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Bashir, S., Janaranjana., Tesfa, G. (2012). An Empirical Analysis of Higher Education and Economic Growth in West Virginia. Selected Paper for Presentation at Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Annual Meeting, August 12-14, 2012 Seattle, WA.

Bashir et al consider skilled labor as the single most important route to attaining maximal human development. According to the article, a person that is highly educated can more easily access a decent employment because skilled labor is associated with well paying jobs, lesser working hours and more attractive returns. With such a decent job, one can effortlessly afford to live a decent life with all the characteristics of a high quality of life. In the paper, Bashir et al use the case study of West Virginia using different models for purposes of consistency. In their findings, they note that higher education is the foundation of skilled labor, which is in turn the basis for human development – a phenomenon that leads to changes in per capita income, changes in overall incomes and inevitable changes in population and education.

Cardillo, D. RN, MA. (2012). Can a College Degree Make You Healthier and Happier? Alternative Health. Retrieved from: <http://www.doctoroz.com/blog/donna-cardillo-rn-ma/can-college-degree-make-you-healthier-and-happier>

In this article, Cadillo uses various statistics, most notably statistics from the findings of various studies carried out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Care for Health Statistics. According to the article, research indicates that the people that graduate with bachelor's degrees live 9 years (on average) longer than all those that do not graduate from high

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school. Cardillo explains that this is the case because those with Bachelor's degrees are more likely to secure jobs, which enable them access decent jobs, leaving them with lower levels of stress – something that psychologists believe is a killer condition. Such stressors as poorly rewarding jobs lead people into such behaviors as smoking. According to Cardillo, an average of 31% of people with high school diplomas does smoke. On the contrary, only 6% of those with Bachelor's degrees smoke.

Land, K. C., & Michalos, A. C. (2012). Handbook of social indicators and quality of life research. Dordrecht [etc.: Springer.

According to Land and Michalos, education and health are the primary pillars of human capital. They go ahead to explain that these two factors are positively related in such a manner that an increase in one leads to an increase in the other. Land and Michalos cite the findings of a 2003 Human Development report which indicated clearly that nutrition, education, health, water and sanitation are closely connected, and are complementary in nature. The report as well points out that better health is linked with higher investments in education. Land and Michalos also explain that there is a connection between genetic endowment, quality of life and time preferences. Ultimately, Land and Michalos establish that there is a close connection between a person's education and that of his children – a factor that breaks the cycle of poverty.

Panikkar, K. N., & Kerala State Higher Education Council. (2011). Quality, access and social justice in higher education. Delhi: Longman.

Panikkar and Kerala State Higher Education Council argue that there is an inevitably important correlation between the standards of living, and the

higher education. While this relationship is somewhat complex, Panikkar and Kerala State Higher Education Council argue that higher education is one among the key measures of the standards of living. According to the book, a person with higher education could effortlessly access higher paying jobs, quality working conditions, quality and affordability of decent housing and low poverty rates. Ultimately, the book, just like many of the scholarly sources argues that higher education is critical in determining the quality of life.

Sirgy, M. J. (2012). *The psychology of quality of life: Hedonic well-being, life satisfaction, and eudaimonia*. Dordrecht: Springer.

Arguably the most interesting source, Sirgy's book explains that existing research is characterized by inconsistencies, with some illustrating a positive linear relationship between education and wellbeing, and other indicating a positive non linear connection between the two variables. Explaining the positive nonlinear relationship in detail, Sirgy notes that according to current research, the middle level educated people reported the highest levels of satisfaction and general wellbeing. Sirgy explains that existing research finds show strange results, with some showing absolutely no connection between the two. He however concludes that education is both a contributory factor and a detrimental factor to human well being.