

Discusses the nature
of contemporary
societal problems in
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Contemporary Societal Problems The changes within the society today come along with numerous problems which are mostly due to the very rapid and ever-changing advancements, especially technology wise. The side effects from these mostly positive advancements have in the recent times become very difficult to control. This essay will explore a few of the societal problems present today in general and focus on the ones faced by Dubai.

The most popular of the problems encountered by the society today is pollution and the many forms of environmental degradation, most of which are directly linked to technological advancements. Even though the pollution problem cannot be considered new and is apparently diminishing within the developed world, it is still a rapidly growing problem globally and it's most common effect today being global warming and unpredictable weather patterns. The rapid population growth is yet another problem and is considered as the side effect of advancements in improved life expectancy and diminished child mortality rates. The rapid population growth has put a lot of strain on the available resources and some of the recent wars can be linked to fighting over control over limited resources.

Dubai has in the recent years rapidly developed to become a prototype of a modern city. Dubai's advancements have of cause come with a lot of modernization advantages but have at the same time come with major disadvantages to the society. Among the problems experienced today is prostitution which involves adults and unfortunately, children too (Mooney, Knox & Schacht, 2008). There have been a few cases of children being abducted from other parts of the world and smuggled into Dubai to serve in prostitution rings.

While there have been recent attempts to this vice, there still remain wide
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areas within the city where the vice goes on unchecked especially within low class hotels and parking lots where the police rarely intervene (Davison, 2008). Dubai's successful free port is a haven for human traffickers and has provided them with an opportunity to do carry on with their illegal trade and in most cases, go unpunished. Dubai's human trafficking trade has flourished to a point where Dubai is regarded as a major human trafficking centre. The large heterogeneous expatriate population, combined with Dubai's attempts to create a friendlier environment for foreign tourists and investors has resulted in major erosions of some important components of the society in Dubai. Dubai is mostly made up of Muslims and the cases of binge drinking and the inappropriate dressing by foreign women which at times takes the form of topless sunbathing at the hotel beaches contravenes Islamic teachings yet they are allowed to go on in the name of making tourists happy (Davison, 2008). In many ways, the societal problems have been difficult to control and are even seen to be the high price that Dubai has to pay if it is to succeed in its development programs.

Conclusion

The advancements achieved by the society today are no doubt impressive and most were made to serve the society in the right way. These advancements however come with some side effects, a few of which have been explored by this paper. It is important for the society to put checks to control these problems before they spiral out of control.

References

Davison, C. (2008), *Dubai: the Vulnerability of Success*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Mooney, L., Knox, D. and Schacht, C. (2008), *Understanding Social Problems*, California: Cengage Learning.