

# **SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH**

An interdisciplinary approach to  
social inequality and well-being

Edited by Adrian Bonner



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For Gill, Adam, Kirsten, Gemma, Jake, Hope,  
Thea, Cassian and Freya.



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# Notes on contributors

## Editor

### **Adrian Bonner**

*Addictive behaviour: Molecules to mankind* (Bonner and Waterhouse, 1996) is the title of the book that symbolises the trajectory of Adrian's academic career. His early research was concerned with neurobiological aspects of alcohol, as reflected in publications and teaching activities in the 1990s at the Universities of Surrey and Kent (UK). At this time, he became Chairman of the Congress of the European Society for Biomedical Research into Alcohol (Bonner, 2005). *Social exclusion and the way out: An individual and community response to human social dysfunction* (Bonner, 2006) provided the basis for research into *The seeds of exclusion* (Bonner, Luscombe et al, 2008), a major report that continues to influence Salvation Army strategic planning. These activities were undertaken while he was a Reader in the Centre for Health Service Studies, University of Kent, and was Director of the Addictive Behaviour Group, which facilitated the development of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research activities.

From 2010 to 2012, he was seconded from the University of Kent to become the Director of the Institute of Alcohol Studies. This involved participating in the UK government's Responsibility Deal (Bonner and Gilmore, 2012) and membership of the European Alcohol Health Forum, an advisory group supporting the work of the European Commission. These insights into UK and European policy development have influenced his current activities, which include interdisciplinary research into health inequalities and local political action working with the London Borough of Sutton. Current research, as Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Social Science at the University of Stirling, focuses on the impact of economic austerity policies on health, social care and housing strategies.

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## Contributors

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Clare Bambra is Professor of Public Health at Newcastle University. Her research examines the political, social and economic determinants of health; and how public policies and interventions can reduce health inequalities. She is the Associate Director for Health Inequalities in Fuse: Centre for Translational Research in Public Health and an Executive Member of the National Institute for Health Research School for Public Health Research where she is a Senior Investigator on the Communities in Control Project. She holds a Leverhulme Research Leadership Award which examines Local Health Inequalities in an Age of Austerity and she is the Principal Investigator on the Norface-funded grant 'HiNEWS' which examines health inequalities in Europe with partners in Norway, the US and Germany. She is also a collaborator on the ESRC Rethinking Incapacity project. She works closely with public health policy and practice and is currently the co-Director of the Equal North: Research and Practice Network in partnership with Public Health England.

### **Claire Bonham**

Claire Bonham currently works as the Volunteer Development Manager at The Salvation Army, where she is responsible for volunteering across the UK and Ireland. Claire has over 15 years' experience of working with volunteers in a variety of sectors, including International Development and Criminal Justice. Claire has a PhD in International Relations from the University of Exeter, focussing on international social movements.

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### **Katherine Brown**

Katherine Brown is Director of the Institute of Alcohol Studies, an independent research institute that brings together evidence, policy and practice from home and abroad to promote an informed debate on alcohol's impact on society.

### **Paul Burstow**

Professor Paul Burstow is a social policy entrepreneur and thought leader. He chairs the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, is Professor of Mental Health Public Policy at the University of Birmingham and Chair of the National Advisory Board of Design Council project Transform Ageing. He was a Liberal Democrat MP for Sutton and Cheam between 1997 and 2015. He served as the Minister for State for Care Services between 2010 and 2012. In that role, he covered a range of social policy issues, including mental health, adult social care, carers, personal health budgets, safeguarding vulnerable adults, end-of-life care and long-term conditions. He is a member of the Privy Council.

### **Steve Coles**

Steve Coles is the Chief Executive Officer of Spitalfields Crypt Trust (SCT), an addictions recovery and homelessness charity in east London. Prior to that, he founded and ran Intentionality CIC, a social enterprise and well-being consultancy that worked with 600 social enterprises over 6 years. Steve has an MBA from Imperial College, London with

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Deborah Fortescue is a consultant and previously Head of Foundation at the Disabilities Trust. Deborah has designed and led programmes to support people with acquired brain injury (ABI) within prisons and the community, and supported research in the field of ABI in the homeless, prison and veteran populations.

### **Jon Foster**

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Dr Kayleigh Garthwaite is a Birmingham Fellow in the School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham. Kayleigh explores issues of health inequalities, welfare reform, and austerity through ethnographic research. She is author of *Hunger pains: Life inside foodbank Britain* (Policy

Press, 2016) and co-author of *Poverty and insecurity: Life in 'low-pay, no-pay' Britain* (Policy Press, 2012).

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Dr Neil Hamlet is a Consultant in Public Health Medicine NHS, Fife (Scotland). He has worked as an International Consultant for the World Health Organization (WHO), studying at the University of Glasgow, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and the Research Institute of Tuberculosis, Kiyose (Japan). Neil is currently leading the development of Scottish government policies aimed at reducing the impact of health and social inequalities on public health.

### **Jean Hannah**

Dr Jean Hannah (MBChB, DRCOG, MSc, FRCGP) works as a general practitioner. Currently, she is undertaking PhD research at the University of Stirling into the use of Realist Evaluation in a community programme for people accessing Salvation Army services in three communities in Scotland, with a particular focus on people with Alcohol Related Brain Damage (ARBD).

### **Katy Hetherington**

Katy has worked for NHS Health Scotland for 10 years. Prior to NHS Health Scotland, Katy worked in the Scottish government, including in education policy and in the Minister for Health's private office, where she developed a keen interest in the causes of health inequalities. She has a MA(Hons) Psychology and a MSc in Human Resource Management.

### **Nigel Hewett**

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Dr Kirstin Kerr is a Senior Lecturer in Education at the Manchester Institute of Education, University of Manchester (UK). Her research explores how educational inequalities arise and are sustained over time

in neighbourhood and community contexts, with a particular focus on how policymakers and practitioners can intervene more effectively in the link between education, disadvantage and place. Much of her work is in active partnership with schools, local authorities and third sector organisations who are seeking to develop and evaluate complex, localised responses to educational disadvantage.

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Claire Luscombe has a PhD from the University of Kent based on a large diagnostic study into the mental health needs of homeless people using Salvation Army services. She currently manages the Salvation Army’s National Monitoring and Evaluation Scheme.

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Dr Nick Maguire is Deputy Head of Psychology within the Department of Psychology at the University of Southampton. As a qualified clinical psychologist, he previously worked for the NHS, focusing on reducing antisocial behaviours and concomitant eviction rates in homeless people. He is a member of the All Party Parliamentary Group for complex needs and mental health. He is a founding member of the Faculty of Homeless and Inclusion Health.

### **Barbara McIntosh**

Barbara studied Social Work and Anthropology at McMaster University (Canada), then an MSc in Health and Social Policy at the LSE (London). She was Commissioner for Learning Disability Services in the London Borough of Sutton, then National Programme Manager for Learning Disabilities at the Kings Fund. Until 2014, Barbara was

Director at the Mental Health Foundation, working in children's mental health and in developing new community-based services for people with learning disabilities.

### **Joyce Melican**

Joyce Melican is a local authority councillor and currently Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Sutton. She lives in and engages with her local community, and has a grounded insight into the lives of people who are precariously placed in the community. Before becoming involved in politics, she was a local authority senior housing officer. Joyce is a certified member of the Chartered Institute of Housing.

### **Gayle Munro**

Dr Gayle Munro has held research and teaching positions at the Salvation Army (London), Lemos&Crane (London), the European Centre for Minority Issues (Germany), the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (Bosnia) and Sichuan University (China). Her doctoral work explored the transnational and diasporic experiences of migrants from the former Yugoslavia in the UK. She also has an MA in Politics, Security and Integration (School of Slavonic & East European Studies, 2002).

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Professor Michael Oddy has worked in brain injury rehabilitation for more than 30 years and was Director of Clinical Services for the Disabilities Trust. A former Chair of the British Psychological Society Divisions of Neuropsychology, he is Honorary Professor of Psychology at the University of Wales. An authority on brain injury, Professor Oddy was the clinical lead on the first UK study into the prevalence of traumatic brain injury in the homeless community.

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Dr Andrew Parnham trained and worked as a medical doctor for some years before spending most of the next 30 years in community work in

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Dr Jenny Svanberg is a consultant clinical psychologist working in the NHS Forth Valley Alcohol and Drug Partnership. She became a principal clinical psychologist in 2007, working in Glasgow Addiction Service, and specialised in the assessment and treatment of adults with Alcohol Related Brain Damage (ARBD).

**Charles West**

Charles West has spent over 30 years as a general practitioner (GP) in Shropshire, where he also taught and assessed new doctors and appraised established GPs. He also spent five years as an NHS General Manager and led a directorate at the NHS Information Authority. He served as a local councillor and stood for parliament. Nationally, he is well known for his critical commentary on the regulatory framework of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and management of the NHS at this time of economic austerity.

# Acknowledgements

The term 'expert by experience' is often given to service users and the beneficiaries of statutory and voluntary services provided for those in need of support. This term could be used for each one of us when we enter this world and depend so much on others for support. From my earliest memories, I have so many rich experiences provided by Bram and Olive, my parents, who, at a time of limited food and domestic resources in the post-war years of the 1950s, provided a safe and secure environment, giving me a good start to life that has been enriched by many people and relationships over the years. Gill, my wife, continues to provide an insight into the social determinants of health from 30 years of providing educational leadership and wisdom for the many staff and children at a school in South London, where social deprivation is not uncommon. My children have been instrumental in showing me the complexities of human development in this changing and increasingly technology-dependent world. My son, Adam, inspiring people by his commitment to leading and being immersed in community development, and his wife, Gemma, with her artistic skills, work at local and national levels in contributing to the development of healthy communities. My daughter, through her training as a general practitioner, works with people with a wide range of physical and psychosocial issues, some at the edge of life, and her husband, Jake, is personally and professionally committed to making this a more sustainable world through increasing the use of renewable energy. Their role models as good parents are nurturing the next generation. Hope, Thea, Cassian and Freya are maturing into a very different world, with unpredictable living and working conditions. This functioning family unit, living in a healthy community, is self-supporting to a large degree and has little reliance on the statutory services described in this book but is very much aware of the need for effective health and care services in the community.

My life experience has benefited from friends and professional colleagues, all of whom have contributed unknowingly to the concept of this book. I am deeply grateful to Colonel Alan Burns for his significant impact on the management and organisational change of the wide-ranging services of the Salvation Army (SA) in the UK, making it 'Fit for Mission' in the 21st century. Major Paul Kingscott has journeyed with me in attempting to understand the nature of social exclusion. He continues to provide leadership of the addiction, homelessness, older persons and other social services provided by the SA. Jacqui King,

## Acknowledgements

Director of the SA Research and Development Unit, with her critical analytical skills in supporting the organisation in the use of its resources in the development of new projects, has provided opportunities to discuss approaches to measuring impact and developing an evidence-based approach to programme-building developments across the UK. Some insights into the SA's work are highlighted in Chapters Eight, Nine, Twelve, Seventeen and Twenty-one.

Councillor Ruth Dombey OBE, Leader of Sutton Borough Council, has provided inspirational political and managerial leadership of a local authority attempting to maintain and develop services for local people in the face of decreasing funding from central government. Her underlying approach to developing an open, tolerant and fair society has promoted a stable, effective council providing housing, health and social care, and other services (see Chapter Fifteen). She represents a 'Flagship Borough' that has impacted on national policy via the community-based activities of former local MP, Paul Burstow (see Chapter Twenty-two).

An important contribution to local health and social care has been influenced by Pete Flavell and other Directors of HealthWatch Sutton, including Barbara McIntosh (see Chapter Ten).

I am indebted to Professor Alison Bowes and her colleagues at the University of Stirling, who have provided an academic base for the application of social science through the development of a Salvation Army-funded research centre within the university. This evidence-based approach to understanding the needs of people with problematic alcohol and other lifestyle issues will hopefully provide a unique insight into the development of community-based approaches for vulnerable people who need support beyond that which can be provided by their families and social networks. Some examples of this collaboration are given in Chapters Four, Seven and Twelve.

I am indebted to the enthusiasm and insight of the contributors to this book. A combination of many years of practical and academic support for people experiencing social inequality and poor well-being has resulted in this interdisciplinary perspective.

People at the edge of the community, to some extent, are the victims of a range of complex societal changes, and have low political priority in this time of austerity budgets and increasingly right-wing social policies that increase social and health inequalities. Hopefully, increased understanding and communication between service providers and family members will support those in need and help to empower them to make or regain their contribution to a healthy society.

## Social determinants of health

As a humble expert by experience, my intention in bringing this edited volume together is to provide an interdisciplinary perspective on the interlinked domains of Dahlgren and Whitehead's model of social determinants of health, focused on the needs of people with multiple complex needs, in order to inform appropriate community responses.

*Professor Adrian Bonner, April 2017*