
Propositions belonging to the thesis

Population health in the Dutch Caribbean. A comparative analysis of political context and health policy performance.

1. The health status of the Dutch Caribbean population is poorer than that of the Dutch population, and than that of populations in Caribbean states politically affiliated to France, the United Kingdom (UK), and the United States (US) as well. (this thesis)
2. The poorer health outcomes in the Dutch Caribbean are partly due to a poorer performance in healthcare quality and health policy implementation. (this thesis)
3. Governments in Caribbean states where health organizations collaboratively work with their corresponding organizations in a Western country are more successful in improving and protecting the health of their population. (this thesis)
4. The contemporary version of a strong political affiliation to a former colonizer is more likely than political independence to lead to health gains in Caribbean states. (this thesis)
5. The migrant/ethnic/race variable that is traditionally believed to measure cultural and biological variations in migrant health research, is unintentionally better in measuring the health effects of social stigmatization among the Dutch Caribbean migrants living in the Netherlands. (this thesis)
6. Medicine is a social science and politics is nothing else but medicine on a large scale. Medicine as a social science, as the science of human beings, has the obligation to point out problems and to attempt their theoretical solution; the politician, the practical anthropologist, must find the means for their actual solution. (Rudolf Virchow, 1848)
7. The worst that colonialism did was to cloud our view of the past. (Barack Obama)
8. When the negative effects on population health are not taken into account, cutting back on health expenditures causes more problems than it solves.
9. Although one cannot speak of unwillingness on the part of the Dutch government – it was certainly unwise that she did not look after this vital interest [public health] for these [West-Indian] regions in a better way. (H. Van Kol, 1919)

10. It [statistics] is the basis of social and political dynamics and affords the only secure ground on which the truth or falsehood of theories and hypotheses of that complicated science can be brought to test. (Adolphe Quetelet)

11. The inhabitants of the Dutch Caribbean islands have shorter and unhealthier lives than the inhabitants of the Netherlands, but, given their lower self-reports for feelings of sadness and depression, they at least have more fun.