© Can Stock Photo

**social issue**, a state of affairs that negatively affects the personal or social lives of individuals or the well-being of communities or larger groups within a society and about which there is usually public disagreement as to its nature, causes, or solution. The term *social issue* is frequently used synonymously with *social problem*.

Social issues can rarely be cleanly divided into discrete categories and often have intersectional causes and effects. For example, child marriage—the marriage of legal minors—is considered by many to be a serious global social issue. Some frame it as an issue of women's rights ,as the younger partner in such marriages is generally female and the marriage is often forced on her by her family

A partial list of common, generally agreed-upon social issues might include, in addition to those mentioned above, the following problems: child abuse, , crime, criminal justice, , domestic violence, hate crime, homelessness, immigration, mental illness,  and corruption, pollution, and poverty.

**Poverty**, the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions. Poverty is said to exist when people lack the means to satisfy their basic needs.

**Discrimination**, the intended or accomplished differential treatment of persons or social groups for reasons of certain generalized traits. The targets of discrimination are often minorities, but they may also be majorities, as black people were under apartheid in South Africa. For the most part, discrimination results in some form of harm or disadvantage to the targeted persons or groups.

**The digital divide** refers to the gap between people who have reliable access to modern information and communication technology and those who don't. Digital skills are increasingly important in education, employment and civic engagement. Remote work and education—which can bring economic opportunities to

underserved communities–are restricted for households without adequate internet service and technology. People of color, those living on tribal lands and those in rural areas are disproportionately affected by the digital divide.



## Exercise 01

- Define social problems
- Do they primarily affect individuals or groups?
- How do social problems impact both individuals and society?
- Identify and explain the most significant social problems discussed, based on your understanding ?

**Exercise 02**

- Translate to Arabic :

Communities- public disagreement- legal minors- child abuse- homelessness- hate crime

- Translate to English:

التمييز العنصري- اللامساواة- المجاعة- اللاأمن الغذائي- الهجرة غير الشرعية- استغلال الأطفال- الفجوة الرقمية- معلومات مضللة

**Exercise 03**

Put the following words in the table to match each problem.

Privacy- data protection- economic inequality- agriculture- social media- misinformation- environmental crisis- wildfires- ecosystems

| Climate change | Fake news | Food insecurity | cybersecurity |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |