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91462



Draw a cross through the box (☒) if you have NOT written in this booklet

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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa  
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

## Level 3 Health 2023

### 91462 Analyse an international health issue

Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse an international health issue.	Analyse, in depth, an international health issue.	Analyse, perceptively, an international health issue.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should attempt ALL parts of the question in this booklet.**

Pull out Resource Booklet 91462R from the centre of this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–8 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in any cross-hatched area (☒). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

Merit

TOTAL 05

## Page 1

Make sure you have the paper Resource Booklet 91462R.

### INSTRUCTIONS

A health issue of international concern is **the difference in life expectancy between people living in poverty and people not living in poverty in the United States**. This is of concern to public health as it is affecting the well-being of a significant number of people.

Before you begin, read ALL parts of the question. Support your answers with **specific and relevant evidence** from **Resource Booklet 91462R**, and your own knowledge about poverty. Evidence can include examples, quotations, and / or data from credible and current sources.

### PLANNING

Consider:

- significant and relevant determinants of health
- how each determinant contributes to implications for well-being
- strategies for more equitable outcomes
- connections to the underlying concepts of health.

B I U    

### QUESTION

- (a) Explain how a difference in life expectancy related to poverty in the United States is a health issue of international concern.

B I U    

The difference in life expectancy related to poverty in the United States is a health issue of international concern. Life expectancy is defined as the number of days an individual has to live. In many countries who suffer from the health issue of poverty and do not have easy access to healthy attributes most likely have a lower life expectancy compared to other countries, in this case we are analysing the life expectancy of individuals in the United States. This aspect of life expectancy in relation to poverty in the United States is a major concern due to factors like low income, tax wages, and access to basic needs. Life expectancy is a significant international concern due to its leading factor of 'poverty'. In relation to poverty life expectancy can be decreased due to things like individuals becoming exposed to diseases as they are living in environments that have no access to clean air, water, land, or environment. When an individual is living in poverty and has a low life expectancy this keeps them out of work, and school which eventually puts more financial stress under their belt as they now have to worry for health care expenses as well as living expenses. Overall the difference in life expectancy within the United States is a major international concern because it is impacting the health of individuals and can also be contributing to a major death rate.


- (b) (i) Identify TWO significant determinants of health (DOH) that contribute to the difference in life expectancy related to poverty in the United States.

*Note: Refer to these two significant determinants of health when answering all remaining question parts in this booklet.*

DOH (1):

DOH (2):

- (ii) Explain how the two determinants of health could impact the short-term and long-term well-being of an individual.

**B** *I* U    

**Economical and political determinants of health:**

The major health issue of the difference in life expectancy related to poverty in the United States, can be linked to the economical and political determinant of health and can impact the short term and long term well being of an individual or communities. The economical determinant of health revolves around the idea of financial status within an individual and the access they have to healthcare, education, job opportunities, etc. The political determinant of health revolves around laws and the support of what the government has put in place to ensure health and wellbeing amongst communities. Income inequality in the United States is one of the major leading factors that contribute to the "widening health gap between rich and poor Americans" as well as the difference in life expectancy. This has been the topic of conversation in the states for years as 'Resource A' displays that "many minimum wage workers have not received any pay increases in recent years" compared to the wealthier individuals who are "continuing to see most of the growth in income". Individuals and communities around the United States are finding it difficult each day as the "cost of necessities such as food, health care, child care, etc" are increasing rapidly which is not only contributing to the difference in life expectancy between rich and poor Americans but also contributing to the constant pressure of living for those on low income. Economically, American citizens are living in a state of income inequality which leads to a more concerning health issue of poverty. This can also be interrelated with the political determinant of health as the government has shown "a lack of progress to revise th current tax system in the United States". As portrayed in 'Resource A', "recent tax cuts and policies that have been put in place by the government only serve to increase economic inequality by giving billions of dollars to wealthy individuals resulting in lower income individuals with few financial options". The government policies are not thoroughly thought out to serve the best for all kinds of individuals as well as to decrease the conern of the issue of difference in life expectancy in relation to poverty in the United States.

The concerning issue of life expectancy in within the United States has many negative imapcts on individuals living within these walls of inequality and poverty. The ideas around the economical and political determiants of health that have been discussed above can result in these many health and wellbeing ipacts to occur. The physical wellbeing of these citizens can be negatively impacted due to this health issue. Many short term and long term physical responses can occurr due to these individuals having a low economical status as they are not getting the basic necessities they need. When they are not able to access their basic needs, their bodies can adapt new diseases as they are living in poverty. Those who are in this state, begin to go without food or sacrifice certain things for living. Another negative response that physically interrupts the health and wellbeing of these individuals is the amount of pressure they have to work. Due to the political policies and the lack or progress with governement in introducing pay rises and higher incomes, citizens who may be struggling are being forced to gain hours and overwork in order to keep up with the high demands of bills and basic necessities. Physically that are being negatively impacted as they are constantly overworking and may be exhausted when returning home. This links to the negative impacts it has on these individuals mentally, emotionally, and socially. The high demands and pressure of being able to survive in the United States may result in these citizens to become stressed and overworked. This can lead to them feeling low about living and can mentally and emotionally drain them. The thought of overworking can also impact their social wellbeing as they are now stripped away of a social life and struggle to find time to spend with friends and family.



(iii) Explain how the two determinants of health could impact the short-term and long-term well-being of a **particular group or community**.

B I U

When looking at a particular group of people or a community, the political and economical determinants of health in relation to this health issue has many short term and long term responses to citizens who are living in the United states. As mentioned in 'Resource B', "poverty occurs when an individual or family lacks the resources to provide life necessities, such as food, clean water, education, health care, and transportation". Due to this, the health and wellbeing of these people will begin to crash as they will not be able to afford needs. This will result in them being physically impacted as they are struggling to pay bills and will eventually be exposed to many illnesses and diseases within their areas. By not being able to afford to live in a higher median, families and individuals are being stripped away of clean air and land which is resulting in poverty. This is a major concern because receiving low income will mean that these communities will not be able to live in higher medians resulting in poverty in certain areas. The cost of living and the areas of poverty keeps individuals out of work and school. In a long term aspect, this means that children will not be getting the education they need to succeed in life and find good job opportunities in the future. This factor also causes children of low income families to be negatively impacted in the future as statistically speaking, "individuals who experience childhood poverty are more likely to experience poverty into adulthood, which therefore contributes to generational cycles of poverty", as well as more increased difference in life expectancy. Physically families and groups are being impacted negatively when living in poverty due to the health problems and diseases that occur. Families who are exposed to unhealthy areas can pick up diseases and can physically be damaged and can also result in death. When exposed to unhealthy health conditions, families and communities can be affected as households could have been affected by one individual in the family or community, which relates to the social wellbeing. The social wellbeing of these families and individuals will also be impacted as they will no longer be able to spend time with friends as they are living in a contaminated environment and may also be struggling to pay certain expenses. Living in poverty will not only contribute to the difference in life expectancy within Americans but it will also cause malnutrition. This means that individuals can either not be getting the basic nutritious foods they need and being under average weight and some may be eating too much bad food they results in obesity.

(c) (i) Identify ONE societal strategy that could positively address the impact of poverty on life expectancy in the United States.

Societal strategy:

(ii) Using the determinants and impacts from (b), explain how this strategy could enhance the well-being of **individual Americans** affected by differences in life expectancy related to poverty.

B I U

After analysing the concern of life expectancy in relation to poverty in the United States, I have come about of a societal strategy that allows inequality with all citizens who are living in the United States. In relation to the economical and political determinant of health, I think that government support and funding to those in need is a good way to increase social justice in this society. For example, currently in New Zealand, individuals who may be on low income and do not have as many job opportunities are supported by benefits that come from WINZ (work and income). WINZ is an organisation that allows families and individuals who are struggling to get the funding and loans they need to gain access to everyday opportunities. Individuals and families are able to access this support easily by providing financial proof. It also allows families to access their basic necessities. I think that by implementing a government funding system similar to this in the United States will decrease the difference in life expectancy related to poverty within American citizens. This is because low income individuals and families can be benefitted with support and funding until they need. Individuals and families will not have to struggle as much to gain access to things like healthcare, food, and education. Families and individuals who meet these demands can be supported and those who are still being high paid and living a comfortable life will continue being comfortable and if need they can also be supported. This strategy can enhance the wellbeing of individuals and families by helping them live a better life and not being negatively impacted by poverty.

(d) (i) Identify ONE community strategy that could positively address the impact of poverty on life expectancy in the United States.

Community strategy:

(ii) Using the determinants and impacts from (b), explain how this strategy could enhance the well-being of **communities** within America affected by differences in life expectancy related to poverty.

**B** *I* U

A community strategy that has come to my attention that can relate to both the economic and political determinants of health is to implement a programme or system where all individuals in a community are easily eligible to access healthcare at low or no expenses. As shown in 'Resource G', health services can be expanded and spread out in more areas to allow certain communities to get the help and support they need. The health of an individual "is significantly influenced by neighbourhood conditions such as the quality of housing, availability of transportation, childhood, etc." By expanding health care systems and focussing on placing more health services around underserved areas creates a better life for all citizens. This community strategy will help achieve equality and social justice within the United States as there is a broader range of services that families can access. This positively enhances the wellbeing of families because they won't have to worry about high transport and healthcare expenses when getting sick. The financial stress will be decreased as families will not have to travel far to access the support they need. This will also ensure that those in need are getting the help they need without worrying too much about expenses and having to go far.

## Merit

**Subject:** Health

**Standard:** 91462

**Total score:** 05

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	M5	This response is low merit, as although it has some detailed evidence this is not consistent across all sections. The response considers the influence of the determinants and the impact of these on well-being. To move to excellence level the response would need to address all the relevant underlying health concepts.