SOC15200 - Introduction to Health and Society
Reading Questions for discussion on Sept 12th

Assigned Readings:
*Social Determinants of Health* book, Chapters 5, 6, 8, 10 (pages 81-131 and 155-178 and 211-239)

Questions:
1. What is the central thesis of each chapter in the *Social Determinants of Health* book?
2. What evidence and/or arguments do the authors in the *Social Determinants of Health* book bring in to support their theses?
3. What gaps do you see in the logic and/or evidence of each author(s) in the *Social Determinants of Health* book, if any?
4. Would work be considered a “fundamental cause” by Link and Phelan (see first week’s readings)? Why or why not?
5. Explain the difference between the “demand control” model and the “effort-reward imbalance” model in how they understand the issue of work stress.
6. What is the difference between social support and social networks, and how are they related?
7. What are the mechanisms (or pathways) by which social support affects health?
8. What are the differences between poverty, relative deprivation, and social exclusion, and how are they related?
9. Some might conclude that these chapters suggest that social support (or the lack thereof) is a “fundamental cause”. What evidence is there for this perspective? Do you agree?