[Name of the Writer]

[Name of Instructor]

[Subject]

[Date]

Essay 2 Prompt

Poverty is one of the biggest social and economic issues currently prevailing in the modern world. It is not a problem of a single country or nation but a shared issue of the whole world. Poverty refers to the lack or absence of the basic necessities of life without which a person cannot survive. These include food, clothing, shelter and safe drinking water (Geremek). In order to live a normal life, a person needs to fulfill his certain, physical, social and emotional needs but people suffering from poverty cannot maintain these needs which is why they do not lead a high quality of life.

Different scholars, experts, and researchers have tried to provide different explanations behind the phenomenon of poverty and strived to find the most appropriate reason behind this issue. Conventional wisdom about poverty is that it is a very negative thing which further gives birth to many other evils like crimes and social issues. Many scholars and even lawmakers believe that poverty is the root cause behind many crimes prevailing in society like robbery and mugging etc. However, when we consider, as Barbara Erenreich in her article “Is It Now a Crime to Be Poor?” does, we learn that the logic presented by the author is pretty much true.

Miss Erenreich tries to explain that basically poverty is not the main issue behind the arising of various types of crimes, especially in the big metropolitans, but is the pressure of the lifestyle that forces the individuals to indulge in criminal activities (EHRENREICH). People residing in big metropolitans ten to see the rich and elite lifestyle of their city fellows and then try to copy it, which makes the matters worse. If every person, living in the same area and sharing the same resources, is given the same opportunities, then many of the criminal cases can be avoided.

Works Cited

EHRENREICH, BARBARA. "Is It Now A Crime To Be Poor?". *New York Times*, 2009, [https://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/09/opinion/09ehrenreich.html. Accessed 25 Oct 2019](https://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/09/opinion/09ehrenreich.html.%20Accessed%2025%20Oct%202019).

Geremek, B., & Kolakowska, A. (1994). *Poverty: A History* (p. 199). Oxford: Blackwell.