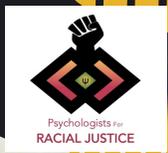


# HEALING WHILE HARMED

RACISM IN MENTAL HEALTH  
& HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

MARCH 13, 2026



## ETHICAL HEALTHCARE AMID RACISM, AI BIAS, AND IMMIGRATION TRAUMA

Healthcare and mental health systems remain sites where structural racism inflicts harm—from biased clinical algorithms that perpetuate disparities to immigration policies that create profound psychological trauma. This panel brings together leading voices in ethics, health equity, and systems change to examine how psychologists can navigate these intersecting challenges with integrity, accountability, and a commitment to justice.

Panelists will explore the ethical dimensions of contemporary practice, including: the opportunities and risks of artificial intelligence in behavioral health (bias, surveillance, documentation, decision support); ethical clinical considerations when working with clients experiencing immigration-related stressors (asylum evaluations, detention trauma, family separation, confidentiality in hostile policy environments); and strategies for embedding equity into institutional structures and professional training.

Grounded in the conference theme of "Healing While Harmed," this panel recognizes that psychologists must simultaneously address individual suffering and structural injustice. Participants will engage with evidence-based frameworks and case vignettes that illuminate how ethical practice can resist harm while advancing dignity-centered care. This session may address sensitive topics, including medical racism, immigration-related trauma, and systemic harm. Content is intended to support clinicians and advocates in navigating these realities with care.



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### ➔ Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this panel, participants will be able to:

- **Identify** at least three ethical considerations when integrating artificial intelligence tools into behavioral health assessment, treatment, or documentation, including risks related to algorithmic bias and surveillance.
- **Describe** ethical frameworks for providing clinical services to clients experiencing immigration-related stressors, including considerations for asylum evaluations, informed consent, confidentiality, and digital safety.
- **Apply** principles of structural competency and health equity to ethical decision-making in institutional and policy contexts that perpetuate racism in healthcare and mental health systems.
- **Evaluate** strategies for navigating dual obligations—to individual clients and to systemic change—in professional practice shaped by structural racism.

Featuring **Dave McIntosh, PhD, Alison Cerezo, PhD, Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD, ABPP**

Psychologists for Racial Justice is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Psychologists for Racial Justice maintains responsibility for this program and its content. For more information visit: [psychforracialjustice.org](https://psychforracialjustice.org)

Friday, March 13th, 12pm–1:25 pm EST