

Health Disparities and Social Determinants of Health

Student Reflection

Instructions to facilitators for providing feedback.

We are asking that you provide brief written feedback (by e-mail) for each of the student reflections that will be sent to you this week.

This week in class, the students will be watching ~40 minute segment of one of the videos in “Unnatural Causes” a documentary about health disparities and social determinants of health. They have been given the instruction to e-mail to you (sometime this week, not necessarily before small group) one to three paragraphs in response to the following prompt:

“Reflect on the social determinants of health in your life and how they have affected your life options and personal health.”

In discussions about our medical curriculum, we have searched for ways to incorporate reflection with feedback. The IPC small groups provide a format where feedback is feasible. It is our hope that each of you will have some knowledge of the students in your small group that will facilitate the feedback process.

- Please provide one to three sentences of written feedback to each of the 8 students in the small group (by e-mail). Several sentences commenting on some specific aspect of the student’s reflection would be appropriate.
- In an effort to facilitate thoughtful reflection, we encourage this communication to be confidential. We will let the students know that their reflections will not be shared with others without their specific consent.
- Other than participation, this exercise should not impact the student’s grade.

The feedback can be quite short.

Examples of feedback that others have written:

- “Your experience with _____ provides you with a unique perspective that will help you effectively provide care to others who have been through something similar.”
- “I appreciate your thoughtful comments. You seem to have a clear sense of how growing up in mid Missouri has affected your options and influenced your decision to become a physician. Others would benefit from hearing your story if at some point you are able to share it.
- I sense that you do not feel strongly that growing up in St Louis had much of an impact on your options. I challenge you to think about how your life might have been different if you had lived in a different St Louis neighborhood that did not provide you with the same opportunities.

Feedback on this exercise is welcomed. Please send it to _____.

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Student Reflection Instructions

- During class this week, you will see ~40 minutes of the video “Unnatural Causes” which is part of a 4 hour documentary related to health disparities and social determinants of health.
- Write two to three paragraphs in response to the following prompt and send it by e-mail to your IPC 3 facilitator.

“Reflect on the social determinants of health in your life and how they have affected your life options and personal health.”
