

Health, Development, and Human Rights

Health, Wealth, and Social Institutions in an Interconnected World

As you read the material for the next class, keep the questions below in mind. To answer these questions you will have to reflect critically on what you have read and possibly re-read important passages. Keep in mind that there are two basic kinds of information that you need to look for in the readings:

1. What are the main points or conclusions that an author accepts with respect to a particular issue?
2. What are the reasons, important considerations, and evidence that lead the author to accept that conclusion?

For our purposes, *it is information of the second sort that will be our primary concern* since our most basic task is to *evaluate the reasons and evidence* that are offered to support accepting one possible conclusion about an issue, rather than another.

Although I strongly suggest that you write out brief answers to these questions, you do not have to turn in written responses. You do, however, need to be prepared to speak intelligently to these issues in the next class meeting.

Readings

- World Bank, *World Development Report 2006: Equity and Development*, Overview and Chapter 1.

Questions

1. Does it surprise you that the World Bank, an economic organization, put together this report on equality and development?
2. What is the main thesis of this report?
3. What is meant by equity? What is an inequality trap? How does the report propose to measure equity? Why does the World Bank believe that equity is important?
4. A common theme throughout the report is about an individual's agency. What does this mean and how it is connected to equity?
5. How does the World Bank propose to encourage equity?