

Questions & Answers

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**1. (A)**

According to Rawls (1971), economic inequalities should be allowed only if they are of benefit to the less advantaged members of the society. During the U.S presidential elections, Barack Obama's key campaign issue was to narrow the gap between the wealthy and poor Americans. This was to be achieved through enactment of The Affordable Care Act. There were many inequalities in this case since once the act was completely applied insurance companies would face several new regulations imposed on them (Rawls, 1971). The enforcement of this Act would increase the taxation level on high-income earners, which the wealthy viewed as unfair.

According to Rawls (1971), this inequality was not justified since a fair system could be easily created and developed. Rawls argued that the best way to structure a society is through the original position. This is where individuals have no knowledge about their wealth, resources and talents. In this position, people would likely choose a system fair to all. The latter would eliminate the chances of biased system.

**1. (B)**

An estimate by researchers showed that enforcement of the Obamas health care law would make many Americans quit their jobs. Health dimension entails what a typical person generally understands as mental and physical health. Since the government has subsidized the health insurance employees would quit their jobs. This is because republicans argued that being in the job was just for the sake of maintaining the health insurance they received from employers. Therefore, health care would no longer a factor to keep Americans at work. Personal security refers to prolonged fear of interference of personal security such as civil war, domestic abuse and political turmoil. This may not directly cause ill health but can destruct Americans

from well-being. Considering that all these fears have been eliminated through enactment of various laws, Americans feel secure and can think of quitting their jobs because their well-being is catered for.

## 2.

John Rawls in a theory of justice developed the concept of the veil of ignorance. This are the concepts people would agree with while selecting rules for the society behind a veil of ignorance. In this case, no one knows his or her age, race, sex strength or even religion and therefore, the principles would be fair and just. The elderly should understand that the era in which only a few had power in government is gone. People have freedom of speech and conscience and most crucial the right to own personal property.

The second argument of Rawl is the idea of fair equality for jobs in each sector of the economy. The elderly lived in the era when the good opportunities were legally restricted to members of a powerful group. However, after civil rights movement and campaign against racial segregation in U.S; the old people should understand there are equal chances for everybody (Rawls, 1971).

Finally, Rawl explains the difference principle in the veil of ignorance. It states that no difference in income and wealth should arise between people except those that make the less fortunate in the society better off. The elderly should understand that, the success of a person might depend on the attitude impacted on a child by the parents. Therefore, parents should love and encourage their children. This can motivate them to be successful people in future.

**3.**

The letter by the Catholic Bishops did not try to explain how economy works but instead turned to the teachings of the church. Regarding the St. Louis University community to share ownership in resolution of the West Lake Landfill crisis, the following principles of economic justice should apply. Firstly, each economic resolution should be examined whether it supports or discourages the dignity of each individual. Secondly, the dignity of an individual can be only created and protected in the community. Finally, St. Louis community should understand that human rights are the lowest factors for life in community (Strain, 1989).

**4. (A)**

The Native Americans comprised of many distinct tribes many of which lived as joined political communities. Most of the Native Americans were hunters, gatherers, and used oral tradition to tell their histories. Between 1946 and 1958, the U.S. set 67 nuclear gadgets in and within the Marshall Islands. This affected their health in two ways. Firstly, the Native Americans were infected with high fatalities due to their contact with Eurasian diseases, which they had not acquired immunity. Secondly, the Marshallese health was much affected by the radioactive exposure from the nuclear devices.

**4. (B)**

The displacement of the Native Americans disrupted some necessary conditions for life in the society. Firstly, the increase of European-American population led to increase of pressure on the Native American land (Grossman, 2006). This led to conflict between the groups rising tension and hence causing social disruption of the Native American society. The Marshallese were also displaced from their home islands due to the contamination and to accommodate the

military. Their traditional diet and way of life was affected and succumbed high rate of diabetes among other health issues.

### **5. (A)**

Social determinants of health are social conditions, which affect the health of people in the community. These conditions depend on the availability of money and resources all accelerated by policy choices. Various social structures influence the ability to practice healthy behaviors namely,

- Social environment such as income of an individual, gender (male or female), and social discrimination by other people or groups
- Health services for example, access to quality medical care, availability of health insurance policies, and all the necessary health care services.
- Health behaviors such as unprotected sex, smoking of cigarettes and other drugs, alcohol consumption and injection of harmful drugs

### **5. (B)**

Personal values and motivation play a major role in the ability of an individual to practice healthy behaviour. The level of knowledge of a person can be a source of the ability to live a healthy life (Marmot & Wilkinson, 2006). The attitude of an individual towards healthy practice and its importance is necessary in determining their ability. Finally, individual's beliefs and personal traits can also determine the ability simply because what one belief is possible can be.

## References

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