

The Maternal and Child Health Section
of the Department of Family Science, School of Public Health
& the Maryland Population Research Center

Invite you to a lecture on

Reducing the Global Burden of Mental Illness: Lessons from Developmental
Epidemiology



Stephen Buka, ScD

Professor & Epidemiology Section Head, Brown University

May 2, 2008
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

0124N Cole Student Activities Building
University of Maryland, College Park

The past decade has witnessed a growing convergence between the fields of psychology and public health. Behavioral issues are taking an increasingly prominent role on the list of leading public health concerns worldwide, in terms of both "environmental hazards" that compromise healthy child and adolescent development (such as inadequate parenting or domestic violence) as well as behavioral health outcomes themselves, ranging from substance abuse to violence. At the same time, the field of psychology has gained increasing appreciation for the methods and population perspectives of public health scholarship, including the large scale prospective study designs and analytic techniques often involved in the field of epidemiology. With training in developmental psychology and epidemiology, Dr. Buka has been at the forefront of efforts to integrate these approaches, helping to articulate the concepts, methods and findings of a new field of "developmental epidemiology". In this presentation he will describe some of the recent developments in this area of research and their utility in reducing the current high global burden on human populations caused by mental illness and other forms of behavioral morbidity.