

Day 2 – Local News Analysis

We will be reading and analyzing the article

<https://pulitzercenter.org/stories/i-just-dont-want-die-black-pregnant-women-are-turning-midwives-personalized-care-and-better>

STORY

PULITZER CENTER FOR
INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

AUGUST 8, 2023

'I Just Don't Want To Die': Black Pregnant Women Are Turning to Midwives for Personalized Care— And a Better Chance at Survival

Country:

UNITED STATES

PART 1

Pulitzer Center Article Discussion Questions

"'I Just Don't Want To Die': Black Pregnant Women Are Turning to Midwives for Personalized Care—And a Better Chance at Survival"

1. Before reading this article, what do you already know (if anything) about the disparities in maternal health outcomes for Black women in the U.S.?

I know doctors often underestimate and downplay the medical concerns of black women.

2. Why do you think this issue hasn't received more widespread attention in mainstream media? Do you believe it's something that should be discussed more? Why or why not?

I think it's a mixture of not many people coming forward and news distributors showing a disinterest in publishing stories that mainly effect black women.

3. What specific factors does the article mention that contribute to the higher rates of pregnancy-related deaths among Black women? How are these linked to systemic issues? (Cite evidence from the article)

Factors such as medical professionals' inability to take black women seriously contributes to the higher pregnancy related death in black woman, this is a systemic issue that stems from classism, ignorance and micro racial aggression.

As cited by Serena Williams has shared how she struggled to get medical professionals to take her seriously when she suffered serious health complications after giving birth and Hampton Roads. She said she feels the maternal health system remains biased and too often ignores the pain and symptoms of distress that women of color have during pregnancy.

4. **What role do midwives and doulas play in helping Black women feel safer and more heard during pregnancy and childbirth? What makes their approach different from traditional hospital care? (Cite evidence from the article)**

The role midwives and doulas play in helping black women is by educating, coordinating health care and performing home birth for soon to be parents, as cited by Advocates who say they have seen how the holistic approach taken by midwives

5. **The article includes powerful personal stories from women like Amoni Thompson-Jones and Raynesha Sharpe. How did their experiences help you understand the emotional and physical risks they face?**

Their stories showed the stress and emotional pain women go through when preparing to give birth from both within their bodies like contractions to the general world and having to undergo medical screenings and the stress of trying to stay stress free for the benefit of the baby.

6. **How does racism—both interpersonal and systemic—show up in the healthcare experiences of the women featured in this article? What are some examples?**

Racism shows up as medical practitioners downplaying and dismissing the views and feelings of black women, presuming they aren't as knowledgeable as them to know what's going on with their bodies.

7. **What do you think are the pros and cons of choosing midwifery or home birth over hospital care? Would you feel comfortable with this choice if you or a loved one were expecting a child? Why or why not?**

Pros	Cons
Birthing knowledgeable	Additional costs
Having them attention to you at home	Allowing a stranger into your house
	Knowing if their fully qualified

8. **The article talks about the importance of representation—having more Black midwives and healthcare providers. Why does that matter in this context? How might it improve health outcomes?**

It can provide a sense of kinship and a sense of safety with knowing that someone who looks like you and have an understanding of your struggles is their to assist you.

9. **If you were in charge of creating a public campaign or policy to help fix this issue, what would you focus on first? What solutions does the article suggest?**

I would focus on teaching doctors on how to listen and abhearing to their patients needs
The article suggests using more midwives, especially Black midwives.

10. **After reading the article, how has your understanding of maternal health—especially for Black women—changed? What’s one takeaway you think everyone should know?**

This article made me aware of the disparities that Black women face in the healthcare industry
And how that critically effect their health and the health of their baby.

PART 2

Local Research on the Topic (Miami Gardens, Miami, Florida)

Search for articles/videos/press related to this topic that have been published about Miami Gardens or Miami (if you can't find information about Miami Gardens or Miami specifically –you can search for information in our state of Florida.)

Find 3 videos/articles/newspaper stories on the topic and include the link and a brief summary of what was included.

1

Title of Story: Southern Birth Justice
Publication Site (Example – Miami Herald) CBS
Date FEBRUARY 13 TH 2025
Link: https://www.cbsnews.com/miami/news/black-maternal-mortality-rate-rises-as-other-groups-see-declines/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
3 sentence summary it discussed the racial gap in maternal and infant mortality rate.

2

Title of Story. SisterSong's Expansion to Florida
Publication Site (Example – Miami Herald) HEALTH NEWS FLORIDA
Date June 26, 2024
Link. https://health.wusf.usf.edu/health-news-florida/2024-06-26/an-advocacy-group-expands-to-florida-to-combat-the-black-maternal-mortality-rate?utm_source=chatgpt.com

3 sentence summary the article covers the lack of quality health care and underlying chronic conditions and implicit bias.

3

Title of Story Jackson Memorial Hospital's

Equity Rounds

Publication Site (Example – Miami Herald) HEALTH NEWS FLORIDA

Date April 18, 2023

Link. https://health.wusf.usf.edu/health-news-florida/2023-04-18/the-bias-behind-higher-death-rates-for-black-pregnant-women-and-how-to-tackle-it?utm_source=chatgpt.com

3 sentence summary this article tackled the bias many Black women face in the health care system and the lack of concern by medical practitioners for their concerns.