**Chapter 2 – The Social Welfare System**

**Exam Questions**

**Short Answer**

1. Eight time periods of U.S. history were described in the chapter (Colonial, Pre-Civil War, Civil War, Progressive, Great Depression and New Deal, World War II and Postwar, Social Reform, Retrenchment). Choose one of these periods and discuss some of the values and social welfare responses seen during that time. Briefly discuss how any of the values and/or social welfare responses can still be

seen today.

Time Period Key Social Welfare Response

**Colonial Period** (1690 - 1800) Elizabethan Poor Laws

Values: Individualism, the individual is responsible for his or her condition and individual effort is highly valued. Abundant, limitless natural resources.

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**Pre-Civil War Period** (1801-1860) Residential Institutions

Values: Placing similar people with similar problems together.

Page 41

**Civil War/Postwar Period** (1861-1874) First Federal Intervention

Values: Segregation. Importance of federal government as a resource for those in need.

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**Progressive Era** (1875 -1925) Birth of Social Work Profession

Values: Importance of environmental or structural factors on individual's lives. Workers should have basic rights. Need for social responsibility.

Page 42

**Great Depression/New Deal** (1926 -1940) Social Insurance & Public Assistance

Values: Social and economic conditions contribute to economic distress. The federal government should help correct economic imbalances.

Page 43

**World War II & After** (1941 - 1959) GI Bill

Values: Individual well-being and home/family life, particularly nuclear families. Soldiers/veterans should be honored and supported.

Page 45

**Social Reform Period** (1960 - 1975) War on Poverty

Values: Social responsibility. Question authority.

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**Retrenchment Period** (1976 - 2000) Cutbacks & Local Control

Values: Individual and family responsibility. External aid only for the "worthy" poor.)

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1. The social and economic reforms that resulted from the Great Depression are known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (*The New Deal*)

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1. In 1996, significant welfare reform legislation was passed which created Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), replacing Aid to Families with Dependent Children. Briefly describe the differences between the two programs, and how those changes might impact poor families. Page 47
2. Briefly describe the difference between the residual and institutional approaches to providing social welfare services. *(Institutional social welfare services are in place to prevent people from having a problem. They are proactive and provide benefits of services to people before problems arise. Residual services come into play only after there is a specific, identifiable problem. Residual services are designed to meet only the identified problem.)* Page 38-39
3. Social workers often encounter clients with multiple needs. For example, a single mother who has recently been evicted from her apartment may be eligible for several types of assistance to help meet housing, financial, medical and/or nutrition needs. List and briefly describe at least three such assistance programs. *(TANF, Food Stamps, Medicaid, public housing, WIC, school breakfast/lunch programs.)* Page 48

# **True or False**

1. The incremental development of the social welfare system has resulted in the fragmentation of services. (True) page 37
2. Institutional services focus on addressing the current problems that people face in their lives. (False) page 38
3. The value or belief that work conditions should be safe for employees developed out of the Progressive Era. (True) page 42
4. The 1980s can be described as a time period with new interest and support for public assistance programs. (False) page 47
5. Social Insurance programs seek to prevent poverty rather than alleviate it. (True) page 50
6. Medicare refers to the medical insurance program established to help low income families. (False) page 50
7. Social workers must negotiate many contrasting values as they consider helping to improve the well-being of people in the United States. (True) page 58

## Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following does not represent institutional (non-residual) services:

1. Public education
2. Social security benefits
3. **Food stamps**
4. Commercial campaigns regarding health risks for smoking

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2. According to Elizabethan Poor Laws, which of the following groups would be considered “worthy”?

1. African Americans
2. Unmarried women with children
3. Single adults
4. **Orphans**

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3. Which of the following provisions were not part of the Social Security Act of 1935?

1. Retirement benefits
2. **Unemployment insurance**
3. Economic Regulations
4. Financial assistance based on need

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4. Which of the following laws or programs were NOT instituted in the 1960s as the value of social responsibility was more accepted?

1. Voting Rights Act
2. **Civil Rights Act for Gays and Lesbians**
3. Food Stamps
4. Economic Opportunity Act

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5. OASDI or Social Security provides benefits in which of the following situations?

1. When people are near retirement
2. **For survivors when a family member who is working dies**
3. When someone is born with a disability
4. For single mothers

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6. Which of the following is not true about Mary Richmond:

1. She wrote the book Social Diagnosis.
2. **Her primary concern was with how poor working conditions affected people’s lives**
3. She was a leader in the Charity Organization Societies
4. She was an important leader in the development of the social work as a profession

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7. Which of the following is not true about Jane Addams?

1. She directed the Hull House in Chicago
2. She was concerned with how external surroundings were linked to an individual’s well-being
3. She was a leader in the development of social work
4. **Her primary focus was to help people in her community by teaching them to make better choices in their lives**

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**Additional Resources**

**Videos**:

Immigration: Who has Access to the American Dream (29 minutes). This video explores the complex policy issues related to immigration through the eyes of those seeking entry to the U.S. It is available through Films for the Humanities and Sciences at (800) 257-5126.

America’s War on Poverty – is a five-part video series that explore the War on Poverty throughout the 1960s. It is available at many retail video stores and public libraries.

Hull House: The House that Jane Built (58 minutes). Documents the efforts of Jane Addams and other women in the creation of Hull House. It is available through Insight Media at insight-media.com or (800) 233-9910.

**Written Material**:

DeWitt, L. (2010). The Development of Social Security in America.. *Social Security Bulletin*, 70(3), 1-26.

National Association of Social Workers (2009). Social Work Speaks, 8th edition: National Association of Social Workers Policy Statements 2009 -2012, Washington, D.C.: NASW Press.

Schwenninger, S. (2010). A New Social Contract. *Challenge (05775132)*, 53(5), 34-48. doi:10.2753/05775132530503

Seccomb, K. (2006). *So you think I drive a cadillac?: Welfare recipients’ perspectives on the system and its reform*. Allyn & Bacon.