

# social problems of the family

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# Family Problems

- All families have their problems, but they may turn into a crisis if the family cannot cope or if the family does not have the resources to deal with the problem.
- A crisis can cause the breakdown of family life. However, after the initial stress of the problem, the family may adapt to new conditions.



# In order to adapt successfully the family must:

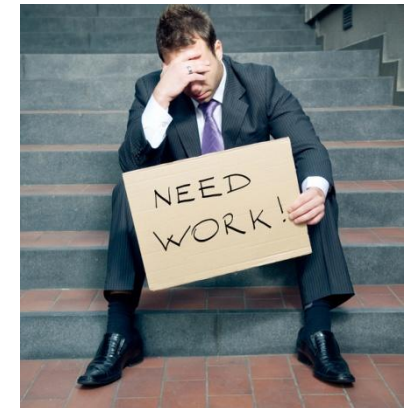
- Recognise the problem
- Take steps to deal with the problem
- Resume normal family life with the adaptations.





# Social Problems

- These are situations deemed to be unacceptable or undesirable by influential groups within a society. The resulting behaviour is considered deviant or anti-social . Social problems exist in almost every society. They are aggravated and sometimes caused by other social problems, i.e., poverty, violence, unemployment and substance abuse.



# Poverty

- This means a lack of resources to provide a basic standard of living - it is relative to its situation, i.e., poverty in Ireland would not be seen as poverty in Third World countries.

Reasons for poverty include:

- **Unemployment**
- **Lack of low-cost housing**
- **'The poverty trap'** - children in poor families tend to leave school with few qualifications and end up in unstable or no jobs and so become poor themselves.

Tackling poverty:

- **Social Employment schemes** - where new skills are taught
- **Enterprise schemes** - which help people to start their own business
- **Partnership schemes** - E.U. funded projects between State bodies, community groups and the private sector.



# Delinquency

- **Factors which contribute to delinquency include:**

- Broken homes
- Poor family relationships
- Poverty
- Lack of parenting skills
- Imitation of role models



# Effects of delinquency on:

## **The individual**

- Loss of freedom when placed in detention centres
- Criminal record, which may hinder future employment prospects
- Emotional problems
- Rejection by society.

## **•Society**

- Fear and anxiety within society
- Cost of maintaining detention centres
- Increase in crime rates destabilise society and may lead to apathy within the community.

## **•The family**

- Stress
- Poor role model to younger members of the family
- Economic hardship, if compensation is paid to victims
- Social stigma on the family within the community.



# Substance Abuse

- This can include legal (e.g., alcohol) or illegal (e.g., cocaine), substances.

## Causes of substance abuse include:

Peer pressure  
Escapism  
Boredom  
Curiosity  
Rebellion.

## Dependency may be in the form of:

Physical dependence - the body cannot cope without the substance

Social dependence - where the substance is needed to enjoy life and be included in social groups

Psychological dependence - day-to-day living is impossible without the substance.





# Effects of substance abuse on:

## **The individual**

- Physical problems
- Emotional problems
- Inability to work productively
- Poverty.

## **•The family**

- Neglect of family members
- Stress and tension
- Poor role models
- Financial problems.

## **Society**

- Increased crime
- Decreased work productivity

## **Help available**

Drug advisory and treatment centres are attached to all major general hospitals and psychiatric hospitals.

Garda Drug Squad - attempts to intercept drugs before they get to the streets.

- Financial strain on the State to rehabilitate and support individuals and families.

Love - a wonderful thing. It can create pain and trouble.

But it can also overcome them.



Love- life  
Like people;)