

Poverty

By Jacob R.

Poverty has been a part of mankind for as long as can be. In the past a tremendous part of it in America was the Great Depression. The Great Depression started when the stock market crashed in 1929. During this time many people were extremely poor and had to find ways to make money.

There's still poverty everywhere, especially in third world countries. About 1 billion children (1 half of children everywhere) live in poverty and about 22,000 children die every day. Half of the world is lives on, less than \$2.50 a day. A little more than 1.3 billion live in extreme poverty living under \$1.25 a day. Diseases like diarrhea and pneumonia kill 2 million kids a year. But, it's not just third world countries that have poverty; it's everywhere we go.

We need leadership. It doesn't have to be a powerful man. Look at the leaders that were just common folk, Martin Luther King Jr., Gandhi, Nelson Mandela. The key is to have someone to understand what poor people have been through, to know the struggle. My problem is; that I am not like Martin Luther King Jr. I do not know what he went through. I think that is what makes people so inspiring and gives them the determination to do what's right. When I grow up I want to help people who have to go through this terrible experience and make better. "We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort."

- Jesse Owens

World Hunger

By: Landon

There are many things I am passionate about, but I am most passionate about world hunger. An estimated 7.6 million children died from hunger in 2010 alone. And 315,000 women die during childbirth every year because of a lack of nutrients.

I don't think that's right because there's enough food produced every year to feed all 7 billion people on Earth. Yet, more than 20% of children in Asia and Africa are undernourished and underweight for their age. About one in every fifteen children in undeveloped countries such as Bangladesh die of hunger. 13.1% of the world's population is hungry. That is roughly 925 million people that are undernourished on a daily basis, consuming less than the recommended 2,100 calories a day. 88% of hunger is caused from a lack of land and materials to grow the food.

All you need to do is donate a can of food every week to a local food bank or food drive. If every family in the United States donates one can a week for a whole year kids in other countries won't go hungry for 1.3 years.

I think if everyone tries to stop hunger it will work. Every day there's enough food produced that everyone in the world could get more than 2,700 calories when the recommended amount of calories per person per day is 2,100. "Whoever gives to the poor shall not want, but he who hides his eyes will get many curses," states Proverbs 28:27. So, after this speech do you feel like you should donate only one can of food every week?

Character

By: Ethan

Romans 5:4 states "Endurance produces character, character produces hope". I know for sure all people need hope. If you think about it do you really have any character at all? All people need to have character no matter what you think.

Trustworthiness is doing what you say you are doing. Are you honest? Do you have the courage to do what is right even though it isn't clear? Will you stand by your friends, family, and country?

First Peter 2:7 states "Show proper respect to everyone, love the brotherhood of believers, fear god, and honor the king". Respect is what we should have for everyone. I wish we could all have respect for everyone. Do you follow the best rule we could have? Which is the golden rule. "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."

Responsibility is doing what you are supposed to do. We all need to use self-control, self-discipline, and consider the consequences. As people we take accountability for our yourself, actions, words, and attitudes. As people we set great examples for the people that look up to us.

Citizenship is doing something to help the community that we live in. As a citizen do you follow all rules that are placed upon us? Weather you agree or disagree. I wish that we could be judged not by the looks that we have, but by the character that we hold. If we follow all of these pillars for character we can be great people. This is how as kids, as boys, and as girls, we can have a great-life by showing our character.

Bullying

Bullying has become a common problem in many schools today. People get bullied because of their differences. There are three main types of bullying: physical bullying, verbal bullying, and cyber bullying. Physical bullying involves a physical force. This type of bullying could involve shoving, spitting, punching or kicking. Another is verbal bullying that is bullying by words. Last there is cyber bullying that contains using the Internet.

Bullying affects people more than you think. In twelve out of fifteen school shooting cases in the 1990s, the shooter had been bullied. Just because you're being bullied doesn't mean you should give up. You can fight through it. For example Michael Phelps fought through being bullied because he had a lisp and big ears. A few more people who were bullied growing up were Tom Cruise, Lady Gaga, Megan Fox, Jackie Chan, Justin Timberlake, and Jennifer Lawrence.

A common reason that a kid is a bully is because he or she lacks attention from a parent at home and picks on others for attention. This can include neglected children, children of divorced parents, or children with parents that are using drugs or alcohol.

An older sibling can also be the cause of the problem. If a person has been bullied, she is more likely to bully a younger sibling to feel better about herself.

If you're being bullied you can tell the kid bullying you to stop. You can also try to laugh it off. This works best if a kid is making fun of you, and if you can make a joke out of it. You can also walk away. Remember never turn to fighting.

“Pulling someone down will never help you reach the top”

Terrorism!

By, Caleb

We have dealt with this problem before. Terrorism is acts of violence done to get your way. America has fought groups like the Nazis, the Japanese, and British. We all know from experience how bad these types of groups are. America has stopped groups like this already, and that was by defeating them.

Now groups like ISIS are threatening countries in Southwest Asia. Even though America has the weapons to stop those groups, we ignore this threat. ISIS is gaining ground on countries in Southwest Asia. They are murdering people who are not Islamic. We are ignoring this threat, so history is repeating itself. ISIS is basically the same as the Nazis. The Nazis killed Jews, and ISIS kills everybody except Muslims. Both groups murdered because of religious differences. If ISIS keeps advancing, all of Southwest Asia will be taken over; and before we know it, Islam could be the dominant world religion. If America won't step in to help, other Islamic groups will join ISIS and make an even bigger group. ISIS has done lots of types of murder, things such as beheading, burning, and shooting. More and more people are being kidnapped and becoming martyrs every day. As this is happening, America still hesitates to step in and get rid of these groups.

ISIS is beatable. Nobody thought America would defeat the largest army in the world to gain independence, but we proved them wrong. America is a great nation, and to us, terrorism is not tolerated. So if America waits any longer, we are going to fight the largest army in the world again, and who would want that?

What if War Never Happened

Nathanial

If war never happened, then all the deaths that would happen when war comes and goes would decrease. Without any war at all, the 380,000 people that would die at war each year would be able to live longer. Also people wouldn't be leaving their family to go to war and probably be like all those 380,000 people that don't come back to their families each year because of war. So people could not spend more time with their families and friends more often than they do now if they were in the war.

Another thing is there would be more peace in the world than what it is now. Then people could roam the streets knowing there isn't any war happening so that everyone can rest a little easier knowing that no one is planning to invade or attack the place they live. People could also make buildings faster and build homes for the poor people on the streets since more people would be able to help pitch in. More kids at shelters could be adopted since there would be more people in the world. Everyone could now put more money into what they need the most because we wouldn't need to invest in government funding.

Without a lot of deaths, civilizations could spend more time trying to cure diseases or make more resources for civilizations to have and use. So the way everyone can stop the wars from going on is learning to get along with others more. If you don't agree with something then ask the government to change it, if they say "no" then so be it.

Equality

By Trae

I want everyone in this room off the top of your head to think about why people judge other people. Now I'm guessing you can think about maybe it's because of their looks, or maybe the way they talk, or maybe the way they walk, or maybe the color of their skin, but none of those are good reasons to judge a person. Truly a person shouldn't judge another person.

One reason being because they're a human being. They are just the same as you and everybody else. So my question to racist and just mean people why do you say and do the things you do, is there a reason? No!! They don't like that person simply because they're different, but there is still no reason to dislike a person. I understand most people don't know how bad they are hurting the person they're hurting. But that is no excuse for them to be able to say and do the things they do.

"Abraham Lincoln once said all men are created equal" meaning all men should be treated as equals, so what happened to that?
"Martin Luther King once said, I have a dream that one day all four of my kids will live in a world where people are judged by their characters not the color of skin", and now we sort of do. People are still racist and people still judge other people by their looks. It shouldn't be that way. We should all know we're all equal and not to be hurtful to the others that are different. I can only hope one day we'll know we're all just the same.

Drug and alcohol abuse

By Ryan .s

Ethanol is an intoxicating ingredient found in beer, wine, and liquor. Ethanol is commonly called alcohol. Ethanol's chemical formula is C_2H_6O . Three main ingredients in alcohol are yeast, sugars, and starches. Heavy use can increase the chance of certain liver disease, stroke, and even some types of cancers.

Ethanol doesn't have all negative sides. Ethanol is also used in medical uses like medical wipes. Ethanol kills 62% of germs, fungi, and most bacteria. Ethanol also decreases the carbon monoxide that comes out of a car, and ethanol is a good heater on a cold winter night.

There are many types of drugs and almost all of them can kill you. People experiment with drugs for many different reasons. First, people might try drugs because their friends are doing it. Or to improve how people do at an athletic event. Those are two main reasons why people do drugs. Each year hospitals alone treat around 28,000 life-threatening diseases caused by drugs. Drugs kill people worldwide each day.

Drugs and alcohol contain a **chemical** that taps into the Brain's communication system and disrupts the way **nerve** cells normally send, receive, and process information. Some drugs can cause large amounts of dopamine. Dopamine is a feel-good substance produced in your brain when you feel excited because you won a game, when you're waiting for the new-year count down, or when someone tells a joke that is because of dopamine.

Drug and alcohol abuse is coming to a stop because **police ,and now** the world is **becoming a better and safer place**. Drug and alcohol abuse needs to stop

Child Abuse

By Hannah

Years ago, people didn't realize that they abused their children so frequently. After the law was made in 1974, people realized what they were doing, yet they still did it. Here are some different types and categories of child abuse.

There are six types of child abuse: emotional abuse, neglect, family violence, sexual abuse, organized sexual abuse, and physical abuse.

There are many signs of child abuse such as: unexplained injuries, changes in behavior, fear of going home, changes in eating, changes in sleeping, changes in school performance, changes in school attendance, lack of personal care and hygiene, risk taking behaviors, inappropriate sexual behaviors, and returning to earlier behaviors.

You might be wondering who and why people abuse others.

Usually, adults and teens are the hosts. What is a *host*? A host is the person that is abusing someone, but why do they do this you might ask? The main reason is they have seen relatives, close friends, and parents that have abused someone in someway. So the abuser thinks it's "okay" to do this to someone.

Now that we have some understanding on what child abuse is, let's talk about history and what we can do to stop it.

Before the 1800's, child protection did not exist, but in 1875, the world's first organization was entirely devoted to child protection. In 1921, the Shepherd Tower Act took place which means federal money was provided to women and their babies from 1921-1929.

To this day, there are still children being beaten and abused, but don't give up hope. We can stop child abuse together by reporting it when it happens. It won't stop everything, but it could prevent just 4 or 5 kids from being injured.

Child Abuse

By: Kennedy

Child Abuse and neglect has a lengthy history. Children have been the subject of child abuse by their parents or other adults since the beginning of time. For many centuries laws have failed to protect children from abuse.

Neglect is also a present day problem. *Neglect* is failing to provide clothing, food, shelter, medical care, supervision, and education.

A solution to stop child abuse and neglect is to have guidelines and statistics, also you can donate online or report child abuse. You're only a couple clicks away from saving a child's life!

Most child abuse occurs within the family. Neglect and mistreatment of children are the most common in families living in poverty and among parents who are teenagers, drug, or alcohol abusers.

Different signs of child abuse are bruises, swelling or burns. The child may be scared or may be afraid to go home. A child may wear long pants and long sleeved shirts on a hot day to cover skin injuries. People who are physically abusive may be very angry and controlling. Their explanations of injuries may not be consistent with the injury. A child who is a victim of abuse may lie to protect their abuser. You can also use this step. To help abused or neglected children learn to recognize their sign of child abuse and neglect.

Sources of abuse or neglect must be stopped. A loving home and caretaker who will protect the child are very important. Neglect is just like child abuse. Children who have been abandoned or denied need proper care.

Help solve the problem and let us all save the lives of children today.

CHILD ABUSE

Bryzen

Child Abuse is a huge problem these days all over the Earth. Child abuse is more than broken bones and bruises. Most children that are abused will abuse their own children, but some become excellent parents only to protect their children. Many children have been killed and hurt because of these people and we need to stop this.

Most abuses happen with family members or close friends or other family members. Some people abuse people they don't even know. So we need to know who is seeing your children before sending them to who ever watches them.

Many children are scared to tell anyone that they are being abused. They are scared because they don't want them to kill them or hurt them worse.

There are many signs of child abuse, and I think you should know these. One is fear of going home. Another is change in behaviors and unexplained injuries. Most of these children that are being abused or were abused go to jail because of their behaviors, but they were never taught any better.

Twenty-eight point three percent of adults report being abused as a child. Abuse can cause blisters, cuts, brain damage, lifelong injuries, or even death.

There are many behaviors of child abuse a few are being aggressive toward peers, pets and other animals. Abused children also seem afraid of parents or other adults, they have a lack of trust, and relationship difficulties with many people not just their parents.

Child abuse is a serious issue. If you or someone you know is being abused, please report it right away. (Police officers are great examples of someone willing to help.)