



THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

THE MERRIMON LECTURE  
*Established by the Late Dr. Louise Merrimon Perry*

**DAVID A. HAMBURG, M.D.**  
PRESIDENT, CARNEGIE CORPORATION

*on*

"HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR: A WORLDWIDE OPPORTUNITY"

Thursday, November 13, 1986  
8:00 PM  
103 Berryhill Hall  
Carolina Campus

DAVID ALAN HAMBURG was born in Evansville, Indiana in 1925 and was educated in its public schools. He received the A.B. and M.D. degrees at Indiana University where he was greatly influenced by Professor Tracy Sonneborn, the authority on protozoan genetics. The result has been a career characterized by an evolutionary and developmental approach which has been unique in the world of psychiatry. Dr. Hamburg completed a conventional psychiatric training program after his internship: a year at Yale, 3 years of military psychiatry, and psychoanalytic training. He became a faculty member at the University of Illinois (1953-58), chief of adult psychiatry at the NIMH (1958-1961), then chairman of the department of Psychiatry at Stanford.

During the 15 years at Stanford, he organized a world-class department which included a number of "stars." It was during the Stanford interlude that several of his students of Human Biology were captured by guerrillas in central Africa and had to be rescued. He obtained their freedom after several months of negotiation by applying his formidable interpersonal skills, and the experience changed the direction of his career.

Before the event Dr. Hamburg had concentrated on bringing together dispersed but relevant fragments of psychological and biological knowledge and applying them to problems of growth and development in our affluent American society. The African experience opened his eyes to the horrendous problems of underdeveloped countries and to the desperation which controls the lives of the poor and downtrodden. Translating this to the American scene, he became involved with the problems of the inhabitants of the inner city and other overlooked groups.

In 1975, Dr. Hamburg moved from his professorship at Stanford to Washington, D.C. for a five-year tour as President of the Institute of Medicine. He succeeded in institutionalizing its interest in health promotion and prevention of disease, then went to Harvard in 1980 to head a new division of Health Policy Research and Education. The program which he designed for Harvard is a joint effort of the Medical School, the School of Public Health and the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Working groups have been established on: health science policy, health promotion, mental health policy, early life and adolescent health policy, aging, and the financing of health care. The Harvard plan is a typical Hamburg operation exemplifying his principle of stimulating and encouraging outstanding individuals to pursue novel questions in depth, and it has continued since he departed.

Dr. Hamburg was called to the Presidency of the Carnegie Corporation in 1983. One of our largest foundations, the Carnegie was founded in 1911 for the "advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding." Historically it has concentrated on improving conventional educational methods and institutions. He is redirecting this thrust, focusing its attention especially (though not exclusively) on the problems of adolescence, and on health scientific cooperation with underdeveloped countries. He has recently stated that an "alarming proportion of teen-agers . . . drop out of school, commit crimes, become pregnant, abuse drugs and alcohol, commit suicide or die from injuries, and become disabled mentally and physically." He points out that this is now an endemic condition in our country, particularly in our inner cities, and that information about root causes is largely intuitional and anecdotal. The Corporation plans to study these problems in depth, and will attempt to find solutions by using the best talent available and experts of all types.

In short, Dr. Hamburg is an intellectual and an outstanding leader who is attempting to grapple with and solve some of our most intractable problems. He is superbly equipped and strategically placed for the task he has chosen. His remarkable record and global view of the human condition have led the committee to invite him to be our 1986 Merrimon Lecturer. We are proud to add his name to the list of his distinguished predecessors.



## THE MERRIMON LECTURESHIP IN MEDICINE

*This Lectureship, which was established by the late Dr. Louise Merrimon Perry "in respect and honour of the Great Traditions of the Science and Practice of Medicine," was inaugurated in 1966. Dr. Perry's idea was that the lectures be open to all, but that they be concerned with "the Origins, Traditions and History of the Medical Profession and of that Ethical Philosophy which must dominate this Field of Human Endeavor." It was her intent that the Merrimon Lecturers be distinguished both for scientific or clinical skills and a notably humane attitude toward Medicine.*

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