

## **Abstract**

Research has shown that underrepresented students (including minorities, first generation college students, and socioeconomically disadvantaged students) are more likely to face stressors that have a negative impact on their ability to become socially integrated and achieve academic success (Billingsley et. al. 2019). Consequently, when minorities perceive discrimination, they are more likely to have negative mental health outcomes; for instance, more depressive symptoms and lower self-esteem (Breland-Bobble et. al 2012). Previous research suggests that there is a negative relationship between racial discrimination and mental health outcomes and that there is something that needs to be done to extinguish it. Moreover, previous research allows us to focus on the fact that racial discrimination and colorism have detrimental impacts on the mental health outcomes of African Americans and Latinos. The current study will replicate past research but also focus more on how racial discrimination and colorism affect depressive symptoms and self-esteem levels in African American and Latino college students. As we expand this research, we can have a better understanding of how Black and Latino students cope with the depression and colorism and how they can improve their overall wellbeing.