

Nia M. Johnson

Education

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Doctor of Philosophy Candidate, Health Policy – Political Analysis, May 2024

Boston University School of Law, Boston, MA

Juris Doctor Candidate – Health Law, May 2019

Honors: Editor-in-Chief, *American of Journal of Law and Medicine*

Activities: Black Law Student's Association

Vice President of Boston University Health Law Association, 2017-2018

Final Paper: *Expanding Horizons: Recognizing the Flint Water Crisis as a Bioethical Grievance*

Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Masters of Bioethics, August 2016

Activities: Masters of Bioethics Social Chair, 2016

Penn Alumni Interview Program Member

Capstone: *Urban Bioethics: A Call for the Prestige*

Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, in International Studies, Minor Political Science, May 2015

Honors: Dean's List (All four years)

Activities: Miss Oakwood University, 2014 – 2015 (selected as an Ebony Magazine Campus Queen, 2015)

Member of Oakwood University Aeolians, 2012-2015

Logistics Committee Member – Oakwood University Aeolians, 2013-2014

Oakwood University Supreme Court Justice, 2013-2014

Vice President of Oakwood University's Pre-Law Society, 2012-2013

Teaching and Research Interests

Primary: *Torts; Administrative Law; Health Law; Health Regulations; Public Health Law*

Secondary: *The Economics of Health Law; Bioethics and the Law; Biotechnology and the Law; Health Policy and the Law; Race and the Law; Legal Empirical Studies; Public Opinion, Race, and Democracy*

Publications

Law Review Articles:

Expanding Accountability: Using the Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress Claim to Compensate Black American Families Who Remained Unheard in Medical Crisis, 72 HASTINGS L. J. 6 (2021).

Legal and Bioethical Implications of a Misdiagnosed Brain Death – Spears v. Rosen. 43 AM. J. OF L. AND MED. 4 (2018).

Health Policy and Bioethics:

From a Reckoning to Racial Concordance: A Strategy to Protect Black Mothers, Children, and Infants. 52 HASTINGS CTR. SPECIAL REP. S1 (2022). [Peer Reviewed]

Black Americans' Views on Health Policy: Implications for the 2020 Election. 1 JAMA Health F. 8, (2020). [Peer Reviewed, with Robert Blendon and Mary Gorski Findling]

When Blackness Doesn't Fade After A Pandemic: An Appeal to Acknowledge the Unequal Burden of Social Isolation. 97 J. OF URB. HEALTH 3 (2020). [Peer Reviewed]

Urban Bioethics: A Call for the Prestige. 28 CAMBRIDGE Q. OF HEALTHCARE ETHICS 3 (2019). [Peer Reviewed, With Lance Wahlert]

Works in Progress

Sickness from the State: Examining County Lead Levels as a Proxy for Covid-19 Mortality Disparities by Race. (In Progress, 2022)

Public Health Neglect. (In Progress, 2022)

Unintended or Intended Consequences? How Racialized Rhetoric Affects Public Opinion of Health Policy. (In Progress, 2023)

Examining the Disproportionate Impact of Malpractice Caps on Racially Marginalized Communities. (In Progress, 2023)

Awards

White House Fellows, Regional Finalist: Northeast Region (2021-2022) – Fellowship focused on building bipartisan relationships in the White House, providing practical policy experience with the federal government, and cultivating leaders in policy and public service.

Emerson Collective Fellow: Recover and Renew Cohort (2020-2021) – Fellowship focused on equity, justice, and Covid-19 recovery. Awarded for a two-part, legal-empirical research proposal analyzing the relationship between counties with large populations of individuals with elevated blood Lead levels and Covid-19 mortality by race.

Boston University School of Law Melville M. Bigelow Scholarship Award (2019) – Awarded to students that demonstrate great promise as scholars and teachers in the law.

Law and Society Association Junior Scholars Workshop Participant (2019) - Awarded to junior scholars with a demonstrated research agenda in sociolegal studies. The purpose of the workshop is to provide mentorship and feedback.

Board Memberships

Oakwood University Honors College Board, Washington, DC
Research and Development, August 2020 - present

Tufts Health Sciences Institutional Review Board, Boston, MA
Community Member, September 2017 – September 2019

Presentations

Guest Lecturer, Conceptual Foundations of Bioethics - Expanding Accountability: Using the Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress Claim to Compensate Black American Families Who Remained Unheard in Medical Crisis, *University of Pennsylvania*, Philadelphia, PA (October and November 2021)

Guest Lecturer, Bioethics and Healthcare Decisions, *Boston University School of Law*, Boston, MA (March and April 2021)

Panelist, Hastings Law Journal Symposium: Pandemic and the People, *University of California Hastings College of Law*, San Francisco, CA (February 2021)

Moderator, Fireside Chat and Q&A: Black Racial Justice, Health, and Healthcare – Our History and Future, *Athena Health, Watertown, MA (February 2021)*

Moderator, Combating Disparities: Maternal Health for People of Color, *University of California, Irvine School of Law, Irvine, CA (November 2020)*

Guest Lecturer, Conceptual Foundations of Bioethics – What Patient’s Families Say, What Doctors Need to Hear: De-trivializing Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress Claims for Black American Families Who Remained Unheard in Crisis, *University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (October 2020)*

Guest Lecturer, Bioethics and Race Book Club - When Blackness Doesn’t Fade After A Pandemic: An Appeal to Acknowledge the Unequal Burden of Social Isolation, *University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (September 2020)*

Guest Lecturer, Yale University Sherwin B. Nuland Summer Institute in Bioethics, *New Haven, CT (July 2020).*

Commentator, Racial Bias, Disparities and Oppression in the 1L Curriculum: A Critical Approach to the Canonical First Year Law School Subjects, *Boston University School of Law, Boston, MA (February 2020).*

Acera 2019 Innovators Symposium, Reconciling Mistrust in Medicine with the Law and American Culture, *Acera School, Winchester, MA (September 2019).*

Guest Lecturer, The Economics of Body Modification, Medical Decision Making Under the Male Gaze, and Bioethics, *Yale University - Sherwin B. Nuland Summer Institute in Bioethics, New Haven, CT (July 2019).*

Tufts Institutional Review Board – Economically Underprivileged Research Subjects, *Institutional Review Board Ethics Education, Boston, MA (April 2019).*

Urban Bioethics: Informal Legal Authority and Healthcare, *Wiggin and Dana, LLC. New Haven, Connecticut (Connecticut CLE Credit, July 2018).*

Urban Bioethics: A Call for the Prestige, *International Bioethics Retreat, Paris, France. (June 2018).*

Leadership and Research Experience

Duke University, Durham, NC

Visiting Assistant Professor – Law and Science and Society, July 2022

- Developed multiple courses for dual degree law and bioethics students
- Engaged in scholarly research in the areas of health law, policy, and race
- Provided mentorship and scholarly feedback services to students

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Adjunct Professor, May 2022 – August 2022

- Developed a Race and Bioethics course for medical, nursing, dentistry, law, and bioethics students
- Taught students the history of anti-black racism in medicine and health policy, disparities research, and creative problem solving and bioethics
- Provided mentorship and scholarly feedback services to students

Duke University, Durham, NC

Adjunct Professor, August 2021 – August 2022

- Developed a scholarly writing course for dual degree law and bioethics students
- Taught upper division law students’ various types of writing styles for interdisciplinary journals
- Provided mentorship and scholarly feedback services to students

Harvard College, Cambridge, MA

Teaching Assistant – Don Goldman, June 2021 – August 2021

- Assisted in teaching Infectious Diseases and Social Injustice
- Managed and taught two sections of students on bioethics and its historical intersection with marginalized individuals
- Provided tutoring services to students

Harvard School of Public Health, Cambridge, MA

Research Assistant – Ben Sommers, May 2020 – September 2020

- Analyzed data on Medicaid work requirements in Arkansas
- Wrote research briefs and blog posts on legal implications of Medicaid work requirements in the United States
- Helped produce a follow up survey to measure the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in the Southern United States

Harvard Public Opinion Research Program, Cambridge, MA

Research Assistant – Robert Blendon, May 2020 – June 2020

- Analyzed data on Covid-19 and its impact on Black American communities
- Developed survey question for outgoing surveys on race and public health
- Wrote 2 publishable works on race, health, and public opinion

Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, Boston, MA

Fellow, June 2019- August 2019

- Assessed the Health Care Innovation Investment (HCII) Program's investments in social determinants of health
- Examined the relationship between universal screening, equality in healthcare, and cost savings opportunities for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Evaluated the importance of health-related social needs

American Journal of Law and Medicine, Boston, MA

Editor-in-Chief, February 2018 – August 2019

- Developing the creative direction of the American Journal of Law and Medicine
- Developing the creative direction of the American Journal of Law and Medicine Annual Symposium
- Selecting articles for various publications
- Building relationships with scholars in the areas of public health, bioethics, and health law
- Managing a team of editors and staff members

Boston University School of Public Health, Boston, MA

Research Assistant – Michael Ulrich, JD, MPH, January 2018- June 2018

- Assessed the implications of gun violence on public health
- Examined the correlation between stalking and gun violence
- Kept abreast of current events regarding gun violence and public health

Boston University School of Public Health, Boston, MA

Teaching Assistant – George Annas, JD, MPH, September 2017-December 2018

- Assisted in teaching Health Policy, Systems, and the Law
- Taught students the legal aspects of healthcare and bioethics
- Provided tutoring services to students

Other Experiences

Crash Course, Missoula, Montana

Writer for Crash Course African-American History Series, August 2020 – March 2022

- Monitored and collaborated the creative direction of scripts for the Crash Course, African-American History Series
- Wrote scripts for episodes that addressed legal issues and cases, styled for audiences with varying expertise in the law

Wiggin and Dana, LLP, New Haven, CT

Summer Associate, June 2018-August 2018

- Wrote litigation materials for medical malpractice cases
- Analyzed legal theory research questions
- Independently prepared and delivered research presentation on informal legal authority's intersection with urban bioethics

Massachusetts State Legislature, Boston, MA

Extern, January 2018- May 2018

- Performed legal research regarding Medicare and Medicaid, general health regulations, MassHealth, and bioethics
- Prepared preliminary policies for underserved populations
- Studied the workings of the Massachusetts State Legislature
- Assisted the Committee for Health Care Financing with bill development and bill organization

Adventist Health Systems, Winter Park, FL

Law Clerk, June 2017- August 2017

- Reviewed and edited physicians' employment contracts and other agreements
- Performed legal research regarding Medicare and Medicaid, general health regulations, and bioethics
- Prepared preliminary policies for underserved populations

University of Maryland Medical System, Baltimore, MD

Law Clerk, May 2016-August 2016

- Reviewed and edited physicians' employment contracts and other agreements
- Performed legal research regarding employment law, health regulations, and bioethics
- Independently prepared and delivered informational presentation to the legal department on bioethics and presentation to the ethics committee on Clinical Ethics Mediation

Interests:

Mentoring minority students, Singing, Baking