

Medical Anthropology (2)

What is health?

* WHO concept "complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity", with "the capability to function in the face of changing circumstances" / "highest possible level of health" allows people to participate in social life and work productively -- many critics and discussion

* Revision movement related to the inclusion of spirituality:

See, Nagase M (2012) Does a Multi-Dimensional Concept of Health Include Spirituality? Analysis of Japan Health Science Council's Discussions on WHO's 'Definition of Health' (1998). *International Journal of Applied Sociology*, 2(6): 71-77. (<http://article.sapub.org/pdf/10.5923.j.ijas.20120206.03.pdf>)

* Biomedical measures -- life expectancy, span of healthy life, health behaviors, reserve health, social support, overall birth rate, population growth rate, ...

* Critical medical anthropology concepts

* Public health concepts

* Cultural and organizational concepts

* Personal concepts to improve health

* Systems approach to health: including biopsychosocial model, cultural systems model

Re-defining 'Health' (Source: <http://www.mindangles.co.uk/2014/07/the-world-health-organizations.html>)

Niyi Awofeso's note on Üstün B., Jakob R. Calling a spade a spade: meaningful definitions of health conditions. *Bull World Health Organ* 2005;83:802.

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