# What social issues are affecting the African American race? as well as what policies will help ?4 to 6 pages.

#### Introduction

There are still a lot of historical and social issues that the African American community in the US faces. Numerous aspects of life are impacted by these challenges, including employment, housing, healthcare criminal justice, and education. This essay will look at the major socioeconomic issues that African Americans deal with and provide potential legislative solutions.

#### **Educational Disparities**

There is cause for concern over the educational gap that many African American pupils experience. Lower academic accomplishment can be attributed to several causes such as institutional biases, insufficient funding for educational institutions, and a deficiency of superior resources. To solve this situation, legislators must give financing for schools in low-income communities top priority. It's also critical to diversify educational institutions and launch mentorship programs. Other recommendation include

#### **Education of Teachers**

To promote diversity and combat unconscious bias, educators must get training in cultural competency. The professional development of upcoming teacher preparation programs has to include this form of instruction on a constant basis. The curriculum should include instruction on cultural sensitivity, comprehension, and the background of systemic injustice. This method raises awareness and provides tools to help teachers engage with a diverse student population in order to address the root causes of educational inequity.

## **Unemployment and Economic Inequality**

African Americans usually have higher rates of unemployment and economic inequality than persons of other races. Prominent policies encompass those that eradicate prejudice in the workplace, enhance workforce training accessibility, and support enterprises owned by minorities. Participating in programs that raise financial literacy may help people make wiser financial decisions.

Enacting legislation that makes it easier for African American company owners to obtain funding is one way to support startup companies and encourage economic expansion. We must back policies and initiatives that eliminate housing discrimination and give African American families safe homes if we want to see affordable housing. Policies known as affirmative action programs are intended to aggressively promote equitable opportunities for underrepresented groups, such as the African American population, in order to remedy structural and historical injustices. Even though these initiatives have been crucial in promoting inclusivity and diversity, there is ongoing discussion about them, with proponents and opponents voicing opposing points of view.

Affirmative action advantages:

Redressing Historical Injustices: Affirmative action acknowledges and works to address historical injustices that have affected African American communities for a long time, such as discrimination, enslavement, and segregation.

Encouraging Diversity: These initiatives help create a more inclusive and varied learning and working environment. Being exposed to a variety of viewpoints enhances education and encourages creativity.

Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage: Affirmative action aims to break the cycle of disadvantage by giving historically underprivileged groups preferential treatment.

## **Health Disparities**

African Americans are more prone to experience health problems and have fewer access to resources for healthcare. The following factors need to be considered when developing policies meant to reduce health disparities:

There are several strategies to encourage greater access to healthcare, including expanding Medicaid eligibility, assisting community health clinics, and funding initiatives to improve care in underprivileged areas.

The following are some benefits of supporting community health centers:

Accessible Healthcare: Community health centers are often located in impoverished neighborhoods to ensure that residents, especially African Americans, have simple access to essential healthcare services. This close proximity promotes regular health checkups and reduces transportation barriers.

Affordability: By offering sliding pricing scales and reduced services, community health clinics increase the accessibility of healthcare for low-income individuals and families. This is particularly important for communities that may face financial challenges.

Culturally competent care: Community health centers foster a thorough knowledge of the subtle cultural differences and medical needs since they are often deeply embedded in the communities they serve. Cultural competence is necessary to provide various groups, notably African Americans, with competent and patient-centered care.

# **Voting Rights and Political Participation**

Years after the civil rights movement, voting remains disproportionately difficult for African Americans. To safeguard your ability to cast a ballot, you ought to do the following: Voting Rights Law: Enacting legislation that protects and extends voting rights, such reviving the Voting Rights Act, can eliminate discriminatory behaviors and provide equal access to polls. Civic education-focused whole school curriculum have the ability to increase people's awareness of and aptitude for upholding their civic duties and rights.

# **Criminal Justice System Disparities**

The stark differences in the criminal justice system are one urgent problem. Black Americans are disproportionately targeted by the police, given harsher punishments, and sent to jail for longer lengths of time. Policymakers should support criminal justice reforms based on the following ideas in order to counteract this:

Police Reform: Better relationships between African American communities and law enforcement can be established by putting community policing tactics into practice, raising police accountability, and allocating funds for de-escalation training.

Reducing the general jail population, eliminating racial inequities in sentencing, eliminating mandatory minimum sentences, and reassessing non-violent charges are all part of the sentencing reform process.

Prisoner Rehabilitation: Strengthening programs for inmates to recuperate in order to lower recidivism and provide a smooth transition back into society.

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