**Connecting Local and Global**

**Social Problems Concept Map**

Points: Date Due: TBD

Overview: In our global world, it is impossible to study social problems without seeing the connections between the local and global environments. In order to better understand social issues in our neighborhood, we have to understand worldwide social conditions that play a role in the development of social issues, and vice versa. Concept mapping is a technique that allows us to gather ideas about a particular topic or concept and organize our ideas into patterns that illustrate common relationships between these ideas. Concept Maps, in this exercise, allow us to “see” the local and global connections of a particular social problem.

Task: Using a specific social problem discussed in this unit, create a concept map that displays the connections between how local and global cultural influences impact the creation of this social problem.

1. Prepare – brainstorm and make a list of all the concepts and ideas that come to mind about your chosen social problem.
2. Organize – From your list, determine which concepts are most relevant; highlight those concepts. From your list, determine related concepts and create categories; list any sub-categories and descriptive concepts below these newly formed categories. Make note of concepts that overlap categories and sub-categories.
3. Create – Using a determined structure (circles, squares, different colors, etc…) draw your concept map. Begin by listing your social problem large circle in the center of a piece of paper. Next, write your categories in smaller circles moving away from the center. Continue this process until all of the concepts are listed. *This is only an example of the format you may choose; be creative but also consistent!*
4. Link - Use lines and arrows to connect concepts and/or categories; and, illustrate relationships between connected items. Write a word or short phrase by each arrow to specify the relationship.
5. Analyze - Look at the categories you have created on your concept map; what are the local and global conditions that may impact those categories (in relation to your chosen social problem)?