

## СОЦІОЛОГІЧНІ НАУКИ

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### **HUMANITY IS ON THE VERGE OF POVERTY**

Poverty as a social problem is a deeply embedded wound that permeates every dimension of culture and society. It includes sustained low levels of income for members of a community. It includes a lack of access to services like education, markets, health care, lack of decision making ability, and lack of communal facilities like water, sanitation, roads, transportation, and communications. Furthermore, it is a «poverty of spirit,» that allows members of that community to believe in and share despair, hopelessness, apathy, and timidity.

Analysis of recent researches and publications. Poverty not only as a social problem, has been explored by a large number of scientists such as: Allan G. Johnson, Hannah Cleveland, Sarah C. Baldwin and others.

The purpose of the article. The main purpose of this paper is to reveal the contents of poverty as a social problem. Poverty, especially the factors that contribute to it, is a social problem, and its solution is social. The effects of poverty can be felt at every level of society – from the individual living in poverty to the political leader attempting to provide solutions. Whether it is health conditions or increased crime rates, poverty reaches just about every aspect of life. Nowadays, in order to understand the severity of the problem we need look at the five biggest effects of poverty, which are presented in this article.

Presentation of the basic material. Poverty is not simply a lack of adequate income. It is a multidimensional phenomenon that extends beyond the economic arena to encompass factors such as the inability to participate in social and political life.

In short, poverty is the deprivation of one's ability to live as a free and dignified human being with the full potential to achieve one's desired goals in life.

Many people not currently living in poverty face a high risk of becoming poor if faced with a change in situation such as job loss or the major illness of a family member. Such individuals, while not poor per se, are highly vulnerable to falling into poverty. Estimates show that a large number of people on the edge of poverty, especially those just above the official poverty line, are economically insecure.

Just under one billion people in the world today live in extreme poverty. There are many dimensions to their deprivation, low and irregular incomes, lack of safe drinking water, poor housing, limited access to health and education, and social exclusion and

discrimination. Their poverty makes them extremely vulnerable to life cycle, natural, or economic hazards. In many cases, extreme poverty persists over time.

Using a definition of chronic poverty as those people who remain under the poverty line for at least five years, approximately 400 million people in the world are chronically poor. The persistence of poverty over time eats into their assets and networks, undermining their resilience and voice. For a number of reasons, those affected by chronic and extreme poverty are often left out in policy initiatives. They are often harder to reach, require stronger and longer term support, and have limited political influence.

In order to understand the severity of the problem we need look at the five biggest effects of poverty [6, p. 7-9].

The most common effect of poverty is malnutrition.

This is especially seen in children of poor families. People living in poverty rarely have access to highly nutritious foods. Even if they have access to these foods, it is unlikely that they are able to purchase them. The healthiest foods are usually the most expensive; therefore, a family on a very small budget is much more likely to purchase food that is less nutritious, simply because that is all they can afford.

Sometimes people in poverty are malnourished simply because they do not eat enough of anything. For some people around the world, quality food is a luxury. A total of 14.3 percent of people in developing countries face hunger and about 25 percent of Sub-Saharan Africa is considered malnourished. Poor nutrition causes 45 percent of deaths in children under the age of 5. Malnutrition can also lead to many other health issues as well [4].

One of the most severe effects of poverty is the health effects that are almost always present.

This includes things from diseases to life expectancy and medicine. Diseases are very common in people living in poverty because they lack the resources to maintain a healthy living environment. They are almost always lacking in nutritious foods, which decreases their bodies' ability to fight off diseases. Sanitation conditions are usually very low, increasing the chance of contracting a disease. Sometimes these diseases can be minor, but other times they can be life-threatening. In general, people living in poverty cannot afford appropriate medicines to treat these illnesses.

Life expectancy and child mortality are greatly affected by poverty. Statistics show that life expectancy in poor nations is up to 30 years below that of wealthy nations, like the United States. Child mortality is shockingly high in poor countries; 13.5 percent of children die before the age of 5 in poor countries. This number is the average for poor countries, however some African nations have a child mortality rate of 20 percent [2].

Education is largely affected by poverty.

Many people living in poverty are unable to attend school from a very early age. Families may not be able to afford the necessary clothing or school supplies. Others may not have a way for their children to get to school. Whatever the reason, there is a clear correlation between families living in poverty and their lack of education. Without the ability to attend school, many people go through life illiterate.

The literacy rates in countries with high poverty levels indicate that these two are linked. Low literacy rates can affect society in various ways including the labor force and politics. Obtaining a basic education could bring 171 million people out of poverty. A bad cycle is created; poverty prevents people from gaining a good education, and not obtaining an education prevents people from escaping poverty [1].

Among other effects poverty includes its impact on the economy of the country.

Mainly, the number of people living in poverty influences employment rates heavily. Without an education, people are unlikely to find a paying job. Unemployment hinders a country from developing into a strong economic system. A high unemployment rate can impede a country from progressing in all aspects.

The labor force suffers when a large part of the citizens cannot contribute to economic development. For example, the Indian economy has not been able to develop at a high rate for many years because of the high number of people living in poverty. About 22 percent of the population in India lives in poverty and their economy can only improve when this percentage decreases.

Poverty also has social effects.

Many people living in poverty are homeless, which puts them on the streets. There also seems to be a connection between poverty and crime. When people are unemployed and homeless, social unrest may take over and lead to increases in crime. When people have nothing and no money to buy necessities, they may be forced to turn to theft in order to survive. Homelessness and high crime rates impact of a country's people and can create many problems within a society.

It is clear that poverty has far-reaching effects on all people. By improving global poverty, economies could prosper, health could improve and countries can develop into strong global presences. All countries will benefit when decreasing global poverty becomes a priority in the world. *Hannah Cleveland*

The factors of poverty (as a social problem) that are listed here, ignorance, disease, apathy, dishonesty and dependency, are to be seen simply as conditions. No moral judgement is intended. They are not good or bad, they just are. If it is the decision of a group of people, as in a society or in a community, to reduce and remove poverty, they will have to, without value judgement, observe and identify these factors, and take action to remove them as the way to eradicate poverty.

The big five, in turn, contribute to secondary factors such as lack of markets, poor infrastructure, poor leadership, bad governance, under-employment, lack of skills, absenteeism, lack of capital, and others. Each of these are social problems, each of them are caused by one or more of the big five, and each of them contribute to the perpetuation of poverty, and their eradication is necessary for the removal of poverty [5].

The conclusions and suggestions. Unfortunately, poverty is the inability of getting choices and opportunities, a violation of human dignity. Poverty is a national problem and it is a hurdle in the way of a country's progress. However, the main reason of poverty in our country (Ukraine) is seen in bad governance, which comprises widespread corruption.

Instead, good governance is considered to bring in powerful change in the condition of the poor. Eradication of poverty would ensure a sustainable and

inclusive growth of economy and society. We all should do everything possible in order to help alleviate poverty from our country.

So, one of the most important things that is needed to make a country richer is to create Governmental programs in order to help poor people change their life. Without this, it is hard for people to become better off.

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## **МІСЦЕ ПРАЦІ У СОЦІАЛЬНОМУ СПОСОБІ ЖИТТЯ**

Праця в житті сучасної людини посідає значне місце, оскільки майже третину свого життя людина проводить на роботі, яка у свою чергу є проявом особистісної соціалізації у суспільстві, можливість реалізації творчих здібностей та задоволення біосоціальних потреб.

У процесі праці люди вдосконалюють не тільки засоби виробництва, а й розвивають свої фізичні та інтелектуальні можливості, виявляють справжню людську сутність, утверджуються як суспільні істоти [1, с. 96-98].

Роль праці, як індивідуальної так і колективної діяльності, як форми і умови існування та розвитку людини, суспільства, ноосфери, можна розглядати як спосіб самореалізації людини в суспільному житті, в спілкуванні (комунікації, обмін інформацією), в пізнанні себе та навколишнього світу, у розвитку самовдосконалення і самоствердження, створення матеріальних і духовних благ.

Праця, як базовий елемент життя людини, є джерелом всіх благ і формою реалізації його інтелектуальних і фізичних здібностей, розвитку людського потенціалу, який в сучасних умовах є визначальним чинником соціально-економічного прогресу [2, с. 1-8].

Як економічна категорія, праця є одним з факторів виробництва. Праця виступає основною умовою життя людини і способом самоутвердження людини у світі. У процесі праці людина опосередковує, регулює та контролює