

**Anti-racism activism, scholarship, policy and praxis:
Focus on youth inclusion and integration**



The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the health inequalities and inequities faced by individuals, communities, and even nations. Early in the pandemic the additional risk factors faced by marginalized populations became evident. As the pandemic continues, so do the inequities, such as access to vaccination globally and supports for employment and healthcare at national levels.

Racialized populations have experienced additional burdens in all phases of the pandemic. This has been exacerbated by pre-existing discriminatory and oppressive practices, barriers, and systemic differentials in the social determinants of health. Our recent work (Khanlou et al., 2020) on systemic support for the mental health and wellbeing of racialized women at risk of gender-based violence during the pandemic points to a syndemic (Khanlou et al., 2021). We have called for systemic practices and policies that are upstream and multi-sectoral.

This special issue of the INYI Journal contains articles submitted in response to our call for submissions on “*Anti-racism activism, scholarship, policy and praxis: Focus on youth inclusion and integration.*” The issue is a culmination of efforts at multiple levels. On behalf of Dr. Luz Maria Vazquez, Managing Editor of INYI Journal,

and I, we sincerely thank all authors who submitted articles. Contributors were from different disciplines, institutions, and provinces. Together they raise timely and key awareness and provide critical insights and recommendations to inform anti-racism efforts.

We are deeply grateful to the anonymized peer-reviewers who provided constructive and thoughtful feedback as part of the peer review process to authors. Thank you genuinely for your time, knowledge, and important support of the peer review process.

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In anti-racism work, scholarship is not separate from activism. And among the aims of activist scholars are to inform policy and praxis efforts to support positive change and equity-informed transformation. The knowledge shared in the articles of this special issue have significant implications to support these aims.

Nazilla Khanlou
Editor-in-Chief
York University
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References

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