

Global health diplomacy

context, contradictions, opportunities

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Overview

- Context
 - The global health landscape
 - An ethnographic perspective on ARVs in W. Africa
- Contradictions and concepts
 - Therapeutic domination and iatrogenic violence
 - Health sovereignty
- Opportunities



Context


- Biomedicine works...particularly in developing countries
- Political economy of health and bio-capital
- Vulnerable health systems
- Shift from public health to humanitarian intervention
- Focus on numbers



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Expanding access to ARVs


- “roll-out” and “scaling up”
 - PEPFAR
 - Global Fund
 - Gates Foundation
- A humanitarian emergency
 - Intervention is urgent
 - “Brand Aid” and “Brand AIDS”

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Issues and concerns

- « Antiretroviral anarchy »
- Adherence and resistance
- Cannibalizing/undermining health systems
- Dispossession of health capacity
- Sustainability

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« Self-help » « empowerment » confessional technologies

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Self-fashioning and the
« care of the self »



Patienthood and therapeutic
subjectivity



Political mobilisation



Access to treatment



Social triage







Therapeutic citizenship

- Care of the self
 - Ethic of responsibility
- Right to treatment
 - Global citizenship
 - HIV diplomacy?





HIV diplomacy is also politics



HIV diplomacy is also biology



31 patients génotypés

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ART and biosocial reproduction

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Is therapeutic citizenship new?
What are its implications?

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Colonial biomedicine

- Biomedicine as a tool of empire
 - Material
 - Ideology (legitimation)
- Intimate colonialism
 - Production of domesticity
 - Evangelization and the care of the self





Colonial biomedicine (2)

- Pasteurization and the colonial laboratory





An oft-overlooked aspect of colonialism

- Modernity and laboratory
- Experimental
 - Standardization and variation allows bio-political techniques and interventions to be tested and effective ones re-deployed



Anthropology of health diplomacy

- “Biopower” and the modern “governmental” state
- Asymmetry, civil society, NGOs, humanitarian intervention, “open source anarchy”
- Transformations in citizenship
 - relationship between State and subject
- Transformations in Westphalian diplomacy
 - Relationship between sovereign States





Anthropology of humanitarian intervention

- “moral imperialism”
- The confusion of genres
- Erasure of history
- The state of emergency as governmentality
- “mobile sovereignties”





Context of health diplomacy

- Political space of global health today
 - “micropolitics” of health interventions
 - Intervention produces subjectivities, communities, and even politics
 - Lack of empirical data
- Descended from global health yesterday
 - Colonial biomedicine
 - Postcolonial modernization and “readjustments”





Useful concepts?

- Health sovereignty
- Political economy
 - Resources flows and dispossession





Practical considerations

- Training in a wide range of political theories and skills
 - In community-based settings
- Understand implications of biosocial change
- Who gets trained?
 - Future leaders in the developing world