

PUB 101 - Dr. Amato

Spring 2021

Writing Assignment #6

Due Monday 3/29/2021 by 11:59 pm EST

Instructions: Be sure to answer all parts of each question and respond in your own words. Your response should not be mostly quoting from other sources. Please provide a reference or works cited page for any references or citations you use throughout this written assignment. Suggested length by word counts are provided for each question.

Questions:

1. Identify one of the leading **actual** causes of death in the United States (2000) - this leading cause of death will be the outcome of focus for the rest of the written assignment. *Hint: Leading actual cause of death, which are distinctly different from leading cause of death, were discussed in Chapter 13 and Week 7 Class 13. (Suggested length: 1 sentence).*

Tobacco is one of the leading actual causes of death

2. Describe two psychological factors that contribute to the identified actual leading cause of death in the United States. Explain how the two psychological factors affect the identified leading actual causes of death on a population level within the US, not just the individual level. *(Suggested length: 150 words)*

Tobacco uses can be influenced by several types of psychological factors. One of the most influential psychological factors is getting stressed. Job market is becoming even more competitive due to increasing number of over-qualified applicants and higher level of education although price of goods rises every day. Thus, people become obsessed with their financial issues, which increases the likelihood of smoking as it creates an immediate sense of relaxation. Another example of the most influential psychological factors of tobacco uses is depression. When people become depressed, they become dependent on other things that can relieve their depression for a short amount of time. When people smoke, dopamine supply in their brain temporarily increases so that they can feel happy for a short amount of time. In fact, by encouraging lower levels of dopamine, smoking impacts a system in their body that produces chemicals associated with depression. Thus, the more they smoke, the more their desire towards cigarettes grows.

3. Describe two behavioral factors that contribute to that leading cause of death. Explain how the two behavioral factors affect the identified leading actual causes of death on a

population level within the US, not just the individual level. (*Suggested length: 150 words*)

Tobacco uses can be influenced by several types of behavioral factors. One of the most influential behavioral factors is advertising. Every year tobacco industries try to persuade at least million people to try or keep on smoking by advertising and coming up with new flavors. Creative and attractive designs of cigarette commercials seduce more people to smoke. Therefore, more people get addicted to smoking, which weakens their body's immune system, making it harder to kill cancer cells. Another example of the most influential behavioral factors of tobacco uses is secondhand smoking. People who are exposed to the environment with smokers experience secondhand smoking. Thus, secondhand smokers subconsciously become addicted and come up with desire to try smoking. Also, they are likely to be encouraged by smokers in such environment, which makes them become smokers. Thus, secondhand smoking can lead them to become real smokers.