1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION
— A steady supply of blood is crucial to a nation’s health, but today’s challenges are somewhat different than yesterday’s: both technological advances and an increasing number of medical interventions combined with an intensification of migration have resulted in a greater demand for specific phenotypic blood.
— In March 1983, in the face of an unknown virus later known to be HIV-AIDS, the Canadian Red Cross asked that homosexuals, hemophiliacs, heroin users and recently emigrated Haitians from Haiti (1st + 2nd generation) voluntarily abstain from donating blood. The impact of this auto-exclusion still reverberates throughout the Haitian community today and restricts Haitian residents’ access to the blood needed to treat sickle cell anemia. Accounting for 52.5% of Blacks in the province of Québec (91,435 in 2006), the Haitian community is the focal point of this presentation.
— Using a constructivist approach to ethnicity, which requires an examination of both internal and external blood donation in Québec and the disproportionate effects of that policy on the Haitian community, this poster explores the various factors that affect how members of the Haitian community view and practice blood donation.

2. HAITIAN COMMUNITY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS
— Since 1948, Haiti has been in the top 5 countries of immigration in Québec. "Haiti" and "Haitian" are used interchangeably in the most urban areas of the province. 73.9% of the 55-74 year-old cohort were born abroad (1st generation) and 26% were born in Canada (2nd generation).
— Young population structure: those 15 years-old and younger account for 27.4% of the community.

3. BLOOD DONATION IN QUÉBEC
— Blood donation is promising but there is still discrimination present.
— Blood donation motivations vary depending on the blood recipient:.asp

4. RESULTS: Blood donation and Haitians
— Haitians did not give blood before the scandal + recent immigrants rarely give blood = the community feels like it was wronged, targeted by the blood agency.
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5. DISCUSSION: FROM "US" TO "THEM" – the influence of generations on blood donation
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6. PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
— Haitians did not give blood before the scandal + recent immigrants rarely give blood = the community feels like it was wronged, targeted by the blood agency.
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Conclusion
A DEREASE FOR MORE FLUID BLOOD

Community leaders ask for more porous borders
Héma-Québec
— Haitian community: spokesperson, ethnic media
— Héma-Québec community: joint organization of blood donors

RIsks of closing borders
Sickle cell anemia: a motivation that can also lead to community withdrawal
Youth: a deficit in economic integration that fuels a more racialized identity

References