

"WHAT IS MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY?"

SEASON 4, EPISODE 1- STUDY GUIDE

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GLOBAL BIOCULTURES
ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON PUBLIC HEALTH



GLOBAL HEALTH

Health problems, issues, and concerns that transcend national boundaries, which may be influenced by circumstances or experiences in other countries, which are best addressed by cooperative actions and solutions" - Institute of Medicine, USA, 1997
-Requires greater collaborative approaches

EXAMPLES

- Infectious diseases (SARS, TB)
- Noninfectious diseases (Diabetes)
- health risks (global warming, war)

HISTORY OF THE TERM

Public Health- concerned with national issues
-data and evidence to support action
social justice & equity



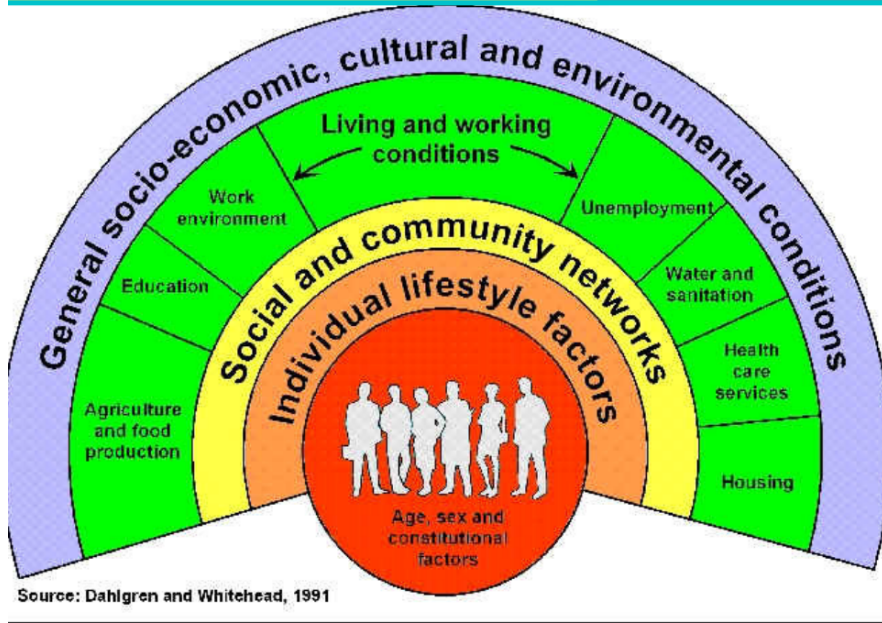
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONCERNS

CONCERNS

- diseases (tropical) ex. Zika
- war
- tendency to be apply top-bottom approaches to aid and solutions
- example: UN organizations



KEY CONEPTS IN RELATION TO GLOBAL HEALTH



- The Determinants of health
- The measurement of health status
- Importance of culture to health
- global burden of disease
- The key factors for various health problems
- The organization and function of health systems

KEY COMPONENTS OF THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

- **Comparative or cross-cultural studies** (necessary to trace the impact of different forces/events on the formation of culture, helps identify differences, similarities, and identify universals)
- **Holism** (interdependent and interconnected values, beliefs, traditions, and practices) ("*Everything is Everything!*")
- **Cultural Relativism**- understanding a culture's values and beliefs from their point of view.

CULTURE

The predominating attitudes and behavior that characterizes the functioning of a group, organization, or community.

HEALTH SYSTEM

Comprises all organizations, institutions, and resources devoted to producing actions whose primary intent is to improve health (WHO)



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"17 GOING UNDER" BY BY SAM FENDER

"I REMEMBER THE SICKNESS WAS FOREVER...."