

Death by Design



THE GEORGE GUND FOUNDATION
IMPRINT IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

The George Gund Foundation has endowed
this imprint to advance understanding of
the history, culture, and current issues
of African Americans.

*The publisher and the
University of California Press Foundation
gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the
George Gund Foundation Imprint in
African American Studies.*

Death by Design

PRODUCING RACIAL HEALTH INEQUALITY
IN THE SHADOW OF THE CAPITOL

Sanyu A. Mojola



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

University of California Press
Oakland, California

© 2025 by Sanyu Mojola

All rights reserved.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Mojola, Sanyu A., author
Title: Death by design : producing racial health inequality in the shadow
of the capitol / Sanyu A. Mojola.
Description: Oakland, California : University of California Press, [2025] |
Includes bibliographical references and index.
Identifiers: LCCN 2025001832 (print) | LCCN 2025001833 (ebook) |
ISBN 9780520303010 cloth | ISBN 9780520421165 paperback |
ISBN 9780520972629 ebook
Subjects: LCSH: African Americans—Medical care—Moral and ethical
aspects | Health and race—Washington (D.C.)—History
Classification: LCC RA448.5.B53 M65 2025 (print) | LCC RA448.5.B53 (ebook) |
DDC 362.1089960753—dc23/eng/20250721
LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2025001832>
LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2025001833>

Manufactured in the United States of America

GPSR Authorized Representative: Easy Access System Europe, Mustamäe tee
50, 10621 Tallinn, Estonia, gpsr.requests@easproject.com

34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1