



# The Social Policy Implications of Health Inequalities

*CPHA 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*

**David I Hay**  
Director, Family Network  
Canadian Policy Research Networks  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

May 30, 2006

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# Overview

- Policy Research Perspectives for Understanding and Achieving Well-Being in Canada
- Policy Implications – Janet Smylie
- Policy Implications – Clyde Hertzman



# Policy Perspectives

- Understanding Well-Being in Canada
- Achieving Well-Being in Canada

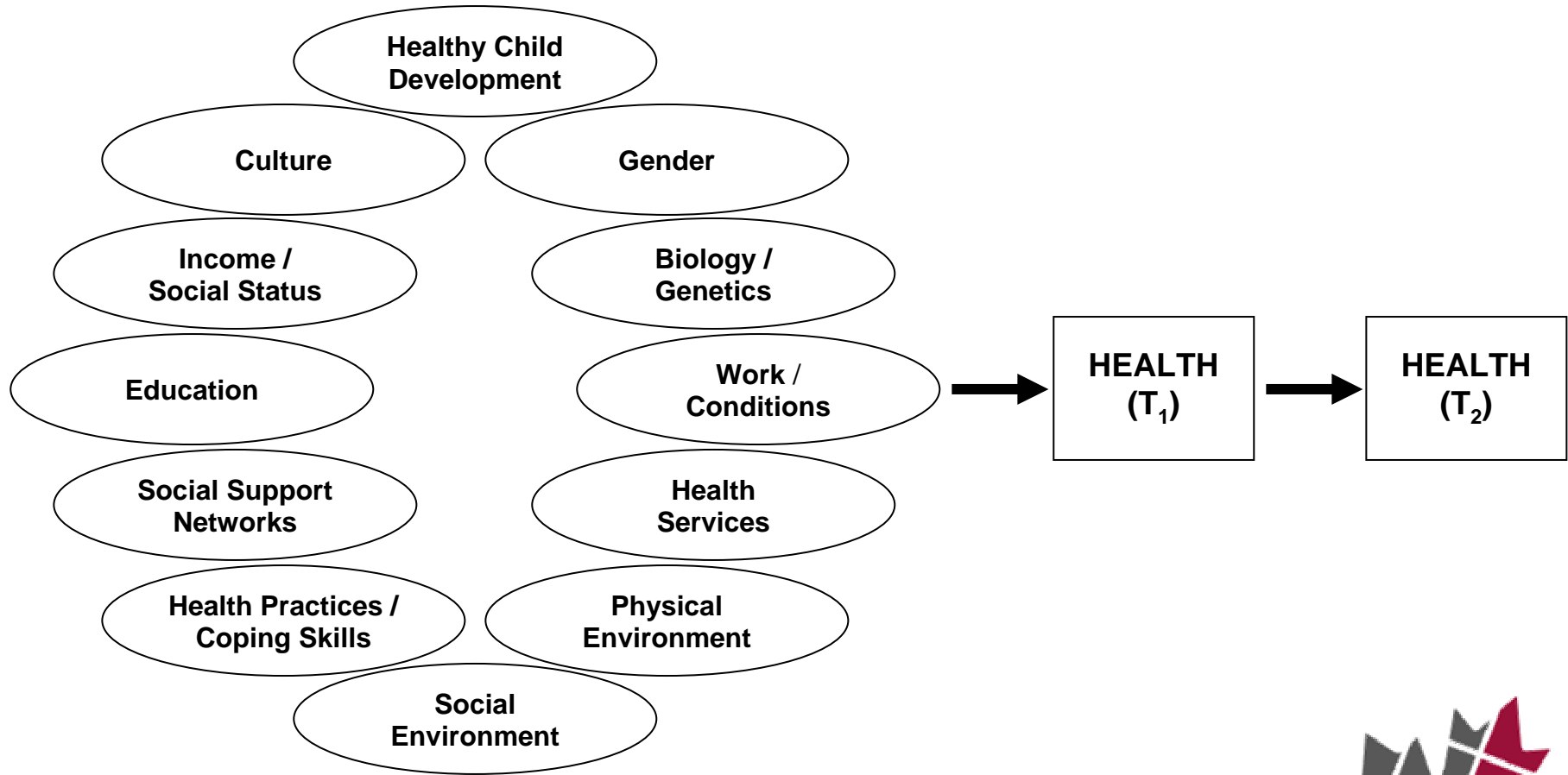


# Understanding Well-Being

- What things are important?
  - Determinants of Population Health
- Who is responsible?
  - The Well-Being Diamond
- Where is well-being achieved?
  - Place Matters
- When do we achieve well-being?
  - All the Time
- Why is well-being of concern?
  - The Values of Canadians



# What Determines Health?

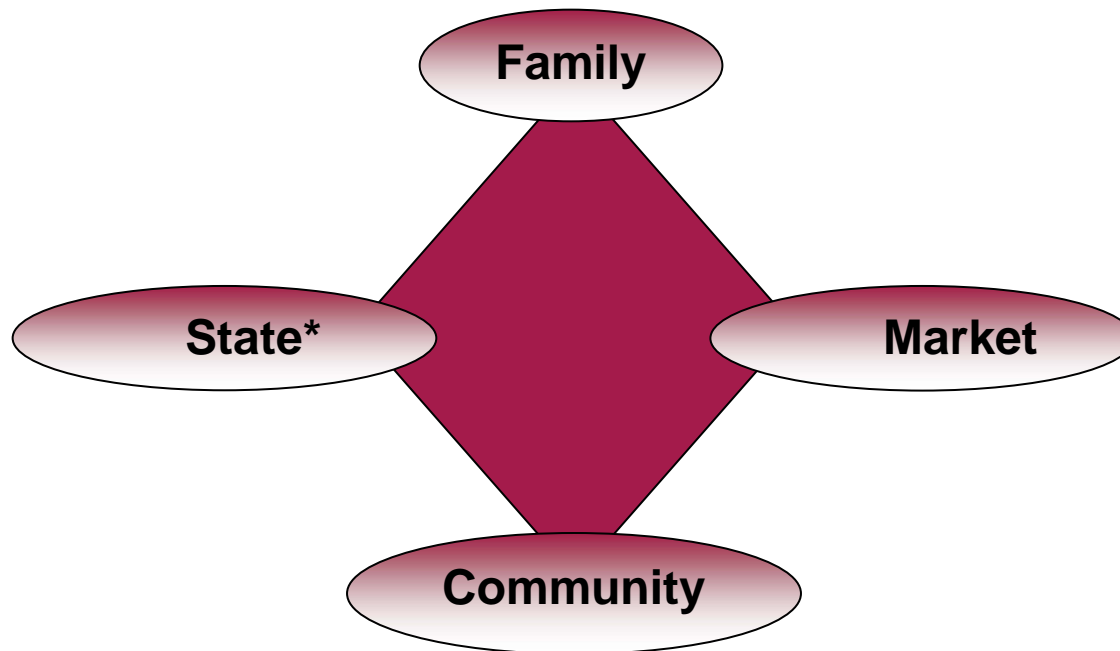


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# Who Is Responsible?

## The Well-Being Diamond



\*State includes governments (federal, provincial, territorial and municipal) and core public services such as education and health care.

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# Place Matters

- Access to local knowledge and networks
- Where problems, and innovations, originate
- Variations of local experience means one-size *doesn't* fit all
- Policy and programs have to be responsive to a community's problems, capacity, culture and character



# A Challenging Process

- Achieving well-being involves an ongoing, dynamic and challenging process of knowledge development, understanding, implementation and reflection
- There are different priorities to be addressed at different periods over the life course
- In other words: We have to keep working on attaining well-being, all the time ...





# Foundation of Canadian Values

- Sharing
- Caring
- Respect
- Accountability
- Truth (and its plurality)
- Fairness
- Responsibility
- Engagement
- Diversity (e.g. culture, religion, lifestyle)

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# Achieving Well-Being

- How Do We Achieve Well-Being?
  - Power
  - Governance
  - New Approaches, Collaborations?



# Policy Implications: Smylie

- Social Justice
- Governance
- Policies of Place, Culture
- Data and Information Systems



# Policy Implications: Hertzman

- Practically understanding the intersection of family, neighbourhood and society
- Which ones matter most? In which areas of BC?
- What is the appropriate policy mix?
  - What policies at what level of jurisdiction?
  - Targeted? To whom?



# Summary

- Appropriate Policy Perspective
- Place Matters
- Governance Arrangements to Manage Diversity
- Good Information to Support the Task





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