

Community and Family Studies

Section I (continued)

Part C – 50 marks

Attempt Questions 16–17

Allow about 1 hour and 30 minutes for this part

Answer each question in a SEPARATE writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate an understanding of societal influences on wellbeing
 - apply the skills of critical thinking and analysis
 - illustrate your answer with relevant examples
 - present ideas in a clear and logical way
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	Marks
Question 16 — Groups in Context (25 marks)	
(a) Describe TWO factors that affect access to services for the socioeconomically disadvantaged.	4
(b) Compare TWO groups in terms of how their security and safety needs are met by housing.	6
(c) Analyse how government policy and community structures have influenced societal attitudes towards TWO groups within the community.	15

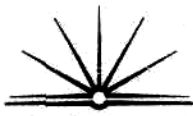
Question 17 — Parenting and Caring (25 marks)

(a) Outline the social changes a woman may experience after having her first child in her early forties.	4
(b) Describe how culture and religion influence parenting and caring relationships.	6
(c) Most parents learn as they go, influenced by the way they were brought up or by what they have read or watched others do. Parenting styles may be different but we all share a common goal.	15

Department of Community Services

Analyse this statement in relation to parenting responsibilities.

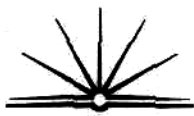
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a. Transport and skills are two factors that affect access to services for the socioeconomically disadvantaged.

Transport is very important since it is essential in physically accessing the services. While a car may be a simple solution, this may be unaffordable. Therefore, public transport including buses and trams may be important in accessing services. Another helpful tool may be a bicycle so that free access can be made. If living in rural areas, or ~~with~~ ^{have} children, or have a disability, difficulty accessing transport can be further exacerbated as the socioeconomically disadvantaged may also fit those ~~of~~ groups.

Skills are an ~~even~~ influential ~~into~~ aspect in determining ability to access resources, although not tangible. This may affect, for example, whether



the person can understand and utilise the financial supports offered by Centrelink, whether they can defend their rights in ensuring equal opportunities for employment, ~~and~~ or whether they have skills to negotiate cheaper rates for services. Thus, skills can be a large influence as a factor affecting access to resources. While extensive skills may increase access, a lack in skills can inhibit accessing necessary services.

b. In comparing the housing needs of the aged and youth, numerous similarities and differences can be identified regarding how safety and security needs are met.

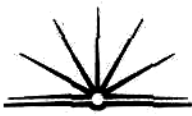
Youth and Aged both need to feel safe in their environment in order to confidently respond to challenges. In addition, both groups need to feel



secure and safe from both physical and psychological threats. For example, an elderly person needs to feel free from fear of home invasion through protected environment, and needs to feel that they are accepted in their neighbourhood so that they do not feel insecure or intimidated. While for the elderly, this is due to a weaker physical ability, the same needs are true for youth due to the nature of their development.

They need to feel accepted and not fear violence. Therefore fulfilling security and safety needs in housing, for both young people and the Elderly, enables a greater fulfillment of their emotional needs.

This is especially important for young people who need to feel that they are accepted by their friends and family.



A difference between ~~the~~ young and old people may be that ~~the~~ ~~elderly~~ Elderly tend to live alone (either independently or in a village) or with their spouse/partner. Therefore, physical security and safety is a crucial concern - secure from outside threats.

In contrast, young people are likely to live at home with their family or with a group of friends. Therefore the security and safety needs may centre on protection from these inside the home, not outside, due to the incidents of child abuse (either physical or emotional or sexual).

Youth and the Aged are both groups who wish to gain ^{or maintain} independence in their housing arrangement. ~~However~~ ^{And} for both, security and safety is important. However, the threats to each group and the repercussions if not met are different to some extent.



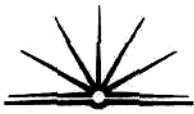
c. Government policy and community structure have led to improvements in societal attitudes towards the aged. As part of the "NSW Government's Healthy Ageing Framework," the government shows its determination to ensure that the rights of the aged are met and their role in society is maintained. This coincides with the United Nations declaration ~~one~~ regarding the upholding of aged rights. The Australian government is working towards improving its policies to ensure they coincide with international standards. Government policies ~~can~~ ^{have} influenced societal attitudes through raising awareness of the valuable aged people are to the community - through media including television and newspapers. Government policies have led to more stringent examination of the conditions in



nursing homes, which has also led to improved attitudes regarding the value of aged people. In addition, the government support of aged through senior citizen benefits, ^{and} pensions ~~and~~ has increased the value placed on age by society, as well as improving their quality of life.

In a similar way, community structures have enhanced societal attitudes towards the aged through serving the aged and through encouraged the aged to be involved in services. For example, the Meals on Wheels service assists aged people, but may also give them the opportunity to be involved in assisting others if they can assist the program.

Therefore, in applying positive government policies and beneficial community structures, the aged have benefited from improved



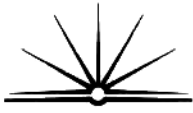
appreciation in society. This has correspondingly been seen among themselves, as they can appreciate both their value and their role.

Government policy regarding young people has undergone substantial change over ~~the~~ the last few decades, particularly since ~~the~~ ~~past~~ Australia's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This international legislator made the rights of the child paramount. Australian governments have incorporated this into domestic legislator, such as the Family Law Reform Act 1995 (Cth) and the Children and Young Persons (care and protection) Act 1998. These acts have improved societal attitudes towards youth because they place paramount importance on protecting the best interests of the child - rather than

on parents or others. Thus, these government policies have enhanced the value of youth in society.

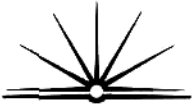
The government's action to reach young people with information on the internet, using ~~the~~ websites such as "The Source" is also an indicator of the improving attitudes towards young people - where their rights and opinions are valued. Other initiatives include, for example, Young Australian of the Year, again recognising the value of young Australians in contributing to their community.

Government policies for youth also include the process of attaining autonomy. The government has established legislated ages that young people gain independence so that they can be protected, can contribute



to the economy, and can maintain ~~and~~ a positive attitude. For example, the Minors (Property and Contracts) Act allows young people to enter contracts - enhancing ~~the attitude~~ society's recognition of their independence - while it also provides a condition by which the courts can overrule a contract if it is not in their best interests. Therefore, through numerous legislations and positive policies, the government is assisting to create a positive societal attitude towards youth.

Community structures are also important in this role, as they enable youth opportunities to assist the community as well as meeting the needs of youth. For example, Hills Youth



Off the Streets reaches out to young people facing homelessness. By meeting their essential needs, the young people can regain confidence and work towards supporting themselves independently. In addition, community structures such as encouraging schools to be involved in service activities including giving blood or donating food can greatly improve the attitudes in society towards youth as the community realises that youth are valuable and ~~have~~ offer benefits to the community.

Therefore, it can be seen that young people's role in the community is becoming more positive - Government policies and community structures are



influencing societal attitudes to
further appreciate young people.