What support do we provide?
Women completing a postpartum visit, 21 to 56 days postpartum

During visits with your maternity care provider after the birth, were you given enough information about...?

- Changes in your sexual response and feelings
- The importance of exercise
- Healthy eating
- How long to wait before becoming pregnant again
- Postpartum depression
- Birth control methods that you can use after giving birth

Listening to Mothers III: New Mothers Speak Out / http://j.mp/NMSpeakOut
Did you have a telephone number of a care provider to contact about concerns in the first two months after birth?
Impact of lack of postpartum follow-up

- Early cessation of breastfeeding
- Short interval pregnancy
- Undiagnosed postpartum depression / anxiety
- Preterm birth and infant mortality
Describe how structural racism and implicit bias contribute to disparities in 4th Trimester health
4th Trimester Inequities

- In an analysis of 23,692 women with Medicaid, predictors of not attending a postpartum visit included:
  - Black race
  - Alcohol or drug use
  - Mental health disorder other than depression
  - Living in a neighborhood where a high proportion of individuals >25 do not have a high school diploma

Bennett et al (2014)
Perinatal mortality in the United States

Maternal Deaths per 100,000 births
- NH Black: 43.5
- Other: 14.4
- NH White: 12.7
- Hispanic: 11

Infant Deaths per 1,000 live births
- NH Black: 11.4
- AI/AN: 9.4
- NH/PI: 7.4
- Hispanic: 5
- NH White: 4.9
- Asian: 3.6

Health inequities... are differences in health that are not only unnecessary and avoidable but, in addition, are considered unfair and unjust. Health inequities are rooted in social injustices that make some population groups more vulnerable to poor health than other groups.
WHO, “Closing the gap in a generation: Health equity through action on social determinants of health.”
Medicare, 1965

- Part A: Hospital insurance, paid for by social security payroll tax
- Part B: Voluntary program for doctor’s visits
- Part C: Federal matching funds for states to provide medical care for low income Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) beneficiaries
Who loses coverage 60 days after birth?

- Uninsured nonelderly Blacks are more likely than Whites to fall in the coverage gap because a greater share live in states that have not implemented the Medicaid expansion.

Figure 8
Share of Total Population that is Black by State and Current Medicaid Expansion Status

Redlined Neighborhoods Have the Highest Share of Black Residents

D-rated neighborhoods were considered 'hazardous,' A-rated neighborhoods the 'best.'

NYTimes: How Redlining's Racist Effects Lasted for Decades
The racial wealth gap: How African-Americans have been shortchanged out of the materials to build wealth. Economic Policy Institute


Economic Policy Institute
"Welfare Queen’ Becomes Issue in Reagan Campaign

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14—Few people realize it, but Linda Taylor, a 47-year-old Chicago welfare recipient, has become a major campaign issue in the New Hampshire Republican Presidential primary.

Former Gov. Ronald Reagan of California has referred to her at nearly every stop, using her as part of his “citizens’ press conference” format.

“There’s a woman in Chicago,” the Republican candidate said recently to an audience in Gilford, N.H., during his freewheeling attack on welfare abuses. “She has 80 names, 30 addresses, 12 Social Security cards and is collecting veterans’ benefits on four nonexisting deceased husbands.” He added: “And she’s collecting Social Security on her cards. She’s got Medicaid, getting food stamps and she is collecting welfare under each of her names. Her tax-free cash income alone is over $150,000.”

Hit the Nerve

Mr. Reagan never mentions the odds with the facts. The former California Governor fairly bristles with what he calls facts, figures and statistics demonstrating what he thinks is wrong with welfare, Big Government and the United States.

The national press entourage following Mr. Reagan usually is prevented from pinning him down on the specifics because his citizens’ press conferences are reserved for questions for local audiences.

Items in Notebook

The following items were taken from a reporter’s notebook after attending 18 citizens’ press conferences on Jan. 15, 16 and 17, all of them in small towns in southern New Hampshire:

Mr. Reagan usually praises his welfare reform program in California. “We lopped 400,000 off the welfare rolls,” he asserted at several stops.

According to a spokesman for California’s Department of Benefit Payments, the state’s highest welfare case load was..."

...with the election of Ronald Reagan in the United States, the idea that women should receive any money for staying home to care for their children was not only disparaged but vilified. In the United States, welfare mothers were demonized as cheats and drains on society.

- Victoria Law
They say we don't need to spend money on social welfare programs or figure out racism and poverty; the solution is to keep these people from having children.

-Dorothy Roberts
Throughout the US history, the fertility and childbearing of poor women and women of color were not valued equally to those of affluent white women.

-Lisa Harris and Taida Wolfe, Stratified Reproduction, Family Planning Care & the Double Edge of History
Parental Leave in the U.S.

<table>
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<th>11-40 days</th>
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Average wage quartile and paid family leave, 2017

The lack of policies substantially benefitting early life in the United States constitutes a grave social injustice: those who are already most disadvantaged in our society bear the greatest burden.

Adam Burtle and Stephen Bezruchka
PMC4934583
“...there is no answer to solving this crisis that Black women do not already know. It is in their lived experiences and resilience that drives innovation and belonging - and we as stakeholders should take heed.

Karen A. Scott, Stephanie R. M. Bray, Ifeyinwa Asiodu & Monica R. McLemore
www.blackwomenbirthingjustice.org