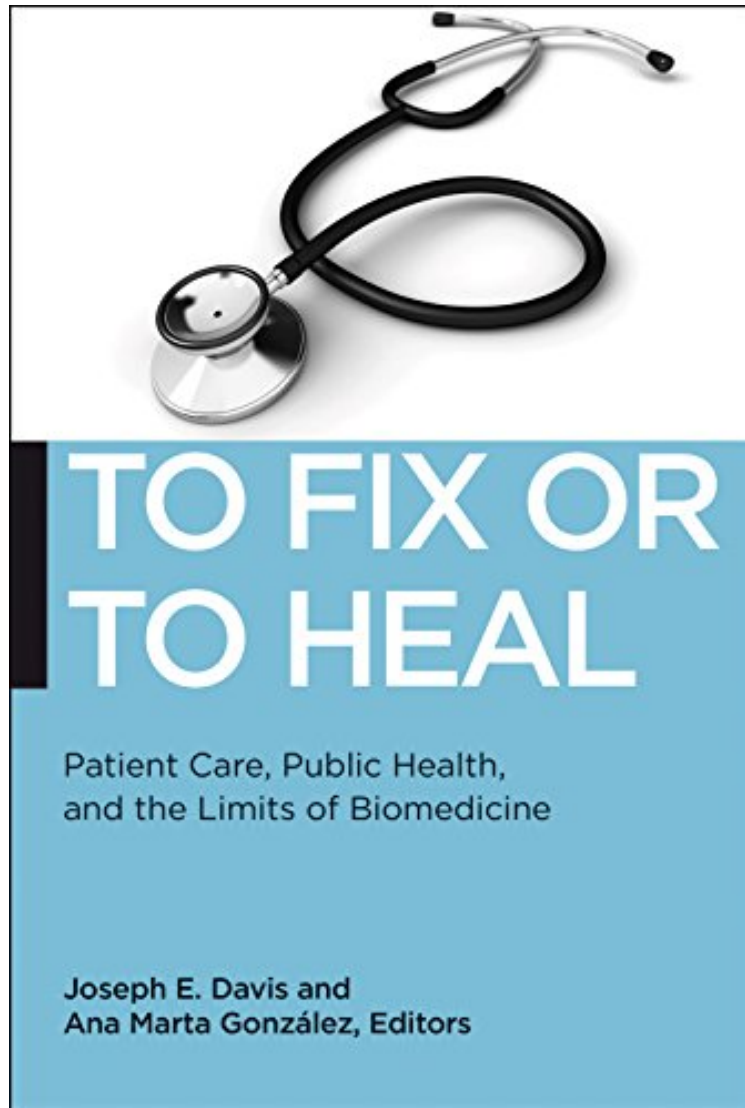


(Free) To Fix or To Heal: Patient Care, Public Health, and the Limits of Biomedicine (Biopolitics)

# To Fix or To Heal: Patient Care, Public Health, and the Limits of Biomedicine (Biopolitics)

*From Ana Marta Gonzalez*  
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**From Ana Marta Gonzalez : To Fix or To Heal: Patient Care, Public Health, and the Limits of Biomedicine (Biopolitics)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised To Fix or To Heal: Patient Care, Public Health, and the Limits of Biomedicine (Biopolitics):

Do doctors fix patients? Or do they heal them? For all of modern medicine's many successes, discontent with the quality of patient care has combined with a host of new developments, from aging populations to the resurgence of infectious diseases, which challenge medicine's overreliance on narrowly mechanistic and technical methods of explanation and intervention, or fixing patients. The need for a better balance, for more humane healing rationales and practices that attend to the social and environmental aspects of health and illness and the experiencing person, is more urgent than ever. Yet, in public health and bioethics, the fields best positioned to offer countervailing values and orientations, the dominant approaches largely extend and reinforce the reductionism and individualism of biomedicine.

"An important and provocative contribution to a growing debate over the nature and social impact of what the authors describe as a dysfunctionally reductionist medical enterprise. This book questions the boundaries and moral implications of what many of us have come to accept as a necessarily medicalized world, a world of fixable individual bodies. It deserves a broad readership."-Charles Rosenberg, author of *Our Present Complaint: American Medicine, Then and Now*"I thoroughly recommend this book for anyone who is interested in competing models in contemporary medicine."-Sociology of Health Illness  
Just when you thought nothing new could be said about reductionism and holism in biomedicine, *To Fix or To Heal* appears and proves otherwise. Balanced and non-polemical, this collection shows how many recent biomedical developments, however much they seem to marginalize questions of value, morality, and social responsibility, often end up evoking them and making their consideration more urgent than ever."-Robert Aronowitz, author of *Unnatural History: Breast Cancer and American Society*  
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Joseph E. Davis is Research Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of Research at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia. He is the Publisher of *The Hedgehog* and is the author or editor of three books, including *Accounts of Innocence: Sexual Abuse, Trauma, and the Self*.  
Ana Marta Gonzalez is Associate Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Navarra, Spain, where she is the Director of the Emotional Culture and Identity project at the Institute for Culture and Society. She is also the Academic Director of the Social Trends Institute. Her publications include *Care Professions and Globalization: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives*.