



Dr. Lee Johnson III
Brief Bio

Lee Johnson III, Ph.D., CHES®, IMH-E® is Senior Policy Analyst for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health at ZERO TO THREE (ZTT). Before joining ZTT, Dr. Johnson served as a director at the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education. There, he led early childhood mental health and federal and state-funded home visiting efforts.

Dr. Johnson is a former early childhood educator, health educator by training, and a newly minted public health Ph.D. His dissertation focused on the [impact of early adverse experiences on the mental & physical health outcomes of Black boys & men and the power of relationships](#), solidified his selection for the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Doctoral Scholars Dissertation Fellowship (2019-2020).

He became a National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) Policy Fellow (2019-2021) in the same year. Upon completing the NBCDI Policy Fellowship, Johnson released his project, entitled [Supporting Resilience in Black Families: Advancing Racial Equity in Early Childhood Mental Health Policy](#). The project acknowledges the developmental threat our society poses to the health and mental health of Black children. In addition, the project recognizes the need for racially equitable policies and approaches that empower Black families.

Dr. Johnson holds his B.S. in early childhood education, M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in public health from The University of Alabama.

Born in Los Angeles, CA, and raised in Tuscaloosa, AL, he lives in Washington, DC.

He is on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).