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The Impact of Poverty on Young Children

Essay

Poverty has often dictated whether children can have a successful education. As inflation begins to rise more and more people are left with the hard decision to provide a decent, quality living situation due to financial stability. Even though the United States had demonstrated improvement, it is still a major issue. Children are being deprived and are impacted by hunger, illness, and insecurity leading to low academic performance, emotional eating behavior problems, and psychological development difficulties. The direct effect caused by socioeconomic status has families living in low-income status, putting them below the poverty threshold line. Making it an outbreak and nearly impossible to provide basic needs and everyday essential items. It is important to provide tools to educate children and their parents by involving them as much as possible to be a part of the community to find resources that can potentially help reduce the burden and enforce the importance of education, ultimately breaking the cycle.

As prices rise and the demand for goods and production begins to aggregate. Lack of physical capital, and closure from borders excluding overseas exchange.

Has forced the economy to rise to impact the less fortunate. Often people living in poverty are the first ones to get hit with homelessness and not being able to provide food for their families. Most of the time people living in poverty are uneducated and have minimum paid jobs, with no sick days, paid leave, or medical insurance, or even retirement funds forcing them to live paycheck to paycheck. In an interview called “Unequal Childhoods” starting Annette Lareau, states” There was also difference by social class and how parents supervised their children’s lives in institutions. By definition, the working-class parents and the poor parents did not have a college degree many were high schools dropouts.” This quote suggests that no matter how much time you put in, it is still not enough to make it to the middle class. Unfortunately, this strain impacts everyone in the house whole, children are left with inadequate nutrients to eat. Not concentrating at school and in some cases failing. Their mental and physical state, start to deteriorate, in some cases, children drop out of school to help their parents to compensate for their financial status to help support the family. Making it a vicious cycle without the opportunity to get the proper education for a better future.

The United States provides funding throughout the states to help allocate resources for title 1 schools. Although is considered a developed country it is still the highest-rated country with childhood poverty global wide. The article “Statistic

on Underprivileged children in the world” states that the poverty rate is 12% in the U.S alone, 1 in 8 live below the threshold line. In addition, 37% of children raised in poverty do not complete high school. According to the same article “the impact of poverty on education among schooling living in the south is an urgent problem” making them the highest states to foster and educate low-income students. Poverty can diminish child self-esteem feeling unsafe, leaving them wondering if their parents will have enough money to pay rent or enough food on the table. This all plays a factor in a child’s young life. They begin to have mixed emotions and start to act out. They also start to change physically, weight becomes an issue, losing focus, and struggle in class. This needs to be addressed asap, children are entitled to have proper education, no matter what their economic status might be.

Many children go through the daily impacts of hunger, illness, insecurity, and low academic achievement. They are most likely to stay in poverty, according to Annette Lareau, in an interview “unequal childhood” Annette states “families are a big predictor of children outcome” according to what type of families one comes from it makes hard to try and get out of that status. Children learn by example if they see what is being implemented and follow seeing as a normal lifestyle. Once in grade school children become aware of those differences in culture, the way they live what they eat. because of the stigma in society and fear

of what they might be portrayed by, they stay enclosed to their selves. Making it an obstacle to try to escape poverty.

In an article written by the New York Times, in an article, I read called “Invisible child” the premise is a young girl age 11 that lives in a run-down infested shelter only blocks away from a multi dollars home. Yet she belongs to a mass majority of 22,000 homeless children the highest number since the great depression. The author quotes “what people do not see is a homeless girl whose mother succumbed to crack more than one, whose cousin and aunts have become the anonymous casualties of a gang shooting, AIDS and domestic violence.” The author suggested that Children like Dasani are often the ones who carry all the burden, she is the oldest at or 7 children and is often caring for the youngest sibling due to her parent’s drug addiction. Unfortunately, the reality is that children that live in this kind of environment make it harder to get out of that environment having no support. They often live their lives shattered with low self-esteem, following their parents’ footsteps, and even start abusing drugs, selling, and using their bodies to provide for themselves. This life is a cycle that needs to be addressed and care for by the people above. It’s unfair to see children surrounded by inadequate living situations and letting them go so far. We need to provide a safe living environment to homeless children and help eliminate hunger.

The same article touched on how Dasani used several instances to try and survive out in the world. Coming from the shelter and starting a new school with low to no essential resources talked about how Dasani put in the effort to get good grades. Even at a young age, she knows that the only way to get somewhere in life is to do good in school. Her teachers have noticed that her lateness has no impact on the school, she manages to keep up. Dasani doesn't deny she lives in a shelter instead, she embraces it in her favor. Start acting out getting into fights. The struggle at home gets real and while mom and dad continue to abuse drugs the parents lose custody of them all their children, this all impacts the children, well-being putting them in a stressful situation not knowing if they will see their parents again and the serenity if they will see their parents again.

This topic is hard to discuss, It aches my heart to talk about it but, it can no longer be brushed under the rug, people need to hear the fact and work out a better system for the sack of children. It is not ok to throw families into rat-infested mold cover walls and have the audacity to call rooms. It is crazy that can take a family with kids up to a year to get them an adequate living place with a kitchen, bathroom, and living area. Imagine how one as an adult would feel living with your family in these conditions for a long time, now imagine children living in

these conditions, imagine how much this situation will hurt the child emotionally? this is happening just a few blocks away from where you live. While you go home to your warm cozy apartment, children are sleeping in a 4x4 size bedroom filled with rats, roaches, and bedbugs. Therefore, people need to be aware of what can be done to help the situation and reduce childless homelessness.

There are ways to help children in poverty, it all starts with the parents. Parents must educate themselves on the resources available in their community. Or reach out to someone that can help them better understand what services are being provided which can help the family. Having fundraisers in school to help provide resources to allow children to graduate, can be some ideas to help and break the cycle. Providing counseling to each student and having someone to talk to can help boost self-esteem and be used as a starting point to motivate the child to move forward and out of poverty. Showing them inspirational biography from people that make it and were able to break the cycle. Parents need to be involved in children's lives, I know it's hard when there are so many people living in poverty but maybe if the school can help the students if a weekly pantry service in exchange for education, there might just be a step forward to get children to stay in school and have more and more children graduate and pursue a career the beginning of ending poverty.

Another way to raise awareness for homelessness is by reaching out to the businesses in the community and educating them that people need to be given opportunities to be guided and mentored. This can be a useful topic to teach the young one about the issue. Advisement can be used to learn a new trait so they can utilize this skill to get a job to provide for themselves and their families. Raising income and Finally, donating good items, and any essential items. It is during these times where people need to support one another any small item can mean the world to them. spreading the word using platforms like the web, pamphlets, and just conversing with the community we are all a part of one community and the only way to reduce homelessness is through education, organization awareness.

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