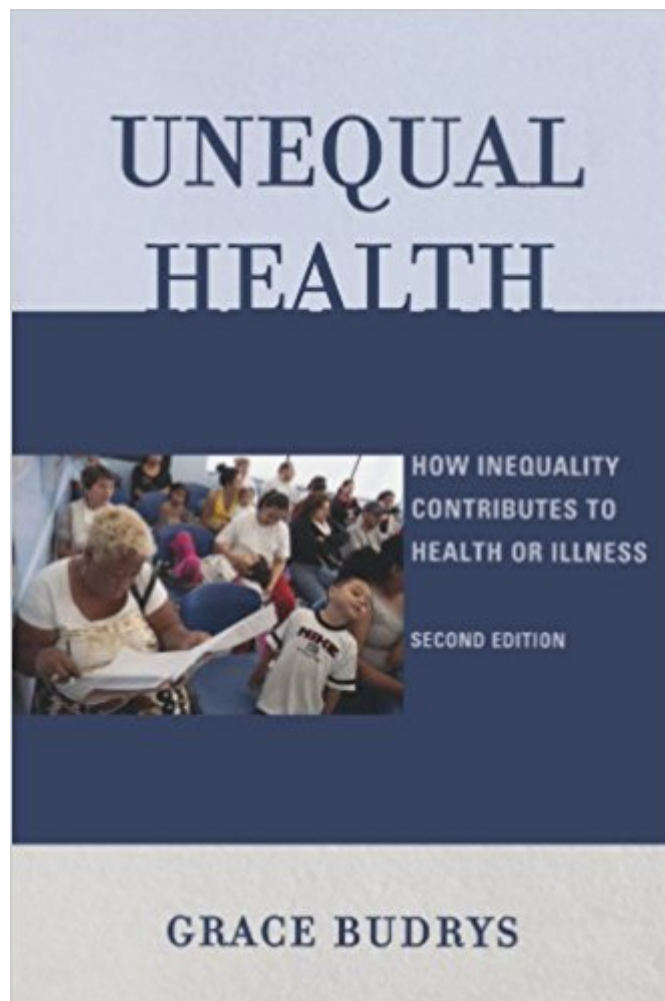




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Unequal Health: How Inequality Contributes To Health Or Illness



Synopsis

Unequal Health asks why some individuals are living longer and enjoying better health than others. By contrasting popular beliefs about the relevance of such factors as sex, race, poverty, and health habits, Grace Budrys moves beyond factors that receive a great deal of media attention, such as smoking, diet, exercise, even genetic inheritance, and examines those factors that are far more difficult to identify and track, such as relative income and relative social status.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Praise for the first edition: Unequal Health provides an excellent opportunity for readers to begin critically to examine the complex relationship of various social categories and the ways that health is affected..... (Contemporary Sociology) Budrys's Unequal Health is a comprehensive text for students of the social determinants of health, whether they come from population studies, sociology, or social epidemiology. This edition draws on recent articles and reports from a wide range of publications to introduce students to the methods, theories, and relevant points of discourse. Additionally, this text is written in an engaging and readable style and will prove a useful tool for those who wish to understand unequal health in our world today. (Loretta E. Bass) Grace Budrys's book Unequal Health is a perfect textbook on health disparities. The author explains difficult and complex concepts in a conversational and engaging style. The book contains a wealth of information on health disparities, and the presentation of research findings and academic discussions is easy to follow. I would recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn about this very important public health

issue. (Gesine Hearn) Praise for the first edition: Unequal Health provides an excellent opportunity for readers to begin critically to examine the complex relationship of various social categories and the ways that health is affected. (Contemporary Sociology)

Grace Budrys is professor of sociology at DePaul University. She is the author of Our Unsystematic Healthcare System.

I teach undergraduate courses in public health and this book is an excellent text for a low to mid-level course in a state university. The author not only summarizes some of the reasons for health disparities, but presents the evidence in a lively, engaging way - laying out the arguments and different threads of evidence and demonstrating by example careful analysis. The book is well-written. There are some topics or perspectives absent including a gender analysis of women's health (the section on sex differences is short), a deeper analysis of the effects of racism on health, a socio-ecological interpretation of how racism plays out ala David Williams, and, finally, a developmental lifespan approach. So I've supplemented the course with other readings, but it would have been great if more were covered. Still, my students love this book and I highly recommend it for undergraduate instruction.

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