**3.4 Thinking About Change**

**What is it that you hope to change or preserve during your lifetime?**

I hope to change the stigma surrounding minorities and axis of inequality. The conversation needs to shift.

**Has your past giving been a reflection of those hopes?**

 In my past, I have worked with several underprivileged people of all axis of inequality. I believe it served as a stepping stone to what I want to accomplish in my future.

**What are some of the causes behind the problems that concern you?**

 History is a major cause behind racism which is one the main concerns I have. In addition to this, society is uneducated on the culture of people and the history behind each race which is socially constructed. Society is uneducated on several causes I am passionate which is what leads to anger and hostility among people.

**What do you wish were different, and what might help change this situation?**

For peace and equality among all people. This is a big problem that requires a big solution. It takes several little solutions to solve the whole thing. To start I would say we should address the discrimination that happens in society on a daily basis. Awareness is always a good first step.

Exercise 3.6

**From the list of values and issues you care about, choose on problem in society you would like to help resolve.**

I would love to help resolve the homelessness issue in the United States.

**Now imagine you have just been given $1,000,000 to give away or invest in solving that problem, with no strings attached. What would you do, who would you convene or hire to support your efforts, and what institutional partners would you choose?**

There are several initiatives in place that are drastically helping the homeless in our country so I would likely talk to them first and see if we could expand their organization to more states.

**What outcomes would you hope for and in what time frame?**

I would hope that the money would benefit as people as possible. I would imagine that this organization would take anywhere from 6 months to a year and a half or so to get a new housing initiative for the homeless starting in another state, but they have done it before and it has been successful so I’m sure the contribution would help greatly.

**How would you be involved to maximize impact?**

I would definitely want to a part of the hands on team. Whatever area they need help with I would volunteer to assist. Whether it be collecting items, finding housing, renovating, or talking to potential residents, I would do whatever was needed of me.

**How would you share your vision with others?**

I think social media is incredibly powerful and there are several different platforms to reach audiences from now. I think this would be effective in getting my image out to the public and also spreading awareness about the homelessness issue in the U.S. and showcase the organization trying to fix it.

**What is holding you back from starting some of this work, even without $1,000,000 or more currently on hand?**

I would say because I’m still a student I let my work consume me. I’m very focused on my schoolwork and making sure I am successful so that I can graduate on time while trying to maintain my GPA.

**Exercise 3.7**

**What is the problem you want to address?**

I want to address the problem that underprivileged, like the homeless, have unequal opportunities and are neglected.

**What is your goal or the outcome you hope for? What would you like changed in the long term?**

My long-term goal is for the underprivileged to finally have a voice to not be seen as a burden in society. I want the stigma to be erased.

**What are some short-term outcomes or achievements that could be first steps toward a long-term outcome?**

I believe first we have to address the fact that several people in the U.S. don’t want to admit that we have these problems which is one reason why we still have them. We have to acknowledge them to fix them. We have to bring awareness and educate the public.

**What are the ideas, systems, practices, policies, behaviors, and so on that will need to change in order to achieve these outcomes?**

The idea or stigma that underprivileged or minority groups are a burden needs to change. We need more/ new policies that provide equal opportunity for all races/genders/sexualities in the workplace. In addition to this we have to practice new ways of thinking and change our old ways if we want to change.

**What activities and strategies will create the outcomes you want to see?**

Workshops that educate the general public on topics such as homelessness would be beneficial to the awareness of the issue. I also believe these topics should be discussed much more in school before children graduate.

**What people need to be involved or influenced?**

Definitely people with agency. Contact with people that can help with publicity and awareness will also be influential because it is the first step.

**What are some resources needed to put towards achieving these outcomes?**

You definitely need a team. In addition to this you need money to make events like workshops successful.

**Write two or three statements representing beliefs you have about how change happens.**

I believe change can be scary, but it is incredibly necessary. People have to first realize this and get on board with the idea for change to happen. Once this happens, then the necessary steps can be taken to continue the process of creating a team and bringing awareness to issues you’re passionate about.