

"Helping" sick other

Expected
"Professional"
response

Drawing Closer to
Others:
(altruism)

Intended
Outcome

*Narrative, biopsychosocial,
patient-centered medicine*

Ethics of
Imperfection

Key Underlying Mechanism
Empathy: mutual
recognition

Philosophical Foundation
(Eastern thought): post-
modernism, acceptance of
uncertainty, limited control,
shared vulnerability

"Unprofessional"
response

Withdrawing
from Others
(Othering)

Unintended
Outcome

*Logico-scientific, modernist
medicine*

Key Underlying Mechanism
Fear: vulnerability,
contamination (by
imperfection, pain, death)

Philosophical Foundation
(Western thought): dualism,
positivism, objectivism,
reductionism, control, mastery

Scape-goating