

Inequality Across The Globe: Identifying Health Disparities

By Shawn Johnson

Marginalization, Inequality On The Whole

- Multiple factors of inequality
- Income & health correlation
- Socio-economic imbalance = gaps
- Descriptive statistics show relationship (i.e. Gini coefficient)
- Health, resources and education shift as a result of divide

Research conducted as part of the DJCG 200 Justice at the Margins class

Spain

- Healthcare Divides
 - Health drops when inequality goes up
 - Employed more likely to be healthy
- Educational Divides
 - Education = Better prepared to use healthcare
 - Lack of resources, more educated adapt

(Barroso et al., 2016)



United States

- Class Divide

- Top 10% 16x richer than bottom 10%
- Economic inequality up 24%
- Rich manipulate politicians

- Racial Divide

- Deep South: Inequality from class
- Immigration areas: Inequality from race



(Cantante et al., 2016) (Hero & Levy, 2016)

Republic of South Africa

- High Gini = social unrest, crime
- Public deprivation of resources
- Poverty/HIV links
 - 20.5% of poor have access to HIV information
 - 47.7% of poor receive HIV exams
 - Women at far greater risk than men

(Wabiri & Taffa, 2013) (McLennan, Noble & Wright, 2016)



Brazil

- Government structure
 - Allows minority to control capital
 - Destitute vital part of society
- Health Divides
 - All destitute are unhealthy
 - Strokes felt most by LMIC
 - Gini correlates with health

(Santos, 2010) (Vincens & Stafstrom, 2015)



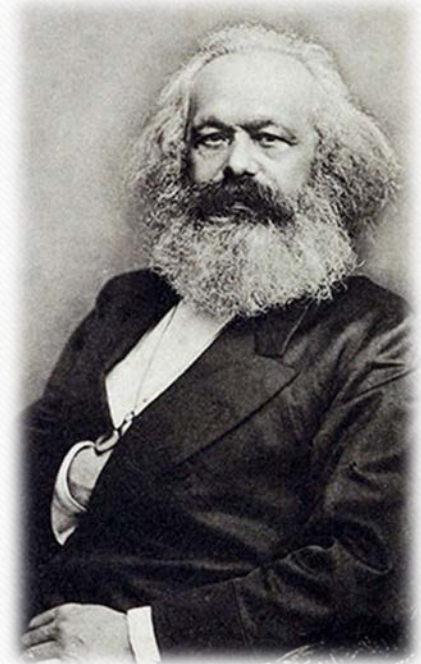
Overlap/Similarities?

- Spain: Lack of resources creates inequality
- U.S.: Rich dominance and power creates inequality
- Brazil: Social issues create inequality between genders on regional level
- Republic of South Africa: Lack of opportunities drives inequality
- Key areas of overlap
 - Health/Healthcare, Politics, Gender/Racial inequalities

Course Individuals' Response?

- Karl Marx
 - America and Brazil relevance
 - Small groups manipulating majority
- Jody Williams
 - Spain and South Africa relevance
 - Lack of opportunities leads to incidental destitution

(Wright, 2016a) (Wright, 2016b)



Recap

- Civic engagement opportunities available
- Long-lasting impact of social awareness
- U.S. = Once the best, now falling
- Without change, America becomes South Africa 2.0.

References

Barroso, C., Abasolo, I., & Caceres, J. J. (2016). Health inequalities by socioeconomic characteristics in Spain: the economic crisis effect. *International Journal For Equity In Health*, 151-12. doi:10.1186/s12939-016-0346-4

Bernanke, B. (2017). *Courage to act: A memoir of a crisis and its aftermath*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company.

Cantante, F., Carmo, R. M., De Almeida Alves, N., & Da Costa, A. F. (2016). Trends in income inequality: Comparing the United States and Portugal. *Portuguese Journal Of Social Science*, 15(3), 367-386. doi:10.1386/pjss.15.3.367_1

Hero, R. E., & Levy, M. E. (2016). The racial structure of economic inequality in the United States: Understanding change and continuity in an era of "Great Divergence". *Social Science Quarterly (Wiley-Blackwell)*, 97(3), 491-505. doi:10.1111/ssqu.12327

Johnson, S. (2017). "Inequality within international economics." *Dialogues of justice and civics life level 200: Justice at the margins*. Lynn University.

McLennan, D., Noble, M., & Wright, G. (2016). Developing a spatial measure of exposure to socio-economic inequality in South Africa. *South African Geographical Journal*, 98(2), 254-274. Doi: 10.1080/03736245.2015.1028980

Regidor, E., Pascual, C., Martínez, D., Calle, M. E., Domínguez, V., & Ronda, E. (2006). Decreasing socioeconomic inequalities and increasing health inequalities in Spain: A case study. *American Journal Of Public Health*, 96(1), 102-108. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2004.053983

Santos, J. F. (2010). Comprehending the class structure specificity in Brazil. *South African Review of Sociology*, 41(3), 24-44. Doi: 10.1080/21528586.2010.516119

Vincens, N., & Stafstrom, M. (2015). Income inequality, economic growth and stroke mortality in Brazil: Longitudinal and regional Analysis 2002-2009. *Plos ONE*, 10(9), 1-12. Doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0137332

Wabiri, N., & Taffa, N. (2013). Socio-economic inequality and HIV in South Africa. *BMC Public Health*, 13(1), 1-18. Doi: 10.1186/1471-2458-13-1037

Wright, M. (2016a). Jody Williams: An unparalleled act of civic engagement. In M. Wright & J. H. Hall (Eds.), *Dialogues of justice and civic life level 200* (3rd ed., pp. 68-70). Boca Raton, FL: Lynn University.

Wright, M. (2016b). Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels: Bourgeois advocates for the proletariat. In M. Wright & J. H. Hall (Eds.), *Dialogues of justice and civic life level 200* (3rd ed., pp. 42-45). Boca Raton, FL: Lynn University.