

# *Poverty Looks Like Me*

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# *Measuring Poverty*

- Official Poverty Threshold
  - Problems
    - Changes in tastes and food preparation
    - Consumer expenditures
    - In-kind transfers
    - Consumerism/materialism
  - Alternative Measures
    - 125-185% of poverty standard
    - $\frac{1}{2}$  median income

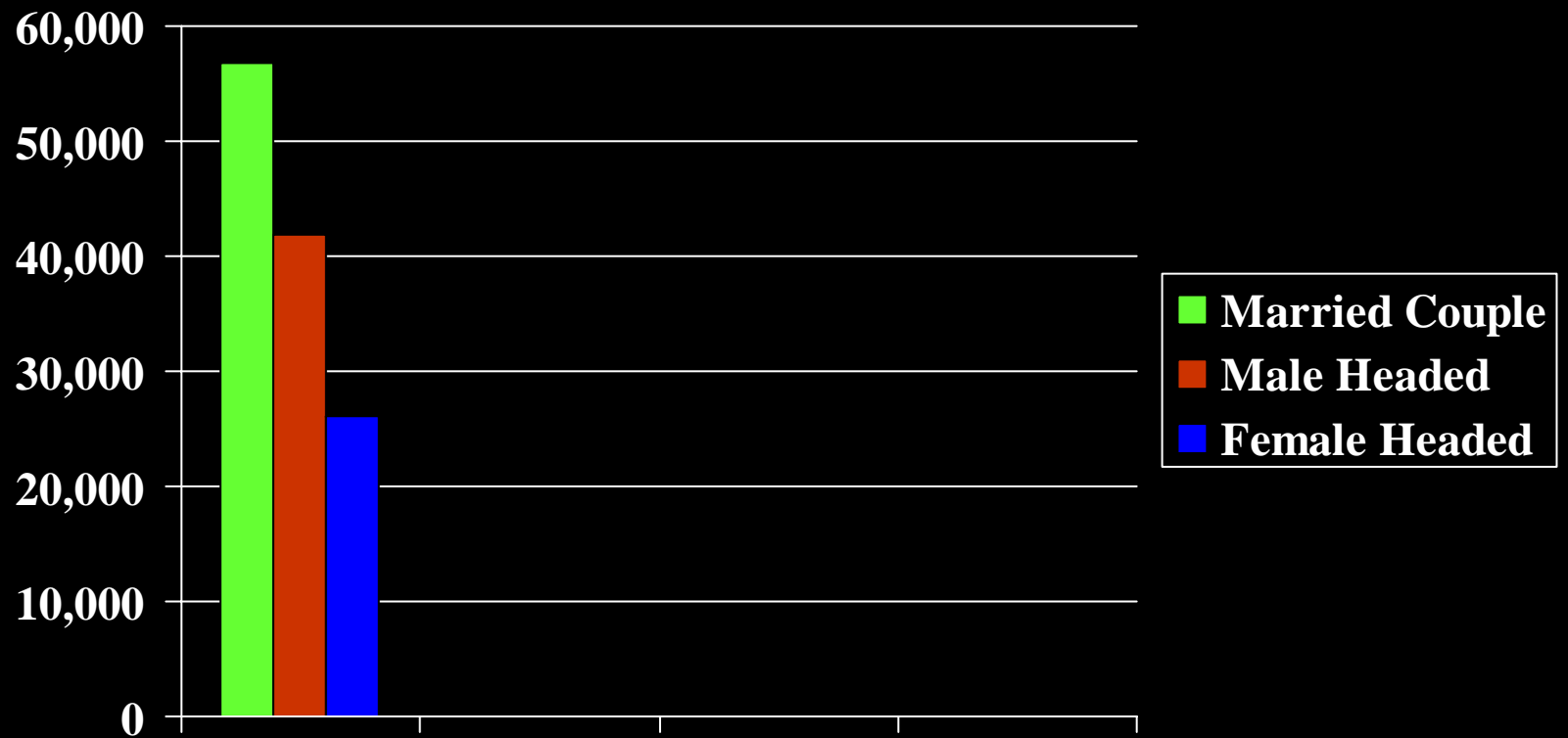
# *2004 Poverty Thresholds Single Parent Family with Children*

<i>Family Size</i>	<i>Yearly Income</i>	<i>Monthly Income</i>
2	\$ 13,020	\$ 1085
3	\$ 15,219	\$ 1268
4	\$ 19,223	\$ 1602

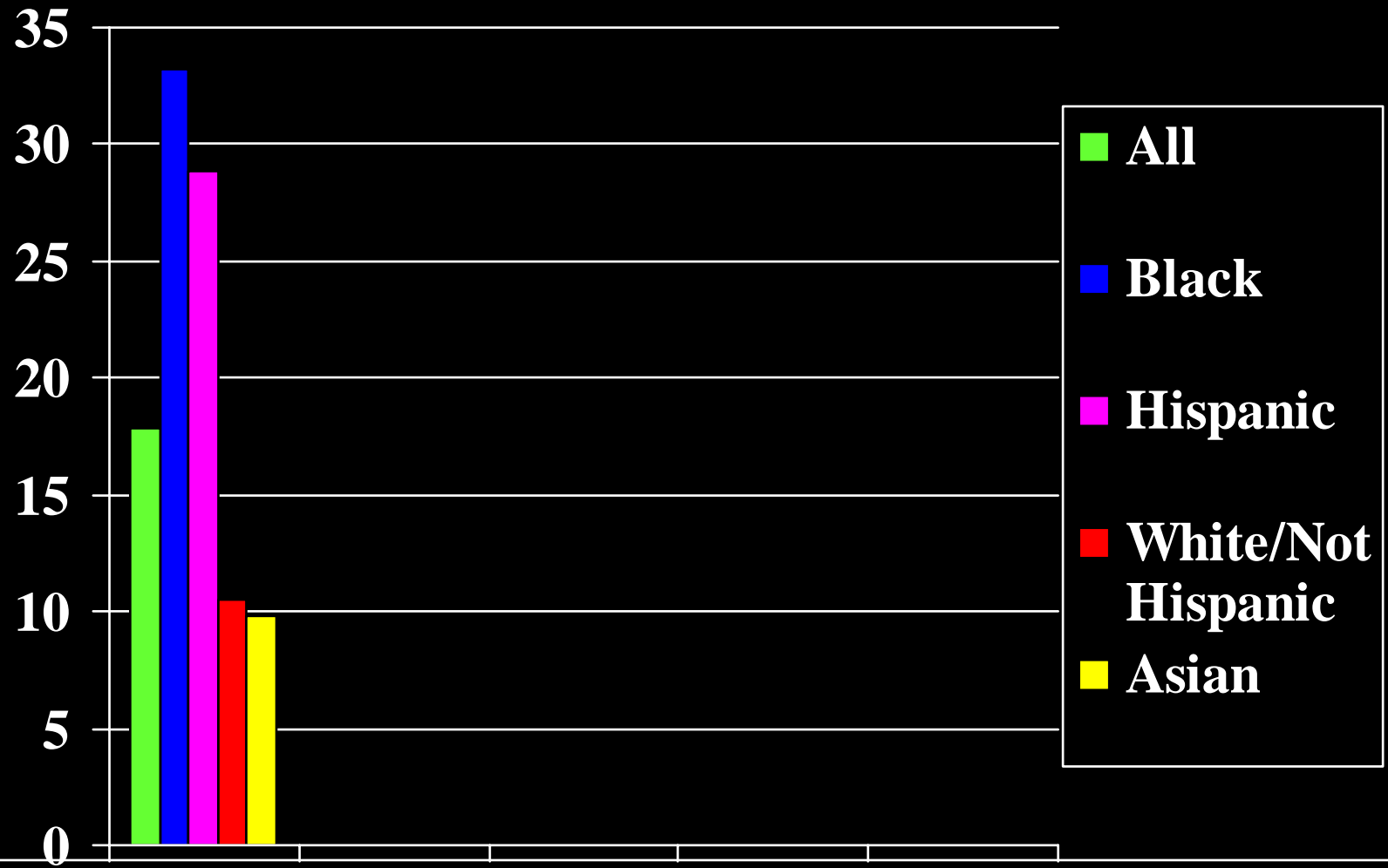
# *Who Are the Poor?*

- Female headed households
- Children
- Elderly women
- Urban and rural
- People of color

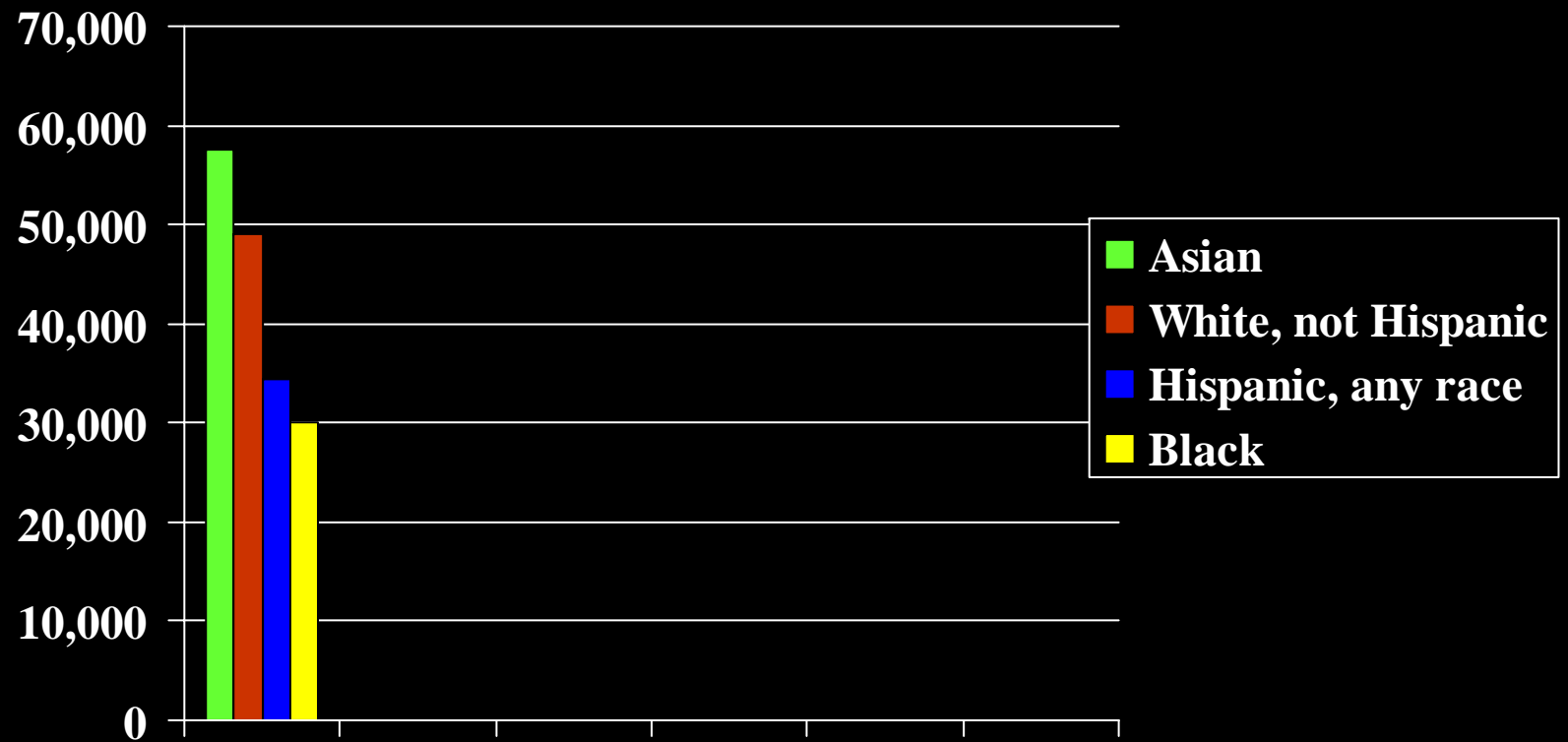
# *Family Structure & Income*



# Children in Poverty



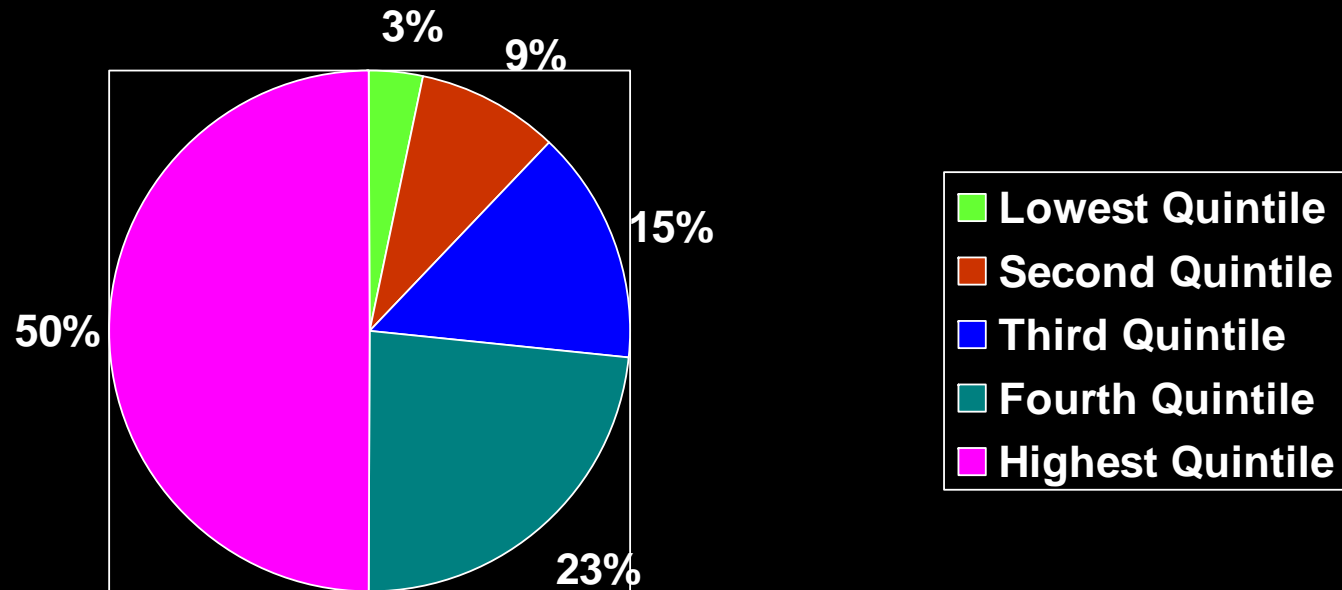
# *Race, Ethnicity & Income*



# *Causes of Poverty*

- Economic Policy
- Unemployment/underemployment
- Discrimination
  - Race and Ethnicity
  - Gender
  - Family Structure

# *A Piece of the Pie: Inequality Measures*



# *Consequences of Poverty*

- Health
- Education
- Social and cognitive competence
- Child abuse and neglect
- Marital quality

# *Empowerment*

“An intentional, on-going process, centered in the local community, involving mutual respect, critical reflection, caring and group participation, through which people lacking an equal share of valued resources gain greater access to and control over those resources.”

*Cornell Empowerment Group*

*“I’ve been rich  
and I’ve been poor.  
Rich is better.”*

-Sophie Tucker