

1.4. The Differences Between Social Problems and Personal Problems

S/N	Social Problems	Individual problems
1.	They are social in nature because they affect a group or a great number of people.	They are individual in nature.
2.	They are of social consequences and magnitude	They are of individual consequences and magnitude
3.	Most times, they demand government or community response.	They may not necessarily require government intervention.
4.	Could pose a threat to society's survival, health and well-being.	May only pose a threat to an individual's well-being.
5.	Requires change in social behaviour.	Requires change in personal behaviour.

1.5. Types of Social Problems with Particular Attention on Nigeria

The list of social problems in Nigeria is as follows:

- Poverty
- Prostitution
- Armed robbery
- Violence
- Examination malpractices
- Terrorism,
- HIV-AIDs,
- Unemployment,
- Drug abuse,
- Crime,
- Tribalism,
- Teenage pregnancy,
- Examination malpractices,
- Corruption,
- Divorce,
- Single parenting
- Religious fundamentalism
- Rural-Urban Drift
- Illiteracy, and others.

A few of these have been explained in brevity for the understanding of students. They are as follows

- *Poverty* – is the deprivation from the basic necessities of life.

Causes

- Lack of education/illiteracy
- Political corruption
- Lack of national and individual planning
- Mismanagement of resources
- Lack of training and job/financially viable skills, etc.

Solutions

- National and Individual Planning
- Proper management of state and individual resources
- Principled leadership committed to citizens' welfare
- Education and literacy
- Acquisition of job and financially viable skills

- *Prostitution* – the act of engaging in sexual intercourse in exchange for money or offering another person for such purposes.

Causes

- Lack of education/illiteracy
- Child Trafficking
- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Social stigmatization e.g. social outcasts

Solutions

- Education and literacy
- Teaching victims job and economically viable skills
- Creation of employment for victims and women in the society
- Legal Prohibition and punishment of offenders, sponsors and pimps

- *Armed robbery* – this is a criminal act that involves the use of dangerous weapons to dispossess innocent citizens of their legitimately acquired possessions.

Causes

- Lack of education/illiteracy
- Frustration
- Unemployment
- Bad company
- Get-rich-quick syndrome, etc.

Solutions

- Education
 - Moral suasion by religious leaders and institutions
 - Adequate and uncompromising policing and security frameworks
 - Parental responsibility
 - Adequate punishment of offenders
 - Job creation schemes
- *Violence* – the use of physical force to injure somebody or damage something.
 - Causes**
 - Criminal minded individuals
 - Social inequality
 - Political interests and motivation
 - Ethnic considerations
 - Resource squeeze
 - Solutions**
 - Adequate security of lives and property
 - Social equality
 - Popular participation and rule
 - Welfare of citizens
 - Equilibrium in the distribution or allocation of resources
 - *Terrorism* – extreme violence or threat of violence that could harm innocent people involving such acts as kidnapping, bombing (suicide bombing inclusive), assassination and plane hijack, carried out for political or other purposes/reasons.
 - Causes**
 - Criminal minded individuals
 - Political groups and interests
 - Religious or political fundamentalism
 - Injustice and social inequality
 - Marginalisation and political and economic exclusion
 - Porous border security
 - Solutions**
 - Effective border patrol and security
 - Political inclusion and popular rule
 - Responsive and responsible leadership
 - Welfare of citizens
 - Equilibrium in the distribution or allocation of resources
 - *HIV-AIDs* – this stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Acquired immune deficiency. HIV is a virus disabling immune system which causes or leads to AIDS.

Causes

- Indiscriminate and unprotected sex with a victim or victims
- Use of infected needles, pins, razors or other sharp objects
- Contact with infected blood products
- Transfusion of infected blood

Solutions

- Health education
 - Sexual Abstinence/Use of condoms
 - Sexual faithfulness to one's partner
 - Sterilisation of needles, pins and razors used in the hospital
 - Screening of blood and blood products
- *Examination malpractices* – these are practices that fall below the required standards acceptable for passing examinations and involve the use of external materials, the use of “mercenaries” or impostors and other malpractices that help a student or students to pass their examinations.

Causes

- Laziness of students
- Lack of study
- Parental negative influence
- Fallen social morals and values
- Fallen standards of education
- Corrupt teachers and education officials

Solutions

- Promotion of morality and values in the society and educational institutions
- Meritocracy
- Parental guidance and example
- Hard work and personal responsibility

Reforms in educational institut