

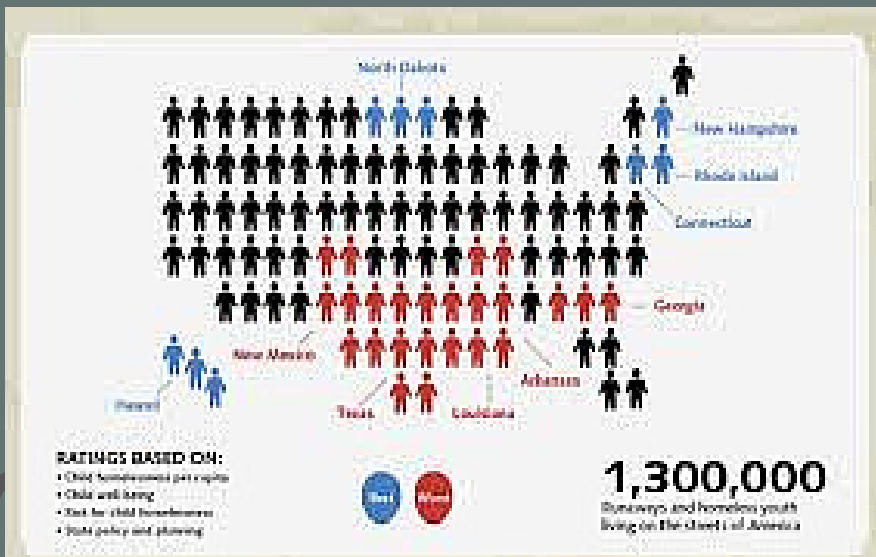
HOMELESSNESS

American youth struggling with homelessness

Homeless youth

Homeless youth are individuals under the age of 18 who lack parental, foster, or institutional care.

Youth living on the streets in America



-34% OF THE TOTAL HOMELESS POPULATION IS UNDER THE AGE OF 24 (HUD POINT-IN-TIME REPORT 2014).

-ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, THERE ARE AT LEAST 1.7 MILLION TEENS WHO STRUGGLE WITH HOMELESSNESS IN THE U.S. EVERY YEAR.

Why are they homeless?

- *Parental abandonment
- *Youth being raised on the streets with homeless parents
- Family issues resulting in a teen voluntarily leaving the residence indefinitely (runaway)
- *A teen being placed in foster care long term
- *Mental illness disorders
- *Frequent moves without stability
- *Gang affiliation and / or criminal behavior
- *Physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect
- *Family alcohol or substance abuse
- *Youth has child(ren)



The Aftermath

The long term effects of chronic homelessness in American youth

- *Mental health problems; clinical depression, anxiety, etc.
- *Drug abuse
- *Alcohol abuse
- *Increase in criminal activity resulting in jail and / or prison time
- *Dangerous sexual activity (forced or voluntary) resulting in pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.
- *Youth pregnancies
- *Inability to complete education programs and / or find employment
- *Poor health



