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Assignment Title: Chapter 5 Role Play: Community Assessment

Author: Kirst-Ashman/Hull

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Content Development Contact: Julia Chase

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<ee-role-play-title/>**Community Assessment**

<instructions/>

# Instruction

To be an effective community change agent, you must master several techniques and approaches related to implementing macro-level change. The problem-definition stage of assessment should enable you to determine, with some degree of assurance, who is affected by the problem, to what extent, and what sort of remedy might be appropriate. No matter how the problem comes to your attention, research must be done very carefully to ensure that you have all the needed data.

Objective

In this role play, a social services analyst designs a model to research an urgent community issue surrounding school violence for a town meeting. The analyst must find relevant and accurate data to support a shift in local school policy, as the school chancellor is hesitant to make any sweeping changes.

# Scenario

The tiny community of Kingdom Come, an idyllic-looking rural area in Michigan, is in an uproar after 16-year-old Estrallia Compton was killed by a fellow student, Helena Troy. Estrallia was a member of a gang of “mean girls” at school. They were a very powerful group and one student said they were, “like, rockin’ with the Facebook combat!” Apparently Helena had been an online “target” of Estrallia, to the point that Helena felt the only way out was to “plug the b - - - -.”

A town seminar has been called to focus on these gangs and gang violence. The local social services agency has been called in to research this problem to ensure that all the facts are presented at this seminar and to make sure this meeting doesn’t turn into a riot. Additionally, a task force will present an informal assessment plan to determine whether to establish a youth center in the community.

<supervisor/>

# Notes for the School Chancellor, Byron

In this exercise, you are playing the role of the school chancellor, Byron Jenkins. You want to address the issue of gang violence, but would like to avoid being controlled by another agency. To that end, you feel you need to make strong statements that make it clear that the school is not to blame for the incidents, but that they would like to be part of the solution. Prepare for your role by having sample responses to the following.

How serious is the gang violence problem? How many people are affected? You will need to describe the problem as carefully as possible. Is there a series of problems that must be prioritized? Is this a long-standing problem that has been ignored, or one for which previous solutions have failed? What factors cause or contribute to the problem? Do cultural experiences and values dramatically affect how people view the same set of events? Are there school policies regarding bullying?

Consider your reaction to the assessment plan and intended tools proposed by the task force based on the parameters listed in your text.

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LO: 5-9

Learning Objective Narrative: Use assessment tools to determine community and neighborhood needs.

LO: EPAS 6-b

Learning Objective Narrative: Use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies.

A-head: Assessment Tools to Determine Community and Neighborhood Needs

Bloom's: Apply

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