

proxy. This is an under estimation of the role that education and structural racism play in WMH burden due to our positively selected sample and crude measure of education. However, these methods can help researchers quantify the contribution of SDH to disparities in older adulthood and provide targets for policy change.

**Categories:**

Assessment/Psychometrics/Methods (Adult)

**Keyword 1:** minority issues

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## 2 Vigilant Coping Moderates the Relationship between Discrimination and Memory among Black and Latinx Adults

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**Objective:** In the U.S, Black and Latinx individuals disproportionately experience daily acts of discrimination. To counteract the psychological distress, many individuals develop coping mechanisms, like vigilant coping, where behaviors are modified to attempt to prevent discriminatory experiences. Researchers have investigated how coping mechanisms moderate the relationship between discrimination and psychological stress, but not their role in the relationship between discrimination and cognitive function. Prior research has shown a link between discrimination and poor episodic memory. The current study examined vigilant coping as a potential moderator in the relationship between discrimination and memory among Black and Latinx people.

**Participants and Methods:** We partnered with 1317 non-Latinx Black (n= 291) and Latinx (n= 1026) individuals who participated in the Offspring Study of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Alzheimer's Disease. Participants were assessed in English or Spanish, according to their preference. Experiences of discrimination were measured on two scales: Major (civil rights violations) and Everyday (daily hassles), and were coded according to yearly chronicity. Vigilance was measured among people with at least one reported experience of discrimination on either scale, using a 5-item survey which was

dichotomized as low and high vigilant coping. The Selective Reminding Test, a 12-item word list task with 6 learning trials and a delayed recall trial, yielded scores for total immediate recall and delayed memory. Linear regression models were used to assess if vigilance moderated the relationship between discrimination and memory, with years of education and age as covariates.

**Results:** Participants ranged in age from 27 to 91, with a mean age of 56.5 (SD=11.0) years, a mean education of 12.7 (SD=3.7) years, and were 67% women. High vigilant coping was associated with more experiences of major (b = 1.7, 95% CI = 0.9,2.5) and everyday (b = 90.3, 95% CI=66.2,114.3) discrimination. Memory was not associated with reported everyday discrimination, but lower delayed recall was observed among people who reported more experiences of major discrimination (b= -0.04, 95% CI = -0.07,-0.01). This relationship was moderated by vigilance, such that among people with low vigilant coping, major experiences of discrimination predicted lower memory (b= -0.06, 95% CI = -0.12,-0.01), but the association between discrimination and memory was weakened among people with high use of vigilant coping (b= -0.02, 95% CI = -0.05,0.01).

**Conclusions:** This study builds on Black researchers' work that laid the foundations for examination of stress and coping in marginalized populations. Future studies on discrimination and cognitive health should consider coping mechanisms as key aspects of pathways linking structural racism and inequalities to cognitive health among Black and Latinx individuals.

**Categories:** Cross Cultural Neuropsychology/  
Clinical Cultural Neuroscience

**Keyword 1:** cross-cultural issues

**Keyword 2:** aging (normal)

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## 3 Area Deprivation Index Interacts with Sex to Predict Atrophy and Cognitive Trajectory Over a 5-Year Follow-Up Period