Final Assignment - Critical Report on Contemporary Social Problems

St. John's University - College Advantage Program

Introduction

The purpose of this assignment is to help you define and understand what constitutes a social problem. By reading about problems you consider important, you develop a better awareness of your social world. You can choose a problem in your local community, in the nation, or a more global issue that affects everyone. Writing critically about the problem you select and attempting to develop solutions will help you clarify your own perspective and values. You will be able to look at how the problem originated and examine what can be done about it.

Instructions

- 1. Find 5 articles on a current social problem from a newspaper, magazine, or online news source.
- 2. Use the attached worksheet to analyze the social issue you have chosen.
- 3. Write a 2-page report about the social problem you have chosen (use the worksheet as an outline).
 - a. Paper should be 11-12 point font with 1-inch margins. You work must be original—plagiarism will result in a zero.
- 4. Attach your worksheet and a bibliography (MLA format) to your paper.

Grading

Your will be graded on your understanding of the social problem, your critical analysis of it based on the instructions, and your ability to communicate your thoughts in writing.

Critical Reports on Contemporary Social Problems

Worksheet					
Name:					
A social problem is a condition that cherished values. It is a condition that collective action. Answer the following answers.	a significant numl	ber of peop	le believe shou	uld be remedie	d through
Why is this problem considered	l a social problem?	j.			
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v x				T.	
 When, how, and where did this publicized more? 	problem originate	e? Has it bee	n around a wh	ile? Are we just	seeing it
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4 a			# #		
 What other social problems are the problem that you chose—b 				olems that are r	elated to

· What groups are affected by this problem?

Who is hurt by it? Is anyone immune?

• Think critically: Who benefits (or stands to gain) from this problem?

How does it affect you personally? Think about your own life and how this problem intersects with it.
 Address this question even if you have never encountered the problem personally.

What can be done, and by whom, to alleviate the problem? Address all possible solutions that you can
think of. Most experts might be baffled, so do not be afraid to use your imagination and to list whatever you think will work. (Use separate sheet of paper and attach it to this worksheet.)

Note

1. Kornblum, William & Julian, Joseph (1998). Social Problems (9th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.