

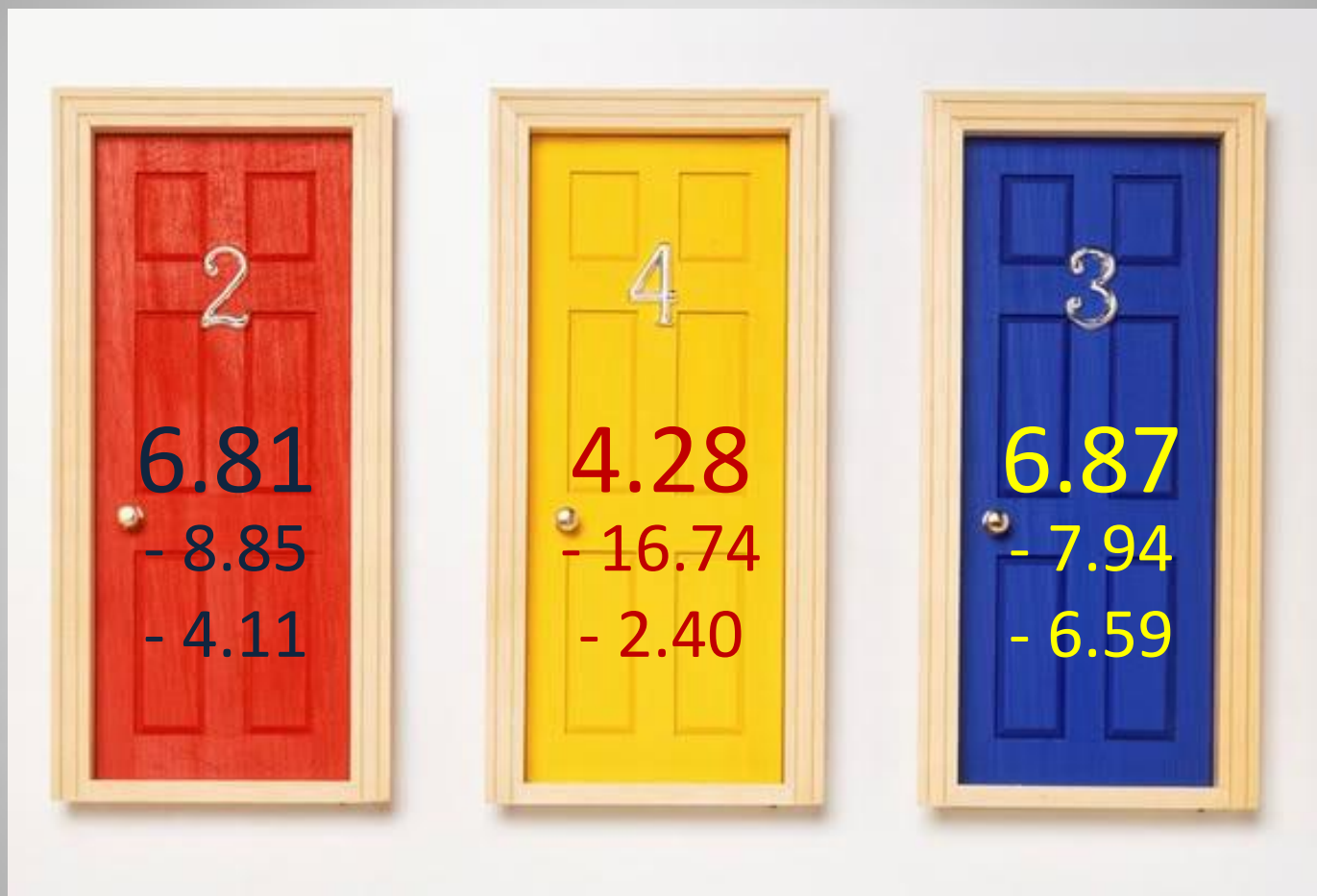
“...the moral growth  
of a great nation  
requires reflection...”

- Frederick Douglass

Reflections on Equity & Infant Mortality

*Reflection 1:*

Is this the  
society we seek?



## *Reflection 2:*

Are we running  
out of time to end  
the inequity?

# Brown's Law

“...as a disease control program approaches the end point of eradication, it is the program, not the disease, which is more likely to be eradicated... due to the increase of the cost in skill, effort, and resources to trace the last remaining cases and treat them; and to the increase in the disinterest of society in bearing that cost.”

Source: Brown WJ. The first step toward eradication. In: Proceedings of the World Forum on Syphilis and other Treponematoses (Washington, DC).

Race/Ethnicity	2008		2009		2010	
	Est No.	Rate	Est No.	Rate	Est No.	Rate
Black/AA						
Hispanic/Latino						
White						
Total	268	6.8	261	6.8	212	5.7
<b>CDC Elimination Goal</b>					<b>&lt; 41</b>	<b>&lt; 1.0</b>

Source: CDC. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2013;18(5). Table 8.



Arthur James, MD  
Son of Watts, Associate  
Prof, Obstetrics &  
Gynecology, the Ohio  
State University, Board  
Member NHSA, etc., etc.

“The [pHIV] numbers for ethnic minorities, especially African Americans, are worse than I thought. Quitting now should be considered a blatant Institutional RACIST act! Just the consideration reinforces the message that ‘some of us don't matter.’ I am angry. Quitting is wrong.”

## *Reflection 3:*

Are we  
demonstrating  
our value?



“There’s funding fatigue for equity in infant mortality... It’s funding good people to do good work, that in 3 to 5 years hasn’t accomplished anything.”

—anonymous

## Theory of Change: Institutes for Equity in Birth Outcomes

- Measurable progress in reducing birth outcome inequities will lead to more opportunity, more resources and accelerated gap reductions. It's our intention to see the inequity on the run in U.S. cities.

# Final Thoughts

- Spend twice as much on inequities (\$, passion, time, etc.)
- Demonstrate value!
- Local interagency collaboration for zonal investments
- Develop model protocols for state/local progesterone and LARC initiatives
- MCHB should explore the re-acquisition of Ryan White Part D from HAB & DRH should explore the acquisition of perinatal HIV prevention from DHAP



Chad Abresch (and daughter Isla)  
CityMatCH Executive Director

[cabresch@unmc.edu](mailto:cabresch@unmc.edu)

