

Civic Minds

Date: Friday, May 19, 2017

Print Replica Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Article Title: **Seattle to clear out sprawling homeless camp near I-90**

Section: MAIN, A1

****Please review the article prior to starting the lesson in your classroom, to determine whether the content is appropriate for your students and grade level.***

Learning Objectives

- ✓ Students will examine homelessness
- ✓ Students will discuss the impact of programs helping to transition them to permanent housing
- ✓ Students will debate why people don't want homeless camps in their neighborhood or city
- ✓ Students will brainstorm their own solutions to this problem

CCSS Standards

Social Studies EALR 1: Civics

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

Social Studies EALR 3: Geography

Understands the cultural universals of place, time, family life, economics, communication, arts, recreation, food, clothing, shelter, transportation, government, and education.

Social Studies EALR 4: History

- Analyzes the motives and interests behind an interpretation of a recent event.

Social Studies EALR 5: Social Studies

- Analyzes consequences of positions on an issue or event.
- Analyzes the short-term and long-term implications of decisions affecting the global community.

Vocabulary

Look up the definition for ***evicted***. Please write the definition and create a new sentence, using your own words.

"McCorvey, 38, said he moved to the Dearborn section of the camp last January after being ***evicted*** from another camp on Jackson Street."

Evicted definition:

New Sentence:

Pre-Reading Questions:



- What do you see in these pictures?
- What do you think this article will be about?
- Have you ever traveled by this encampment near South Dearborn Street and Rainier Avenue South, near I-90?
- What emotions do you feel about the people that live here?
- Does it look bad?
- Where would a better place for them to live be?
- Do local towns and neighborhoods want homeless camps in them? Why or why not?

Comprehension Questions:

1. City officials will begin clearing the sprawling camp Tuesday, starting with a triangle of green space between the Interstate 90 ramps to Rainier, known as the Cloverleaf. The larger section, between South Dearborn Street and I-90, stretching to Interstate 5, will be cleared next week.

It's the latest in a series of so-called sweeps that have seen the removal of what?

2. City officials ordered this camp cleared last month, citing concerns over what?
3. While residents of smaller camps are typically given only 72 hours' notice before a sweep, city officials said outreach workers have done what?
4. Officials estimate that _____ to _____ people were living at the camp at its peak. Days before the scheduled sweep, several tents still lined the span of the greenbelt.

5. The sweep comes as city officials continue a campaign to balance public safety concerns around the camps with humane efforts to move people where?
6. Some residents have complained about the camp-what were their main concerns?
7. Delays have pushed to summer the opening of the Seattle Navigation Center. What is this program about?
8. Still, Seattle officials say that progress is being made. Since forming in January, the city's Navigation Team, a specialized group of outreach workers and police, has made contact with _____ people living in the city without shelter, according to city figures.

Class Discussion Questions or Journal/Essay Prompts:

- What are factors that can lead to homelessness?
- Where are the homeless to go if shelters are full?
- *How important are social services to help them get into permanent housing? Is it a government problem? Why or why not?*
- *Why don't people want homeless camps in their neighborhood or city?*
- *What are some solutions to the problem of homelessness? How can we help get these people back on track?*

"It's people moving over from the Jungle or from wherever else," he said. "This seems like the spot people come when they run out of the other camps."

- Do you think they'll come back? Why or why not?

Sidney McCorvey said he'd take advantage of a space in one of the authorized camps if it was available.

McCorvey, 38, said he moved to the Dearborn section of the camp last January after being evicted from another camp on Jackson Street. Struggles with opiate addiction have kept him on the streets for the past two years, he said. He said he'll take whatever help he can to get sober so he can see his two estranged daughters again.

"Everything is double hard out here, including being clean," he said. "The solution for me might be leaving."

- Drug addiction, homeless, he can't see his daughters, he's dirty and can't take a shower...how do people keep positive, how do they have the desire to make something better?
- Do you think people like McCorvey can change; turn his life around? Why or why not?

Civic Minds Activity:

Take a moment to review today's print replica of The Seattle Times. Can you find a story that stands out to you regarding a global issue or someone that was inspired to help others?

Civic Minds in The Seattle Times is posted to the Web on Friday. Please share the NIE program with other teachers. To sign-up for the print replica version of the newspaper please call 206/652-6290 or toll-free at 1-888/775-2655.

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