

Thomas Pilip

CSON

D,Anne White

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Poverty simulation

Poverty is about doing with out because you do not have enough money to make ends meet. This would include food, shelter, medications, transportation, and the fundamental necessities of everyday life. The newest studies such as the ACE quiz shows that the long-term effect of poverty on children is detrimental not only to their development but also to their long-term health. These studies show how diverse poverty is, showing that every race and or gender is affected by it. The poverty videos also showed how hard the families helped each other and did everything they could do to stay together.

Approximately 13% of American's live-in poverty as we speak, which is more than likely rising due to the pandemic. During this pandemic most business were forced to be shut down especially the smaller ones that could not keep up with the demands of the government's sanctions. This shut down caused millions to go with out work and to live off unemployment, causing people to loss their home in the process. This is now being seen by the increase of the homelessness across the nation

During the videos, the loss of a job usually preceded to the loss of the family home, which lead to a smaller place to live until that one also could not be afforded. Multiple families were shown to end up a hotel or even living in their car if they had one. Once they moved into a smaller place new problems arouse such as the new home being further away from where they could obtain work. Those that lived in the hotel also had additional problems to deal with such as only having one bed or the fact that they could not refrigerate or heat up their food. Then

those that ended up in their car where always in pursuit for somewhere safe to stay that was light up at night or that had a bathroom that they could use to eliminate or to clean up prior to school or work. Throughout these struggles it showed how the families were trying to make ends meet between the money they had and what was necessary to live for the month.

The ACE quiz was especially interesting on how it determined the likelihood of an individual having the possibility to struggle with poverty. What stood out to me was the abuse in the family typically lead into drugs or risky behavior for that individual causing them to head towards the poverty. I would have liked to also see the comparison of individuals numbers on those children how were taken out of those situations either by foster families or adoption and shown love to see if the likelihood for poverty was the same or if it decreased.

The family dynamics was also intriguing, such as the family that traveled together due to only having one car for 2 hours each direction every day so the dad could get to work. Next there is to young man who would mow yards to make money and give most to his mom so that they could eat during the week. After that there is the family that lived in their work van, the children were very supportive of their father during this time of struggle. These all showed how the families for the most part attempted everything they could to provide for each other to keep them afloat.

All in all, this was a very eye-opening experience that I believe most of us in this class have probably never experienced. From what I watched, is the poverty can strike anyone at anytime with out warning. I feel this will help me further into my nursing career and helping me not judge others due to their situation.

