



Editor-in-Chief Pick May/June 2022

By Susan B. Promes, MD, MBA, FACEP

Take a Closer Look at That Image – Is There a Hidden Message?

As faculty, we have an important role in the education and professional development of our learners. The article I chose as the editor's pick from the May/June issue of Academic Emergency Medicine Education and Training highlights an implicit bias that is glaringly present in our classic emergency medicine textbooks.

The [article](#) was written by Drs. Kalantari, Alvarez, Battaglia, et al. entitled ***Sex and race visual representation in emergency medicine textbooks and the hidden curriculum***. The team of authors classified the images found in two of the most popular emergency medicine textbooks and found that the vast majority of images were of white people. In addition, males were more commonly presented in the images than females. Where is the diversity? This study reminds us of the hidden curriculum that we teach our learners. It is important for us as educators to be inclusive in all aspects of our work including in our scholarship. Are we propagating bias unconsciously based on the images we are choosing to include in our scholarship? It is imperative that as physicians and scholars that we are hypervigilant in all that we do and recognize our biases and continually work to mitigate them.