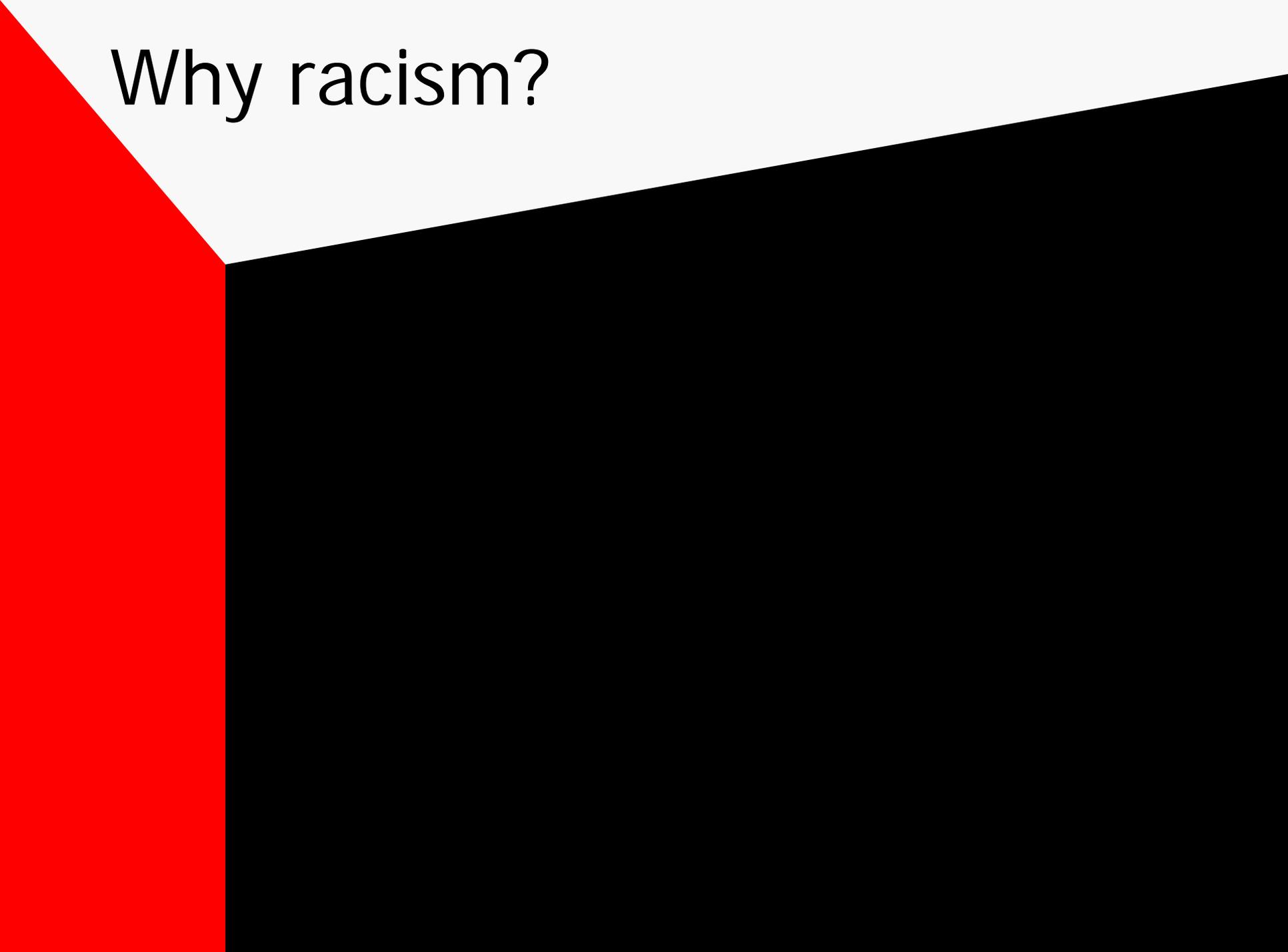


Social Determinants of Health and Equity

**The Impacts of Racism
on Health**

The image features a white background with a red triangle in the top-left corner and a black trapezoidal shape below it. The text "Why racism?" is positioned in the white area.

Why racism?

Why racism?

- To eliminate racial disparities in health, need examine fundamental causes

Why racism?

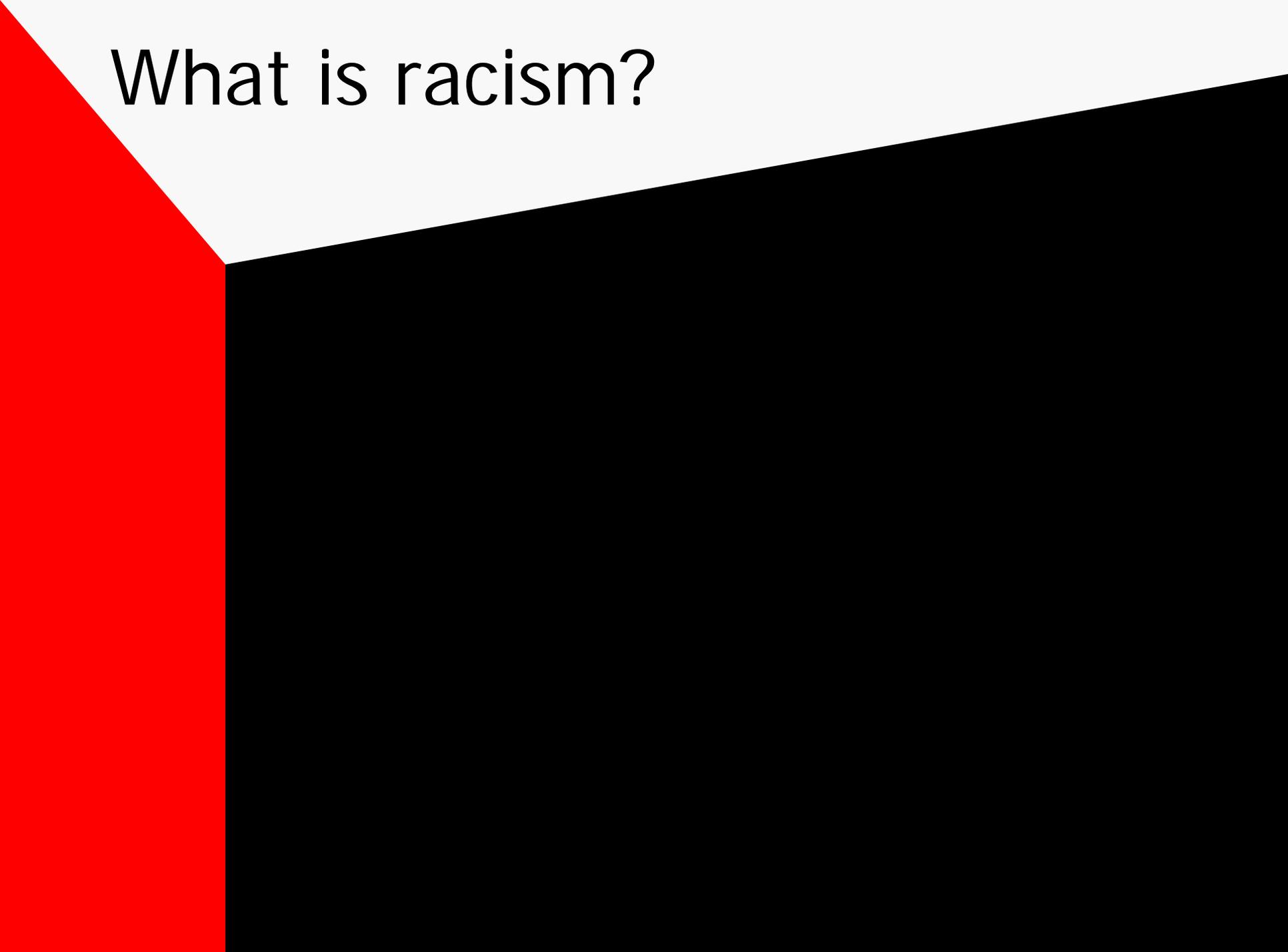
- To eliminate racial disparities in health, need examine fundamental causes
 - “Race” is only a rough proxy for SES, culture, or genes

Why racism?

- To eliminate racial disparities in health, need examine fundamental causes
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 - “Race” precisely measures the social classification of people in our “race”-conscious society

Why racism?

- To eliminate racial disparities in health, need examine fundamental causes
 - “Race” is only a rough proxy for SES, culture, or genes
 - “Race” precisely measures the social classification of people in our “race”-conscious society
- Hypothesize racism as a fundamental cause of racial disparities in health



What is racism?

What is racism?

A system

What is racism?

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value

What is racism?

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks ("race")

What is racism?

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks ("race")

- Unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities

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A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks ("race")

- Unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities
- Unfairly advantages other individuals and communities
- Saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources

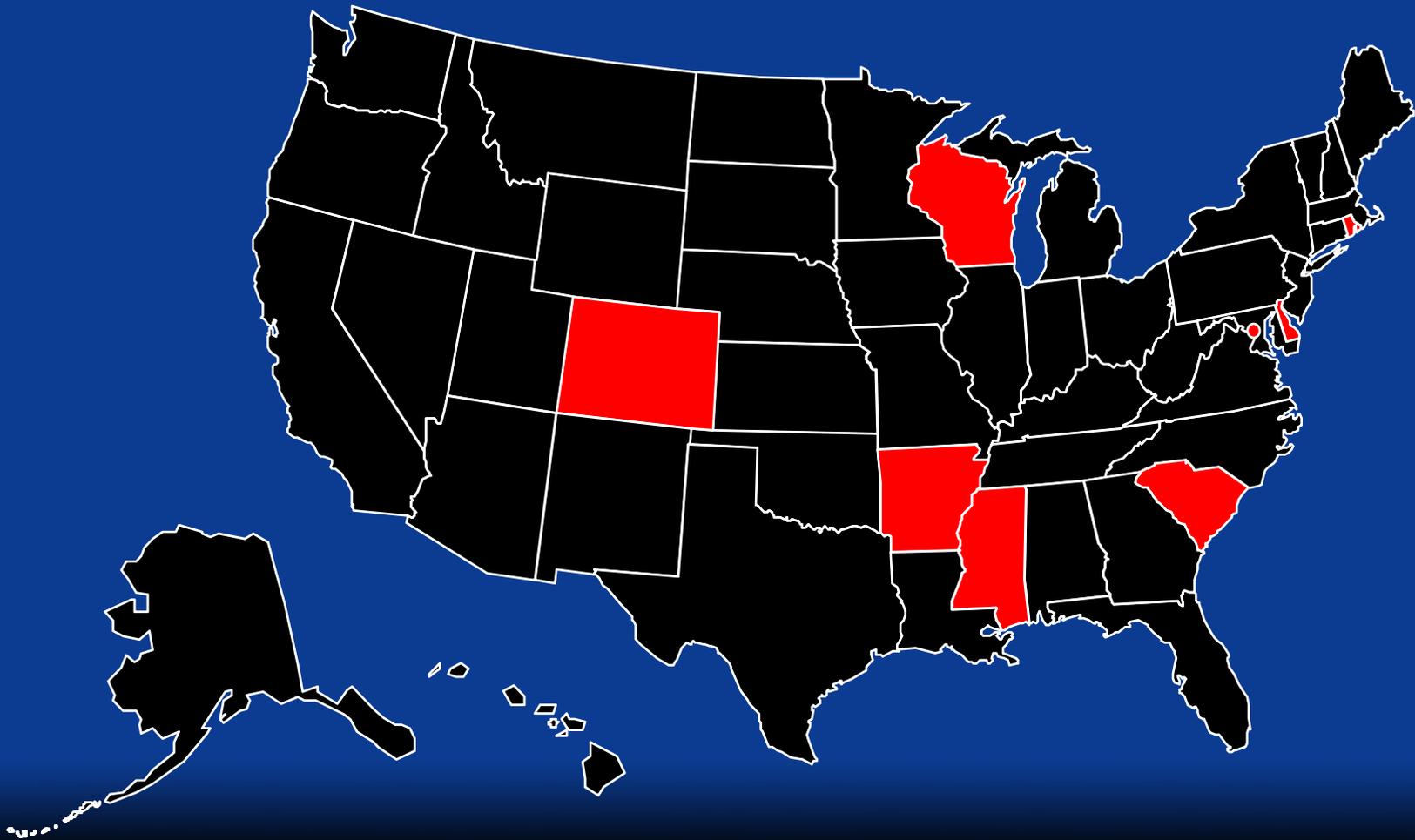
“Reactions to Race” module

- Six-question optional module on the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
- Piloted by six states in 2002
- Now available to all states

States using "Reactions to Race"

Arkansas		2004			
California	2002				
Colorado		2004			
Delaware	2002	2004	2005		
District of Columbia		2004			
Florida	2002				
Michigan				2006	
Mississippi		2004			
Nebraska					2008
New Hampshire	2002				
New Mexico	2002				
North Carolina	2002				
Ohio		2003		2005	
Rhode Island			2004		2007
South Carolina		2003	2004		
Virginia					2008
Washington			2004		
Wisconsin			2004	2005	2006

States using "Reactions to Race" module on 2004 BRFSS



**Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia,
Mississippi, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Wisconsin**

Socially-assigned "race"

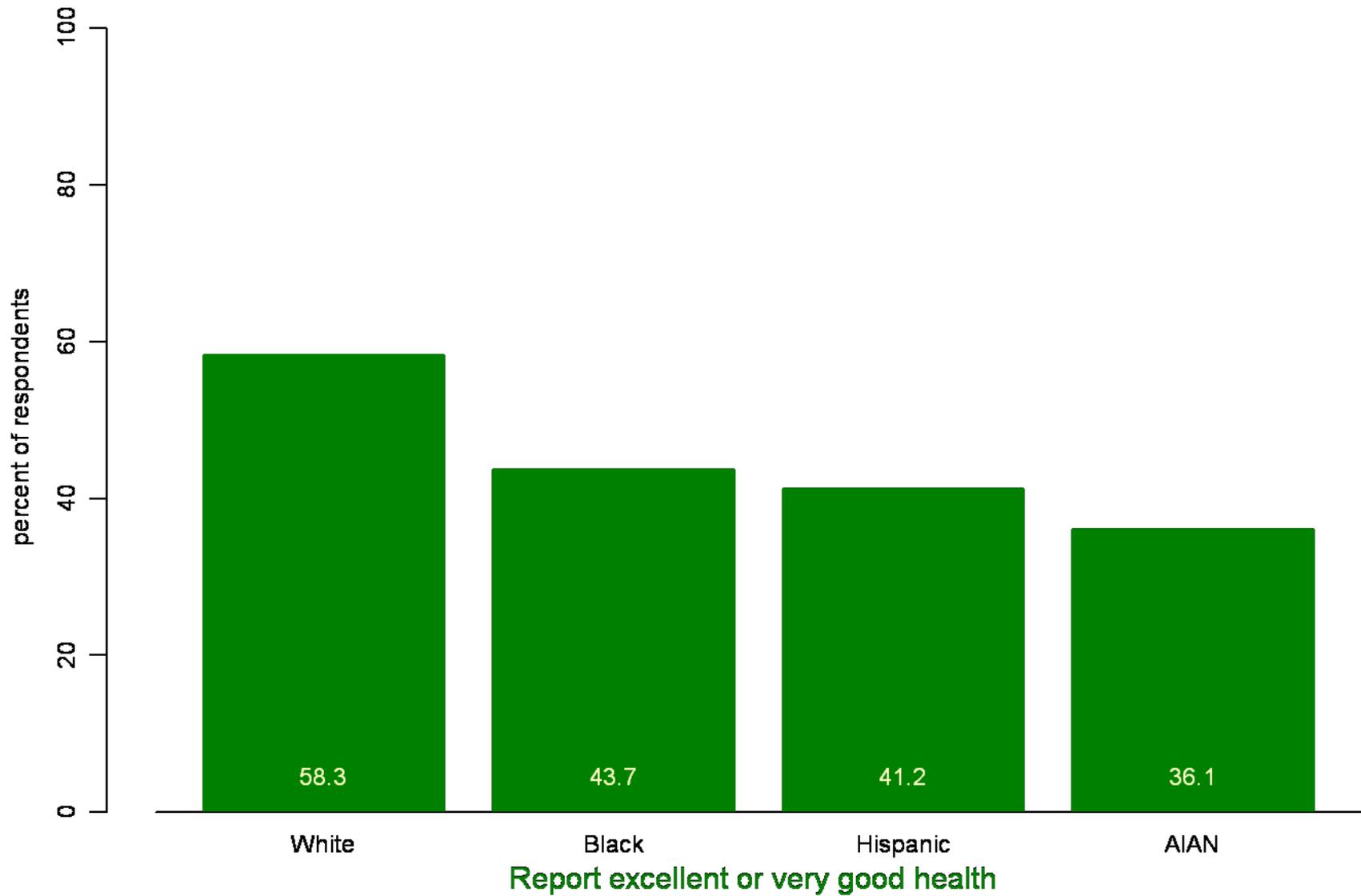
- **How do other people usually classify you in this country? Would you say:**
 - ◆ White
 - ◆ Black or African-American
 - ◆ Hispanic or Latino
 - ◆ Asian
 - ◆ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - ◆ American Indian or Alaska Native
 - ◆ Some other group

General health status

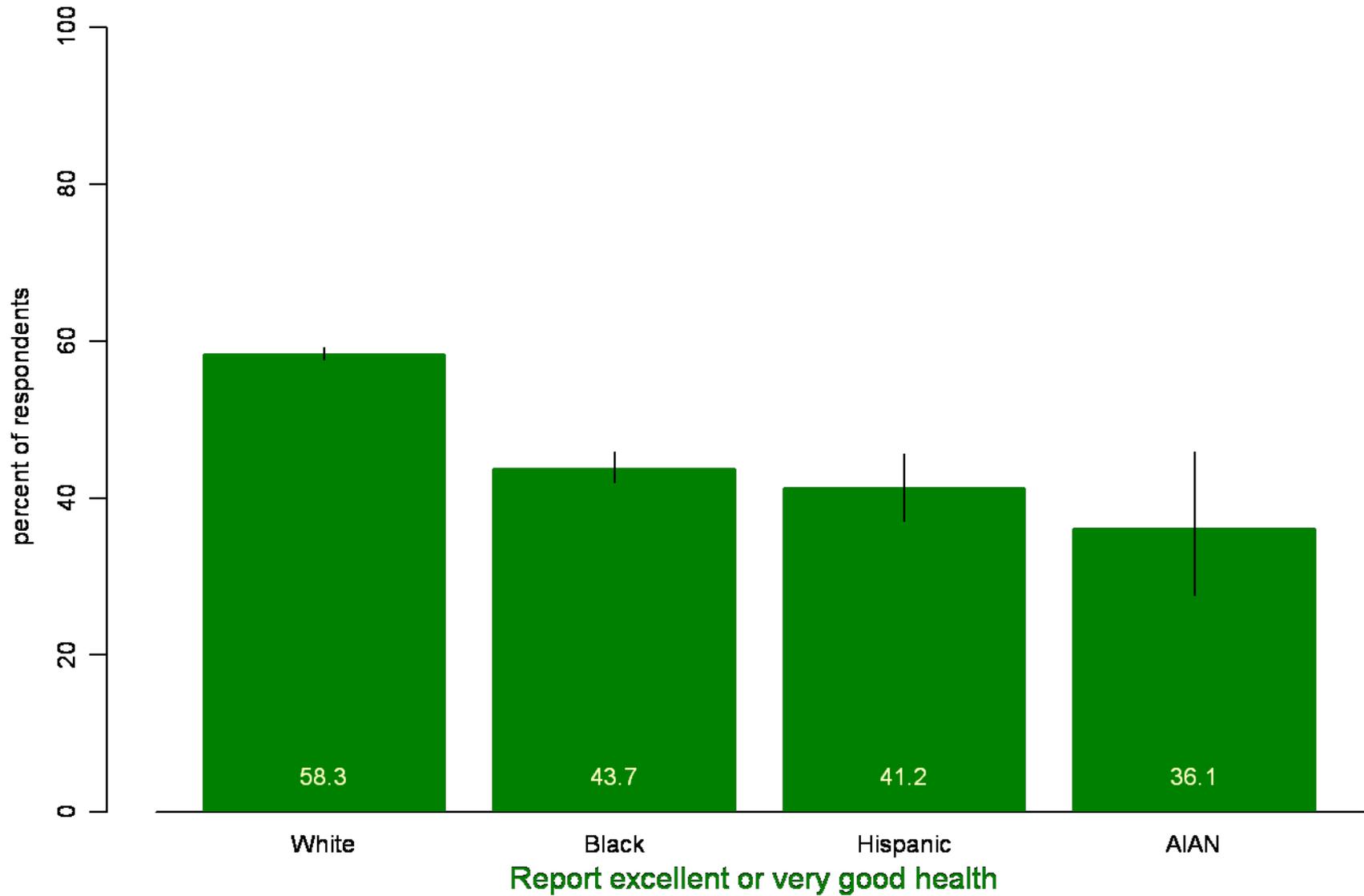
- **Would you say that in general your health is:**

- ◆ Excellent
- ◆ Very good
- ◆ Good
- ◆ Fair
- ◆ Poor

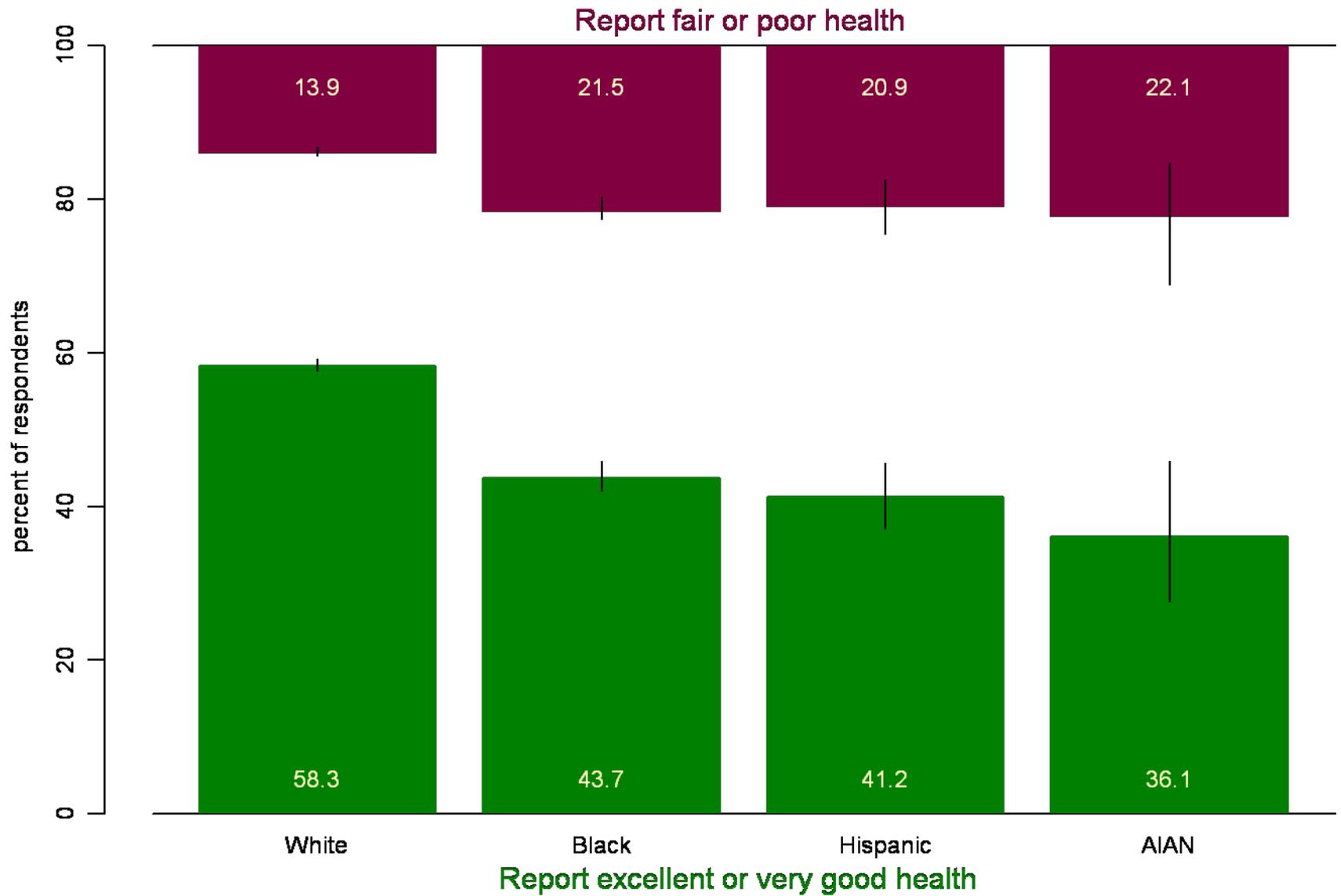
General health status by socially-assigned "race", 2004 BRFSS



General health status by socially-assigned "race", 2004 BRFSS



General health status by socially-assigned "race", 2004 BRFSS



General health status and “race”

- “White” social experience associated with better health

Self-identified ethnicity

- **Are you Hispanic or Latino?**

- ◆ Yes

- ◆ No

Self-identified “race”

- **Which one or more of the following would you say is your race?**
 - ◆ White
 - ◆ Black or African-American
 - ◆ Asian
 - ◆ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - ◆ American Indian or Alaska Native
 - ◆ Other
- **Which one of these groups would you say best represents your race?**

Self-identified “race”/ethnicity

- Hispanic

- ◆ “Yes” to Hispanic/Latino ethnicity question
- ◆ Any response to race question

- White

- ◆ “No” to Hispanic/Latino ethnicity question
- ◆ Only one response to race question, “White”

- Black

- ◆ “No” to Hispanic/Latino ethnicity question
- ◆ Only one response to race question, “Black”

- American Indian/Alaska Native

- ◆ “No” to Hispanic/Latino ethnicity question
- ◆ Only one response to race question, “AI/AN”

Two measures of "race"

How usually classified by others

White Black Hispanic AIAN ...

How self-identify

White 26,373	98.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	1.1
Black 5,246	0.4	96.3	0.8	0.3	2.2

Two measures of "race"

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Two measures of "race"

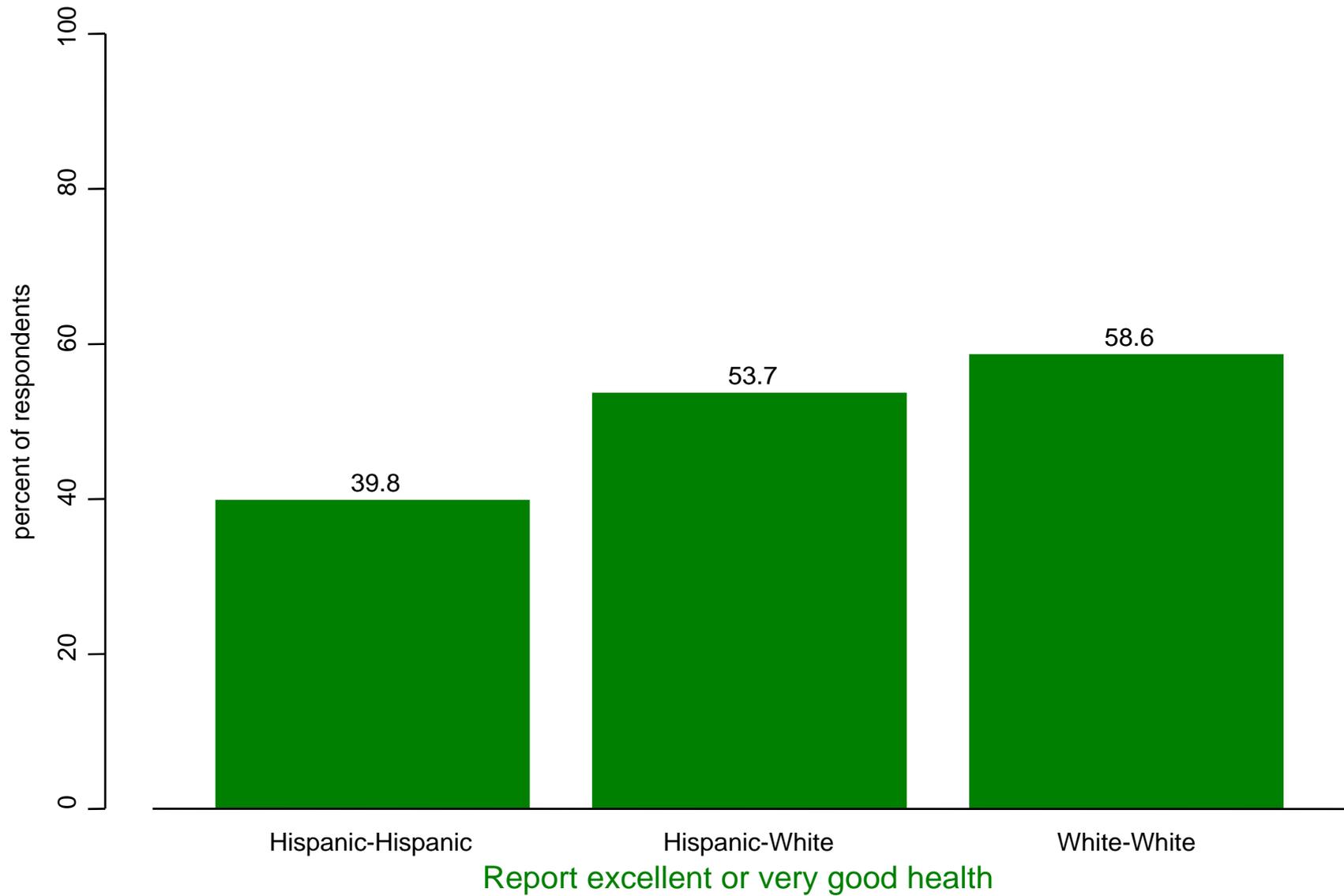
How usually classified by others

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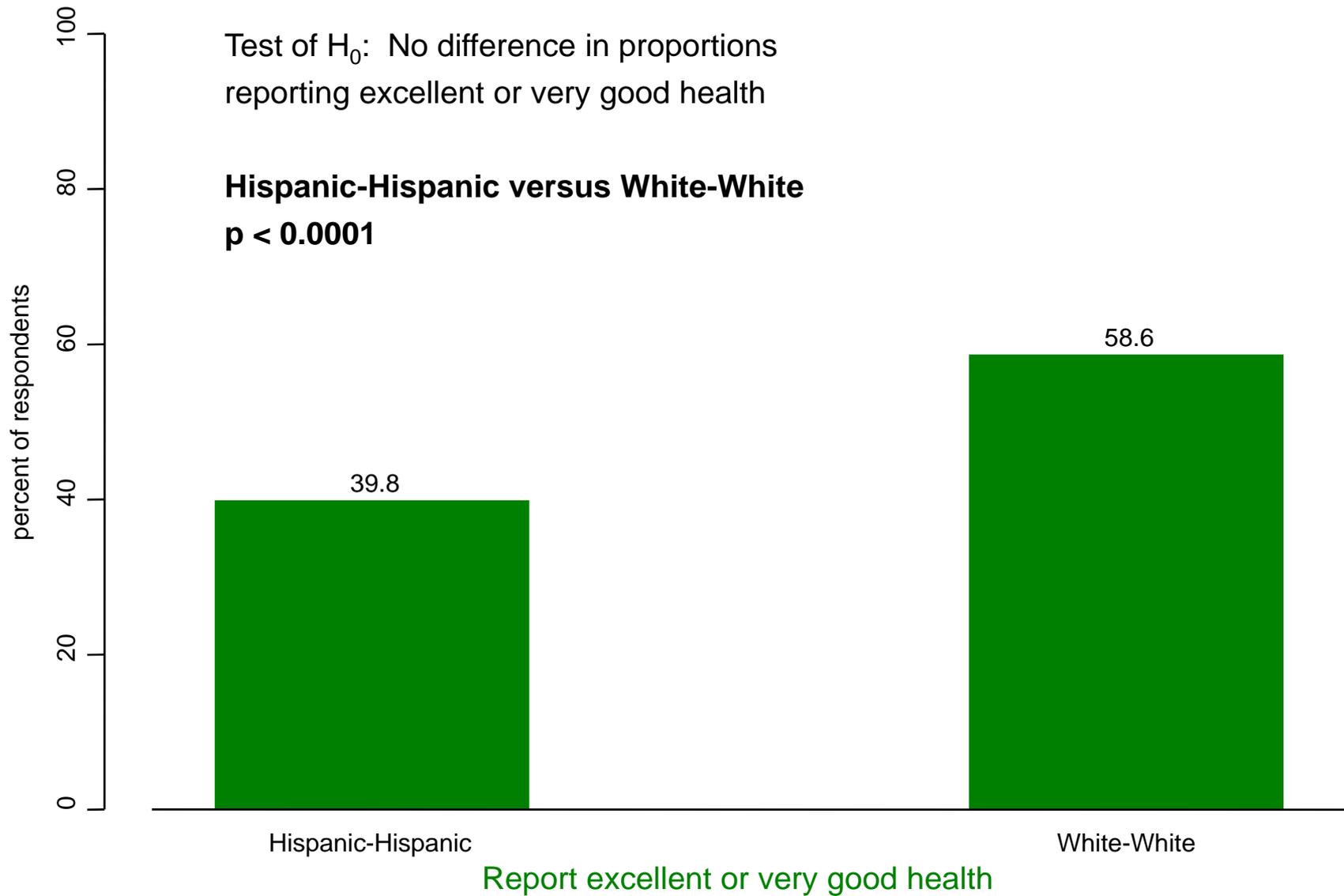
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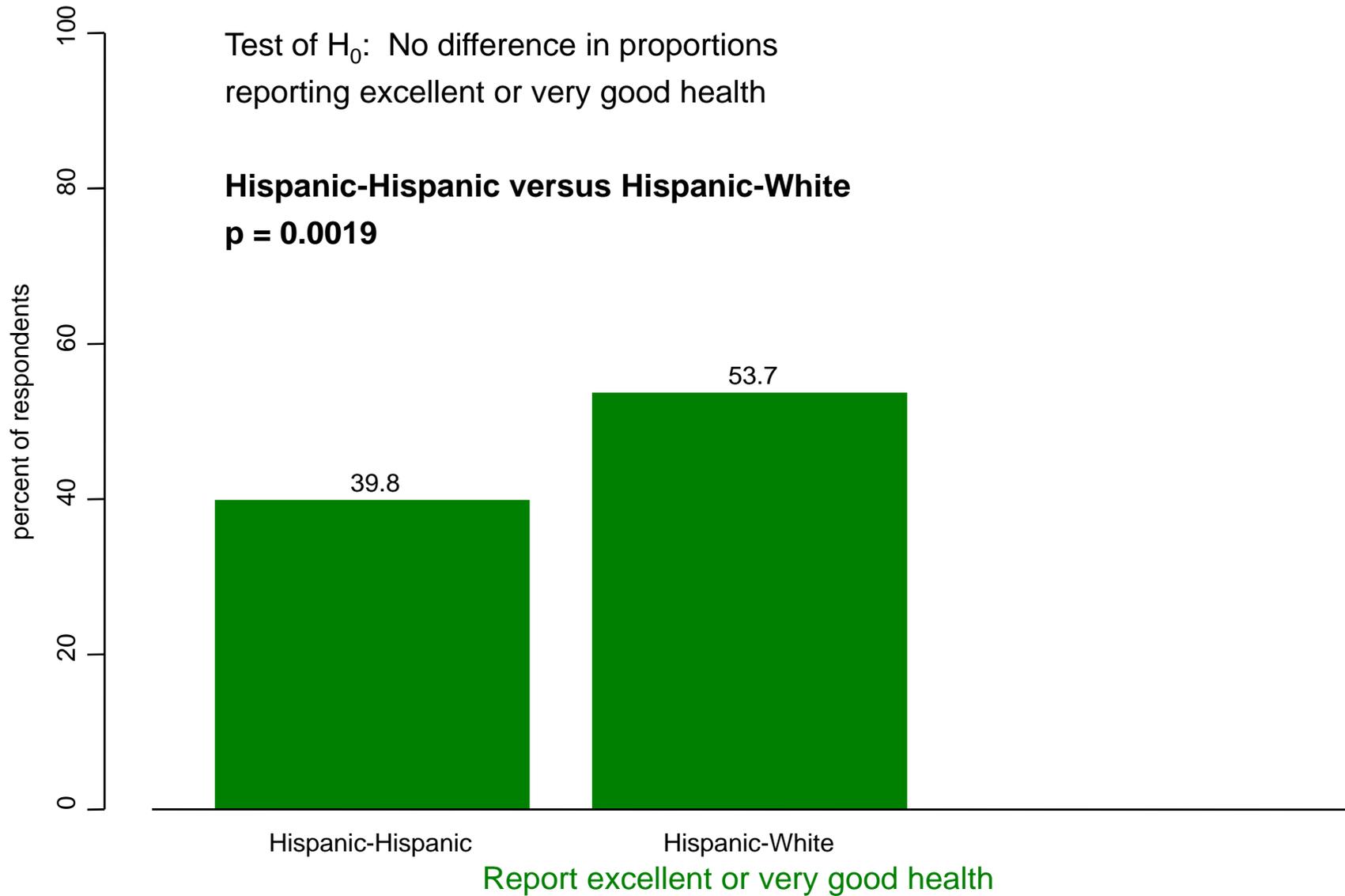
General health status, by self-identified and socially-assigned "race", 2004



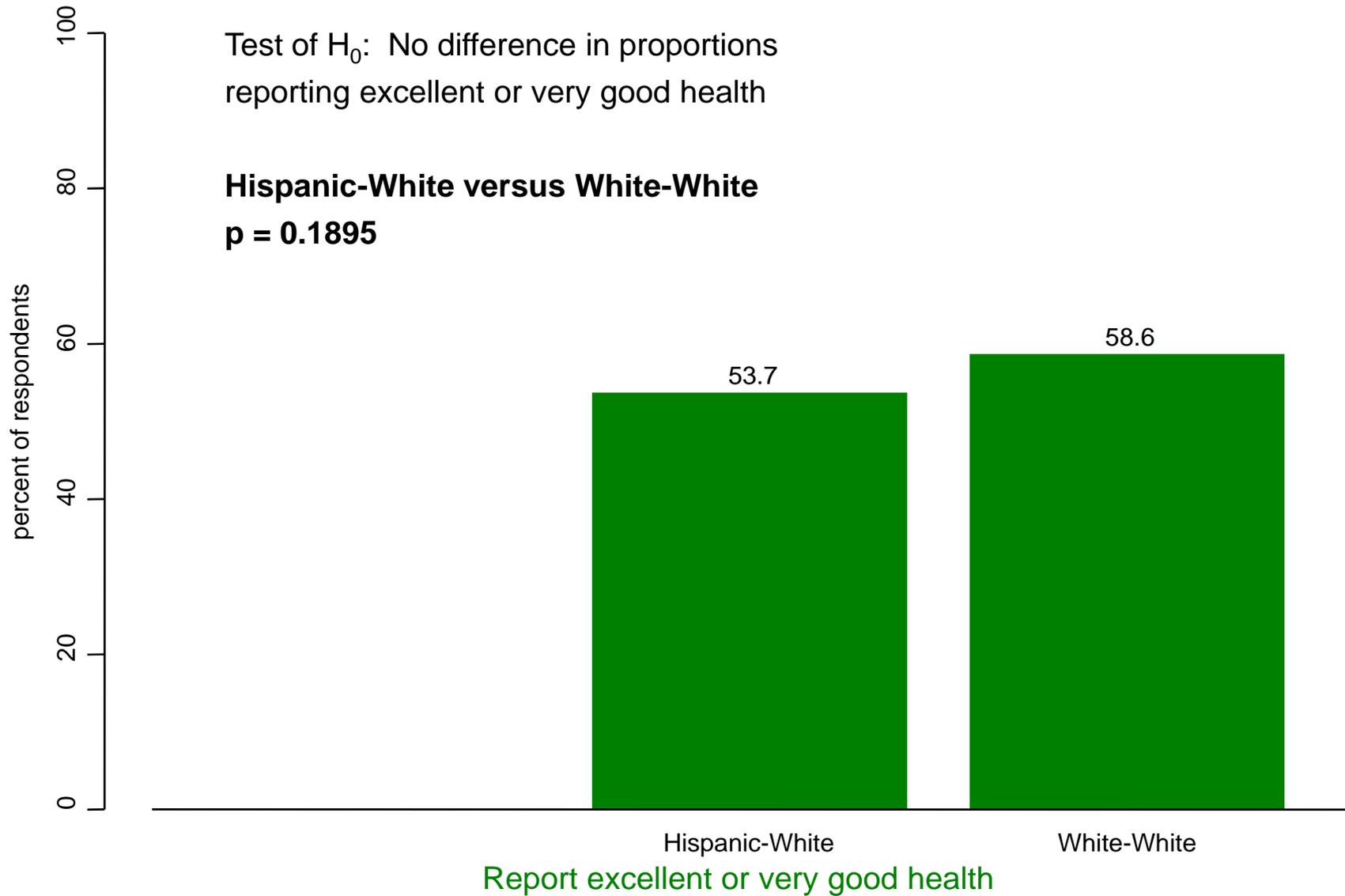
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Two measures of "race"

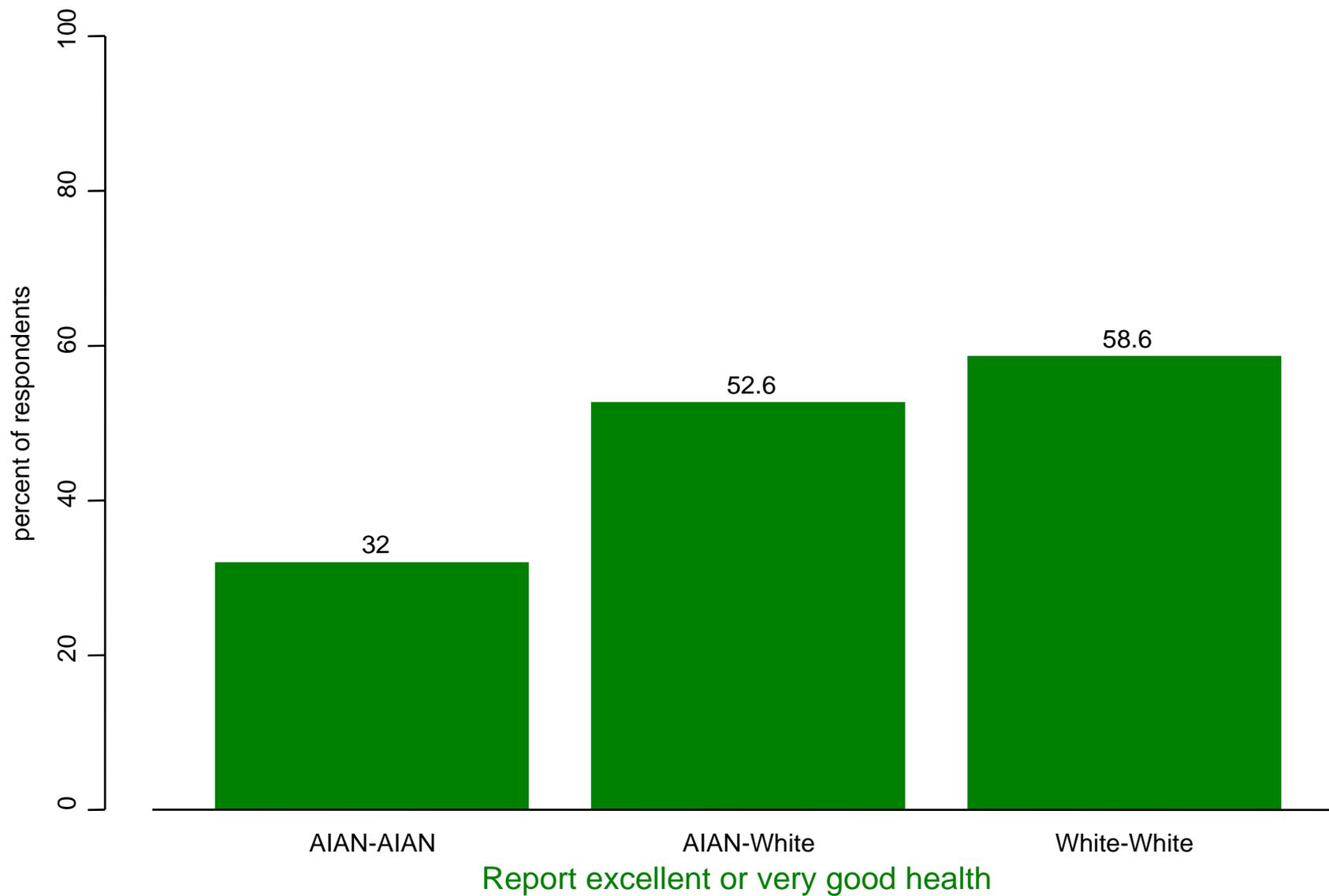
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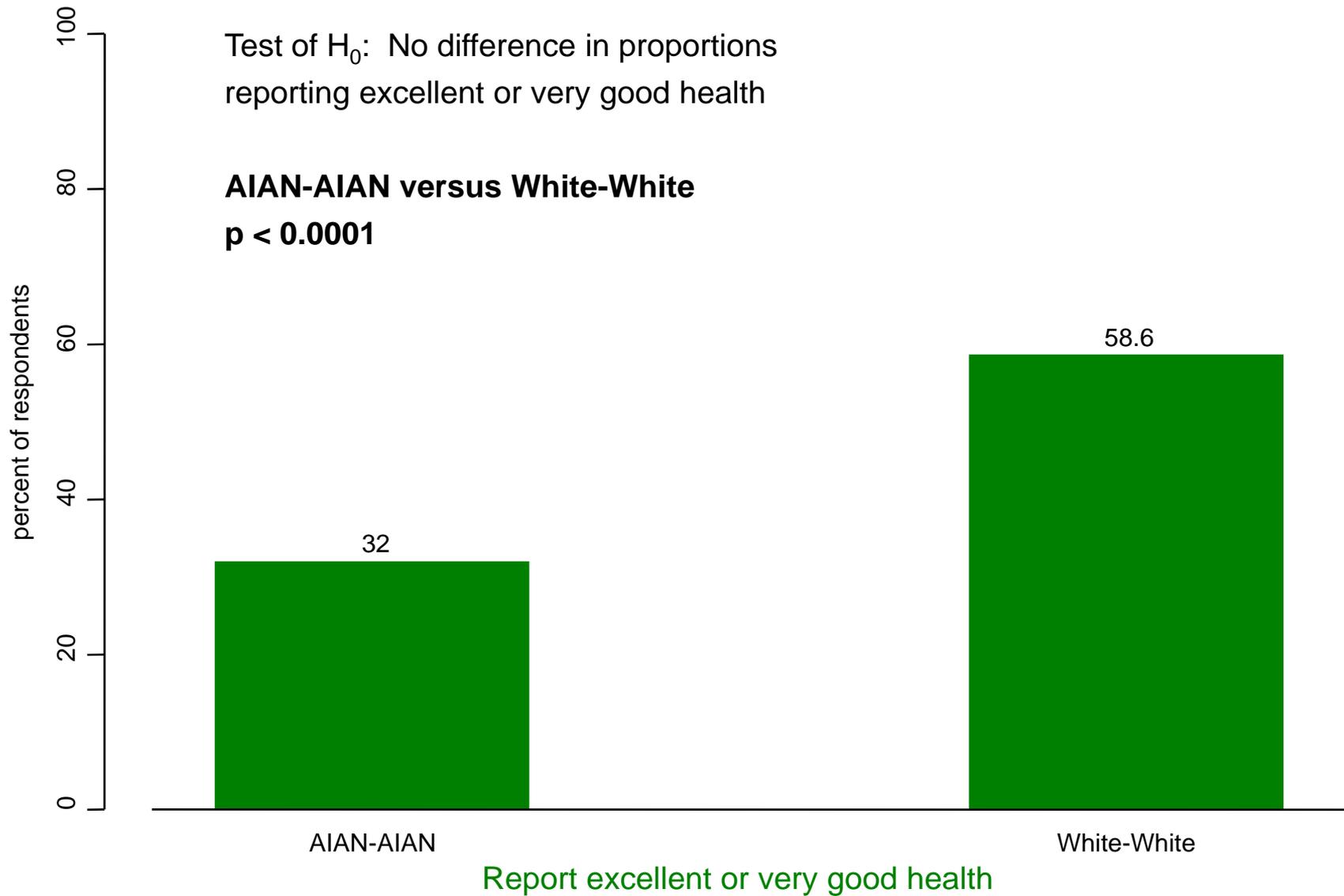
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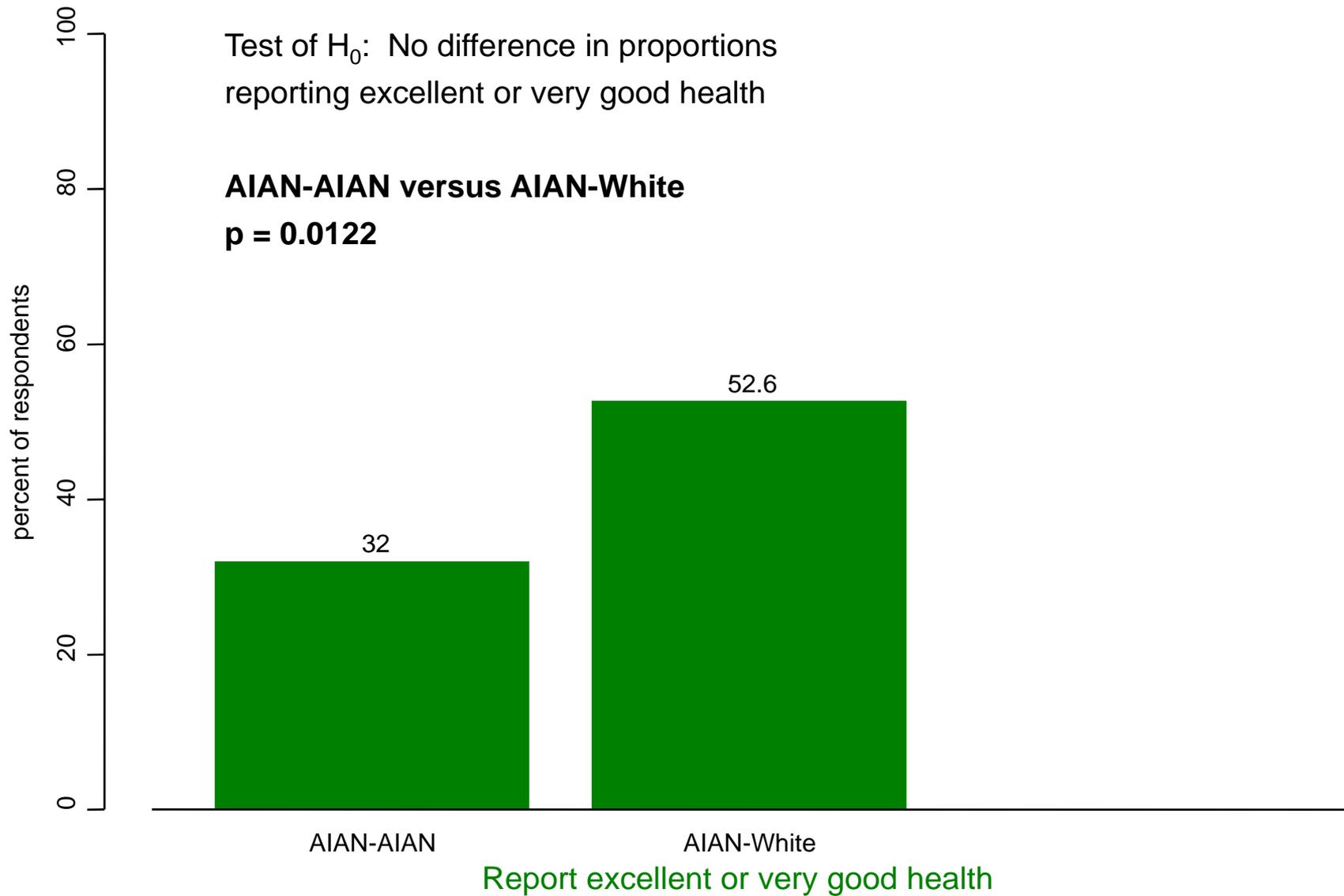
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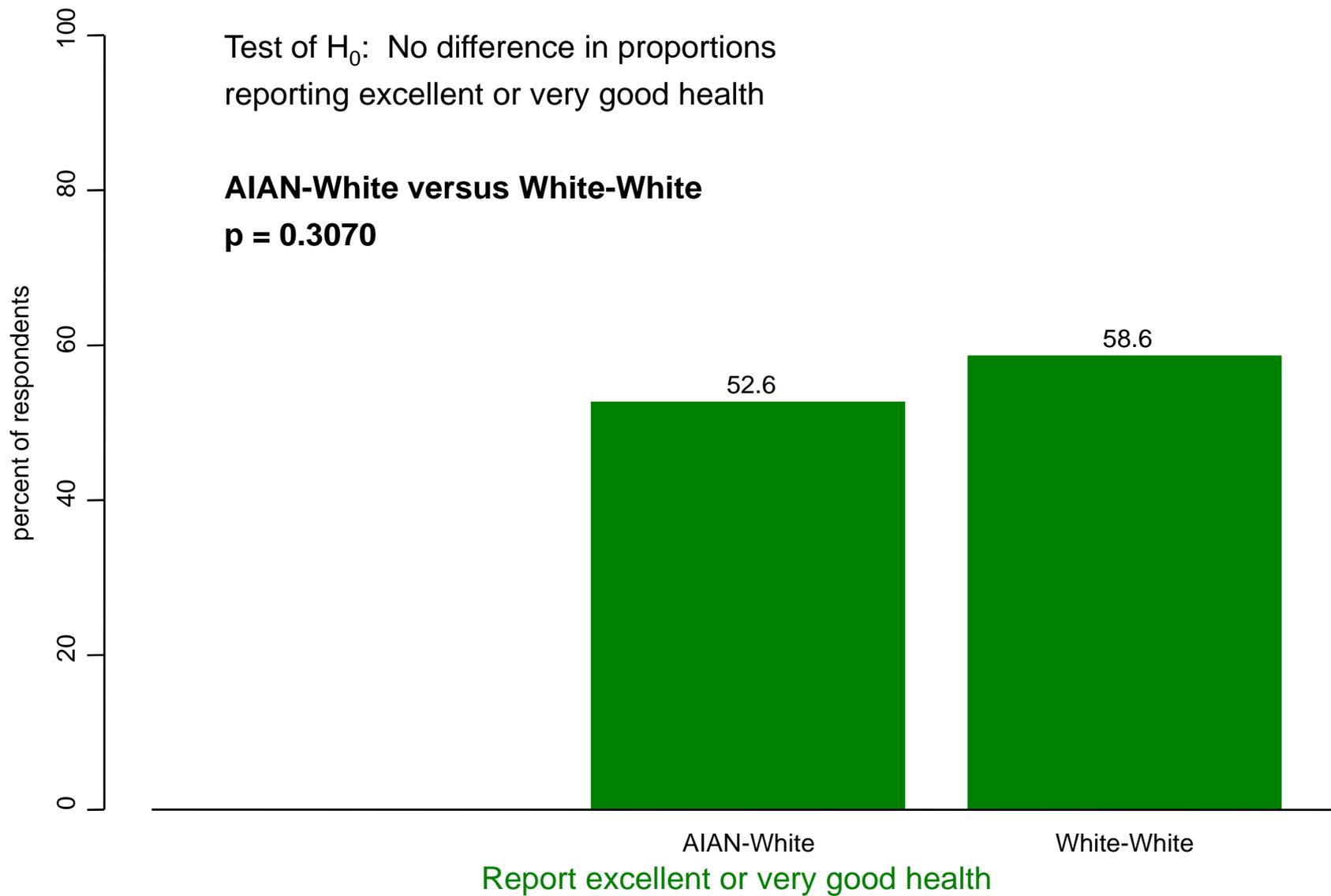
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General health status, by self-identified and socially-assigned "race", 2004



General health status and “race”

- “White” social experience associated with better health
 - ◆ Even within the same self-identified “race”/ethnic group

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 - ◆ Even within the same educational level

General health status and “race”

- “White” social experience associated with better health
 - ◆ Even within the same self-identified “race”/ethnic group
 - ◆ Even within the same educational level
- “White” social experience associated with higher education

Key questions

- WHY is socially-assigned “race” associated with self-reported general health status?
 - ◆ Even within the same self-identified “race”/ethnic group
 - ◆ Even within the same educational level
- WHY is socially-assigned “race” associated with educational level?

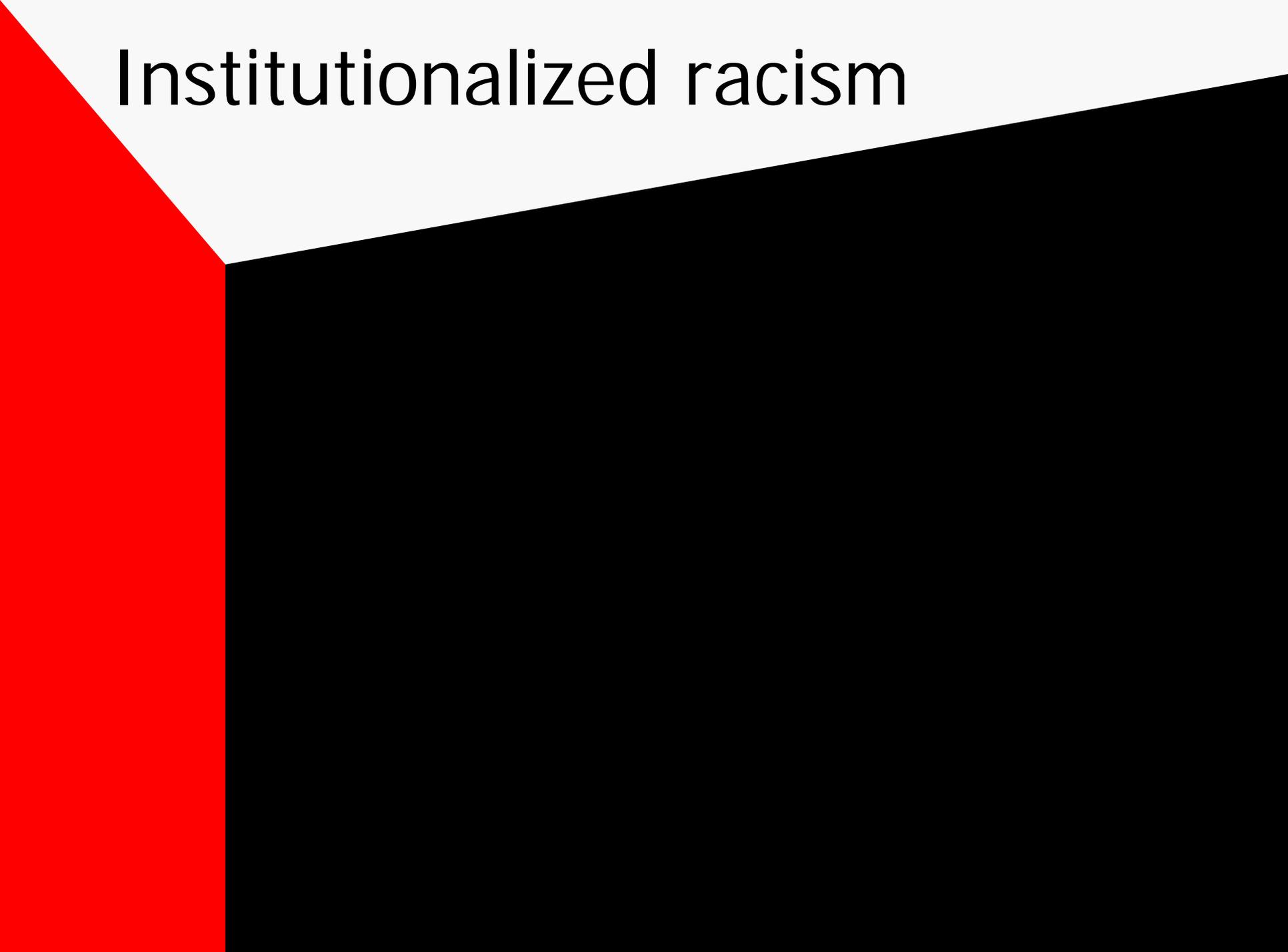
Racism

A system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (“race”)

- ◆ Unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities
- ◆ Unfairly advantages other individuals and communities
- ◆ Saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources

Levels of racism

- Institutionalized
- Personally-mediated
- Internalized



Institutionalized racism

Institutionalized racism

- Differential access to the goods, services, and opportunities of society, by “race”

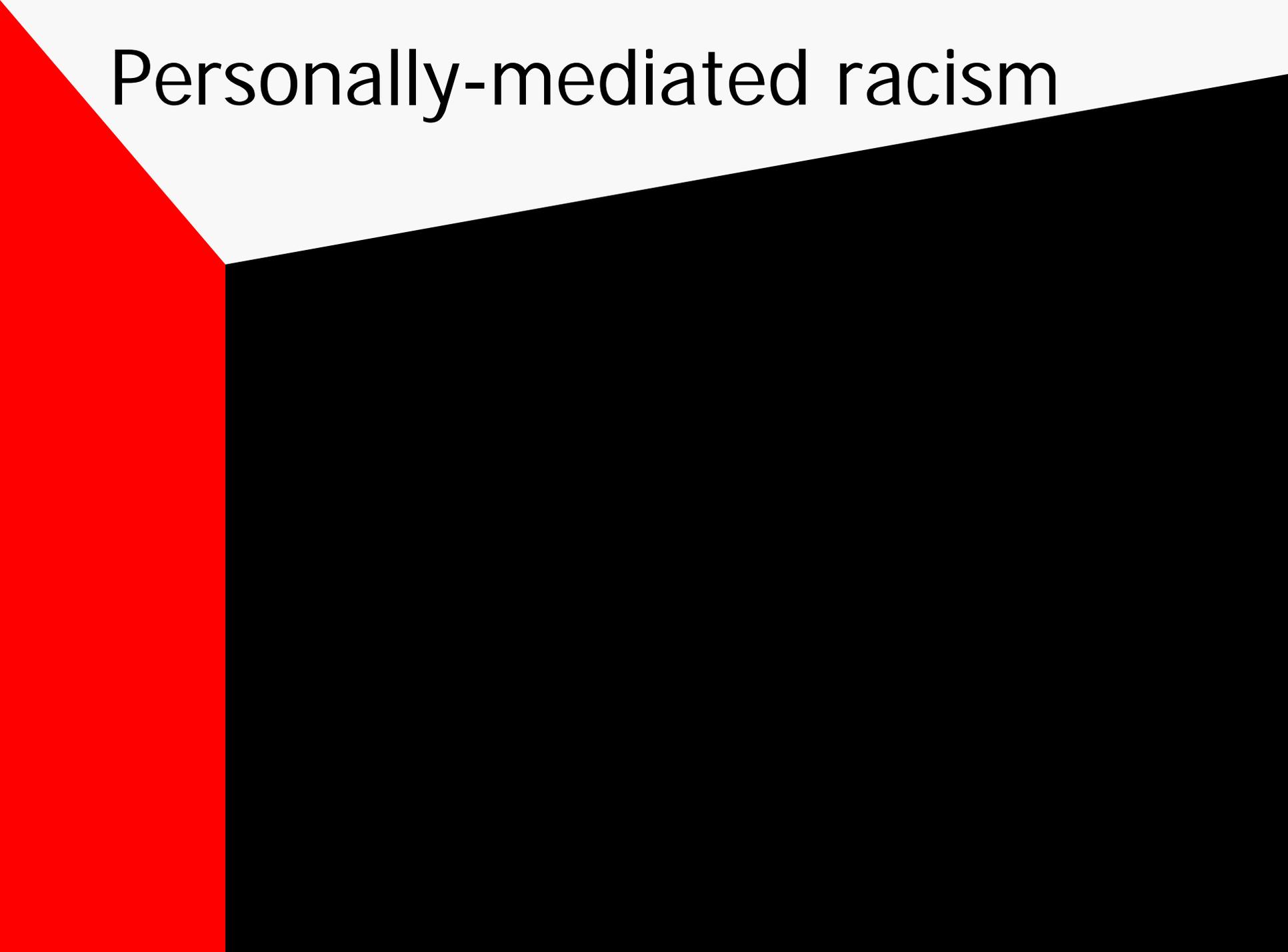
Institutionalized racism

- Differential access to the goods, services, and opportunities of society, by “race”
- Examples
 - Housing, education, employment, income
 - Medical facilities
 - Clean environment
 - Information, resources, voice

Institutionalized racism

- Differential access to the goods, services, and opportunities of society, by “race”
- Examples
 - Housing, education, employment, income
 - Medical facilities
 - Clean environment
 - Information, resources, voice
- Explains the association between SES and “race”

Personally-mediated racism



Personally-mediated racism

- Differential assumptions about the abilities, motives, and intents of others, by “race”

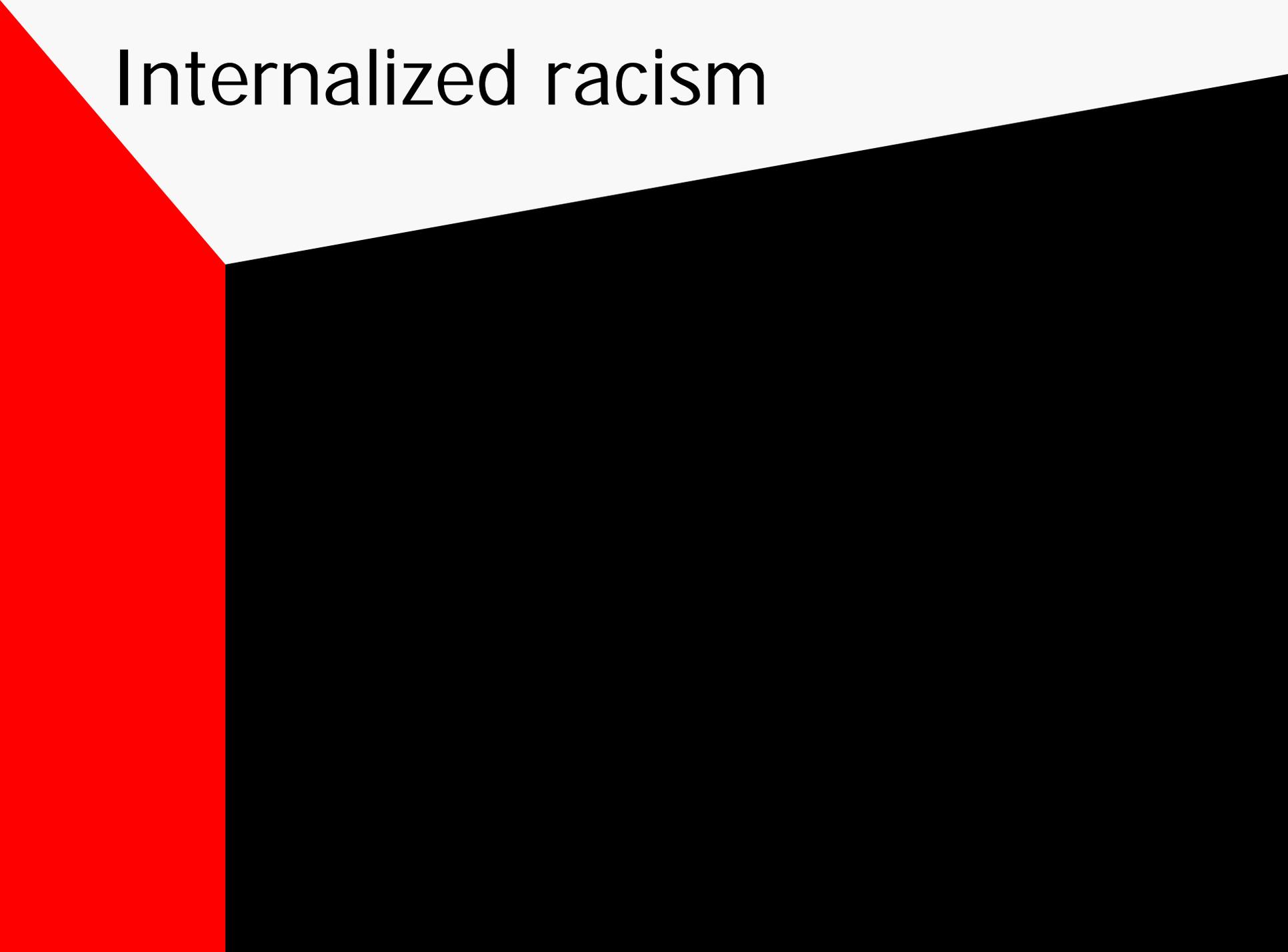
Personally-mediated racism

- Differential assumptions about the abilities, motives, and intents of others, by “race”
- Prejudice and discrimination

Personally-mediated racism

- Differential assumptions about the abilities, motives, and intents of others, by “race”
- Prejudice and discrimination
- Examples
 - Police brutality
 - Physician disrespect
 - Shopkeeper vigilance
 - Waiter indifference
 - Teacher devaluation

Internalized racism



Internalized racism

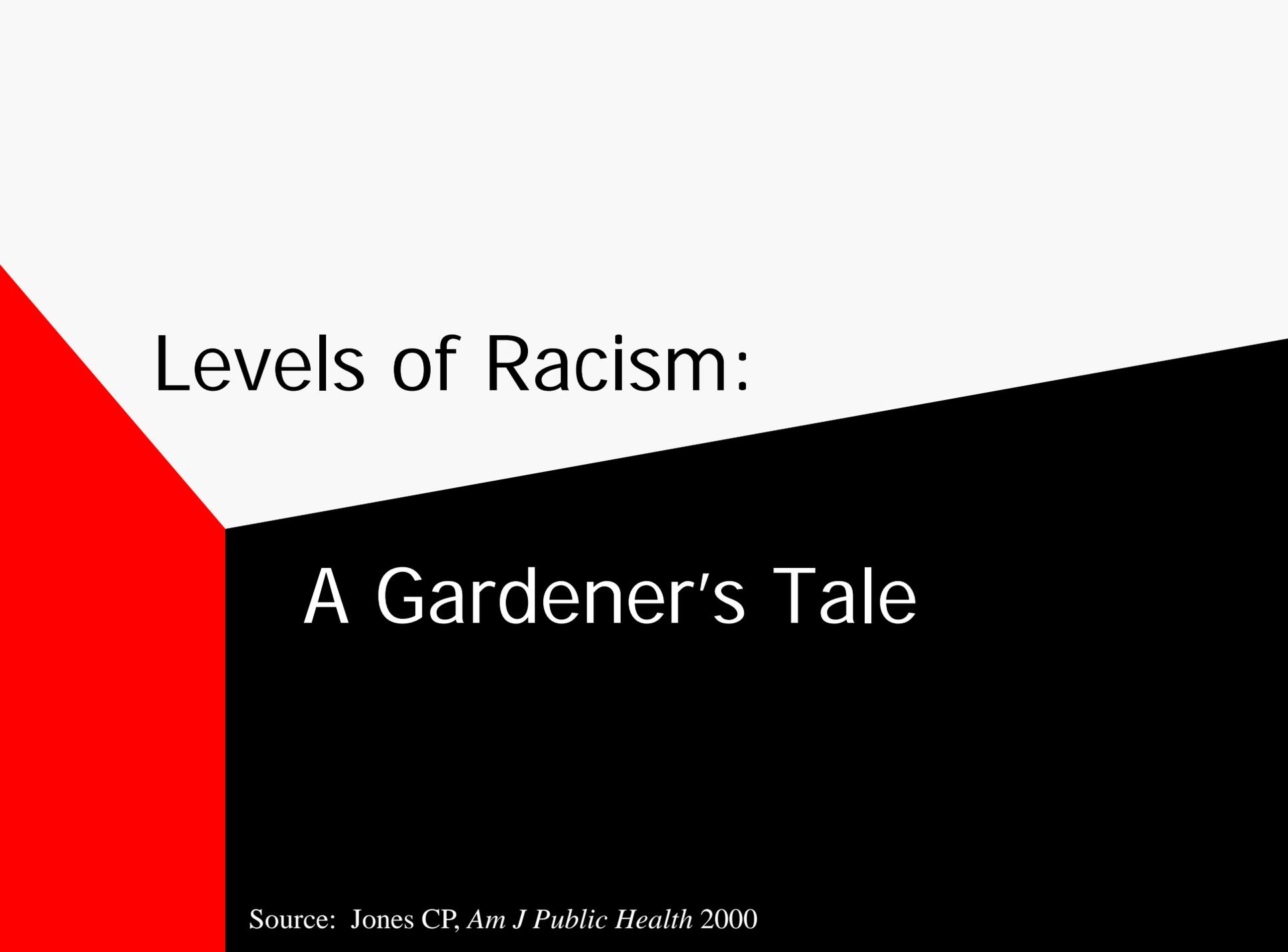
- Acceptance by the stigmatized “races” of negative messages about our own abilities and intrinsic worth

Internalized racism

- Acceptance by the stigmatized “races” of negative messages about our own abilities and intrinsic worth
- Examples
 - Self-devaluation
 - White man’s ice is colder
 - Resignation, helplessness, hopelessness

Internalized racism

- Acceptance by the stigmatized “races” of negative messages about our own abilities and intrinsic worth
- Examples
 - Self-devaluation
 - White man’s ice is colder
 - Resignation, helplessness, hopelessness
- Accepting limitations to our full humanity

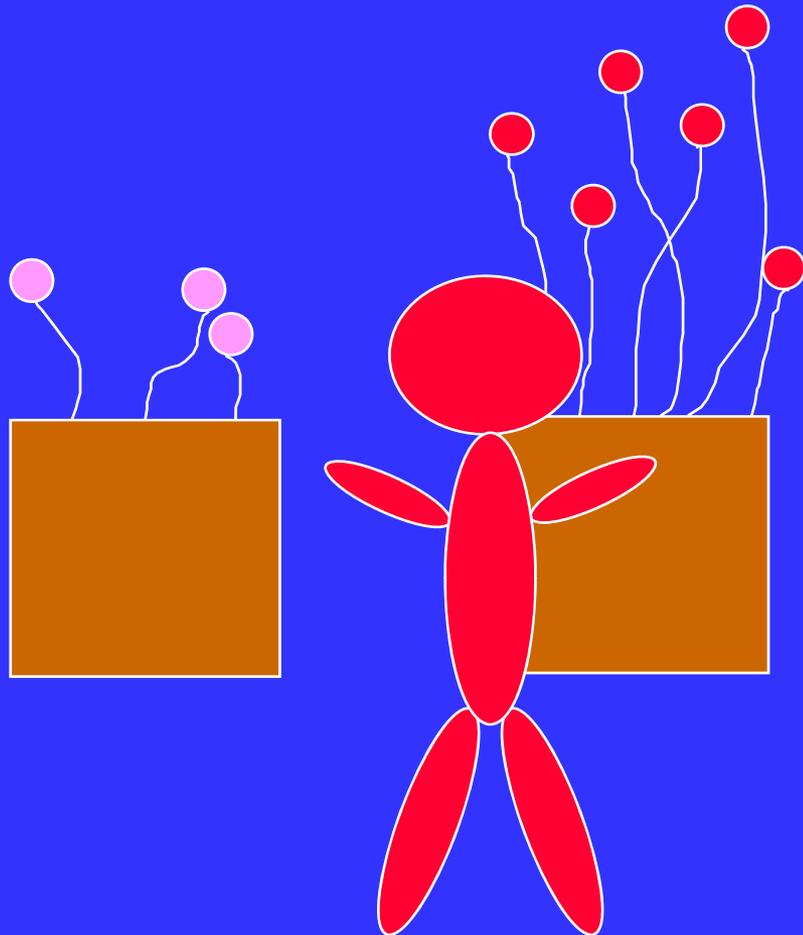


Levels of Racism:

A Gardener's Tale

Source: Jones CP, *Am J Public Health* 2000

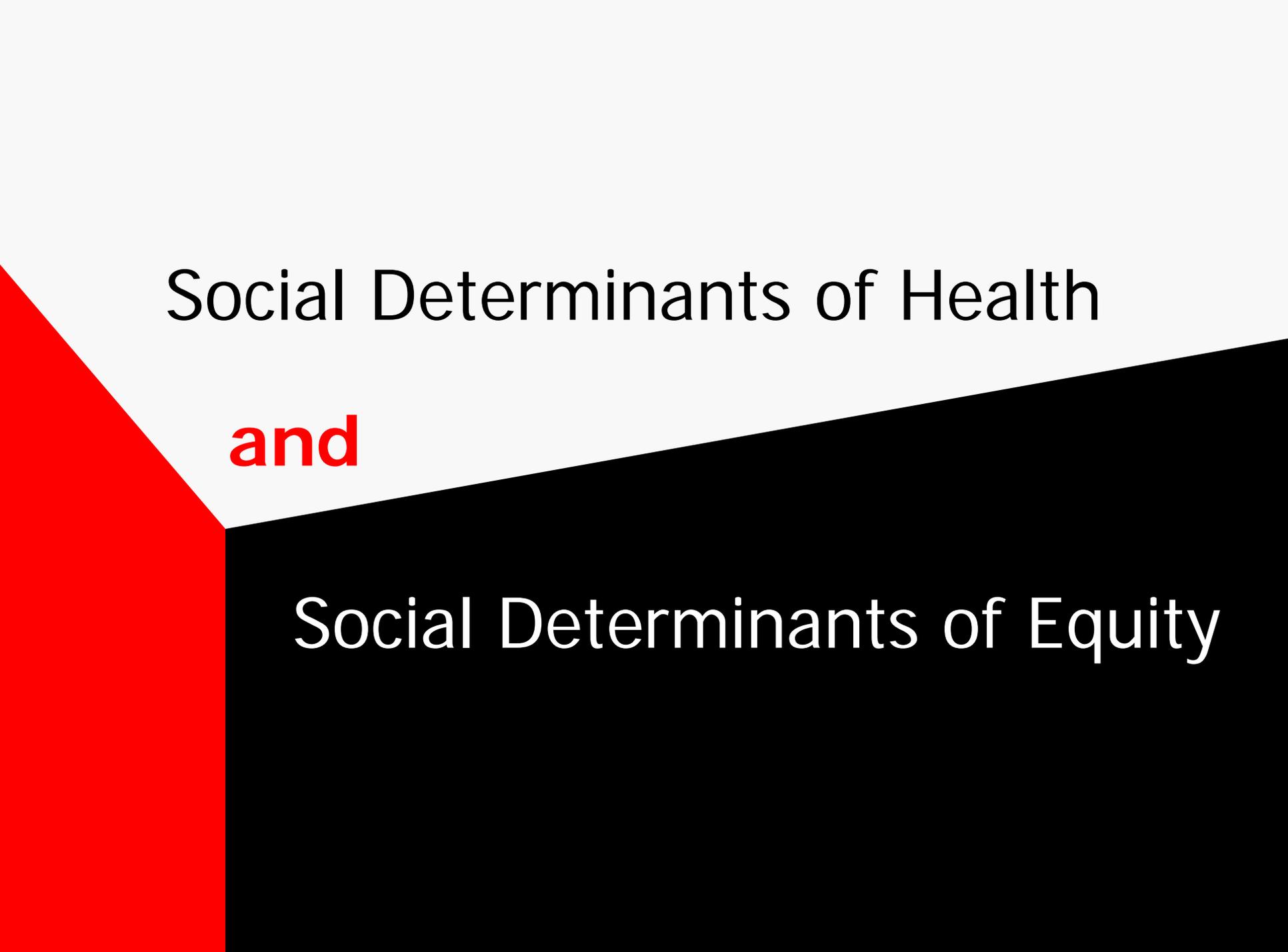
Who is the gardener?



- Power to decide
- Power to act
- Control of resources

Dangerous when

- Allied with one group
- Not concerned with equity

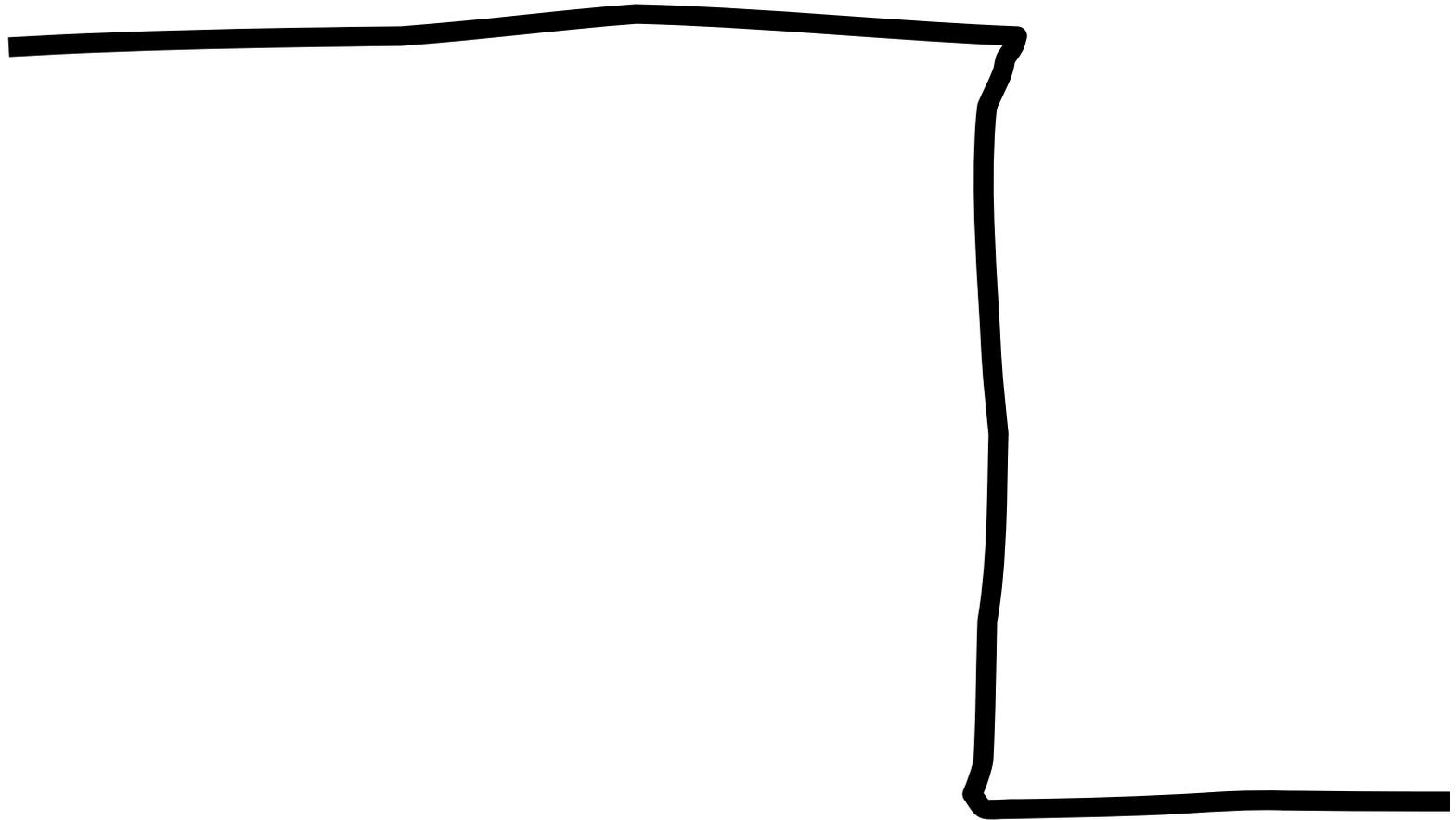


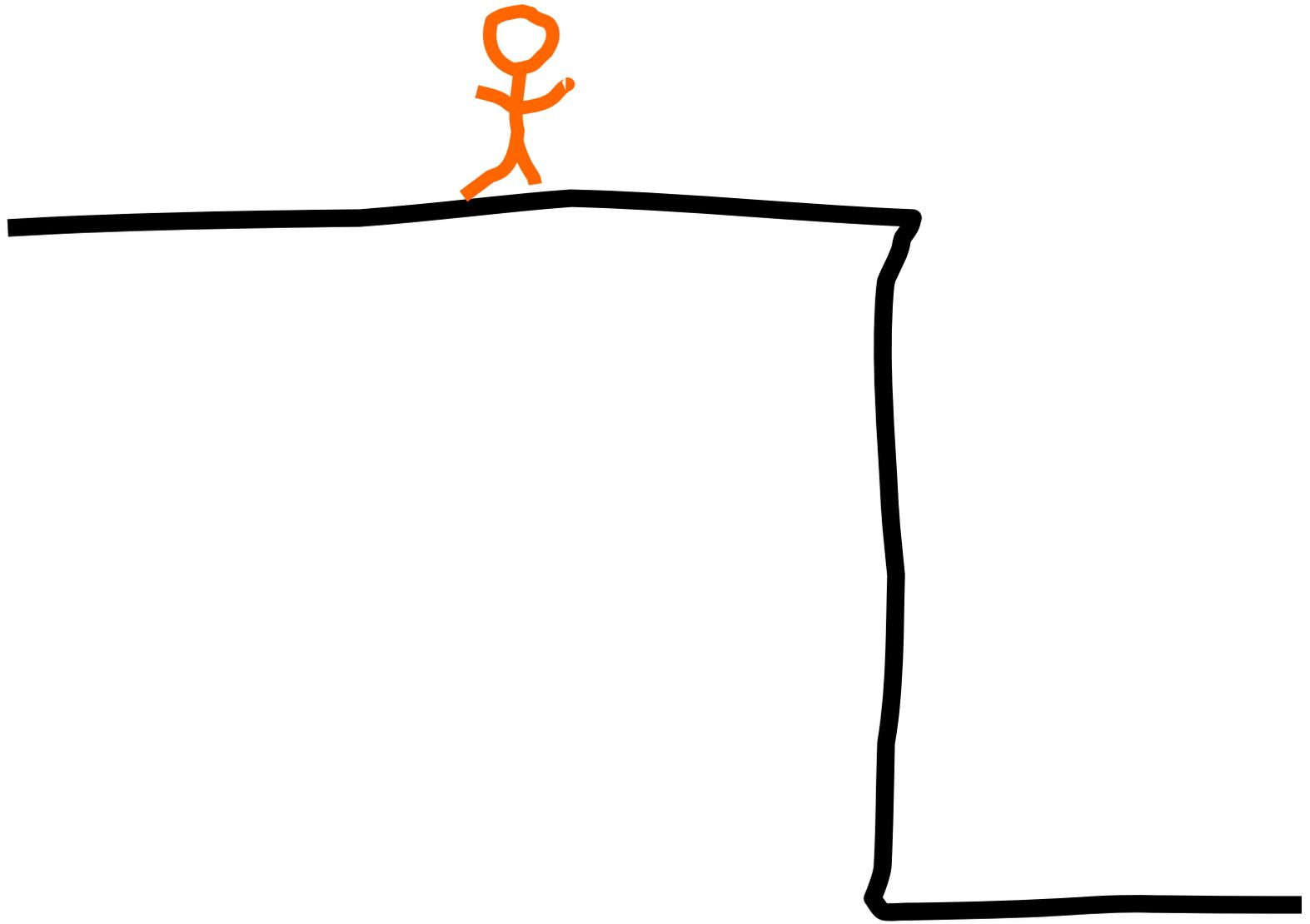
Social Determinants of Health

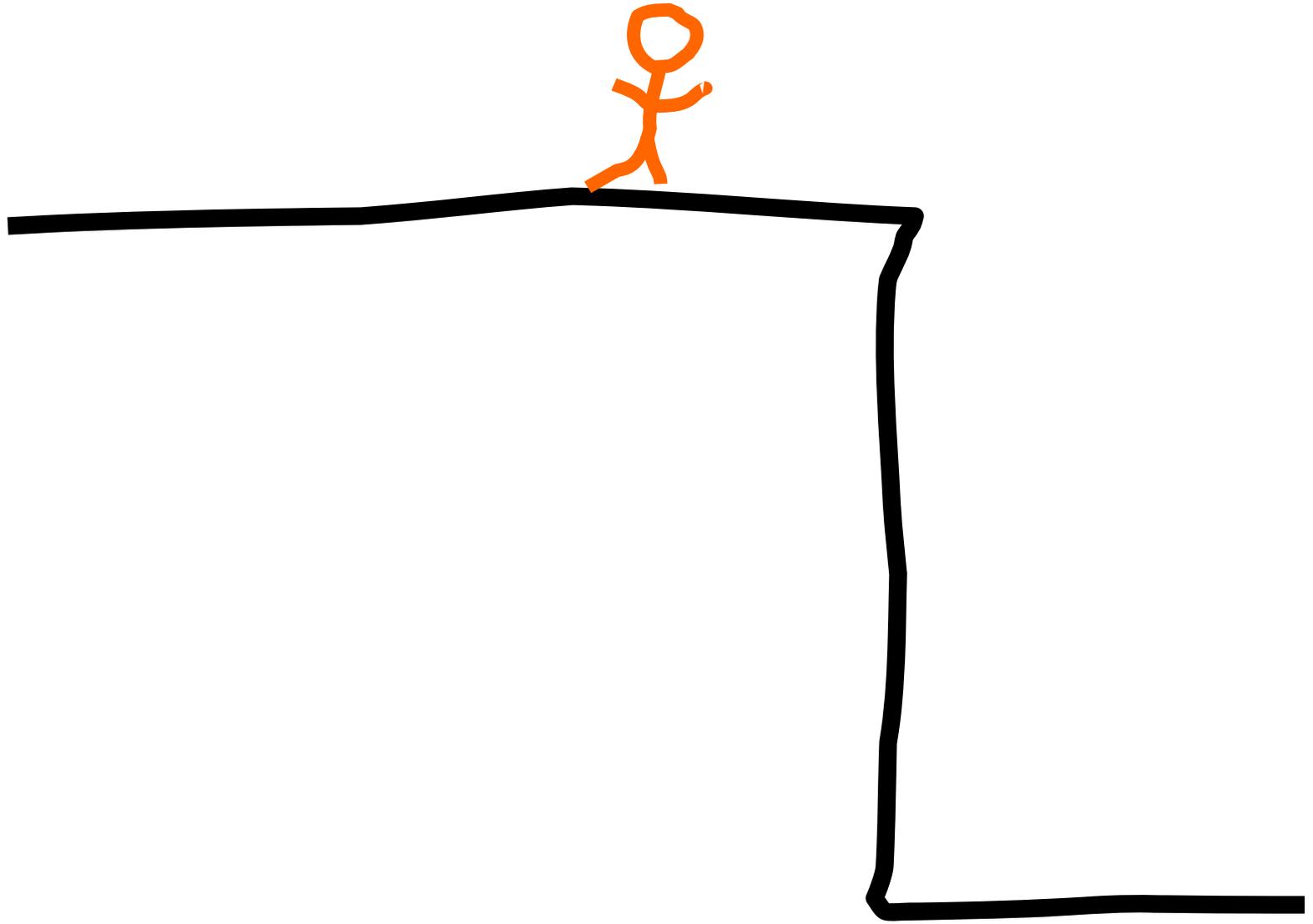
and

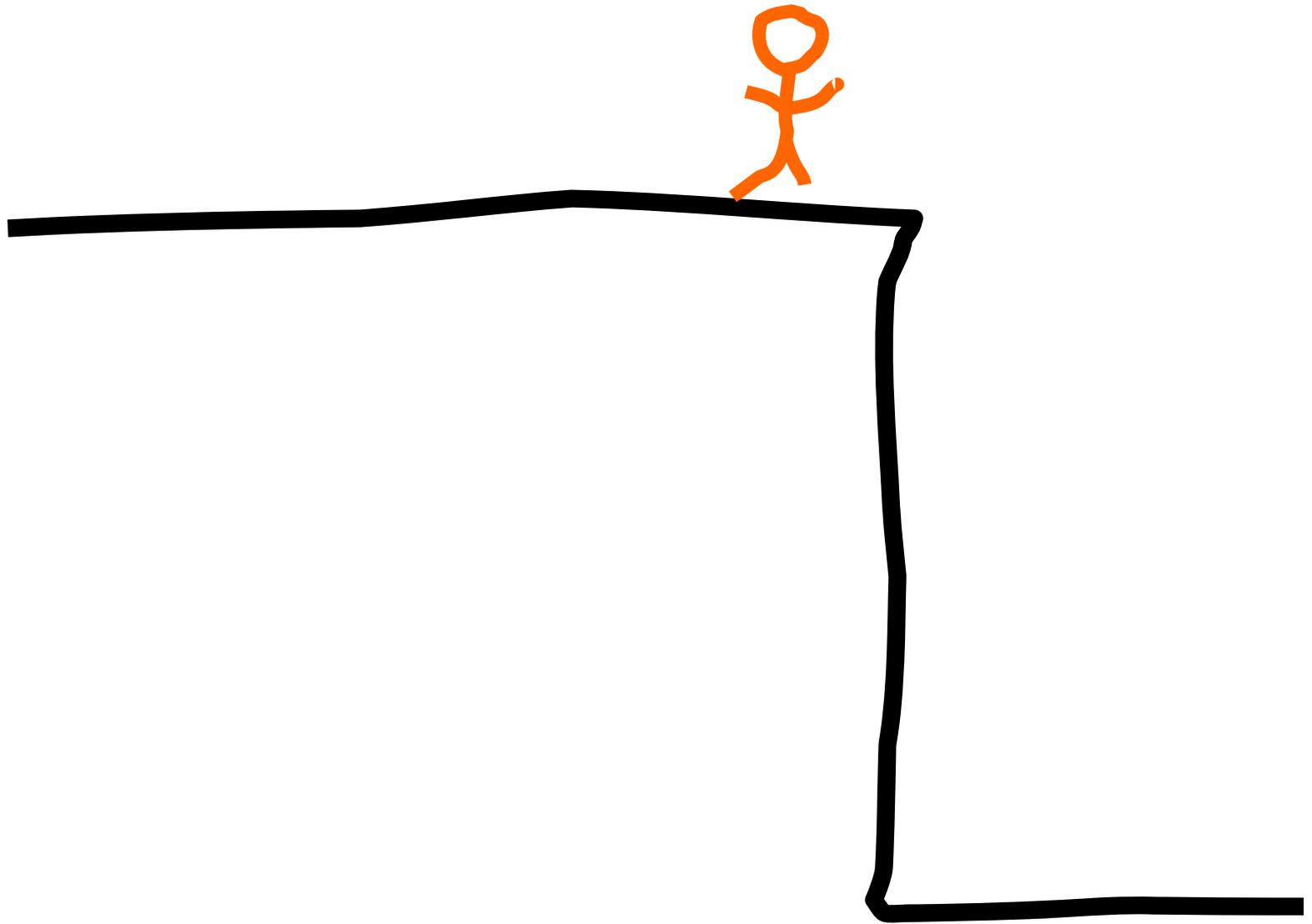
Social Determinants of Equity

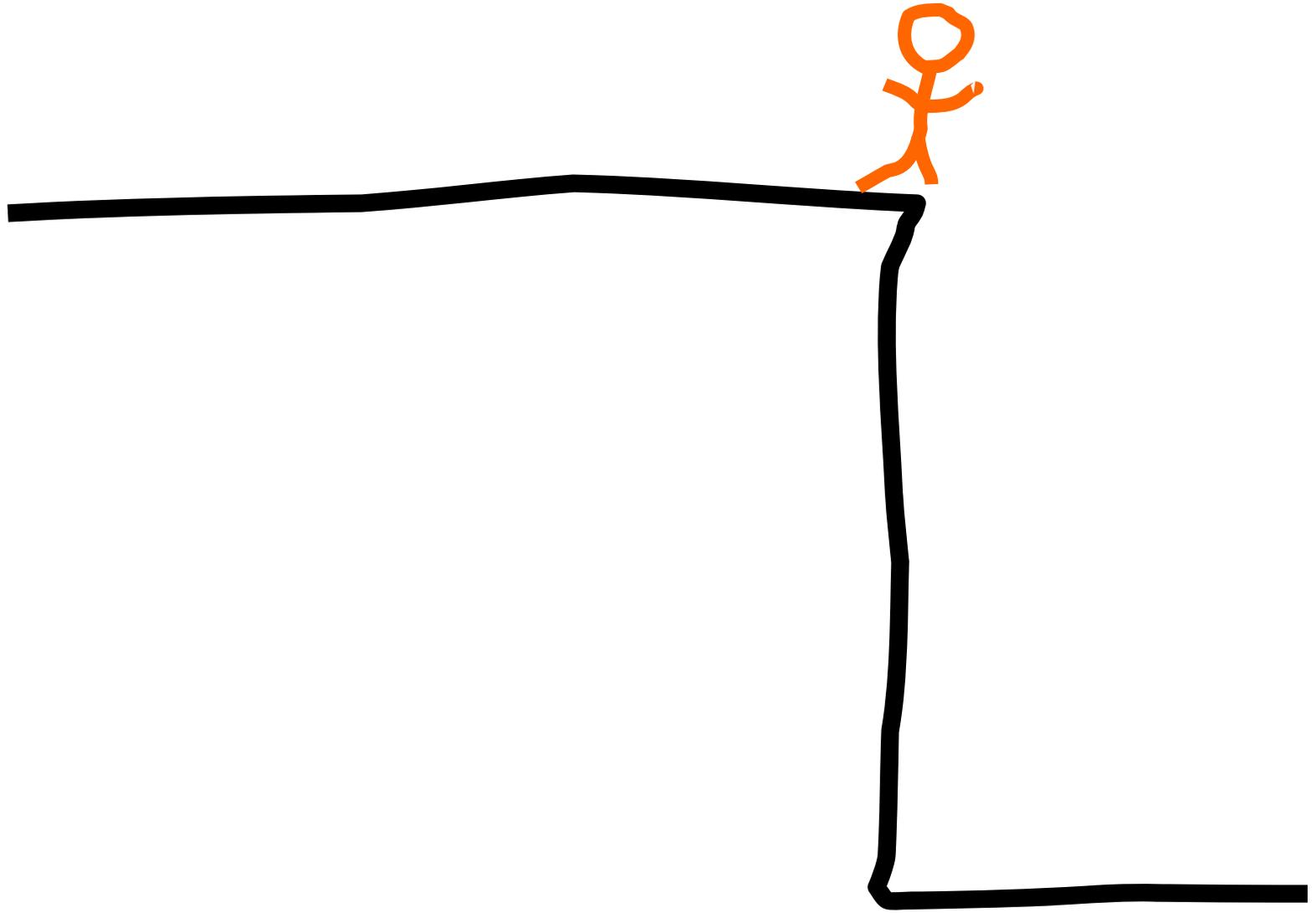
Levels of health intervention

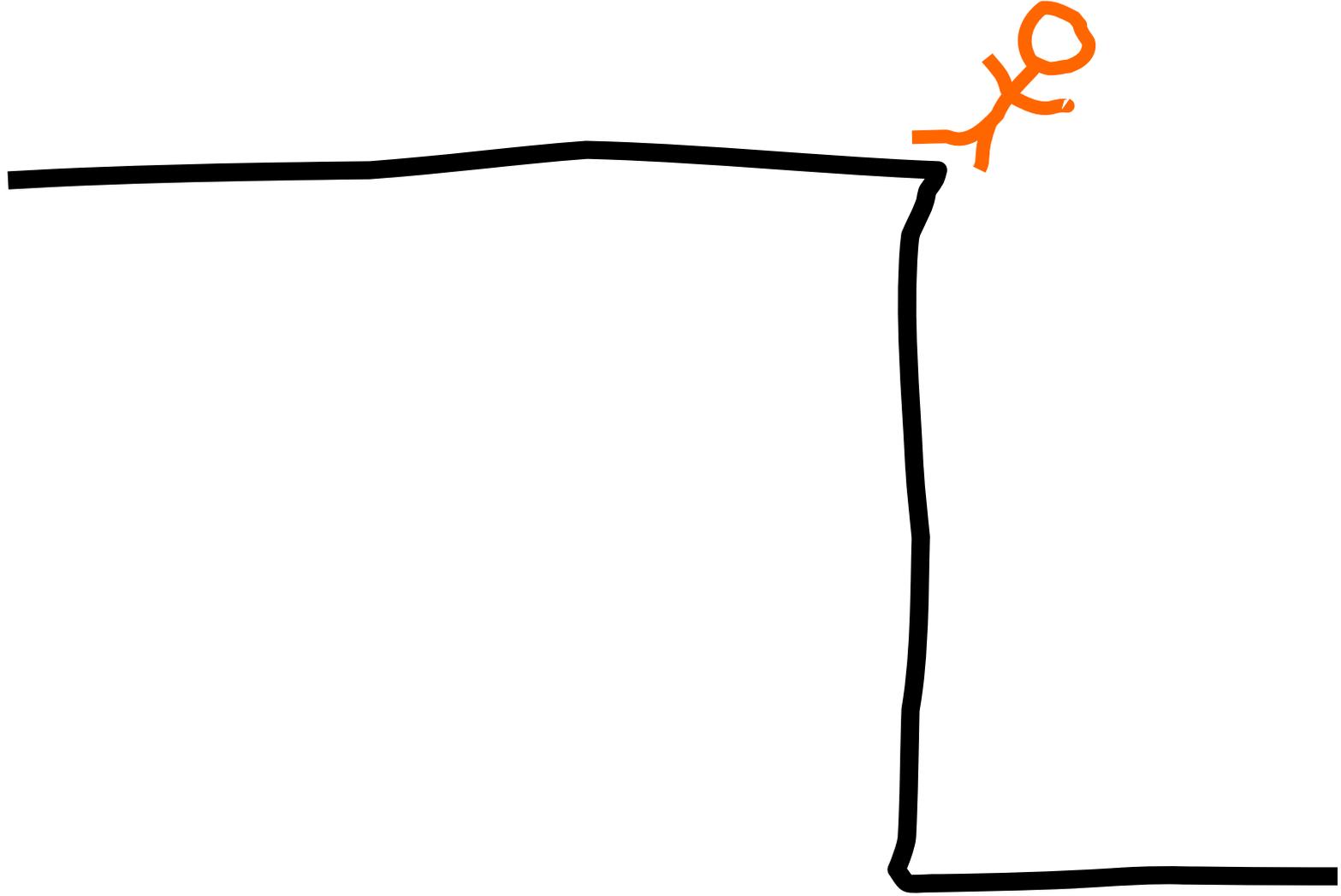


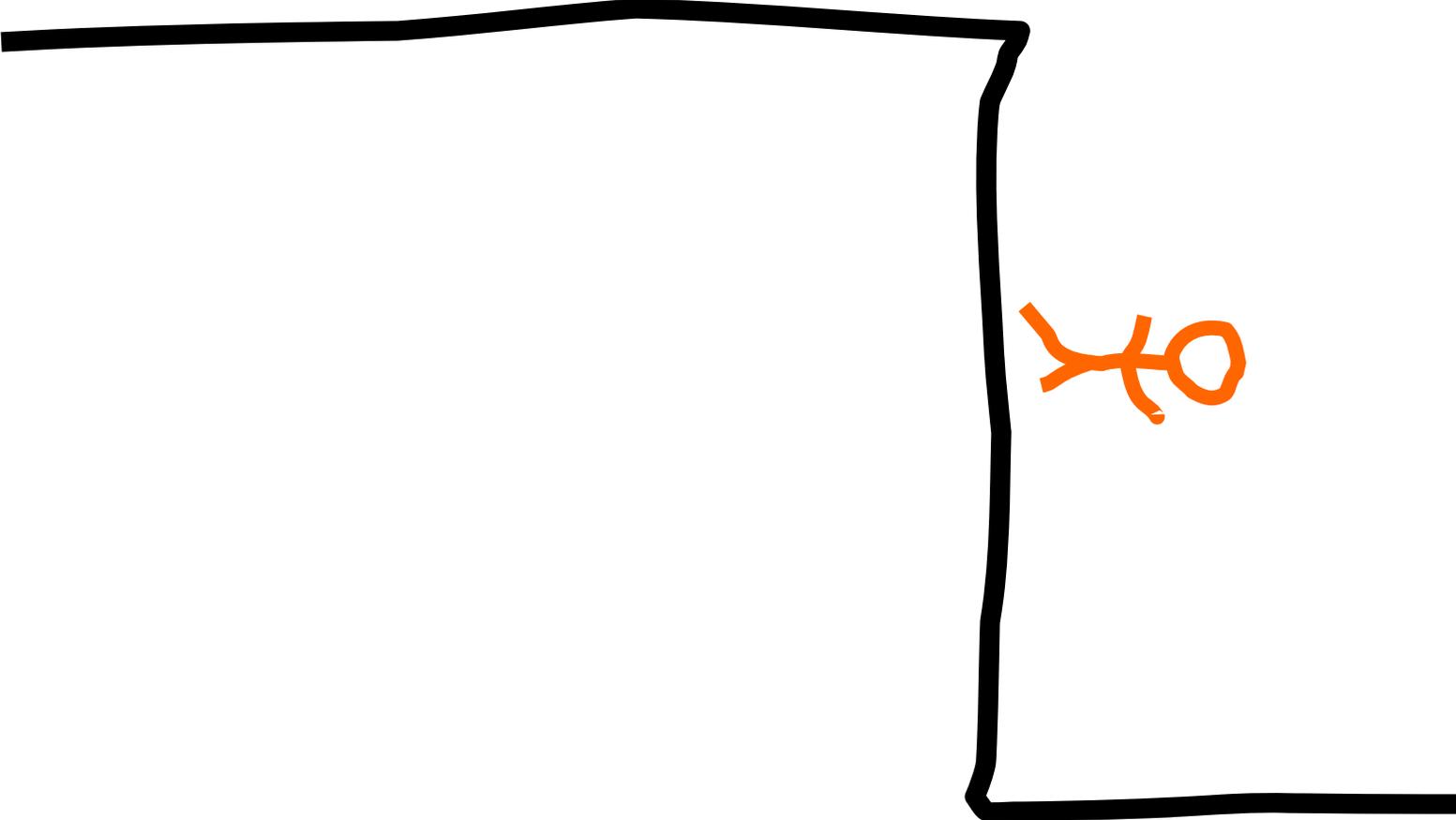


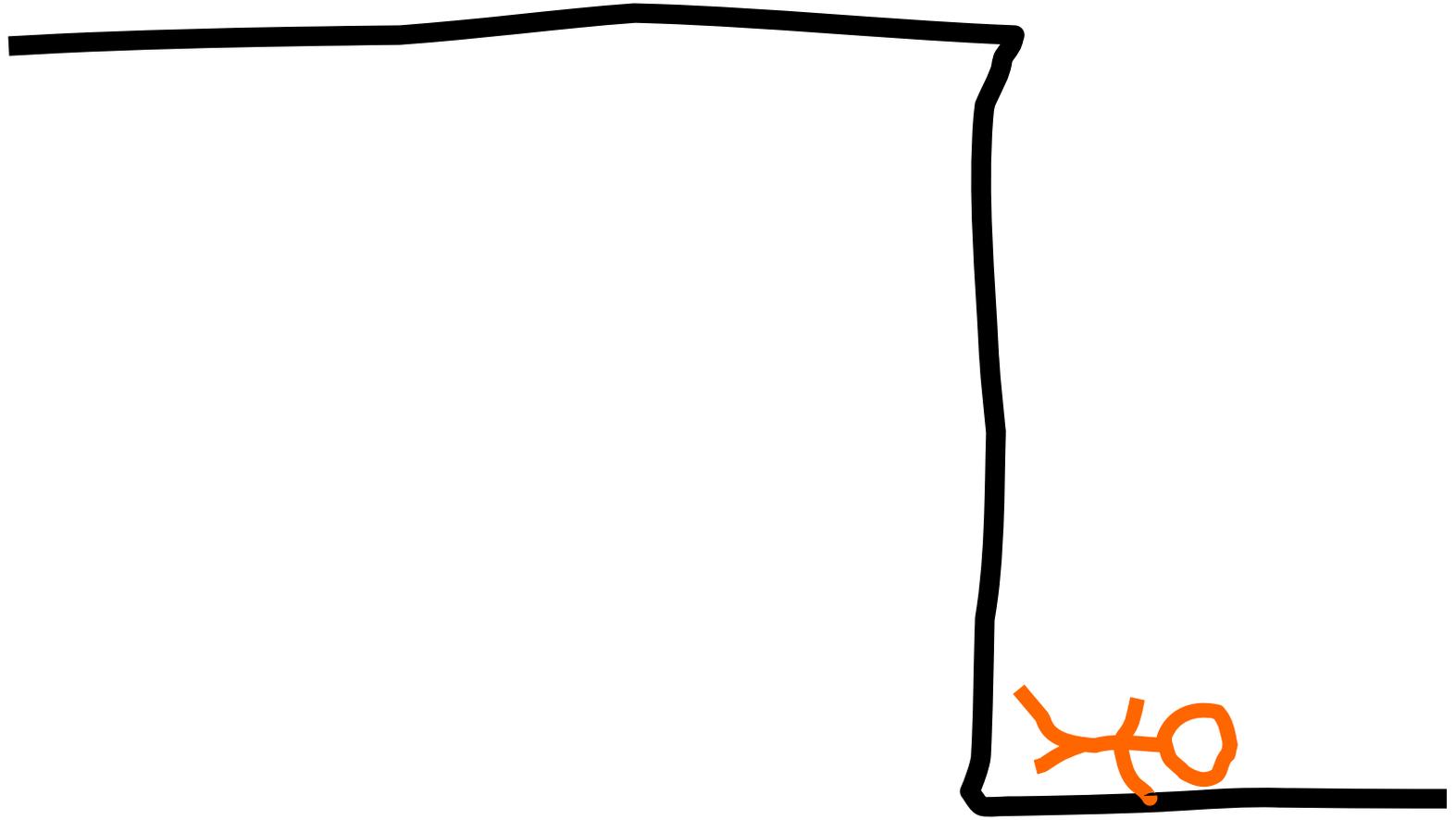


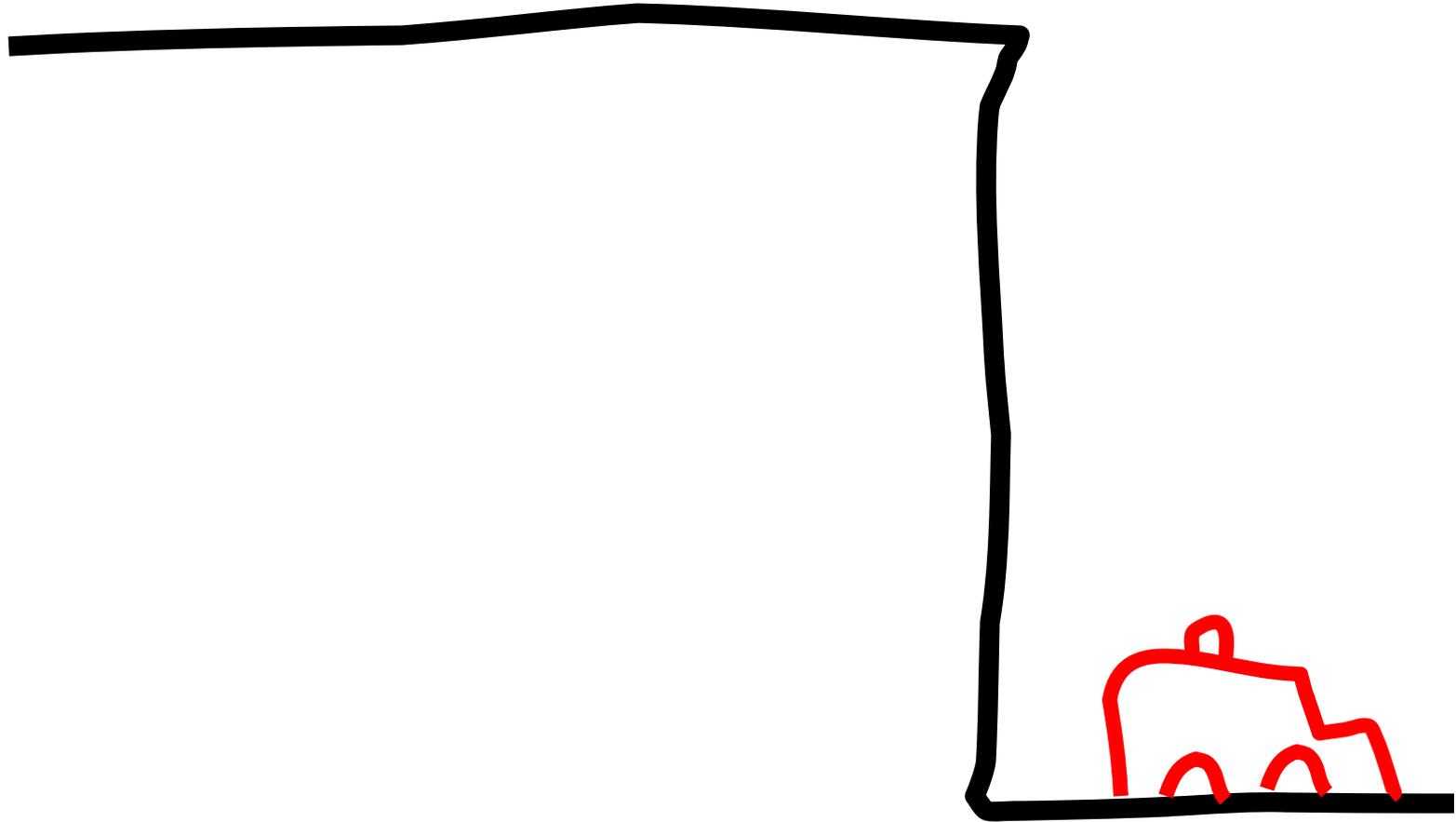


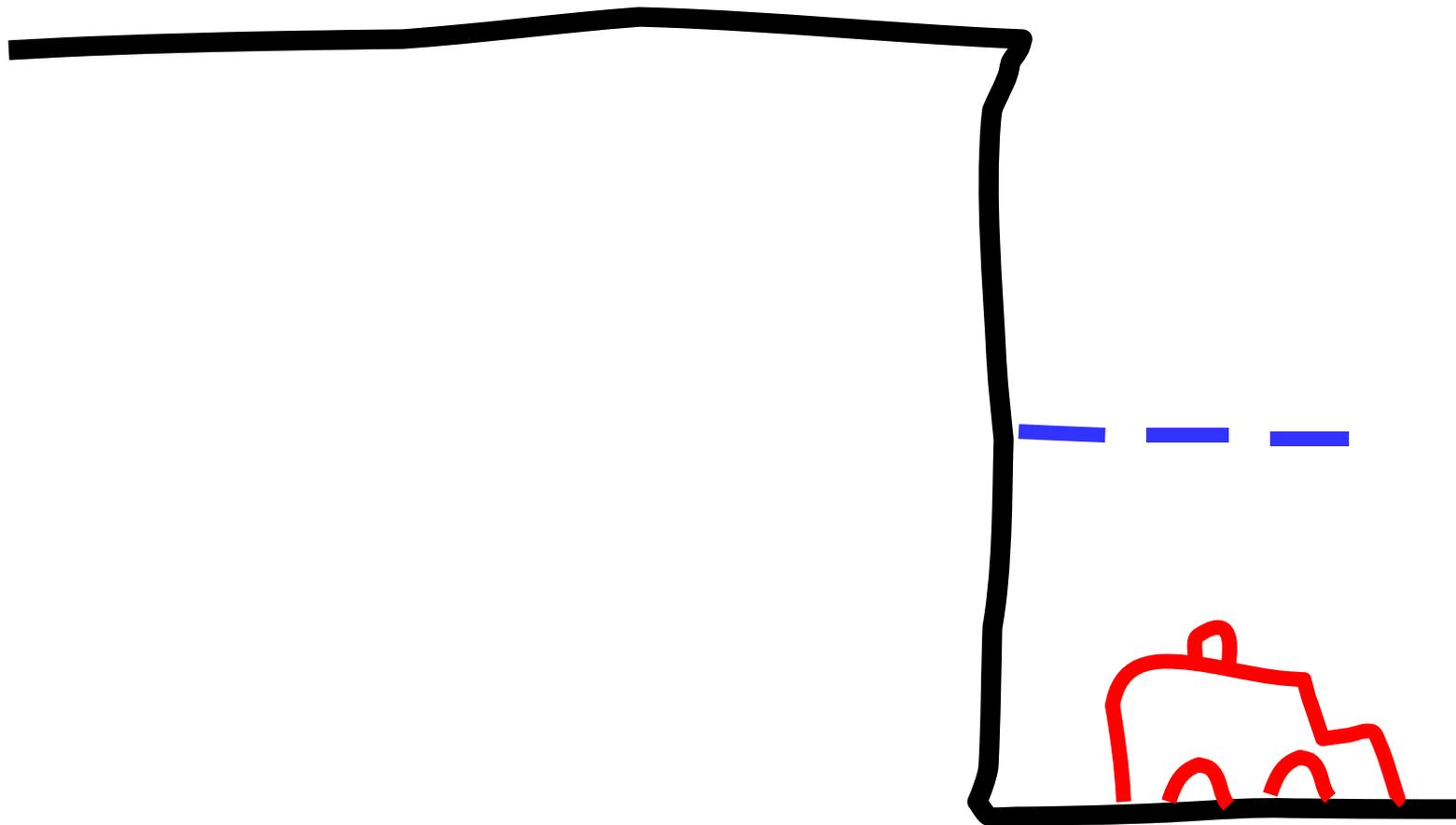


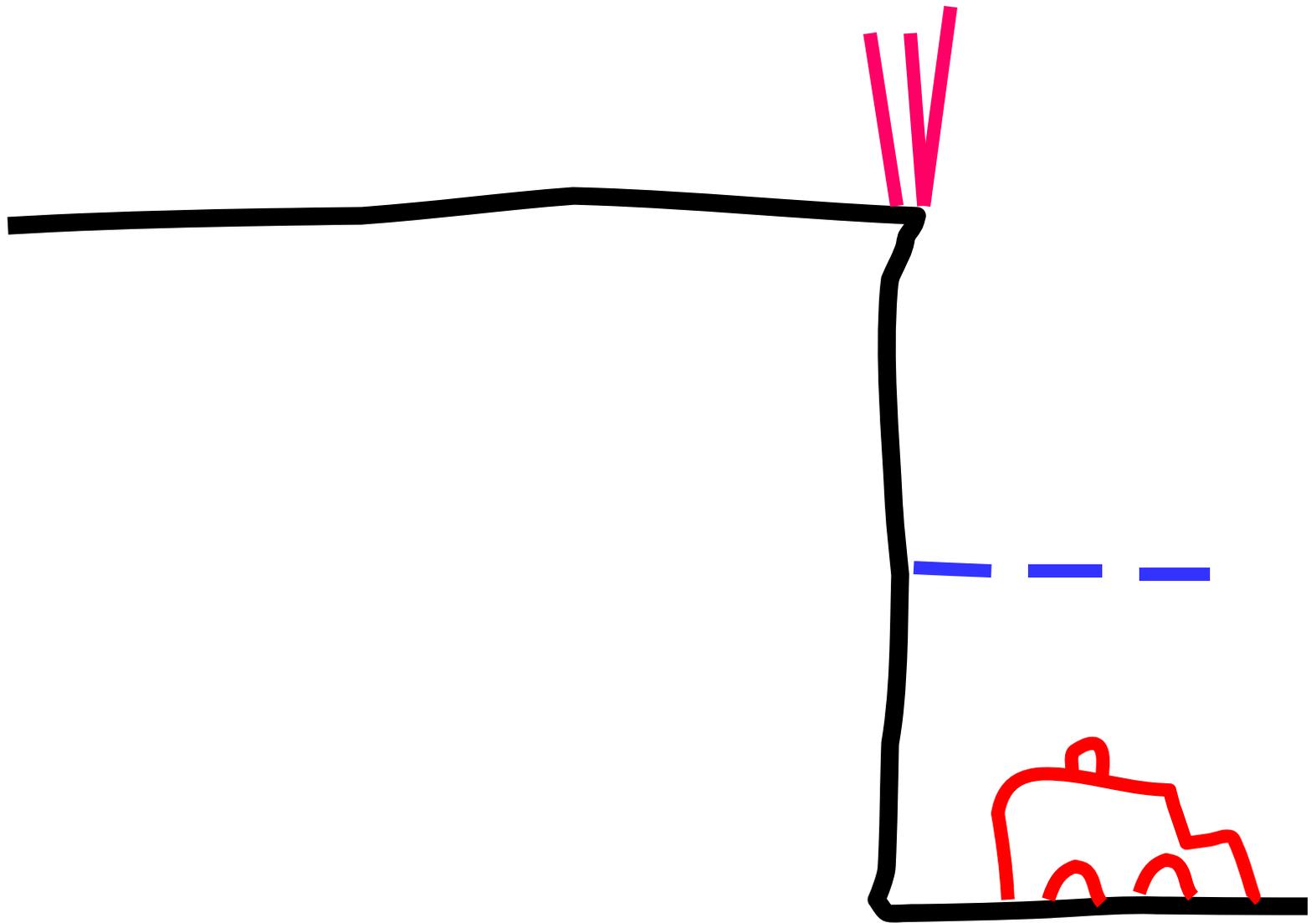


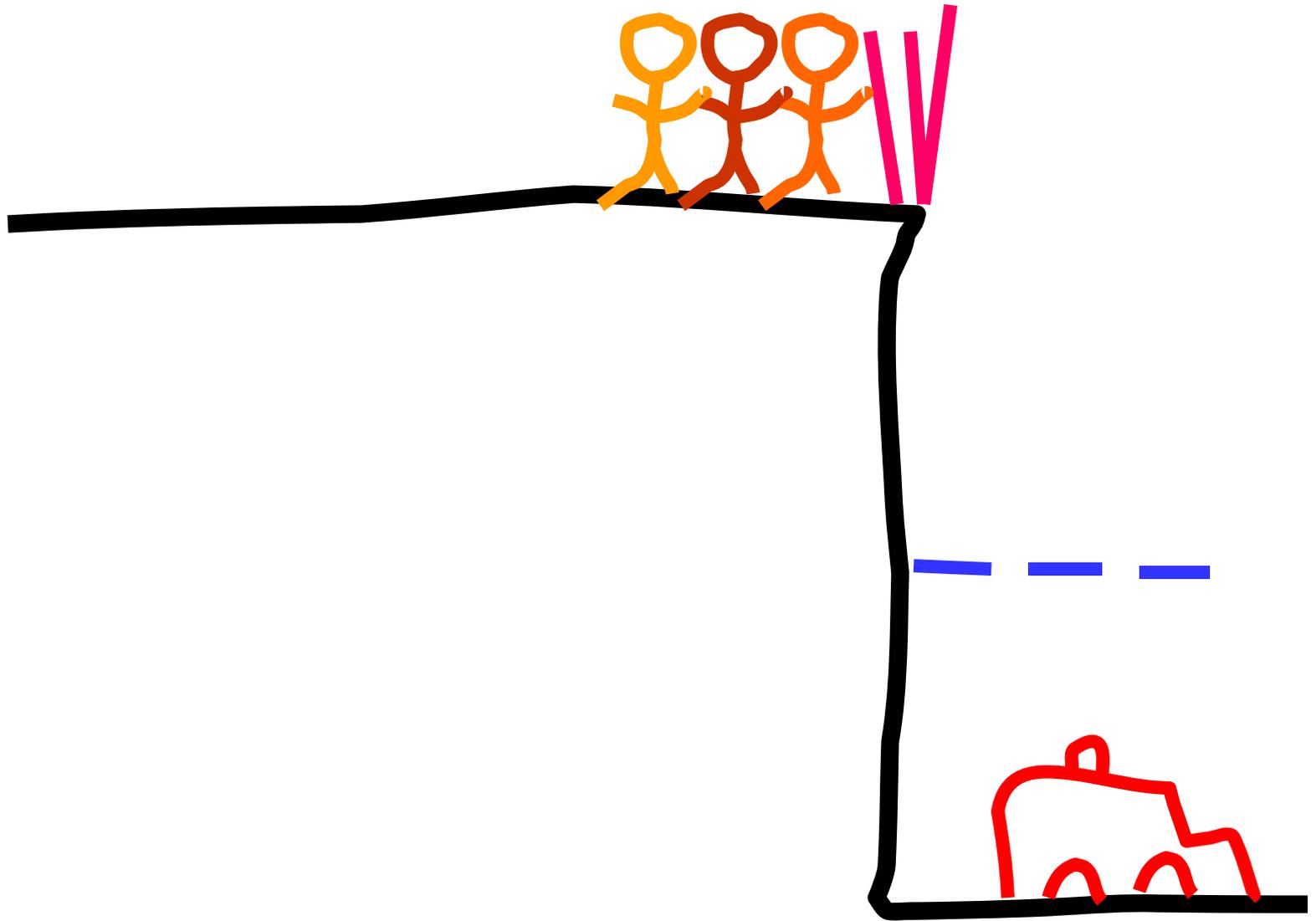


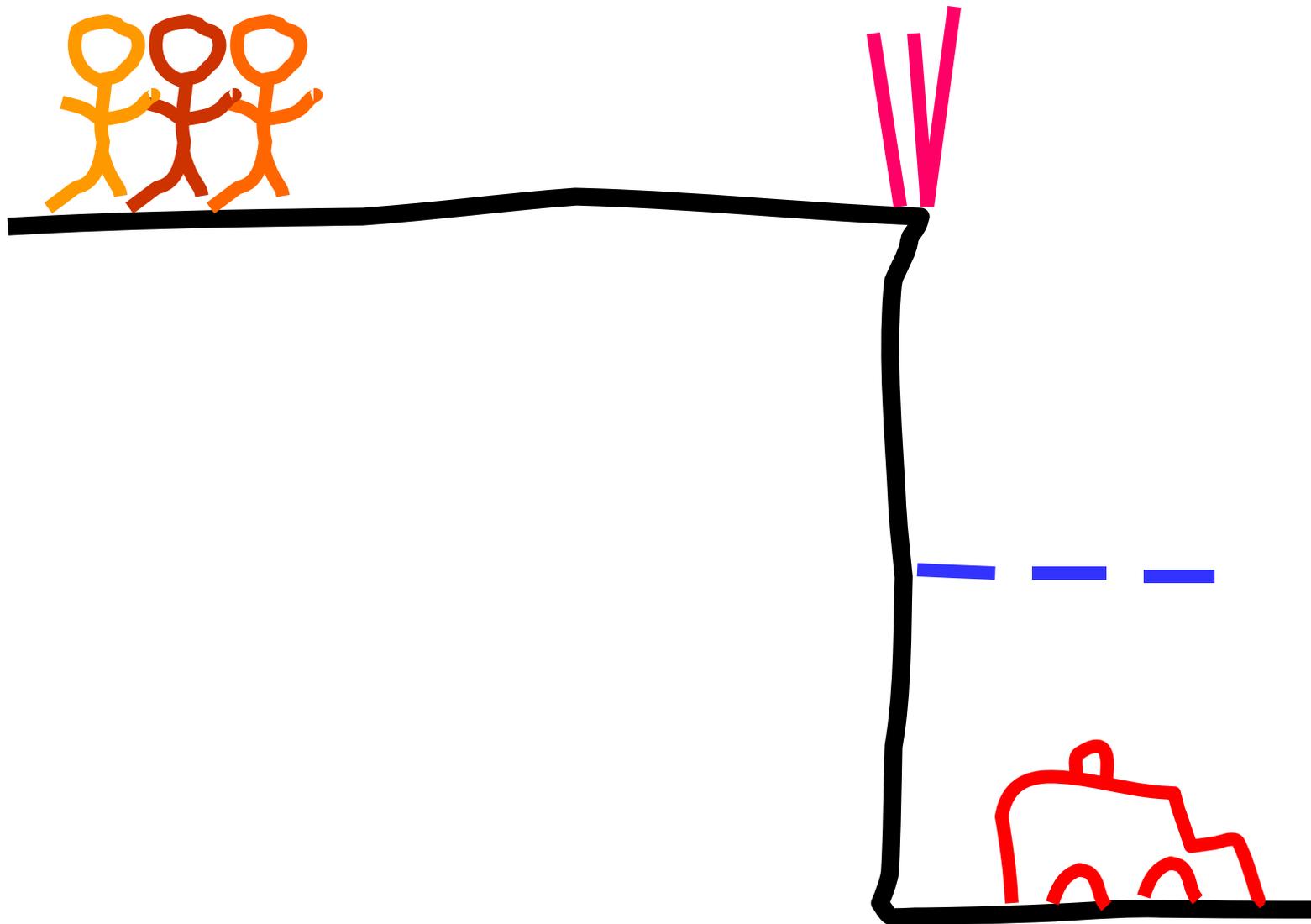


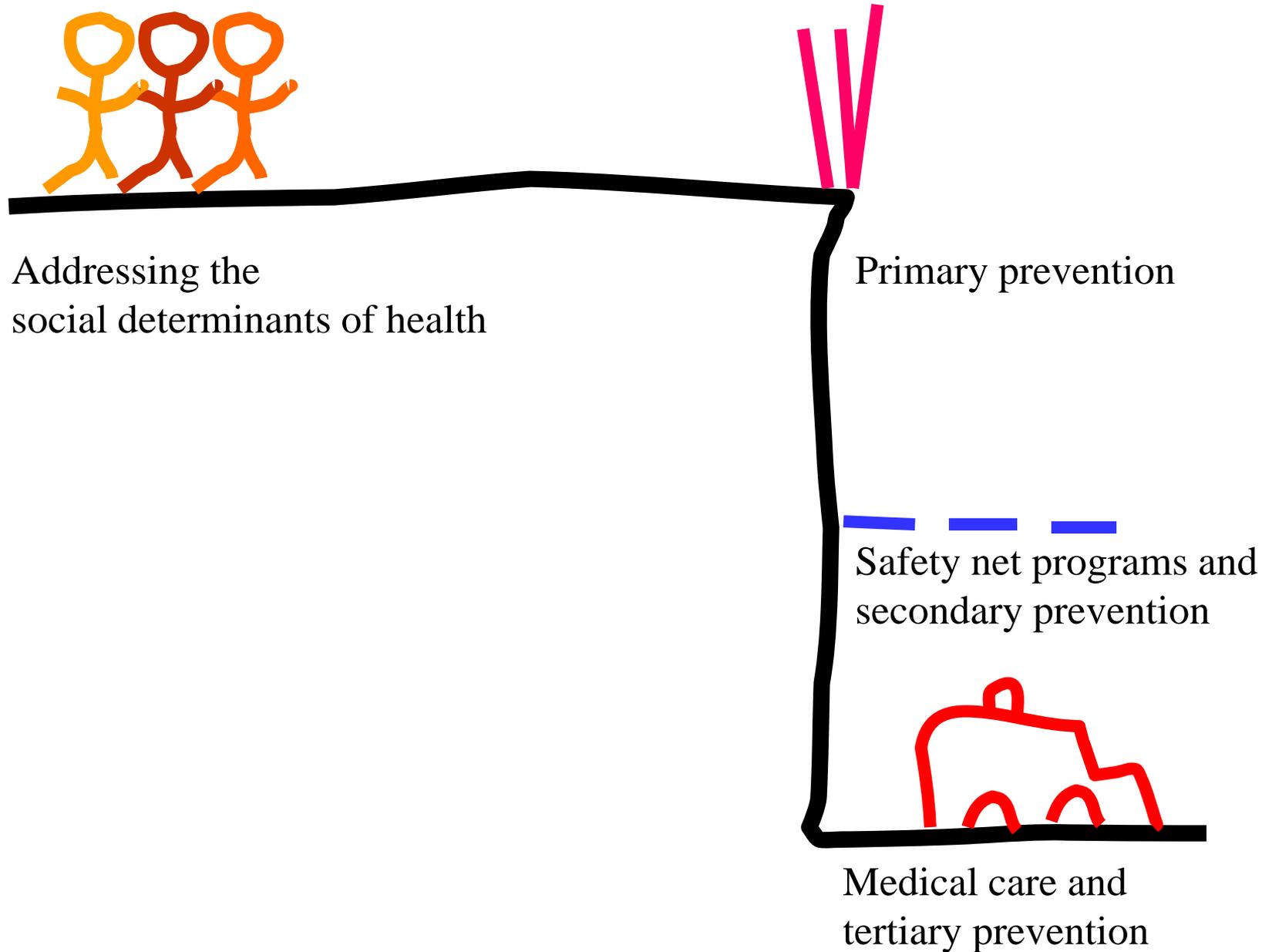


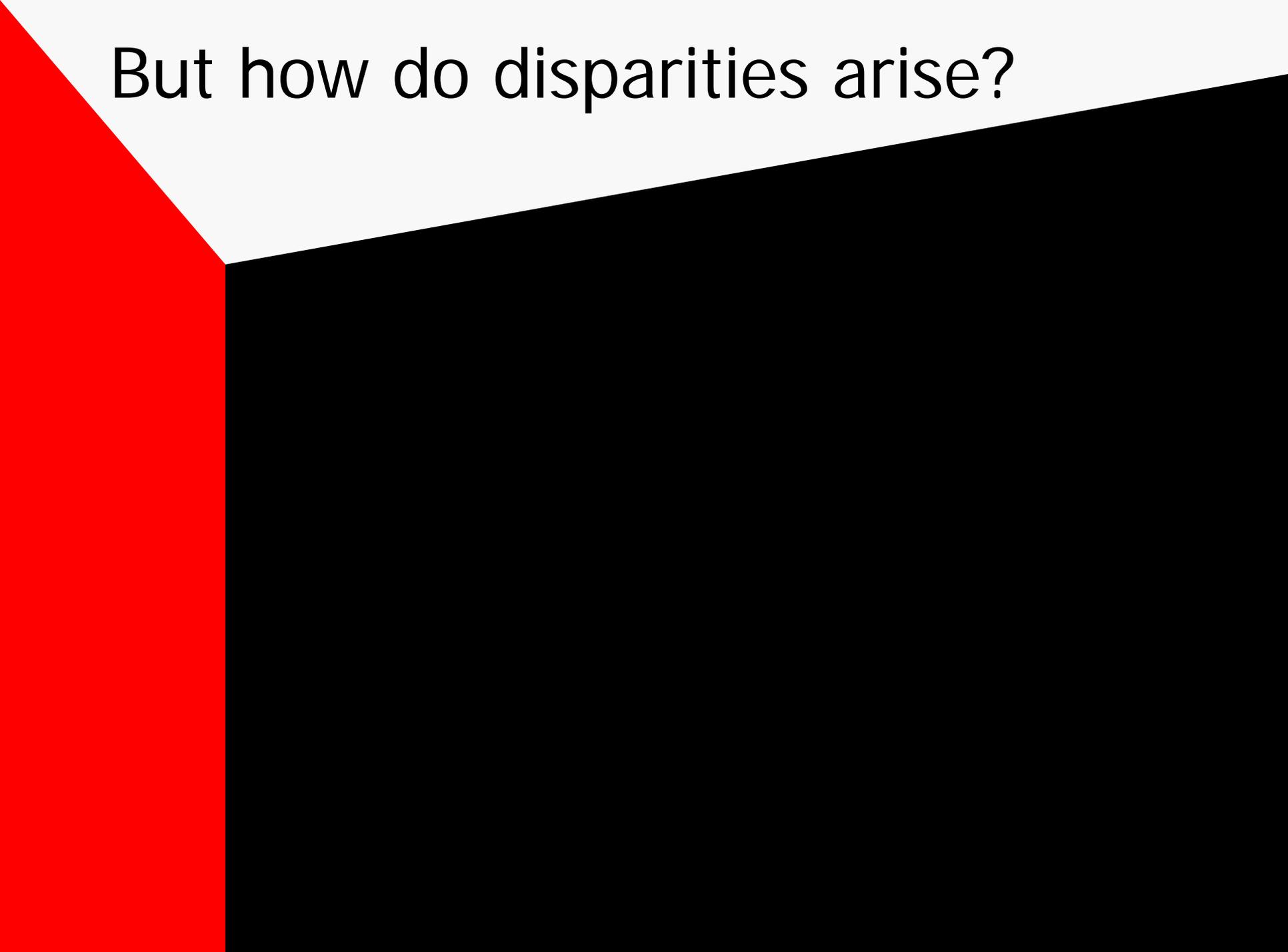












But how do disparities arise?

But how do disparities arise?

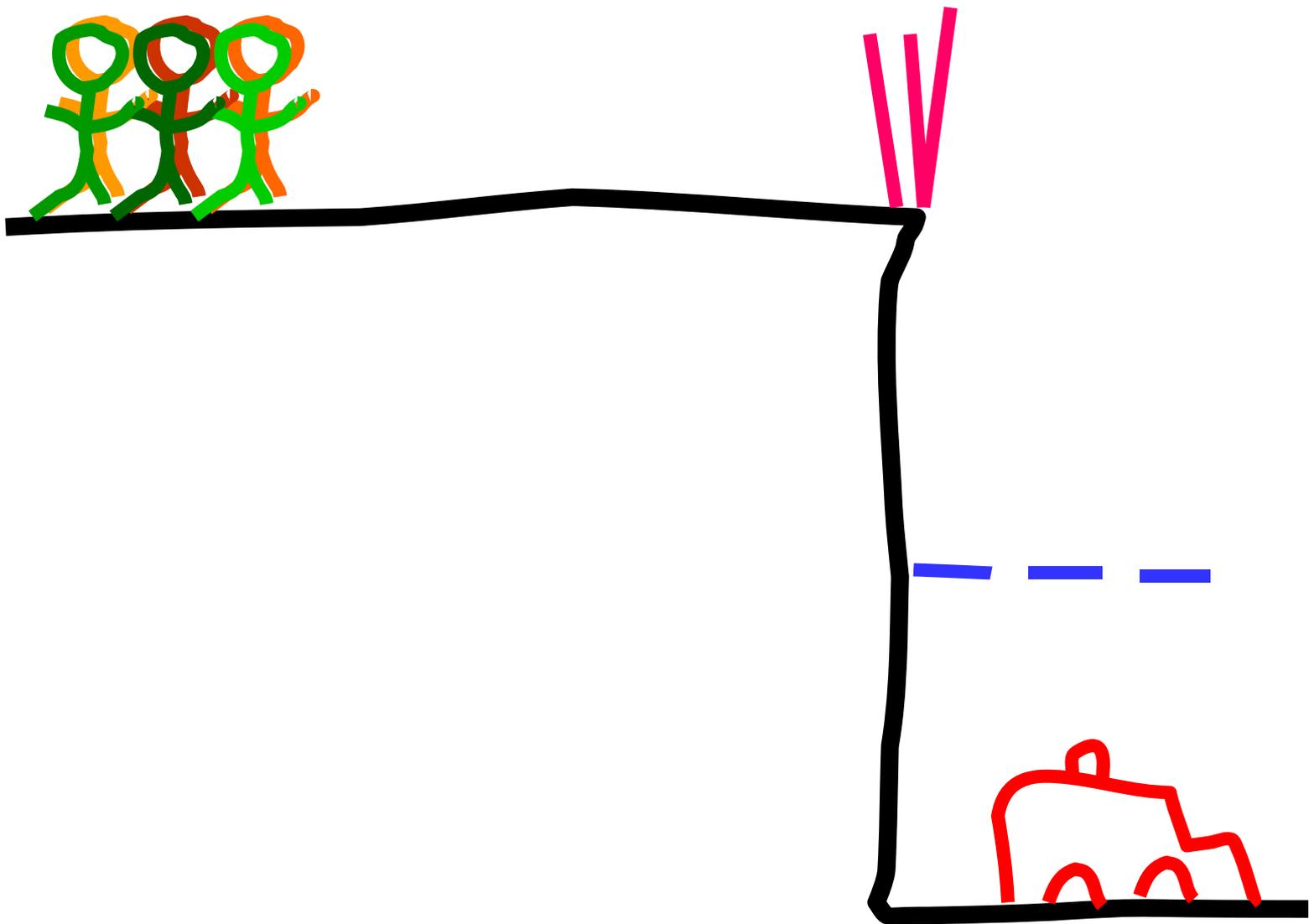
- Differences in the quality of care received within the health care system

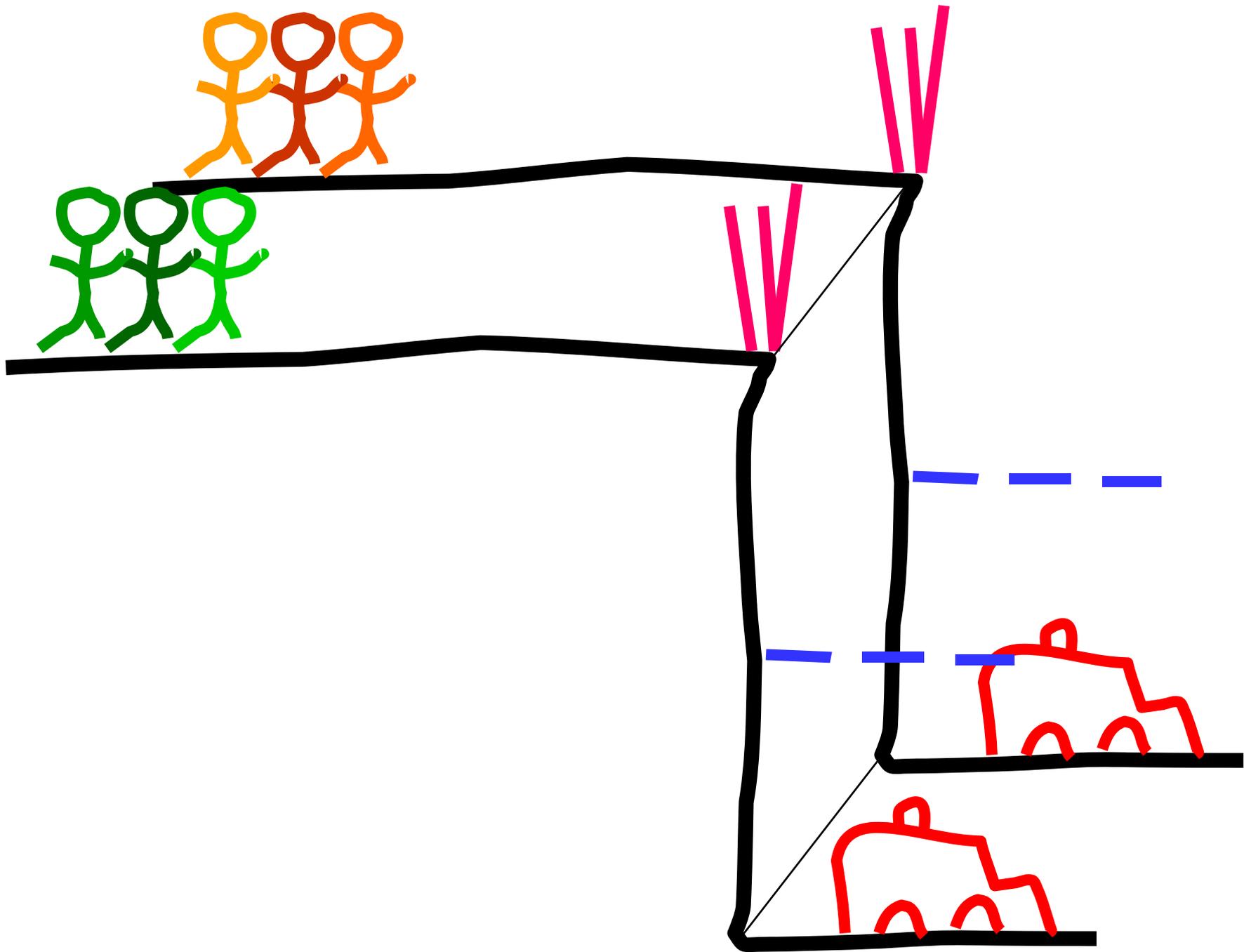
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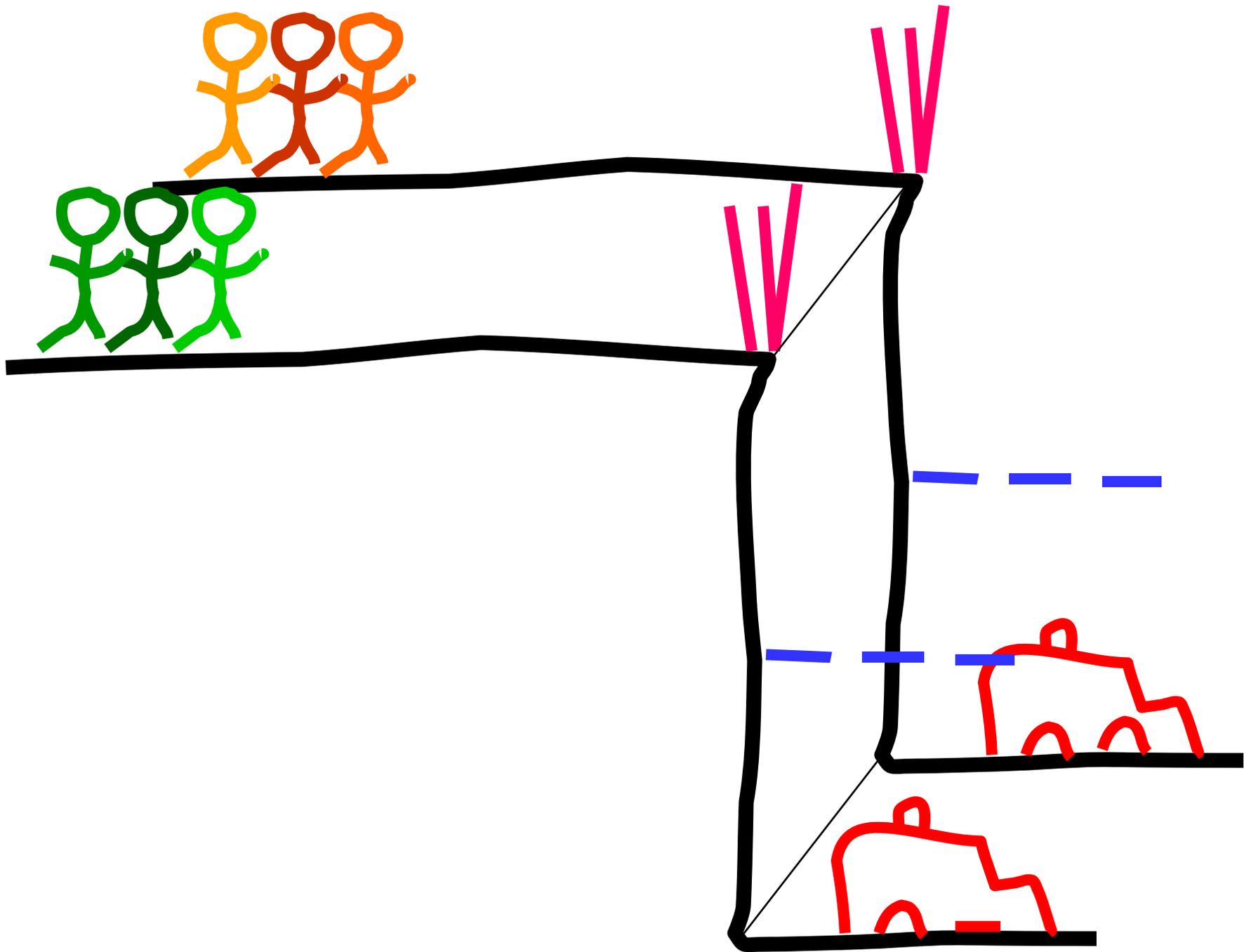
- Differences in the quality of care received within the health care system
- Differences in access to health care, including preventive and curative services

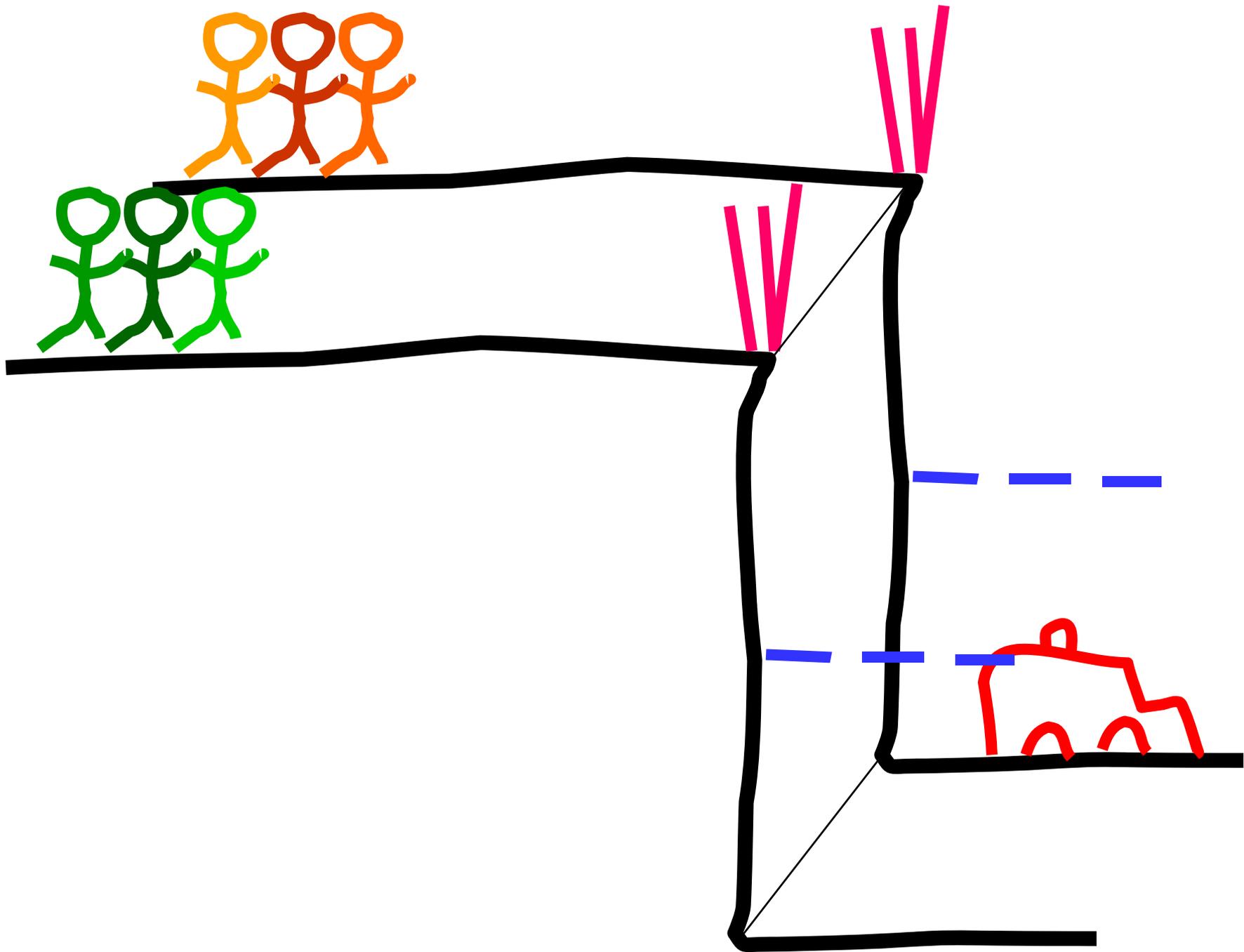
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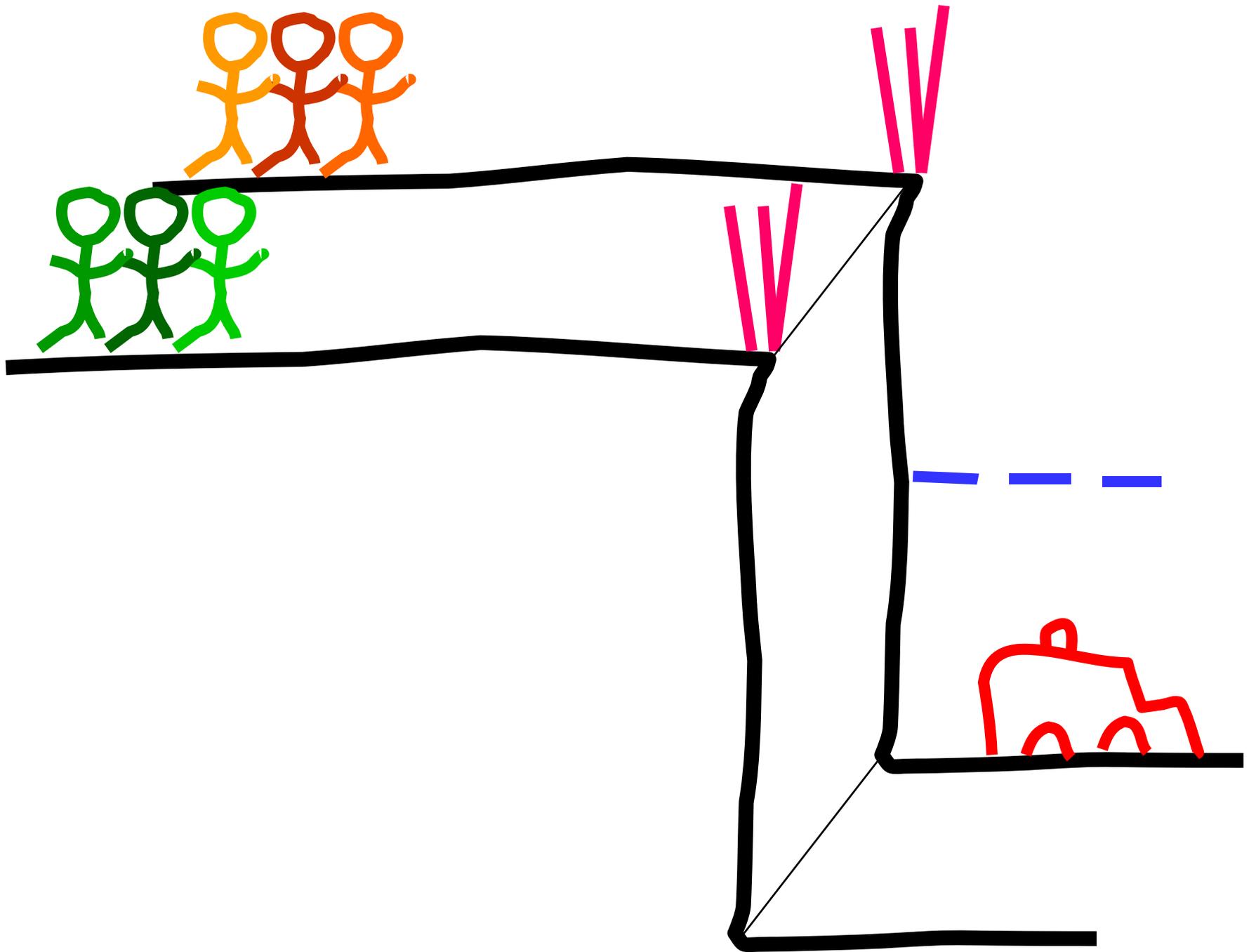
- Differences in the quality of care received within the health care system
- Differences in access to health care, including preventive and curative services
- Differences in life opportunities, exposures, and stresses that result in differences in underlying health status

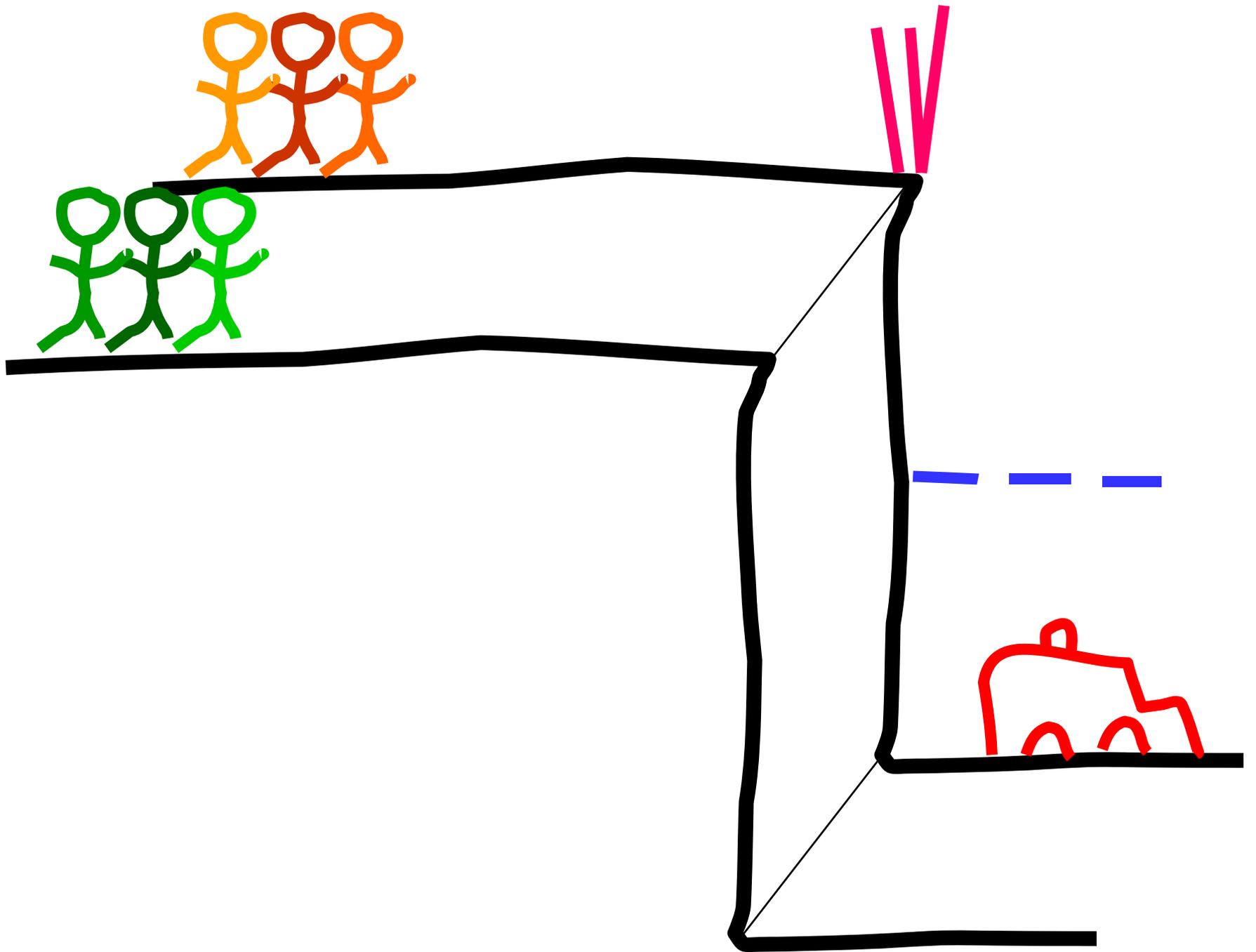


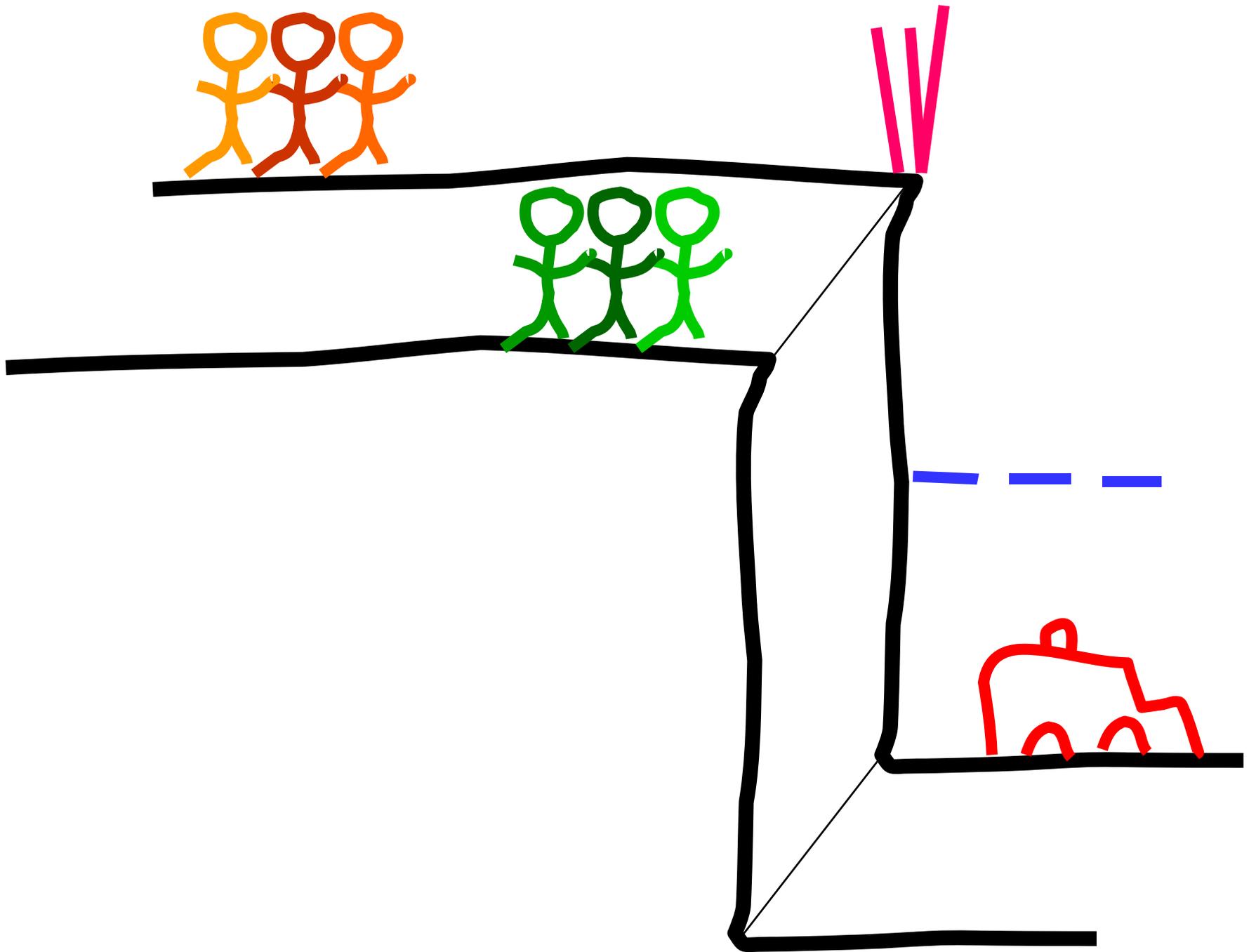


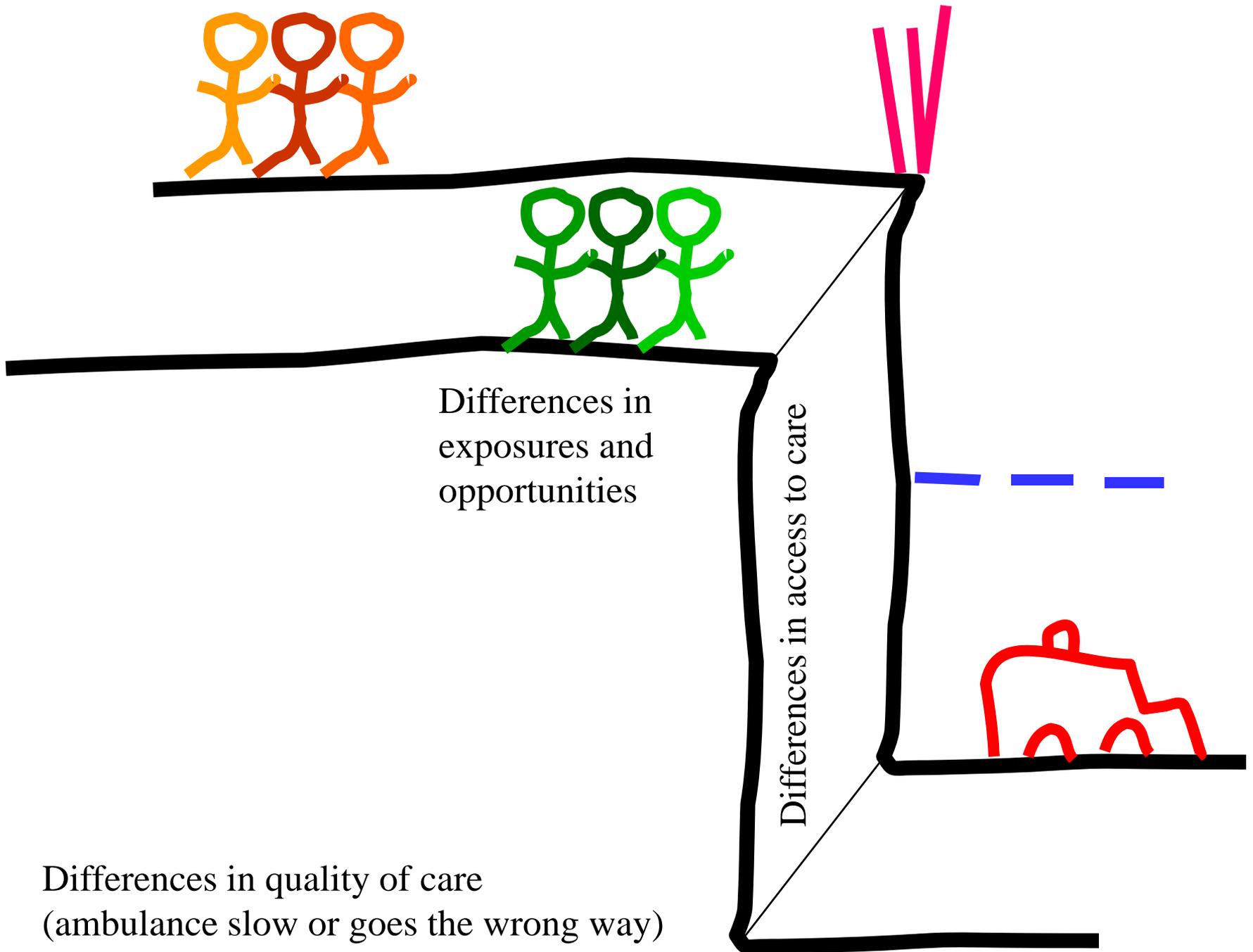


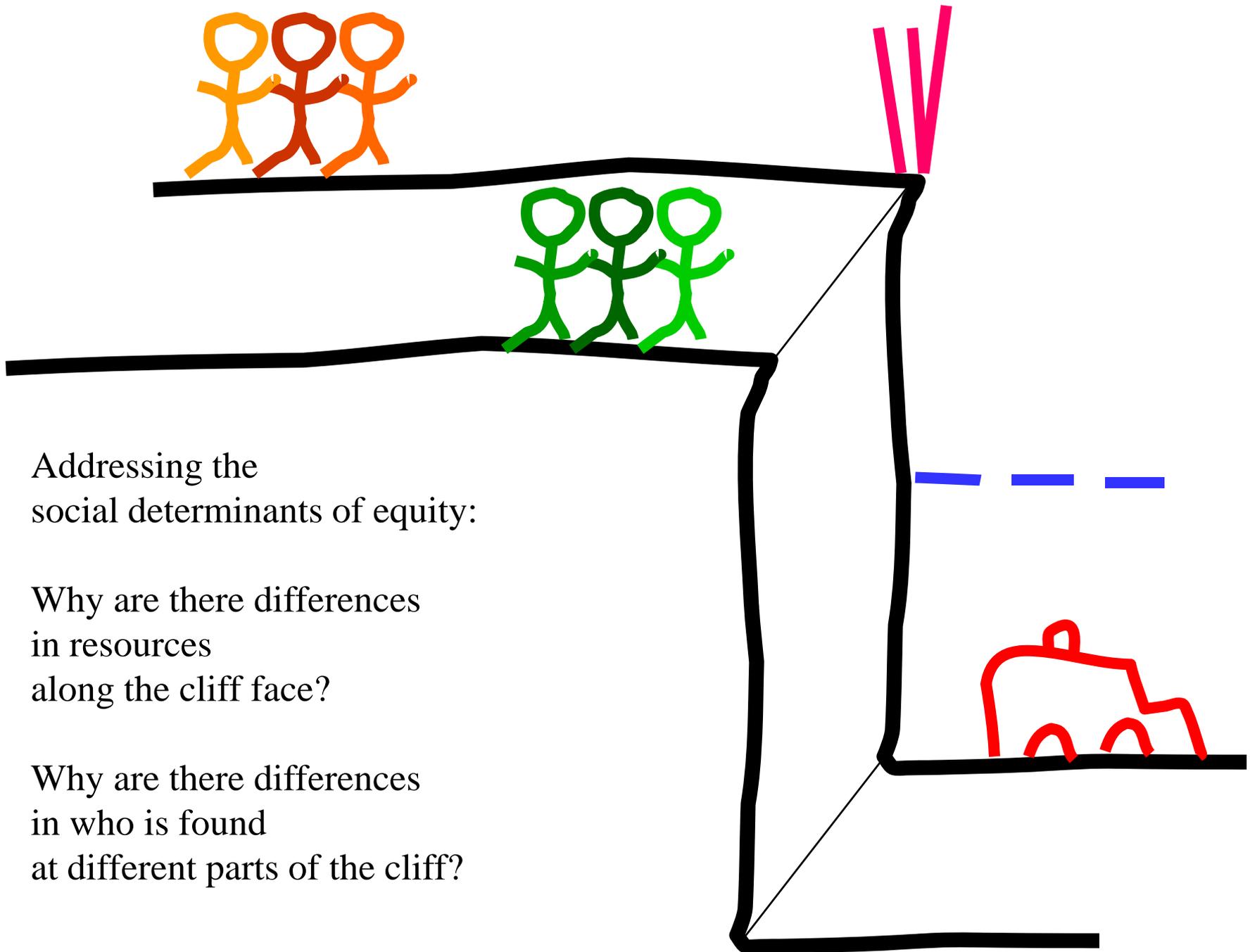












Addressing the social determinants of equity:

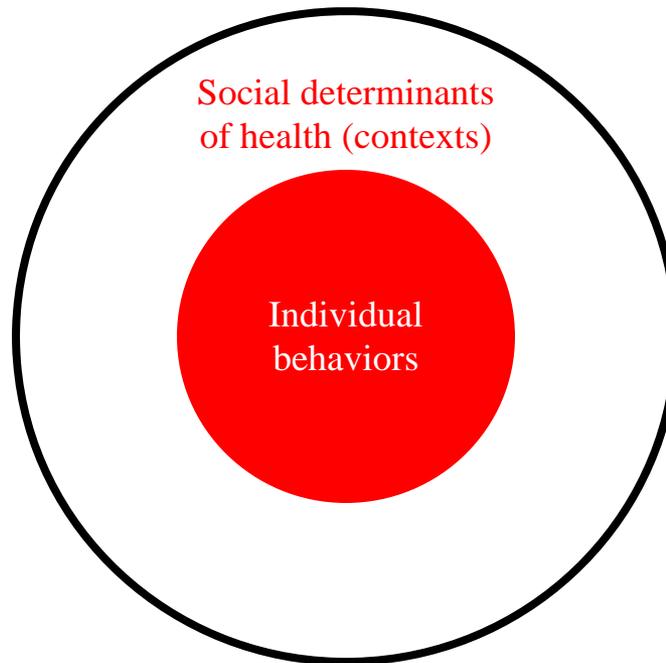
Why are there differences in resources along the cliff face?

Why are there differences in who is found at different parts of the cliff?

Determinants of health



Determinants of health

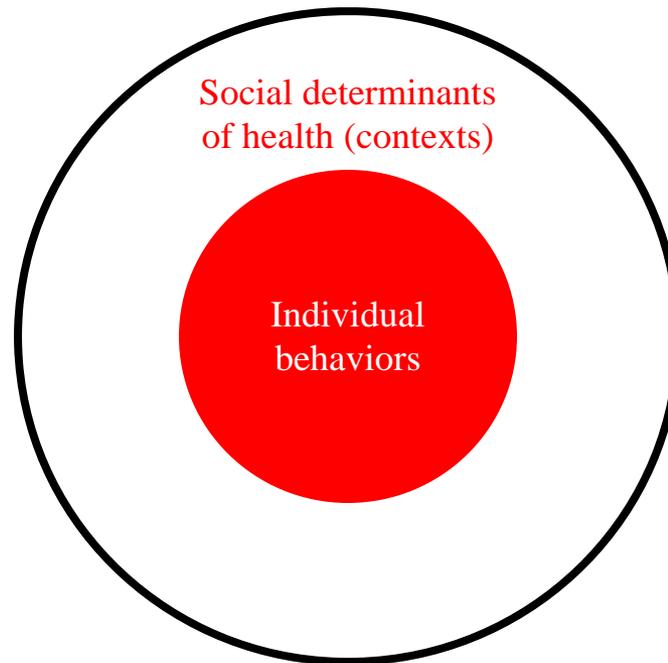


Determinants of health

**Determinants
of health and
illness that are
outside of the
individual**

Beyond genetic
predispositions

Beyond individual
behaviors

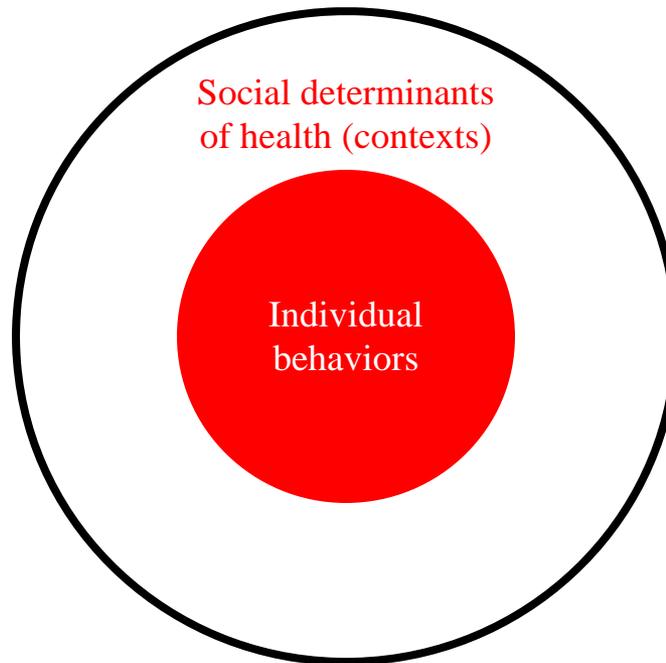


Determinants of health

Determinants of health and illness that are outside of the individual

Beyond genetic predispositions

Beyond individual behaviors

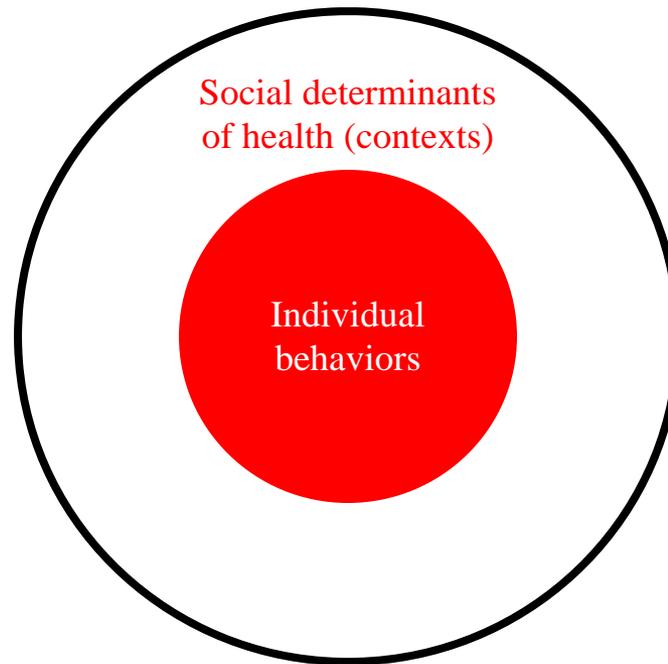


The contexts in which individual behaviors arise

Determinants of health

Individual resources

Education,
occupation, income,
wealth



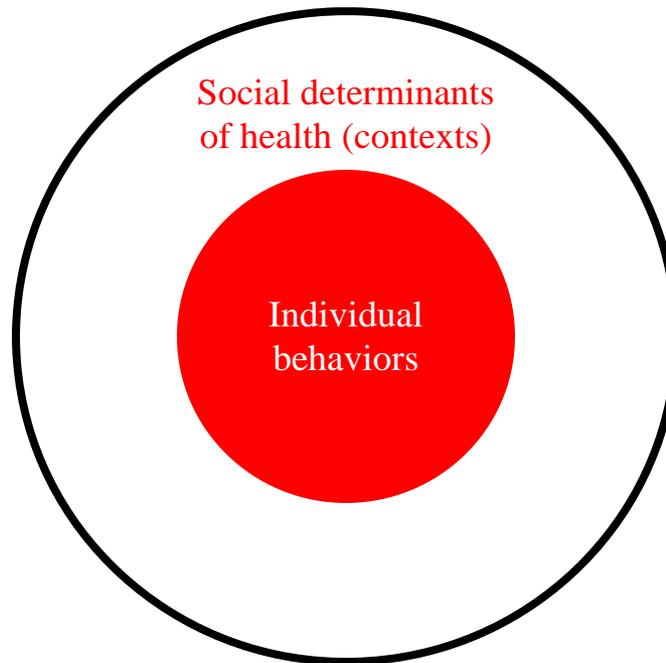
Determinants of health

Individual resources

Education, occupation, income, wealth

Neighborhood resources

Housing, food choices, public safety, transportation, parks and recreation, political clout



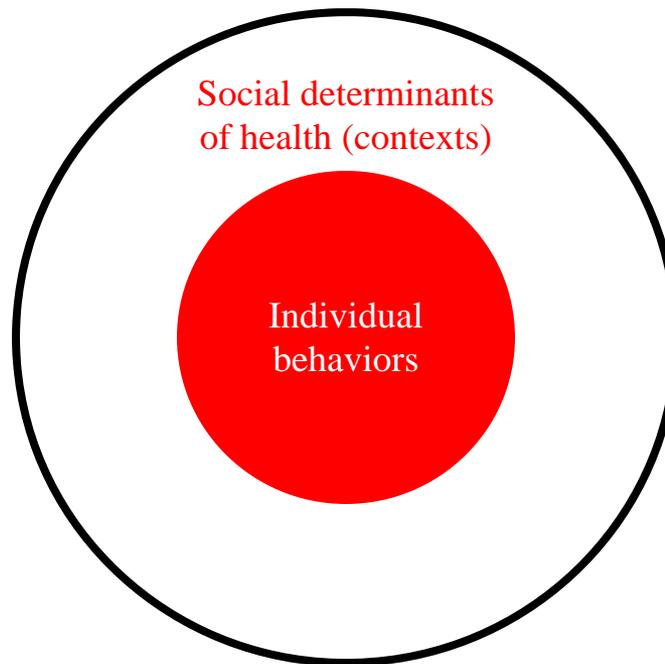
Determinants of health

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Hazards and toxic exposures

Pesticides, lead, reservoirs of infection

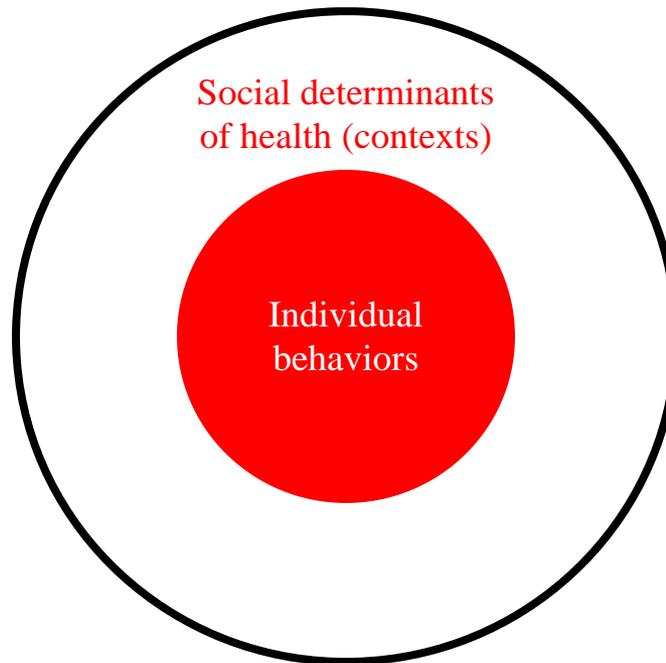
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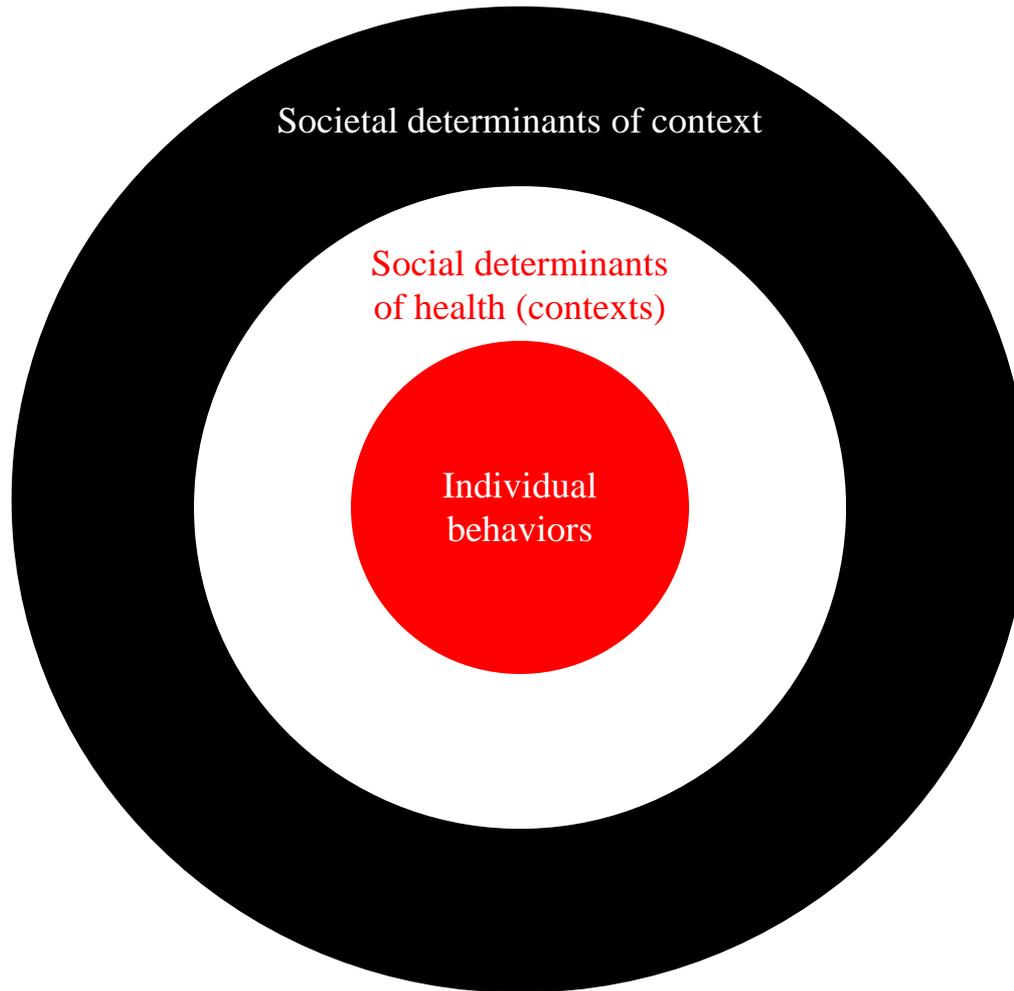
Hazards and toxic exposures

Pesticides, lead, reservoirs of infection

Opportunity structures

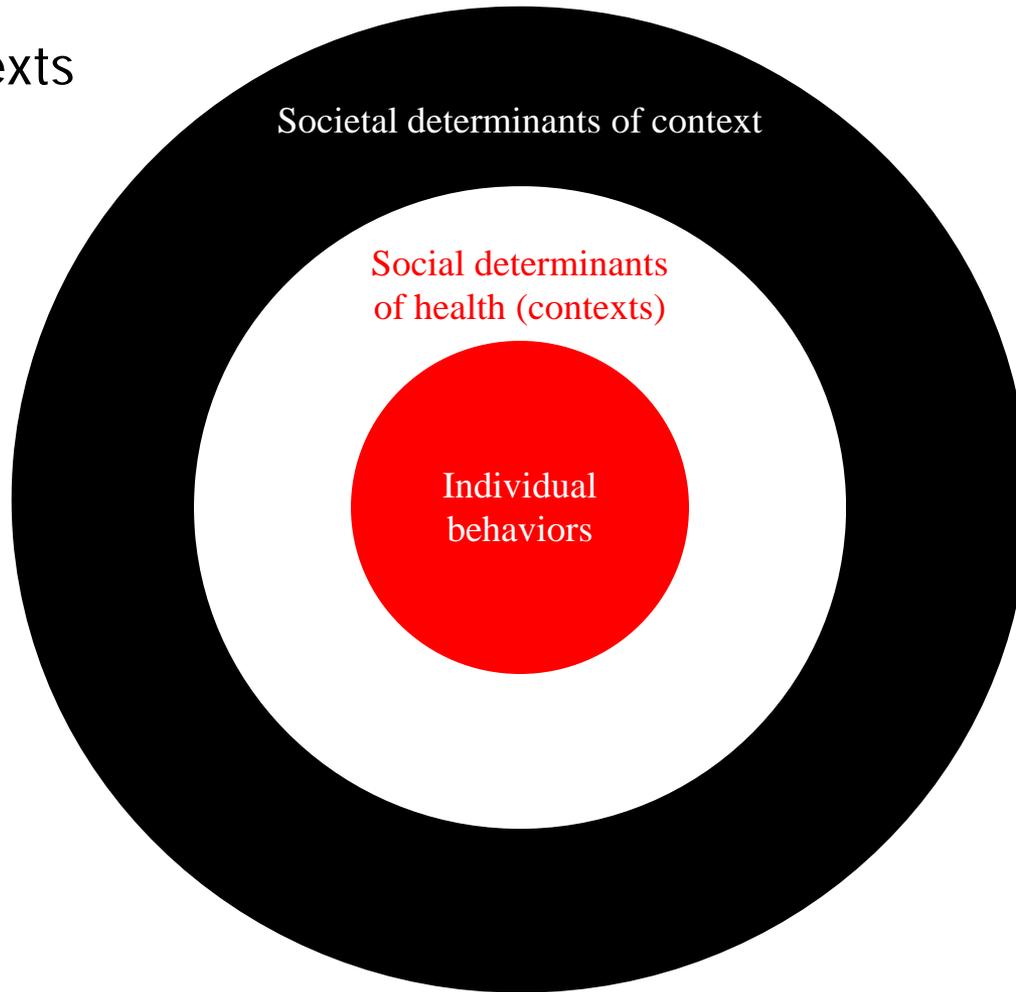
Schools, jobs, justice

Determinants of health



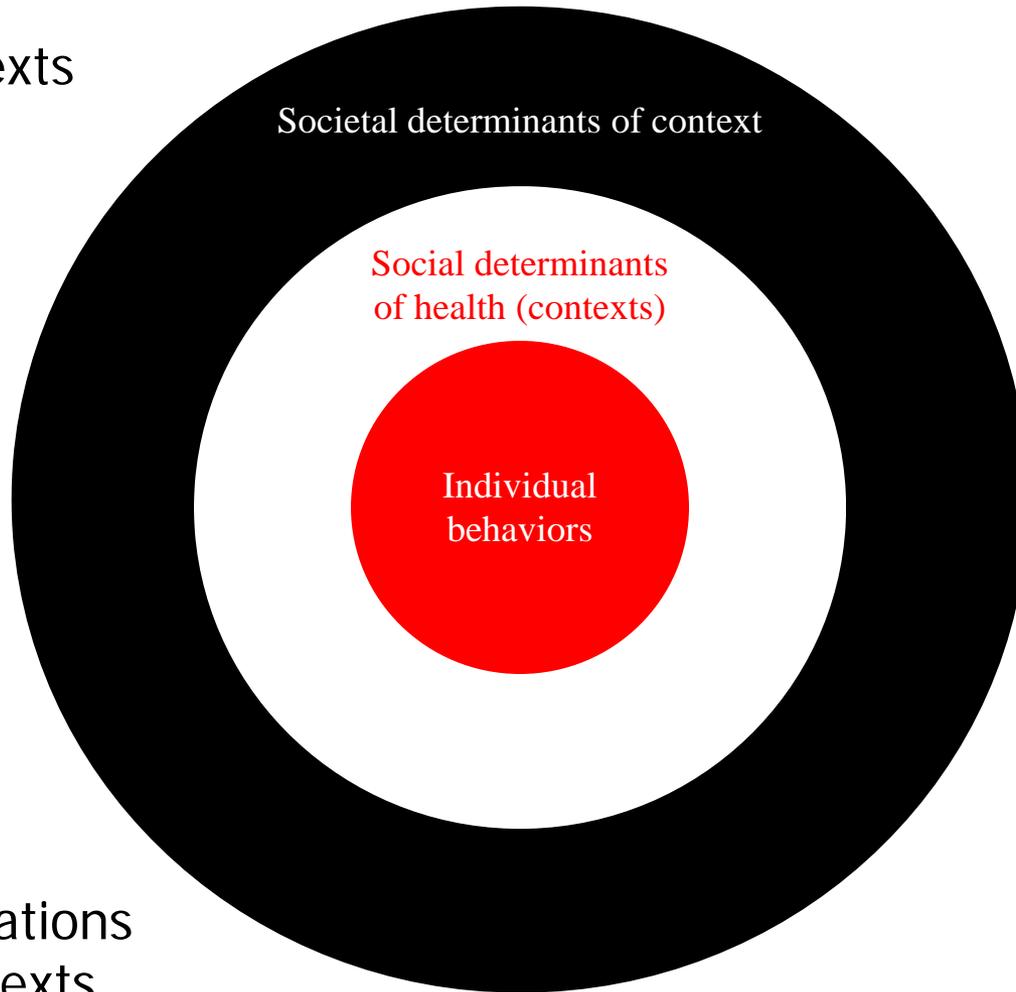
Determinants of health

Determine the
range of
observed contexts



Determinants of health

Determine the range of observed contexts

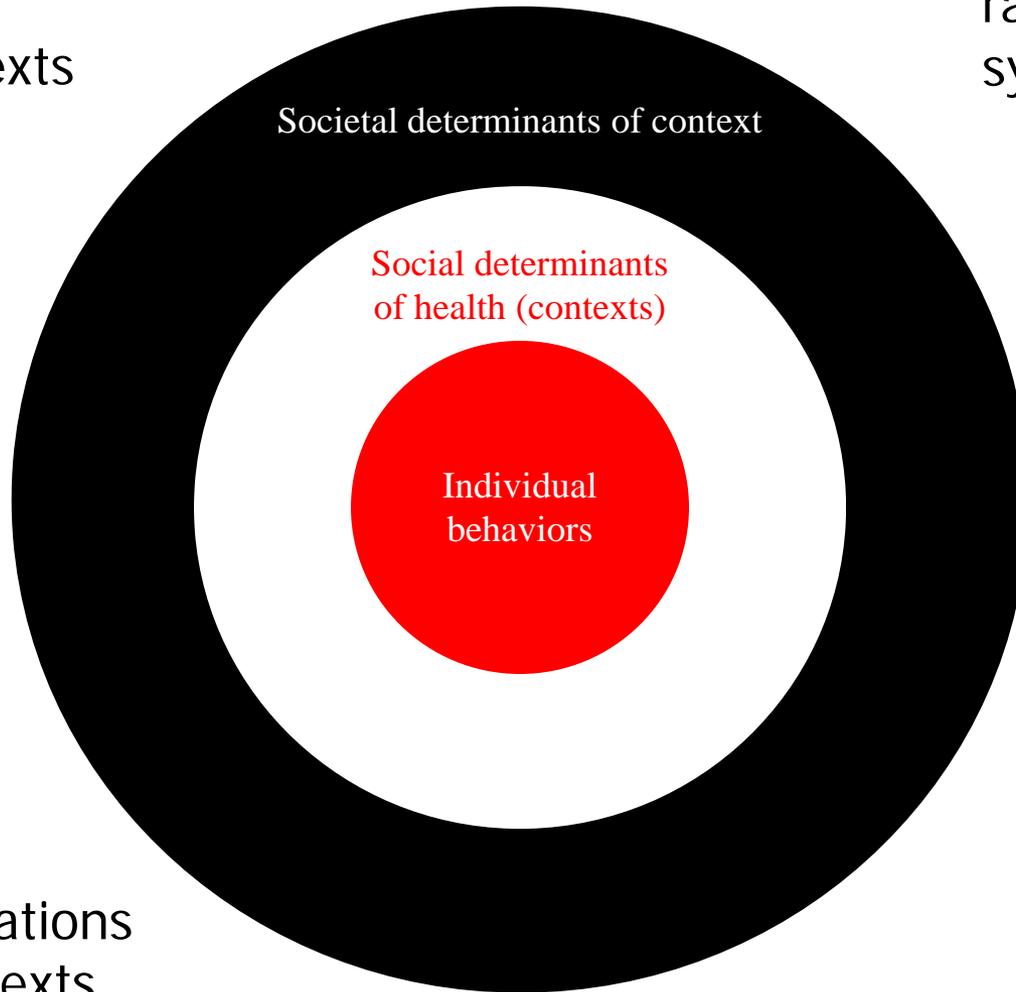


Determine the distribution of different populations into those contexts

Determinants of health

Determine the range of observed contexts

Include capitalism, racism, and other systems of power

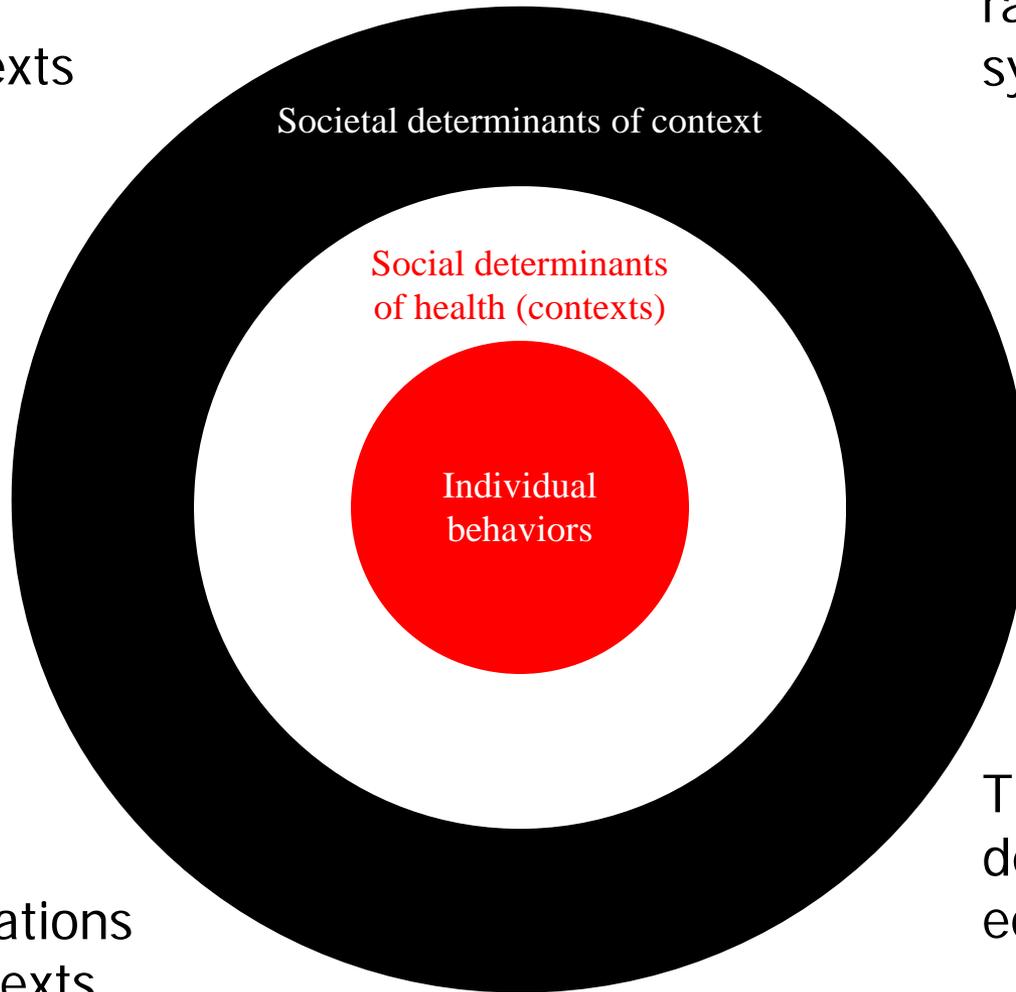


Determine the distribution of different populations into those contexts

Determinants of health

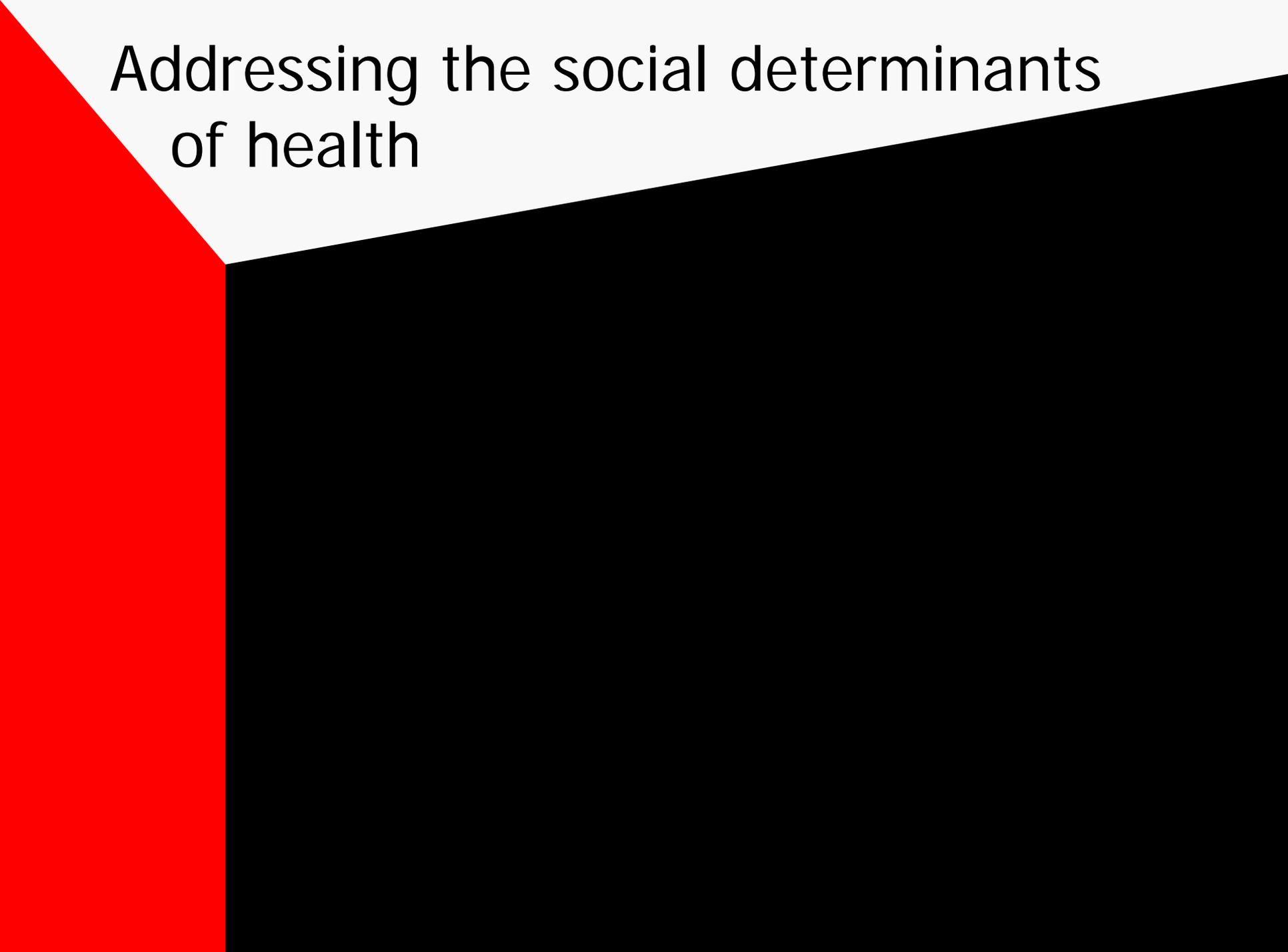
Determine the range of observed contexts

Include capitalism, racism, and other systems of power



Determine the distribution of different populations into those contexts

The social determinants of equity



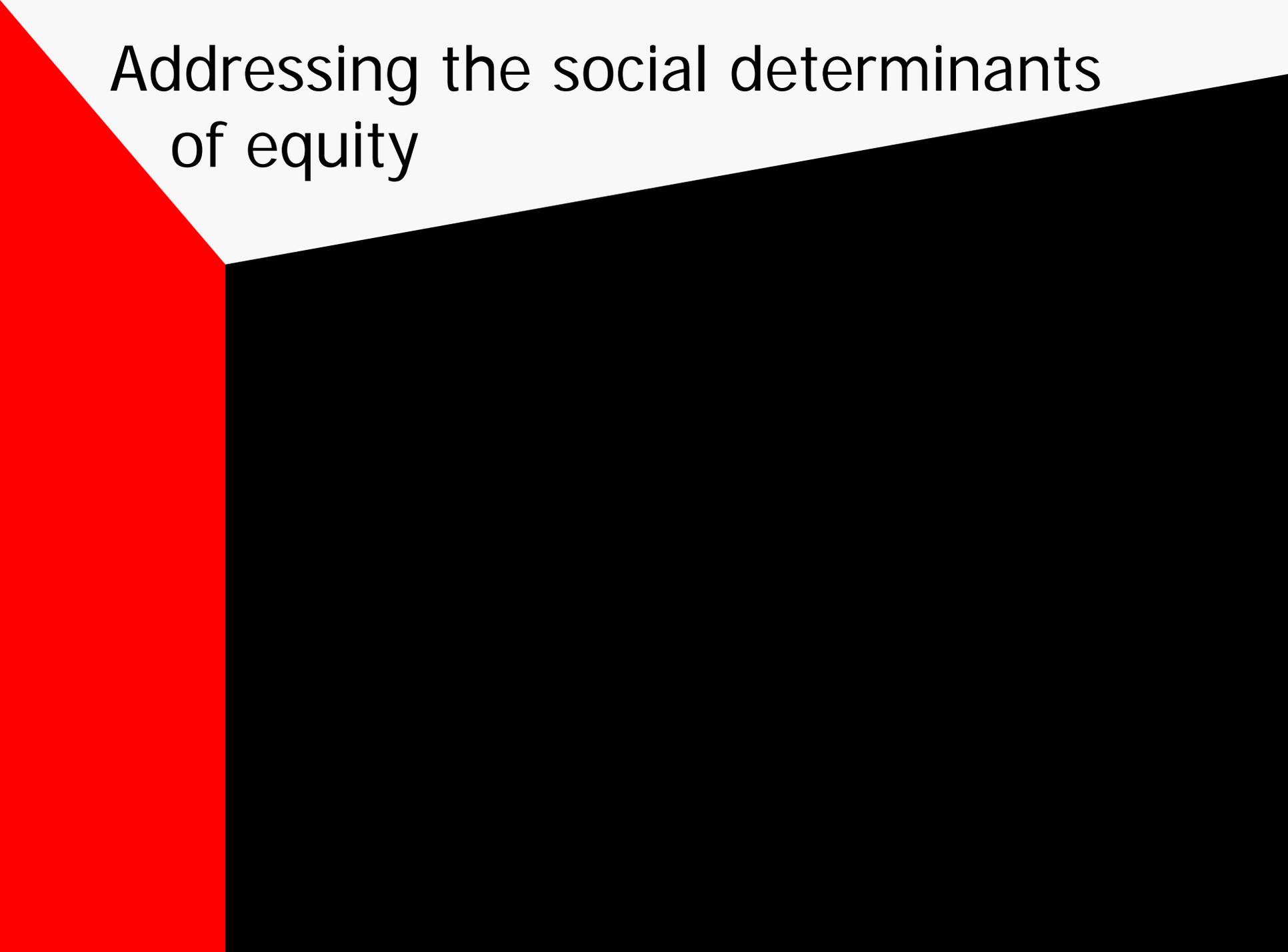
Addressing the social determinants of health

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- Involves the medical care and public health systems, but clearly extends beyond these
- Requires collaboration with multiple sectors outside of health, including education, housing, labor, justice, transportation, agriculture, and environment



Addressing the social determinants of equity

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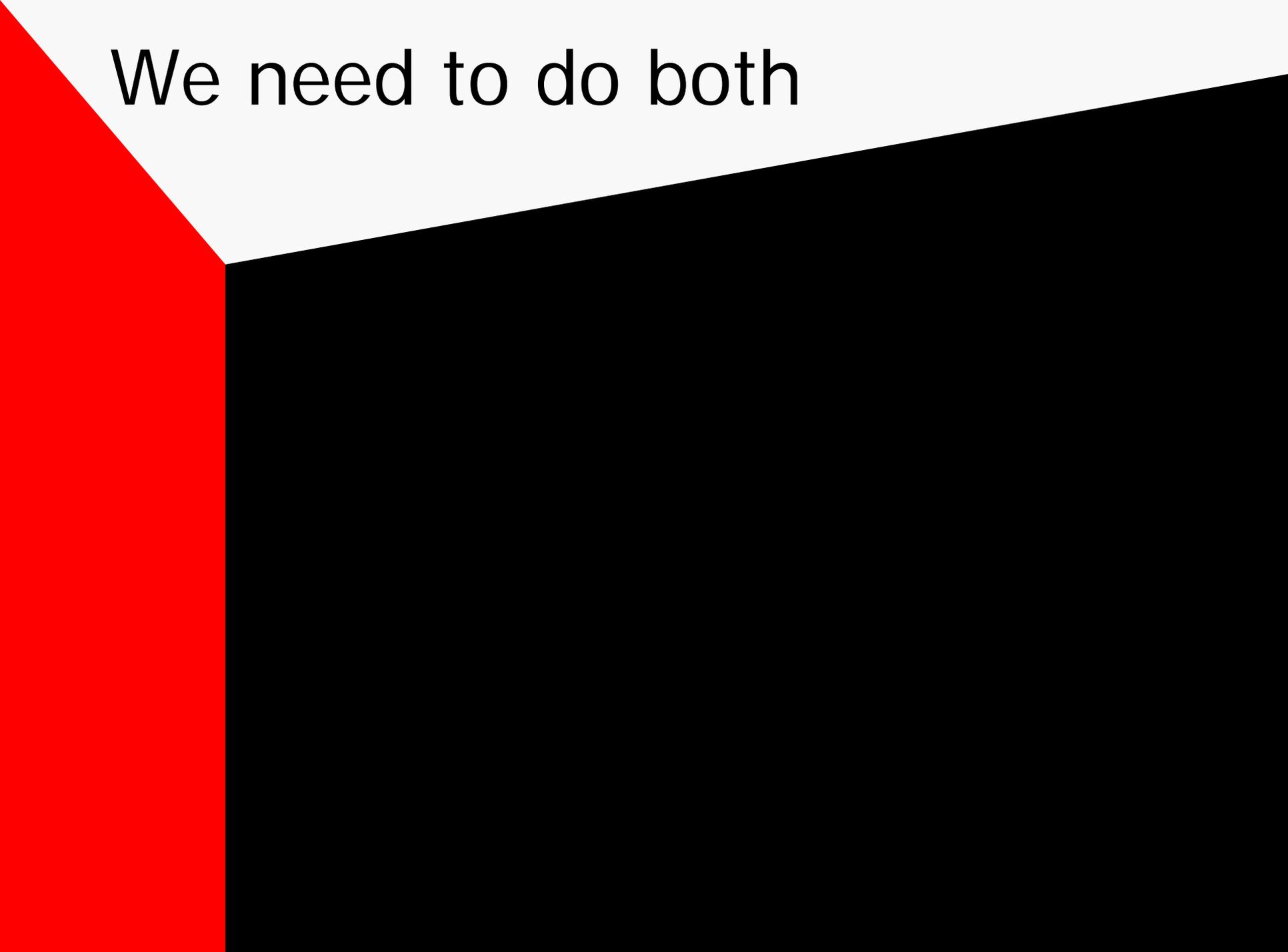
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Addressing the social determinants of equity

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Addressing the social determinants of equity

- Involves monitoring for inequities in exposures and opportunities, as well as for disparities in outcomes
- Involves examination of structures, policies, practices, norms, and values
- Requires intervention on societal structures and attention to systems of power



We need to do both

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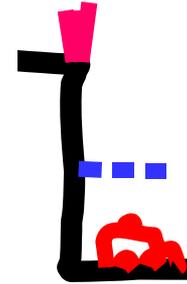
- Address the social determinants of health, including poverty, in order to achieve large and sustained improvements in health outcomes

We need to do both

- Address the social determinants of health, including poverty, in order to achieve large and sustained improvements in health outcomes
- Address the social determinants of equity, including racism, in order to achieve social justice and eliminate health disparities

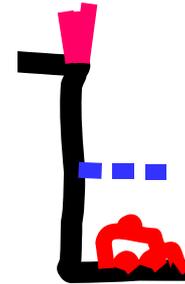
Our goal: To expand the conversation

Health services

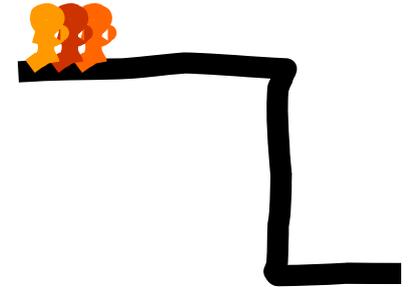
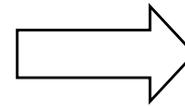
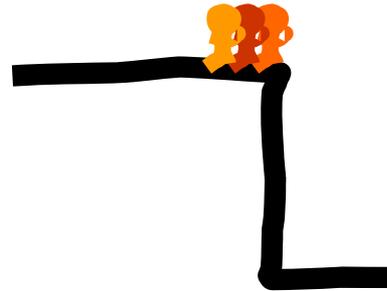


Our goal: To expand the conversation

Health services

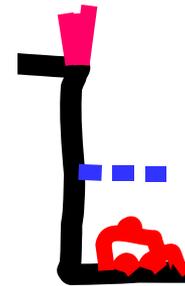


Social determinants
of health

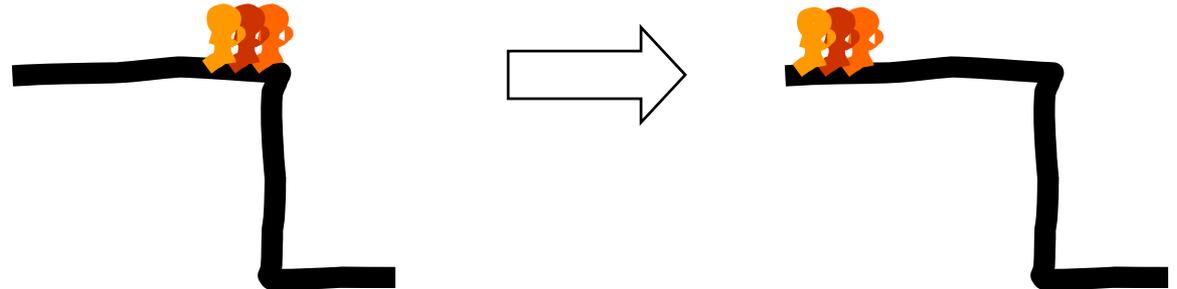


Our goal: To expand the conversation

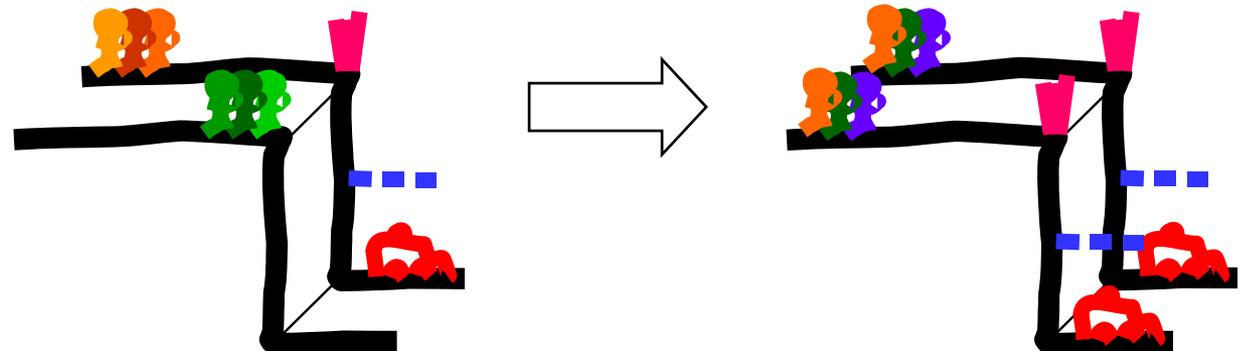
Health services



Social determinants of health



Social determinants of equity



Our tasks

- Put racism on the agenda
 - Name racism as a force determining the distribution of other social determinants of health
 - Routinely monitor for differential exposures, opportunities, and outcomes by “race”

Our tasks

- Ask, “How is racism operating here?”
 - Identify mechanisms in structures, policies, practices, norms, and values
 - Attend to both what exists and what is lacking

Our tasks

- Organize and strategize to act
 - Join in grassroots organizing around the conditions of people's lives
 - Identify the structural factors creating and perpetuating those conditions
 - Link with similar efforts across the country and around the world

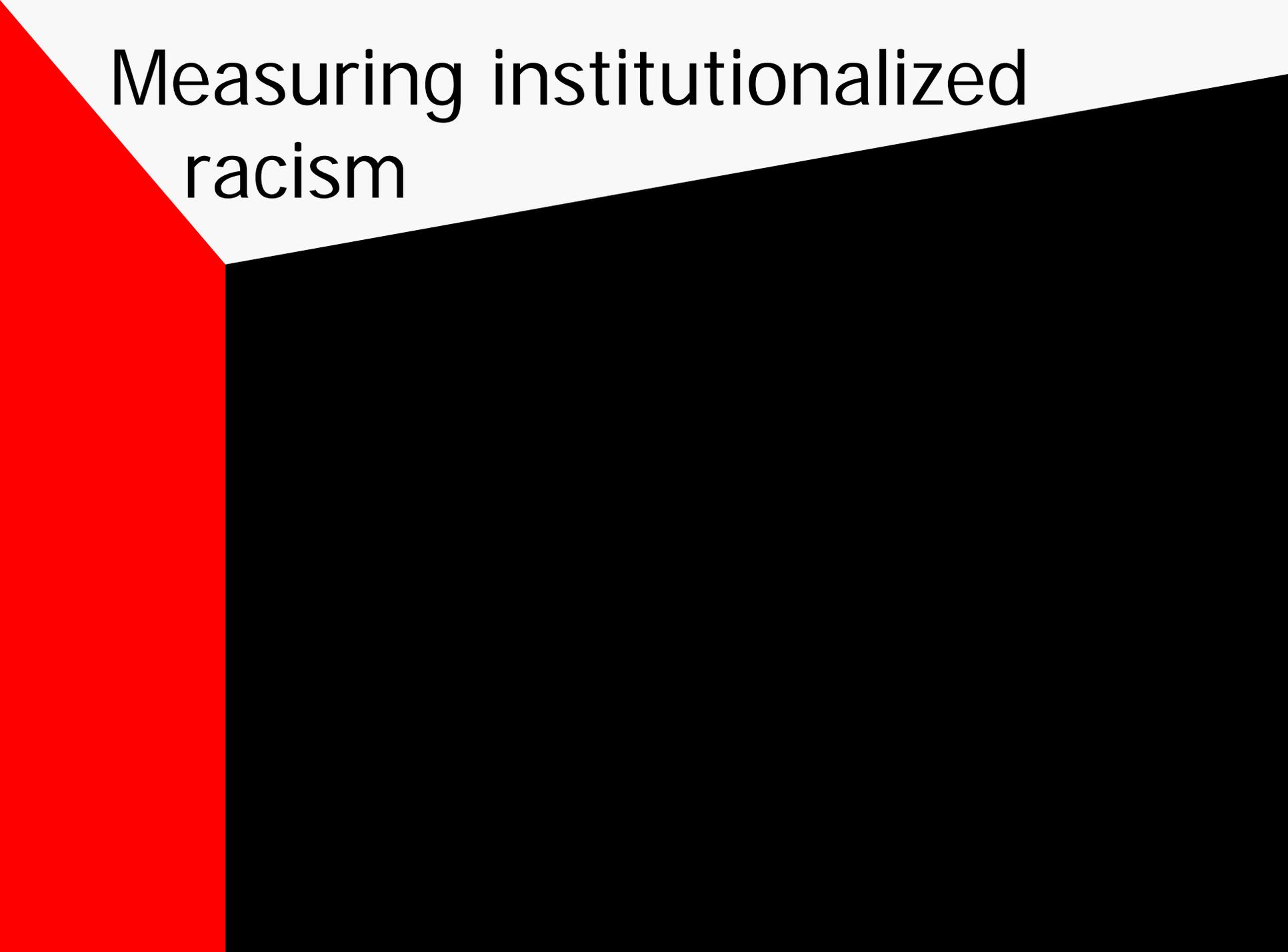
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Measuring institutionalized racism

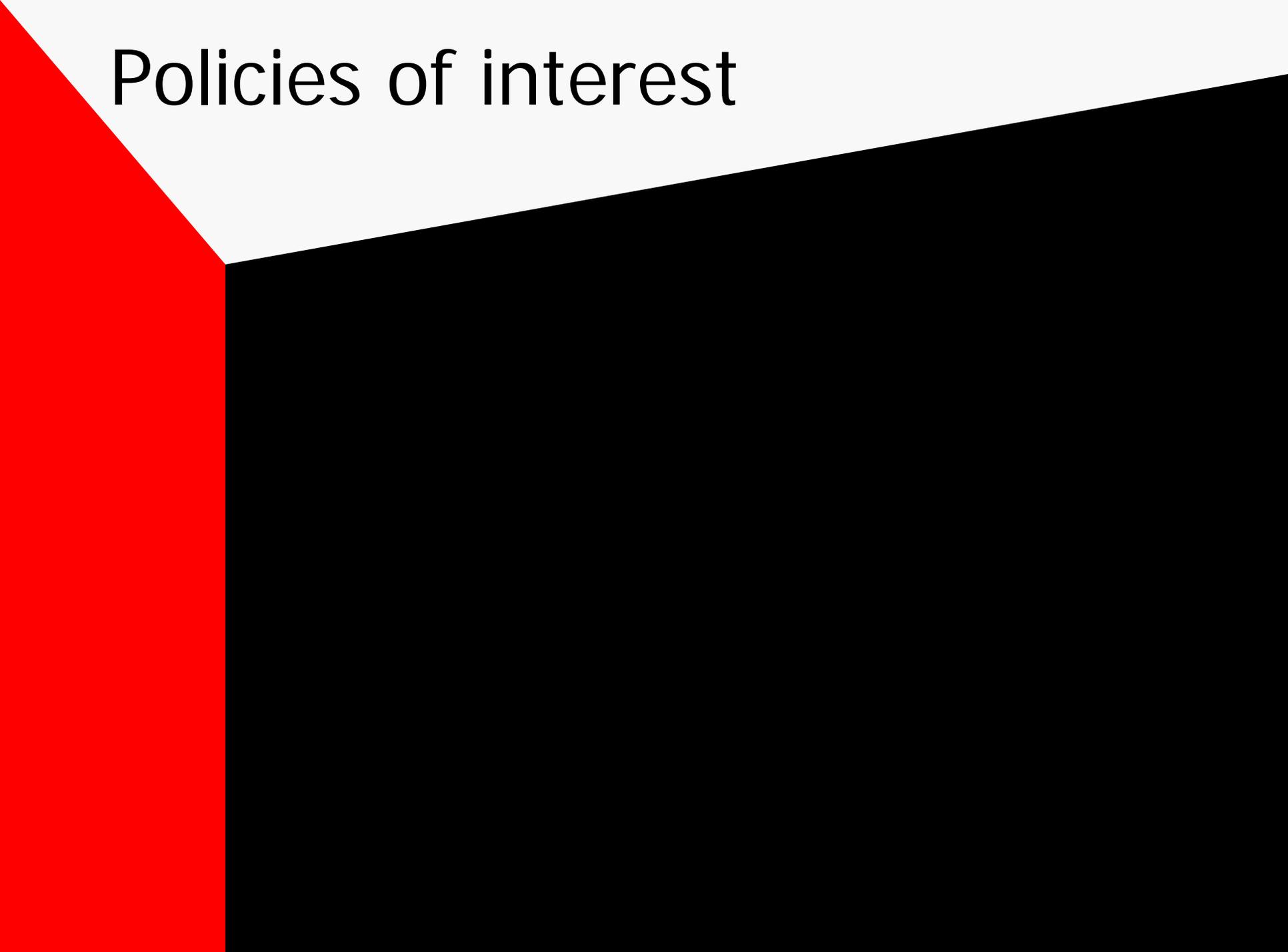
Measuring institutionalized racism

- Scan for evidence of “racial” disparities
 - Routinely monitor outcomes by “race”
 - “Could racism be operating here?”

Measuring institutionalized racism

- Scan for evidence of “racial” disparities
 - Routinely monitor outcomes by “race”
 - “Could racism be operating here?”
- Identify mechanisms
 - Examine structures and written policies
 - Query unwritten practices and norms
 - “How is racism operating here?”

Policies of interest



Policies of interest

- Policies allowing segregation of resources and risks

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- Policies creating inherited group-disadvantage

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Policies of interest

- Policies allowing segregation of resources and risks
- Policies creating inherited group-disadvantage
- Policies favoring the differential valuation of human life by “race”
- Policies limiting self-determination

Policies allowing segregation
of resources and risks

A decorative graphic consisting of a red triangle on the left side and a black trapezoidal shape on the right side, both pointing towards the bottom right corner of the slide.

Policies allowing segregation of resources and risks

Redlining, municipal zoning, toxic dump siting

Use of local property taxes to fund public education

Policies creating
inherited group disadvantage



Policies creating inherited group disadvantage

Lack of social security for children

Estate inheritance

Lack of reparations for historical
injustices

Policies favoring the
differential valuation of human
life by "race"

The background features a white upper section. On the left side, there is a red triangle pointing downwards. At the bottom, there is a large black shape that resembles a wide, shallow triangle pointing upwards, meeting the white section at a diagonal line.

Policies favoring the differential valuation of human life by “race”

Curriculum

Media invisibility/hypervisibility

Myth of meritocracy and denial of racism

Policies limiting self-determination



Policies limiting self-determination

De jure and *de facto* limitations to voting rights

“Majority rules” when there is a fixed minority

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Resources

- California Newsreel: *Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?*

<http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/>

- World Health Organization:
Commission on Social Determinants of Health

http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en/

Resources

- CityMatCH: Undoing Racism Action Group

<http://www.citymatch.org/UR.php>

- National League of Cities: Reducing Racism and Achieving Racial Justice

http://www.nlc.org/resources_for_cities/programs___services/382.aspx

Resources

- UNESCO: International Coalition of Cities Against Racism
<http://www.unesco.org/shs/citiesagainstracism>
- United Nations: World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance
<http://www.un.org/WCAR/>

Resources

- United Nations: Committee to Eliminate Racial Discrimination

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/>

USA CERD report:

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/AdvanceVersion/cerd_c_usa6.doc

NGO shadow reports:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/cerds72-ngos-usa.htm>

Resources

- CDC Racism and Health Workgroup
rahw@cdc.gov

Communications and Dissemination

Education and Development

Global Matters

Liaison and Partnership

Organizational Excellence

Policy and Legislation

Science and Publications

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