

~~institutional Pragmatism~~

has adversely affected their health.

I began my project by examining the different problems philosophers encounter when asking what the term 'race' means. According to some philosophical programs, how you define a word is by finding what it picks out in the natural world. For example, the definition of water is simply what it refers to, namely, two hydrogen atoms bonded to an oxygen atom. However, when philosophers turn to natural scientists and ask them what it is that 'race' refers to *empirically*, they are met with a somewhat unsatisfying response: there is no one gene, skin type, or phenotypic trait that makes one's race physically real. At this point, many philosophers decide the best course of action is to simply toss in the towel; if there is no one material thing 'race' refers to, then it is best to do away with racial

