

Socioeconomic Status

The Invisible Diversity Issue
Ciarra Karnes

1 out of every 7 children live below the poverty line



Poverty

Relationships

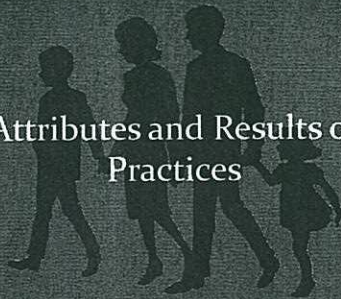
- Clothing
- Debt
- Transportation
- Family and Friends
- Safety
- Jobs
- Health
- Housing
- Criminal Justice System
- Food
- Child Care
- Entertainment
- Agency Time

Middle Class

Achievement

- Transportation
- Family and Friends
- Clubs/Civic Groups/Volunteering
- Political Action
- Education
- Housing
- Retirement
- Careers
- Hobbies/Sports
- Vacation
- Children's Activities

Attributes and Results of Practices



Language

Middle/Professional Class	Poor/Working Class
Discussions happen often: Gains verbal agility Larger vocabulary Gain comfort around authority figures Familiarity with abstract concepts	Clear boundaries are created between children and parents; Parents use instruction more than persuasion: Child develops a sense of distrust, distance, and constraint

Leisure Time

Middle/Professional Class	Poor/Working Class
Organized activities, established and controlled by parents. Frenetic pace Bored when not in activity	Children have more control over leisure activity Free to play with friends and relatives Create their own games and activities

Personal Contact

Middle/Professional Class	Poor/Working Class
Comfortable shaking hands Good eye contact Can deal with authority figures	Restrained Looking someone in the eye may be dangerous Distrust of authority figures

Money

Middle/Professional Class	Poor/Working Class
Money is seldom discussed The assumption is that the child's activities will be paid for	Money is frequently discussed Activities limited by finances

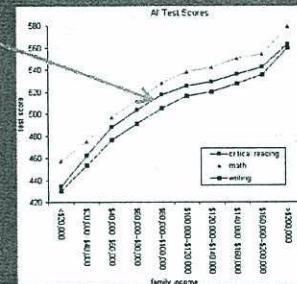
Results

Middle/Professional Class	Poor/Working Class
Emerging sense of entitlement	Emerging sense of constraint

College

"Where college was once a device for creating tomorrow's leaders, it is now seen as a device for combating socioeconomic inequalities."
(Berube and Nelson)

SAT Scores and Income



Homelessness

- 40% women, children, and families
- 65% of the families are women with children
- 20%-40% were experiencing sexual abuse
- 40%-60% were experiencing physical abuse

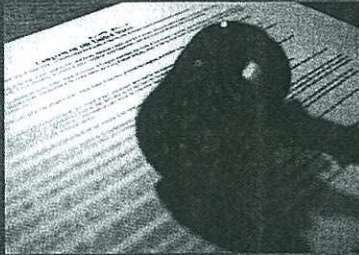


Homelessness

1 out of every 9 children in the U.S. experience homelessness each year



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

- Children not in physical custody of their parents

Half are assaulted or robbed

1 out of every 10 report being raped

5,000 die each year

Street Kids

- They stay wherever they can find a place

Street, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, barns, even under bridges

Negotiate survival sex

Other types of youth homelessness

- Doubled up
- Migratory
- Emergency/Transitional shelters
- Awaiting foster care