



## Question 16

a) Socioeconomically disadvantaged people have limited money. This is the main factor that sets them apart from society and affects their access to services within the community. This group usually has insufficient finances to pay for basic necessities, nor medical services, housing, or educational services. As these all cost money. The group's lack of funds restricts them from many services.

They can, however, acquire payments from the government to assist them in meeting this need.

Many in this group also have a lack in education, mostly as they can not afford it. This affects the group's access to employment opportunities, as many occupations require secondary and tertiary education, and skills or qualifications in specific areas. Inability to get employment keeps the socioeconomically disadvantaged in the poverty cycle.



Centrelink is a government agency that assists the unemployed. This group is a target group for programs such as 'Job Pathways' that assists them to find a job. Volunteer work is available to increase levels of skill and therefore chances to find employment.

b) Security and Safety is a basic need for all humans. Housing is the common form of security and safety for many, particularly the Aged and Families in Crisis.

The aged are conventionally those over the age of 65. As people age, they become more vulnerable, and their need of safety and security is great. Particularly as their lack of physical and intellectual strength makes them easy targets as victims of theft, robbery, fraud crimes and attacks. The aged can meet this need through housing.

If they are living alone, modifications



can be made to ensure safety, such as security systems, alarms, and a guard dog.

The aged may also choose to live in a nursing home or hostel, which will increase safety and security as they are constantly around other people who care for them.

Hostels, nursing homes and other forms of aged accommodation are likely to have security systems and surveillance systems for increased protection.

A family in crisis is a family that has suffered some form of trauma, either physical, emotional, social. Some possible traumas include natural disaster, family breakdown, death of a family member, domestic violence and abuse.

Two crisis' in particular that <sup>require housing to</sup> meet the individuals of the family's security and safety needs are in the event of a natural disaster or when domestic violence and abuse has occurred within the home.



In ~~an~~ the event of a natural disaster, the family's home may have been destroyed.

The family will need temporary accommodation to keep them safe and secure. This could be living with friends or relatives.

When domestic violence and abuse occurs within the home, some family members may have to leave and find somewhere else to stay to protect them from abuse.

Charity organisations have developed temporary accommodation for those in such a situation such as shelters, women's refuge, stayhouses.

Housing is a very important factor in relation to security and safety of individuals in groups.

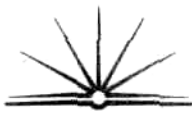
c) Government policy and community structures have greatly influenced societal attitudes towards groups in the community. Two of these groups, that ~~most~~ highlight



This notion are the aged and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

Societal attitudes towards the aged have shaped due to government policies such as The Anti-discrimination (Age discrimination) Amendment Act 1993 and laws that abolished compulsory retirement for aged individuals.

The Anti discrimination Amendment Act 1993 was established to enforce discrimination laws, particularly on the grounds of age. This prohibited the aged from being discriminated against due to their age within society. This allowed them to take equal part in employment and other community activities which showed the rest of society the capabilities of this group. That they are very wise, knowledgeable and skilled. This was also shown when laws for compulsory retirement were abolished in 1990, allowing aged individuals

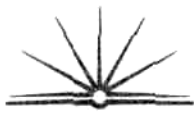


to continue working. This showed society that the aged can still remain capable and valuable employees, and in some cases, they are needed to teach younger employees the 'tricks of the trade' as they had more knowledge acquired from many years in the workforce.

The aging population of Australia has also influenced societal attitudes towards the aged. They are healthier and living longer, portraying their strength to society and ~~interest~~ creating an interest of society into the knowledge and past experiences of the group.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders are people of Aboriginal ~~and~~ <sup>or</sup> Torres Strait Islander descent, identify themselves ~~as~~ as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders, and are accepted by the indigenous community of which they belong.

Over the past decade, societal attitudes



of these indigenous people have changed. Government policies, such as The Racial Discrimination Act 1975 and ~~Aboriginal~~ Government corporations such as ATSIC that develop policies with regard to rights of indigenous people, have influenced societal attitudes greatly.

The Racial Discrimination Act 1975 ensures no person can be discriminated against due to their ethnicity or racial background. This gave Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders an equal opportunity within society, and society began to accept them as equal and valuable contributors of society.

ATSIC, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, also develops policies regarding to rights of indigenous people in Australia, this enhanced equality in the nation. ATSIC also ~~taught~~ teaches white society of the background of



Indigenous people. This along with Australia's increasing multicultural society has taught people the culture and background of the two indigenous groups, showing society how clever and interesting they are.

Government policies and changes within community structure influence societal attitudes of particular groups in society to a great extent.