

UNDERSTANDING PATHWAYS THROUGH WHICH SOCIAL FACTORS SHAPE HEALTH

What drives health inequities?

Inequality refers to the fact that resources are not evenly distributed across societies, between nations and globally. Inequality also means a disparity, having a lack of opportunity.

Inequality is bad for health in many ways – it causes shorter, unhealthier and unhappy lives. In 2008 WHO concluded that *Social injustice is killing people on a grand scale*. In the same report WHO called action on the determinants of health *an ethical imperative*.

The million dollar (or bitcoin) question is, how does this operate? How does sociology become biology?



Evidence and explanations for health inequalities has accumulated gradually. Below you will learn about the inequity and related terms, read about the uneasy relationship between biology and sociology and have a look at examples of inequity at different levels.

But would all this convince you that inequities kill people?