

Spillover effects of structural sexism on children's health insurance status

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INTRODUCTION

Structural sexism in the US is associated with adverse population health outcomes among women. This study examines whether structural sexism have spillover effects on children's health insurance status.

METHODS

- 2018-2019 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) merged with 2016 percentage of state-specific female legislators
- Multilevel logistic regression models
- Confounders: individual-level (age, gender, household income, and race/ethnicity) state-level (population in poverty and population size)

CONCLUSION

Structural sexism is associated with higher odds of being uninsured and having experienced a gap in recent health insurance coverage in children. These associations vary by household income.

RESULTS

Children living in states with the lowest female political representations compared to their peers in states with the highest female representation had:

- Higher odds of being uninsured (OR=1.27, 95% CI=0.97, 1.67)
- Higher odds of an insurance gap (OR=1.11, 95% CI=0.93, 1.32)

Associations vary by outcome and household income.

- Currently uninsured: Higher OR for households 100-199% and 400% above FPL
- Insurance gap: Higher OR for low household income groups

Figure 1: OR for children living in states with low vs. high female political representation

