Using an Equity Lens in Public Health Practice

Causes of Health Inequities

**Root Factors**
- Racism
- Poverty
- Discrimination
- Oppression
- Lack of power

**Environmental Factors**
- Toxic contaminants
- Joblessness
- Unequal education
- Poor transportation
- Inadequate access to food and exercise
- Marketing of unhealthy products

**Medical Services**
- Lack of access
- Unequal quality of care
- Lack of culturally competent care
- Disparities in treatment

**Behavioral Factors**
- Nutrition
- Physical activity
- Tobacco use
- Alcohol use
- Violence
- Hopelessness

**Health Inequities**

Do you even hear the words I say?
The ones I like.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEOPLE</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who is positively and negatively affected (by this issue) and how?</td>
<td>What kind of positive “place” are we creating?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How are people differently situated in terms of the barriers they experience?</td>
<td>What kind of negative “place” are we creating?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider Physical, Spiritual, Emotional and Contextual affects.</td>
<td>How are public resources and investments distributed geographically?</td>
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<tr>
<th>PROCESS</th>
<th>POWER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How are we meaningfully including or excluding people (communities of color) who are affected?</td>
<td>What are the barriers to doing equity and racial justice work?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What policies, processes and social relationships contribute to the exclusion of communities most affected by inequities?</td>
<td>What are the benefits and burdens that communities experience with this (issue)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are there empowering processes at every human touchpoint?</td>
<td>Who is accountable?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>