



What is Health Equity? Health Equity Efforts in Vermont

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 - Populations of Focus: People who are unhoused and LGBTQIA+ people

Objectives

- Define Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health
- Consider Your Role in Health Equity
- Learn about Health Equity Efforts in Vermont

Definitions

...but first a
distinction

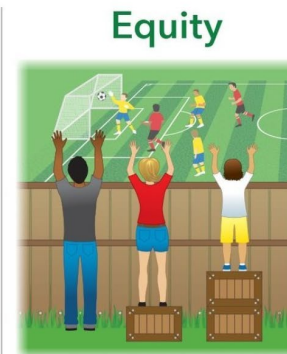
What is Health Equity?

Everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be healthier. This requires removing obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination, and their consequences, including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education and housing, safe environments, and health care.

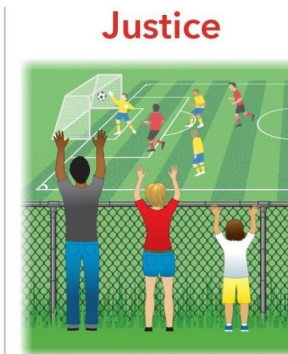
(Braveman, 2017) STRETCH Framework



The assumption is that **everyone benefits from the same supports**. This is equal treatment.



Everyone gets the supports they need (this is the concept of "affirmative action"), thus producing equity.



All 3 can see the game without supports or accommodations because **the cause(s) of the inequity was addressed**. The systemic barrier has been removed.

Distributive Justice and the Social Determinants of Health

Distributive Justice- concerns questions of the distribution of goods, rights and privileges in a society.

Social Determinants of Health- Social factors that influence health

What might these examples mean for practice?

Equality



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Equity



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Justice

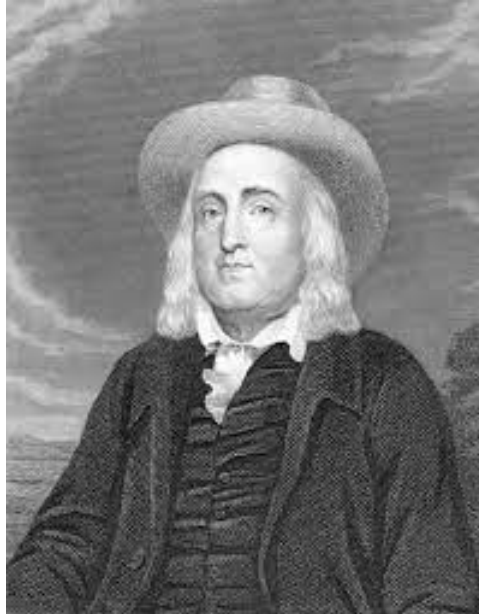
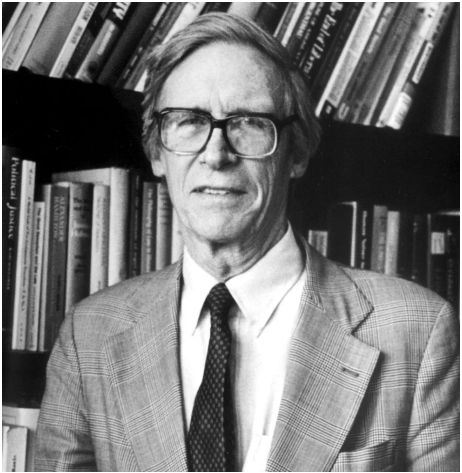


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Recipe for Health Equity

Principle
+
Data

Insights in Distributive Justice





?

Consider Your Role in Health Equity

How might you approach your own distribution?

Group Exercise

- Break up into groups of four people
- Take five minutes to determine your distribution
- Report out on your distribution

Learn About Health Equity Efforts in Vermont

Let's consider an example.

National Initiative to Address COVID – 19 Health Disparities

- Expand Mitigation and Prevention Efforts
- Data Collection
- Expand Infrastructure Supports
- Partner Collaboration-Social Determinants of Health

Expand Mitigation and Prevention Efforts

Continuum of Care Project

VDH and OEO had an opportunity open to all local CoCs to work on healthcare improvement for unhoused people living in Vermont.

Data Collection

Oversampling

The health department is oversampling on their major health surveys.

Expand Infrastructure Supports

Health Equity Training

Providing health equity training to healthcare providers in the state through sessions available from the Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care (VPQHC).

Partner Collaboration-Social Determinants of Health

LGBTQIA+

Out in the Open in Brattleboro Vermont provides interested Vermonters with a buddy for interacting with the medical system. The program was able to expand into new areas of the state.



Thank You!

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