**Research Paper – Sociology 1306 – Social Problems**

For this paper you will conduct case study of a particular social problem. Your focus will be on the local situation: the extent to which the problem exists in the metroplex area and local efforts – by citizen groups, local organizations, chapters of national organizations – to address these problems.

To begin, you will (1) provide objective data to demonstrate the extent to which the problem exists on the ***national*** level. Who are most affected? You will then (2) collect data from various local agencies and organizations that will establish the extent to which the problem exists in the ***metroplex*** area, comparing it to the national statistics. These agencies and organizations typically have web pages that contain this information. You will also likely find information from various news reports (i.e., the *Dallas Morning News*). You might also contact an organization asking for additional details. Next, you will (3) ***choose one*** citizen group, local organization, or chapter of a national organization and discuss their operation. What is their budget? Where do they get their funds? How many people are employed and/or work as volunteers? Next, you will (4) examine the various ***tactics and strategies*** that have been used to organize, mobilize resources, and engage in direct action to affect meaningful change. Last, (5) taking into account *opposition forces and political context*, you will assess the extent to which the problem is being alleviated and the prospects for the future.