

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FINAL EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2013

TITLE OF PAPER: SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WORK PROBLEMS

COURSE CODE: SOC 411

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

QUESTION ONE

- a. Which of the following statements is true about the poor
 - i. Endure more illness
 - ii. Receive less schooling
 - iii. Experience more unemployment and crime
 - iv. Are more likely to live in inadequate housing or to be homeless
 - v. Are always deviants
- b. There are claims that violence is an economic problem more than a social problem that can be solved through job creation. Discuss with examples.

QUESTION TWO

Macionis, J. (2008) defines a social problem as a, “condition that undermines the well-being of some or all members of a society and is usually a matter of public controversy”. Using your contextual understanding of social problems discuss with examples this definition.

QUESTION THREE

Explain with valid examples the statement that social problems are socially constructed.

QUESTION FOUR

According to the Swaziland Demographic Health Survey (2007), the unemployment rate of Swaziland is 40% coupled with an HIV prevalence rate of 26%. Discuss social problems that are a consequence of these statistics.

QUESTION FIVE

Violence, crime, drug and alcohol abuse are classified as “social problems of deviant behavior”. Critically discuss with examples how each of these are social problems.

QUESTION SIX

Discuss how the minority status of women and children perpetuates vulnerability as a result leading to social problems.