

Shaping Health Equity Practice:

Preliminary Scoping Review of Key Perinatal Documents in BC (2002-2017)

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Shaping Health Equity Practice: Preliminary Scoping Review of Key Perinatal Documents in British Columbia (2002-2017)

Research question: What is the policy context influencing the application of a health equity lens in relation to mental health promotion, prevention of mental disorders and harms of substance use within perinatal programs in BC?



Health Equity

Health equity means all people (individuals, groups and communities) have a fair chance to reach their full health potential and are not disadvantaged by social, economic and environmental conditions.

> NCCDH Glossary of Essential Health Equity Terms

> > http://nccdh.ca/resources/glossary/



PURPOSE AND CONTENTS OF THE GLOSSARY

We created the glossary to respond to practitioner requests to promote the use of clear and effective language—within public health and across sectors and regions in Canada—in order to enhance powerful communication and action on the social determinants of health and health equity.

We strove for simplicity and ease of understanding. The terms are organized under four categories

Each definition is followed by an example sentence that uses the term with a particular audience.

This glossary is available online at www.nccdh.ca/resources/

These definitions were developed by the NCCDH team. We reviewed the literature, talked to key informants within public health, and focus-tested draft definitions with public health colleagues across Canada. Recognizing that essential terminology and the meaning of similar terms differ between FEBRUARY 2015

ENGLISH GLOSSARY OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH **EQUITY TERMS**

French and English, we undertook separate development processes for the English and French glossaries. The two glossaries align in many ways, but they are not direct

Please keep in mind that the definitions are not intended to replace academic/research definitions. We expect our definitions to change over time based on feedback from the public health community. We have noted sources only when our definition is closely related to a published definition.

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Does the definition, and the way we use the term in a sentence, make sense to you?

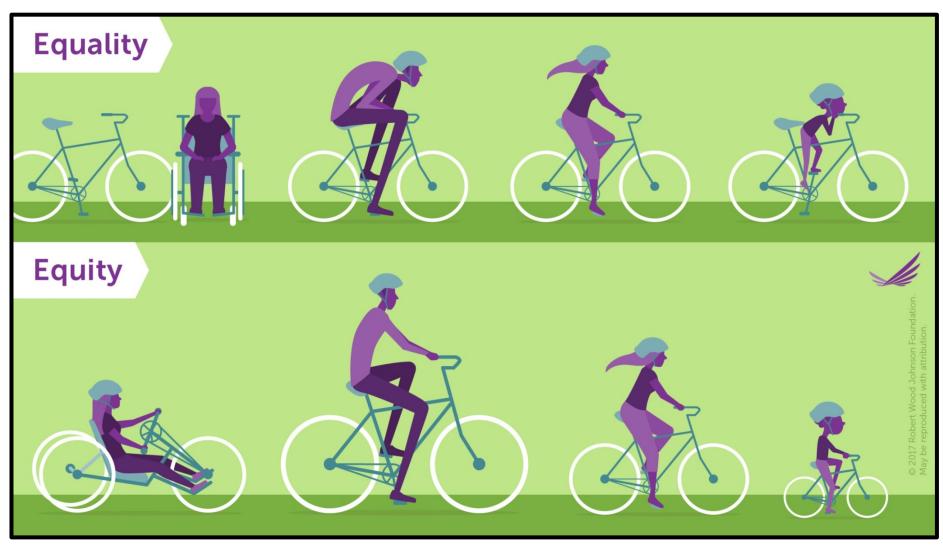
To send us feedback on a particular term, please use the comment boxes that are placed under each term on the website www.nccdh.ca/resources/glossary

You can also e-mail comments to Karen Fish (kfish@stfx.ca), coordinator of the Resource Library. The terms will be updated regularly on our websile, based on your feedback, as well as on evolving usage in the public health community.



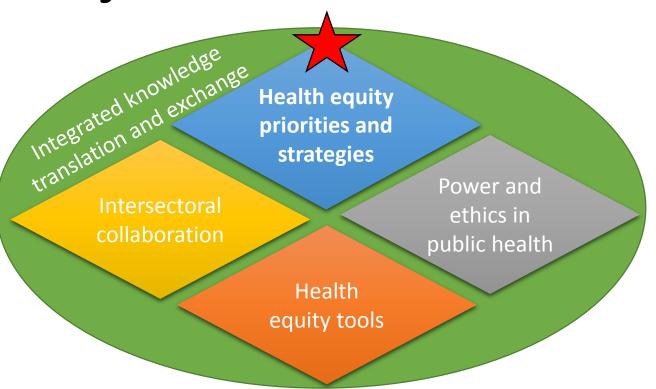


Health Equity vs. Health Equality





Equity Lens in Public Health (ELPH) Research Project







ELPH Study 1: Health equity priorities and strategies



Why perinatal public health services?

1. Many perinatal initiatives/programs are inherently related to health equity

2. PH traditionally targets many of their programs at perinatal population



Perinatal Analysis

Data with perinatal public
health front line staff
organically formed an analysis
group for understanding the
application of health equity in
perinatal services

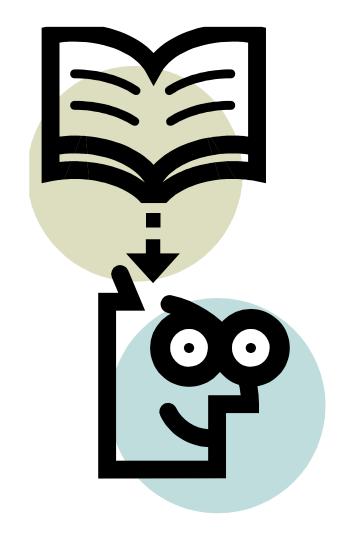
3. Leading issues in perinatal services are PPD, IPV & Substance Use



Contextual Influences

Documents

- "...are important to the work of governments and organizations as essential tools that guide thinking and action..."
- "...progression or movement of knowledge into action and research into policy is channeled through a document..."





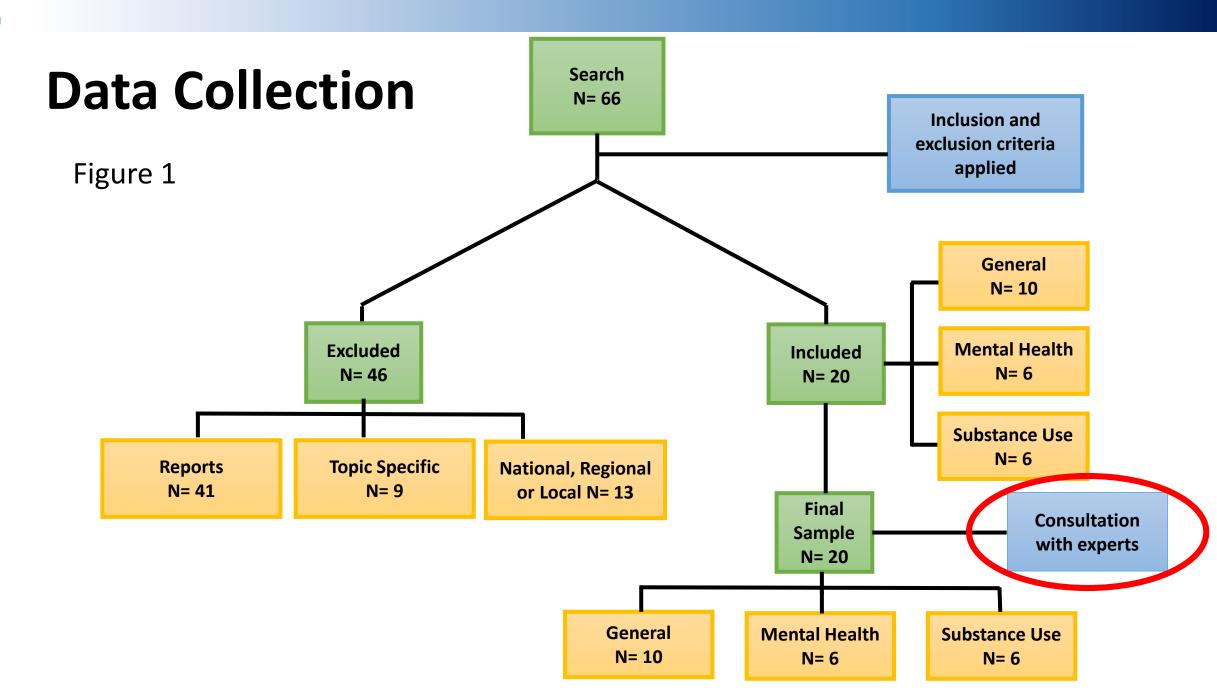
Focus of Our Scoping Review



Provincial level policy documents in BC that are either:

- a foundational document that guides perinatal service delivery generally OR,
- guides perinatal service delivery in relation to mental health promotion, prevention of mental disorders and harms of substance use as its primary focus;
- AND publically available;
- AND published between 2002 and 2017.





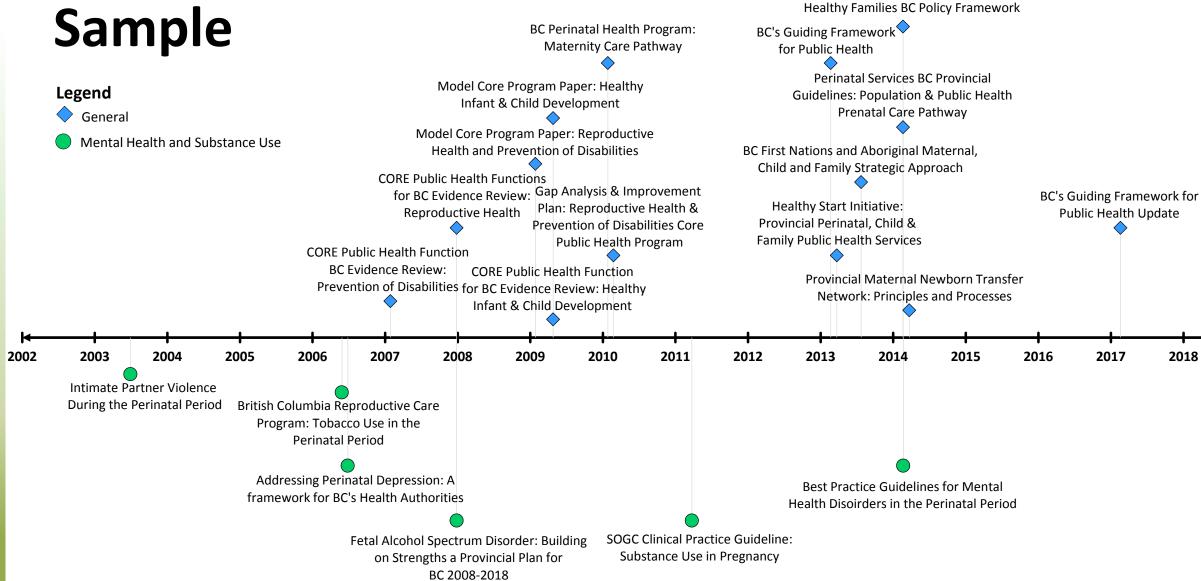


Figure 2



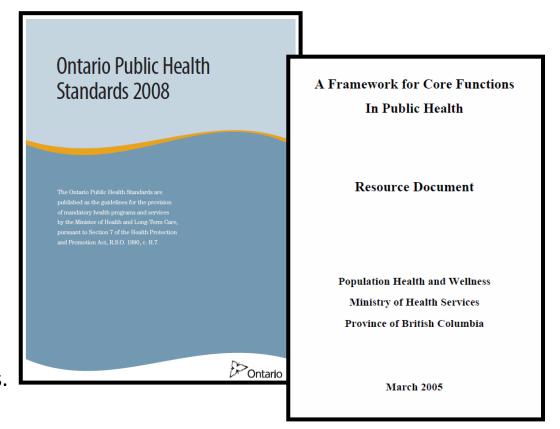
Data Analysis

- Framework for our analysis was guided by Pinto et al.
 - Research question:
 - How is equity conceptualized and integrated into key public health documents in Ontario and BC?
 - Documents included:
 - Ontario Public Health Standards 2008
 - British Columbia Framework for Core Functions in Public Health 2008
 - Analysis:
 - Methodology was based on constant comparative analysis drawn from grounded theory.
 - Sets of questions were developed to guide the analysis.

RESEARCH Open Access

Equity in public health standards: a qualitative document analysis of policies from two Canadian provinces

Andrew D Pinto¹², Heather Manson^{3*}, Bernadette Pauly^{4,5}, Joanne Thanos⁶, Amanda Parks⁷ and Amy Cox⁴





Data Analysis



Why use the framework from Pinto et al?

RESEARCH

Open Access

Equity in public health standards: a qualitative document analysis of policies from two Canadian provinces

Andrew D Pinto^{1,2}, Heather Manson^{3*}, Bernadette Pauly^{4,5}, Joanne Thanos⁶, Amanda Parks⁷ and Amy Cox⁴

Table 1 Qu	estions developed iteratively to analyse key
Preliminary questions	Are the following terms mentioned in the documents? Where are they mentioned?
	a. equity, equities
	b. inequity, inequities
	2. Are equity/equities or inequity/inequities explicitly defined in the documents?
	3. In what context is equity/equities or inequity/inequities mentioned?
	4. Is improving equity or reducing inequity an explicit goal?
Secondary	1. What proxy terms are used to relate to equity?
questions	2. Is the definition of equity in the ON and BC documents related to social justice?
	3. Is addressing health inequities in the ON and BC documents equated with addressing structural conditions that produce inequities?
	4. Is there reference to the SDOH in the ON and BC documents, and if so, what are the expectations of PH (explicitly or implicitly) in addressing them?
	5. Are there specific examples of certain populations to focus on? E.g. low-income, Aboriginal, etc
	6. To what extent is accountability to address inequities mentioned or considered in the docs?
	7. Are there specific actions recommended or expected from PH in addressing health inequities?
Tertiary questions	1. How does equity intersect with accessibility?
	2. Are there unexpected or unusual ideas about equity that appear?
	3. Are there programs or standards where equity seems to have been missed?



Data Analysis - Our Process

We tested the application of the framework from Pinto et al on 4 documents by:

- 1. Initial read through
- 2. Second read through with application and consideration of *preliminary questions*

1. Are the following terms
mentioned in the documents?
Equity, equities?

2. Are the following terms mentioned in the documents? Inequity, inequities?

3. Are equity/equities or inequity/ inequities explicitly defined in the documents?

4. In what context is equity/equities/ inequity/ inequities mentioned?

5. Is improving equity or reducing inequity an explicit goal?

3. Third read through with application and consideration of secondary questions

1. What proxy
terms are
used to relate
to equity?

2. Is the definition of equity in the document related to social justice?

3. Is addressing health inequities in the document equated with addressing structural conditions that produce inequities?

4. Is there reference to the SDOH in the document, and if so, what are the expectations of PH (explicitly or implicitly) in addressing them?

5. Are there specific examples of certain populations to focus on? E.g. low-income, Aboriginal, etc.?

6. To what extent is accountability to address inequities mentioned or considered in the docs?

7. Are there specific actions recommended or expected from PH in addressing health inequities?

4. Forth read through with application and consideration of tertiary questions

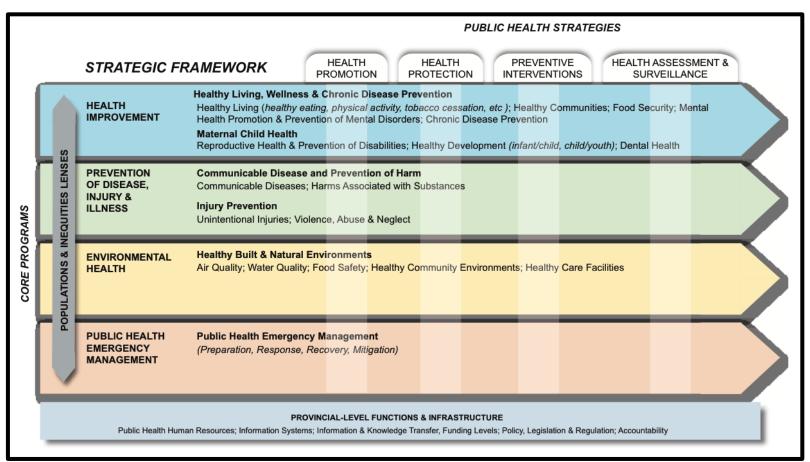
1. How does equity intersect with accessibility?

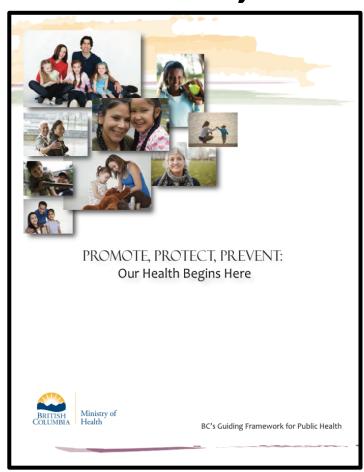
2. Are there unexpected or unusual ideas about equity that appear?

3. Are there programs or standards where equity seems to have been missed?



BC's Guiding Framework for Public Health, 2017



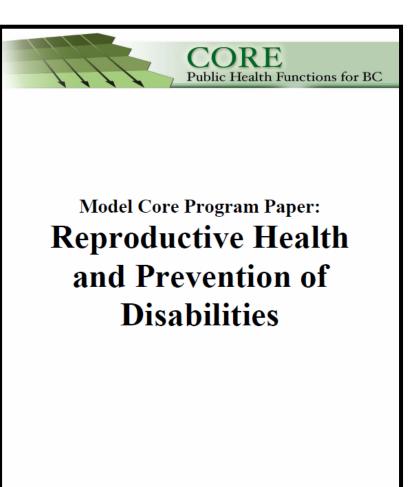




Thoughts about Preliminary Trends

Provincial level policy document in BC that is foundational and guides perinatal service delivery generally (n=1)

- Equit* rarely mentioned and improving equity/ reducing inequity not an explicit goal;
- Equity not clearly defined;
- Equity addressed in the context of...
 - Service delivery;
 - Gender equity;
 - Naming vulnerable groups;
 - Conditions that produce vulnerability;
- Equity was missed in some programs (e.g. social media campaigns);
- Actions and a way forward for addressing inequity described, including accountability, however practical guidance missing.



BC Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

BC Health Authorities



Thoughts about Preliminary Trends

Provincial level policy documents in BC that guides perinatal service delivery in relation to mental health promotion, prevention of mental disorders and harms of substance use as its primary focus (n=3)

- Equit* not mentioned, and improving equity/ reducing inequity not an explicit goal;
- Equity not explicitly defined;

 Equity discussed in the context of naming vulnerable groups and/ or the conditions that produce vulnerability.





Next Steps

- Complete expert consultation for finalizing sample
- Finalize sample
- Finalize framework for analysis
- Complete analysis







Questions for Discussion

1. Thoughts about framework/ questions for document analysis:

a. Are the questions we are asking of the data useful?

b. Are we missing any important questions to ask the data?

- 2. Thoughts about sample:
 - a. Have we missed any key perinatal health policy documents?
- 3. What opportunities do you think exist for prioritizing health equity in perinatal public health practice?



1. Thoughts about framework/ questions for document analysis:

- a. Are the questions we are asking of the data useful?
- b. Are we missing any important questions to ask the data?

Preliminary Questions

1. Are the following terms
mentioned in the
documents? Equity,
equities?

- 2. Are the following terms mentioned in the documents? Inequity, inequities?
- 3. Are equity/equities or inequity/ inequities explicitly defined in the documents?
- 4. In what context is equity/equities/ inequity/ inequities mentioned?
- 5. Is improving equity or reducing inequity an explicit goal?

Secondary Questions

1. What
proxy terms
are used to
relate to
equity?

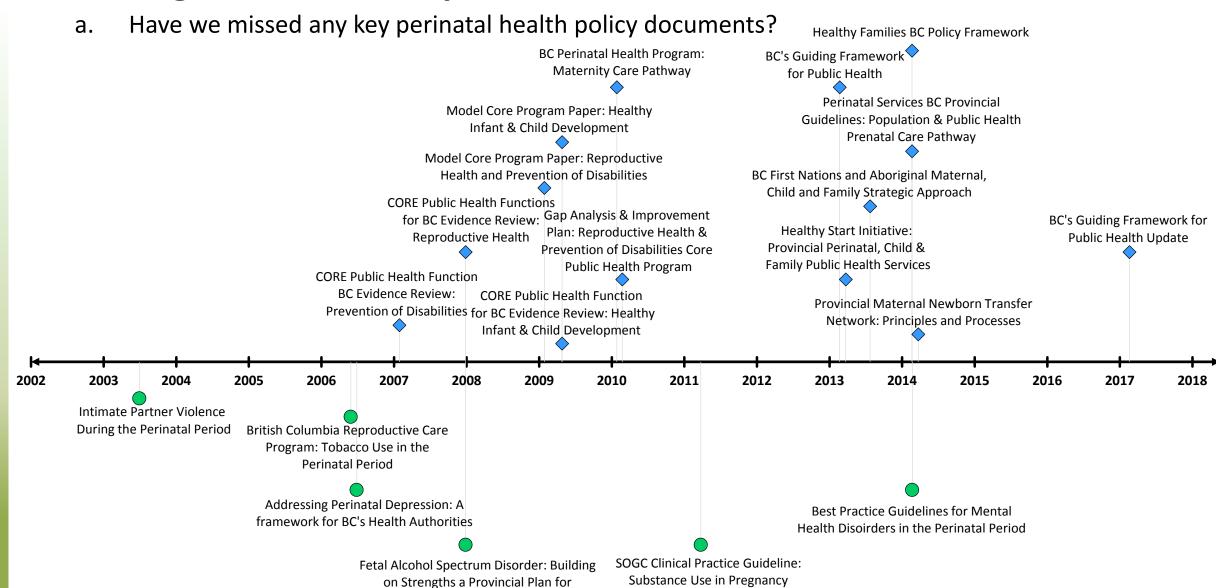
- 2. Is the definition of equity in the document related to social justice?
- 3. Is addressing health inequities in the document equated with addressing structural conditions that produce inequities?
- 4. Is there reference to the SDOH in the document, and if so, what are the expectations of PH (explicitly or implicitly) in addressing them?
- 5. Are there specific examples of certain populations to focus on? E.g. low-income, Aboriginal, etc.?
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- 7. Are there specific actions recommended or expected from PH in addressing health inequities?

Tertiary Questions

- 1. How does equity intersect with accessibility?
- 2. Are there unexpected or unusual ideas about equity that appear?
- 3. Are there programs or standards where equity seems to have been missed?



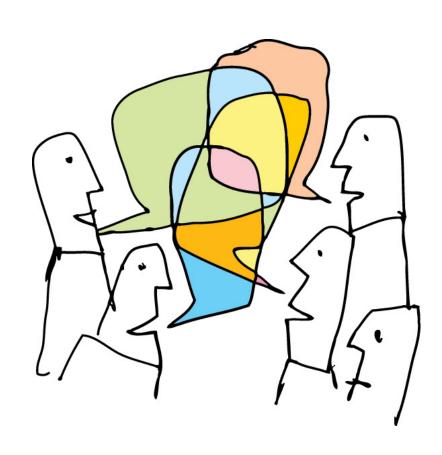
2. Thoughts about sample:



BC 2008-2018

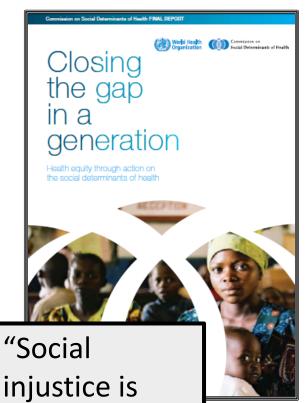


3. What opportunities do you think exist for prioritizing health equity in perinatal public health practice?





Promoting Health Equity



killing people

on a grand

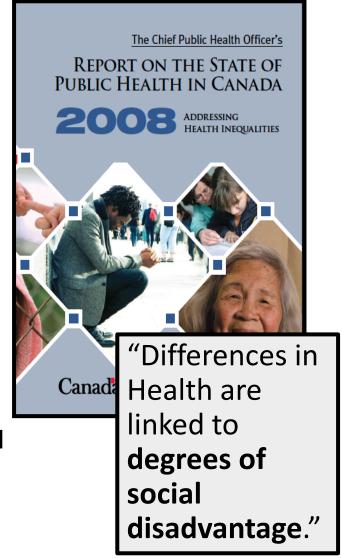
scale"

"Reorientation of Health System towards HE through Action on SDOH is needed"

(Rio Declaration, 2011).

• 'Not for The Faint Hearted' (Baum, 2010)

- Political endeavor
 - Focus, worth and importance of HE SDOH
- Health systems reflect dominant values
 - e.g. individualism, efficiency







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