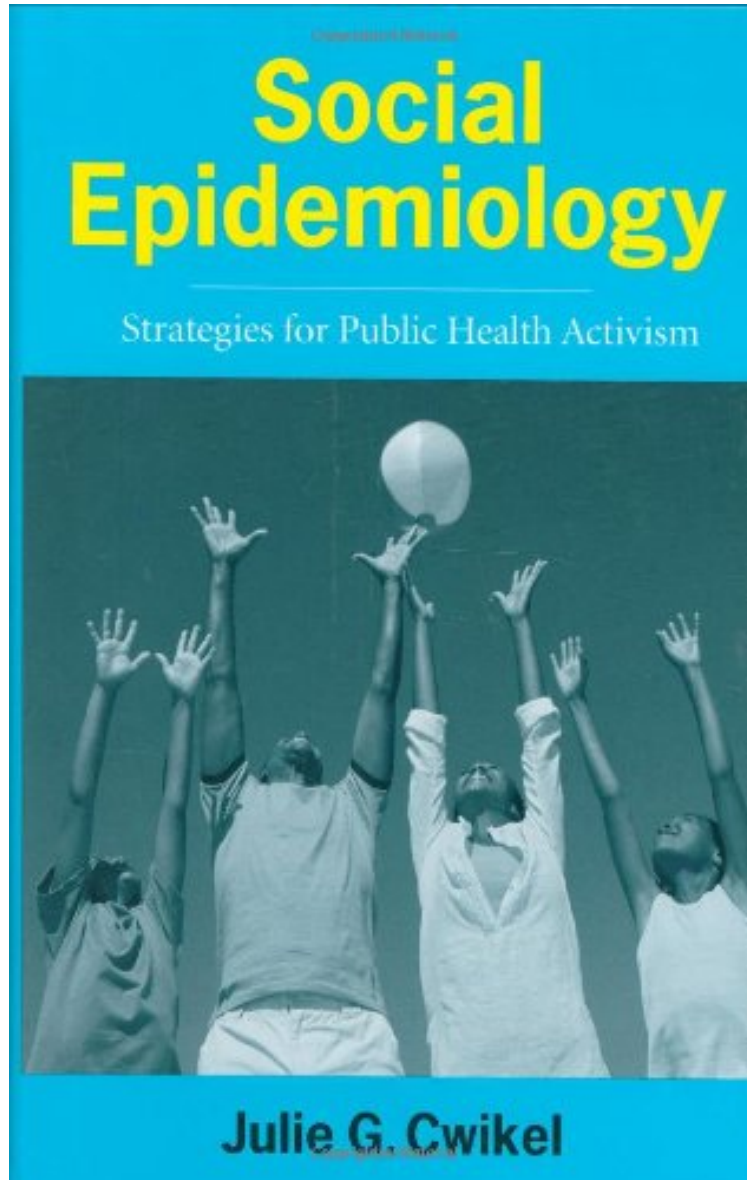


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Social Epidemiology: Strategies for Public Health Activism

Julie Cwikel Ph.D.

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Julie Cwikel Ph.D. : Social Epidemiology: Strategies for Public Health Activism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Social Epidemiology: Strategies for Public Health Activism:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Social Epidemiology: Strategies for Public Health Activism, by Julie G Cwikel By Prof Michael Quastel This important book introduces contemporary social epidemiology giving particular

attention to historical precedents followed by an exhaustive discussion of experimental and analytic methods used in the field and by attention to the many social and environmental factors affecting the health of the human population. I found the historical perspectives described throughout the book most interesting and enlightening. The field is shown in extraordinary breadth, involving all aspects of public and population health - from problems of housing and homelessness, from bacterial and viral vectors to gun control and substance abuse, from violence to sexually transmitted disease including AIDS, from occupational exposures including radiation effects to pesticides- all are grist to the mill. In addition to the academic assessment of the role of the many factors affecting human health, the book points to practical ways in which these problems can be alleviated through public health activism and politics, giving many examples throughout the text, which is peppered with illustrative vignettes as well as personal humor. In general this well referenced book represents a clear minded, fresh and original approach to the role of social epidemiology in problems of human health.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Social Epidemiology By Ilana Vardilf we examine the papers published in the epidemiological journals we will find that there is a growing interest in the social aspects of all angles of the epidemiological triangle- agent, host and environment. On the other side there is a growing interest in epidemiology as a concept and as a methodology among social sciences researchers. SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY is an excellent textbook designed to introduce epidemiology to social scientists whose research touches upon health issues in its broadest application, to students and researchers of public health, health administration, and health policy. The book uses the SOCEPID MODEL (page 168) as its organizing heuristic to encourage those working in social epidemiology to look at the different sources of data that can inform research and practice. This book is written in a systematic and clear fashion with a very broad set of health issues used as illustrations for methods, research design and interventions. The advantage of the book is that it is suitable for social scientists who want to learn methods in public health and social epidemiology and for epidemiologists who want to include qualitative methods in order to enrich their quantitative research findings. We should thank Prof. Cwikel for the incredible investment that went into writing a comprehensive, informative book based on her experiences. It is an excellent choice for both epidemiologists and social scientists who are working on public health issues.

By tracking the distribution of disease and pinpointing relevant risk factors, social epidemiology reveals how social problems are intrinsically linked to the health of populations. The practice also takes into account the psychosocial, biological, and medical determinants of disease and health, encouraging a rich and multidisciplinary approach to analyzing and solving complex contemporary social issues. This book provides a clear and comprehensive set of tools for practice. Julie Cwikel begins with an overview of the historical roots of public health and social medicine and shows how they formed the theoretical basis for current social epidemiological methods. Cwikel then explains the theoretical and programmatic tools social epidemiologists use in their research, program planning, and evaluation. In conclusion, Cwikel demonstrates how the SOCEPID model can be applied to a range of topics, including chronic illness, obesity, violence prevention, occupational health, sexually transmitted diseases (especially HIV), environmental hazards, and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations such as immigrants and trafficked women. With compelling authority, Cwikel shows readers how the exciting and growing field of social epidemiology is both practical and activist, drawing on cutting-edge empirical findings to conduct policymaking research and promote health at both the personal and population levels.

"A welcome addition to every practitioner and researcher's library, especially physicians" (Journal of Occupational Environmental Medicine) About the Author Julie Cwikel is professor in the Spitzer Department of Social Work and founder and director of the Center for Women's Health Studies and Promotion at Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel. Julie Cwikel, MSW, PhD is Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work at Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Shiva, Israel, where she also founded and co-leads The Center for Women's Health Studies and Promotion. Cwikel is trained in both social work and public health and received her MSW and PhD from the University of Michigan.