

PUBLIC MEETING ON



The

IMPACT

OF INEQUALITY

INEQUALITY KILLS. In Oxford, the poorest 20% die 5.5 years earlier than the wealthiest 20%. They'll die 7.4 years earlier if Oxford becomes as unequal as the rest of Britain; and if Britain becomes as unequal as the USA, they'll die 14 years earlier. Whatever the immediate cause of death - heart disease, cancer, violence, alcohol or drugs - a major factor is the sheer stress of inequality: the fear and shame of being a "loser", which affects everyone. Even the rich die younger in the unequal USA than in more-equal Britain or Sweden.

INEQUALITY WRECKS THE ENVIRONMENT: most of the carbon emissions and pollution produced by the "developed world" are caused by competitive, status-driven consumption, directly driven by growing inequality. The growing needs of the world's wealthiest 10% put more strain on the environment than those of the rest of humanity put together.

Research is telling us: if we want a healthy, sustainable society, in which everyone can flourish, we cannot tolerate inequality any longer. No political party has yet found the courage to take up the challenge but this meeting aims to put the question onto the agenda: **Equality when?**

The main speakers are two of Britain's foremost authorities on the effects of inequality:

Richard Wilkinson Professor of Social Epidemiology at Nottingham University; author of *The Impact of Inequality: how to make sick societies healthier* (Routledge 2005), and

Danny Dorling Professor of Human Geography in the University of Sheffield; lead author of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's recent report *Poverty, wealth and place in Britain, 1968-2005* (Policy Press, 2007).

**EQUALITY WHEN? 7.15pm, THURSDAY 22ND
NOVEMBER 2007; OXFORD TOWN HALL, SAINT
ALDATES, OXFORD. ADMISSION FREE.**



Supported by the University and College Union (UCU) Oxford Brookes; the Oxford Trades Council; National Union of Journalists (NUJ) Oxford branch; Oxford World Development Movement. Organised by Bob Hughes: 01865 726804. For more information see <http://www.equalitywhen.org.uk>.