

HANDOUT THREE: HISTORY OF HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA

DIRECTIONS

Homelessness in the United States is a highly complex and dynamic condition that has evolved over time. The demographic characteristics of persons experiencing homelessness have changed due to, among many things, structural and institutional racism, fluctuations in the economy, population shifts, and changes in societal attitudes towards mental illness, poverty, addiction, sexual violence or other hidden (and visible) parts of our humanity. While our understanding about the causes of homelessness and what interventions are most effective has improved, there is still much more we need to learn about this complex issue.

Complete the two readings below which offer different historical overviews of homelessness in America before completing the written portion of the assignment.

1. Close Read: Take notes on new learnings

- [History of Homelessness in America](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK519584/?report=printable)
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK519584/?report=printable>
- [A Brief Timeline of Race and Homelessness in America](https://community.solutions/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/A-Brief-Timeline-of-Race-and-Homelessness-in-America-March-2019.pdf)
<https://community.solutions/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/A-Brief-Timeline-of-Race-and-Homelessness-in-America-March-2019.pdf>

2. Write three questions you would like to investigate on the history of homelessness in America based on the article and the timeline.

You will be sharing these questions in class tomorrow.

Question One:

Question Two:

Question Three: