

MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE IN CONTROVERSIAL MINORITY RELIGIONS

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RELIGION AND MEDICINE

- ◉ Close historical ties
- ◉ Meaning, causes, curing
- ◉ Mainstream medical care
- ◉ Lack of medical care because of religious reasons

HEALTH CARE, DISEASES, MEDICAL TREATMENT

- ◉ Hare Krishna (5 members, 3 exm, 1 parent)
- ◉ Scientology (8 memb, 2 exm, 1 parm, 2 parex)
- ◉ Jehovah's Witn (7 memb, 6 exm, 2 parm, 1 pe)
- ◉ Unific Ch (6 memb, 1 exm, 5 parm)
- ◉ Plym Brethren (5 memb, 5 parentmembers)
- ◉ Knutby Filadelfia (5 members, 2 parmemb)

MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

- ◉ Conception of disease and how to handle them are socially constructed and related to interpretations of the world
- ◉ Course of a disease includes complex sequences of events
- ◉ Diagnosis, explanation, meaning, and control
- ◉ Experience of disease
- ◉ Professional, folk, and popular medical sectors

ISKCON

- ◉ Serving Krishna
- ◉ Life style issues
- ◉ Remedies
- ◉ Ayurvedic treatment preferred
- ◉ Chanting when psychiatric illness
- ◉ Mercy of Krishna - prayer
- ◉ Accept illness in Krishna conscious way
- ◉ Spiritual causes of disease
- ◉ Vaccinations

THE CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY

- ◉ Engrams cause most diseases
- ◉ Auditing
- ◉ Psychological explanations
- ◉ No psychologists or psychiatrists
- ◉ Purification Rundown
- ◉ Vitamins
- ◉ Assists - no aspirin
- ◉ Vaccinations

KNUTBY FILADELFIA

- ⦿ Healing is possible
- ⦿ Laying on hands
- ⦿ Conventional medical doctors are of God
- ⦿ Life style issues
- ⦿ Diseases beyond our understanding
- ⦿ Vaccinations

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

- ⦿ No blood transfusions
- ⦿ No miraculous healing
- ⦿ No diseases in the future
- ⦿ Pray for strength to handle diseases
- ⦿ Vaccinations

UNIFICATION CHURCH

- ◉ Combine Oriental and Western medicine
- ◉ Outer or inner causes of diseases
- ◉ Inherited sin
- ◉ Traditional Chinese Medicine
- ◉ Therapies
- ◉ Vaccinations

PLYMOUTH BRETHREN

- ⦿ Conventional medicine
- ⦿ No healing methods
- ⦿ Pray in privacy
- ⦿ Vaccinations

DISCUSSION

- ◉ Constructions of health, disease, curing differing in various degrees from mainstream
- ◉ Rules or subcultural habits?
- ◉ Individual interpretations
- ◉ Meaning of disease
- ◉ Spiritual advancement and health
- ◉ Causes of disease
- ◉ Curing and healing
- ◉ Use of different medical sectors

CONCLUSION

- ⦿ Religion important factor for construction of health, disease, curing
- ⦿ Scientology disease model
- ⦿ Medical risks

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