

What is Poverty Essay Summary

The speaker describes their experience of poverty in vivid detail. They explain that poverty is living in a dirty, smelly environment with few resources. The mattress is stained with illness and used as diapers. The smell of urine, sour milk, and rotting garbage permeates the air. Poverty is also being tired due to poor nutrition, worms, and chronic anemia. The speaker cannot afford better food, iron pills, or medical treatment. They also cannot afford to pay for good childcare and must leave their children with family members who do not take proper care of them. The speaker must wash dishes and clothes in cold water with no soap, as soap must be saved for the baby's diapers. They cannot afford luxuries such as hot water or Vaseline for their cracked, sore hands. Poverty is also dangerous, as a single spark from the fire that keeps the family warm could cause a deadly fire. Insects infest the living space, and there is no relief from the constant runny noses of the children. Poverty means asking for help and facing shame and humiliation in the process.

Conclusion

Overall, the speaker's account of poverty is a stark reminder of the harsh reality faced by many people in the world. The lack of basic resources and the constant struggle to meet basic needs takes a physical and emotional toll on individuals and families. The speaker's story highlights the need for greater awareness of poverty and more effective measures to address it.

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