

Poverty Seen Through A Teen

As a fifteen-year-old girl making more money with my weekly allowance alone, than the majority of adults in this country, I realize something needs to change! After looking up all this information on poverty, I have a newfound knowledge. Idaho's high poverty rate for young adults ages 18-24 is a reflection of poor education.

The first step to overcoming this dilemma does not start with those already in debt or adults. It starts with the younger generation! Children and teenagers of today are tomorrow's future! They need to know that success equals wealth, which will in turn equal comfort. Without success, poverty rates will keep increasing until given the chance to uncontrollably take over lives and grab a hold of themselves or one of their loved ones.

The solution to poverty is in our hands and we should take charge. It's time to stop taking school education and simple life luxuries for granted. In order to fix poverty, more people in this community need to understand it. At local PTA meetings and in church congregations we should start advising people of the seriousness and consequences of poverty. If more people were aware, more people would care. With positive attitudes and the goals

to succeed, the underage population of America, can, as we know it, turns things around!

Poverty is sending families to bed hungry, kids exposed to bad weather without proper clothing, leaving people very ill, and many suffering without the money for medical treatment. Too much of this population is unemployed! Local churches are already sponsoring soup kitchens and homeless shelters. In our community, they feed hungry people and shelter the poor. Even with all these accommodations, we are still in grave need of assistance.

My personal suggestion would be to start more programs giving young adults in low-income families the ability to attend college. It seems there are just not enough scholarship programs to go around. I know this community is strong enough and has what it takes; all it needs is a little encouragement, support, effort, and leadership towards positive change!

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