

INTRODUCTION

Topic#1
BS 2nd Semester



BACKGROUND

- A need is something that is necessary for an individual to live a healthy life. All human beings have needs and wants in their lives.
- Bradshaw (1972) distinguishes four categories of social needs:
- Normative; Comparative; Felt and Expressed needs

❑ Felt Need; what people feel they must have

❑ Expressed Need; a strongly expressed want, demanded need

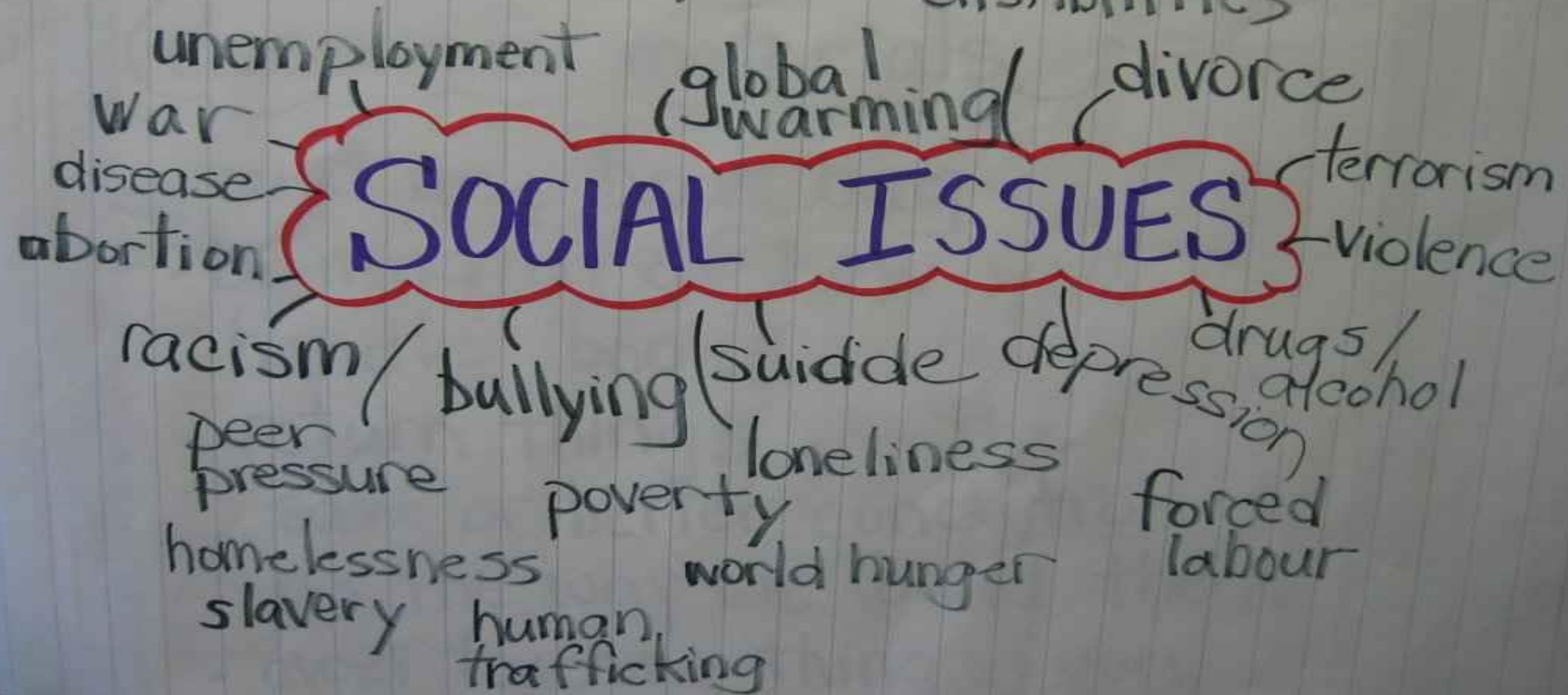
- There is certainly a link between the satisfaction of needs(wants) and a person's welfare.
- If the needs and wants are not fulfilled then problems may arise in the society.



Social Problem

- Any difficulty or misbehavior of a fairly large number of persons which we wish to remove or correct.
- Any condition or behavior that has negative consequences for large numbers of people and that is generally recognized as a condition or behavior that needs to be addressed.
- There are three requirements for a given social condition to be regarded as a social problem:
 - ☐ it must be social in origin
 - ☐ it must be regarded by the society as a problem
 - ☐ it must require some form of social intervention

Our definition: a problem affecting many people



SOCIAL WELFARE

- Social welfare is the condition or well being of a society.
- It can be considered as a state or condition of human well-being that exists when **social problems** are managed, when **human needs** are met and when **social opportunities** are maximized.
- When all three are met, it may be claimed that a family, community and a society enjoys a satisfactory level of welfare.

The Meaning of Welfare

- The older English term 'welfare' can be traced back to the fourteenth century, when it meant to journey well and could indicate both happiness and prosperity (Williams; 1983)
- In 20th century, welfare came to be associated with the assessment of and provision for needs in the 'welfare state'

Social Welfare...

- The idea of 'welfare' refers to 'well-being', or what is 'good' for people. Social Welfare is the provision of a minimal level of wellbeing and social support for all citizens.
- Understood more narrowly, it can be taken to refer to the provision of social services - principally health care, housing, social security, education
- Generally, Social welfare refers to a wide range of activities and services by;
 - ❑ Government/ volunteers/ non-profit organizations
 - ❑ providing help to needy persons unable to care for themselves
 - ❑ in order to eliminate or reduce the incidence of social problems.

DEFINING SOCIAL WELFARE

- Social welfare is described as “the organized system of social services and institutions, designed to aid individuals and groups to attain satisfying standards of life and health and personal and social relationships which permit them to develop their full capacities and to promote their well-being in harmony with the needs of their families and the community” (Friedlander, 1980).

DEFINING SOCIAL WELFARE

- Social Work Dictionary: “A nation’s system of programmes, benefits and services that help people meet their social, economic, educational and health needs that are fundamental to the maintenance of society.”
- Ronald C. Federico: “Social welfare is defined as a society’s governmental and non-governmental efforts to help its members function more effectively as individuals and as participants in organized social structures.”

- The chief characteristics of a welfare service or programme are:
 - ❑ the risks to be protected against (What are the problems that need to be addressed? e.g; disaster, economic hardship)
 - ❑ the population covered (who are the recipients of welfare services?)
 - ❑ eligibility criteria (who is more deserving?)
 - ❑ levels of benefits (to what extent the services will be provided; short term or long term)
 - ❑ manner of financing (Who will fund? Either the recipients must contribute for the services, or by the government will manage through taxes)