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Social Problems

A Service Learning Approach



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CHAPTER 2

TEST QUESTIONS

(Note: Answer key provided at end of exam.)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

- 1) The ways in which people discriminate against and devalue others based on physical or behavioral attributes is called:
 - A) Social stratification
 - B) Social choice
 - C) Social prejudice
 - D) Social stereotype
 - E) None of the above
- 2) The goal of Robert Rhodes's service learning class at Penn State University:
 - A) Help students learn about the lives of the homeless
 - B) Addressed social inequality
 - C) Addressed the homeless
 - D) Questioned stereotypes
 - E) All of the above
- 3) Homelessness in America is most often a sign of someone:
 - A) Who is lazy
 - B) Who is in a physical and emotional struggle against odds
 - C) Who is deviant
 - D) Who is an immigrant
 - E) All of the above
- 4) The term social stigma refers to which of the following:
 - A) The ways individuals discriminate and devalue others based on physical and behavior attributes
 - B) The ways individuals perceive others as different
 - C) Not being able to life in a society
 - D) Social arrangements where individuals are not interdependent
 - E) None of the above
- 5) Income inequality in the U.S:
 - A) Increased between 1979 and 2003
 - B) Decreased between 1979 and 2003
 - C) Remained the same between 1979 and 2003
 - D) Grew least between the top 1% and the bottom 20%
 - E) Grew most between the middle 20% and the bottom 20%
- 6) The top 1 percent of the population's income _____ between 1979 and 2003:
 - A) Increased 20 %
 - B) Increased 111 %
 - C) Increased less than half
 - D) Increased only a little

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- E) Increased by 500%
- 7) The bottom 20% of the population's income _____ between 1979 and 2003:
A) Increased 30%
B) Increased 100%
C) Increased 10%
D) Increased 4.5%
E) Decreased 4.5%
- 8) Rising inequality in the last 20 years has led to which of the following?
A) More millionaires and fewer people in poverty
B) More millionaires and more people in poverty
C) A greater sharing of wealth and income
D) More money for the middle class including the second fifth
E) None of the above
- 9) The poverty line has changed in which of the following ways since 1965?
A) Food is now more costly than rent, health care, and transportation
B) Food no longer costs one third of the family budget
C) Families now have a greater amount of options for food
D) It now overestimates costs for expensive
E) None of the above
- 10) Wealth is different than income in which of the following ways?
A) Income is more encompassing in determining life chances
B) Income signifies a greater command over financial resources
C) Wealth inequality is less than income inequality
D) Unlike income wealth expanded for black families between 1995 and 2001
E) Wealth inequality is greater than income inequality
- 11) Between 1989 and 2003 the top 1% of the population experienced:
A) An increase in the proportion of wealth from 50% to 60%
B) An increase in the proportion of wealth from 30% to 35%
C) An increase in the proportion of wealth from 80% to 90%
D) A decrease in the proportion of wealth
E) The same wealth gains as the middle classes
- 12) Median net worth for families of color between 1995 to 2001:
A) Increased by 70%
B) Increased by 20%
C) Increased by 30%
D) Decreased by 7%
E) Decreased by half
- 13) Growing wealth inequality impacts working and middleclass families in which of the following ways?
A) Less money for growing housing, transportation, and health care costs
B) More money for growing housing, transportation, and health care costs
C) More opportunities for mobility
D) More money after paying for basic needs

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- E) None of the above
- 14) The largest Depression-era programs addressing poverty:
 - A) Came under the social security Act
 - B) Came under the Hoover administration
 - C) Came from business and industry
 - D) Came from the poor people's movements
 - E) Came from the War on Poverty
- 15) After the 1970s, policy debates on welfare came to be centered on:
 - A) Women and children
 - B) Growing poverty based on economic restructuring
 - C) Cultural values including the idea of the undeserving poor
 - D) Welfare budgeting
 - E) Race
- 16) The conflict perspective approaches welfare from which of the following perspectives?
 - A) Its impact on the behavior of low income families
 - B) How inequality and social movements shape policy
 - C) Welfare's role in government budgeting
 - D) Welfare as a solution to poverty
 - E) None of the above
- 17) The national welfare rights movements of the 1960s and 1970s:
 - A) Led to a U.S. welfare state
 - B) Empowered government officials
 - C) Empowered individuals as agents of social change
 - D) Moved the focus away from a moral code of rights to welfare
 - E) All of the above
- 18) According to sociologist Kate Butler the mainstream media presents those in poverty:
 - A) As average citizens
 - B) As inherently different than the rest of society
 - C) As a population deserving of better treatment
 - D) On a regular basis as part of regular programming
 - E) As working class people who are struggling
- 19) The goals of the Suffolk County Welfare Warriors (SWW) were to:
 - A) Reduce government waste
 - B) Address how welfare recipients are perceived and address economic abuse and waste
 - C) Support new policies coming from the 1996 welfare reform law
 - D) Address welfare cheating
 - E) Getting more people on welfare
- 20) West Virginia's year 2000 Senate Bill 577 allowed TANF recipients:
 - A) To not work and still receive benefits
 - B) To be able to attend college and count it as a work activity
 - C) To work 30 hours in order to receive welfare
 - D) To no longer get welfare benefits after 52 weeks

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- E) To be eligible for job training
- 21) The uncertain ability to acquire adequate nutritional food in a safe and acceptable manner is defined as:
 - A) Minimum adequate food budget
 - B) Welfare reform
 - C) Food insecurity
 - D) Homeless
 - E) Poverty
- 22) The activities of the East St. Louis's Action Farmers market were in response to:
 - A) Poverty as a social function
 - B) Poor people paying less for food
 - C) Deindustrialization in the area
 - D) A lack of farms in St. Louis
 - E) Immigration
- 23) Historically U.S. welfare programs such as ADC and others emerged based on:
 - A) Women's misdeeds taking advantage of welfare
 - B) Mother's Aid Programs
 - C) Depression era conditions
 - D) The self made man and the dependent women
 - E) European influence
- 24) Elijah Anderson argues that poor inner city minority male youth:
 - A) Are engaged in sexual exploits to destroy opportunities
 - B) Are engaged in sexual exploits due to a culture of poverty
 - C) Lack family-sustaining jobs, stress sexual prowess, and reject convention
 - D) Stress family over work
 - E) None of the above
- 25) Herbert Gans view of poverty reflects all of the following except:
 - A) Poor people serve an important function for society
 - B) Poor people create jobs for middle class social servants
 - C) Poor people often have a cost-benefit analysis based on their condition
 - D) Poor people do societies dirty work
 - E) All of the above
- 26) The war on poverty in the 1960s was mainly a response to:
 - A) Expanding poverty
 - B) Government surpluses
 - C) Growing social movements
 - D) The underserved poor
 - E) Expanding bureaucracies
- 27) According to Wilkinson and Pickett relative inequality causes:
 - A) Greater wealth for everyone
 - B) An overall sense that some people are failing
 - C) Lower mortality rates than other countries
 - D) The rise of the welfare state

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- E) People to strive harder
- 28) The war on poverty in the 1960s differed than previous approaches to poverty because:
- A) It addresses racism
 - B) It was a response to government surplus
 - C) It reduced pressure on a failing economic system
 - D) It expanded service to all age groups
 - E) It expanded services to the poor including health care, legal services, and social work
- 29) Since the 1995 welfare reform law the undeserving poor approach to welfare has led to:
- A) Fewer benefits and also less spent on bureaucracy
 - B) Fewer benefits and more spent on administering them
 - C) Fewer benefits without a requirement for work
 - D) A greater trust of fewer recipients
 - E) Emphasis on middle aged working age men and women
- 30) According to the Cato Institute corporate welfare:
- A) Reduces the number of jobs in the U.S.
 - B) Has increased the number of jobs in the U.S.
 - C) Has subsidized a number of small industries
 - D) Led to companies to legally keep jobs in the country
 - E) Has led to ideological suspicion of their activities

TRUE/FALSE

- 1) Robert Rhodes service learning class on homelessness taught students:
that poverty comes from individual actions
- A) T
 - B) F
- 2) Martin Luther King believed that poverty would always be part of the human experience,
justified in some cases.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 3) George W. Bush is an example of America's ethos of rags to riches.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 4) The poverty line is measured as 4 times the food budget of an average family of 3 or more.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 5) Median net worth for white families between 1979 and 2003 increased by 37%
- A) T
 - B) F
- 6) The 1996 welfare reform policies promoted college attainment to get people off of welfare.

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- A) T
 - B) F
- 7) A culture of poverty is a situation where individuals in a culture strive to escape poverty.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 8) The Social Security Act further entrenched the distinction between worth and nonworth aid recipients in the U.S.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 9) Ronald Reagan was able to cut welfare by not address the behavior of welfare recipients:
- A) T
 - B) F
- 10) According to Barbara Ehrenreich to be a member of the working poor is to live off the system.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 11) Statistics are most useful when they can be put into a compelling narrative and point toward conditions and trends.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 12) Early northern industrialist created surplus labor by recruiting attracting labor from the cities.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 13) According to Harry Braverman part of the history of capitalism is workers control over the work process.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 14) Service workers are more difficult to organize because they make more and are more often white collar.
- A) T
 - B) F
- 15) Protective services have the largest differences between union and nonunion jobs.
- A) T
 - B) F

ESSAY QUESTIONS

- 1) Discuss the ramification of corporate welfare for society. What social problems are linked to corporate welfare and why?
- 2) What are the main problems with the poverty line? How is it measured and how does it relate to the contemporary situations of families?
- 3) Analyze and critique the main policies shaping the U.S. social welfare system. What groups does the system address and why? What gaps exist in the modern system?
- 4) Compare and contrast the functional and conflict approaches to poverty and welfare. In your answer address how poverty can functional and the role of social movements in shaping policy.
- 5) Compare definitions of poverty. Evaluate the utility for explaining the current conditions of low income Americans.

CHAPTER 2
ANSWER KEY

MULTIPLE CHOICE

- 1) E
- 2) A
- 3) B
- 4) A
- 5) A
- 6) B
- 7) D
- 8) B
- 9) B
- 10) E
- 11) B
- 12) D
- 13) A
- 14) A
- 15) C
- 16) B
- 17) B
- 18) B
- 19) B
- 20) B
- 21) C
- 22) C
- 23) B
- 24) C
- 25) E
- 26) C
- 27) B
- 28) E
- 29) B
- 30) A

T/F

- 1) B
- 2) B
- 3) B
- 4) B
- 5) A
- 6) B
- 7) B
- 8) A
- 9) B
- 10) B
- 11) A
- 12) B
- 13) B
- 14) B

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15) A