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Sociology, Infant Mortality Disparities, Race, Nativity, Education, Adverse Birth Outcomes

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The United States has one of the highest rates of infant mortality in the developed world. Studies indicate infant mortality varies greatly across racial groups. Black women are twice as likely to report preterm birth or infant death relative to White women. Foreign-born Black women have similar rates to that of native-born White women rather than native-born Black women, suggesting the link between race and reproductive health is more complex than previously understood. Thus, this study examines the interplay between nativity, race, and reproductive health. The cumulative disadvantage perspective has been employed to better unpack how life course stressors may be negatively linked to reproductive health outcomes of native-born Black women relative to the foreign-born. The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent and Adult Health was utilized to examine if a woman's nativity is associated with their reproductive health outcomes based on unique life course stressors they may have endured. These findings from this study suggests that both nativity status and race are key to better understanding adverse birth outcomes.

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Title: The Link Between Nativity Status and Racial Infant Mortality Disparities

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