Health for Some: Death, Disease and Disparity in a Globalizing Era

Health for Some investigates the impact of globalization on human health. Economic insecurity fuels the spread of AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa; poverty and collapsing health systems keep treatment away from most people who need it. While global production chains connect Wal-Mart shoppers with low-cost workers in China, more North Americans are trapped in insecure, stressful jobs with few benefits. Currency crises plunge millions of people into poverty in countries like Mexico and Thailand.

The book offers a concise, authoritative account of more than three years of research. Although increasing affluence improves health, globalization often fails to deliver rapid economic growth and poverty reduction. Those who fall behind in the winner take all markets of global competition not only suffer from poverty and poor health, but also lose access to health care and other essential health-promoting services.

Reversing these trends will require decisive and coordinated action on the part of high-income countries in areas we often do not connect with: debt cancellation, increased development assistance, fair trade policies and global tax reforms. Ultimately, everyone should have the opportunity to lead a healthy life: it should be a basic human right.

Cost $20.00 (includes postage and GST)