

Health Equity Resources

Week of: 11.22.2013



Articles:

- **Capitalism is a Dirty Word: Americas New Socialist Council Member Talks to Salon.** Salon. 11/18/2013. “In reality, what has become a dirty word is capitalism. Young people can see that the system does not offer any solutions. It’s not built into the system that the goal is to ensure that socially responsible life is possible. The goal is to maximize profits for those who already have wealth...we need a fundamental shift.” [Read more](#)
- **Expanding Social Security.** New York Times. 11/22/2013. “There’s a strong case for expanding, not contracting, Social Security. Yes, this would cost money, and it would require additional taxes — a suggestion that will horrify the fiscal scolds, who have been insisting that if we raise taxes at all, the proceeds must go to deficit reduction, not to making our lives better. But the fiscal scolds have been wrong...Realistically, Social Security expansion won’t happen anytime soon. But it’s an idea that deserves to be on the table — and it’s a very good sign that it finally is.” [More here](#)
- **Homelessness Drops for Third Straight Year in US.** Washington Post. 11/21/2013. “Since 2010, the total number of homeless people has dropped 6 percent, from 649,917.” [Read more](#)
- **How Poverty Impacts Students Test Scores: 4 Graphs.** Huffington Post. 11.19.2013. “Earlier this month, results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) showed that while national test scores are slightly improving, most fourth- and eighth-graders around the country are not proficient in math and reading, and a sizable portion only have a basic understanding of the core subjects. But how do these numbers look when you break them down based on social class?” [See here](#)
- **Inequality is (literally) Killing America.** The Nation. 11/20/2013. ““The social and economic policies that the government has developed over the years that may be health-promoting, aren’t counted as being health-promoting,” explained Berkman. “We don’t think about that in the benefits side of the equation. We only think about them in terms of short-term economic turnaround or employment or labor when in fact the spillover to health may be enormous.” [Read more](#)
- **Latino and African American Preschoolers Targeted by Fast Food Companies.** Latin Post. 11/1/9/2013. “Latino preschoolers see 100 more ads than older Latino children and teens. And, black children and teens see 60 percent more fast-food ads than white youth.” [Read more](#)
- **Life Expectancy Shortest in Southern ‘Poverty Belt.’ INFOGRAPHIC.** Huffington Post. 7.19.2013. “Living in a high-poverty area often means a lifetime of struggle with underperforming

public schools, limited job opportunities, higher crime rates, and poor nutrition, health care and housing — all of which can add up to a shorter, sicker retirement. [Here](#)

- **Menthol: An Unequal Opportunity Killer. Why Hasn't the FDA Banned it?** Forbes. 11/20/2013. "Menthol cigarettes are unequal-opportunity killers that disproportionately hook young people, African-Americans and other people of color, harming their health and reducing their life expectancy." [More here](#)
- **The Insanity of Our Food Policy.** New York Times. 11/16/2013. "As small numbers of Americans have grown extremely wealthy, their political power has also ballooned to a disproportionate size. Small, powerful interests — in this case, wealthy commercial farmers — help create market-skewing public policies that benefit only themselves, appropriating a larger slice of the nation's economic pie. Their larger slice means everyone else gets a smaller one — the pie doesn't get any bigger — though the rent-seekers are usually adept at taking little enough from individual Americans that they are hardly aware of the loss." [Read more](#)
- **The State with the Most Rich People Also Has the Highest Poverty Rate.** Huffington Post. 11.14.2013. "California has both the most ultra-wealthy individuals and the highest poverty rate of any U.S. state, according to recent reports. Part of the problem is that those at the bottom don't vote nearly as much as those at the top, Gerston said. In California, this is exacerbated because recent immigrants are even less likely to vote." [More here](#)
- **Watch Economic Insecurity Spread Like a Virus Over a Quarter Century.** The Washington Post. 11.21.20013. "It's more policy nonresponses than policy responses," [Professor] says. Forms of wage insurance — protections against big income drops — have not kept up over time, he says. There's little buffer available for individuals locked out of the labor market due to structural changes, such as outsourcing or technological changes that eliminate jobs." [Read and see visuals here](#)
- **What if the Poor Weren't Marginalized. (Picture Gallery).** The Huffington Post. 11/18/2013. "The idea of "financial inclusion" can seem abstract or difficult to comprehend until you put a human face on it. The picture gallery below does just that, showcasing the ingenuity, struggles and resilience of the world's poorest populations."
- **Why Are So Many Black Men in Wisconsin Behind Bars?** University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Public Radio. 11/13/2013. "The news that Wisconsin has the highest rate in the country of incarceration among African-American men continues to reverberate and many are asking why. [Researcher] found statewide 49 percent of African-American men in their 30s have already spent time in prison." [Read more](#)

Policy, Reports & Tools:

- **Being Black is Not a Risk Factor: A Strengths Based Look at the State of the Black Child.** National Black Child Development Institute. Nov. 2013. "This essay focuses on the cultural, ecological and structural forces that enhance minority children's capabilities in different domains (e.g., social, emotional and cognitive) and across different developmental periods (e.g., infancy, childhood and adolescence) as well as identify pathways to positive development. In other words, I

will focus on positive development, broadly defined as research that focuses on adaptation and adjustment rather than maladjustment and adversity.” [Read more](#)

- **Investing in Young Children: A Fact Sheet on Early Care and Education Participation, Access and Quality.** National Center for Children in Poverty. Nov. 2013. “This fact sheet provides information about the percentages of young children in each state experiencing risks related to poor educational outcomes. It then shows trends in federal and state investments in early care and education programs and state policies related to both access and quality.” [See here](#)
- **Leveraging Mobility: Building Wealth, Security and Opportunity for Family Well-Being.** Institute on Assets and Social Policy-Brandeis University. Nov. 2013. “This Leveraging Mobility series examines how working and middle class families use assets to advance security and mobility or struggle to gain ground in the absence of assets. How families are faring within this changed national landscape while raising children provides some surprising [insights](#)...”
- **Stimulating Opportunity: An Evaluation of ARRA-Funded Subsidized Employment Programs.** Economic Mobility Corporation. Sept. 2013. “This report provides evidence about the effectiveness of subsidized employment programs in helping the unemployed re-enter the labor market while stimulating job growth and addressing employers’ workforce needs. It also offers lessons about how program design influences worker and employer outcomes. Our main findings about program effectiveness include [the following](#)...”
- **Supplement is the second CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report (CHDIR).** CDC. 11/22/2013. The 2011 CHDIR was the first CDC report to assess disparities across a wide range of diseases, behavioral risk factors, environmental exposures, social determinants, and health-care access. The 2013 CHDIR provides new data for 19 of the topics published in 2011 and 10 new topics. The findings in this supplement can be used by practitioners in public health, academia and clinical medicine; the media; the general public; policymakers; program managers; and researchers to address disparities and help all persons in the United States live longer, healthier, and more productive lives. [Read more here](#)
- **The Coverage Gap: Uninsured Poor Adults in States that Do Not Expand Medicaid.** The Kaiser Family Foundation. October 2013. Issue Brief. [Here](#)

Websites:

- **Frameworks Institute.** “The mission of the FrameWorks Institute is to advance the nonprofit sector's communications capacity by identifying, translating and modeling relevant scholarly research for framing the public discourse about social problems.” [See tools here](#)
- **Racial Equity Tools (Website).** Center for Assessment and Policy Development, MP Associates and World Trust Educational Services. “Racial Equity Tools is designed to support individuals and groups working to achieve racial equity. This site offers tools, research, tips, curricula and ideas for people who want to increase their own understanding and to help those working toward justice at every level – in systems, organizations, communities and the culture at large.” [More here](#)

- **Skills, Mobility and the Glass Floor (Interactive).** The Brookings Institute. 11/13/2013.
“Intergenerational mobility measures the extent to which people’s economic status is related to their parents’ income level. In the United States, intergenerational mobility is “sticky at both ends,” which means that children born to the poorest and richest parents are more likely to remain poor or rich. Those born into the bottom fifth of the income distribution have a 39% chance of remaining there as adults; a similar ratio holds for those born in the top fifth.” [See more here](#)

Webinars & Videos:

- **Family Structure, Stability and Child Wellbeing.** Self Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse. Dec. 11th, 2013. 1pm. “Dr. Terry-Ann Craigie, the current Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse (SSRC) Emerging Scholar, will host a Webinar titled Family Structure, Stability and Child Wellbeing. Dr. Craigie will discuss the determinants and effects of family structure and instability, as well as the pathways through which child wellbeing is affected. Topics to be covered during Dr. Craigie’s Webinar include key determinants of family structure and stability, whether child outcomes vary by family structure, the advantages and disadvantages of formal versus informal child support, and implications for policy and future research.” [Register here](#)
- **Persuade 7 of 10 Americans to Support Government Action on Financial Security.** [Webinar]. Ford Foundation and Hattaway Communications. “In a climate where it’s tough to get a majority of Americans to support government action on anything, communicating effectively about financial security for all is imperative to enacting critical policies. This webinar will share practical guides and principles for crafting compelling narratives and language to increase support for a variety of policies and programs. A great resource for advocates and policymakers, this powerful approach can help you attract new supporters to your work—and achieve even greater impact for the people you serve.” [Register here](#)
- **The Raising of America Documentary Series** (Coming soon!) California Newsreel & PBS. Available 2014. “This ambitious documentary series and multimedia initiative by the producers of ‘*UNNATURAL CAUSES: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?*’ explores how a strong start for all our kids leads not only to better individual life course outcomes (learning, earning and physical and mental health) but also to a healthier, safer, better educated and more prosperous and equitable America.” [Learn more here](#)

Conferences, Presentations & Talks:

- **Mexican “Retornados” and Families in Mexico: The Impact of the Migration Experience.** Prof. Maria de la luz Pérez Padilla from Universidad de Guadalajara - San Juan de los Lagos. Friday, Nov. 22, 4-5:30 pm 206 Ingraham Hall University of Wisconsin-Madison. “Prof. Pérez Padilla will talk about her research about how returning migrants are re-integrated back into their families and communities when they return home to Mexico. She will discuss her preliminary findings about their experiences, based on closed and open-ended questions and psychological scales.”
- **Michigan Conferene on Complex Systems, Health Disparities and Population Health.** Feb 24-25, 2014. The National Institutes of Health Natcher Conference Center in Bethesda, MD, join scholars and practitioners from the United States and abroad to learn about and see examples of

how complex systems science can help guide our research and policy efforts to eliminate health disparities and improve the health of our population. [Registration is free.](#)

- **Understanding Immigrant Families: Reframing the Way We Work with Immigrants.** Increase your capacity to provide culturally competent care to diverse communities. UW Madison Continuing Studies. Madison. Pyle Center—Dec 3rd, 9-4pm. Call 608-262-1122 to register.
- **Wisconsin Public Health Association 2014 Annual Conference**—Call for abstracts extended! Due November 27th, 2013. [Details here](#)