

STATISTICS SEMINAR

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The Price of Ethnic Marginalization: The Peril of Ethnic Exclusion in Times of Public Health Crisis

Friday, April 19, 2024

2:30 – 3:30 pm

310 MSCS

ZOOM Link for Applied M.S. Students

<https://okstate-edu.zoom.us/j/92298224591>

Abstract: Public health crisis mitigation policy requires public compliance with government health guidelines. However, vaccine hesitant sentiments are reported among ethnic and racial minority communities. This study argues that their vaccine hesitancy stems from distrust in the government that marginalizes them. We conduct causal mediation analyses of nationally representative survey data across 13 African countries. The results indicate that trust in government mediates the effect of perceived ethnic marginalization on COVID-19 vaccination intention. Perceived marginalization decreases government trust, leading to public health policy non-compliance in the form of vaccine hesitancy. The findings have far-reaching implications for health crisis policies. A path dependent consequence of marginalization during non-crisis times hinders collective actions during crisis times. Public health crisis equally affect everyone regardless of ethnicity or race, and the crisis could worsen if public policy is ineffective. Governments must put efforts into combating ethnic marginalization because viruses do not discriminate.

Refreshments immediately following seminar in Room 309 MSCS.