Neoliberalism, Globalization, and Inequalities: Consequences for Health and Quality of Life

Edited by Vicente Navarro

IN PRAISE OF

"An impressive and comprehensive set of insights into the current state of globalization. This is an essential book for anyone who wants to know how and why neoliberalism has failed to deliver on its promises."

—**Jeff Faux,** Founder and Distinguished Fellow, Economic Policy Institute, Washington, DC, Author, *The Global Class War*

"Vicente Navarro has assembled a comprehensive, tightly argued, and powerfully supported set of contributions that demonstrate the links between neoliberalism, economic inequality, and health outcomes in a convincing and very timely fashion."

—Andrew Glyn, Professor of Economics, Oxford University

"These incisive essays dissecting neoliberal globalization provide highly significant information along with careful and penetrating analysis, subjecting claims of advocates and critics to the test of judiciously assembled empirical evidence. Moreover, they develop neglected perspectives that should prove invaluable to those seeking to dismantle illusions and deceptive presentations, and to Discovery the real human consequences of the dominant intellectual and policy paradigms of the past several decades. They are a very welcome contribution to the understanding of some of the most critical issues of the contemporary era. It is an outstanding work and a remarkably important book."

-Noam Chomsky, Institute Professor, Retired, MIT

"This book provides essential reading for scholars, practitioners, and policymakers wanting to understand the rapid social, health, and economic changes in today's world. It offers an excellent base for reflection on forces driving these changes as well as critical analyses of now widespread interpretations of their causes and consequences."

—Walter Korpi, Professor of Social Policy, Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University

"Never in our history have human beings enjoyed such good health; but never have so many persons suffered or died prematurely because of hunger, poverty, and avoidable diseases, and never have inequities in health been so deep and so evident. Vicente Navarro, internationally known as a champion of social justice, has assembled the best contributions from all over the world. This book appears at a time when health for all is being recognized as a fundamental human right and a touchstone of the civilization of any country. All those who work in this field may enjoy reading these essays and find a new stimulus for their activity."

—**Giovanni Berlinguer**, Professor Emeritus, Sciences Faculty, University of Rome Member of the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health

ABOUT THE BOOK

Since U.S. President Reagan and U.K. Prime Minister Thatcher, a major ideology (under the name of economic science) has been expanded worldwide that claims that the best policies to stimulate human development are those that reduce the role of the state in economic and social lives: privatizing public services and public enterprises, deregulating the mobility of capital and labor, eliminating protectionism, and reducing public social protection. This ideology, called "neoliberalism," has guided the globalization of economic activity and become the conventional wisdom in international agencies and institutions (such as the IMF, World Bank, World Trade Organization, and the technical agencies of the United Nations, including the WHO). Reproduced in the "Washington consensus" in the United States and the "Brussels consensus" in the European Union, this ideology has guided policies widely accepted as the only ones possible and advisable.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Vicente Navarro is Professor of Health and Public Policy, Sociology, and Policy Studies at The Johns Hopkins University, USA, and Professor of Political and Social Sciences at the Pompeu Fabra University, Spain. He has also been Professor of Economics at Barcelona University, Spain. Dr. Navarro has served as consultant to the United Nations and to many of its agencies, such as the WHO and UNICEF, and been a member of many international commissions dealing with human development areas. He has written extensively on political economy, public policy, and human development and his books have been translated into many different languages. His most recent volumes include *The Political Economy of Social Inequalities: Consequences for Health and Quality of Life* and *The Politics of Health Policy*.