

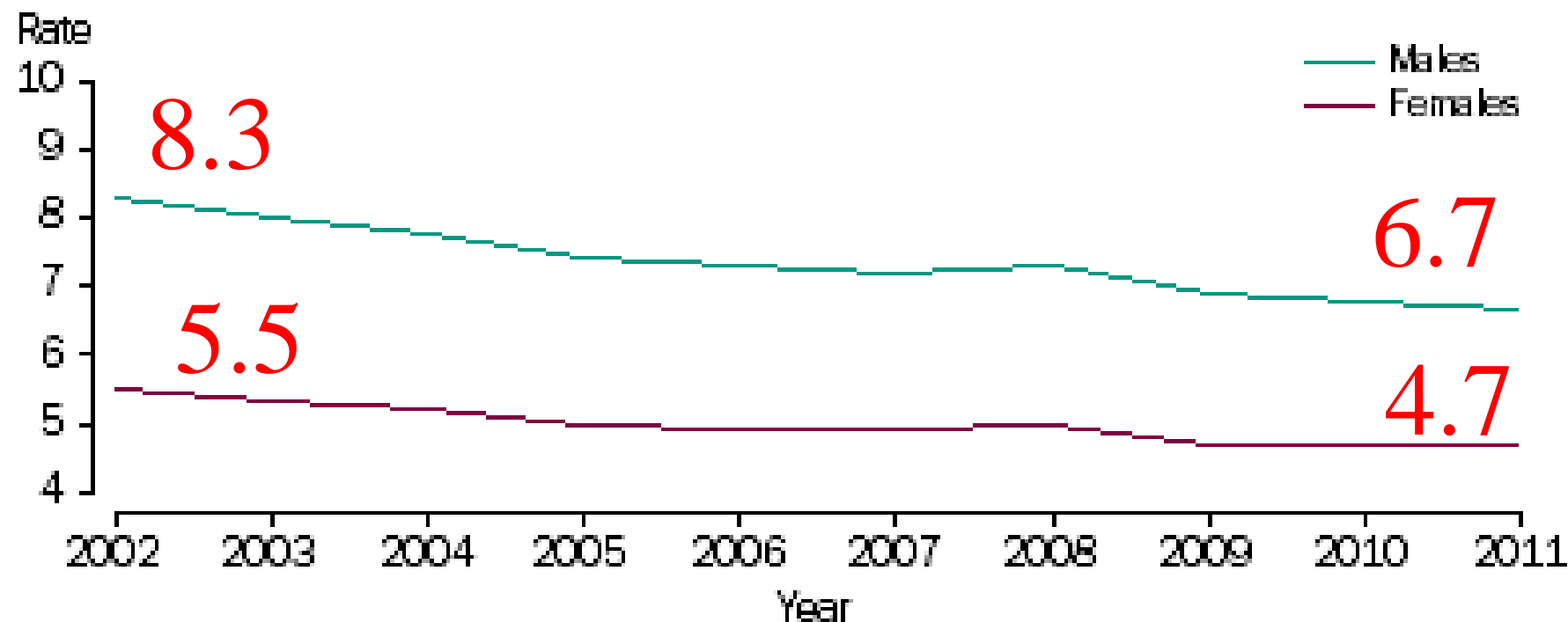
# Role of the health system in reducing health inequity

Peter Sainsbury  
UNSW

29 June 2016

# Mortality/1,000; Australia, 2002-11

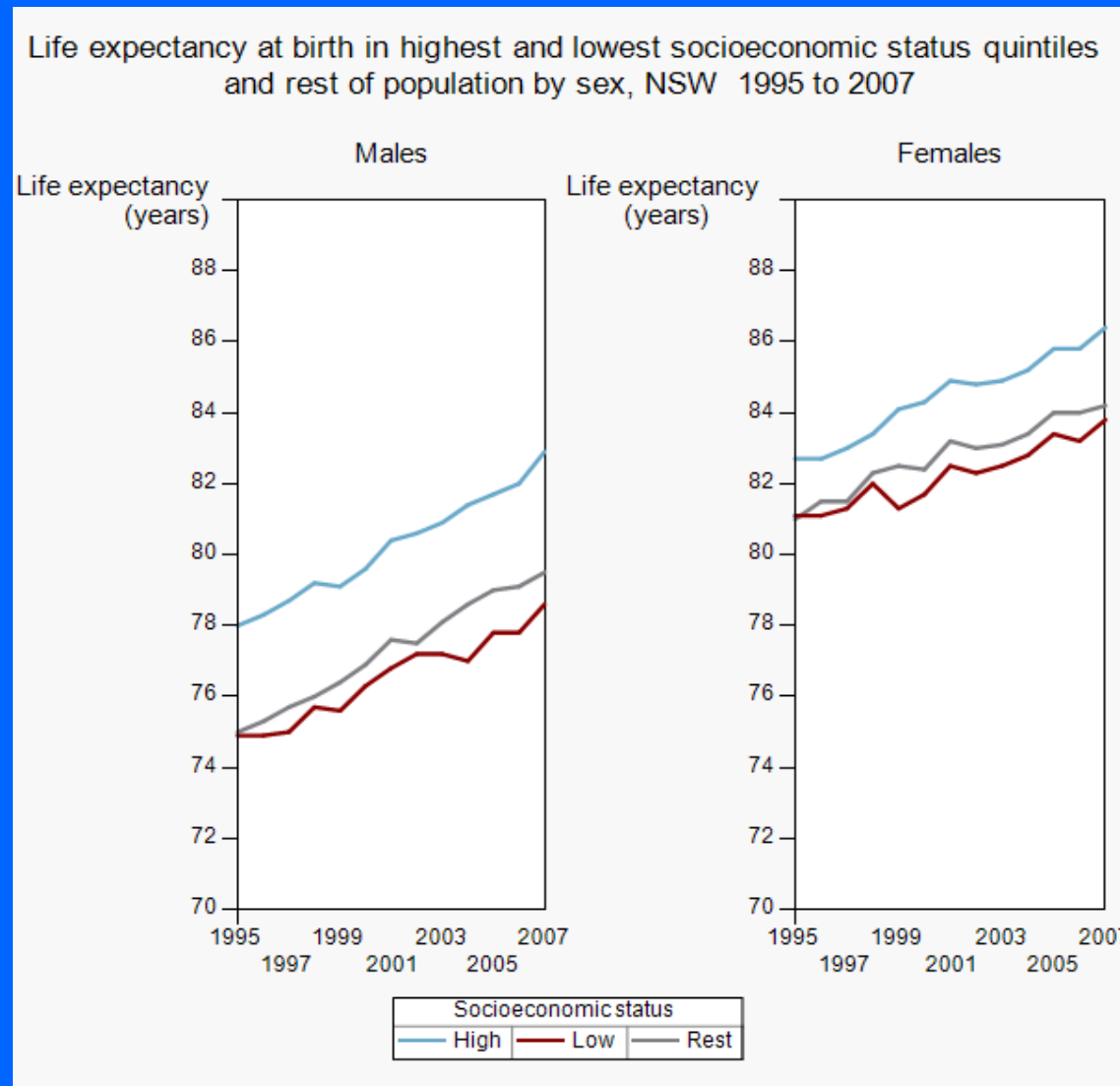
STANDARDISED DEATH RATES (a), AUSTRALIA 2002-2011



(a) Deaths per 1,000 standard population. Standardised death rates are calculated using the 2001 total population of Australia as the standard population.

Source: ABS Deaths, Australia (cat. no. 3302.0).

# Life expectancy at birth, NSW, by SES



# Medicare bulk billing of GP attendances by State/Territory, 2014/15

State/Territory	% GP attendances bulk billed (\$ Out Of Pocket)	
NSW		
Qld		
SA		
Tas		
NT		
ACT		
Australia	84%	(\$32)

# Medicare bulk billing of GP attendances by State/Territory, 2014/15

State/Territory	% GP attendances bulk billed (\$ Out Of Pocket)	
NSW	88%	(\$31)
Qld	84%	(\$32)
SA	83%	(\$28)
Tas	77%	(\$33)
NT	85%	(\$41)
ACT	58%	(\$37)
Australia	84%	(\$32)

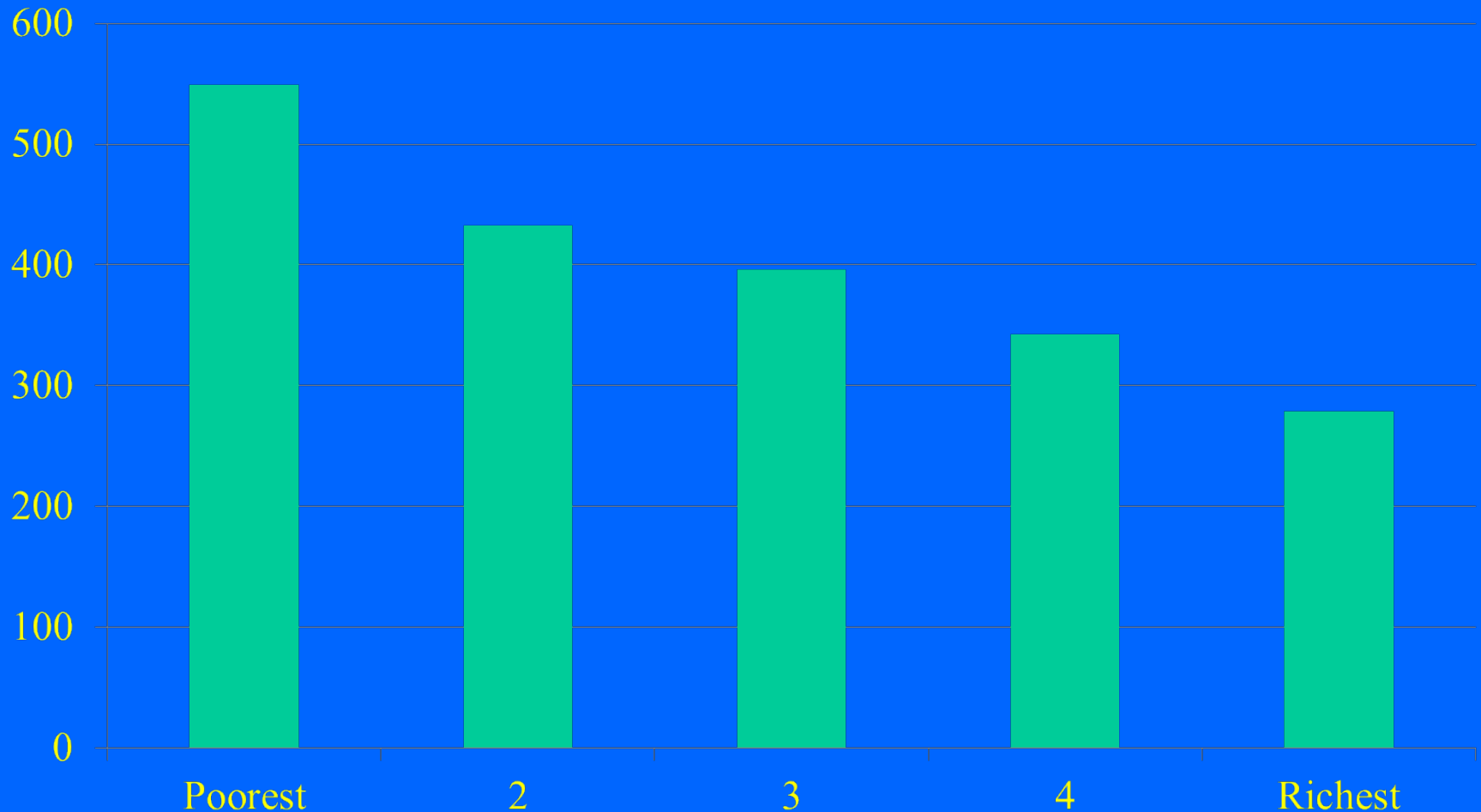
# Medicare bulk billing of GP attendances by Federal Electoral Division, 2010/11

% GP attendances bulk billed	Number of electorates
40-<50%	2 (lowest 46.4%)
50-<60%	2
60-<70%	27
70-<80%	54
80-<90%	46
90+%	19 (highest 98.9%)

# *'Have difficulty getting health care' by socioeconomic status, NSW*

	2006	2012
Most advantaged 1/5th	6%	10%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	12%	16%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	14%	15%
4 <sup>th</sup>	20%	24%
Most disadvantaged 1/5th	15%	14%

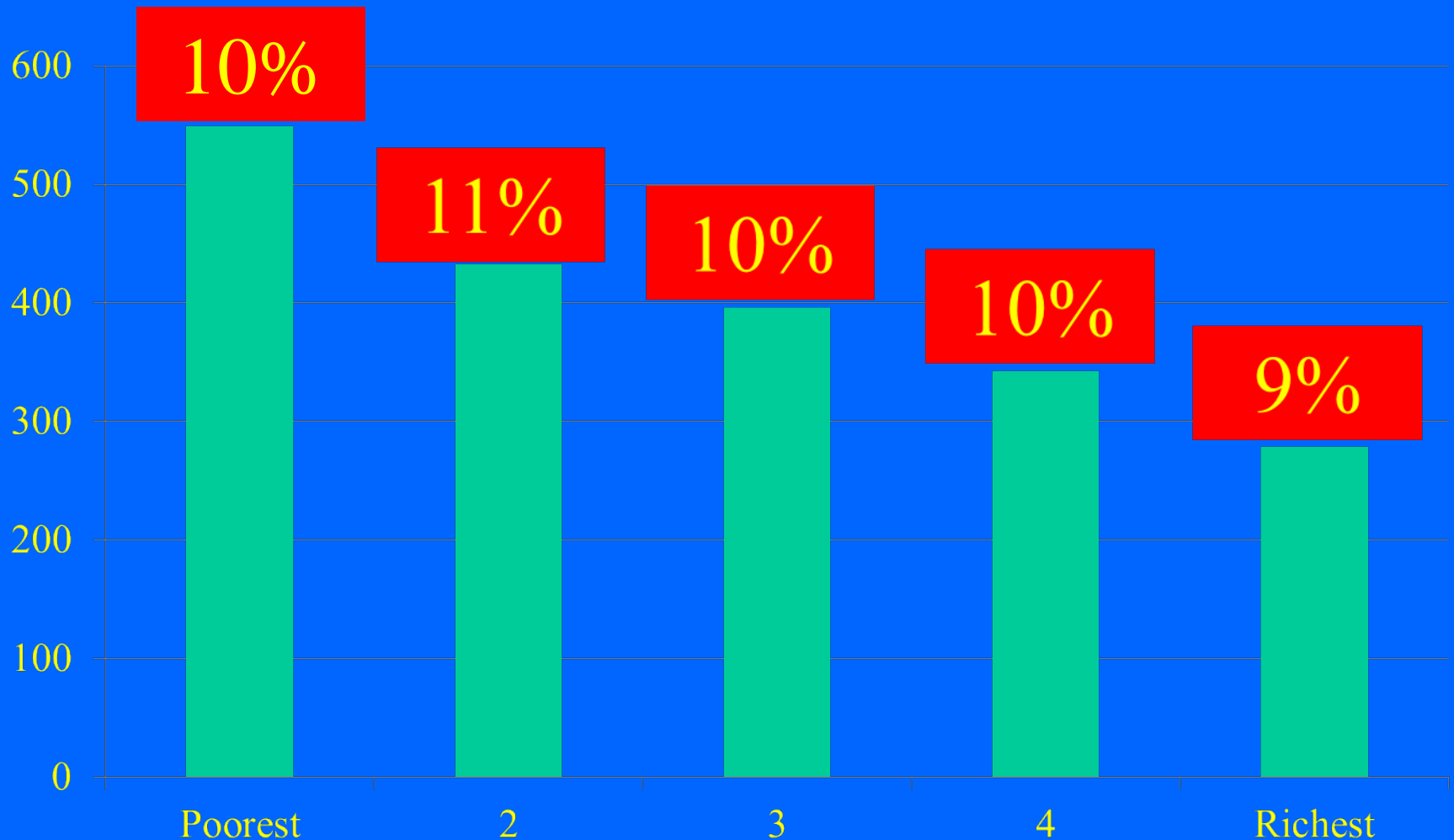
# Hospitalisations (per 100,000 pop.) after heart attack by SES, NSW, 2009-11



Sainsbury/UNSW/June16

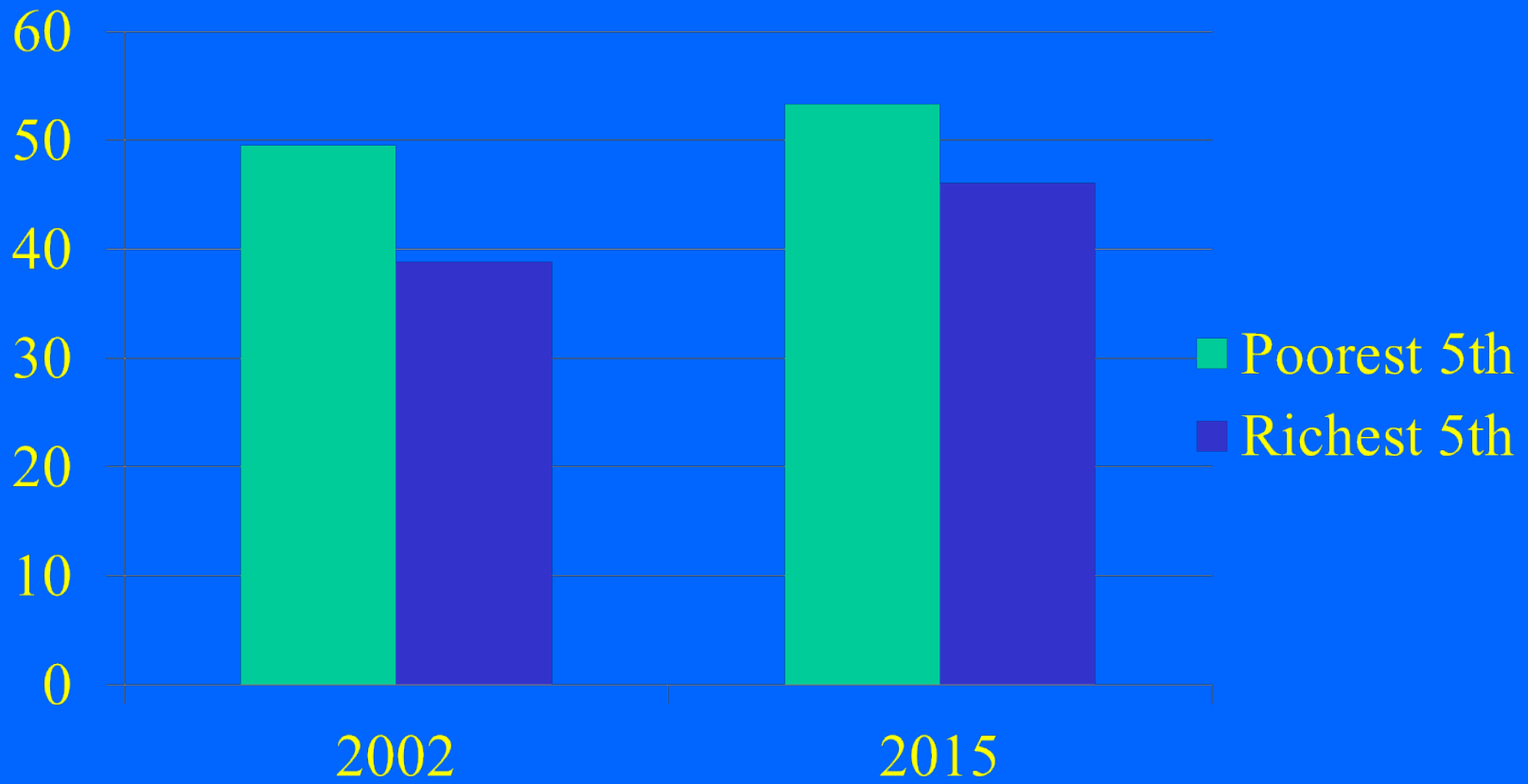


# Hospitalisations (per 100,000 pop.) and deaths <30 days after heart attack by SES, NSW, 2009-11



Sainsbury/UNSW/June16

# Overweight and Obesity, persons 16+years, NSW, 2002 & 20015



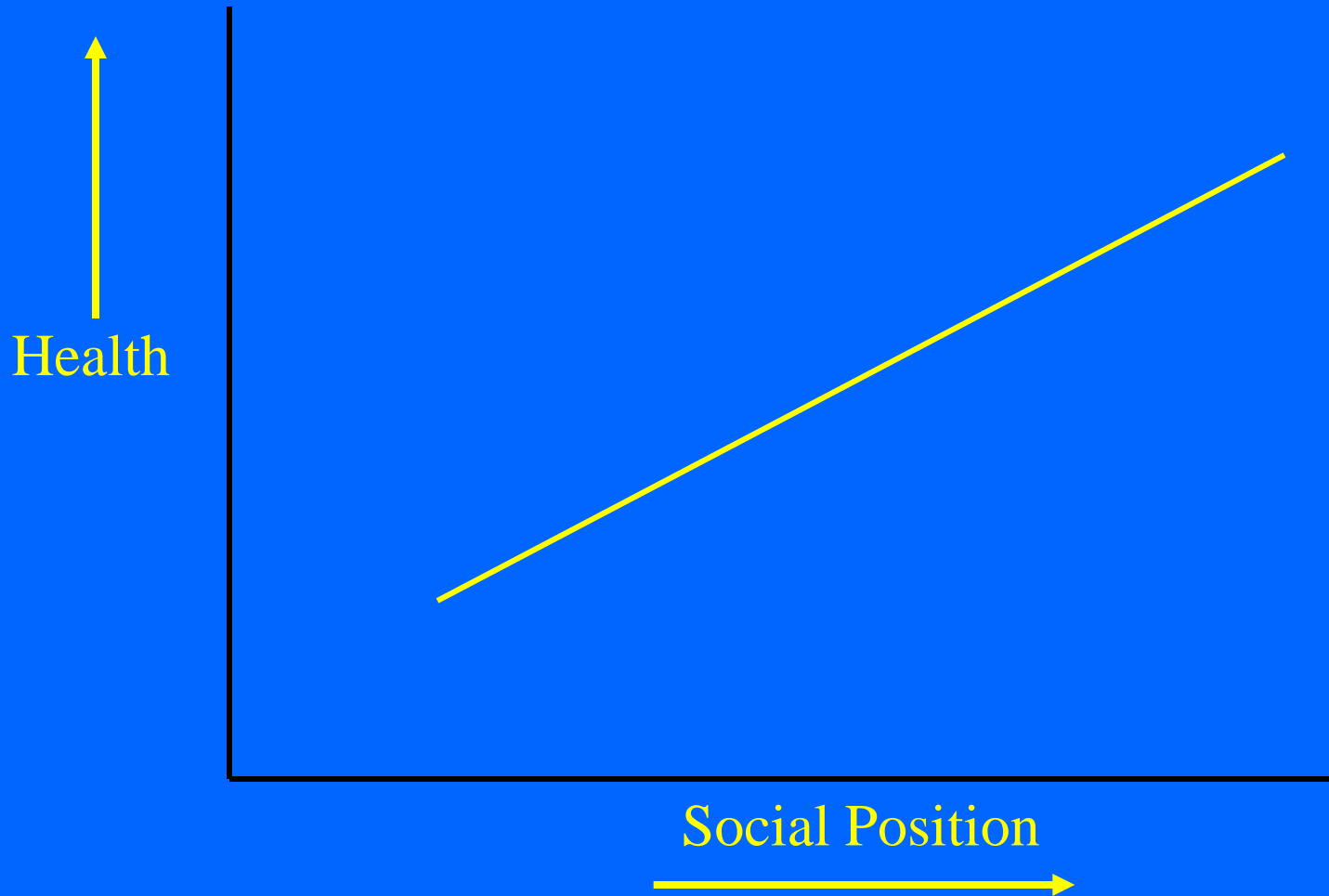
# Health risk factors by SES, NSW, 2012

	SES Quintile	
	Poorest	Richest
Inadequate exercise	48%	38%
Inadequate fruit	48%	43%
Risky alcohol	24%	28%

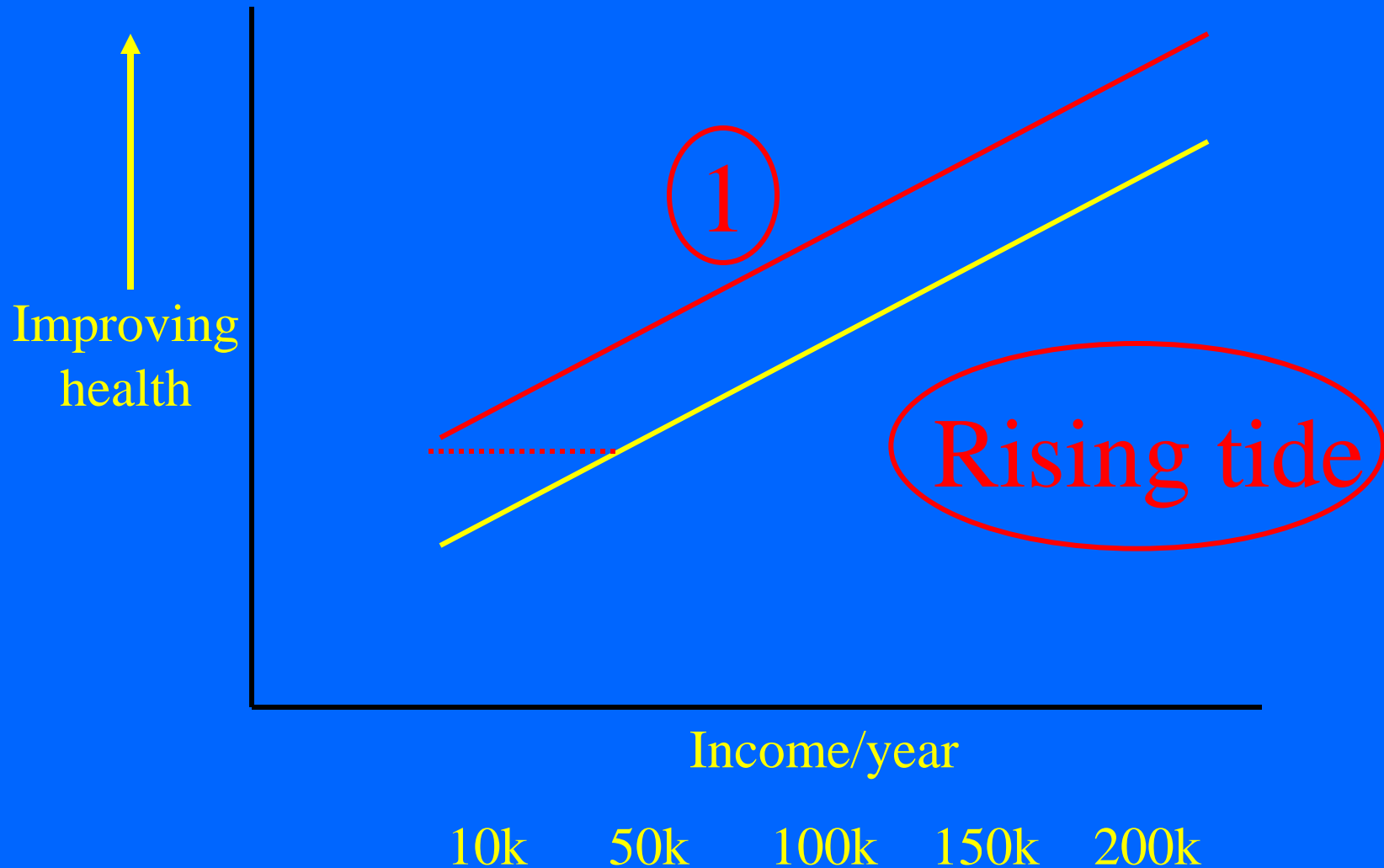
# What has 'Health' been doing?

- Caring for most oppressed and vulnerable
- Caring for disadvantaged communities
- Delivering health services ?a bit more equitably

# Change the gradient



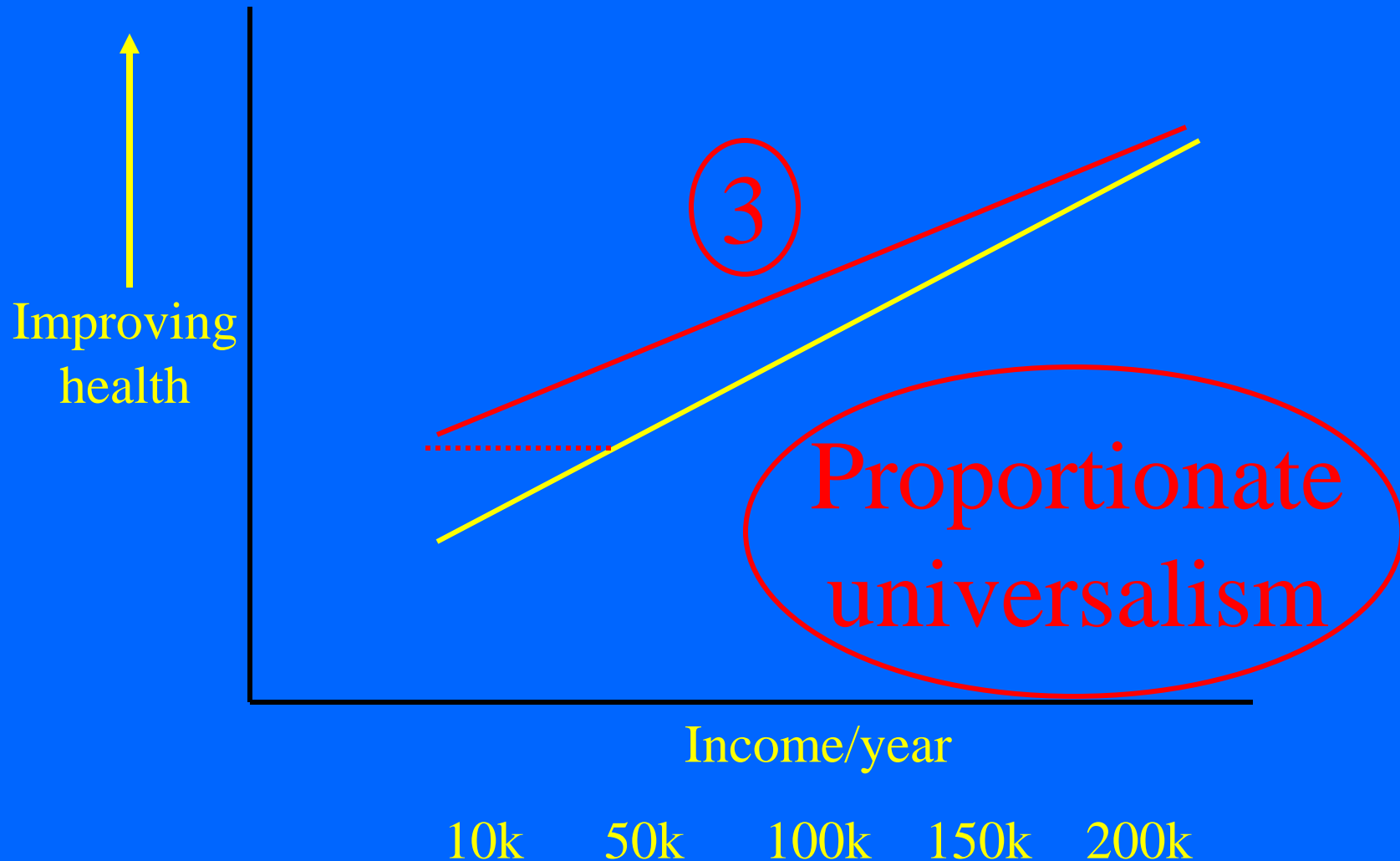
# Changing the gradient



# Changing the gradient



# Changing the gradient










# Ross Gittins, SMH 25/26 June 2016

The [OECD] report says government effectiveness in delivering high quality services – such as education, health and transport – is empirically associated with higher economic growth and productivity, plus lower income inequality.



‘Wentworth the seat of power and wealth, with views to match’

### How Wentworth leads the way compared with the national average

	Wentworth median	National median
<b>House price</b> 	\$2,540,000	\$512,000
<b>Taxable income (2013-14)</b> 	\$112,607	\$56,545
<b>Deduction for negative gearing</b> 	-\$20,248	-\$10,391
<b>Lowest unemployment</b> 	2.10%	5.70%
<b>Amount spent managing tax affairs</b> 	\$997	\$147

SOURCE: DOMAIN GROUP, THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE, ATO, DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT



X5

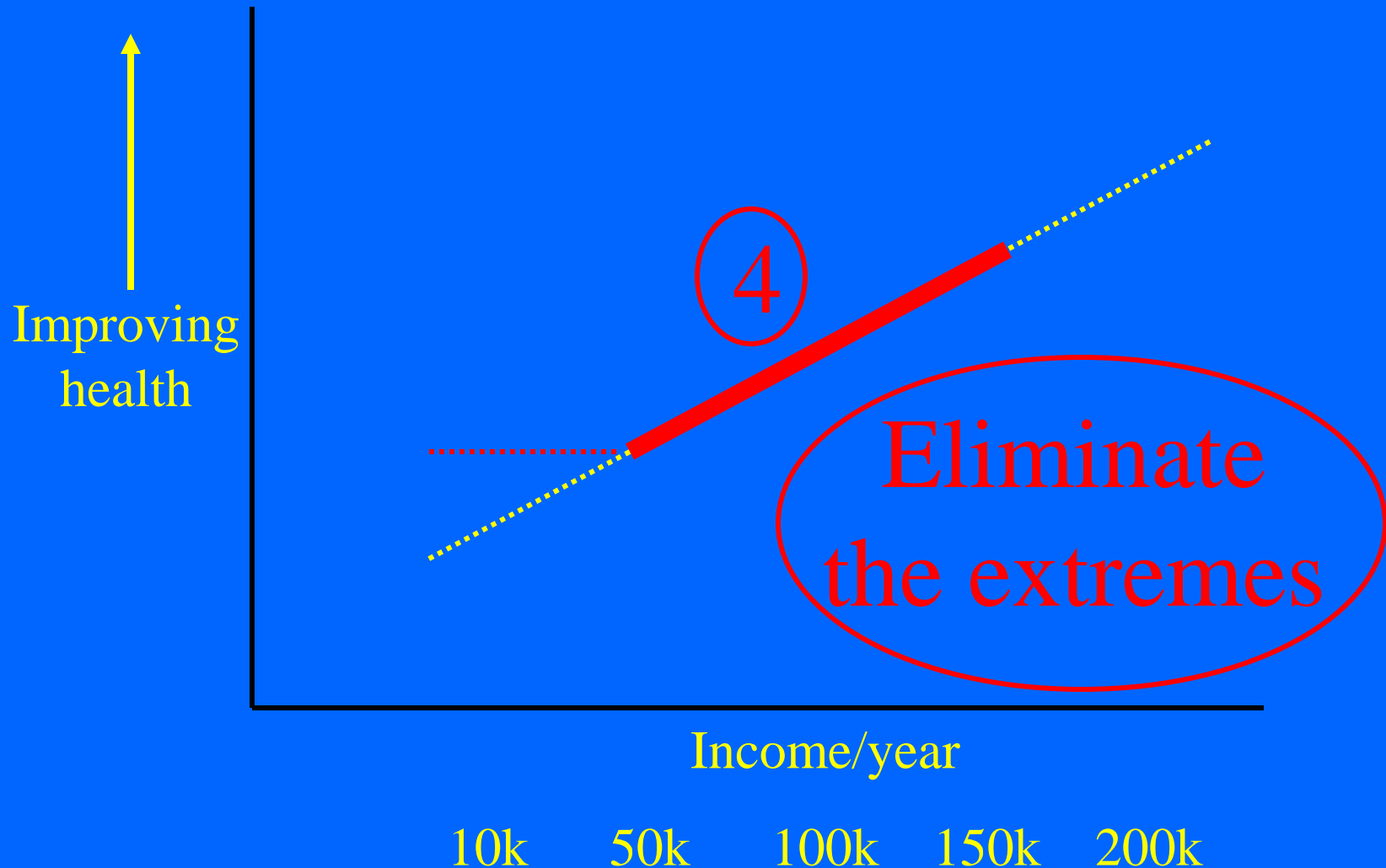
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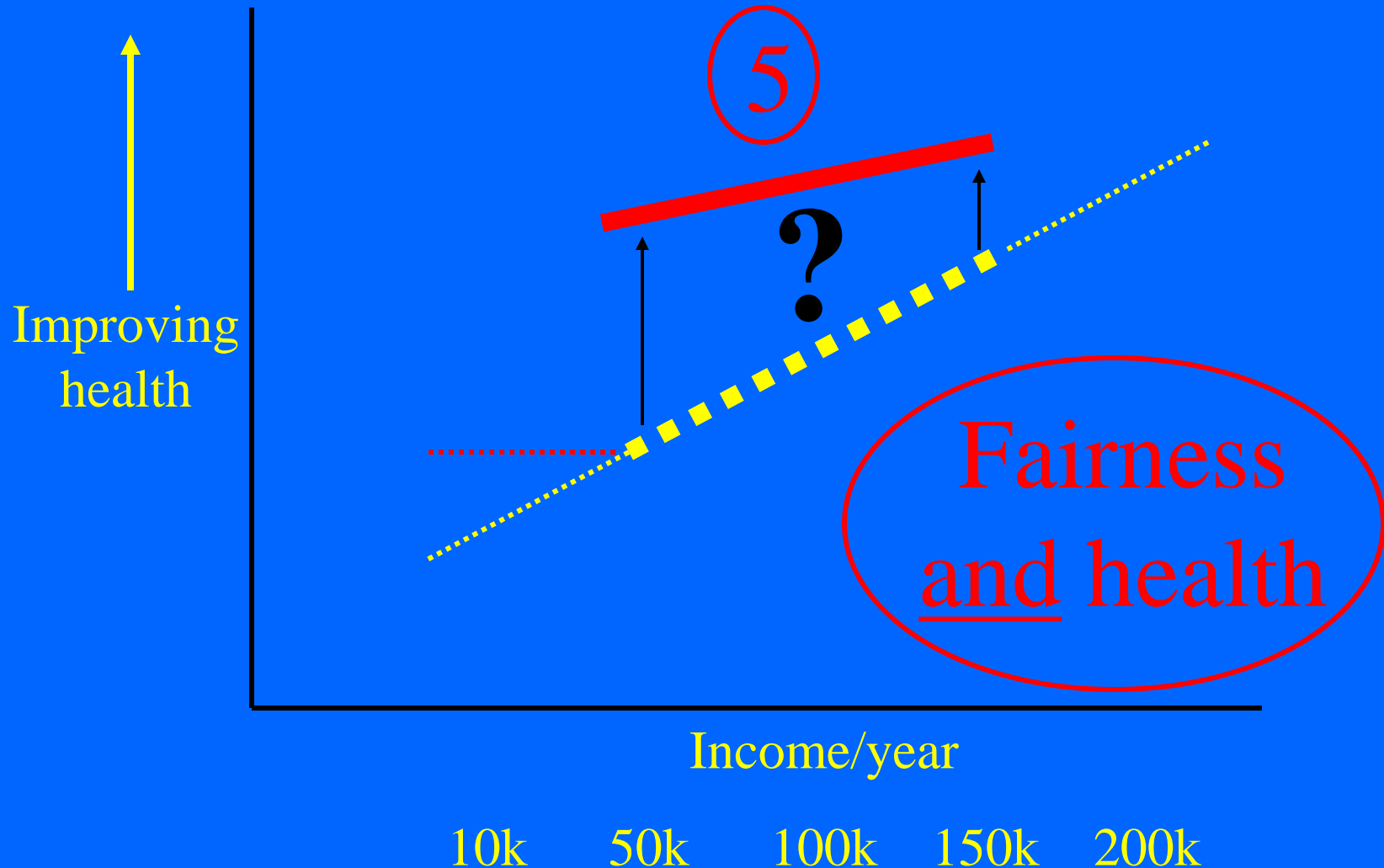
X3

X7

# Changing the gradient



# Changing the gradient



# What must 'Health' do more of?

- Caring for most oppressed and vulnerable
- Caring for disadvantaged communities
- Delivering health services a lot more equitably
  
- Working with others to redistribute the SDoHs
- Monitoring and reporting on health and SDoHs, particularly distribution patterns
- Making a fuss

# Meaning of 'Social' DoH

- That which is socially created
- ... arise from the way we organise society
  - structures, processes and institutions
- NOT that which is natural in origin ...
- ... or even created by god

# Explaining inequalities in health

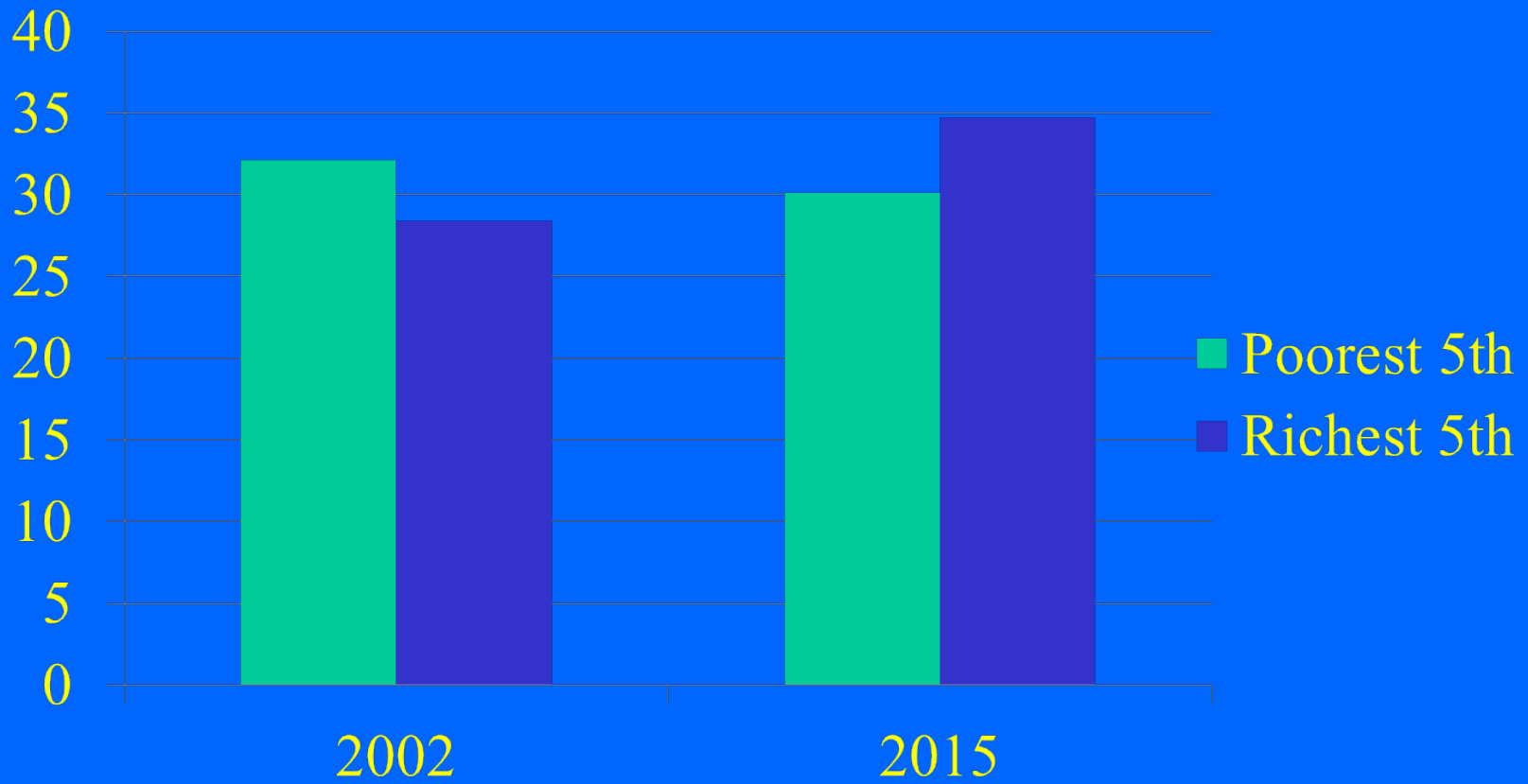
- Divine order – g/God's/s' will
- Artefact – lies, damned lies and statistics
- Natural selection – survival of the fittest
- Social drift – the sick become poor
- Culture – different values and way of life
- Behavioural – bad habits cause bad health
- Materialist – can't afford the basics
- Psychosocial – social hierarchy



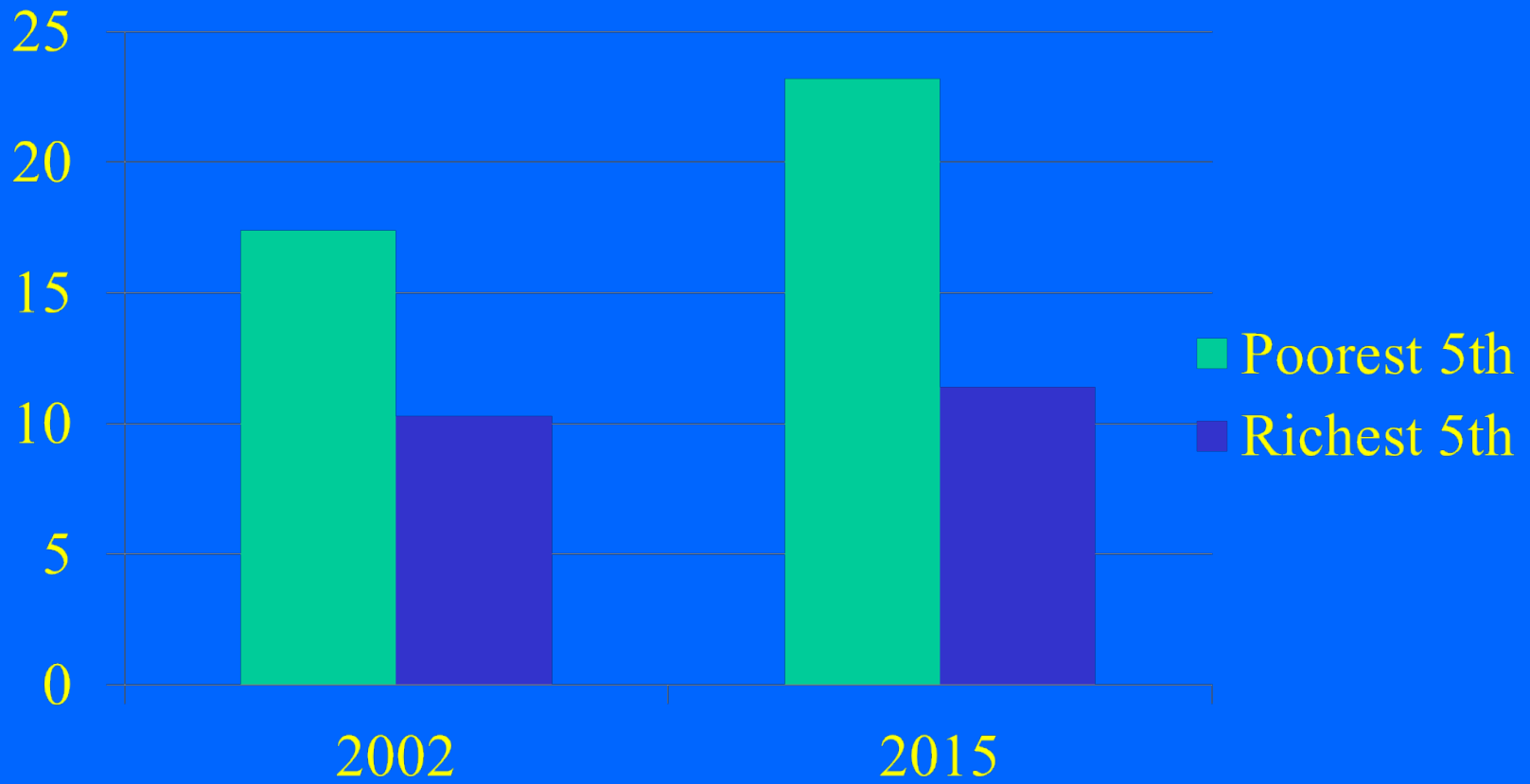
# Actions that flow from explanations

- Divine order – acceptance; prayer and charity to ease disadvantaged's suffering; no change to basic order
- Artefact – ignore; collect better data
- Natural selection – acceptance; approval; welfare to relieve suffering; genetic manipulation
- Social drift – welfare; EEO
- Culture – blame; group responsibility; health promotion
- Behavioural – blame; individual responsibility; health promotion
- Materialist – welfare; living wage; improve opportunities and access; economic equity
- Psychosocial – redistribution of power and resources; social equity

# Overweight, persons 16+years, NSW, 2002 & 20015



# Obese, persons 16+years, NSW, 2002 & 20015



# Effects of changes to the gradient

	1	2	3	4	5
Still some very poor	Yes				
Still some very rich	Yes				
Poor get healthier	Yes				
All get healthier	No				
Health gap	Less				
Social inequalities	Same				

# Wentworth the seat of power and wealth, with views to match

**Analysis**  
Matt Wade

Every election season, Australia's 150 federal seats come into national focus. Obscure local indicators are scrutinised to gauge voter concerns and understand the potential impact of policy proposals, especially in marginal seats.

As I've pored over the local economic data this election campaign, one electorate has stood out time and again - Malcolm Turnbull's harbourside stronghold of Wentworth.

Maybe the biggest thing differentiating the eastern Sydney Liberal bastion is property. Domain Group's data puts Wentworth's median house price at \$2.54 million, easily the highest of any electorate and a cool \$2.03 million above the nationwide median (\$512,000).

The workers of Wentworth have salary packets to match. Taxable incomes average \$112,607, also the highest of any seat according to analysis of tax data by the Australia Institute.

The nation's highest-paid suburb is within Wentworth's boundaries - postcode 2027 - which takes in Turnbull's home in Point Piper along with Darling Point and Edgecliff. The average taxable income in that neighbourhood was a smidgen over \$200,000 in 2013-14.

Australia Institute economist Matt Grudnoff estimates Wentworth's collective taxable income is \$11.5 billion - a figure that compares favourably with the gross domestic product of some sizeable countries in Africa and Asia (in nominal US dollars).

**'The nation's highest-paid suburb is within Wentworth's boundaries - postcode 2027.'**

Wentworth was proclaimed at Federation and has been held by the Liberals since the party was founded in the mid-1940s. Turnbull won the seat in 2004.

The density of well-paid voters in Wentworth means it tops another list. The *Herald* reported earlier in the election campaign that more than one-third of earners will receive the full \$315 annual relief from the decision to lift the threshold, at which the second-top tax rate applies, from \$80,000 to \$87,000. That's a bigger share than any other federal electorate.






Wentworth's residents are enthusiastic property investors and have the largest net rental loss of any electorate. As a result, the average tax deduction for negative gearing in Wentworth is bigger than any seat in the nation at \$20,248.

All that income and investment activity requires lots of tax advice. The average amount spent on managing tax affairs is \$977, more than twice the average in the Melbourne seat of Higgins, the second electorate on that list.

And Wentworth's exceptionalism doesn't end there. Its unemployment rate is just 2.1 per cent. That's 3.6 points below the national average and, again, better than any other federal seat.

There's only one seat that comes close to Wentworth on indicators of wealth and prosperity - Warringah, just across the harbour. That seat, held by Turnbull's leadership rival Tony Abbott, has the second highest median house price, the second highest average taxable income and the second lowest unemployment rate.

## How Wentworth leads the way compared with the national average

	Wentworth median	National median
<b>House price</b>		
	\$2,540,000	\$512,000
<b>Taxable income (2013-14)</b>		
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	-\$20,248	-\$10,391
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SOURCE: DOMAIN GROUP, THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE, ATO, DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT



# Sainsbury's best buys for health services to tackle the social determinants of health

- Universal prevention programs – diet, activity, etc
- Brief interventions for smoking cessation
- Focus on the early years – breastfeeding, nurse home visiting, parenting, child care
- Work with schools to promote health
- Tackle common risk factors for obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, oral health, mental health
- Focus on disadvantaged areas and people
- Make equity an objective for all services