**What can be done to Reduce poverty in the United States?**

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Over the past five years, the number of people living in extreme poverty grew from seventy million to seven hundred million worldwide. The COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters, according to the International Monetary Fund (2020), have dragged down the progress made by several countries in reducing poverty levels toward attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Many countries aim to eradicate poverty among their citizens, as this has jeopardized a balanced society. About 34 million people in the U.S. lived in poverty in 2019. However, this was a reduction in poverty levels. The South and Southwest regions are affected mainly by high poverty levels due to poor living conditions and the absence of industries.

Poverty is considered one of the main factors causing unsustainable socioeconomic development that affects people's lives. Therefore, it is essential to consider several aspects of poverty, such as a lack of education or funds, unhealthy habits, uncertainty, a lack of confidence, a feeling of invincibility, or a lack of fundamental freedoms like the right to free expression. Living in poverty refers to financial hardship, lack of access to resources, and lack of viable lifestyle options. In retrospect, this essay will discuss some strategies such as Economic empowerment, Access to quality Education, Affordable Housing, and Health care access that the U.S. government and policymakers need to implement to reduce poverty levels for its residents.

**Health Care Access**

Attention to the health of the underprivileged is a crucial challenge in the progress of any country; subsequently, health is essential on the annual worldwide agenda. To meet the health-related MDGs, the government must provide funding for the purchase of pharmaceuticals and vaccinations, the construction and equipment of facilities, the provision of a necessary workforce within the health system, and higher spending in other vital areas of the economy. The government should also implement a comprehensive health-sector program and a strategy for reducing poverty, including supporting initiatives to mobilize and manage local resources better (Tiehen et al., 2012).

To meet the health-related MDGs, the government must provide funding for the purchase of pharmaceuticals and vaccinations, the construction and equipment of facilities, the provision of the necessary workforce within the health system, and higher spending in other vital areas of the economy. The government should also implement a comprehensive health-sector program and a strategy for reducing poverty, including supporting initiatives to mobilize better and manage local resources. A pro-poor health approach should prioritize the promotion, safety, and advancement of the health of people experiencing hardship. The approach will aid in improving health and stopping the cycle of impoverishment and poor health, providing high-quality medical care and public medical facilities with equally funded systems.

**Economic Growth Empowerment**

Economic empowerment creates critical connections between prosperity and opportunity. People must invest in their kids' schooling when substantial economic progress and career prospects lead to a robust and expanding group of investors. The investors will later result in increasing pressure for enhanced oversight. Therefore, rapid economic expansion fosters the advancement of humanity, which in turn promotes rapid economic growth. Engaging poor people in the economic process and receiving a share of its benefits determines how economic growth lowers poverty. An increase of 10% in the median household income of a country results in a 10% decrease in the prevalence of poorness; hence, economic growth has a crucial role in determining how quickly poverty is reduced (Malerba, 2022).

**Supplemental Security Insurance**

This program needs to be modernized as it provides monthly financial support for people with little or no earnings and assets and is a crucial anti-poverty initiative for the disabled population. Over eight million people in the last three years acknowledged getting incentives; however, more mechanisms still need to be implemented to keep this initiative going. Therefore, millions of people with incapacities are still below the poverty bracket. The U.S. government needs to make various legislative changes that could modernize the supplemental security insurance for its residents and assist in rescuing the disabled community from poverty. The changes can be achieved by raising the minimum benefit to reduce poverty levels among the residents (Mustafakulov et al., 2020).

It is vital to prioritize the economic well-being of such people in need by ensuring the stability of all societies. In 2021, the maximum payout for an individual was raised to $794, and the government needs to increase the budgetary allocation each year. The elimination of fines for financial support from close associates and an update to income disregards that have not been updated since the program's inception are essential steps the U.S. government must take to ensure that this program remains a robust safety net for disabled individuals and children.

**Affordable Housing**

The most vulnerable segments of the local population are in danger due to inadequate housing, contributing to the continued homelessness crisis. Rates of Poverty are increasing, especially chronic homelessness. The U.S. government should invest and provide affordable housing to its people with low or no salaries, as this will ease the burden of paying more than a third of their rent and other utilities. Government stakeholders should guarantee that money is invested in tenant-landlord negotiation and criminal records check on applicants for affordable housing. In addition, perception based on the source of earnings needs to be banned because it makes it harder for individuals that get housing grants to find a home for themselves. Rules that prevent housing discrimination need to be implemented, and this will create communities with greater diversity.

**Access to Affordable Education**

The level of education that children receive has a significant impact on their likelihood of succeeding in life. The prosperity of a country can be increased, and poverty can be decreased via education. The likelihood that a home will be impoverished is significantly decreased when the individual in charge of the society's education level rises. Additionally, increasing the level of education of family leaders not only increases their production and income but also increases the efficiency of other community members, possibly by convincing them to pursue education. Prioritizing savings promptly, bolstering assistance for schools that require it, and guaranteeing students complete their secondary schooling should be done for sustainable educational inputs. Approaches to improve fairness in the system and educational institutions will improve the livelihoods of the less fortunate, which may lead to increased revenues and costs for long-term investment (Galvin & Healy 2020).

**Conclusion**

A wide range of people with various geography, ethnicity, ages, job opportunities, and interpersonal qualities, are impacted by poverty. They experience problems besides economic hardship because impoverishment is not an ongoing state. Poor nutrition causes children to lack the benefits of a secure home, excellent education, and constant dietary intake. Individuals in distress frequently need more training and expertise, which results in low salaries and employment options, the high cost of healthcare and housing care, and other requirements that persons must choose between necessities, occasionally skipping necessities like food or medication. The persistence of poverty threatens the nation's social infrastructure and financial possibilities. Because this will significantly decrease poverty, the U.S. government must prioritize enhancing the financial well-being of people experiencing poverty. The government must increase the federal minimum wage to considerably raise the cost of living for the millions of poor individuals in the United States. Government investment is needed to provide the skills necessary to develop a viable economy. Therefore, poverty can only be reduced through equitable energy economic growth, creating more jobs, encouraging small-scale production and guaranteeing that all its citizens, regardless of socioeconomic status, are qualified for such positions, which must also pay decent wages and provide benefits.

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