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| Photo: *Seattle as seen from above Queen Anne Hill* by CommunistSquared [CC0 1.0](#);  
<[commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SeattleQueenAnneSeptember2021.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SeattleQueenAnneSeptember2021.jpg)>, accessed March 24, 2022

**Inhalt:** Dieser Radiobeitrag von NPR handelt von Obdachlosigkeit und Kriminalität in der Stadt Seattle, die hier als Beispiel dieser Problematik angeführt wird. Der Journalist Martin Kaste beschäftigt sich mit einer Frage, die in der Stadt für immer mehr Spannungen sorgt: Besteht ein Zusammenhang zwischen der zunehmenden Anzahl an Obdachlosencamps und der Kriminalitätsrate vor Ort? Der Beitrag setzt sich kritisch mit diesem vielschichtigen Thema auseinander, das Einblick in die sozialen Probleme der USA gibt.

## Picture 3



| Image: Ryan Wilson on Unsplash

## 2. Vocabulary practice: No place to stay in Seattle.

Use the words from the bank to complete the sentences about being homeless. There are two more words than you will need.

affected • homeless • evicted • busker • shelter • homelessness •  
gentrification • beggars • to do time • unsanctioned • sleeping rough • to buy time

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ is the state of not having stable, adequate, and secure housing.
- b) The group of people who have to sleep in the streets are called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ is a term used to describe what people do who must spend the night in a public place, for example, on a park bench.
- d) People who cannot afford to sleep anywhere else can go to a \_\_\_\_\_.
- e) The people in the streets who ask passersby for change are called \_\_\_\_\_.

## Reasons for homelessness

Homelessness is a phenomenon that can affect anyone. Natural catastrophes, for example, like floods, earthquakes, volcanic activities, tsunamis, can make you homeless in an instant. People can also lose their homes because they must flee from a war zone. Other are homeless because they cannot escape from poverty.

Some people cannot afford pay their rent anymore and get evicted. Maybe the person had debt or the rent has increased due to the continuing gentrification of their neighborhoods. Others get divorced or lose a loved one. Joblessness, little or no formal education, having done time in jail, and addiction problems are also factors that play a role. Sometimes those affected also suffer from psychological disorders. Often a combination of these reasons leads to homelessness. Only very few people deliberately choose homelessness as a way of life.

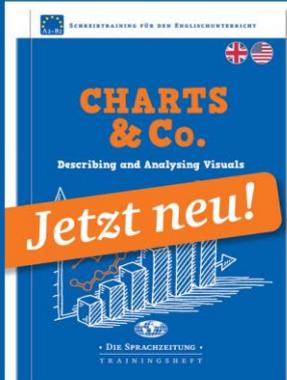
b) Discuss which measures could be the most helpful.

## 14. Protest march

You want to organize a protest march with the aim of making people aware of the bad situation in and around the homeless encampment that has sprung up in your neighborhood. Design three placards with your partner, and discuss why your slogans will be effective. Later exchange your ideas with other members of your group.

**Tip!** Make sure your slogans are snappy, catchy, and not too aggressive or negative. Exclamations, questions, alliterations, and allusions can help you to convey your messages effectively.





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