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### [Book Review of] *Poverty and Health: A Sociological Analysis*, edited by John Kosa and Irving K. Zola

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ords raises some important issues, such as what data should be kept, how it should be stored and when it should be purged, but does not adequately discuss the issue of the subject (be it child, prisoner or mental patient) having direct access to his or her record and his ability to challenge and correct data therein. In the chapters that deal primarily with medical/psychological concepts strong statements are likely to be backed up by weak references. For example, a statement alleging that "extensive research" had been done is supported by a news item in the *Kansas City Times*, and the periodical most frequently cited by the author is *Psychology Today*.

All this is not to say that this could not be a helpful book for the intended audience. It does provide a useful starting point for considering issues of due process protections that should be built into any program of behavior

modification, and the questions at the end of each chapter help to sharpen the issues. The author explores many issues of importance to practitioners of behavior modification. He emphasizes the need for treatment and criticizes the present practices of custodial care and punishment. He raises important questions concerning when the use of behavior modification techniques are appropriate, and the need to protect the subjects of these techniques. His overall approach demonstrates a genuine concern for the humane treatment of prisoners, students and the mentally ill.

Readers must, however, be warned that much of the legal analysis in the book is oversimplified, and that it should be used only as a basic introduction to the complex problems of the legal aspects of behavior modification.

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## Poverty and Health: A Sociological Analysis

John Kosa and Irving K. Zola, editors

*Harvard Univ. Press, 79 Garden St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138. 1975. XV + 456 p., \$15.00*

This book was first published in 1969, was refurbished, amended and pruned, in the production of a second edition, published in 1975. It is a multi-authored book which nevertheless comes across almost as if it were written by one

person; the editors have succeeded in presenting a coherent, thorough and detailed exposition and analysis of the nature of poverty and its relationship to health and health care.

Social aspects of physical and

mental health care are explored thoroughly, as are the relationships between social class and disease prevention, help-seeking behavior, treatment and rehabilitation of patients. Thorough and provocative chapters on medical education and community health clinics are presented in this new

edition. In all this, much data is clearly offered to the interested reader. For those uninformed about the poverty and health interface, this book is must reading.

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## Population Education for Quality of Life

Marie Mignon Mascarenhas

*Family Welfare Centre, Bangalore, India. 1974. XXIV + 547 p., no price given.*

Dr. Mascarenhas has made an inspired attempt in this work to construct a theory of population dynamics in which demography, health, education and family are expressly examined in their special and specific relation to population change and to one another. At the concrete level the unique characteristics of India's population are used analytically to illustrate the practical features which a theory of population dynamics necessarily must respect and include. Although the facts of India's environmental conditions are set down clearly and forthrightly, this is much more than an empirical exposition of those facts.

The author is in pursuit of a grand inquiry involving a number of intricately related questions. Central ones include: How is economic development in Third World countries contingent upon intelligent population policy adopted by national administrations, and equally importantly,

by married couples or prospective brides and grooms living within the boundaries of those countries and deeply conditioned by specific cultures and traditions? How can individuals looking forward to marriage as well as husbands and wives be assisted to develop consciousness of the implications of their private reproductive activities on national socio-economic conditions? Can the human qualities of life be improved and expanded, i.e., enriched, for the reproductively active by aiding them to become deeply aware of the personal responsibility couples shoulder when so involved not only for their own familial welfare but that of their immediate community and ultimately the nation of which they are a part? And bravely Dr. Mascarenhas asks: How can the universal centralization and primacy of the economic factor be moderated and reduced in power so as to advance the flowering of conditions which will promote and protect