

State of Health Atlas Includes Chiropractic

Editorial Staff

The World Health Organization states that the "enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human, without distinction of race, religion, political belief or economic or social condition."

Dr. Judith Longstaff Mackay's recently published book, *The State of Health Atlas*, "illustrates that these ideals are a long way from fulfillment."

The book is a compendium of 35 brightly colored world maps pictorially revealing many of the aspects of daily human existence affecting the population's health: AIDS, personal violence, heart disease, mental health, social drugs, cancer, tropical diseases, and many others.

One of the maps in the section Treatments is Complementary Medicine, showing the world distribution of chiropractors and homeopaths in a rainbow of colors. Her sources for this section were Dynamic Chiropractic and the World Federation of Chiropractic.

Dr. Longstaff is a British physician residing in Hong Kong. She is an advocate of world health issue and is one of the few non-Americans to have received the U.S. Surgeon's General's Medallion in recognition of her work.

In the introduction to *The State of Health Atlas*, we get an insight into Dr. Longstaff's view of health care: "The common modalities to all health systems are few: a belief in that particular health system, rest, and the feeling of being cared for. These are the fundamentals of health care throughout the world."

It's fortunate that someone with Dr. Longstaff's breadth of understanding of health care chose to work on this project, otherwise chiropractic might not have received the proper attention it merits. "DC" and the WFC were pleased to provide Dr. Longstaff with information on chiropractic worldwide, and the author acknowledges both organizations as primary sources.

Former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop MD said the book "... emphasizes the need for government commitment to primary health care, and demonstrates that preventative, not curative or rehabilitative medicine is the only way to go forward in improving the health of rich and poor countries alike."

The State of Health Atlas is published by Simon & Schuster, a Touchstone book (212-698-7643).

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