



The Politics of Health Policy: The U.S. Reforms, 1980-1994

by [Vicente Navarro](#) (Author)

Editorial Reviews Review

"The Politics of Health Policy constitutes an important contribution to the debate of a crucial issue. However, the reach of Professor Navarro's book goes well beyond health policy: it is also a powerful and well-documented rebuttal of the many obfuscations which mask the reality of politics in the United States. It offers a sustained and effective challenge to conventional thinking and deserves very close attention." Ralph Miliband

"This book should become a very interesting reference in the growing literature of the welfare state. Navarro's way of analyzing health and social policy issues, while well accepted in Europe, is not frequently heard in the US. His is a strong voice of a committed social reformer speaking with the force of an empirical scientist." Professor Goran Therborn, Gothenburg University

Product Description

This book analyzes the federal health policies followed by Reagan, Bush, and Clinton and by the Democratic-controlled Congress. The book shows the connection between the crisis of health care and the correlation of class forces in America. He also explains and evaluates the health care reforms put forward by the Clinton administration, describing the political process and forces behind those reforms.

The book challenges the major positions held in the social and political sciences regarding the nature of power in western capitalist developed countries and its impact on public policy. In great detail and with extensive documentation, the text shows how the welfare state continues to be extremely popular, that the causes of our economic predicament cannot be attributed to the welfare state and that class, continues to have an undiminished relevance in explaining public policies in general and health policies in particular.

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Vicente Navarro is a Professor of Health Policy, Sociology and Policy Studies at the Johns Hopkins University and is founder and Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Health Services. He has been president of the International Association of Health Policy, and consultant to many governments and international agencies such as the United Nations, UNICEF and WHO. He has received many awards for his scholarship, including the John Kosa Memorial prize.

Let us know what's wrong with this preview of *The Politics of Health Policy* by Vicenç Navarro. Problem: It's the wrong book. It's the wrong edition. Other. Details (if other): Cancel. Thanks for telling us about the problem. Return to Book Page. Not the book you're looking for? Preview "The Politics of Health Policy" by Vicenç Navarro. Addresses one of the key areas of contemporary public policy in the US, challenging complacent assumptions and demonstrating the enduring connection between the crisis of health care and the correlation of class forces in America. "Political Rhetoric and Political Persuasion: The Changing Structure of Citizens' Preferences on Health Insurance During Policy Debate." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 62 (2): 209-29. Luker, Kristin. 1984. *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. Berkeley: University of California Press. MacKinnon, Catharine A. 1987. 1994. *The Politics of Health Policy: The US Reforms, 1980-1994*. Oxford: Blackwell. Oberlander, Jonathan. The political will or technocratic model assumes that decisions by political leaders or a reform champion are necessary and sufficient for policy change and that these leaders are rational actors maximizing the public interest (Alesina, 1992). There are other theories, particularly used in policy analysis, which provide insights into understanding of politics in the health sector. These include the stagist model of the policy making, Kingdon's streams approach to understanding agenda setting (Kingdon, 1984), the street-level bureaucrat model concerning implementation (Lipsky, 1980), a number of variants of models that focus their analysis of the role of networks in modern policy making, as well as the so-called punctuated equilibrium model, which explains why.