**Niagara University Poverty Assessment Survey**

**All information will be kept anonymous and confidential.**

**The ID info below is very important to making the research project work. We will never look at individual responses nor seek to use any of the information that we collect to identify any individual.** The information below (initials and last 4 numbers of your student ID) are only used to match time pre-test answers to post-test answers.

What are the first two letters of your last name?

○ A ○ G ○ M ○ S ○ Y

○ B ○ H ○ N ○ T ○ Z

○ C ○ I ○ O ○ U

○ D ○ J ○ P ○ V

○ E ○ K ○ Q ○ W

○ F ○ L ○ R ○ X

What are the last 4 numbers of your student ID number?

○ 0 ○ 0 ○ 0 ○ 0

○ 1 ○ 1 ○ 1 ○ 1

○ 2 ○ 2 ○ 2 ○ 2

○ 3 ○ 3 ○ 3 ○ 3

○ 4 ○ 4 ○ 4 ○ 4

○ 5 ○ 5 ○ 5 ○ 5

○ 6 ○ 6 ○ 6 ○ 6

○ 7 ○ 7 ○ 7 ○ 7

○ 8 ○ 8 ○ 8 ○ 8

○ 9 ○ 9 ○ 9 ○ 9

**Sex:** **Your** **Age:** **Race/Ethnicity:** **Religion:**

Ο Male Ο 18-25 Ο White Ο Catholic

Ο Female Ο 26-35 Ο African American Ο Protestant Ο 36-50 Ο Hispanic Ο Jewish

Ο 51-65 Ο Native American Ο Muslim

Ο 66 or older Ο Other Ο Other

**Education at NU:**

**Year in school:**

Ο Freshman

Ο Sophomore

Ο Junior

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○ Pre ○ Control

○ post ○ Pre debrief

○ Post debrief

Ο Senior

**College/Major:**

College of Arts and Science

Ο English/History/Philosophy/Religion

Ο Sociology/Criminal Justice/Social Work/Psychology/Political Science/Social Sciences

Ο Biology/Chemistry/Nursing/math

Ο Communication

Ο Theater

College of Business

Ο Accounting

Ο Commerce

College of Education

Ο Childhood (grades 1-6)

Ο Adolescence (Grades 7-12)

Ο Special Education

College of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Ο Tourism and Recreation

Ο Hotel and Restaurant

Ο Sport Management

**How many Community Service and/or Learn & Serve hours have you completed?**

Ο 0-10 Ο 51-75

Ο 11-20 Ο 76-100

Ο 21-50 Ο 100+

**Type of Setting where you have completed Learn and serve Hours (select all that apply):**

Ο Soup Kitchen Ο After School Program Ο Elementary school Ο High school

Ο Elder care Ο Homeless Shelter Ο Domestic Violence Program

Ο Community Development Ο Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Type of High School You Attended (select the answer that most closely describes your high school):**

Ο Private Catholic Ο Public Suburban Ο Public Rural

Ο Private non-catholic Ο Public Urban Ο Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Your Family’s Household Income (per year):** **Which of the following best describes your family’s housing?**

Ο $0-$8,000 Ο Own Home

Ο $8,001-$15,000 Ο Private apartment

Ο $15,001-$25,000 Ο Section 8 Housing

Ο $25,001-$40,000 Ο Public Housing

Ο $40,001-$60,000

Ο $60,001- $80,000

Ο More than $80,000

Ο Not Sure

**Have you or your family received any of the following supports?**

**Supplemental Security Income** Ο Yes Ο No Ο Not Sure

**Food Stamps** Ο Yes Ο No Ο Not Sure

**TANF (welfare)** Ο Yes Ο No Ο Not Sure

**Medicaid** Ο Yes Ο No Ο Not Sure

**Heating assistance** Ο Yes Ο No Ο Not Sure

**In your opinion, which of the following best describes your family’s economic status?**

Ο Wealthy

Ο Upper Class

Ο Middle Class

Ο Working Class

Ο Poor

**Which of the following statements describes your experience with poverty and with people who live in poverty (select all that apply to your situation)?**

Ο My family lives in poverty

Ο Several of my friends live in poverty

Ο I have worked/volunteered with people who live in poverty

Ο I have little direct experience with poverty/most of what I know comes from books, movies, & television

Ο I have no experience with those living in poverty

## Definition

1. Define poverty using your own words and experiences (Use the back of this sheet if needed).
2. Using your experience and definition of poverty, what are the top three things/indicators you would look for to determine/judge whether an individual, a family or a group of people is living in poverty?

a.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

c.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Using your experience and definition of povertywhatare the top three conditions (or factors) that cause an individual, a family or a group of people to be living in poverty?

a.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

c.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please use the following scale to answer questions in this section.**

**-2: strongly disagree, -1: disagree, 0: Neutral, +1: agree, +2: strongly Agree**

**For any question where you are not sure or feel that the question does not apply to you, please mark zero (neutral) as your answer.**

-2 -1 0 +1 +2

1. A person receiving welfare should not have a nicer car than I do ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
2. Poor people will remain poor regardless of what's done for them ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
3. Welfare makes people lazy ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
4. Any person can get ahead in this country ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
5. Poor people are satisfied receiving welfare ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
6. Welfare recipients should be able to spend their money as they choose. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
7. An able-bodied person using food stamps is ripping off the system ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
8. Poor people are dishonest ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
9. If poor people worked harder, they could escape poverty ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
10. Most people are members of a minority group ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
11. People are poor due to circumstances beyond their control. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
12. Society has the responsibility to help poor people. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
13. People in welfare should be made to work for their benefits ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
14. Unemployed poor people could find jobs if they tried harder ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
15. Poor people are different from the rest of society ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
16. Being poor is a choice ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
17. Most poor people are satisfied with their standard of living ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
18. Poor people think they deserve to be supported ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
19. Welfare mothers have babies to get more money ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
20. Children raised on welfare will never amount to anything ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
21. Poor people act differently ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
22. Poor people are discriminated against. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
23. Most poor people are dirty ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
24. People who are poor should not be blamed for their misfortune. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
25. If I were poor, I would accept welfare benefits. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
26. Out-of-work people ought to have to take the first job that is offered ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
27. The government spends too much money on poverty programs ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
28. Some "poor" people live better than I do, considering all their benefits ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
29. There is a lot of fraud among welfare recipients ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
30. Benefits for poor people consume a major part of the federal budget ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
31. Poor people use food stamps wisely. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
32. Poor people generally have lower intelligence than non-poor people ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
33. Poor people should be more closely supervised ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
34. I believe poor people have a different set of values than do other people. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
35. I believe poor people create their own difficulties ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
36. I believe I could trust a poor person whom I employ. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
37. I would support a program that resulted in higher taxes to support

social programs for poor people. ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯

1. Everyone, regardless of circumstances, should have enough food ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
2. Everyone, regardless of circumstances, should have health care ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
3. Everyone, regardless of circumstances, should have a place to live ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
4. Most people who are poor waste a lot of their time ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
5. The poor are treated the same as everyone else ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
6. The poor have the same opportunity for success as everyone else ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
7. The poor face challenges that are the same as everyone else ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
8. Governments should do more to help the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
9. Charities should do more to help the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
10. Businesses should do more to help the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
11. Individuals should do more to help the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
12. Lack of transportation is a major challenge for the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
13. Lack of social support (family, friends, church) is a major challenge for the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
14. Lack of education is a major challenge for the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
15. Lack of child care is a major challenge for the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
16. Lack of self-control is a major challenge for the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
17. It upsets me to know that many people are poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
18. I feel that I know what it is like to be poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
19. I feel that I understand why someone may be poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
20. I feel that I have enough direct experience with the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯
21. I feel that I could personally make more of a difference in the lives of the poor ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯

**Your thoughts and comments on the poor and on any of the questions in this survey:**

Date Completed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time Completed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_