

# Exploring How Race and Class Impact Helping Families

*BPNN Quarterly Call*

October 26, 2023



## WELCOME

Please share your name, state,  
and role in the chat box



## Welcome



**Churmell Mitchell**  
BPNN Member  
Alabama



**Jody Rogers**  
BPNN Member  
California



**Kara Georgi**  
Parent Partnership Associate  
Children's Trust Fund Alliance



## Agenda

- Welcome
- Policy Updates
- Questions and Answers
- Presentation
- Questions and Answers
- Announcements
- Evaluation



# Public Policy Update



**Emily Hecht- McGowan,**  
Public Policy Director  
Casey Family Programs



## Public Policy Update

### Congress

- Overview of Current Events
- Legislation
  - Title IV-B
  - CAPTA

### Federal Agencies

- Federal Rule Changes
  - [TANE](#)
  - [Foster Care Legal Representation](#)
  - [Unaccompanied Children Program Foundational Rule](#)
  - [LGBTQ+ Nondiscrimination](#)
  - [IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse](#)

# Questions and Answers



## Exploring How Race and Social-Class Impact Helping Families with Discussion Guides



**Dee Bonnick, MSW**  
BPNN Member



**Takkeem Morgan**  
Mosaic Parent Hub

Executive Director & Co-Founder   
Birth Parent National Network (BPNN)



## What is Family?

CHILDREN'S  
TRUST FUND  
**Alliance**  
Birth Parent National Network (BPNN)



**Family is a unit that provides love, support, and stability to its members. It is where each member feels valued, respected and understood. An ideal family fosters a positive environment for growth, learning and emotional well-being.**

CHILDREN'S  
TRUST FUND  
**Alliance**  
Birth Parent National Network (BPNN)

## What is Race?



### • Race as a Construct

Modern scholars regard race as a social construct, an identity which is assigned based on rules made by society.

While partially based on physical similarities within groups, race is not an inherent physical or biological quality.

Race is a political construction created by people; that is not a natural development.

Race itself is a false classification of people that is not based on any real or accurate scientific truth.

Race was created as a classification of human beings with the purpose of giving power to white people over non-whites.



## Mentimeter Poll Question

What is class?





## What is the relationship between systematic oppression and poverty?

Among all racial groups-

- Black Americans are second most likely to experience poverty
  - 21% living below the poverty threshold, following Native Americans at 25%.
- Black Americans in particular have ten cents for every dollar in wealth that white families have.



## How does poverty impact the child welfare system?

Poverty produces material hardships for families. Such hardships often result in families experiencing toxic stress, which can impede children's cognitive development and parents' capacity to meet the needs of their children.

**Incapacity to provide is not the same as an unwillingness to provide.**



## Mentimeter Poll Question

**What can we do to address race and poverty to keep families from entering the child welfare system?**



# Questions and Answers



# Family First Prevention Services Act



**FAMILY VOICES UNITED**

[familyvoicesunited.org](http://familyvoicesunited.org)



## Caring Conversations- New TIME

**Next Caring Conversation**

**Monday, October 30**

**4pm ET • 3pm CT • 2pm MT • 1pm PT**

# BPNN Orientation

Monday, November 27  
1pm ET • 12pm CT • 11am MT • 10am PT

## BPNN Contact Information

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