

# Value Assessment: Authorship

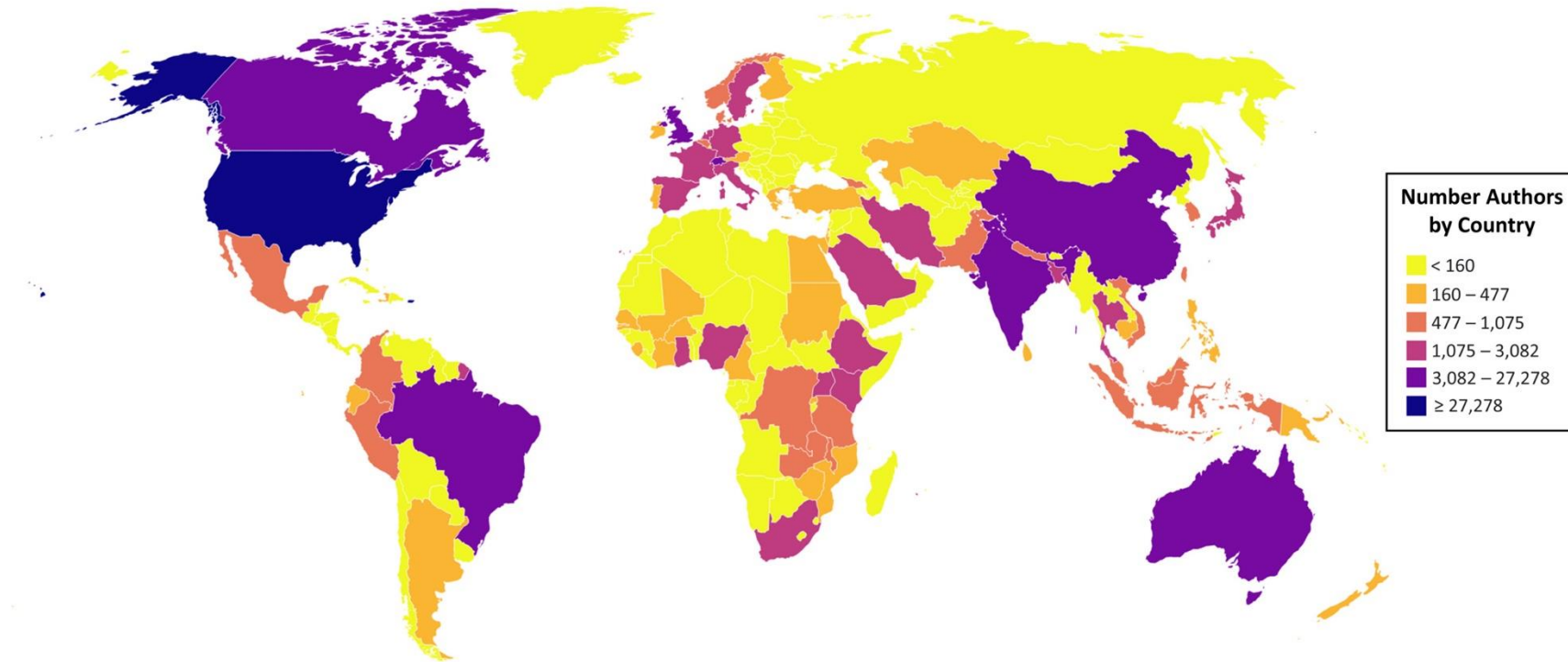
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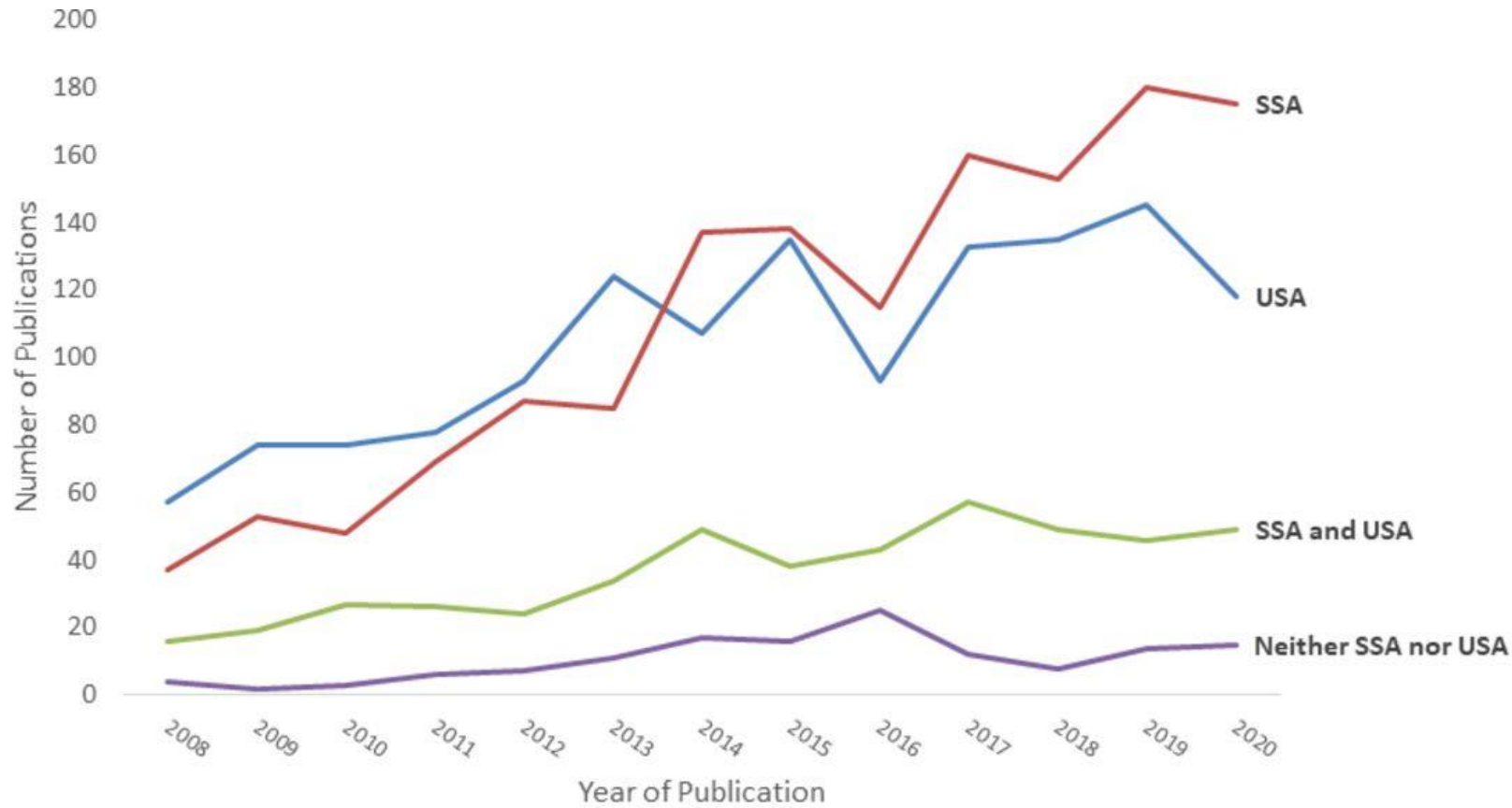


# Background (Big Picture)



Authorship in global health academic literature is skewed towards researchers from more advantaged settings (in this example, by countries)

# Background (Big Picture)



There are dedicated efforts to promote authorship by/for researchers based in more disadvantaged settings.\*

*\*this is more the exception than the rule*

# Background (Smaller Picture)

## *Professional*

- Career advancement
- Access to mentorship
- Professional 'curtesy' and ghost authorship

## *Regulatory*

- 'International' standards for defining authorship
- Funding requirements or expectations

## *Capacity*

- Protected time for research
- Scientific material resources
- Institutional financial resources (APCs)

## *Historical Advantage and Disadvantage*

- English as the most widely accepted 'global' language for science
- Globalization of science and less emphasis on local forms and expression of knowledge
- Bias and under-representation on journal editorial boards
- Funding mechanism that favor global > local areas of interest
- Concentration of scientific 'expertise' to more advantaged settings

*What one word describes your experience with authorship assignment?*





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# What are the *values* that research partnerships want to achieve in each context?

*Why Authorship is Important Logistically/Professionally:*

☒ Authority      ☒ Expertise/Experience      ☒ Leadership      ☒ Professional Commitment



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*Why Authorship is Important Ethically:*

- ☒ Respect
- ☒ Mutual Benefit
- ☒ Co-Production of Knowledge
- ☒ Capacity Building

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*What Values Inform these Priorities:*

☒ Equity    ☒ Solidarity    ☒ Reciprocity    ☒ Accountability    ☒ Efficiency    ☒ Maximum Benefits

# Can some values become more prominent than others in certain circumstances?

## Reciprocity/Capacity > Equality

- ICMJE authorship criteria are written in a way to promote equality between researchers.
- Does not account for differences in access and resources.
- Standardizes authorship based on a Western notion of 'contribution'.
- Ex. Last author on a paper being a local mentor rather than international grant PI.

## Efficiency > Equity

- There are contexts where expedited dissemination of knowledge is prioritized (e.g. public health emergencies).
- Using technology and analysis concentrated in advantaged settings decreases loss of life.
- Ex. Publishing preliminary results in a preprint server for COVID, Ebola, etc. (But what about the primary?)

## Maximizing Benefit > Equity

- Authorship is not a key metric for all research stakeholders (ex. NGOs, CBOs, etc.)
- Knowledge can be produced and led in multiple ways.
- Ex. Credit and leading disseminating results to the general public or research participant communities through forms other than academic papers.

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# Are there values that can never be compromised?

## What should be “nonnegotiable”?

*Values/Priorities:*

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## What should be “nonnegotiable”?

*What Should be Avoided (Ethically Speaking):*

☒ Exploitation      ☒ Lack of Trust/Respect      ☒ Unilateral Decision-Making      ☒ Tokenism

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*What Should be Avoided Logistically/Professionally:*

- ☑ Guest Authorship
- ☑ Not Giving Credit
- ☑ Ignoring Authorship Criteria

*What Should be Avoided (Ethically Speaking):*

- ☑ Exploitation
- ☑ Lack of Trust/Respect
- ☑ Unilateral Decision-Making
- ☑ Tokenism

*Values/Priorities:*

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# References

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## Draws From:

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