

# Review of: "Analyzing Policy to Address Infant Mortality in High-Risk Populations"

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The authors systematically pose and address the issue of rising infant mortality in the US. They dissect the geographic, racial, and socio-economic determinants of this trend and use a problem-solving approach to find possible solutions. Their suggestions are rational, reasonable, and doable.

However, the article could benefit from a more detailed analysis of the medical causes of infant mortality, its relation to race and residence, and possible causative factors. The traditional classification of etiology into congenital, inflammatory, neoplastic, and traumatic could be useful. Another aspect that appears to have been overlooked is the marital status of the mother, bonding with the partner, and desirability of the offspring, which can be captured by means of failure of contraception. Lastly, the mental health of the mother and related issues are possible reasons for the rising trend of infant mortality, and measures to address it during the ante-natal period deserve due attention.

In sum, the review adds to existing knowledge by raising a little-known but cardinal issue of considerable public health importance and shows the way forward.