

Health under austerity in Europe

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Propositions

Health under Austerity in Europe – Ethical Considerations

By Caroline Brall

1. It is health that is the real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver. (Mahatma Gandhi)
2. Economic growth without investment in human development is unsustainable - and unethical. (Amartya Sen)
3. Poverty is not just a lack of money; it is not having the capability to realize one's full potential as a human being. (Amartya Sen)
4. Threats to public health through austerity can be reduced by strengthening social safety nets, advocacy towards health needs, health literacy and access to care. (This dissertation)
5. Policy-makers perceived moral dilemma situations within their daily decision-making and wish ethics assistance. Values (i.e. trust, responsibility) are deemed as important within the policy-making process. (This dissertation)
6. Every public health stakeholder has to jointly work together within a network of responsibilities in order to improve health policy. (This dissertation)
7. Ethics points towards the importance of not only looking towards overall population health, but that every single individual should be taken care of in terms of health and access to health care provision and should not be 'left behind'. (This dissertation)
8. In supporting policy-makers, actions should be taken on EU and national government level to offer ethics assistance, e.g. by offering workshops for specific issues or retreats in which ethical instruments are taught to policy-makers, which they can make use of independently for pressing queries and decisions thereafter. (Valorisation)
9. Churchill emphasized the importance of seeing every crisis as an opportunity in disguise. (Moses & Dorsey, 2012)
10. The greatest of all pleasures is the pleasure of learning. (Aristotle)