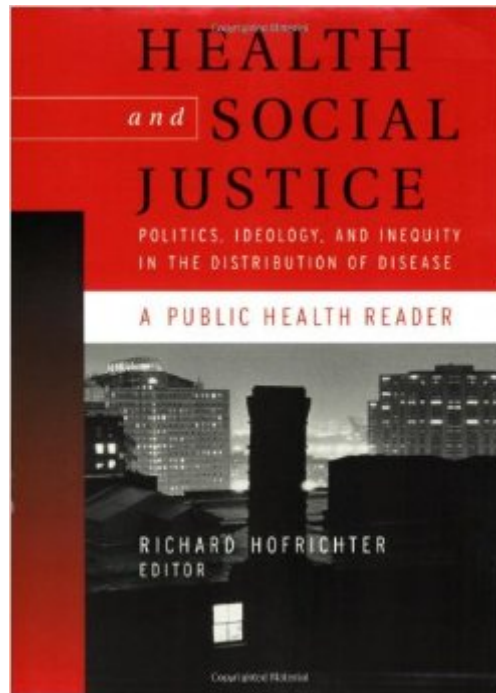


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Health And Social Justice: Politics, Ideology, And Inequity In The Distribution Of Disease



Synopsis

Health and Social Justice draws on the growing body of recent literature to offer a comprehensive collection of articles written by a panel of expert contributors who represent a broad range of fields— sociology, epidemiology, public health, ecology, politics, organizing, and advocacy. Each article explores a particular aspect of health inequalities and demonstrates how the sources of health inequalities are rooted in injustices associated with racism, sex discrimination, and social class. This important book examines the political implications of various perspectives used to explain health inequities and explores alternative strategies for eliminating them. Health and Social Justice covers a broad spectrum of topics and

- Analyzes the politics of health inequities
- Shows how market values often dominate over collective needs for well-being
- Examines the politics of methodology and its implications for research and public policy
- Critiques the ideological implications of contemporary health promotion as a model for public health
- Reviews approaches that influence the social determinants of health
- Evaluates strategies drawn from the European experience, and others, aimed at eliminating health inequities
- Proposes principles for action and research
- Analyzes the role of the mass media in influencing the conceptualization of public health issues

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

With the onset of an election year, Richard Hofrichter's book Social Justice and Health is incredibly timely and important. Despite being the 2nd richest nation in the world (only Luxembourg has a higher average GDP), Americans have one of the worst health profiles. The contributors to

Hofrichter's book points out the many reasons why this is the case: The USA has the greatest proportion of citizens in low paying jobs, has the greatest number of poor people, and the greatest gap between rich and poor. This condition is made worse by its especially low spending on social infrastructure and on services that support the citizenry. This profile is a result of policy decisions made by governments and endorsed by many Americans for whom these decisions are clearly not in their own interest. The book outlines many policy solutions, but such solutions will require that there is recognition of the fundamental injustice of the profound economic inequality present in the US. Another important aspect of the book is the documenting of the strong links between political, economic, and social aspects of a society and the health of its citizenry. Americans and others need to be made aware that the primary determinants of whether they stay healthy or not is not whether they exercise, eat fruits and vegetables but rather the economic and social conditions to which they are subjected. This book is a must-read for anyone working in health care, public health, social services or any sector concerned with the well-being of citizens. It will be especially of interest for the well-educated general reader concerned with the direction in which American public policy is moving.

This book analyses the state of our living. It dissects the communities and allow you to peer in to see ourselves. You are allowed to see how we affect ourselves and our health through discrimination, social injustice, disparities, etc. We have become our own worst enemy. The author will cause you to see the world we live in a murky yet interesting light. It is a good read.

Discusses the health effects of lower income, poverty, capitalism, injustices, and so on. Well written. Irreplaceable text on the subject matter.

An excellent overview of the deficit in the underlying values that comprise the American system of public health. I would consider this required reading for any student of public health as well as informative and compelling for the general public.

The parts that I have read are pretty simplistic. It isn't a bad book but I was expecting more from a graduate level text.

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