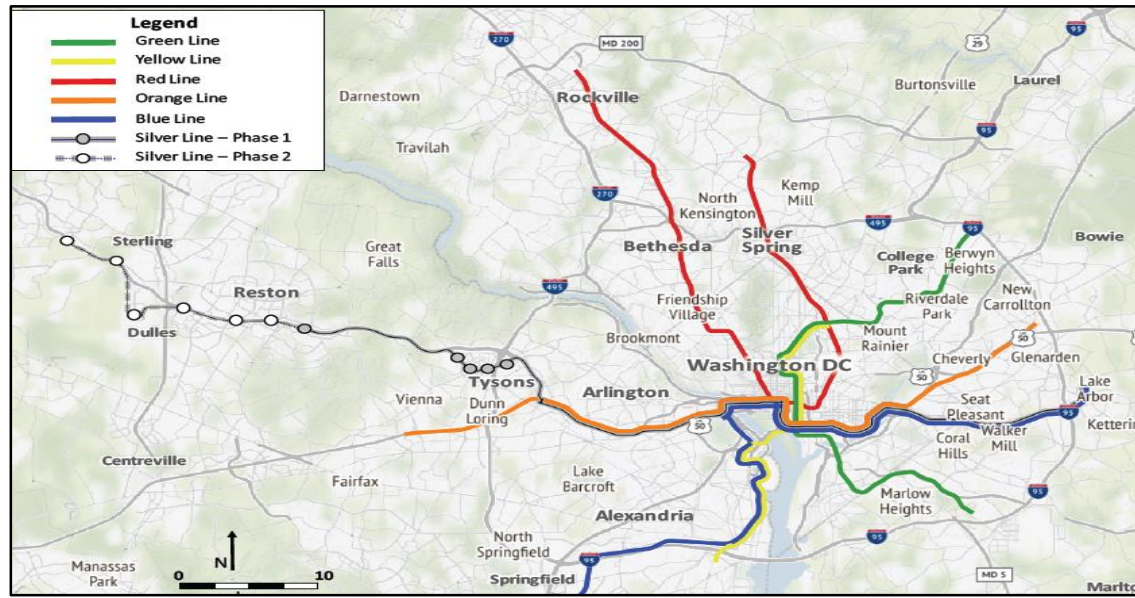
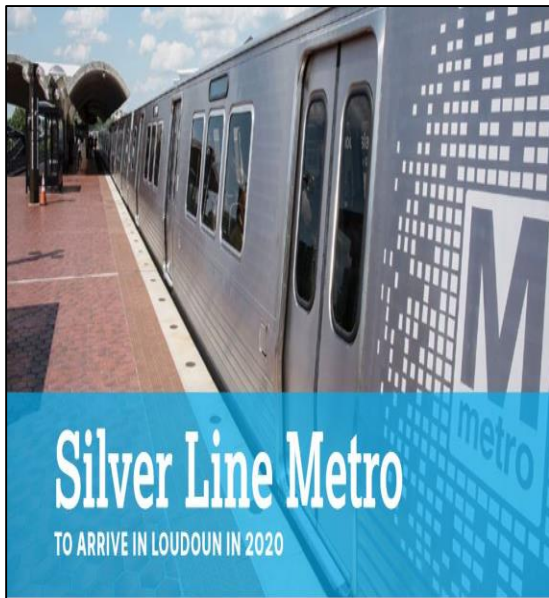
Source: Goddard. At: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15760/trec.130>; Coughenour. At: <doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2016.09.031>; CDC. At: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6939a7.htm>



PEAT STUDY OBJECTIVE

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

- Physical Environment and Active Transportation (PEAT) Study examined active transportation (AT) behaviors and perceptions of youth living in Fairfax County, VA
 - In 2014, new Silver Line of the Washington, DC Metro opened
 - Evaluated how new transit contributed to AT among youth



PEAT STUDY METHODOLOGY

□ FOCUS GROUPS

- Conducted (4) focus groups
 - 15 females; 9 males
 - Age range 12-15 years
 - Over 90% African American or Latinx
 - All participants received \$10 dollars

□ SETTING

- Reston Teen Center
 - Focus groups held on (3) dates in 2016



□ ANALYSIS

- Content analysis technique identified emergent themes or trends from transcribed recordings



Join Our Youth Focus Groups!

PEAT
Physical Environment and Active Transportation Study

If you are a youth between the **ages of 12-18**, we want your opinion on a public health topic! Participants will receive a **\$10 gift certificate!** Free snacks will be provided!

Register at these participating locations!

Southgate COMMUNITY CENTER
Reston Teen Center
RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER
So Close to You. So Much to Do.™

or Contact us @ www.sph.umd.edu/peatstudy

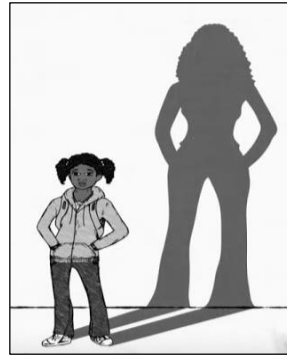
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



EMERGENT THEMES

IDENTIFIED THEMES

- AT Behaviors
 - Family influence on AT behaviors
 - Friends influence on AT behaviors
- AT Determinants
 - Racial profiling
 - Adultification
 - Sexualization



 AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

MARCH 6, 2014

Black Boys Viewed as Older, Less Innocent Than Whites, Research Finds

Police likelier to use force against black children when officers 'dehumanize' blacks, study says



Federal Pursue Civil Rights Key Factor
Advocates Local Law Enforcement
RACIAL Guidelines Minority
Black **PROFILING** Ethnicity
Arrest Stop and Search Standards Jurisdiction Limit
Race Routinely Discrimination State Traffic Stop White Illegal
City Police Stereotypes Engage
Questions Controversial

The New York Times

By A. Rochaun Meadows-Fernandez

April 17, 2020

Why Won't Society Let Black Girls Be Children?

Adultification means teachers, parents and law enforcement are less protective and more punitive with certain kids.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION BEHAVIORS

❑ OVERALL BEHAVIORS

- Many use AT to travel short-medium length distances
 - Walking and public buses were the most common form

“I take the city bus sometimes to get to place to place”

“I usually walk to my school once a week”

❑ FRIENDS AND FAMILY INFLUENCES

- AT behaviors highly influenced by friends and family

“my mom always tells me it’s not safe, I can’t be walking alone”

“my friends want to walk everywhere and I don’t know why”

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION DETERMINANTS

- ❑ RACIAL PROFILING
- ❑ ADULTIFICATION
- ❑ SEXUALIZATION

“areas certain people live”

“my mom forces me to walk”

“I have to [walk]...I do it all the time...I'm home alone and I wanna go somewhere

“I don't feel safe walking by myself or with other people cause of like cat-callers”

“I want to walk to Shoppers, but my Mom says no...usually my brother goes”

“one time one of my friends were riding my bike...[my neighbor] yelled at her for like no reason and he's like get the blank off my yard like what the blank are you doing...Yeah, [he said something racist]”

PEAT STUDY CONCLUSIONS

❑ MANY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Environmental and social variables converge on the AT experiences of African American youth
 - Personal safety, micro-aggressions, harassment

❑ UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- Numerous AT benefits, but important to understand the inherent level of privilege with AT
 - AT in some spaces for some individuals
 - Lack of AT and physical activity freedom

New video emerges of fatal shooting of black jogger in Georgia

CBS EVENING NEWS
WITH NORAH O'DONNELL

By OMAR VILLAFRANCA / CBS NEWS MAY 6, 2020



Walking



Public Transit



Biking



Walking



Walking



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International Journal of
*Environmental Research
and Public Health*



Article

Between Privilege and Oppression: An Intersectional Analysis of Active Transportation Experiences Among Washington D.C. Area Youth

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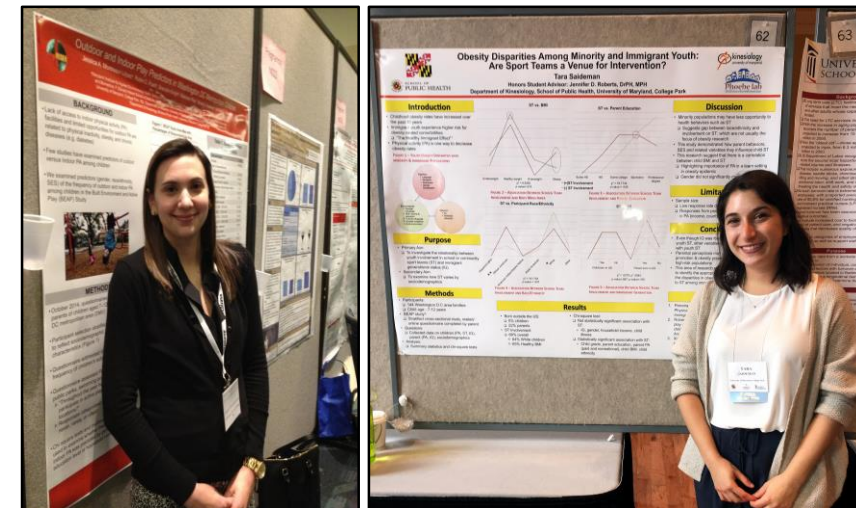
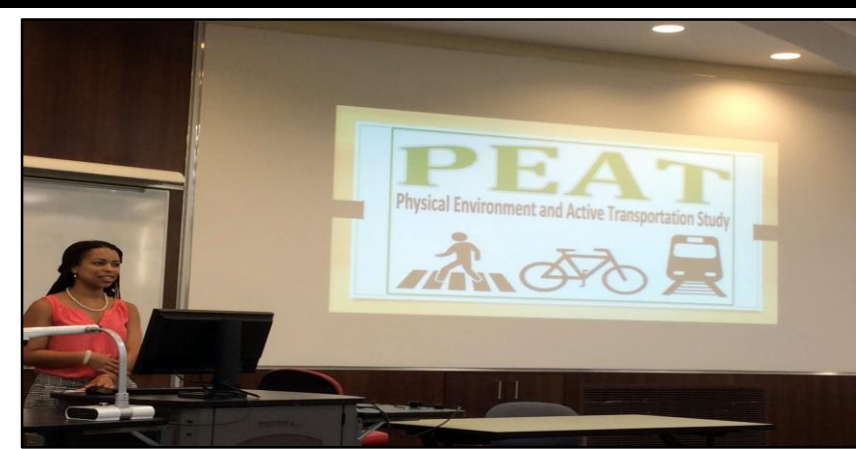
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Received: 22 February 2019; Accepted: 9 April 2019; Published: 12 April 2019





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THANK YOU!

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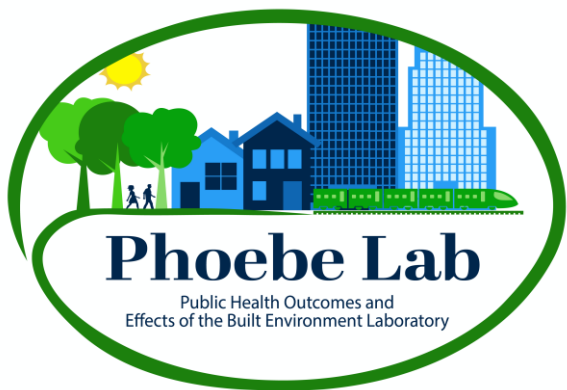
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Risk & Social Policy Working Group



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