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Solutions Across Disciplines

In today’s day and age, there are numerous amounts of societal, economic, and social issues that have entire disciplines, or fields of study, working to solve them. The issue of poverty within society is one instance of a problem that stems from multiple factors such as lack of education, economic diversity, healthcare, government and so on. Many issues can form together to create a larger one however, the disciplines working to solve them can do much of the same. Different fields of study often co-exist and work together to best solve problems, but each discipline has their own strategy on achieving their desired outcomes. How one discipline works to solve a problem may very well be different or similar depending on their task at hand.

As previously stated, the issue of poverty has multiple factors contributing to it. Though there are many contributions to poverty within society there are also many disciplines that are using their knowledge to combat it. Three such disciplines are Computer Science, Political Science, and Psychology. Psychology is one discipline that uses studies and research of the human mind to develop reasonable solutions. In regard to the issue of poverty Psychologists, those who professionally practice and research within the discipline of Psychology, must understand the way the human mind functions and how it responds to the different factors that associate with poverty. Once studying the causes and effects of poverty a psychologist can structure their findings and suggest possible solutions. A report by Ben Fell and Miles Hewstone of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation is one example of how psychologists can analyze a given problem such as poverty to promote change through a complementary approach (Fell and Hewstone, 2015).

The discipline of Political Science can approach a problem such as poverty in a more direct way as opposed to psychology. Political Science is the study of politics, and along with politics comes social and economic issues. Poverty is after all *“an economic issue, not a psychological one”* (Fell and Hewstone, 2015). Political scientists, politicians, and lawmakers alike can approach the issue of poverty in a direct way through logic such as compiling data and creating charts that compare different implications of poverty from various regions. They will tend to “*view approaches to poverty in terms of binary categories, either people-based or place-based and as either supply-side or demand-side*” (Lehning, 2008) where either they contribute to poverty through stimuli that go directly to the people or by tax credit through businesses that hire people of low income (Lehning, 2008).

Lastly, the discipline of Computer Science also has ways that it contributes to solving the problem of poverty. As a discipline alone Computer Science is very broad and can adapt itself within almost any sort of field. In the case of poverty and the other disciplines of Psychology and Political Science; Computer Science can act as the data giver. Computer Scientists can work on the organizational aspect of data collection where the data of different implications of poverty are collected and stored into programs that psychologists or political scientists and those alike can view and use as evidence to further their own claims. Computer Science also can help at reducing poverty through creating new jobs that can be accessed to more people, it is predicted that the computer science industry “*will continue to grow and become one of the highest paying sectors over the next ten years*” (School of Technology, 2021).

# Bibliography

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