

Sociology 418/818
Death and Dying
Written Assignment #3
Due October 24, 2019

Death has been described by poets and writers as “the great equalizer,” in that all people eventually die. However, research shows convincingly that at what age, where, and of what causes one dies, and the quality and cost of death and dying vary dramatically by geographic region, socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, immigration status, and other indicators of social stratification.

For this assignment, please choose one indicator of social stratification in the United States (e.g., race, immigration status, socioeconomic status, etc.) and two end-of-life outcomes such as cause of death, quality of end-of-life care, medical expenditures, or another outcome of interest to you. You will: (a) describe patterns and differentials for each outcomes; (b) provide 2-3 explanations for each pattern you have documented; and (c) suggest one possible social program or public policy that might help to mitigate these disparities.

You should be able to complete this assignment based on the readings we have read throughout the semester. Please reference work using either American Psychological Association (APA) or American Sociological Association (ASA) style, whichever is most widely used in your academic field. Style guides from both organizations are posted on Blackboard.