

The Sociology of Health & Illness

Critical perspectives for 21st century Australia



Contents

Preface	xii	Step 3: Determine what type of data is needed	35
Reviewers	xiv	Step 4: Determine the method that best	
Guided tour	ΧV	collects that type of data	36
About the authors	xvii	Step 5: Determine where you will collect	0.0
Educator resources	xxii	the data	36
		Step 6: Determine how you will analyse	36
PART 1		the data	38
		The methodological framework	
Theoretical foundations	1	Ethnography Visual arts-based inquiry	39 39
		Evaluating qualitative research	40
CHAPTER 1			41
Health and illness as social issues	2	Analysing qualitative data	43
The sociological approach	3	Digital research	43
Sociological imagination	3	Conclusion	45
Social structure and agency	5	Questions for review	45
Social construction	7	Recommended resources	46
Sociological approaches	8	Recommended websites	46
The biomedical and social model of health	9	References	46
The biomedical model of health	9		
The social model of health	11	CHAPTER 3	
Sociological approaches to health and illness	15	The Australian healthcare system	48
Consensus theory (structural functionalism)	16	•	
Conflict theory	18	Fragmentation of the Australian healthcare system	49
Feminism	20	Private and public healthcare	51
Poststructuralism	23	What is the difference between public, private,	3
Interactionism	24	for-profit and not-for-profit healthcare?	52
Canalysian	20	What are the differences between public	02
Conclusion	28	and private healthcare?	52
Questions for review Recommended resources	29 29	Development of the Australian healthcare	
Recommended websites	29 29	system	54
References	29 29	The current context: A mix of private and	
References	29	public services	57
CHAPTER 2		The hospitals	58
Researching health and illness	32	Aged care	60
		General practice clinics and diagnostic centres	62
Reflections on methodology	34	Conclusion	63
The connection between the research	25	Questions for review	63
question and method	35	Recommended resources	63
Step 1: Identify the research topic	35	Recommended websites	63
Step 2: Refine the research topic into a research question/s	35	References	64
questioni	55	Herer effects	04

PART 2		Emotions in healthcare	104
Healthcare provision	67	Patients and carers	104
Tieditificate provision	07	Nursing and medicine	104
CHAPTER 4		Healthcare hierarchies	105
Choosing healthcare	68	Interprofessional care	106
Choosing hearthcare	00	Conclusion	106
Australia's contemporary healthcare system		Questions for review	107
and the rise of the private sector	68	Recommended resources	107
Situating 'choice' within the contemporary Australian healthcare field	70	Recommended websites	107
Influencing choice	71	References	107
News media representations of healthcare	71		
The internet and social media	71	CHAPTER 7	
The imperative of choice	73	Professions and professional identity	110
Valuing the idea of choice and its perceived	75		111
link to quality	75	What is a profession? Functionalist explanations	113
Knowledge, trust and healthcare choices	76	Trait approaches	114
System knowledge and the unequal capacity		Interactionism - what professions do	116
to choose	78	Symbolic interactionism	117
Canalysian	79	Boundary work	118
Conclusion Questions for review	79 79	Power perspectives	120
Recommended resources	7 <i>9</i>	Medical dominance	121
Recommended websites	80	Wedical dominance	
References	80	Conclusion	123
nererences	00	Questions for review	124
CHAPTER 5		Recommended resources	124
The therapeutic encounter	82	Recommended websites	124
What is a therapeutic encounter?	82	References	124
How does power shape the therapeutic encounter?	85		
Evidence and experience in the therapeutic	00	DADT 7	
encounter	87	PART 3	
Social inequalities in the therapeutic encounter	89	Technology	127
Care as relational in the therapeutic encounter	89		
Conclusion	91	CHAPTER 8	
Questions for review	92	Medicalisation and biomedicalisation	128
Recommended resources	92	Medicalisation	130
Recommended websites	92	Nuances	130
References	93	Criticisms of the concept of medicalisation	131
nererences	93	Biomedicalisation	132
CHAPTER 6		What are the differences between medicalisation	
Emotions	95	and biomedicalisation?	132
		The five processes of biomedicalisation	134
Conceptualising emotions	96	Criticisms of the concept of biomedicalisation	134
Emotions in history	97	·	100
Emotions in psychology	98	Conclusion	139
Emotions in sociology	98	Questions for review	140
Emotions and (mental) health	101	Recommended resources	140
Researching health and emotions	102	Recommended websites	140
Critiquing the 'happiness industry'	103	References	14

CHAPTER 9		PART 4	
Digital health	143		
The datafication of health	144	Social meanings and experiences of health and illness	177
Characteristics of 'datafied' health	144	experiences of health and illness	177
Digital health technology as a promise and		CHAPTER 11	
solution	146		178
Digital health: Reframing patients as 'consumers'	147	Indigenous health	
Precision medicine	148	Sociology and Indigenous health	179
Biomedical and wellness marketplaces	149	A note on terminology, the authors and	
Health information online: Searching and	4-	research	179
sharing	150	Sociologically imagining Indigenously	181
Sharing health and illness online	150	The global context of Indigenous ill-health	184
Searching for health information	151	The health of First Nations people in	
The next era of the web	152	Australia	186
Bodies, technology and digital media	153	Indigenous data sovereignty and ethics	189
Normativity and difference	154 155	Indigenous knowledge is empirical	
The ethics of health information	155 155	knowledge	192
Digital health futures	155 156	Conclusion	192
Hacking for health	156	Questions for review	193
Conclusion	157	Recommended resources	193
Questions for review	158	Recommended websites	194
Recommended resources	158	References	194
Recommended websites	158		.57
References	158	CHAPTER 12	
CHAPTER 10		Mental health	197
Medical tourism	160	The changing construction of aetiology	
		and emergence of biological psychiatry	197
What are health tourism and medical tourism?	161	Sociological approaches to the study of	
The typology of medical tourism	163	mental health and illness	200
The landscape of medical tourism	165	Social interactionism/labelling theories	200
The size and scale of medical tourism	165	Critical theories	203
The business of medical tourism	166	Social constructionism	204
Cosmetic surgery tourism	168	Mental health service delivery in Australia	205
Stem cell tourism and 'hope'	168 160	Privatisation and integrated care	205
Sociology of medical tourism	169 160	Achieving efficiencies	207
Neoliberalism and medical tourism	169 170	Risk management	208
Healthcare choice and the 'patient-consumer'	170 172	Consumerism and consumer rights	209
Biological citizenship and medical tourism	172	_	
Conclusion	173	Conclusion	211
Questions for review	174	Questions for review	211
Recommended resources	174	Recommended resources	211
Recommended websites	174	Recommended websites	211
References	175	References	212

CHAPTER 13		Global understandings of disability:	
Ageing	214	The struggle for personhood	239
Dimensions of ageing	215	What does personhood change?	240
Social and economic consequences of		Why personhood is necessary	240
population ageing	217	How does personhood change the	
Social consequences	217	definition of disability?	241
Economic consequences	218	What personhood means for persons with	
Social determinants of health	219	disability	241
Life course perspective	220	Disability in Australia	242
Strengths and limitations of the life course		Definitions in action: What do these definitions	
perspective	221	mean for everyday lives?	243
The health of older Australians	222	Conclusion	245
Measures of health	222	Questions for review	245
Physical health, function and disability	222	Recommended resources	245
Disability among older Australians	223	Recommended websites	246
Mental and emotional health	223	References	246
Attitudes to ageing	224	Nerel elices	240
Attitudes and stereotypes	225	CHAPTER 15	
Ageism	225		247
Ageism in healthcare	226	Sexuality	241
Conclusion	228	A sociological history of sexual scripts	248
Questions for review	228	The social construction of sexual scripts	250
Recommended resources	228	Discourses of sexuality and sex	251
Recommended websites	229	Navigating stigma and marginalisation	253
References	229	Heteronormativity, patriarchy and power	255
		Heteronormativity	257
CHAPTER 14		Sexual health as public health	258
Disability	232	The internet: Navigating and negotiating	
		sexuality online	260
A note on terminology: 'Persons with disabilities' or 'disabled people'	233	Conclusion	262
What is disability: Can it be named?	234	Questions for review	262
Theories of disability, impairment and illness	236	Recommended resources	262
Medicalisation, deviance and ableism	236	Recommended websites	263
Citizenship and disability inequality	236	References	263
Social model of disability	237	Tierer erioco	200
Psycho-emotional disablism	237	CLOCCADY	200
Why might illness be considered different		GLOSSARY	266
from disability and impairment?	238	INDEX	274