



Introduction to GAMA

Exploring Medication Abortion Access for Black and Latinx Women

Zainab Jah, MPH

Marieh Scales

Mariana Gutierrez

SisterLove, Inc.

SISTERLOVE, INC.



An Introduction

SISTERLOVE MISSION AND HISTORY



Headquartered in Atlanta, GA, and with offices in South Africa, SisterLove, Inc.'s (SLI) mission is to eradicate the impact of HIV and sexual and reproductive oppression upon all women, their families, and communities locally and internationally.

Established in 1989, SLI was the first organization in the US South to explicitly focus on the needs of Black women living with HIV (WLHIV) and other communities disproportionately impacted and least recognized in direct services, research, and advocacy in the HIV epidemic.

Quick Hello from SisterLove, Inc. Co-Principal Investigator Sequoia Ayala



Sequoia Ayala. JD, MA

Policy and Advocacy Program Director
Co-Principal Investigator, GAMA Project

sayala@sisterlove.org

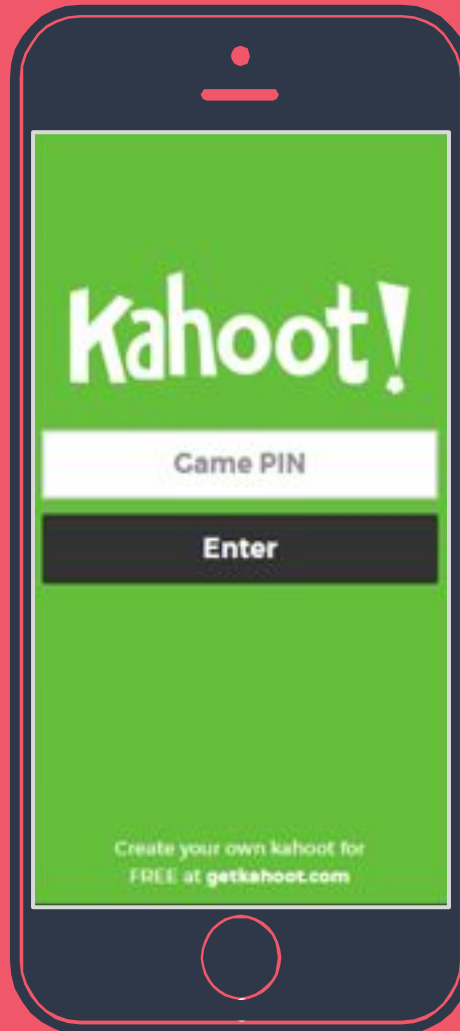


Introducing Our Research Partner

RISE

Center for Reproductive Health in
the Southeast

Quiz Time!



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GAMA

Georgia Access to
Medication Abortion

96%

Percentage of GA Counties with no abortion clinics

7%

**Decrease in Abortion Rates from 2011-2014 in GA without a
corresponding decrease in unintended pregnancy**

(Guttmacher Institute, 2018)

Required in GA:

State Directed Counseling for Abortion Services

Mandatory 24 hour waiting period

Parental Notification (under 18)

22-Week Abortion Ban

(Guttmacher Institute, 2018)

(Roberts et al., 2015)

IMPACT OF POLICY ON MEDICATION ABORTION

Mandating Protocols

FDA Protocol for Medication Abortion is less effective and more cumbersome than more modern protocols.

Dispensing of Medication

Only Physicians in GA authorized; Advanced Practice Clinicians are authorized in some states.

(Kaiser Family Foundation, 2018)
(Uadhyay et al., 2018)

Eliminating Insurance Coverage

Hyde Amendment prohibits federal funding for abortion services, this includes Medicaid.

Outlawing Telemedicine

Laws enacted requiring physicians providing the medication abortion to be physically present.



“

Across the nation and in the Southeast, unintended pregnancies and births are more common for women who are lower socioeconomic status, Black, and/or Latinx.

(Finer et al., 2016)

Latinx Women

Experience disproportionate and unique barriers to contraception and pregnancy related care, including fears about:

Immigration Enforcement

Sociocultural Norms

Communication

(Frost et al., 2015)

(White & Scarinci, 2017)

(Holtz & Bairan)

Less than 40%

Of women in GA are Black Women

65%

**Of women accessing Abortion in GA were Black women in
2014**

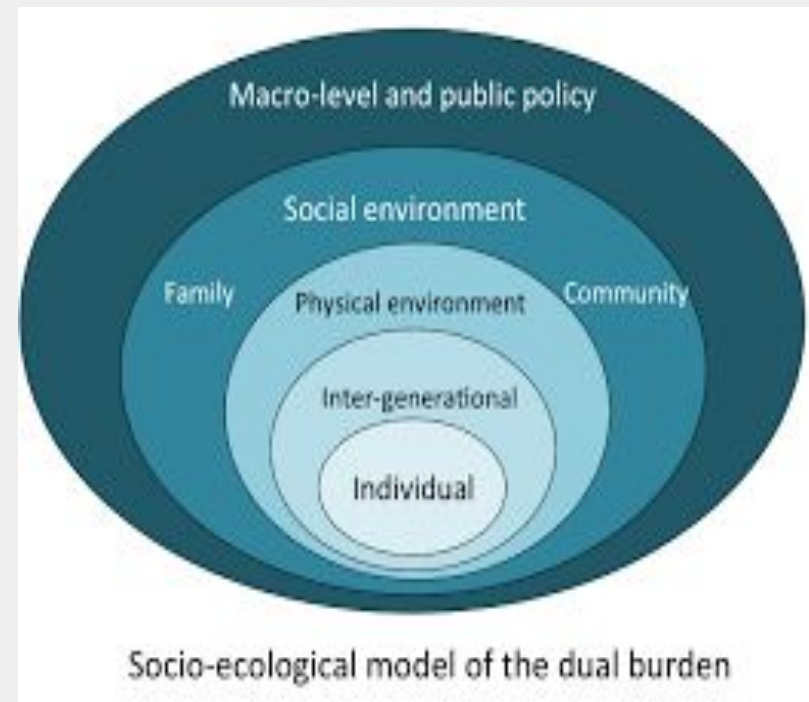
(Dehlendorf et al., 2013)

GAMA

Study Aims

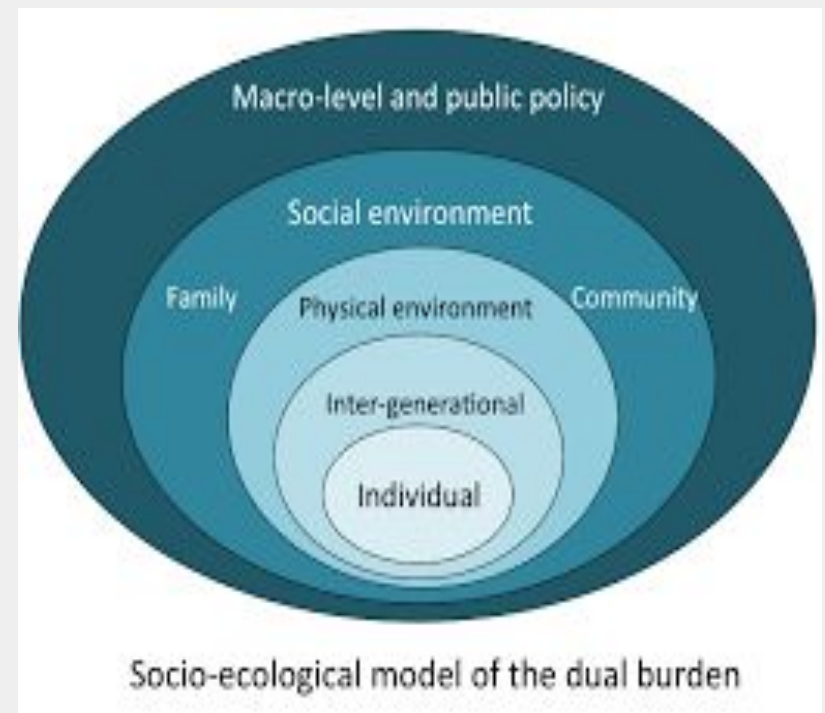
Aim 1

Explore the **perceptions, experiences, perceived barriers,** and facilitators of **access** to and **uptake** of medication abortion among Black and Latinx women in Georgia



Aim 2

Estimate the **prevalence of the multi-level factors** identified in Aim One and their relationship to medication abortion acceptability, intentions, and use among Black and Latinx women in Georgia



TIMELINE



1.

Partnerships

Engaging Key Informants

Who are we partnering with?

**Black and
Latinx
Community
Based
Organizers**

**Abortion
Providers**

**Community
Advisory
Board**


2.

Community Based Data Collection



Learning from the
community

How are we collecting data from Black and Latinx women?



**In-Depth
Interviews**

**Focus
Groups**

Surveys

3.

Dissemination



Translating the findings

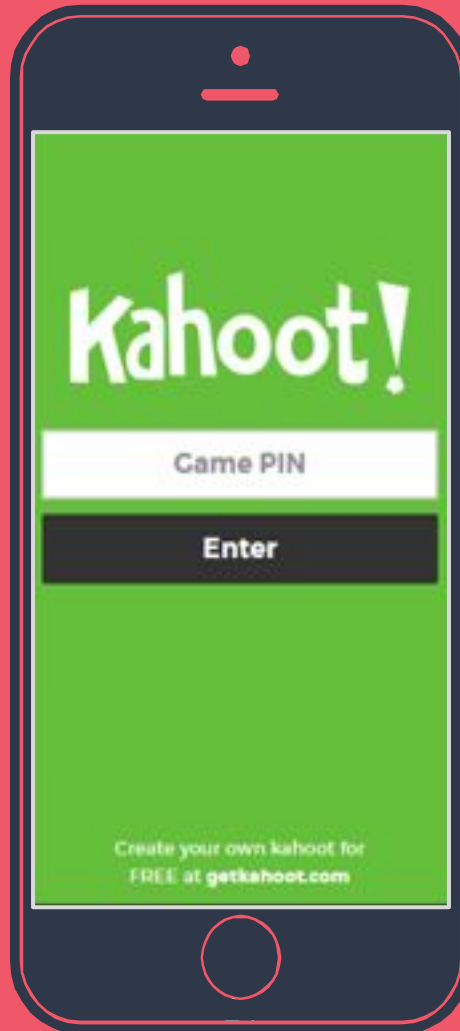
How are we translating the findings from the study?

**Developing a
psycho-
educational
video**

**Developing
community-
based
advocacy
trainings**

**Informing
culturally
sensitive
clinical
guidelines**

Quiz Time!



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Community Engagement

COMMUNITY BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

Partnership approach to research where community members and academic researchers collaborate. This approach allows both partners to provide their expertise to expand on knowledge that will benefit the community through societal or policy changes.



What is the community's role in GAMA?

Community Advisory Board

Collaboration with community stakeholders to aid in the research process through experience and feedback

Contextualizing Statistics

Use of Qualitative Data through In-Depth Interviews and Focus Groups with community members and community based organizers to inform statistics in literature

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Thank You!

Any questions?

**Contact Zainab Jah at:
zjah@sisterlove.org**