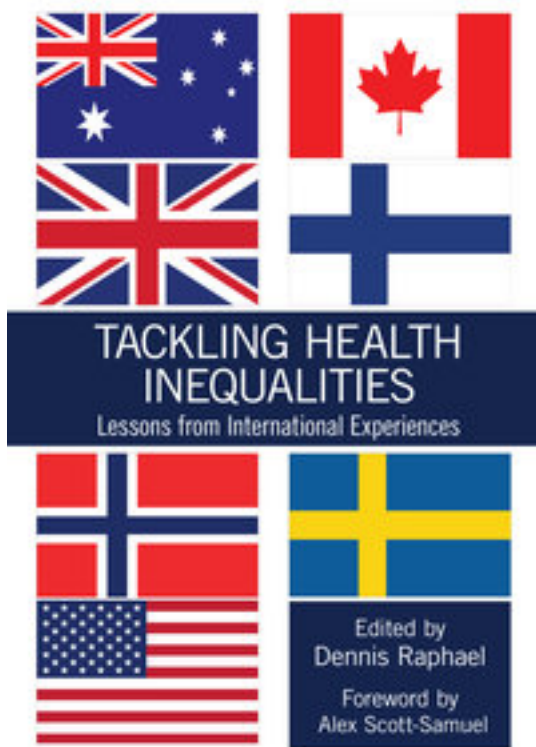


# Tackling Health Inequalities

## Lessons from International Experiences



### Subjects

Global Health  
Nursing  
Health Studies  
Political Science

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*Tackling Health Inequalities: Lessons from International Experiences* provides a unique perspective on health inequalities in Canada and elsewhere. This exciting new volume brings together experiences from seven wealthy developed nations — the United States, Australia, Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Finland, Norway, and Sweden — to analyze their contrasting approaches to reducing avoidable health problems. Some nations are successfully responding to health inequalities, but Canada and the United States are not among them. Why is this, and what can we learn from other nations?

Through a political economy lens, *Tackling Health Inequalities* considers how societal structures and institutions shape the distribution of economic, political, and social resources that affect health disparities amongst the population. The volume then goes on to examine how governing authorities come to either confront or ignore these health inequalities and the conditions that create them. Through these illustrations, it encourages governing authorities that are tackling health inequalities to continue their efforts and directs those that are not — such as in Canada and elsewhere — towards what must be done.

This groundbreaking text shows the primary lessons from these international experiences: that citizens in Canada and elsewhere need to educate themselves about the importance of tackling health inequalities, and then build the political and social movements that will compel governmental authorities to take action. This volume will serve as a rich resource for professionals and general readers interested in health studies, nursing, social work, public policy, and political economy.

### Author Information

Dennis Raphael

**\*\*Dennis Raphael\*\*** is a Professor of Health Policy and Management at York University, whose areas of interest include topics in public policy, poverty, and social determinants of health.

### Reviews

"For Canada, this book will be an ideal text, and it will be a very good text for comparative health systems courses in other countries as well... Many courses tackling the issue of the political economy of health and health inequalities could make use of such a volume."

— *Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, University of Toronto*

"As a public health nurse, attempting to reduce health disparities among groups within a community or population is challenging, as health is influenced by a multitude of factors. This resource is a great starting point for health care professionals who have ever questioned where to begin when tasked with addressing health inequalities."

— *Beverly Kim Bacani, RN, BScN*

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Tackling health inequalities should now form the core of all policies to build resilient societies post covid-19. Key messages. The 2020 Marmot review showed that health inequalities in England have widened since 2010. Behavioural causes of ill health and inequality—tobacco use, unhealthy diet, alcohol consumption, and physical inactivity—share only some drivers with the social causes. Effectively tackling health inequalities requires addressing both behavioural and social causes in parallel. Footnotes. Tackling inequalities in health: a global challenge. Regardless of healthcare system, some degree of inequality in health outcomes is inevitable; this reflects informed individual choice, for instance on lifestyle and diet. Many inequalities in health however are not a consequence of free choice. Tackling health inequalities through research and practice Report of North Staffordshire & South Cheshire Public Health Forum Thursday 12 June 2008, Primary Care Sciences— Draft Report 01-09-08 2 North Staffordshire & South Cheshire Public Health Forum 2008 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY I. Introduction i. There is a substantial amount of national and international research describing the social inequalities in health i. North Staffordshire has some of the poorest health indicators in the country. Tackling this massive health inequality should be a main priority of governments because of the ethical issues involved, says world-renowned epidemiologist Sir Michael Marmot, who has devoted his working life to the issue. “There’s an intimate relationship between where you are on the social hierarchy and your health.