



# The Sociology of Health and Medicine: A Critical Introduction

By *Ellen Annandale*

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**The Sociology of Health and Medicine: A Critical Introduction** By Ellen Annandale

In this exciting introduction to the sociology of health and medicine, Annandale examines the core issues of the discipline and reassesses them in the light of recent developments in health care and social theory.

The Sociology of Health and Medicine considers the way in which recent economic and social change has generated new issues and necessitated a re-evaluation of the traditional concerns in the field of health, illness and health care. Annandale examines how theoretical and methodological developments in social theory - such as post-structuralism and revisions to Marxist, feminist and symbolic interactionist thought - has led to new thinking in a number of areas. These include the processes linking "race", gender and class to health and illness, the sociology of the health service and the division of labour within it, and the experience of health and health care.

Through a discussion of both traditional and new topics in the field, this book offers a wide-ranging and up-to-date assessment of the state of the sociology of health, illness and health care. The result is an innovative text that both reflects and advances changes in the discipline.

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#### Review

"With an impressive grasp of developments in a number of adjacent areas, Ellen Annandale takes us through key issues in the sociology of health and medicine. What makes the book particularly impressive, however, is the sure way in which the author frames these topics in terms of wider developments in sociology and society." *Gareth Williams, Deputy Director of Public Health Research and Resource Center, University of Salford*

"This book fills an urgent need for an up-to-date text for students of medical sociology. It is done in a masterly fashion, with an authoritative overview of the most exciting current debates. Teachers of the sociology of health and medicine will be grateful for this book. It provides them with an expert and well-organized theoretical core for the subject. Students will find it entirely clear, interesting and illuminating." *Professor Mildred Blaxter, School of Health Policy and Practice, University of East Anglia*

#### From the Back Cover

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