Effects of Racial and Ethnic Background on Maternal Health in the U.S.

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This research project aims to look both qualitatively and quantitatively at maternal care and maternal mortality in the American healthcare system. Specifically examining the relationship between racial and ethnic background, quality of care, and fatalities. For the quantitative research, data regarding births, maternal deaths, and demographic information of the mothers was collected from different individual states in America. The data was analyzed, using statistical software, to examine different relationships between race, ethnicity, and maternal death. For the qualitative research, information regarding social infrastructure that may contribute to poor maternal health, such as access to insurance and familial wealth, is also considered, and examines the differences between ethnic groups regarding these social factors. The project explores some ways in which demographics affect maternal health in America statistically, and examines some of the social and medical aspects that are likely to be contributing to maternal health disparities and the high rate of maternal mortality in the United States.