

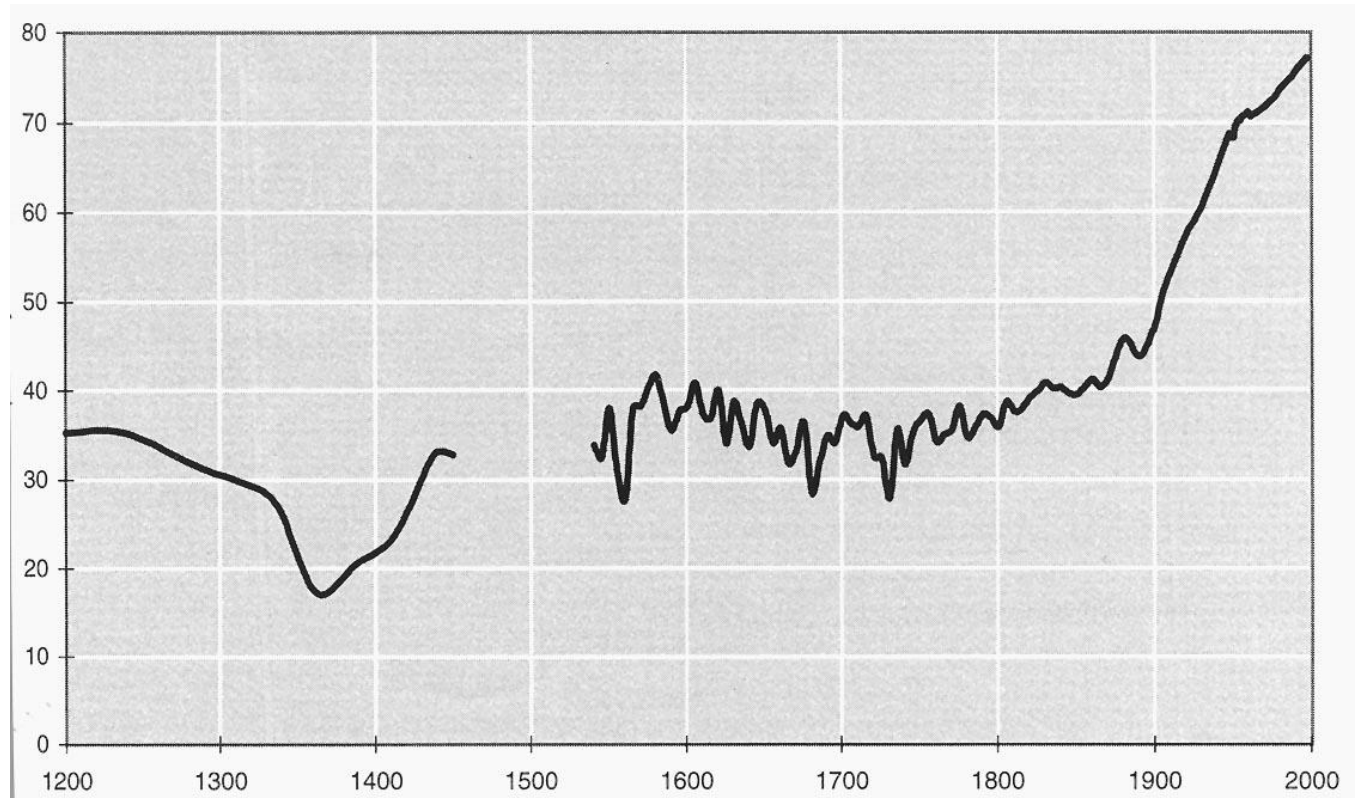
Health in All Policies

# Health

Health is highly valued by most people.

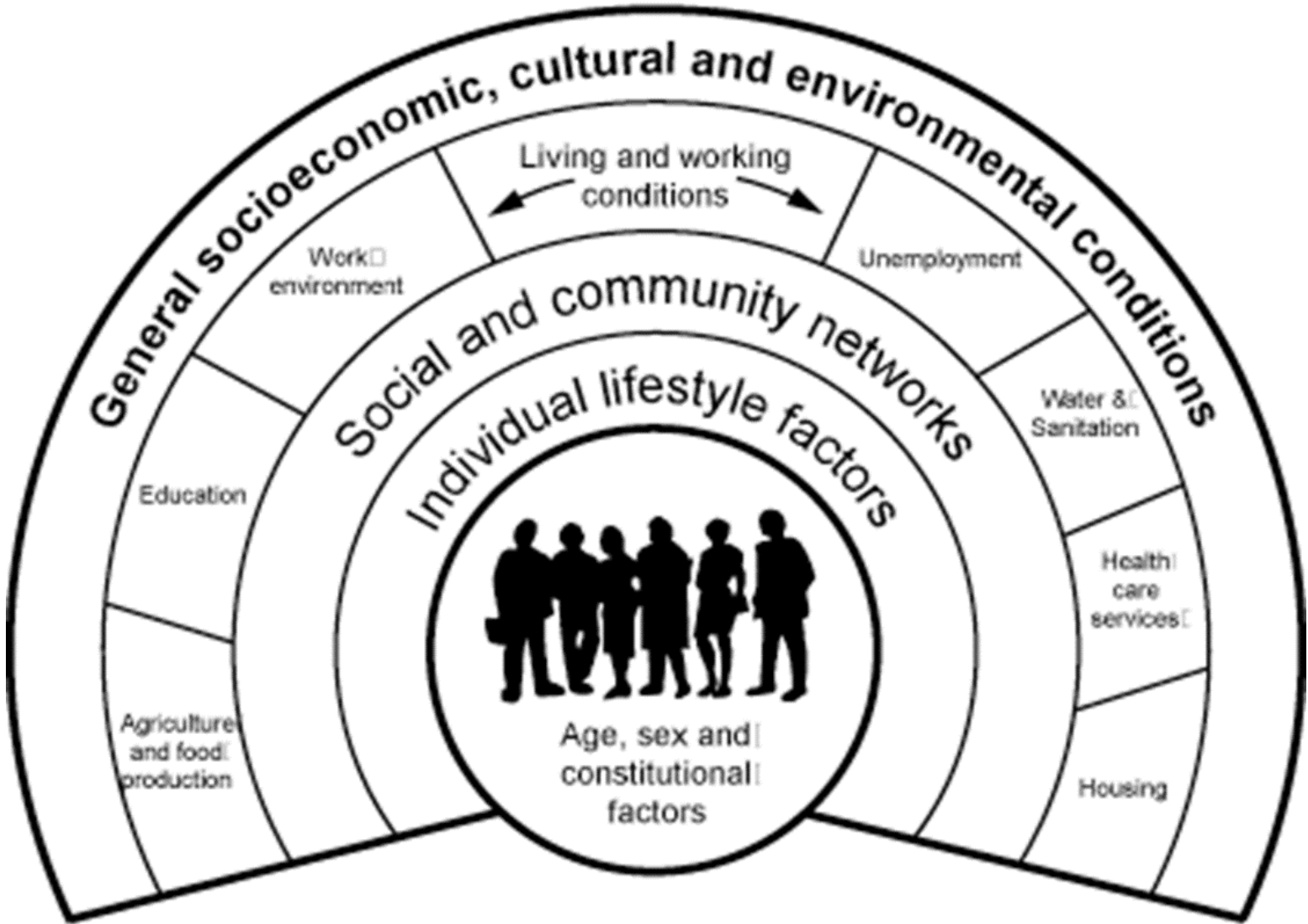
In the largest opinion poll ever undertaken, the Millennium Survey, good health was selected as the thing that matters most in life.

# Life Expectancy





# Determinants of Health





# Health Challenges

- Social, cultural and economic factors are the main determinants of health
- There are persisting health inequalities as a result of socioeconomic factors and some evidence that these may be worsening
- Current trends in many socioeconomic factors are likely to widen health inequalities further
- There are good reasons for intervening to reduce socioeconomic inequalities in health
- There are evidence-based interventions for reducing these inequalities

(National Health Committee. 1998)

# WEALTH-GAP TOWER

THE VIEW IS GREAT  
(FOR THOSE AT THE TOP)

OK, IMAGINE ALL THE WEALTH IN NZ - ALL THE SAVINGS, HOUSES, ASSETS - COMBINED TOGETHER INTO ONE TEN STORY BUILDING WE ALL LIVE IN.

THE RICHEST ONE PERCENT OF KIWIS OWN THE TOP FLOOR AND A HALF THE PENTHOUSE. THEY'VE GOT THE VIEW, AND THEY'VE GOT SPACE. AND SOME LOVELY RUGS.

THE NEXT NINE PERCENT TAKE UP ABOUT THREE AND A HALF FLOORS, MEANING THE RICHEST TEN PERCENT OF KIWIS OWN HALF THE BUILDING. LIFE IS PRETTY GOOD HERE TOO - STILL GOT A VIEW AND A FAIR BIT OF ROOM. NICE COFFEE MACHINES, SOME THROW PILLOWS, YOU KNOW.

THEN MOVING DOWN THE TOWER, WE COME TO THE NEXT FORTY PERCENT, AND THEY TAKE UP THE NEXT FOUR AND A HALF FLOORS. WHICH SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT. THESE PEOPLE ARE DOING OK - NOT THAT GREAT, BUT NOT THAT BAD. SPEAKING OF BAD...

SERIOUSLY, SIT DOWN, THIS IS DEPRESSING...

THE POOREST 50% OF THE COUNTRY? THEY LIVE IN HALF OF THE GROUND FLOOR. HALF THE COUNTRY, IN HALF A FLOOR, WITH LITTLE OR NO ASSETS OR SAVINGS, LIVING WEEK TO WEEK. IT'S CRAMMED AND COLD, AND LIVING LIKE THIS LEADS TO POOR HEALTH, STRUGGLES AT SCHOOL AND A PRETTY BLEAK FUTURE. 50%!

RICHEST

1%  
OWN  
16.4%

NEXT  
9%  
OWN  
35.4%

NEXT  
40%  
OWN  
43%

POOREST  
50%  
OWN  
5.2%

The growing gap between rich and poor isn't just that it is unfair to those at the bottom; it's that too great a gap between the haves and the have-nots hollows out civic life.

It diminishes the possibility that we can share and live a common life, sufficient to foster shared values, sufficient to the kind of life and the kind of citizenship wherein we can deliberate about common purposes and ends

(Sandel 1997:6).



# What should be done?

- Improve the conditions of daily life – the circumstances in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age
- Tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money, and resources – the structural drivers of those conditions of daily life – globally, nationally, and locally
- Measure the problem, evaluate action, expand the knowledge base, develop a workforce that is trained in the social determinants of health, and raise public awareness about the social determinants of health

Three Principles of Action - WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health.  
Closing the Gap in a Generation. 2008

# A Healthy City

“A healthy city is one that is continually creating and improving those physical and social environments, and expanding those community resources, which enable people to support each other in performing all the functions of life and in developing themselves to their maximum potential”

World Health Organisation

...no grand plan or strategy for whole-system change...dynamic process of public and political debate, discussion and action that is messy, difficult, disturbing and protracted, undertaken at many levels in many different ways, with the eventual outcomes always uncertain.