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Perspectives in Global Health



Human Rights and the Determinants of Health

Jody Lori CNM, PhD, FACNM

Objectives

- Discuss global health and why should we study it
- Discuss the meaning of a “human rights” approach to health
- Review select ethical and human rights concerns
- Review ethical guidelines for research with human subjects
- Describe determinants of health and key health indicators

What is Global Health?

Global Health

“An area for study, research, and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide...emphasizes transnational health issues, determinants and solutions: involves many disciplines within and beyond the health sciences and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration; and is a synthesis of population-based prevention with individual-level care.”

(Kaplan et al. Towards a common definition of global health, The Lancet, vol. 373, June 6, 2009)



Why Study Global Health?

Why Study Global Health

- There has been important progress in life expectancy ... yet
- 10,000 babies die every day in the world before they are four weeks old
- 529,000 women a year die in childbirth
- More than 750,000 children die every year of measles
- 1.6 million people die in the world every year of TB

Additional Reasons to Study Global Health - Disparities

INDICATORS	LIBERIA (2007)	UNITED STATES (2005-2007)
Population	3.2 million	300 million
Life Expectancy for Females at Birth	44 years	81 years
Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth for Females	37 years	71 years
Total Expenditure on Health per capita	\$22.	\$6697.
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100,000 live births)	994	14
Under 5 Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	110	8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	71	7
Fertility Rate per Woman	5.2	<2.0
Coverage of Vital Registration of Deaths	<25%	100%

Additional Reasons to Study Global Health

- Link between health and development
- Nature of many global health concerns
- Need for different actors to work together
- To learn about low-cost but highly effective interventions



Critical Global Health Concepts



- The determinants of health
- The importance of culture to health
- The global burden of disease
- Risk factors

Additional Concepts of Importance

- The demographic and epidemiological transitions
- The organization and functions of health systems
- Links between health and education, and health, equity, poverty, and development



Key Terms

- Developed and developing countries
- Classification of low-income, middle-income, and high-income countries
- World Bank regions
- The Millennium Development Goals

World Bank Regions

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

FY05 New Commitments
IBRD | \$1,212.1 million
IDA | \$71.5 million
Portfolio of Projects | \$5.9 billion

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

FY05 New Commitments
IBRD | \$3,588.6 million
IDA | \$504.9 million
Portfolio of Projects | \$15.8 billion

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

FY05 New Commitments
IBRD | \$1,809.8 million
IDA | \$1,073.5 million
Portfolio of Projects | \$19.9 billion

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

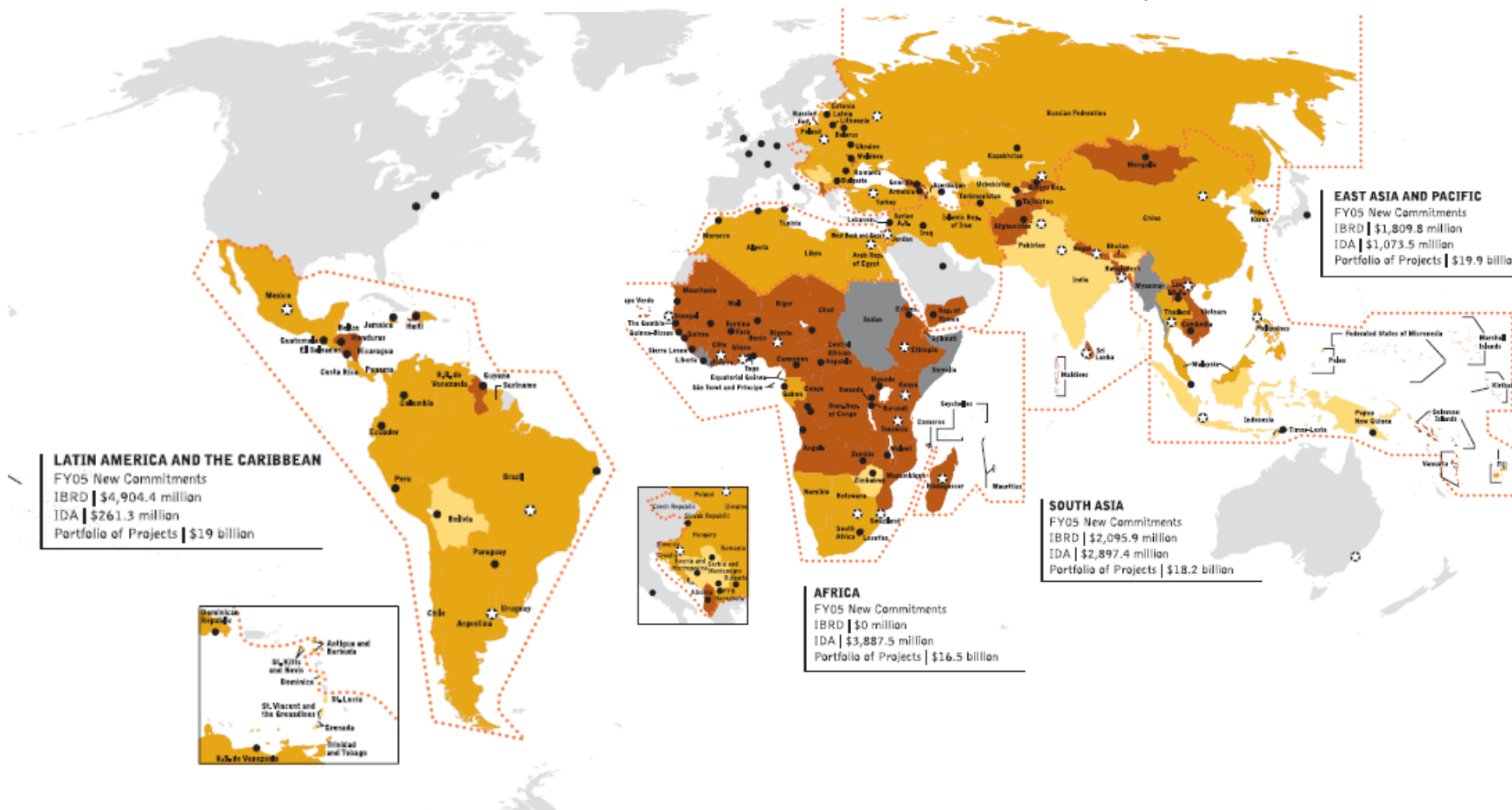
FY05 New Commitments
IBRD | \$4,904.4 million
IDA | \$261.3 million
Portfolio of Projects | \$19 billion

SOUTH ASIA

FY05 New Commitments
IBRD | \$2,095.9 million
IDA | \$2,897.4 million
Portfolio of Projects | \$18.2 billion

AFRICA

FY05 New Commitments
IBRD | \$0 million
IDA | \$3,887.5 million
Portfolio of Projects | \$16.5 billion



WHO Regions



Human Rights

Human Rights Framework

- Cut across many areas of both human endeavor and government responsibility
- Strong complementarity between good ethical and human rights practices and good health outcomes

Foundations for Health and Human Rights

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948
- 20 multilateral treaties related to health that are legally binding on the countries that sign them

Failure of Human Rights

Iranian Woman Said to Be Lashed Over Photo

LONDON — A mix-up over a photograph led to a sentence of 99 lashes for the Iranian woman whose earlier death sentence by stoning from Iranian authorities caused an international outcry, a lawyer for the woman said Sunday.

By RAVI SOMAIYA

Published: September 6, 2010

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/06/world/middleeast/06iran.html>

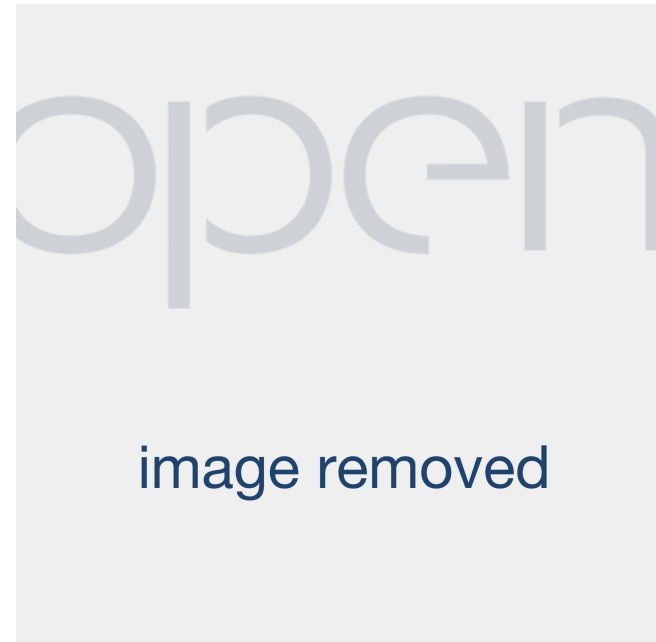


Sakineh #5, thiagoletthi, flickr

Failure of Human Rights

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

A MAN WITH MACHETE WOUNDS
TO HIS HEAD AFTER BEING
ATTACKED BY LRA REBELS NEAR
NGILIMA, NORTHERN CONGO.
FEBRUARY 21, 2009.
© 2009 REUTERS



Please see original image of a man with machete wounds at <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/03/28/dr-congo-lord-s-resistance-army-rampage-kills-321>

Research on Human Rights Abuses

- Maternal mortality & women's human rights in Afghanistan was assessed
- 4,886 Afghan women who provided maternal mortality data on 14,085 sisters using the Sisterhood Method
 - 276 maternal deaths
 - 92% from rural areas
 - 87% women reported they had to obtain permission from their husband or male relative to seek health care
 - 12% used birth control, 23% desired to use birth control
 - Reported problems with access to adequate food, shelter & clean water

Amowitz, Reis & Iacopino (2002), Maternal mortality in Herat province, Afghanistan, in 2002: an indicator of women's human rights. *JAMA*, 288(10), 1284-1291.

Research on Human Rights Abuses

- Assess the nature and scope of human rights abuses with a focus on women's rights in Iraq
- Interviewed 1991 men and women from 3 major cities – supported a full range of human rights for women
 - Over 50% reported there were reasons to restrict educational and work opportunities for women
 - Freedom of movement for women
 - A man has the right to beat his wife if she disobeys him

Amowitz, Kim, Reis, Asher & Iacopino (2004) , Human rights abuses and concerns about women's health and human rights in southern Iraq. *JAMA*, 291(12), 1471-1479.

What is a Human Rights Approach?

“The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being.”

*Preamble to the Constitution of the World
Health Organization (WHO)*

Rights Based Approach

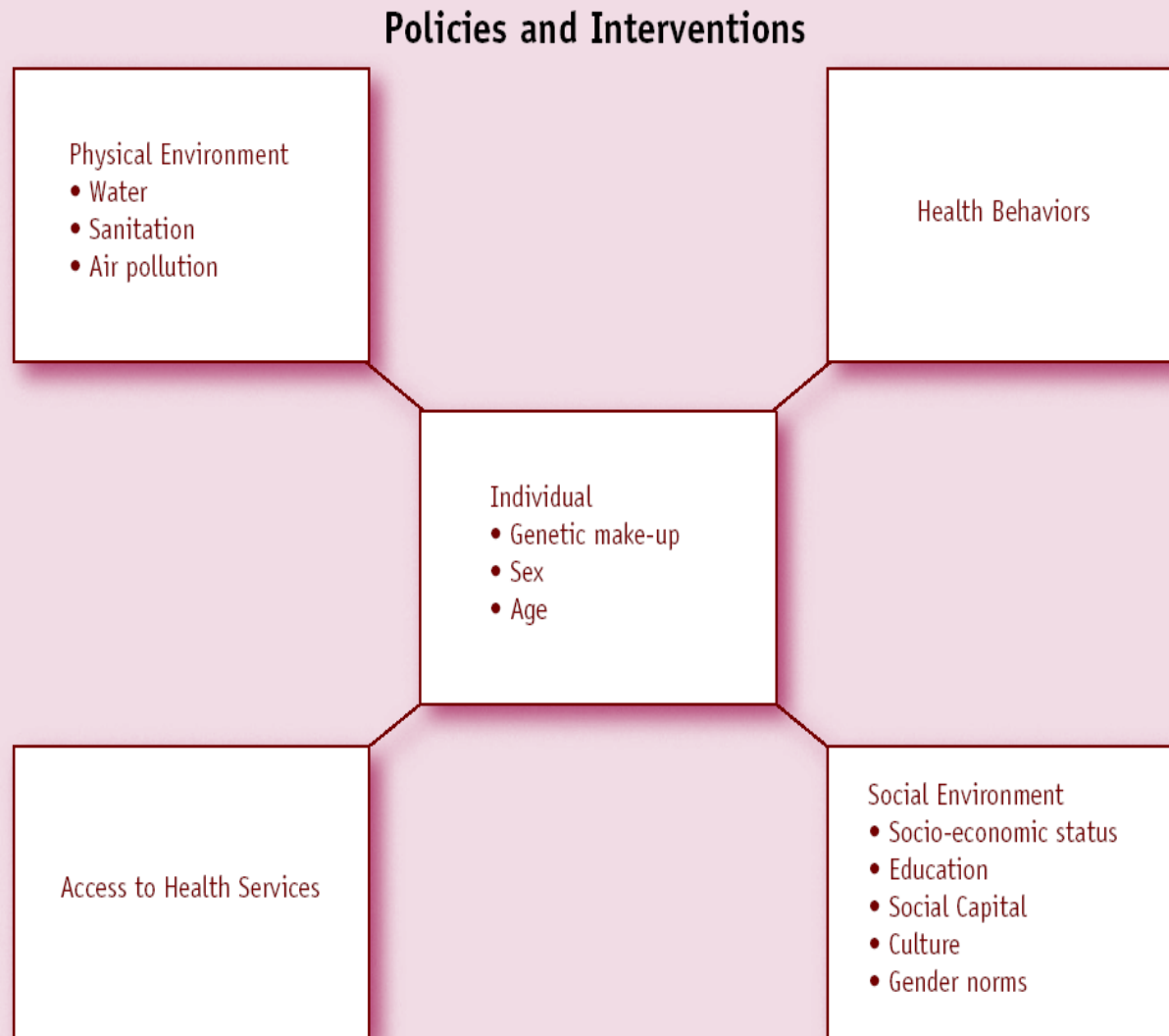
- Assess the impact of health policies, programs, and practices on human rights
- Take account of the health impacts resulting from violations of human rights
- See health and human rights as inextricably linked when considering the determinants of health and ways in which health issues may be addressed

Foundations for Research on Human Subjects

- The Nuremberg Code, 1948
- The Declaration of Helsinki, 1964
- The Belmont Report, 1974

Determinants of Health & Key Health Indicators

FIGURE 2-1 Key Determinants of Health



Source: Data from the US Department of Health and Human Services, *Healthy People 2010*.

TABLE 2-1 Key Health Status Indicators

Infant Mortality Rate—The number of deaths of infants under age 1 per 1000 live births in a given year

Life Expectancy at Birth—The average number of years a newborn baby could expect to live if current mortality trends were to continue for the rest of the newborn's life

Maternal Mortality Ratio—The number of women who die as a result of pregnancy and childbirth complications per 100,000 live births in a given year

Neonatal Mortality Rate—The number of deaths to infants under 28 days of age in a given year per 1000 live births in that year

Under Five Mortality Rate (Child Mortality Rate) —The probability that a newborn baby will die before reaching age five, expressed as a number per 1000 live births.

Source: Haupt A, Kane TT. Population Handbook. Washington, DC: Population Reference Bureau; 2004; World Bank. Beyond Economic Growth Student Book: Glossary. <http://www.worldbank.org/depweb/english/beyond/global/glossary.html>. Accessed April 15, 2007.

What region of the world has the highest maternal mortality?

What region of the world has the highest infant mortality?

Countries with the highest rates of infant mortality

- Sierra Leone 270 deaths per 1,000 live births
- Angola 260
- Afghanistan 257
- Niger 253
- Liberia 235

- **United States 6.7**
- 13.60 per 1,000 live births for non-Hispanic black women vs. 5.66 per 1,000 live births for non-Hispanic white women

What are the 3 leading causes of death of children in the developing world?

- Pneumonia
- Accidents
- Measles
- HIV/AIDS
- Diarrhea
- War
- Cancer
- Suicide
- Malaria
- Tuberculosis
- Malnutrition
- Infectious diseases
- Polio
- Smallpox

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Take Home Messages

- There are enormous disparities in health
- There are a variety of health determinants including genetic make-up, sex, social status, income, education, knowledge of health behaviors
- Cooperation is needed to solve some global health problems
- Need for more exposure to and training on ethical and human rights issues
- A number of factors influence an individual's health status

The health of each of us is linked to the health of all of us



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Slide 19, Image 1: thiagoletti, “Sakineh #5”, flickr, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/thiagoletti/5346518405/in/photostream/>, CC: BY-NC-SA 2.0, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/>.

Slide 20, Image 1: Please see original image of a man with machete wounds at <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/03/28/dr-congo-lord-s-resistance-army-rampage-kills-321>