Romesh Bhagratee
PHIL 2203
Prof. Whitmoyer
1/22/2024

Question 4 (John Stone)

The article " Race and Healthcare Disparities: Overcoming Vulnerability" by John Stone discusses African Americans, and the healthcare disparities that are experienced by African Americans who have Medicare, or other healthcare coverage. The many disparities range from mental health issues to the quality of healthcare that is provided to racial and ethnic minorities. Stone states that, "Racism adversely affects living environments in several ways. African American encounters with racism are directly stressful. The unpredictability of such encounters enhances stress, requiring that blacks always be on guard. -Also, poor communities in general, and poor African American communities in particular, are at disproportionate risk of encountering environmental toxins where they live and work" (Stone, 500). This validates stones claim and highlights two disparities that are present such as stress, and unsafe living environments. Environmental factors are influential to how your health is affected, and sometimes affect the quality of care you receive. For example, a person who lives in a city, or location with very bad air quality will have bad health effects, such as Bronchitis (currently thinking I have, because I've had a general grievous cough for the last 5 years). Also, it was argued that "-when access and cost issues are apparently eliminated, as in managed care, disparities remained striking". This is interesting, because normally money and wealth are normally directly correlated with the care you receive but there seems to be a deeper, or different underlying issue that keeps occurring. If this is not primarily a money problem, then what factors can lead to these social norms developing?