

Homeless Sensitivity Survey!

Anyone can become homeless. The causes and combinations are varied.... people become homeless from every part of our community. The wealthy are not immune. White collar employees are susceptible. Homelessness can happen to people who have worked their whole lives as well as people who own their own homes.

This is important. There is not a separate homeless population, but rather people who become homeless from the entire population.

Taking the following brief "Yes or No" survey can demonstrate each person's vulnerability to at least some of the causes of homelessness. When several causes are combined together, or occur without a family support system, they can lead to a temporary state of being without a home.

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| 1. Is it possible that you could ever lose your job and have a period of unemployment? | Yes | No |
| 2. Has there ever been any form of domestic violence in your home? | Yes | No |
| 3. Do you live in a female-headed household? | Yes | No |
| 4. Could you ever be a victim of a long term illness? | Yes | No |
| 5. Did you drop out of high school (or earlier)? | Yes | No |
| 6. Does any adult in the family struggle with alcohol/drugs or other addictions? | Yes | No |
| 7. Does your sole income come from welfare? | Yes | No |
| 8. Are you behind in the monthly rent or utilities or have you ever received late notices? | Yes | No |
| 9. Do your skills qualify you for work only in minimum wage positions? | Yes | No |
| 10. Could you ever be involved in an accident that results in the loss of work hours and/or vehicle? | Yes | No |
| 11. Do you pay more than 50% of your monthly income for rent or mortgage? | Yes | No |
| 12. Could your home ever be involved in a fire, flood, tornado or other natural disaster? | Yes | No |
| 13. Do you or could you ever have problems with debt that might affect credit loans? | Yes | No |
| 14. Do you have a family network of relatives who are struggling with their own emotional and financial resources? | Yes | No |

Answering "Yes" to one or two questions does not mean that you are homeless or will become homeless. But for every "Yes" answer, there is something that you share with many homeless people, an area in your life where you can have more empathy and acceptance of the plight and needs of those who are homeless.