

**Ten Years of ACA: Its Effects on Racial Disparities in Children’s Health Care Access and Implications for African Americans, P.I.: Yuying Shen, Ph.D., Sociology Department**

Eliminating the racial disparities in health care access has been the national public health priority stated in Health People 2030. Prior research has documented the racial disparities in health care access among children. Inadequate attention, however, have been paid to research questions such as whether racial disparities in health care access and health insurance coverage among children are increasing or decreasing over the years, given the changes in health care and other related policies and programs in recent years, particularly the initiation and revision of Affordable Care Act (ACA). The proposed project plans to cover the gap in current literature by optimizing the use of the available nationwide data to identify the 10-year temporal trends in racial disparities of children’s health insurance coverage and children’s health care access between 2010 and 2020, with statistical analyses of data from National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH). It will further examine the implications of such changes for African American children with empirical data collected from structured quantitative survey and qualitative focus group interviews among randomly selected African American families in Virginia.