Can you explain…

• ...why it is simultaneously true that the poverty rate among the elderly has fallen AND there are more poor elderly persons now than in 1970?

• ...the difference between correlation and causation in explaining the connection between lower incomes and poor health?

• ...what social cohesion is and what it has to do with inequality?

Are all cell phones, pagers and alarms off?

Poverty & Inequality, Class #3

• Welcome
  • Announcements
  • Opening questions
• Children and poverty
  • Logic models
- break -
• "Knowing" about poverty (Edin & Lein)
• Inequality (Kawachi et al)
• Class 4 & Beyond
  • Midterm
Announcements

- Classmate
- Paper deadline and “planned procrastination”
- Midterm timing

Can you explain…

- …why it is true there are more poor elderly persons now than in 1970 AND true that the poverty rate among the elderly has fallen?
- …the difference between correlation and causation in explaining the connection between lower incomes and poor health?
- …what social cohesion is and what it has to do with inequality?

The big picture

- Last week: measurement
- This week: implications
- Next two weeks: theories
Some big ideas

- Correlation versus causation
- Mechanisms

Poverty among children

- Describing the condition


www.heritage.org/Research/Welfare/bg1661.cfm
Poverty among children

- Describing the condition

- Understanding the impact. Example: Poverty and low birth weight infants
  - Define observable condition
  - Example logic model

How poverty affects children

- Select an observable condition
  - Describe how you could measure this condition

- Create a logic model - map pathways that led to that condition
  - Go backwards
  - May have branches

- Note where income or wealth matters
Describing conditions as diagnosis

- What is the condition?
  - Defining characteristics
  - Magnitude and distribution

- Why do we observe this condition?

Break!!

Types of knowledge

- Perceptions

- Evidence
Measures of Inequality

- Lorenz Curve and Gini Coefficient
- Robin Hood index
- Share held by part of distribution
- Gap or ratio

Income inequality and Health

Relative Income Hypothesis

What are the elements of their theory of how income distribution affects health?
Income inequality and Health

Relative Income Hypothesis

What are the elements of their theory of how income distribution affects health?
1. access to life opportunities
2. social cohesion and inter-group conflict
Income inequality and Health

Relative Income Hypothesis

What are the elements of their theory of how income distribution affects health?
1. access to life opportunities
2. social cohesion and inter-group conflict
3. psychosocial mechanisms
4. quality of social relationships

Midterm timing
Upcoming

- Class 4 readings
  - One of
    - Murray (1984) Ch. 13 "Incentives to Fail II: Crime and Education." Prepare for debate

- Midterm next week