**Activity #5**

**Define social stratification.**

Stratification is the ranking of individuals within society according to wealth, income, education, family background, and power. It impacts all kinds of life including social status and economic opportunities to quality of life.

**Think about your own social class and discuss the different areas of your life that social stratification impacts?**

I belong to a middle-class family. There are various impacts of social stratification based upon my social class, which has affected my life in several areas.

**Education:**

Although being a middle-class individual, I was still able to afford a good quality education till my life. I have been studying in a reputed, private school and college since my childhood. But I was compelled to take educational loans to pursue my dream here in Canada.

**Career Opportunities:**

Middle-class people always need to make a balance between their dreams, opportunities and their limitations. We middle-class people often get less opportunities than the higher one. I can give a recent example of my life when I was applying for a job, I met a person who had a higher social class but less experience and academic qualification than mine. And unfortunately, I got rejected and she got the position just because she belonged from higher class than me.

**Healthcare:**

I was able to access and afford my medical bills and insurance. However, I cannot afford the medical treatments from higher level or an expensive healthcare facilities.

**Housing:**

Compared to other middle-class families, I have a comfortable house with access to essential services and facilities in my home. However, there was not high-ended features and facilities in the house as higher social classes have.

**Lifestyle:**

I can enjoy and engage in different activities in my life, although there are some limitations in engaging in luxurious activities. I need to trace a limit in spending money, or travelling, or going on a vacation. Because my goal is to earn and save more.

**Reference:**

1. Conerly, T. R., Holmes, K., & Tamang, A. L. (2021, June 3). 9.1 What is Social Stratification? - Introduction to Sociology 3E | OpenStax. <https://openstax.org/books/introduction-sociology-3e/pages/9-1-what-is-social-stratification>