

***ViewPoint** features candid conversations with prominent health behavior scholars. The column focuses on the human or interpersonal side of research and addresses such topics as how renowned researchers were initiated into the world of research, why they continue to do it, personal challenges encountered over the years, ingredients necessary to be a success as an investigator, key characteristics and qualities of inspirational mentors, sources of consternation, challenges that lie ahead, hot topics worthy of pursuit, and books and materials that are must reading. The intention is to share the viewpoints and thinking processes of our leading health behavior scholars. We hope that the column will be an inspiration to young and seasoned scholars alike.*

Dr **Kenneth R. McLeroy** received his master's degree in social psychology from the University of Oklahoma and his doctorate in public health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During his 30 years of professional experience, Dr McLeroy has researched and published in multiple areas, including social ecology, program evaluation, adolescent assets and resources, community capacity, and community-based interventions. He is active with several professional organizations, including serving 2 years as chair of the Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Public Health*; currently as Departmental Editor for the Framing Health Matters section of the *American Journal of Public Health*; past chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences work group to develop public health competencies for the Association of Schools of Public Health; and member of a number of journal editorial boards or advisory boards, including the *American Journal of Health Behavior*, *Health Education Research*, *American Journal of Health Promotion*, *Journal of Primary Prevention*, and *Public Health Reports*.

Am J Health Behav. 2009;33(4):466-478
