

## Department of Pediatrics

### Department of Pediatrics Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee Suggested Reading (2021)

#### **Poverty and Health Inequity**

##### ***Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City***

##### **Matthew Desmond**

Sociologist Matthew Desmond follows several families in Milwaukee through the financial crisis of 2007-2008 as they struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction.

##### ***The Health Gap: The Challenge of an Unequal World***

##### **Michael G. Marmot**

For more than three decades, Michael Marmot has lead research on health inequalities for over three decades. This 2015 work demonstrates how health is directly related to societal issues, and illustrates how inequities in power, money, and resources lead to inequities in the conditions of daily living and health.

##### ***Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America***

Millions of Americans work full-time, year-round, for poverty-level wages. Ehrenreich joined them in 1998 decided to join them and soon discovered that even the "lowliest" occupations require exhausting mental and physical efforts. And one job is not enough; you need at least two if you intend to live indoors.

##### ***Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis***

##### **Robert Putnam**

In this 2016 examination of the growing inequality gap and why fewer Americans today have the opportunity for upward mobility, Putnam begins with his high school class of 1959 in Port Clinton, Ohio, drawing on a formidable body of research.

##### ***Dying of Whiteness***

##### **Jonathan Metzl**

This 2019 account by a Vanderbilt physician and researcher illustrates how racial resentment has fueled pro-gun laws in Missouri, resistance to the Affordable Care Act in Tennessee, and cuts to schools and social services in Kansas, and the costs of these policies (increasing deaths by gun suicide, falling life expectancies, and rising dropout rates).

## Department of Pediatrics

### Race

#### *Between the World and Me*

**Ta-Nahesi Coates**

This 2015 nonfiction book is written as a letter to the author's teenage son about the feelings, symbolism, and realities associated with being Black in the U.S. and won the 2015 National Book Award for Nonfiction.

#### *How To Be an Anti-Racist*

**Ibram X. Kendi**

Kendi's 2019 concept of antiracism reenergizes and reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America. What might an antiracist society look like? How we can play an active role in building it?

#### *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-First Century*

**Dorothy Roberts**

A decade after the Human Genome Project proved that human beings are not naturally divided by race, the emerging fields of personalized medicine, reproductive technologies, and DNA databanks are attempting to resuscitate race as a biological category. Legal scholar Roberts argues that America is once again at the brink of a virulent outbreak of classifying population by race.

#### *Dying in the City of Blues*

**Keith Wailoo**

Set in Memphis, home of the one of the nation's first sickle cell clinics, Wailoo's narrative outlines the history of sickle cell anemia in the U.S and reveals how treatment and social understanding of the disease has been shaped by the politics of race, region, health care, and biomedicine.

#### *Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present*

**Harriet Washington**

First published in 2007, Washington provides an historical overview history of medical experimentation on African Americans, beginning with the earliest encounters between black Americans and Western medical researchers and the racist pseudoscience that resulted. dissections. Moving into the twentieth century, it shows how the pseudoscience of eugenics and social Darwinism was used to justify experimental exploitation and shoddy medical treatment of blacks, and the view that they were biologically inferior, oversexed, and unfit for adult. New details are also provided about the government's notorious Tuskegee experiment.

## Department of Pediatrics

### ***Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent***

#### **Isabel Wilkerson**

Wilkerson explores how American history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, by exploring eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more.

### ***White Like Me: Reflections on Race From a Privileged Son***

#### **Tim Wise**

Wise's 2011 personal account examines white privilege and his conception of racism in American society through his experiences with his family and in his community.

### **Gender and Sexuality**

### ***Narrating the Closet: An Autoethnography of Same-Sex Attraction***

#### **Tony Adams**

Motivated by the death of his partner, Adams redefines the closet as a construct between all people and all sexualities, exploring it at each stage.

### ***How to Survive A Plague: The Inside Story of How Citizens and Science Tamed AIDS***

#### **David France**

This 2016 work is now considered the definitive history of the successful battle to halt the AIDS epidemic and the grassroots efforts of activists, many of them in a life-or-death struggle, who seized upon scientific research to help develop the drugs that turned HIV from a mostly fatal infection to a manageable disease. Ignored by public officials, religious leaders, and the nation at large, and confronted with shame and hatred, this small group of men and women chose to fight for their right to live by educating themselves and demanding to become full partners in the race for effective treatments.

### ***Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men***

#### **Caroline Criado Perez**

Imagine a world where your phone is too big for your hand, where your doctor prescribes a drug that is wrong for your body, where in a car accident you are 47% more likely to be seriously injured. If any of this sounds familiar, chances are that you're a woman. This 2019 work shows us how, in a world largely built for and by men, we are systematically ignoring half the population. From government policy and medical research, to technology, workplaces, urban planning and the media, *Invisible Women* reveals the gender data gap.

## Department of Pediatrics

### Immigration

***The Far Away Brothers: Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life***  
**Lauren Markham**

Named one of the best books of the year by the *New York Times* in 2017, Markham follows the Flores twins as they make their way across the Rio Grande into the hands of immigration authorities, and from there to their estranged older brother in Oakland, CA. Soon these unaccompanied minors are navigating school in a new language, working to pay down their mounting coyote debt, and facing their day in immigration court, while also encountering the triumphs and pitfalls of teenage life with only each other for support.

***Enrique's Journey: The Story of A Boy's Dangerous Odyssey To Reunite With His Mother***  
**Sonia Nazario**

Based on the *Los Angeles Times* newspaper series that won two Pulitzer Prizes, *Enrique's Journey* recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers.