

Questions for Student Discussion on Pholela

Please note:

This is a list of questions that students prepared to discuss with the faculty. Please note all questions listed may not have been asked in the order presented in this document. Also, due to time limitations all questions may not be asked or discussed.

Community Priority-Setting

1. Why did the Community Health Workers choose nutrition as their primary intervention?
2. How would you prioritize problems if you were trying to engage a community in order to present good results in a short time frame?
3. Why not choose water-borne disease?

Deciding to Leave Pholela

1. Did the Karks, and the Pholela team, miss an opportunity when they left South Africa? Did the community need them more as the political winds changed?
2. How do you decide whether to accomplish more by staying? When is it possible to be more effective as a critic from outside?
3. If you were there, what would have been the pros and cons pushing you to go or stay after 18 years? (*The audio says they left in 1968, however they left in 1958*) How do you respond when the underserved community is being marginalized by government?

The Political Context of Community-Based Primary Health Care

1. Thinking about the relation of the health system and its political system, is it possible to change the health system without also addressing the larger political context?
2. What is the role of community health professionals in causing political change?
3. In certain times or settings, is it ethical if we, in the public health system, don't challenge or deal with the greater problems in the political system?

