

social problems of the family

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Family Problems

- All families have their problems, but they may turn into a crisis if the family cannot cope or if the family does not have the resources to deal with the problem.
- A crisis can cause the breakdown of family life. However, after the initial stress of the problem, the family may adapt to new conditions.



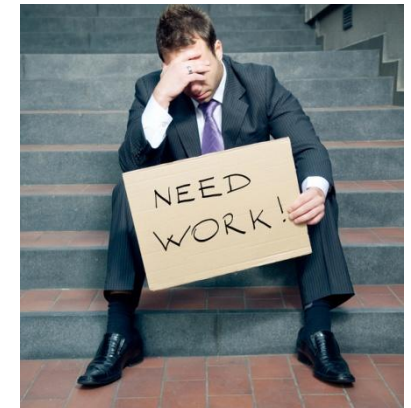
In order to adapt successfully the family must:

- Recognise the problem
- Take steps to deal with the problem
- Resume normal family life with the adaptations.



Social Problems

- These are situations deemed to be unacceptable or undesirable by influential groups within a society. The resulting behaviour is considered deviant or anti-social . Social problems exist in almost every society. They are aggravated and sometimes caused by other social problems, i.e., poverty, violence, unemployment and substance abuse.



Poverty

- This means a lack of resources to provide a basic standard of living - it is relative to its situation, i.e., poverty in Ireland would not be seen as poverty in Third World countries.

Reasons for poverty include:

- **Unemployment**
- **Lack of low-cost housing**
- **'The poverty trap'** - children in poor families tend to leave school with few qualifications and end up in unstable or no jobs and so become poor themselves.

Tackling poverty:

- **Social Employment schemes** - where new skills are taught
- **Enterprise schemes** - which help people to start their own business
- **Partnership schemes** - E.U. funded projects between State bodies, community groups and the private sector.



Delinquency

- **Factors which contribute to delinquency include:**
- Broken homes
- Poor family relationships
- Poverty
- Lack of parenting skills
- Imitation of role models



Effects of delinquency on:

The individual

- Loss of freedom when placed in detention centres
- Criminal record, which may hinder future employment prospects
- Emotional problems
- Rejection by society.

Society

- Fear and anxiety within society
- Cost of maintaining detention centres
- Increase in crime rates destabilise society and may lead to apathy within the community.

The family

- Stress
- Poor role model to younger members of the family
- Economic hardship, if compensation is paid to victims
- Social stigma on the family within the community.

Substance Abuse

- This can include legal (e.g., alcohol) or illegal (e.g., cocaine), substances.

Causes of substance abuse include:

Peer pressure
Escapism
Boredom
Curiosity
Rebellion.

Dependency may be in the form of:

Physical dependence - the body cannot cope without the substance

Social dependence - where the substance is needed to enjoy life and be included in social groups

Psychological dependence - day-to-day living is impossible without the substance.



Effects of substance abuse on:

The individual

- Physical problems
- Emotional problems
- Inability to work productively
- Poverty.

•The family

- Neglect of family members
- Stress and tension
- Poor role models
- Financial problems.

Society

- Increased crime
- Decreased work productivity

Help available

Drug advisory and treatment centres are attached to all major general hospitals and psychiatric hospitals.

Garda Drug Squad - attempts to intercept drugs before they get to the streets.

- Financial strain on the State to rehabilitate and support individuals and families.

Love - a wonderful thing. It can create pain and trouble.

But it can also overcome them.



Love- life
Like people;)