GAP Assignment

1. **Identify an injustice or inequity in (y)our community (broadly defined)**

Homeless or underprivileged folks usually experience homelessness. Hence, homelessness is a type of injustice that I have recognized, and I wish to tackle on this task. It resides in poverty. Discrimination and homelessness commonly intersect. Discrimination against the homeless usually acts as a structural precursor, making the homeless or underprivileged folks discriminated against. Discrimination can be best described as an act of treating someone differently from others. Homeless and disadvantaged folks usually face hardships due to their socioeconomic status. According to Baumohl (201), discrimination typically influences the options and choices of individuals when it comes to some factors such as employment and housing services. These factors usually increase the risk of Homeless or underprivileged folks. For instance, homeless or poor folks usually face restrictions of accessing places that domiciled individuals typically attend and visit. I see this in my community all the time. There are higher chances that a homeless person cannot be allowed to enter a store even if he has money and he wants to buy something to eat. This is very unfair. One necessary consequence is that Homeless or underprivileged folks generally are forced to live in dangerous and inappropriate environments. This usually impairs their ability to improve their living standards. Baumohl (2016) states that marginalized populations experience more homelessness than any other group in the United States.

1. **Provide a brief synopsis of the issue and include background/statistics from at least one legitimate source**

There are about 500,000 homeless people in the United States (Statista, 2020). Since the year 2007, this number has not dropped. Heerde & Patton (2020) argue that poverty is a strong predictor of homelessness. From slavery to segregation, many black Americans have been denied their socioeconomic rights during World War one and two. This means that homeless and underprivileged folks have been there for decades. They have remained discriminated against for a long time. In the United States, homelessness has been taken as a violation of international human rights. It has, however, been primarily insulated from human rights accountability. This means that homelessness is rarely addressed as a human rights violation in many states in the United States. For instance, several states are required to implement positive measures to prevent and eliminate it. This is because homelessness usually guarantees State failure to access safe and appropriate housing facilities. Some laws allow Homeless or underprivileged folks to claim their access to proper and affordable housing facilities in other states. Everyone needs to have access to adequate standards of living. According to Heerde & Patton (2020), homelessness usually violates the principle of human dignity which is typically enriched in the article 1 and 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights. Redgwell (2017) states that the government is responsible for using the maximum available resources to satisfy the needs of its people by giving and ensuring everyone has a fundamental level of housing.

1. **Using terminology from our course (and defining those terms!) discusses how the issue is somehow related to our course materials.**

Homeless and underprivileged folks usually face injustice and discrimination in our society. They typically live in a society where they are not favored. For instance, homeless and disadvantaged folks are declined by real estate agents and landlords prejudice (Redgwell, 2017). Prejudice is a preconceived opinion that is not based on an experience. These agents and landlords usually deny potential tenants based on a host of characteristics which generally is a form of discrimination. For instance, Homeless and underprivileged folks who are subject to discrimination based on their intersected elements of identity usually face several barriers when obtaining housing facilities. However, this is compounded by structural epidemics usually coming from unaffordable housing facilities in the states. Homeless and underprivileged folks generally face oppression. Oppression can be best described as an unfair treatment against someone based on their characteristics. They are extensively linked together with privilege. This means that homeless and underprivileged folks find it hard to access housing facilities. However, they are allowed to seek legal counseling when and if discrimination occurs against them. Also, homeless and underprivileged folks usually face intersectionality. Intersectionality is a theoretical framework that generally focuses on maintaining socioeconomic status and other factors of discrimination. For example, homeless and disadvantaged folks typically find it hard to attain and access housing facilities.

1. **Provide details (who, what, when, where, etc.) of the "grassroots action" plan you will take to address the injustice.**

Homelessness is a profound assault on the dignity and the right to live. Hence, this particular topic is more suitable for the public, especially in societies. Society needs to understand that homeless and underprivileged folks are part of society as well. They do not need to be declined and discriminated against. However, for the community to understand this, I need to understand this particular group first. I need to educate myself to educate society. To achieve this, I will attend world seminars once a week on education centers. I will also participate in webinars from the Law Center on their website. These webinars are essential since they discuss the several resources and advocacy tools that can reduce and limit homelessness in the states (Lowe et al., 2016). The webinar plan will take approximately two months. Upon completing the webinar, I will attain a certificate indicating and validating my knowledge of specific skills gained from the webinars from law centers. I also plan to educate other people about the injustices that homeless and underprivileged people face. I believe this will be a good way to start a grassroots campaign that will help fight for the rights of the homeless and underprivileged folks.

**References**

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