

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

**The Connecticut Center for
Eliminating Health Disparities
among Latinos**

www.cehdl.uconn.edu



CEHDL MISSION

To contribute to the elimination of health disparities among Latino(a)s through the formation of human resources, community-based research, and culturally appropriate outreach/extension

Social Determinants of Health

‘The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, including the health system. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels, which are themselves influenced by policy choices. The social determinants of health are mostly responsible for health inequities - the unfair and avoidable differences in health status seen within and between countries.’

World Health Organization (WHO)

According to WHO

‘Social injustice is killing people on a grand scale...[The] toxic combination of bad policies, economics, and politics is, in large measure, responsible for the fact that a majority of people in the world do not enjoy the good health that is biologically possible.’

Source: World Health Organization, Closing the Gap In a Generation: Health Equity through Action on the Social Determinants of Health
[http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en/]

‘Tell me someone’s race.
Tell me their income.
Tell me whether they
smoke. The answers to
those three questions
will tell me more about
their longevity and
health status than any
other question I could
possibly ask. There’s
no genetic blood test
that would have
anything like that for
predictive value’



Dr. Donald M. Berwick

<http://www.cc.nih.gov/about/news/newsletter/2006/jan06/Berwick.jpg>

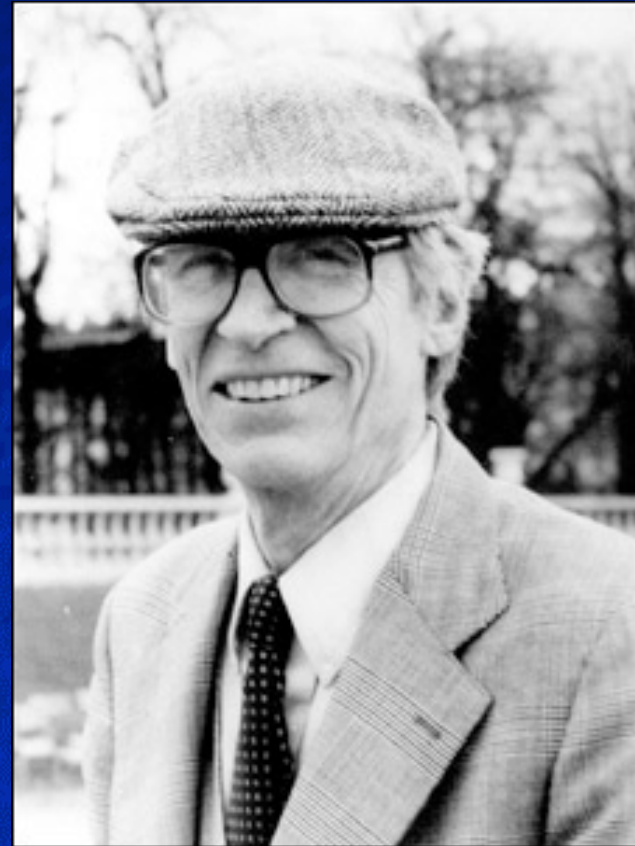


- Tell me their zip code....

Dr. Adewale Troutman, M.D., M.P.H.

What is a fair society?

‘...one in which a new entrant would be happy to be born even though he did not know his social position ahead of time.’



John Rawls

1921-2002

www.news.harvard.edu/_/2005/05.19/24-mm.html

■ 19th Century

Industrial revolution

■ 20th Century

Information technology
revolution

■ 21st century

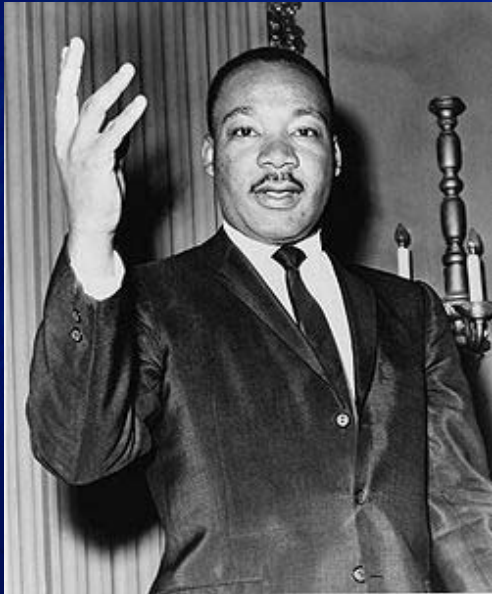
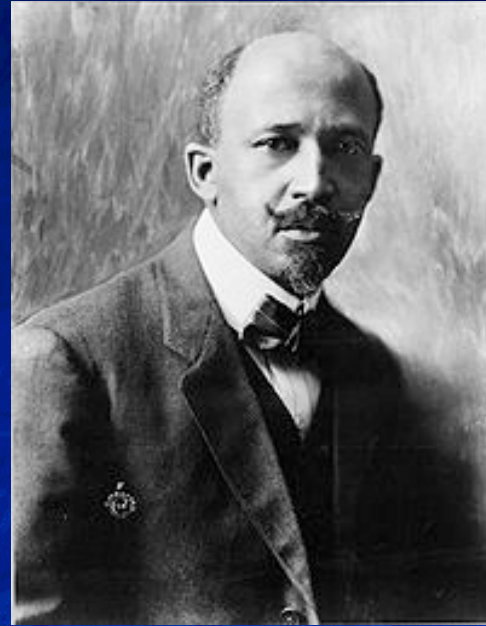
Health revolution

-DNA guided medicine

-Non invasive or minimally
invasive surgeries

-Organ replacement

-Social determinants of
health?



Conference Program

- *Measurement of social determinants of health*

Chair, Mary Lou Fleissner

- *Workforce development*

Chair, David Gregorio

- *Community-based solutions*

Chair, Grace Damio

Keynotes: Dr. Adewale Troutman

Dr. Cunegundo Vergara

Round Table Discussions

- Obesity
- Cardiovascular disease
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- HIV/AIDS
- Asthma
- Tobacco/substance abuse
- Mental health
- Maternal-child nutrition
- Older adults
- Workforce development
- Multicultural communications
- Community-based organizations

Conference Organizing Committee

- Karen D'Angelo
- Jyoti Chhabra
- Grace Damio
- Valen Diaz
- Mary Lou Fleissner
- Amber Hromi-Fiedler
- Margaret Hynes
- Luis Gonzalez
- Rafael Pérez-Escamilla
- Lisa Werkmeister Rozas
- CT Department of Public Health
- CT Hospice Institute
- Hartford Hospital
- Hispanic Health Council
- UConn

A quality conference on social determinants of health should be all about empowerment



Source: Hartford Courant