

Propositions belonging to the thesis

Explaining the US Health Disadvantage: The role of social inequalities

1. Larger educational disparities in mortality in the United States than in Europe partly explain why US adults have higher mortality than their European counterparts. (*This thesis*)
2. To reduce the US health disadvantage, it is critical to improve mortality trends among low educated Americans. (*This thesis*)
3. The explanation of educational inequalities in mortality differs between men and women. (*This thesis*)
4. Marriage attenuates the mortality risk associated with labor force inactivity, and labor force activity attenuates the mortality risk associated with being unmarried. (*This thesis*)
5. Work-family histories explain only a small fraction of the higher cardiovascular risk of older American women relative to European women. (*This thesis*)
6. “Alternatives to the experiment will always be needed.” (*Cook, Shadish & Wong, 2008*)
7. “Variation in ages at death, captured by a metric of lifespan variation, should be used to supplement measures of average longevity when comparing or monitoring societies and population subgroups.” (*Van Raalte, Sasson & Martikainen, 2018*)
8. Compared to female fertility, much remains unknown about how male fertility is influenced by individual and external factors.
9. Simple answers or solutions cannot be provided in the evaluation of complex social processes and interventions.
10. All science has uncertainty, but this uncertainty should be communicated effectively to decision makers to facilitate better decisions. (*Fischhoff & Davis, 2014*)
11. The best PhD thesis is a finished one.