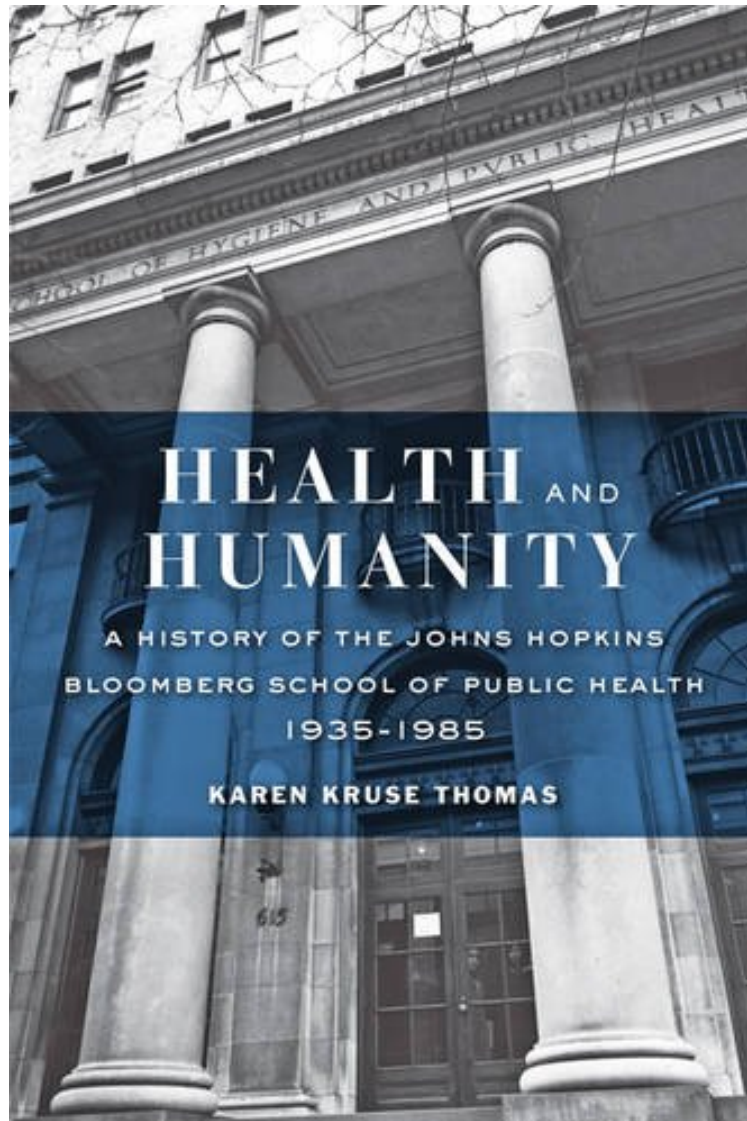


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Health and Humanity: A History of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 1935-1985

Karen Kruse Thomas

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Karen Kruse Thomas : Health and Humanity: A History of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 1935-1985 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Health and Humanity: A History of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 1935-1985:

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complex interrelationships between the school and city

By Dr. Remington Nevin

This impressively detailed and readable work serves as the definitive account of the school during a critical period in its history. Thomas's scholarship helps to place in context the growth of public health education at Johns Hopkins during a tumultuous period of epidemiological transition. Her book should be considered required reading for faculty and students at the school, for residents of Baltimore who wish to better understand the complex interrelationships between the school and city, and for anyone wanting to explore the evolution of public health training in the U.S. and globally.

Between 1935 and 1985, the nascent public health profession developed scientific evidence and practical know-how to prevent death on an unprecedented scale. Thanks to public health workers, life expectancy rose rapidly as generations grew up free from the scourges of smallpox, typhoid, and syphilis. In *Health and Humanity*, Karen Kruse Thomas offers a thorough account of the growth of academic public health in the United States through the prism of the oldest and largest independent school of public health in the world. Thomas follows the transformation of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health (JHSPH), now known as the Bloomberg School of Public Health, from a small, private institute devoted to doctoral training and tropical disease research into a leading global educator and innovator in fields from biostatistics to mental health to pathobiology. A provocative, wide-ranging account of how midcentury public health leveraged federal grants and anti-Communist fears to build the powerful institutional networks behind the health programs of the CDC, WHO, and USAID, the book traces how Johns Hopkins helped public health take center stage during the scientific research boom triggered by World War II. It also examines the influence of politics on JHSPH, the school's transition to federal grant funding, the globalization of public health in response to hot and cold war influences, and the expansion of the school's teaching program to encompass social science as well as lab science. Revealing how faculty members urged foreign policy makers to include saving lives in their strategy of "winning hearts and minds," Thomas argues that the growth of chronic disease and the loss of Rockefeller funds moved the JHSPH toward international research funded by the federal government, creating a situation in which it was sometimes easier for the school to improve the health of populations in India and Turkey than on its own doorstep in East Baltimore. *Health and Humanity* is a comprehensive account of the ways that JHSPH has influenced the practice, pedagogy, and especially our very understanding of public health on both global and local scales.

"... the reader is guided through the history by a chronological organization of chapters according to either unique challenges across different eras or to responses to outside influences (some of which were funding-driven) and by summaries at the end of each chapter that assist in providing overviews of the recently described events." (*American Journal of Epidemiology*)

"The book has numerous fascinating insights into the evolution of Hopkins and the ways that its own history reflects much broader changes in the politics and social history of the nation." (*Bulletin of the History of Medicine*)

About the Author

Karen Kruse Thomas is the staff historian of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is the author of *Deluxe Jim Crow: Civil Rights and American Health Policy, 1935-1954*.