



**BROWN**  
School of Public Health

# i-BSHS Seminar Series

The **i-BSHS (Innovations in Behavioral and Social Health Sciences)** lecture series fosters collaborative discussion on innovative behavioral and social science-based approaches to improving population health.

## The Problem with the Phrase **“Women and Minorities”**: Intersectionality, An Indispensable Critical Theoretical Framework for Behavioral and Social Health Science Research

[Friday, September 25, 2020 ❖ 12:00 PM – 12:55 PM](#)

**Zoom ID: 945 5755 6126**

**Lisa Bowleg, MA, PhD** is Professor of Applied Social Psychology in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at The George Washington University (GW), Director of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Core of the DC-Center for AIDS Research, and the Founding Director of the Intersectionality Training Institute at GW. She is a leading scholar of the application of intersectionality to social and behavioral science research, as well as research focused on HIV prevention and sexuality in Black communities.



Historically rooted in Black feminist activism, intersectionality is a critical theoretical framework that posits that power and social inequity are differently structured, and vary based on people’s multiple and intersecting demographic positions (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, gender and sexual minority status, socioeconomic status). Intersectionality has made impressive inroads within the behavioral and social health sciences (BSHS) in recent years. It enhances BSHS research by challenging “single-axis” assumptions such as that connoted by the phrase “women and minorities,” and centering the experiences and needs of people marginalized by intersectional discrimination. This presentation will: (1) provide an overview of intersectionality, its history, and core tenets; (2) describe how intersectionality challenges conventional assumptions about groups of people and social issues; (3) highlight applications of intersectionality to NIH-funded health research with U.S. Black men; and (4) discuss why critical perspectives such as intersectionality are indispensable for BSGS researchers committed to social justice work.

**Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
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