#ICYMI: University of Richmond News to Use

_Racism & Ticks — Experts available to provide insight on health concerns_

May 22, 2020

Happy Memorial Day Weekend from the University of Richmond media relations team.

We’re thankful for those who have served to protect our country. We’re also proud of our recent ROTC graduates who were honored this year for ranking in the top 20% of military science graduates nationwide. You can learn more in this [media release](#).

**Ticks Could Be Extra Troublesome This Year**

University of Richmond biology professor Jory Brinkerhoff, a disease ecologist and expert on ticks, says this summer could reveal new issues with the blood-sucking parasite. Brinkerhoff is especially concerned because many tick-borne illnesses produce symptoms similar to that of the coronavirus.

“The crossover in symptoms with COVID-19 worries me because it may lead some people to think they have one when they really have the other, and that could delay reaction times or even result in misdiagnosis,” said Brinkerhoff.

**Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis**

This week Ohio made the headlines for declaring racism as a public health crisis. This comes as no surprise to University of Richmond clinical psychologist [Charlynn Small](#), who has written on how the stressors of racism causes eating disorders, particularly binge eating. She has edited a forthcoming book on the subject, _Treating Black Women with Eating Disorders: A Clinician’s Guide_.

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Best,
The University of Richmond [Media Relations Team](#)