**Unit Five  
Social Issues, Change, Solutions, and Bringing it All Together**

**Topic 1: Population, Urbanization, and Social Movements**

**Readings:**

Read Ch. 14 – Social Change: Population, Urbanization, and Social Movements in *Sociology* by Barkan (CO1, CO4, CO6, MO17, MO18)

Finish reading *There Are No Children Here*

**Website:**

Explore the Harlem Children’s Zone website at: <http://www.hcz.org/?gclid=CPqB1aLNxK4CFacaQgodJwjxUA>   
 (CO4, CO6, MO8, MO15, MO19)

**Discussion:**

Respond to at least two of the following discussion topics, and reply to at least two other students, following the assessment guidelines posted in the Course Orientation module.

**Topic 1:** Relate the ideas presented in the course material on inner-city poverty and urbanization to what you are reading about in *There Are No Children Here*. In other words, take an idea (for example, the problems that concentrated poverty and urbanization create), and find examples in the book to illustrate these ideas, referring to the general setting, and to specific people. (CO1, CO4, MO10, MO17)

**Topic 2:** Social movements have goals that affect large numbers of people, and often the society as a whole, but individuals are affected as well. Some social movements that have had some success in bringing about social change over the last few decades are the civil rights movement, the women’s movement, the environmental movement, the gay rights movement, and the animal rights movement. Select one of these movements, and discuss how the successes of the movement may have influenced your life, the lives of others, and the society as a whole, in a positive way.  Refer to textbook material about the type of movement this is, the origin of the movement, and its life cycle. Incorporate web site material about the movement (with citations, of course), and discuss the validity of the website based on the tutorial on evaluating internet sources at: <http://www.wou.edu/provost/library/clip/tutorials/eval_internet.htm> (CO5, CO6, MO18, MO19)

**Topic 3:** What did you learn about solutions to inner-city poverty by visiting the Harlem Children’s Zones website? Do you believe that the solutions presented there could work across the country? Why or why not? Refer to course material. (CO4, CO6, MO8, MO15, MO19)

**Solutions and Bringing It All Together**

**Reading**

1. Read Ch. 15 -- Conclusion: Understanding and Changing the Social World in Sociology by Barkan (CO6, MO19)
2. Finish reading *There Are No Children Here*

**Discussion:**

Respond to at least two of the following discussion topics, and reply to at least two other students, following the assessment guidelines posted in the Course Orientation module.

**Topic 1:** Think about the book *There Are No Children Here*, and about all of the topics that we have covered this quarter. Then, imagine that you had read the book, but had not taken this sociology course. In what way is your understanding of what you read different or enhanced by your current knowledge of sociology? Be specific in terms of information you now have, a theory you can now apply, or a perspective that you have that is different from what it would have been if you had read the book before taking this course. (CO1, CO2, CO3, CO4, CO5, CO6, MO1, MO2, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8, MO10, MO11, MO12, MO13, MO14, MO15, MO17, MO19, MO20)

**Topic 2:** Look back over the topics that we have covered this quarter. Choose the topic that you found the most interesting, and discuss what you found interesting about it, what you learned, how you might use what you learned in the future, and how you might find out more about this topic. In discussing how you might learn more about the topic, also refer to what you learned about evaluating internet sources. (CO1, CO2, CO3, CO4, CO5, CO6, MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8, MO9, MO10, MO11, MO12, MO13, MO14, MO15, MO16, MO17, MO18, MO19, MO20)

**Topic 3**: A focus of this class has been on social policies suggested by the sociological perspective to improve our society. Which do you think show the most promise to make our country better for its citizens? If you feel that none of the policies are promising, explain why. Refer to course material. (CO6, MO8, MO15, MO19)

**Application Essay assignment:**

Submit an essay on the following topics, following the assessment guidelines posted in the Course Orientation module.

**Topic 1:** During this course, we have studied the powerful impact of inequality and the operation of institutions as social forces. Based on what you have learned about inequality, about institutions, and about the inner-city, discuss what you believe to be the most powerful or important social force that has played a role in the lives of the people in *There Are No Children Here*. Use specific examples from the book to illustrate the impact of this social force, and refer to specific course material. Be sure to choose one of the social forces we studied in this course.

**Topic 2:** For this part of the assignment, choose one of the theories of deviance (learning, strain, social-bond, or labeling). When you decide which theory you would like to apply, fill in the blanks below with the name of the theory, and address the following:

You have chosen the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ theory of deviant behavior. In the book *There Are No Children Here* there are many examples of people engaging in deviant behavior, as well as people who do not engage in such behavior. Find what you believe to be a good example (a person or situation) of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_theory in the book, and discuss in detail how the theory would account for the deviant or conforming behavior described. Use specific examples from *There Are No Children Here*, and refer to specific course material from Unit 2, Topic 5.

**Exam:**

Take exam over Unit 5 and *There Are No Children Here*, following the assessment guidelines posted in the Course Orientation module. (CO1, CO2, CO4, CO6, MO19, MO20)