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It’s Wrong to Collect “Racial Data” for COVID-19

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (MD) wants all fifty states to “collect demographic data on racial disparities and the coronavirus.” He says the race of confirmed COVID-19 cases is “not known in more than half” the cases. He says communities with higher rates of infection and fatality, which he seems to assume are related to race, won’t get sufficient resources, such as tests, ventilators, personal protective equipment and hospital beds if this data isn’t collected. On what does he base this claim?

It is wrong to collect such data without patient permission. Furthermore, there’s no such thing as race; there are only colors. Calling it “racial disparities” seems to assume that color determines care. But as an ER nurse, I know that we only focused on saving the patient’s life. Don’t fill in those questions at the clinic.


Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

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