



Emerging Issues in Maternal and Child Health
Reducing Health Inequities:
The impact of neighborhood factors on health

Resource List

Publications on Neighborhoods and Health

The Influence of Community Factors on Health: An Annotated Bibliography

<http://www.policylink.org/CHB/publication.html>

Developed by PolicyLink, and funded by The California Endowment, this annotated bibliography contains more than 150 entries of research on how community factors affect health. The Influence of Community Factors on Health: An Annotated Bibliography provides insight into the ways that researchers have investigated community effects on health, their findings, and the program and policy implications that researchers have drawn from their work.

Research Brief: Does Neighborhood Deterioration Lead to Poor Health?

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB9074/index1.html

A team of experts led by RAND's Deborah Cohen have been examining these issues. Their research has focused on whether residents of neighborhoods with a high percentage of boarded-up stores and homes, litter, and graffiti (what political scientist James Q. Wilson has referred to collectively as "broken windows") experience a higher incidence of disease and premature death than do people who live in neighborhoods that are not deteriorated.

Building Stronger Communities for Better Health

<http://www.policylink.org/Research/JC-StrongerCommunities/>

"Public debates on the lagging health status of people of color often focus on the need for better access to health care. This is certainly an unmet need, but something else is needed as well if lingering health disparities are to end: a simultaneous focus on community environments."

Social Disparities in Housing and Related Pediatric Injury

American Journal of Public Health, April 2004

Edmund D, Shenassa, ScD, Amy Stubbendick, MS, Mary Jean Brown, ScD, RN

<http://www.naccho.org/documents/ShenassaStubbendickBrown-AJPH2004.pdf>

This research article provides analysis on "whether housing characteristics mediate the associations between the concentration of poverty and pediatric injury; between concentrations of racial minorities and pediatric injury; and whether the association between housing conditions and pediatric injury is independent of other risks."

Social, Physical Health and Modern Epidemiology

Epidemiology and Society: A Forum on Epidemiology and Global Health

July 2001, Vol. 12 No. 4

Edmund D, Shenassa, ScD

<http://www.naccho.org/documents/SocietyPhysicalHealthandModernEpidemiology.pdf>

Organizational Resources

The Praxis Project

<http://www.thepraxisproject.org/>

“Praxis' mission is to support and partner with communities to achieve health justice by providing resources and capacity for policy development, advocacy and leadership. Praxis uses innovative participatory approaches that bridge theory, research and action.”

The Center for Social Justice

<http://www.socialjustice.org/index.php>

“The Center for Social Justice is an advocacy organization that seeks to strengthen the struggle for social justice. We are committed to working for change in the partnership with various social movements and recognize that effective change requires the active participation of all sectors of our community. Although the center is based in Ontario, our work increasingly takes is across Canada and into the international arena.”

Introduction to Social Justice:

The following resources (books and articles) are recommended as starting points by Richard Hofrichter, PhD, NACCHO Senior Analyst, Health Equity

Books:

Bartley, Mel, David Blane, and George Davey-Smith. *The Sociology of Health Inequalities*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1999.

Beaglehole, Robert ed. *Global Public Health: A New Era*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003

Davey Smith, George, ed. *Health Inequalities: Lifecourse Approaches*. London: The Policy Press, 2003

Evans, Timothy, et al. (eds) *Challenging Inequities in Health: From Ethics to Action*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Graham, Hilary. (ed.) *Understanding Health Inequalities*. Buckingham: Open University Press, 2000.

Hofrichter, Richard ed. *Health and Social Justice: Politics, Ideology, and Inequity in the Distribution of Disease*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass/John Wiley, 2003.

Krieger, Nancy ed. *Embodying Inequality: Epidemiologic Perspectives*. Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing, 2004.

LaVeist, T.A. ed. *Race, Ethnicity and Health: A Public Health Reader*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass/John Wiley, 2002.

Levy, Barry S. and Victor W. Sidel eds. *Social Injustice and Public Health*. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming, 2005.

Navarro, Vincente and Carles Muntaner eds. *Political and Economic Determinants of Population Health and Well-Being: Controversies and Developments, Vol. II*. Amityville, NY: Baywood Press, 2004.

Raphael, Dennis (ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press, 2004.

Wilkinson, Richard. *Unhealthy Societies: The Afflictions of Inequality*. New York: Routledge, 1996.

Articles

Bashir, Samiya A. "Home is Where the Harm is: Inadequate Housing as a Public Health Crisis." 92(5) *American Journal of Public Health* (May, 2002): 733-738.

Braveman, Paula and Sofia Gruskin, "Poverty, Equity, Health and Human Rights" 81(7) *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* (2003): 539-545.

Graham, Hilary. "Social Determinants and Their Unequal Distribution: Clarifying Policy Understandings" 82(1) *The Milbank Quarterly* (2004): 101-124.

Kaplan, G.A., E. Pamuk, J.W. Lynch, J.W. Cohen, and J.L. Balfour. "Income Inequality and Mortality in the United States: Analysis of Mortality and Potential Pathways" 312 *British Medical Journal* (1996): 999-1003.

Krieger, Nancy, Pamela D. Waterman, David H. Rehkopf, and S.V. Subramanian. "Race/Ethnicity, Gender and Monitoring Socioeconomic Gradients in Health: A Comparison of Area-Based Socioeconomic Measures—The Public Health Disparities Geocoding Project." 93(10) *American Journal of Public Health* (2003): 1655-1671.

Krieger, Nancy. "A Glossary for Social Epidemiology," 23(1) *Epidemiological Bulletin* (March, 2002).

Muntaner, Carles, John Lynch and George Davey Smith. "Social Capital and the Third Way in Public Health" 10(2) *Critical Public Health* (2000):108-124.

Muntaner, Carles and John Lynch. "Income Inequality, Social Cohesion, and Class Relations: A Critique of Wilkinson's Neo-Durkheimian Research Program." 29(1) *International Journal of Health Services* (1999): 59-81.

Wallace, Roderick, Deborah Wallace, and Robert Wallace. "Coronary Heart Disease, Chronic Inflammation, and Pathogenic Social Hierarchy: A Biological Limit to Possible Reductions in Morbidity and Mortality," 96(5) *Journal of the National Medical Association* (2004): 609-619.

Williams, David R. and Chiquita Collins. "Racial Residential Segregation: A Fundamental Cause of Racial Disparities in Health." 16(5) *Public Health Reports* (September/October, 2001): 404-416.