

The New Normal: Socially Disconnected

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to engage participants in the process of critical thinking and reflection on the effects of COVID-19 on African Americans on the Campus of Lane College and in Jackson TN. Also, to highlight that racial and ethnic minority groups are being disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

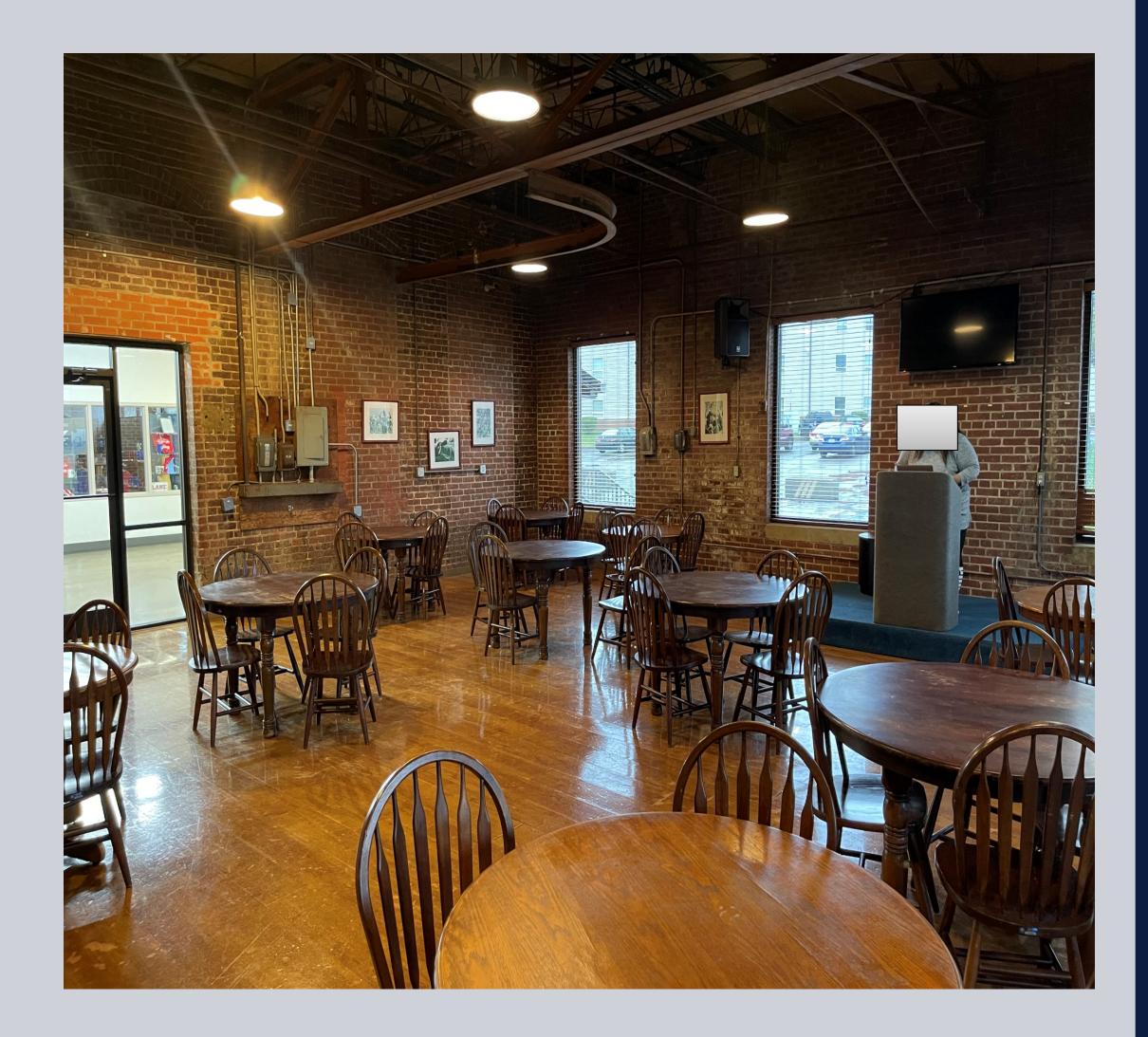
DEMOGRAPHIC

The target population for this project African Americans ages 18 and up at Lane College or in the surrounding communities that have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. No one will be excluded from this project if they are not in the target population.

METHODS

This project will utilize photos to demonstrate the impact of COVID-19 in the African American Community. Photos will be taken of people, places, and situations that have been affected by COVID -19. The student will ask for permission and have community members fill out a consent form. The student will interview the subjects to gain knowledge of their feelings and perceptions. Lastly, the student will prepare the photo story.

Photo Story



This photo reflects the new normal here at Lane College. Students are facing challenges in many different ways but most importantly most students prefer in person classes versus virtual learning. Students are less engaged in virtual classes and they feel less encouraged. Students also feel socially disconnected by not having many events on campus for students to partake in and not having the ability to visit with friends inside the residence hall.

STUDENT LESSONS LEARNED

Lessons learned from this project are:

- 1) People do not trust being photographed for research purposes.
- 2) COVID- 19 has affected people mentally and emotionally.

OUTCOMES

Lessons learned from this project are:

- 1) African American students are typically hands on or face to face learners. COVID-19 has caused anguish in students as they have been forced to learn virtually
- 2) African Americans are historically family oriented and highly sociable people. COVID-19 has disconnected students from a main source of support and nurturing system to one of isolation

COMMUNITY PARTNER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lane College

Lane College Residential Life: Lead RA

Lane College NSLS

Lane College SGA: Junior Class President

Lane College Presidential Scholar: Cohort Leader

Lane College Dragon Academy Mentor

Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity Inc.: President

TN-MMC HBCU Wellness Project