

Social Issues and Charity Support



'IT IS NOT THE REASONS WHY PEOPLE BECOME HOMELESS THAT ARE IMPORTANT, BUT WHAT IT DOES TO THEM.'
ROGER, SOCIAL WORKER

A home to hope for

In Malta at least 64 children are homeless every day.

If people are homeless they must have brought it on themselves.

Perhaps if I ask the battered woman, thrown on to the street with her children by her abusive husband she will agree. Or perhaps I should ask the sexually abused child who would rather sleep on the street than stay for more abuse, maybe they will agree. Maybe the family who are left destitute and homeless through circumstances and matters out of their control, maybe



- 1) Approximately 5 children die every day because of child abuse.
- 2) 1 out of 3 girls and 1 out of 5 boys will be sexually abused before they reach age 18.
- 3) 90 percent of child sexual abuse victims know the perpetrator in some way. 68 percent are abused by a family member.
- 4) Most children become victims of abuse and neglect at 18 months or younger.
- 5) In 2010, 1,537 children died of abuse or neglect.
 - 79.4 percent were under the age of 4.
 - 47.7 percent were under the age of 1.
- 6) Boys (48.5 percent) and girls (51.2 percent) become victims at nearly the same rate.
- 7) 3.6 million cases of child abuse are reported every year in the U.S. And the number of children involved in these reports is 6 million.
- 8) Abused and neglected children are 11 times more likely to engage in criminal behaviour as an adult.
- 9) About 80 percent of 21-year-olds who were abused as children met criteria for at least one psychological disorder.
- 10) 14 percent of all men and 36 percent of all women in prison were abused as children.

Source: www.dosomethina.org

Poverty means that a person or group of people can't afford basic needs like water, healthy food, clothing, shelter, and access to health care. The word is often associated with hungry and homeless people, or people who live in rundown neighbourhoods in developing countries, or people without jobs. However, even the richest nations face poverty problems.

Poverty leads to many social problems. Poor health is one example, as one-third of all deaths come from poverty-related causes every year. Increased violence and drug abuse, as well as less education for the young, are other problems. These disadvantages can create a poverty cycle for individuals and areas. For example, children who grow up poor will likely experience the same condition as adults. These adults have children who similarly grow up poor.



On the previous page you saw some examples of social issues that effect our world. Can you think of any other 'social issues' that occur? With your partner, discuss and write down the issues you have thought of in the table below:

ISSUE	DESCRIPTION

What springs to mind when you hear the term 'social issues'?

What are the biggest social issues affecting your country today?

Is your government good at dealing with and tackling social issues?

Which social issues affect the whole world?

Do social issues ever affect rich people, or are they simply poor people's problems?

What would you like the power to be able to do?

What social issues were around in the past but have now gone?

Would you like a job that involves addressing social issues?

What new social issues do you think will arise in the future?

Do you believe that one day, all social issues will be gone?

What answers do you have to a social issue?

What is the best way to study and follow social issues?



Have you ever worked for a charity?

How long did you work there?

Do you give money to registered charities? (e.g. Red Cross, World Wildlife Fund, Green Peace)

Can you name some other registered charities?

Do you think having large charity organizations is a good idea? Why or why not?

What are some of the good points?

What are some of the bad points?

Do you think that locally run charity organizations are more effective?

Are there any charities in (your town/city)?

