

FROM POVERTY TO POTENTIAL

CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP FOR LOW SES STUDENTS

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Hidden Rules of Poverty

Time: Present is most important; Impulse decisions made for the moment on survival or feelings

Education: Valued as abstract but not reality

Destiny: Not much can be done to change fate

Driving Force: Survival, relationships, entertainment

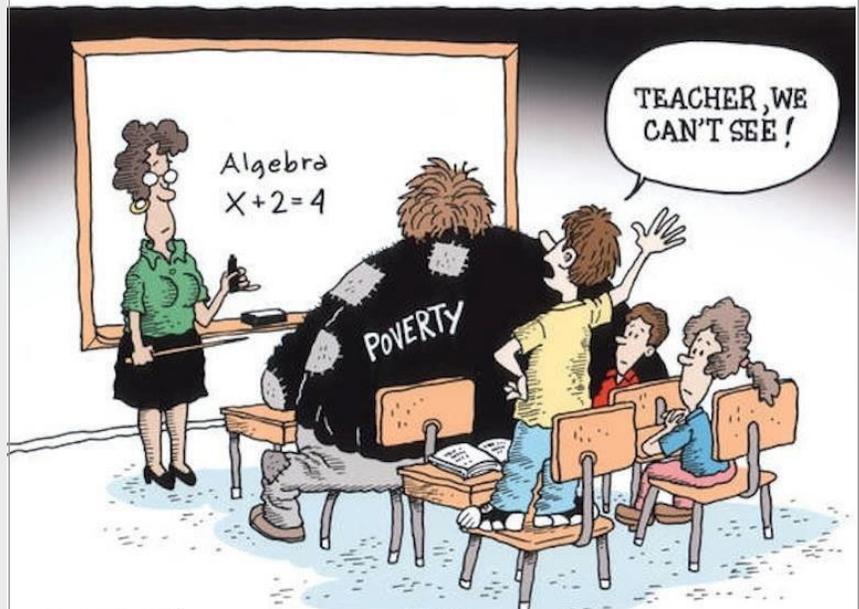
Effects of Poverty in School

- Lack of motivation
- Short attention span
- Learning gaps
- Chronic tardiness
- Inappropriate behaviors

“What Can I Do To Help?”

- Model your passion for learning
- Give learning strategy resources
- Affirm relationship with student
- Refer student to support services
- Display interest in course content

* POVERTY * The TRUTH that is Ignored *



6 Ways to Tap Human Potential:

- * Trust
- * Respect
- * Optimism
- * Intentionality
- * Encouragement
- * Care

Strategies for Success:

Encourage a growth mindset

Create opportunities for self-reflection

Provide students with a rubric to “self-check” work

Communicate expectations; don’t make assumptions

Make connections to the “real world”

Avoid excessive homework; create “in class” opportunities to show mastery of content

The tips and strategies on this page were derived from both Invitational Theory and Adult Learning Theory. Learning is enhanced when it is positively encouraged or “invited” into the educational experience. When students receive support and encouragement that the time and place is right for learning, they become engaged, active and confident.

There are many hidden rules taken for granted by a particular class. We may have the knowledge to survive in our class, but probably not in another class. How well would you do in another class?

COULD YOU SURVIVE IN POVERTY?

1. I know which churches and agencies provide free clothing.
2. I know which grocery stores' garbage bins can be accessed for thrown-away food.
3. I know how to get someone out of jail.
4. I know how to fight and defend myself physically.
5. I know how to keep my clothes from being stolen at the laundromat.
6. I know how to get by without a checking account.
7. I know how to live without electricity or a phone.
8. I know all the local bus routes and times.
9. I can entertain a group of friends with my personality and my stories.
10. I know how to move in half a day.
11. I know what to do when I don't have money to pay the bills.

COULD YOU SURVIVE IN THE MIDDLE CLASS?

1. I know how to get my kids into Little League, piano lessons, etc.
2. I know how to properly set a table.
3. I know which stores are likely to carry the clothing that my family likes to wear.
4. My children know the best name brands in clothing.
5. I know how to order in a nice restaurant.
6. I know how to use a credit card, checking and savings account. I understand term life insurance, disability insurance, house insurance, flood insurance and replacement insurance.
7. I talk to my children about going to college.
8. I can help my children with their homework and will call the school if I need more information.
9. I know how to decorate the house for the different holidays and have decorations on hand.
10. I know how to use many of the tools in the basement or garage.
11. I repair broken items in my house almost immediately, or know a repair service and call it.

COULD YOU SURVIVE IN WEALTH?

1. I can read a menu in French, English and another language.
2. I have several favorite restaurants in different countries of the world.
3. During holidays, I know how to hire a decorator to find themes and items to adorn the house.
4. I know who my preferred financial advisor, legal service, and domestic-aide service are.
5. I have at least two residences that are staffed and maintained.
6. I have at least two or three "screens" to keep people whom I do not wish to see away from me.
7. I fly in my own plane, the company plane, or business class.
8. I know how to enroll my children in the preferred private schools.
9. I know how to host the parties that "key" people attend.
10. I am on the boards of at least two charities.
11. I support or buy the work of a particular artist.
12. I know how to read a corporate financial statement and analyze my own financial statements.