

# The structural and ethical complexity of private and public health

Michele Battle-Fisher

Assistant Program Director and Instructor of Community Health  
Wright State Boonshoft School of Medicine (OH)

Due to the immense health consequences left to a society by not allowing and supporting such intervention through health based intervention and surveillance, effective public health action requires that the private sphere be under the watch of the public for the sake of the society as a whole. As such, public health is borne of the personal affliction of illness that becomes nested as a “public” incidence. Habermas (1989) posited that in order to begin to understand the public sphere in its present form, this analysis must begin with examining changing in organizational structure. This paper, in homage to Habermas, will present a ecological approach that examines a reconceptualization of organ donation and health (in general) as a dance between the directives of the public to save lives and the private sphere lives that make up a population in a population risk equation.

Center for the Study  
of Complex Systems