



Ankara University
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The First Medical School In The Republic of Turkey (1945)

Health Anthropology

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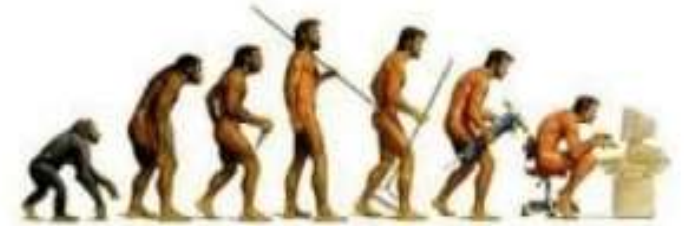
Ankara University Medical School, Dept. of Public Health

21th February 2019, Ankara - TURKEY



What is Anthropology?

- The study of human similarities and differences
- Holistic approach that emphasizes:
 - CULTURE
 - CONTEXT
 - COMPLEXITY
 - CROSS-CULTURAL COMPARISON
 - CHANGE
- Simultaneously bioscience, social science, and humanity



What is Anthropology

- *Anthropos* means human and *logia* is study so that anthropology is the study of humans
- The study of human differences, cultural and biological, in the context of human nature. Anthropologists identify and compare behavior of a particular group against the full range of human behavior. These comparisons should uncover principles that apply to all human communities

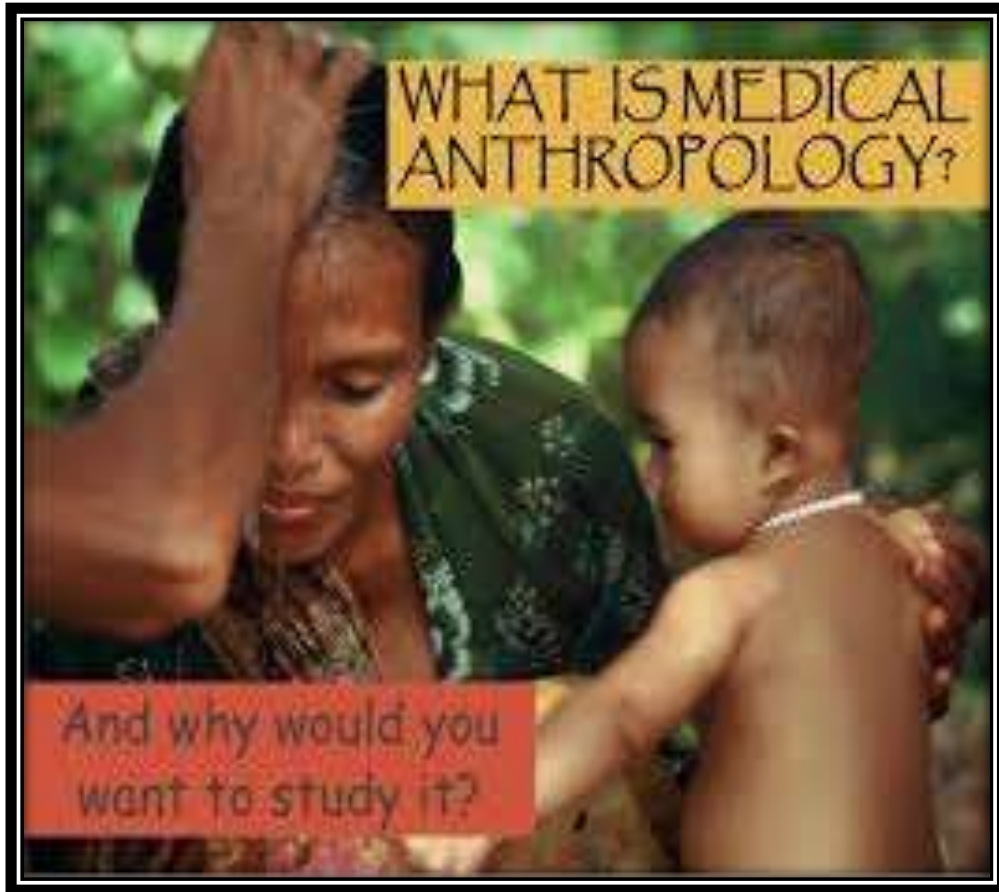


Anthropology-

The study of the **entire range of cultures** and societies in the world, originally the discipline tended to concentrate on **non-western** and so called **primitive societies**. (Oxford Dic of Sociology)

Social Anthropology, study of human social life or society, concerned with examining **social behavior** and **social relationships**. (© Encarta © 2006. © 1993-2005 Microsoft Corporation.)

The science of humanity which studies human beings in aspects ranging from the **biology and evolutionary history** of Homo-sapiens to the features of society and culture that decisively distinguish human from other animal.




What is Medical Anthropology?

Medical Anthropology is a subfield of Anthropology that draws upon social, cultural, biological, and linguistic anthropology to better understand those factors which influence health and well being (broadly defined), the experience and distribution of illness, the prevention and treatment of sickness, healing processes, the social relations of therapy management, and the cultural importance and utilization of pluralistic medical systems



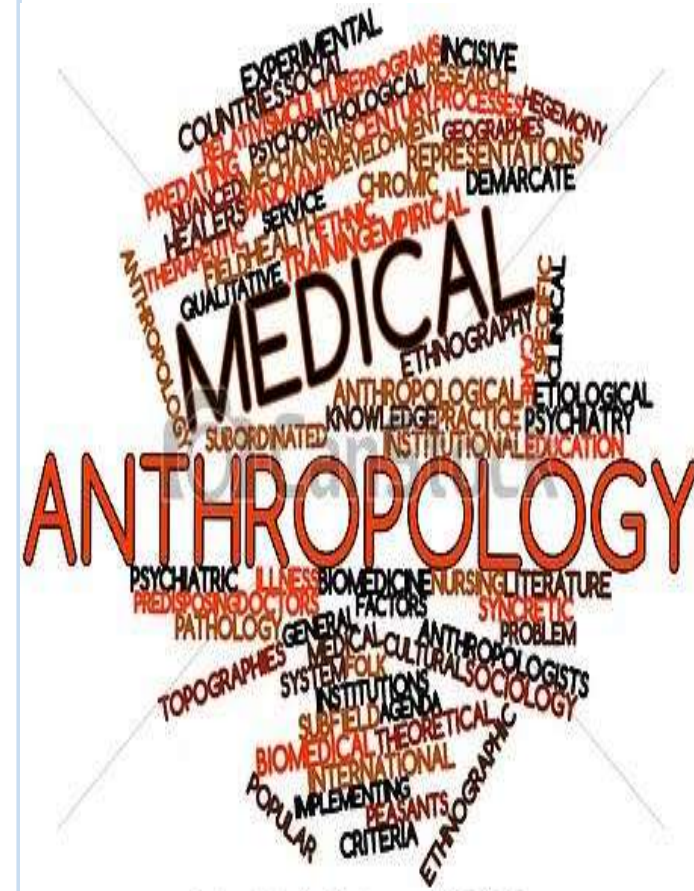
*Medical anthropology is the
primary discipline
addressing the interfaces
of medicine,
culture, and **health behavior**
and **incorporating**
cultural perspectives into
clinical
settings and public health
programs.*

- 
- ✓ The discipline of **medical anthropology** draws upon many different theoretical approaches. It is as attentive to popular **health culture** as bioscientific epidemiology, and the social construction of knowledge and politics of science as scientific discovery and hypothesis testing.
 - ✓ Medical anthropologists examine how the health of individuals, larger social formations, and the environment are affected by interrelationships between humans and other species; **cultural norms** and social institutions; micro and macro politics; and forces of **globalization** as each of these affects local worlds.

Medical anthropologists study issues-1

1. Health ramifications of **ecological “adaptation and maladaptation”**
2. Popular health culture and domestic health care practices
3. Local interpretations of *bodily processes*
4. Changing body projects and valued *bodily attributes*
5. Perceptions of risk, vulnerability and **responsibility for illness** and health care
6. Risk and protective dimensions of human behavior, **cultural norms and social institutions**

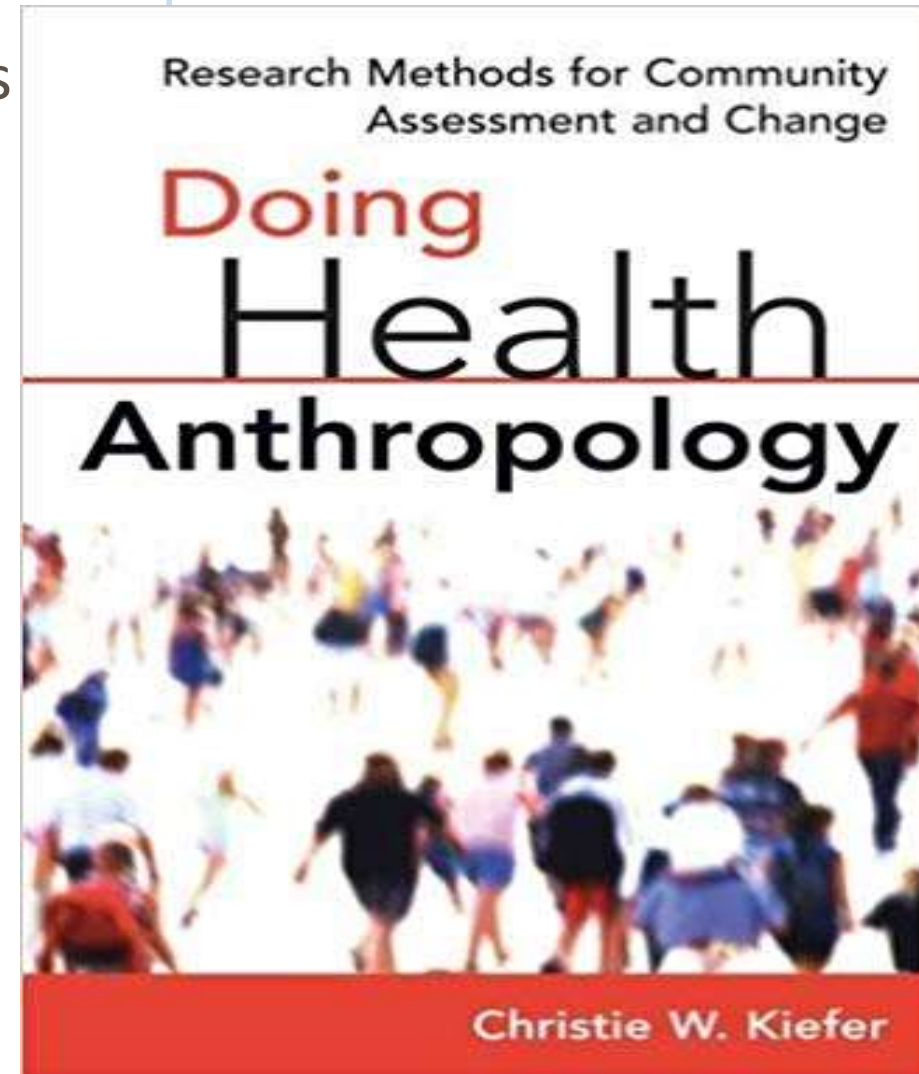
<http://www.medanthro.net/about/about-medical-anthropology/> 22.02.2019



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Medical anthropologists study issues-3

7. Preventative health and *harm reduction* practices
8. The experience of illness and the ***social relations*** of sickness
9. The range of factors driving health, nutrition and health care transitions
10. ***Ethnomedicine***, pluralistic healing modalities, and healing processes
11. The ***social organization*** of clinical interactions
12. The *cultural and historical conditions* shaping medical practices and policies
13. Medical practices in the context of modernity, colonial, and post-colonial ***social formations***



Medical anthropologists issues-3

14. The use and interpretation of pharmaceuticals and forms of biotechnology
15. The **commercialization** and commodification of health and medicine
16. Disease distribution and **health disparity**
17. Differential use and availability of government and private **health care resources**
18. The **political economy** of health care provision.
19. The **political ecology** of infectious and vector borne diseases, chronic diseases and states of malnutrition, and **violence**
20. The possibilities for a critically engaged yet clinically relevant application of anthropology

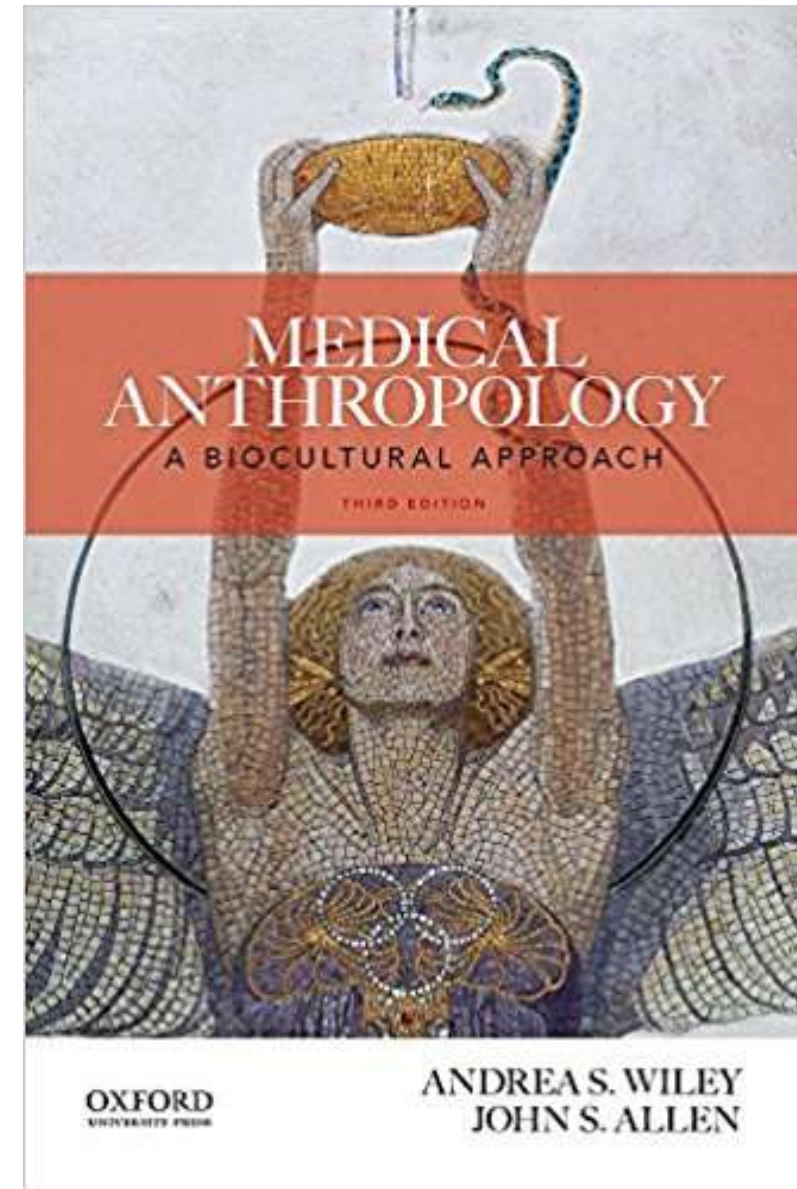
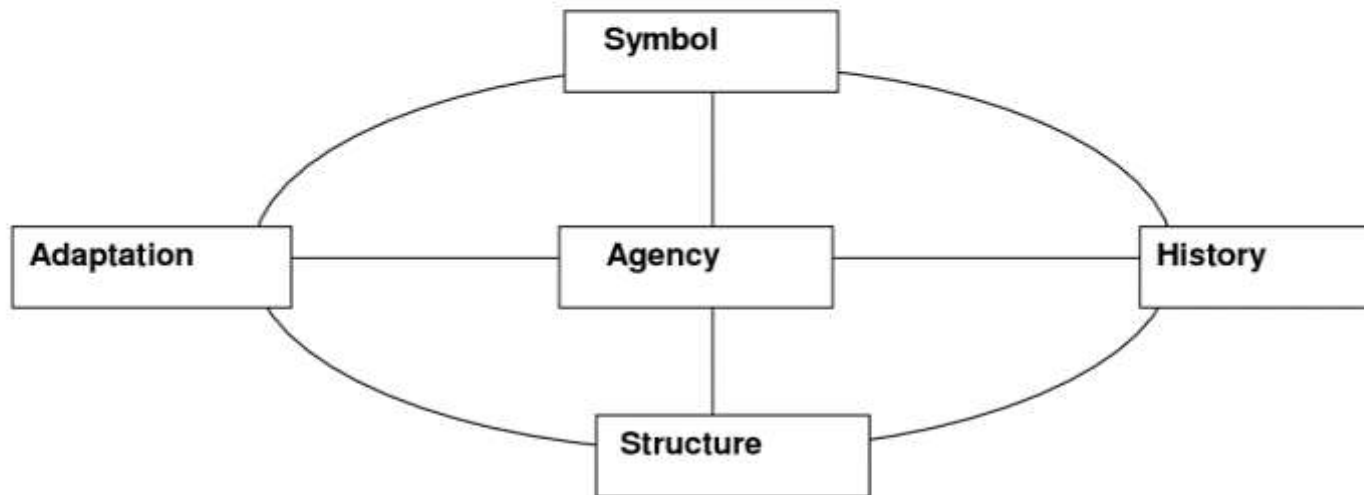


CULTURAL FACTORS in HEALTH and DISEASE

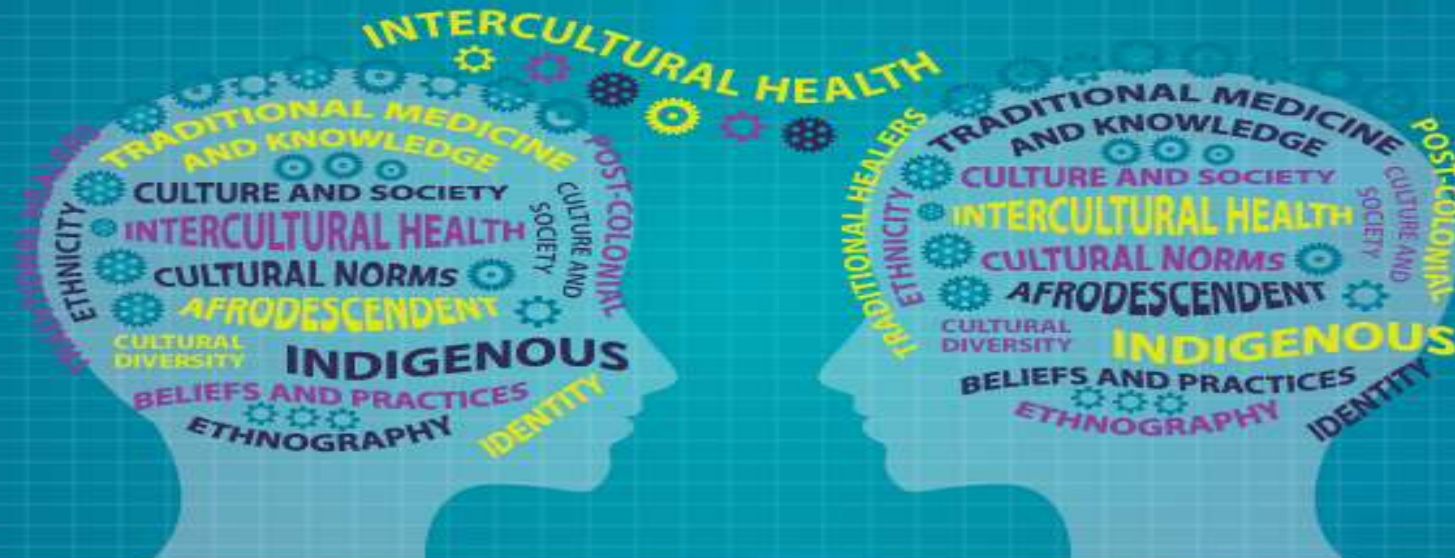
- PERSONAL HYGIENE
- NUTRITION
- IMMUNISATION
- SEEKING EARLY MEDICAL CARE
- FAMILY PLANNING
- CHILD REARING
- DISPOSAL of EXCRETA & REFUSE



MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY and the ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE



APPLYING MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY TO PUBLIC HEALTH



2 - 3:30 PM (WDC)

March 2, 2017

<http://bit.ly/2m90pUi>



Pan American
Health
Organization



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE

World Health
Organization
Americas

Why study *culture* in *medical* contexts?

- Improving health care in Third World contexts (whether home or abroad) requires culturally appropriate methods.
 - What power relationship is implicit here?
- All countries of the world are increasingly divided into healthy upper classes and continuing unhealthy underclasses (WHO 1999).
 - What meanings & social practices contribute to this power structure?

NEW!!

Medical Anthropology Minor

- 18 credit hours -

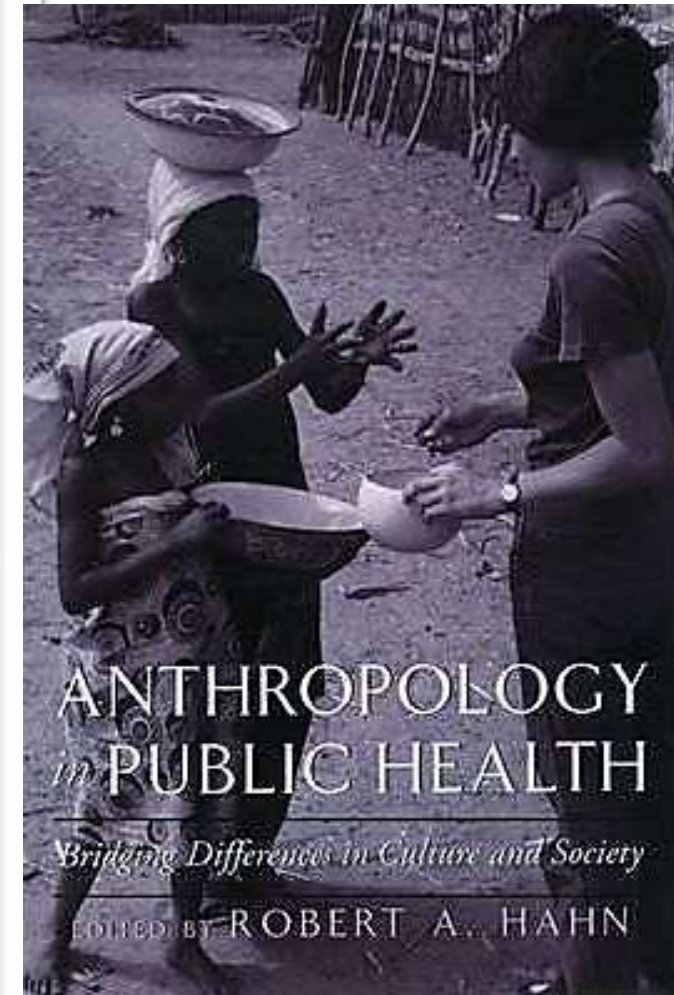
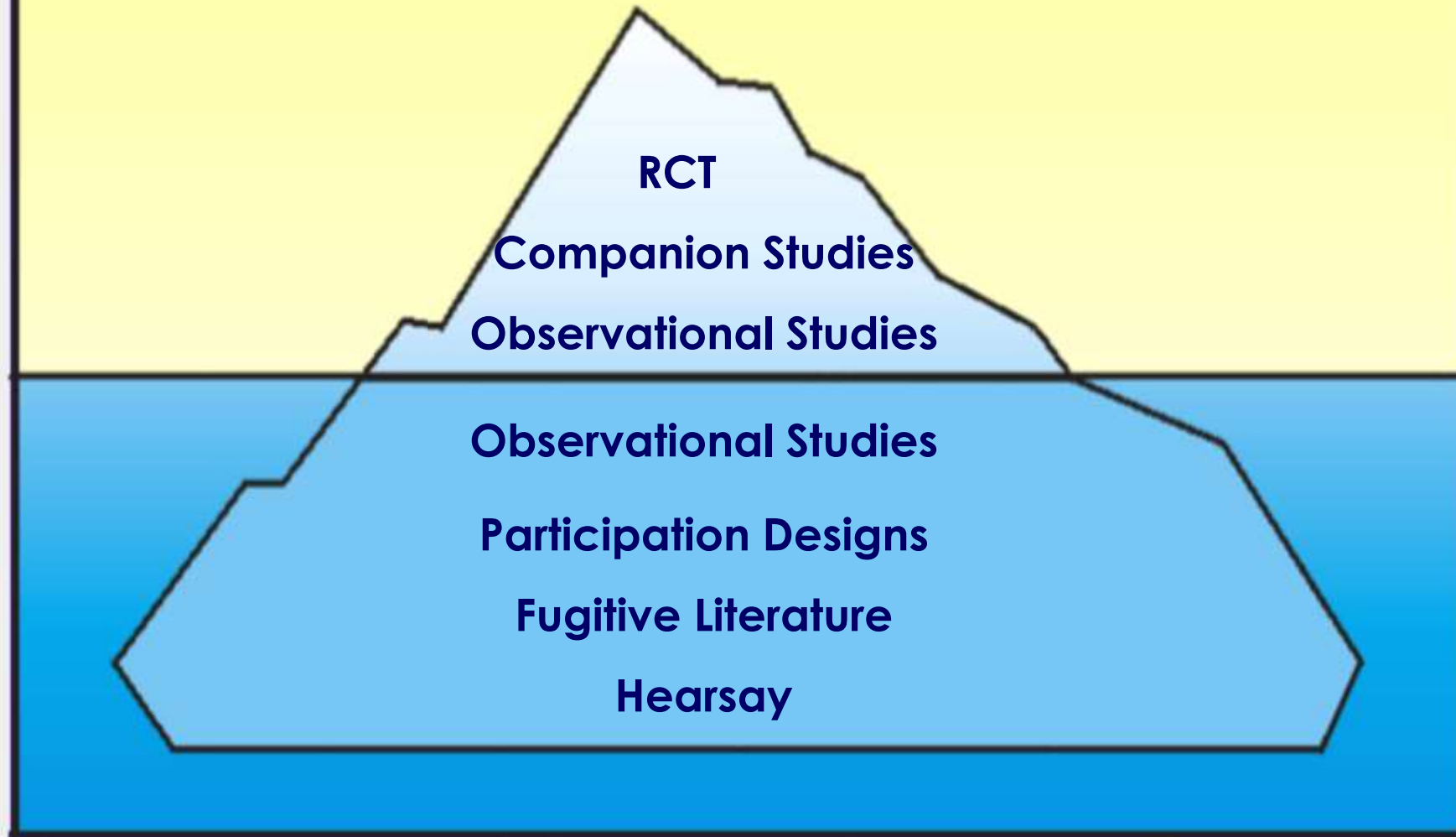
Active: Fall, 2018



- ✓ Will provide knowledge, perspectives, and insights on health, healing, medicine, society and culture
- ✓ Designed to help students prepare to provide culturally sensitive and effective health care
- ✓ Excellent for students in nursing, pre-med, public health, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines

To learn more: <https://www.kent.edu/anthropology/news/new-medical-anthropology-minor>

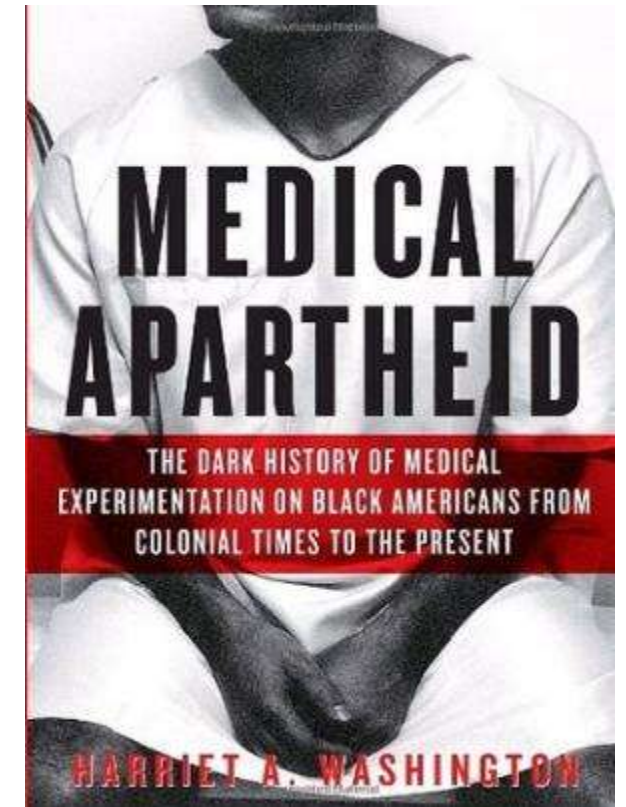
Evidence Iceberg in Health Promotion



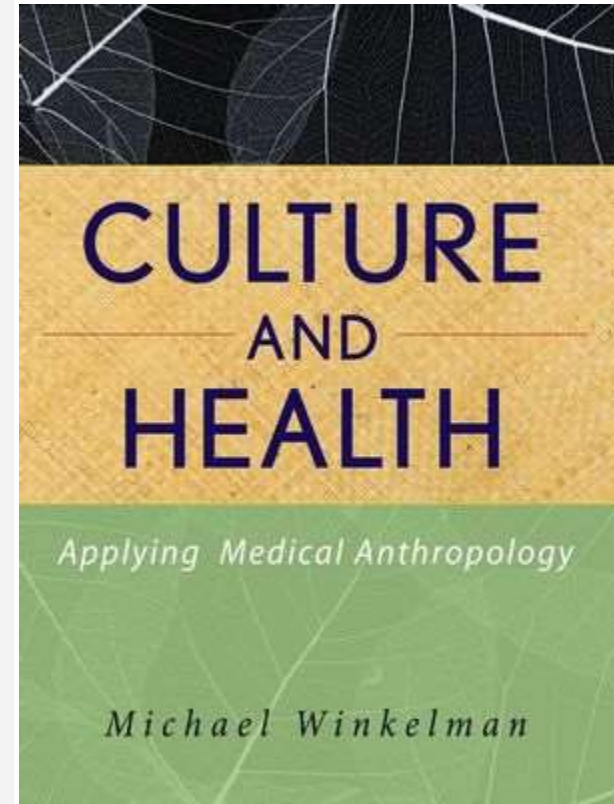
Top 10 Most Common Health Issues

1. Physical Activity and Nutrition
2. Overweight and Obesity
3. Tobacco
4. Substance Abuse
5. HIV/AIDS
6. Mental Health
7. Injury and Violence
8. Environmental Quality
9. Immunization
10. Access to Health Care

Which one is independent from Culture?



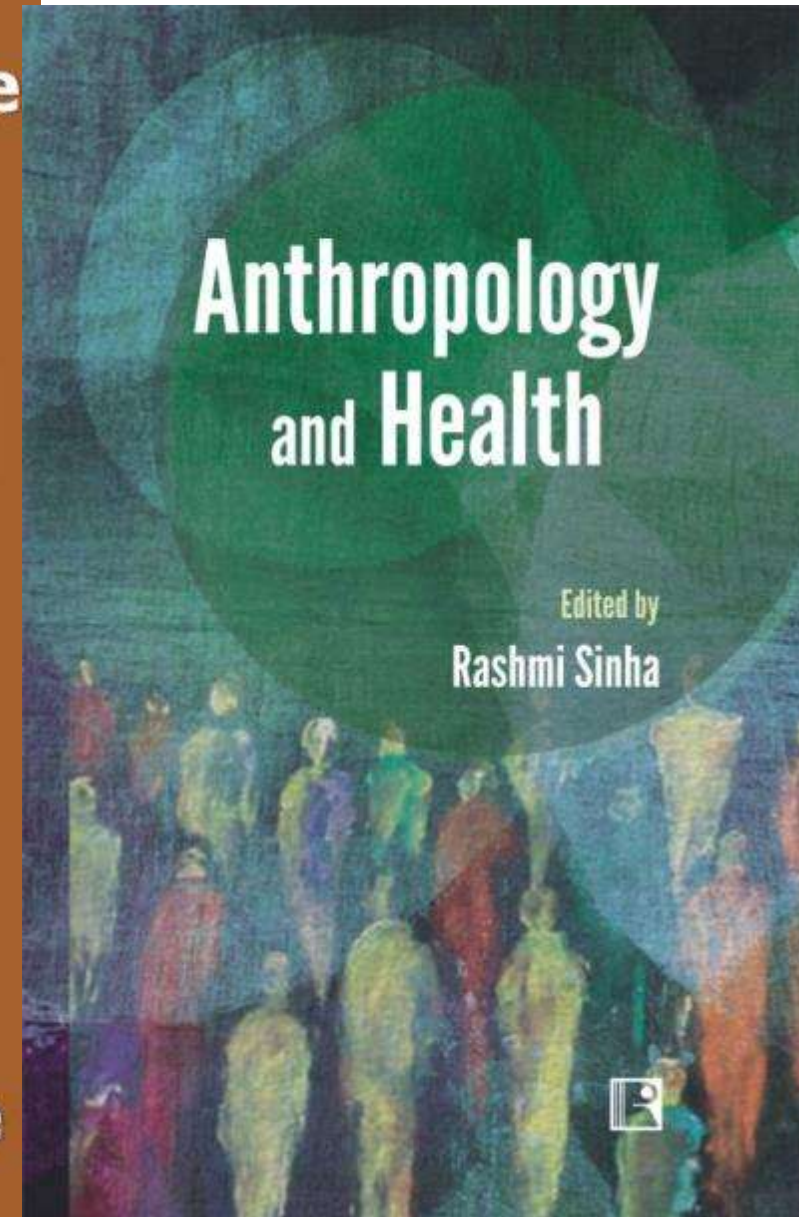
<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/senior-health/common-issues/top-ten.cfm>, 29.11.13





2.

- **Illness** = Anthropologists investigate the cultural experience of the “sick role.”
Ex. “I have” HIV v. “I am” an AIDS patient
- **Disease** = Biomedical or scientific construction of “x condition”
- **Wellness** = Some cultures focus on health instead of “illth”
Ex. Could it be beneficial to powerful institutions to keep the sick sick and the poor sick?



CULTURE...

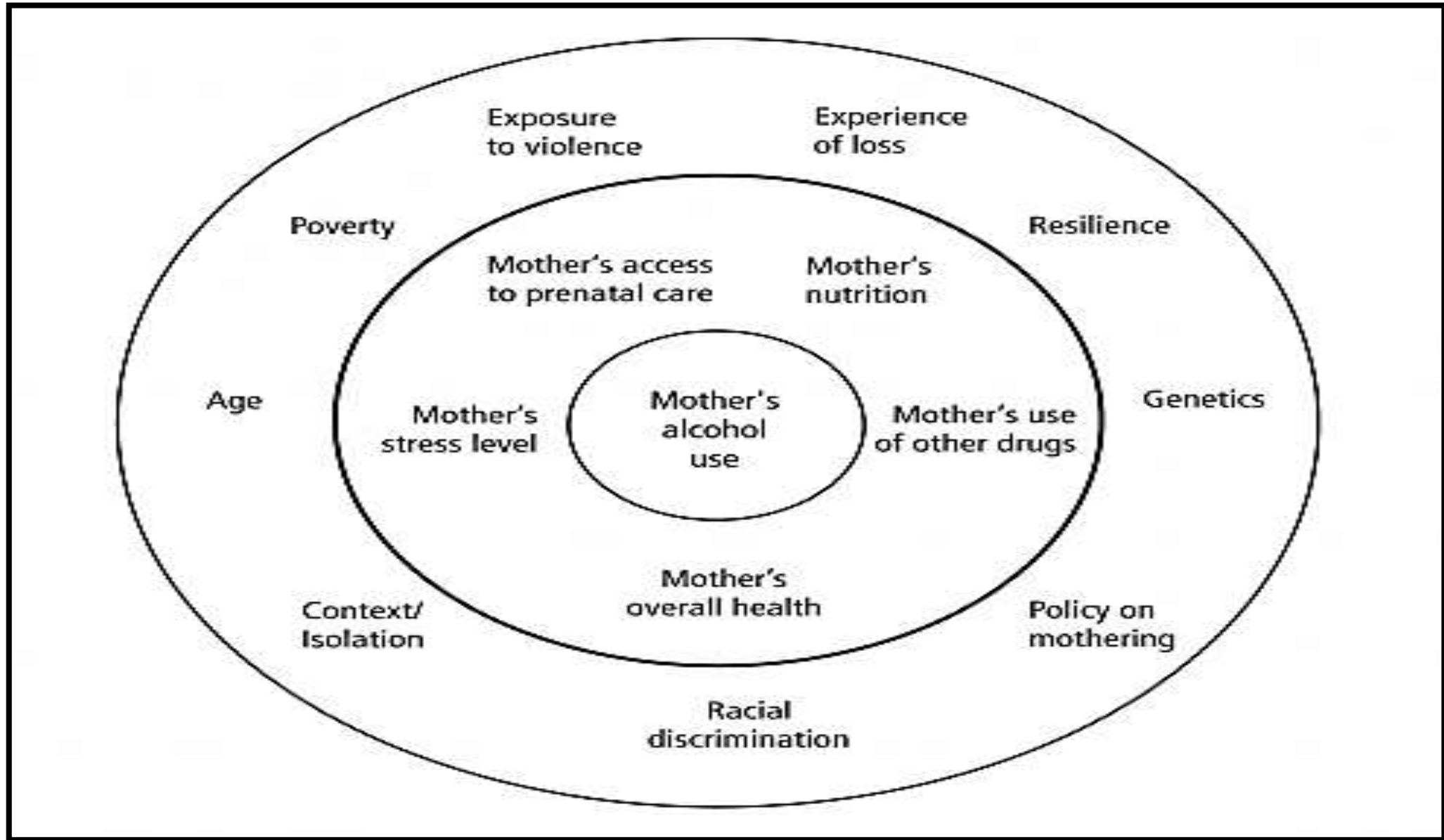
■ It's defined
as **LEARNED
BEHAVIOUR**
which
has been
**SOCIALLY
ACQUIRED..**



This Indian man like other millions expects a health cure in the river Ganges which almost equivalent to sewage ingredient.. Why and how we could present with him a scientific alternative in order to replace with that pernicious cultural conditioning?

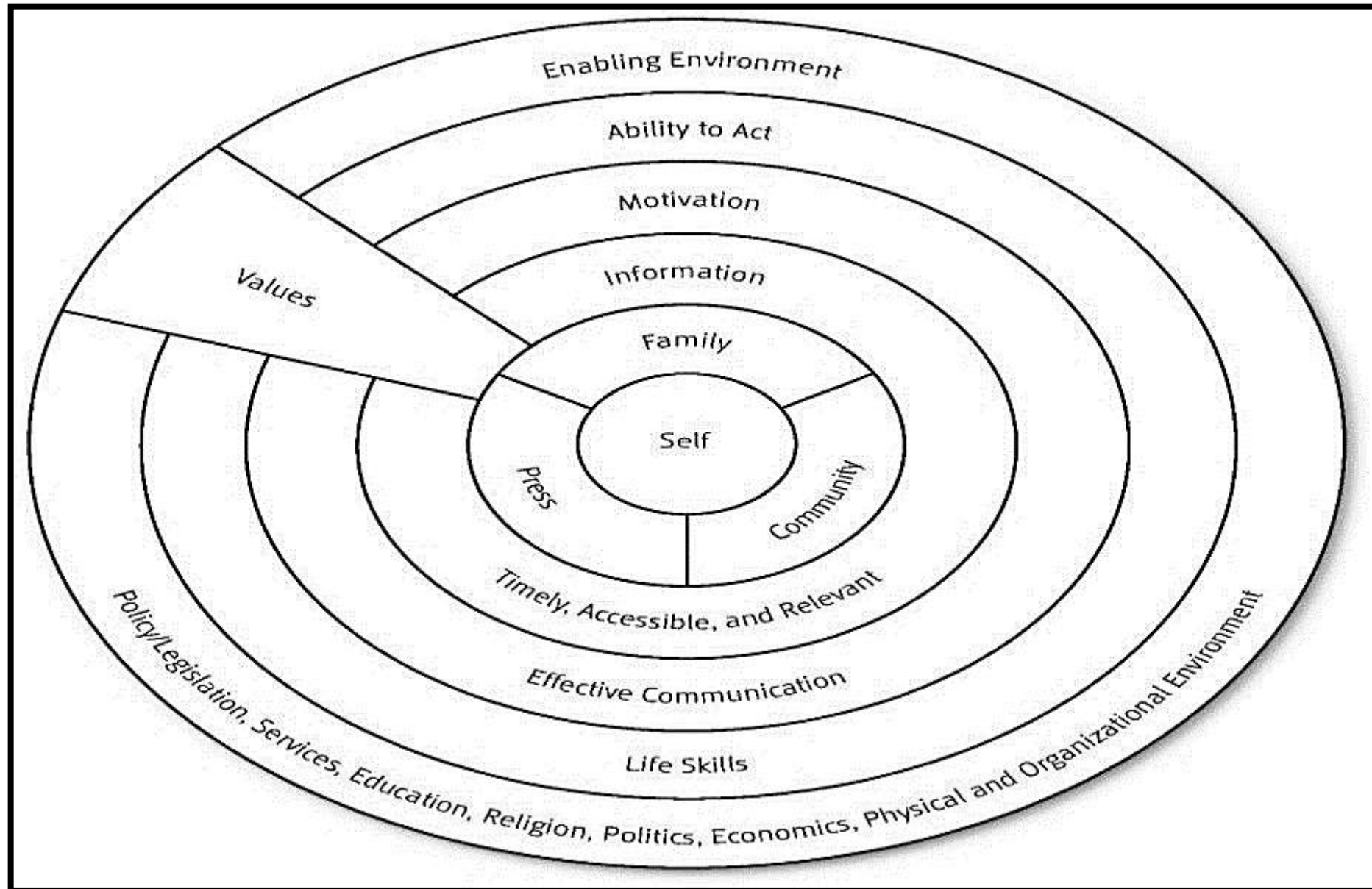


HEALTH is a MULTIFACTORIAL SYSTEM..





HEALTH is a MULTIFACTORIAL SYSTEM..







Thanks for all...

*This presentation is recommended to
work with **Health Sociology** slides.*