

Student's Name

Professor's Name

Assignment 2

Date

Effective and Equitable Education Systems: Case Study of Racial Education Inequality in
Minnesota

Introduction

The process of researching and trying solutions for social issues during the misinformation age has become more challenging. One of the problems reported in the Midwest is racial education inequality, where some authoritative sources insist that people of color are thrice likely to perform poorly than their white counterparts. The factors underlying the wicked problem include unemployment, homelessness, and low-income levels among the black Americans as compared to the white community (Wagner). Thus, the solution to the crisis during this misinformation age requires a design-related decision for verifying entropy and creating an ideal outcome.

Description of the Wicked Problem under Research and its Sources of Information

The problem under study is the inefficiency in the education system due to racial inequity in Minnesota State. Recent explorations by news sites such as wday.com and the Minnesota education department reported the issue, highlighting that minority children perform worse than their white peers (Schroeer; Minnesota Department of Education). In particular, the performance inequity is realized in English, Mathematics, and Science subjects. Notably, the factors behind the racial inequality include funding problems for schools and issues beyond the classroom, for example, homelessness and joblessness. The information provided after searching from Google showed a consistent representation of the situation in the state. For example, the statistics

reported by Wagner, a journalist for the CBS Minnesota, included that the state is the second in racial education inequality in the US after Wisconsin. Consequently, ethnic imbalances trigger educational disparities in areas such as income levels, unemployment, and homeownership between the white and minority groups.

The verifiability of the statistics provided by CBS Minnesota is evident from the fact that other reputable news agencies including MinnPost gave the same data on the racial inequality in Minnesota and Wisconsin (MinnPost). However, there are clear cases of misinformation supplied on sites such as twincities.com, where Magan wrote that the unemployment rates for people of color are four times that of the white population. The propaganda is evident from the different ratios of joblessness established between the black and the majority community, considering that the MN state Demographic Center reported a census-based rate of 3:1 as opposed to 4:1. From the research, the sources that provided the most reliable information included news agency and government websites because they gave facts drawn from journalistic study and statistics such as state census. The differences indicated that the more reputable a source, for example, a news agency's website, the more the accurate and reliable information is presented. Therefore, there is the need to verify a source of information.

Design-Related Solution to the Wicked Problem of Effective and Equitable Education

Systems

The design-related solution adopted for the issue is the five-step problem-solving loop shown in figure 1 in the appendix. The five steps include problem identification, information collection, selection of the best idea, development of the solution's viability, and analysis and evaluation of the process' results and outcomes. In addressing the wicked problem of the racial inequitable education system in Minnesota State, the design-related solution will help to identify the sources

of the crisis at the different levels and offer guidelines on solving it. For example, to address the causes of edifying disparity in the state, a team of experts is to discover the problem. Having defined the crisis, the next stage is gathering the information required to generate the ideas to solve it. The design-related solution is most useful during the second phase. Logically, the resolution framework guides the team in identifying reliable resources, gathering the information available on them and testing whether the data is credible. In application, the team can realize that trustworthy data is available on governmental and news agency websites.

The third stage entails the selection of the ideas that can best solve the problem. The choice of the most efficient plan is based on the reliability of the sources and whether they present the finest options for addressing the issue. As an example, the thoughts chosen may include offering either bursary to students and families that cannot afford fees and books or employing more qualified teachers that can bridge the performance gap between the blacks and the whites. In stage four, the solution to the wicked problem is developed and tested, and it entails the combination of the resolution with the reality in the Minnesota community. Consequently, the answer may be addressing unemployment, homelessness, and low income among people of color, which will avail equal opportunities to the students from the group. For example, the experts can focus on the state's systems and mechanisms for addressing community-wide inadequacies (Wagner). In the last phase, the team evaluates the results brought about by the solutions developed in the earlier stages. In practice, the panel can do a survey after a year, which will highlight whether the educational inequity evils have reduced and the performance of blacks improved.

Conclusion

Researching and evaluating solutions for wicked problems during the age of misinformation have become more challenging because of the widespread availability of false information. The design-related model for addressing the issues in the Midwest is a five-stage process that improves data collection and formulation of ideal solutions from the verified sources. As an example, based on the design-related solution, the problem can be addressed through the provision of a bursary to needy learners and public services such as employment and supplying books to schools. Thus, the plan of the process highlighted the actions taken in the different stages.

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Appendix

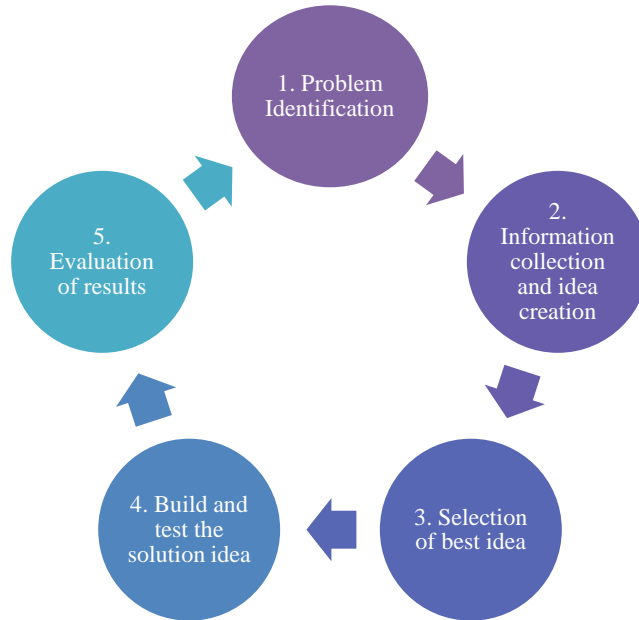


Figure 1: Design-related solution for the wicked problem