

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 1 : Social issue - Wikipedia

Social problems tend to develop when we become neglectful and fail to see that serious problems are developing. Between and , for example, the United States saw a phe-

Top 10 Social Issues in America The United States is going through quite a bit of upheaval lately when it comes to social change. Americans are always very busy, constantly working, or focusing on entertainment as an escape, so it can be tough to sit down and simply think about the issues that we see on the nightly news. Understanding social issues in America is the first step toward a serious discussion about them. Those serious discussions, among communities and government and even the workplace, can help lead to big changes.

Top 10 Social Issues in America There are numerous issues that should be addressed concerning the social issues in America; however, there are some that keep popping to the top of the list whenever the conversation comes up. Health care for everyone is a revolutionary concept in the United States, though other countries have been doing it successfully for years. Now we are in the process of moving toward a system that promises everyone can have the care they need, but there are plenty of snags along the way altogether with those who are against the idea. Unfortunately, this is true of every educational system in the nation from preschool to college. Some states are struggling to simply keep schools open as they try to figure out where all the money has gone. There are still issues with employment today, as companies try to cut costs and downsize their employee pool, and hard-working and qualified employees find it difficult to get a job in any profession, even those in which they are highly proficient. The problem is getting better, but the slow pace has many frustrated. With all the massive storms that are becoming more frequent, and the record droughts and floods across the nation, there is no doubt that something has shaken up our natural world. But what can we do about it? Environmental effects must be addressed, including everything from the crumbling infrastructure of bridges and roads to the fact of climate change, and how it is affecting everything from farming to fishing. What individuals can do to help alleviate problems for the environment should also be seriously considered. The rate of obesity has skyrocketed in recent decades and shows no signs of slowing down. As a result, Americans are dealing with the problems that are often related to obesity, such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, and other ailments that put a strain on the healthcare system, not to mention the pocketbooks of those who wind up in the hospital, battling the problems. The prevalence of fast food places, restaurants that serve massive portions and unhealthy foods that cost less than healthy ones only adds to the issue. Today, there is the battle against ISIS and other terrorists as well as issues with many of our allies; for instance, the ongoing war between Hamas and Israel as well as the unrest in Syria. With the Ebola outbreak that threatens to sweep the world, which is added into the humanitarian problems, foreign relations are definitely a must-address issue that is facing our nation today. Illegal immigration puts a serious strain on our social services, especially when those immigrants happen to be children who find themselves stuck between two worlds. The political spectrum is blazing with solutions to the problem, from building fences around the country to simply allowing an easier way for those immigrants to come here legally. From women in the workplace making less than men to the problems of men wanting to take time off for parenting but finding that their traditional roles hold them in a place that frustrates them, there are problems on both sides of the gender. Add in the problems with violence against women and the backlash against men, even those who do not deserve it, and you have a discussion just waiting to happen. Racism flares up quite a bit lately, especially in terms of people of color, in what might be anything from simple misunderstandings to true corruption. Places like Ferguson, Missouri and Florida are hotbeds of the problem. Government Control Our freedoms are a hot-button issue these days, especially in regards to two points: Government control is also a serious sticking point for many, especially in the wake of revelations by Edward Snowden, the whistleblower who made it clear just how invasive government surveillance of everyday citizens has become. Please Log In or add your name and email to post the comment.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 2 : Top 10 Social Problems in the United States - EnkiVillage

Social Problems and Social Responsibility Perspective - Over the course of this semester, among all the different perspectives, two that stayed on my mind the most are the social problems perspective and the social responsibility perspective.

From New York to Shanghai, cities across the globe are swelling, compounding social and environmental sustainability challenges. Meanwhile, cities are on the frontlines of the climate change fight “ although they generate 70 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, city dwellers have smaller carbon footprints than national averages, according to the International Institute for Environment and Development. In addition to climate change concerns, cities face challenges with communicating urgent but less visible sustainability problems to stakeholders, modernizing water and transportation infrastructure, improving urban design and feeding growing populations. If we are going to do the the things we need to do without melting the planet, we are going to need a lot of good stories. In a similar vein, many water quality issues afflicting municipalities are less visible to stakeholders. The solution A lack of accurate information about sustainability issues is one of the biggest impediments to action, McCarthy said. Pointing to the clean up of the Boston Harbor, she said that without this action Boston likely would not be the thriving place it is today. Financing modern water infrastructure The challenge Water is something many in the United States consider to be a fundamental human right “ or a public good that everyone should have access to regardless of the cost. Struggling cities such as Flint, Michigan, highlight the need for public investment in water infrastructure. The United States experiences hundreds of water main breaks a day, and has received a D rating from national rating systems. The solution There are two primary routes cities can take to solve their water infrastructure crises “ increase water rates or court private investment. Private investors may be able to step in in lieu of raising water rates, but in order for this to be economically feasible thousands of smaller projects across the country need to be bundled. The city relies heavily on rainfall to meet its water demands, which in recent years has been complicated by a severe drought. To improve water capture and efficiency, the city began giving out rain barrels and vouchers for low flow fixtures. Transportation grid determines life quality The challenge Crumbling public transportation infrastructure across the country is setting cities up for worse problems in the future. As urban populations increase, more people will need affordable and efficient means of getting around. The solution While the 20th century transportation grid was designed around the automobile, 21st century cities must embrace an integrated approach to public transportation. Crumbling public transportation infrastructure across the country is setting cities up for worse problems. In many cities across the country, people often take several forms of transportation, including light rail, buses and cars, to get from Point A to Point B. However, reduced faith in public projects has turned citizens off from supporting financing new public transportation projects. Reinventing urban environments The challenge As more people flock to cities in search of social and economic opportunities, cities face challenges with how to best absorb these new populations in the built environment. At the same time, many cities such as San Francisco lack the space to expand outward. The solution "Resiliency is improving social and economic grooves that allows the city to think in a sustainable way," said Jordan Goldstein, principal of regional planning at Gensler Architects. Small farmers should become the "incubators of innovation. Meanwhile, studies are showing that climate change actually may decrease the nutrition of common crops.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 3 : Introduction to Problem Solving

Youth unemployment is a major problem in many countries. In the United States, youth employment has gone down in the past five years, but it is still at percent, while the overall unemployment rate is just percent. In Canada, the youth unemployment rate is percent, while the national.

This article is part of the Annual Meeting of the Global Future Councils Cities, not nation states, are the dominant form of human civilization in the 21st century. Humanity transitioned from a rural to a primarily urban species - homo urbanis - at breathtaking speed. There are thousands of small and medium-sized cities along with more than 30 megacities and sprawling, networked metropolitan areas - conurbations - with 15 million residents or more. Yet despite these massive transformations in how people live and interact, our international affairs are still largely dictated by nation states, not cities. This is neither fair nor tenable. Cities are beginning to flex their muscles on the international stage. Metropolitan regions and special economic zones are linking global cities through transnational supply chains. A growing number of mega-regions, such as those linking cities in Mexico and the US, transcend borders. In the process, cities are collectively forging common regional plans, trading partnerships, and infrastructure corridors. The spectacular rise of cities did not happen by accident. Cities channel creativity, connect human capital, and when well governed, drive growth. Many enlightened and open-minded mayors are stepping up even as national politicians step back. Working in partnership with business and academia, a number of them are embracing robust environmental standards, welcoming new migrants, and aggressively promoting diversity and tolerance. This is in stark contrast to an alarming number of national leaders who are fuelling xenophobia, bigotry and polarization. To make matters worse, nation states are weakening: Although a growing number of large cities are punching above their weight economically, most of them still lack real political power. This is to some extent by design. Until recently, cities were systematically excluded from international decision-making. The UN, for example, routinely left cities out of debates on urban development, migration, health and security. So have most countries, including on issues critical to urban areas. Cities also have struggled to secure credit, loans and grants from international financial institutions, including the World Bank. Despite trends toward devolution and decentralization in North America and Western Europe, nation states are still reluctant to cede real power to sub-national authorities. As a result, many cities lack the constitutional authority and legal discretion to take crucial decisions. This deficit in political power is even more glaring among cities in low and middle-income countries, especially South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. In many emerging markets, political power is intensely concentrated in the federal government with municipal authorities appointed by the executive. Yet it is precisely these fast-growing cities that will require greater authority to act locally - not least owing to the unregulated nature of urbanization. Urban populations in Asia and Africa alone are expected to swell by another 2 billion. Yet many city leaders in these regions are effectively ciphers with no real latitude. The chief minister also lacks any political incentives to transfer power to an elected and ambitious mayor. The case of Mumbai is instructive. This sprawling city of Mumbai alone has a bigger economy than Pakistan or Bangladesh. Not surprisingly, national and state politicians suffer limited electoral pain and often win elections when extracting revenues from Mumbai and redistributing resources to other regions. But transferring more decision-making power from the state to the elected city government is crucial not just for the survival of Mumbai, but for that of the state and nation too. There are a few ways in which this process could be expedited, including a powerful, bottom-up demand by Mumbai residents to change the status quo; recognition by politicians that the urban voter is a viable political constituency; and, the judicial route, where the supreme court forces a devolution of power to urban local bodies. But change is coming: The last few decades have seen an explosion of city networks - more than at last count - addressing everything from urban governance and trade to climate and safety. Around of them are international and they are helping cities to amplify their voices on the international stage. The C40 helps cities decarbonize, facilitates opportunities to

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

exchange best practices, and leapfrog old technologies. As of , the network has enabled more than 9, cities representing million people to agree on a global pact to meet - and ideally exceed - the Paris Climate Agreement targets. There are already 8, cities that have set up solar power farms, more than 1, relying on hydroelectric power and more than that are almost entirely dependent on renewable energy. When it comes to public security, there is the European Forum for Urban Security EFUS and the Strong Cities network , both working to promote evidence-based approaches to crime prevention and the fight against radicalization and extremism. An exciting new politics of empowered cities is emerging in which metropolitan leaders and urban residents are demanding a seat at the decision-making table. Cities are on the frontline of most contemporary global threats, including sea level rise, growing air pollution, deepening inequality, mass migration and terrorism. Mayors and urban residents cannot afford to be complacent in the wake of massive floods, storm surges and the salinization of land. More fundamentally, cities “ especially large global cities ” have always been the vanguard of openness, pushing for open borders, markets, societies and minds. Most modern progressive social movements originated in cities precisely because they instinctively accommodate difference, disagreement and diversity. They reshape democratic governance from below. Refugees are welcomed as they arrive at the main railway station in Dortmund, Germany Image: From Brazil and the US to Hungary and Poland, nationalist politicians are seeking to tighten borders, restrict in-migration and push back against diversity. Large and medium-sized cities “ especially in North America and Western Europe ” are forging networks of solidarity across international and national boundaries. These glimmers of soft power are not abstract: In , a Global Parliament of Mayors was created to help cities assert their political authority and drive metropolitan innovation. While only in its third year, this year it assembled close to mayors in Bristol , in alliance with the 1, members of the US Conference of Mayors , to agitate for change on issues of migration, health and security. The parliament may prove a nimble and flexible force in an era where existing multilateral structures are struggling to address global threats. In addition, it could potentially help hasten greater devolution of power in Asia and Africa.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 4 : Problem Solution Essay Topics with Sample Essays | Owlcation

Cities are laboratories for innovation. They're also the lifeblood of our democracy, acting as the focal points for social movements and civil rights wins that are playing out in real-time. But.

Determine whether the solution worked. Discussion of the Problem Solving Guidelines I. Problem exploration The problem is investigated, broken into subproblems, terms are defined. A determination is made about the nature of the problem sociological, personal, technological, historical. Some research is made into whether or not it has been met in the past, and if so, how. State what the problem is. Does it have multiple aspects? If so, what are they? This should include a written description of the problem in the clearest way it can be put. But the problem should always be stated in your own words, too. Make the problem your own, and do not let it become attached to the verbal clothing in which it was originally delivered to you. A useful aspect of any definition or problem statement is to state what the thing is not. Restate the problem in entirely different words, or in a completely different way. Do this several different times three to eight is recommended. Again, the purpose of this process is to break the problem away from confusing or restricting verbal maps of it, so that the "problem in itself" can be isolated. For example, "Carry the filing cabinet upstairs to my office. State the problem more generally or more broadly. Put it abstractly or even philosophically. The idea here is to find out whether the given wording of the problem is really only a specific statement of a more general problem. Compare the difference in orientation: Design a better mattress, or Design a better bed, or Design a better way to sleep. The mind moves from considerations of springs and padding to the possibilities of a water bed, air flotation, maybe even an armchair design bed. How about sleeping standing up? Or in a big armchair? Or floating in a tank of water? Define the key terms of the problem. What is an X? Use synonyms; move from genus to species or species to genus. Continue to define in more and more general or specific ways. This kind of definition allows the breaking of the problem into attributes, components, and general features. The result is to shake loose some possible solutions. Rides cost a lot to build and when people get tired of them they cost a lot to replace. Moreover, they take up a lot of space. What is a "ride"? A feeling or process of going from beginning to end and seeing or experiencing things along the way, usually exciting and different. Build a ride simulator. Star Tours at Disneyland. A programmable simulator allows bumps and motion. A film creates visual effects. And when ride gets tiring, a new film and a new program of different bumps yields a new ride. Clarify anything about the problem that is ambiguous or uncertain. Often, problems as given are unclear in their original form. Does this mean choose better articles, change the typefaces and layout, get classier advertisers, get a bigger circulation, or what? Articulate the assumptions being made about the problem and describe the way a solution would have to work. Assumptions can be tricky because they tend to be automatic and submerged--not consciously made. This articulation step in the problem solving procedure involves the conscious listing of all assumptions that can be identified. The listing is without prejudice or judgment or hostility. Just list as many as can be thought of. It is especially important when listing assumptions to list the extremely obvious ones, because often it is those that later turn out to be alterable. Examine these assumptions to discover if they are necessary, not necessary, or uncertain as to their necessity. Many assumptions are quite necessary, of course. In the problem, Develop a better way to destroy kidney stones, one obvious and necessary assumption is that the patient should be alive after the procedure. But often assumptions turn out to be made for no good reason--that is they are not necessary assumptions. These can be challenged and new routes to success can then be discovered. Research into past approaches to the problem or to similar problems will help you get new ideas as well as gain understanding of the nature and environment of the problem itself. If your problem is to improve self-stick brackets, you might do some research into how glues work. Discuss the problem with someone else. Listen to your own explanation. Discussion has two important features. First, there is the possibility that you will find a solution in the head of another person. Discussion enables you to get information, suggestions, and ideas. So even though your friend can never understand your problem

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

technically, emotionally, intellectually, artistically, or whatever, you can still gain valuable insight by discussing it and by hearing a response. Secondly, discussing your problem with someone allows you to see what you really think. Philosophers and writing theorists have long noted that people think and work out ideas as they talk. Francis Bacon noted that one value of friendship was to have someone to talk to so that you can see how your ideas look when they are turned into words. Some people have reported remarkable insights just by talking to their pets, where no intellectual feedback from the "listener" was possible. So when you discuss your problem or idea, listen to yourself as well as to the other person. Explain why the problem is a problem. What are its negative or undesirable features? Again, a couple of functions here. One, by explaining why the problem is problematic, you discover more about its nature and whether it really is a problem. So this explanation phase allows you to discover just whether a problem is real. Next, by explaining in detail the negatives of the problem, a set of more specific targets can be identified, thus better lending themselves to being solved. For example, first statement: Here at the amusement park, our problem is that rides are expensive and people get tired of them. Why is this a problem? Because we have to replace the rides so people will continue to come to the park. The negatives are that we have to 1 keep tearing the ride down, 2 building a new ride, 3 spending a lot of money, 4 disturbing the amusement park with major construction, 5 advertising the new ride, etc. Look at the problem from different viewpoints. How would different people look at it? What are the thoughts of those who cause it, those who suffer from it, those who have to fix it, those who have to pay for it, etc.? Remember that your view of reality, as an intelligent, concerned, conscientious, middle class person, is only one view. By imaginatively taking on the viewpoints of various other people affected by a particular problem, you can sometimes discover solutions that you as yourself would never think of. One way to proceed would be to write out the viewpoints of various people. How do the people doing the littering view the situation? Are they thinking, "I like littering? What about the person who has to pick up the trash? What are his thoughts? What about the taxpayers, or the beachgoers? Again, suppose your job is to improve the juvenile justice system. Imagine that you are, in turn, the juvenile offender, the parents, the victim, the sheriff or arresting officer, the head of Juvenile Hall, the judge, a man on the street, and so forth. By constructing these different viewpoints, you will be able to generate solutions that meet some of the cynical, prejudiced, or even thoughtful attitudes of the various parties. We, as users of medical services, often complain about the poor service, lack of knowledge, and high costs. What does the doctor think? Addressing his concerns as well as our own will be the most likely way to improve the situation, rather than, say, passing new laws based only upon our own viewpoint. The importance of being able to see different sides or angles has been reinforced in folk wisdom worldwide. The French have a saying, for example, "To know all is to forgive all. Ask a series of clarifying whys. By asking "why" of every statement of the problem, possible solution, or identified goal, clearer definitions are made.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 5 : The 5 toughest challenges tomorrow's cities face | GreenBiz

Social problems, also called social issues, affect every society, great and small. Even in relatively isolated, sparsely populated areas, a group will encounter social problems. Part of this is due to the fact that any members of a society living close enough together will have conflicts.

Share2 Shares The difference between where human civilization started and where it is today is mind-boggling. Despite our experiences and great achievements, there are still a lot of problems that plague contemporary society. In order to tackle these problems, innovation is going to be needed. The ideas in this list go against the norm or what is expected, but are they too radical? Or could they help save the world? In the United States, youth employment has gone down in the past five years, but it is still at In Canada, the youth unemployment rate is One way to stem this problem is for employers to offer young people a shortened workweek. Instead of a full-time job, they would start off at 80 percent of the workload and paycheck. This would create 10â€”20 percent more jobs in the market. The reason to direct this initiative at young people instead of implementing it for everyone is a phenomenon called the endowment effect. A shortened workweek for a large segment of the workforce has also been suggested as a solution to aid the economy. In order to even slow it down, some innovative ideas are going to be needed. During the eruption, 20 million tons of sulfate particles were spewed into the atmosphere, which cooled the Earth by half a degree for the next 18 months. Through the hose, they would pump some type of particle into the air that would reflect sunlight and cool down the planet. They are worried that geoengineering may affect the ecosystem and weather patterns. Undeterred, Project SPICE is currently looking for the most suitable particle and the best delivery system to hopefully cool down the planet and slow down the effects of climate change. He said that the way to control gun violence is to make bullets outrageously expensive. While it is an incredibly insightful joke, bullet control was actually put forth by New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan in His idea to stem gun violence was to put an exorbitant tax on certain types of bullets. The argument against overpriced ammo was that the government would be interfering with the free market. Another possible solution for stopping some gun violence is to use smart gun technology. These smart guns would ensure that only an individual, or a few people, could fire the gun. This type of technology, which was utilized by James Bond in Skyfall, has been around for a few years, and a number of companies have developed different techniques to ensure that only registered people can fire it. One technology utilizes fingerprints. Another company uses a wristwatch that sends off a frequency to the gun and activates it. Yet another uses hand biometrics , and those are just a few. These guns could significantly cut down the 11, deaths caused by stolen guns. Smart guns are not sold in the United States, despite studies that have shown that most gun owners support the idea. Gun owners would rather have immediate access to a reliable gun. Also, strong supporters of the Second Amendment think that this could lead to stronger control over the sale and use of firearms. Currently, there are 60 million displaced people, and 20 million of them are refugees. No matter where the millions of refugees end up, it will be a complicated ordeal for the hosting country and for the refugees themselves. One solution to the problem may be to simply give refugees their own new country. While there is definitely some truth to that, a permanent refugee nation has a lot of humanitarian benefits as well. Notably, a working nation with an economy, permanent housing, and social services is much better than the inhumane refugee camps in which people find themselves living for years without a job and relying on aid. Conversely, refugees would be able to work and live in the Refugee Nation, meaning that less aid will be needed in the long run. The ultimate goal would be for the Refugee Nation to develop its own organic government. Of course, creating a new nation from scratch with millions of refugees from different countries would be an incredibly complex task. Besides logistics, it would also require a lot of compromise between nations with conflicting views on how to govern. In the US, which has the highest GDP in the world, there were over , people who were in homeless shelters on any given night in January Almost a quarter of them were children under age There are a few suggestions on how

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

homelessness can be tackled. One of the more innovative ways is simply to build permanent housing where people can live for free. That happened in Medicine Hat, Alberta, and as a result, it will be the first city in North America to eliminate homelessness. Medicine Hat will provide free housing to anyone who has to stay in an emergency center for more than 10 days if they do not have a safe place to go afterward. The logic behind permanent housing makes fiscal sense as well, because it is much more cost-effective than traditional homeless shelters. Even a fraction of these abandoned buildings could be converted into housing for the homeless. This is exactly how a nonprofit organization called Breaking Ground tackles homelessness. They fix dilapidated buildings in New York City and make them high-quality transitional apartments, complete with social services for its residences. Their first project was converting the Times Square Hotel in , and it is still open today. Of course, some people will argue that this is just the government giving free houses to lazy people, but this is an unfortunate stigma connected to homelessness. Many people are homeless due to mental illness , not because they are lazy. Alternatively, they can await trial either in a county jail or a maximum security prison. The bail system has become a major problem among people with low income because they may not be able to afford bail. While sitting in prison, even without being convicted, they will also probably lose their job. This will decrease the amount of people in prison, and it keeps innocent and nonviolent offenders out of prison altogether. In lieu of bail, pretrial service specialists would decide if someone is a flight risk, could be a danger to the public, or both. When the court date is coming up, pretrial services would call the person to remind them to show up at their court date. But since the Internet has become more popular, mail has decreased in volume, and private mail services have become more popular. Other countries like Canada and Australia have a similar problem. In order to make the post office relevant in contemporary times, some post offices in Europe and Asia offer banking services to generate revenue. Looking to this model, US presidential candidate Bernie Sanders has suggested converting post offices into banks. It would be relatively inexpensive because the USPS already has a large network with outlets in almost every city and town in the United States. Converting post offices to banks would have a twofold effect: Instead, they are forced to go to check-cashing outlets that blatantly exploit them with outrageous fees and service charges. According to projections by the United Nations, the population of Earth will be 9. Obviously, our food production has kept pace with our population in the past, despite recurring doomsday predictions. Over the next 35 years, production will rise 38% percent, but it needs to rise 60% percent. In the experimental lab at MIT, plants are monitored by 30 sensors, which send information back to a computer every eight seconds regarding how much carbon and nutrients the crops need. Using the sensors, the crops will get everything they need in low quantities, making the process of growing food much more efficient. In fact, it will use 98 percent less water than conventional farms. It will also quadruple the growth speed of vegetables while eliminating the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Finally, the nutrient density of the crops will be doubled , and the flavor can be strengthened or changed. Besides making the process of growing crops more efficient, CityFARM will also eliminate another big problem, which is the shipment of food. Sometimes, food is shipped long distances, a wasteful use of resources that leaves a large carbon footprint. Using the CityFARM technology, every city could have one block dedicated to these farms, and it would feed the entire population. The leader of the project, Caleb Harper, says that the plan is to build one billion of these tiny urban farms in cities around the world. In addition to that, 2. Sewer sludge is put into the Omniprocessor, where it is boiled in a large tube. The water vapor escapes from the waste and goes into a cleaning system inside the machine. Within minutes, it is filtered, and clean water is available. One machine can continually provide clean water to , people. But what really makes the Omniprocessor so innovative is that the leftover waste is turned into steam, which powers the machine. If there is leftover power, it goes to powering the community. The Omniprocessor is personally supported by Bill Gates , who drank its water and said he would drink it every day. The project to build and install them throughout the world is also supported by the Gates Foundation. Philippe Douste-Blazy, a French cardiologist and a special adviser to the secretary general of the UN in charge of innovative financing for development, tested this theory using a service charge on tickets for flights out of France. He says that public

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

health is a cornerstone of a good economic system. Douste-Blazy hopes that this type of financing could lead to greater global stabilization. Robert Grimminck is a Canadian freelance writer. You can friend him on Facebook , follow him on Twitter or on Pinterest , or visit his website.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 6 : How cities, not states, can solve the world's biggest problems | World Economic Forum

some social problems by maintaining that they, in fact, contribute to the stability of calendrierdelascience.comgh these negative conditions harm individuals or segments of society such as the family, the economy, or ethnic groups, the structural-

Informal conversations Listening and observation at gatherings held for other purposes Learning as much as you can about community history. Social determinants of health and development often run deep and go back generations. The Battle of Montaperti was fought between the Italian cities of Florence and Siena, then independent republics, in Apply critical thinking principles to analyze the results of the assessment. Very briefly, these include: Make sure your information is accurate. Consider the reliability of your sources. Identify the interests being served or ignored. Ask the right questions. Some of the questions you might want to ask are: Whom does the issue affect? What do those affected have in common? Geographical origin or location? Behavior or personal practices? What is the history of the issue in the community? When did it become an issue? What else was happening at the time, both in the community and in the society at large? Who stands to gain, and who stands to lose “ socially, economically, or politically ” if nothing changes? Who stands to gain, and who stands to lose if changes are made? Is there a win-win option, where everyone benefits? Who has the power to create change in this situation? What are reasons they may or may not do so? Where is the issue centered, geographically and socially? Are there economic aspects to the issue? What would it cost to change the situation or to leave it as it is, and who would bear the cost in either case? At that point, you have an answer that identifies the root of the problem, and therefore implies a solution. Differences between them and others in the society in the level of their exposure to those problems. Differences in their vulnerability to those problems. Differences in the consequences to them of those problems. An effective intervention has to break that cycle by understanding the social determinants behind it and changing them and the conditions that they cause in a truly profound way. By doing so, you can help people not only improve their health and that of their children, but move up the ladder of economic and social status, thus cementing their gains, and securing them for the next generation. This may seem like an impossible task. How can you change a society? Major social change often takes not a single type of intervention, but an all-out assault on a number of social factors over a long period of time. Rather than trying to concentrate on the huge issues, you can intervene in the environmental and policy conditions that reflect social determinants and that can more easily affect differences in exposure, vulnerability, and consequences. Environmental here refers not just to the natural environment, but to the total environment of the people in question. That includes the built environment “ buildings, roads, power sources, farms, etc. Environmental and policy conditions include: Individual and group knowledge and experience affect the availability of resources for supporting health and well-being. A villager who understands how to advocate with the government for clean drinking water, for instance, can greatly enhance the health prospects of his community. Helping people gain knowledge and skills can be an intervention in itself, or be part of a broader intervention that nonetheless provides participants with tools to safeguard or improve their health and their lives. Some community development programs, for example, include literacy classes as part of the support they provide. Providing knowledge of specific health issues and practices can have a dramatic effect on the health of a community. Safe sex practices, for instance, can cut down on the incidence of HIV infection, and information about the treatment of infant diarrhea can drastically reduce infant mortality. In both these examples, addressing a specific issue serves to address efficacy, and, in the case of literacy training, economic inequality as well. Depending on how programs are structured, most can also address social connectedness, either by bringing a community or population group together to work on an issue, or by creating a community among those involved in literacy classes, for example. Support within and between groups. Emotional support from family and friends, such as for the stress of difficult work or family situations, helps us cope with situations that cannot be easily changed. Links

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

with other groups, such as faith communities or non-governmental organizations NGOs , can provide access to goods and services. Just as important, joining with other groups to work for increased resources and better health conditions can permanently improve the quality of community life. Again, an intervention to connect people or groups with others may stand alone, or may be integrated into a larger concept. A government agency might encourage groups to combine across ethnic or geographic lines in order to receive funding or training for health and community development projects. In a situation where the government is perceived as withholding support, a group of villages without access to health care, for instance, might come together to petition the government for a centrally located health clinic that would be easily reachable for all of them. Groups like this represent the most fundamental kind of community organizing , which brings groups and communities together to advocate for their interests and to take control of what happens to them. Barriers to, access to, and opportunities for resources and services. Some social groups, such as women or ethnic minorities, face discrimination and other barriers in gaining access to education, jobs, and basic services. The quality and availability of even basic education and health services are unfairly distributed among social groups. In cases where education, jobs, services, and other necessities are unequally distributed, the appropriate action may be to organize the community, as above, to demand equal treatment; to use the court system to try to gain access and opportunity; or to attempt to address the issue locally, using available community assets and the initiative of local people. If the initiative comes from the government, it might create programs that remove or address barriers to opportunities and services, such as discrimination, unaffordable expense, geographic isolation, lack of transportation, illiteracy, and lack of job skills. Research has long shown that people are more apt to take or continue action if it rewards them with goods, peer approval, pleasure, status, satisfaction, or the desired results than if it punishes them with high costs, disapproval, misery, loss of status, dissatisfaction, or frustration. A possible remedy here is, as above, to improve access and break down barriers to access to goods and services, thus making the attempt to obtain them less frustrating and more likely to be repeated. If the intervention involves action by participants, actions should be planned in small steps, so that people can easily experience success, at least at the beginning. A series of small successes is more likely to develop a sense of efficacy and keep people moving ahead than a grand failure. Exposure to or protection from hazards. Contact with environmental hazards “ polluted water, toxic substances or dangerous practices in the workplace, endemic diseases such as malaria, widespread violence “ increase risk for disease or injury. By the same token, actions taken to reduce or eliminate those hazards “ drilling a new well, instituting protective workplace safety procedures, disease eradication campaigns, negotiating a peace treaty “ work to make disease or injury less probable. An intervention to decrease or prevent exposure to hazards can take any one of several forms. A different approach might involve advocacy for government assistance or services “ drilling a well, installing a sewer system, establishing a health clinic, instituting public transportation, etc. A third possibility that also addresses both social connectedness and efficacy might involve an initiative to change the behavior of “ or prosecute “ a corporation or other party responsible for pollution, unsafe workplace practices, illegal dumping, shoddy and dangerous construction, selling harmful products, or other potential hazards. Policies that affect community health and development may be formal or informal, and may be those of governmental or non-governmental bodies e. They may relate to the provision of goods and services e. Changing or instituting policy is generally a matter of advocacy. An initiative aimed at policy change can start at any level. It may begin with government, with the realization by legislators, other elected or appointed officials, or an agency that some sizeable group of citizens is in danger of, or already suffering from, disparities in health. It may begin with an NGO or grassroots organization that works with or is composed of that group. Or it may begin with the people themselves, who have simply come to the end of their patience with their situation. Policy change is often difficult, but, in the long run, it can be the most effective means of improving health and development outcomes, because it can lead to real social change. The ideal intervention would be one that either originates with, or involves those who will benefit from the change in question, since that gives them control over what

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

happens to them. Several principles, assumptions, and values help guide collaborative action to create conditions that promote health and development. Priority issues and strategies for collaborative action are best determined by people most affected by the concern. This can enhance community efficacy and empowerment, and is also most likely to address the issues most important to those involved. Since health and development outcomes are caused by multiple and interrelated factors at multiple levels, single interventions are likely to be insufficient. This suggests the importance of comprehensive interventions that address environmental and policy conditions at all levels. Multi-pronged, multi-faceted interventions are the ideal, and are, in general, necessary to create real and permanent social change. There are at least two ways to deal with this reality: One is to form a coalition, pulling in other organizations – including national and international NGOs and even the government where possible – to mount a collaborative effort on many fronts. Then you can go on to the next issue and the next, always maintaining and consolidating gains as you go. In this way, you can end up with an effort that addresses the full range of social determinants, without exceeding your capacity at the beginning. Collaborative efforts must bring about change in multiple sectors and systems. This requires leadership to engage groups with different interests, such as those in business or education, to share resources and responsibilities in common purpose. Again, depending on your resources, even a coalition or other collaborative body might have to take this one step at a time. The aim of support organizations is to build capacity so that local people can take action over time and across issues. Capacity-building involves helping local people gain the skills and knowledge – and establish or strengthen the community organizations and institutions – necessary to allow them to take action and control their own fate. At some point – earlier is usually better than later, and from the beginning is often best – local people have to be directly involved in planning and carrying out strategies for improving their situation. Taking on responsibility and leadership positions builds both a sense of efficacy and connectedness in the local population, and also puts their future where it belongs – in their own hands. Health and development efforts should involve collaborative partners as catalysts for change. Partners must convene conversations that lead to addressing the issue, broker relationships, and develop resources for those doing the work of changing communities and systems. Partners can be NGOs or community health or development organizations, government agencies, corporations, academic institutions, faith communities – any party that is generally respected, has some clout, and can function as an honest broker. As is perhaps obvious from the discussion directly above, an important goal of addressing social determinants is strengthening the ability of the community to sustain the changes that an intervention brings about.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 7 : Problems Only Government Can Solve

1 Sociology and the Study of Social Problems 1 | f | I asked everyone in your class what they believe is the most important social problem facing the United States, there would be many different answers.

Poverty in Germany Unemployment rates vary by region, gender, educational attainment and ethnic group. A growing number of Germans are poor and depend on welfare. That is up from only one in 75 in Families that are headed by a single parent and working-class families with multiple children are most likely to be poor. Housing project in Bremen-Vahr in the s, back then most tenants living in housing-projects were two parent families with at least one parent working. In many housing projects the composition of tenants has changed since then and now many tenant-families are headed by a single female or an unemployed male There is a discussion going on about hunger in Germany. Reverend Bernd Siggelkow, founder of the Berlin -based soup kitchen "Die Arche", claimed that a number of German children go hungry each day. He blamed the lack of jobs, low welfare payments, and parents who were drug-addicted or mentally ill. SPD politician and board member of the German central bank Thilo Sarrazin said it was possible to live on welfare without going hungry if one did not buy fast food, but was able to cook from scratch. He was criticized by The Left politician Heidi Knake-Werner , who said it was not right "if well paid people like us make recommendations to poor people about how they should shop". In , its national fertility rate was 1. By contrast, the United States had a fertility rate of 2. Abuse of alcohol and drugs is common. Many people living in those neighborhoods are what is called a-people. Often those neighbourhoods were founded out of best intentions. Many districts that later became problem neighbourhoods were founded in the s and s when the State wanted to provide better housing for poorer persons. Big tenement buildings were built. The first tenants mostly were two-parent-families, not those one kind with at least one parent working and many were happy with their neighbourhoods. But when the unemployment rate started climbing more and more people were losing their jobs. In the s radical leftist terrorist organisations like the Red Army Faction engaged in a string of assassinations and kidnappings against political and business figures. Germany has also continued to struggle with far-right violence or neo-Nazis which are presently on a rise, in line with the younger generation of Germans growing older. The number of officially recognized violent hate crimes has risen from to According to a recent study a majority Jews living in Germany are worried about a rise in antisemitism. Precarity and poverty[edit] There is a certain fragility of income and social position in France. There are several ways to measure this. One possibility is to look at unemployment. Inside the European Union, in May , France was ranked 6th country with its unemployment rate of 9. Gender inequality[edit] Women suffer from economical and social problems in France. Indeed, they are paid, on average, Women in France also have to handle sexual harassment, inequalities in education, and other problems. That are some reasons why the Global Gender Gap report of has ranked France 17th with a score of 0.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 8 : What are Some Social Problems? (with pictures)

A social issue is a problem that influences a considerable number of individuals within a society. It is often the consequence of factors extending beyond an individual's control, and is the source of a conflicting opinion on the grounds of what is perceived as a morally just personal life or societal order.

What are Key Urban Environmental Problems? Defining urban environmental problems While there is now widespread agreement that urban environmental issues are important, there is little coherence in how international agencies and others define the urban environment and identify its critical problems. This is not just a semantic question, as it is intimately related to how and where funds are allocated and to who can expect to benefit from the resulting environmental improvements. If urban environmental problems are defined and pursued too broadly, then almost all urban development initiatives can be labeled environmental. But if urban environmental problems are defined too narrowly, many of the generalizations noted in the introductory paragraph cease to be true. So common sense suggests that urban environmental problems are threats to present or future human well-being, resulting from human-induced damage to the physical environment, originating in or borne in urban areas. Localized environmental health problems such as inadequate household water and sanitation and indoor air pollution. City-regional environmental problems such as ambient air pollution, inadequate waste management and pollution of rivers, lakes and coastal areas. Natural hazards that are not caused or made worse by urban activity. The environmental impacts of urban activities that are of no concern to humans, either now or in the future. The table presents a wide range of city-related environmental hazards. Most are the unintended side-effects of human activity in cities. Some might more accurately be ascribed to a lack of preventive measures. In all examples, however, better urban practices and governance could help reduce the burdens, and it is this distinction that is most critical operationally. However, a review of a range of bilateral and multilateral donors suggests that several factors skew the operational definition of environment away from many of the central environmental concerns of the urban poor: Responsibility for taking the lead on environmental matters is often assigned to divisions that are not directly involved in urban development assistance on the grounds that the environment generally, and natural resources in particular, are primarily rural concerns. Such divisions are unlikely to have the knowledge or influence to promote urban environmental issues. Moreover, they have a tendency to define environment in natural resource management terms, which can easily lead to ignoring the environmental health issues that are of particular concern to the urban poor. Broad definitions are employed to illustrate the importance of environmental issues but narrower definitions are used to construct environmental indicators, while still narrower definitions are typically employed to identify environmental programs and projects. Operationally, a distinction is often made between two different approaches to environmental improvement: However, at least in its early stages, mainstreaming tends to define the environmental agenda in terms of reducing the environmental impacts of development in both urban and rural areas. Again, this can easily detract from the local environmental threats that are of particular concern to the urban poor. Pressure from Northern environmentalists has been an important factor in convincing international development agencies to address environmental issues. Northern environmentalists are usually more concerned with regional and global issues involving the natural environment than with local environmental health burdens faced by the urban poor. Again, this reinforces a tendency to ignore the environmental threats facing the urban poor although it does put pressure on development agencies to address global environmental issues. As international and local interest and capacity to address urban environmental problems increases, new, more locally-driven environmental strategies are also emerging. Many cities in Europe and America, and increasingly in Latin America, Asia and Africa are experimenting with city-wide initiatives to address environmental problems. Bilateral and even more often multilateral donors have been supporting a number of these initiatives, often called Local Agenda 21s. There is still much to learn from these local initiatives, including perhaps how best to define urban environmental problems in their local context.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Ultimately, while it may be useful to define urban environmental problems in the abstract, operationally it may be more important to respond to local initiatives in a coherent fashion, whether or not they fit some abstract definition.

DOWNLOAD PDF INTRODUCTION: STATES AND CITIES SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Chapter 9 : What are Key Urban Environmental Problems?

Solving problems in your own local area is a great way to focus for this sort of essay. However, you need to focus on just one particular problem to solve. No solution can solve all the problems.

Social problems develop from human social phenomena, which can be described as the rules and norms we develop to outline our actions around others. Social problems develop out of a necessity to maintain these "norms. Alcoholics certainly existed, but alcoholism would not have been considered a social problem. They should be very careful when making such posts about the commentaries others have posted here. This kind of behavior is a clear case of a lack of respect about others feelings and ideas. They say that it is not about individuals, but society and how it was made or the way it arose. The real thing is that if we as individuals are not willing to change where we are , our society will not change even if we truly want it to change. Any the problem could be the single individual is able to change even for himself. And as a group we may turn things for the better. I do have so many other things to say But I do not want to write an article. This was just my humble opinion. They reflect the lack of critical thinking ability and the short-sightedness of people, especially Westerners. By their very definition social problems are social; they are not about "good or evil" or selfishness on an individual level. They are about the way societies are structured and the fallout from those structures. Who wins and who loses? What is actually a problem? If you are wealthy, you are unlikely to view wealth inequality as a problem, however for the vast majority of us who are not wealthy, it is generally viewed as problem. This is not about individuals, but about how society has been built and how that structure has led to such inequalities and potential harm to a significant segment of society. Read the article before commenting. There is a difference between informed and uninformed opinions. So people need to compete and fight in order to survive. What shall we do in order to solve that? And the mere issue poses a lot of threats to the society. Causes of multiple social problems have common causes and knowing the causes can minimize the effects of the problems. For instance, pick-pocketing on streets and prostitution are caused by the need to fend for oneself on a daily basis. The rich family and poor class family are not facing any problems. Only the middle class families are facing a lot of problems. It is very elastic in definition. It encompasses economic, cultural, ethnic and human life. I think this creates severe social problems.