School Racial Socialization and Diversity in STEM

CHRISTY M. BYRD

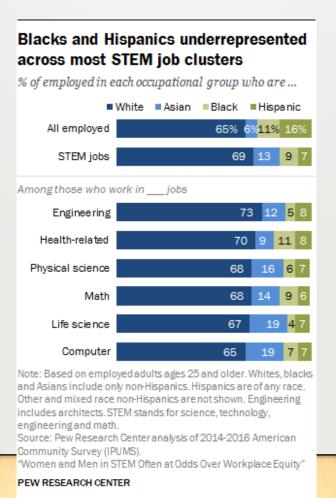
My work explores how school climate for diversity is associated with outcomes in adolescence



Using intentional racial socialization can increase diversity in STEM



Blacks/African Americans and Hispanics/Latinx are underrepresented in the STEM workforce



STEM intervention programs provide services and activities targeted at different concerns (Tsui, 2007)



- Skill development
- Career awareness
 - Understanding nature and value of work
- Perceptions of barriers
- Ability to cope with discrimination
- Sense of belonging
- Development of a scientist identity

School racial socialization refers to intentional and unintentional messages schools give about race and culture (Byrd, 2015)



Cultural socialization



Promotion of cultural competence



Critical consciousness socialization

School racial socialization already exists in college in curricular/co-curricular diversity experiences



Diversity experiences can be incorporated into STEM intervention programs and promote important outcomes



- Cultural socialization
 - Career awareness
 - Sense of belonging
 - Development of a scientist identity
- Promotion of cultural competence
 - Skill development
 - Sense of belonging
- Critical consciousness socialization
 - Perceptions of barriers
 - Ability to cope with discrimination

STEM intervention programs can connect with existing diversity experiences

- Required diversity courses
- Campus cultural centers
- Service learning programs
- Bias workshops and seminars
- Identity-based student organizations for different majors

Diversity experiences help White students, too!



In sum, STEM interventions can incorporate racial socialization practices to improve diversity in STEM

