SOC 2

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Homelessness is a term that can be defined as the people living below the current living standards that a normal person requires. The term is also used for the people who move from one place to another for temporary residence. There are many causes of homelessness yet the main cause of homelessness is poverty. Specifically, discussing the US, according to the statistics, there were more than 552,840 people who were homeless for a night in 2018.(*The-State-of-Homelessness-in-America.pdf*, n.d.). However, the most alarming thing is that almost 37% of homeless people have families.

In the documentary, the issue of homelessness, its causes and its effect on children were discussed (*Hard times generation*, n.d.). According to the presenter, social stratification based on socioeconomic factors is the reason for homelessness. The issue of economic inequality is argued all over the world. Economic inequality affects social mobility and therefore hinders a chance of an individual to attain high social status. In the video, the poverty experienced by the family was not their fault as they were trying hard to bear their family expenses and provide a better future for their children. The reason for poverty is unemployment. Many people were left unemployed after the economic recession in the country due to which many people were left unemployed.

Economic inequality refers to the unequal distribution of wealth among different groups. In any society, economic inequality is because of the social structure in which rich people get richer while poor people get poorer. The dysfunctional social structure hinders social mobility and therefore people have to live in poverty. In the documentary, the presenter interviewed several homeless children. The children told how the homelessness affect their life and the struggles they were facing while living in shelter homes. Living in poverty hinders the opportunities to succeed as due to economic inequalities children of wealthy people will get better opportunities as compared to the children of people with average or low income. Therefore, rich people can admit their children in private schools and universities where they can attain quality education while poor people had to admit their children in public schools and many cases they are even unable to bear the educational expense of their children. Thus, the government must intervene and make policies that reduce economic inequalities.

**References**

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