

Religion and Cognitive Functioning

Dr. Andrea Henderson Platt



What is your project about?

The aim of this project is to examine the extent to which various dimensions of religiosity is associated with trajectories of cognitive functioning among older adults and whether this relationship varies by race.

Why is the project important?

Research finds a persistent racial gap in cognitive functioning, such that Black older adults in the United States are more likely to suffer from cognitive impairment than their White peers. Understanding how individual psychosocial resources, including religiosity, might be leveraged to promote health among Black older adults is important for both researchers interested in understanding the social factors that may reduce health inequalities, as well as practitioners working directly with patients.

Who are you collaborating with on your project?

Katrina Walsemann (UofSC, CHIP affiliate, and Co-Lead of the Analysis Core at CCADMR) and Jennifer Ailshire (University of Southern California) are working with me on this project. Sue Levkoff (UofSC, Co-PI of CCADMR) is a co-mentor.

Who is funding your project?

My project is funded through the newly established Carolina Center on Alzheimer's Disease and Minority Research (CCADMR) supported through a National Institute on Aging award.