exacerbate /ɪgˈzæsəbeɪt / verb

to make a bad situation worse

***AIDS creating health disparity in America's south:***

**Even as US president Barack Obama endorses gay marriage, homophobia, stigma and denial in the south are exacerbating a striking health disparity in one of the richest countries on Earth.**

***AITI exercise: Reform drives the doctors out***

**…This change will exacerbate the current shortage as more Americans live past 65.**