

# An Analysis of Most Important Values Among Low-Income, High-Ability Middle School Students

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## Supplemental Materials

**Table S1:** Exemplar 7<sup>th</sup> grade comments by theme

Dimension	Value	ID	Comment
<b>Theme: Others</b>			
Openness to change	Making choices for myself	FN17451	Because if you make choices for yourself you can choose your own u you don't have to follow somebody's else dream
		MB19550	Making choices for myself might be very important in the future. I will need to choose my own career path, deal with stress myself, and make sure I get enough rest for the next day. I need to make choices in life that may permanently affect me financially, mentally, and my family. I might need to change jobs for certain family reasons. In the future my parents won't help me. So I need to make my own choices. Stupid mistakes may put me in the streets.
Openness to Change/ Self-Enhancement	Having a good time	FB17352	My most important value in life is having a good time. Having a good time during life leaves happiness, as well as pleasure. It also makes the person feel that life is ultimately valuable, and influences a positive attitude and stride in their destiny. This value not only leaves such a mark on the person, but as well on the people around him/her. Feeling happiness leaves good remarks of health, lifetime, enjoyment, as well as leaves a mark across the world.
		MB19424	You only get one chance at life have fun live life to the fullest help when you can and when you can't comfort those who are in pain otherwise work hard play hard have fun help make the world a better place do what you can when you can be a friend to those with none and an enemy of the evil in the world.
Self-Enhancement	Being successful	FB16712	My most important value is getting what I need done and being really successful in life. The reason why this is my most important value is because I know this is something my grandfather would want me to do, he always told me that he wanted me and everyone else to be successful and depend on myself when i get older and not put so much pressure on my mother. I would love to go to college and be successful there and out of college because that is something my family expects from me.
		MB15534	Because I want to be successful. I want my family to be proud of me. I also want to be proud of myself. Being successful means I can give my children a very successful childhood and not have to worry about paying bills and not being able to give them everything they need. I want my children to present me as a role model. My dad expects me to be the surgeon that I want to be so I would love to make him very proud.
	Being popular	MB19232	I want to be successful in my life so I can improve my life and the lives of others because you can't help other people be successful if you aren't yourself
		FH19174	Being influential is important to me because I'm always called a role model at my school and I feel like that's what I am. So a lot of people look up to me and that makes me feel important, special, and good about myself. I used to be very insecure but as I got older I realized that a lot of people see me differently. Some see me as smart, kind, and fun young women and I like standing up to those expectations because that is what I actually want to stand up to. I've always been called popular but sometimes I don't like it but now I've learned that it's actually a compliment and everyone sees me as a good person.
		MB17507	You can have a positive impact on other people. They look at you for advice.

Dimension	Value	ID	Comment
Conservation	Being safe and secure	FB15890	Because if anything happened to me my mom or my brother then I don't know what I would do so I want to make sure my family is safe. I know some people don't have their family or parents and I don't want that to happen to me or my brother.
		FB16612	Being safe and secure is very important to me. Because I live with my grandparents and I know that they need me to be there. And, I know that I need them a lot so If I wasn't safe and something would happen to me. There would be no one to take care of them so being safe is a big part of my life. Cause by me being safe it gives me a chance to keep someone else safe. But it's also kinda comforting to know that you're going to be safe where you are.
		MM16251	I think this is the most important value because I don't want anybody to get hurt. I think this value should be a taught before anybody does anything that might be a little daring are or unsafe. I just don't like seeing people getting hurt.
	Doing what is expected of me	FB18217	To me doing what is expected of me is the most important value because, it shows people that they can depend on you to do things. Depending on what you did it might make people proud but if it is expected by everyone it should be normal for you.
		MW15674	I picked that one because I felt that it was my most important value. You should always respect people because that shows that you can go somewhere in life and you care about yourself and other people.
	Respecting tradition	FM15974	Because my dad told me that to respect my religion.
		MB15278	It is important that I respect traditions because if I don't I would be making a bad name for the me and the other people in my church. If I don't keep what's important ahead of me or else I would be letting my parents, other friends, and even my close fail. Being Christian changes a lot.
Self-Transcendence	Being kind	FB19828	Being kind is the most important thing to me because I want to be nice to everyone. They deserve to be treated the way they treated me. I want to have a good reputation and to be known as a nice person. I don't want people to think I'm mean and I'm not a nice person. Everyone should want to be nice and kind to another
		MB19546	Being kind is very important to me because if not the world would be a bad place and we wouldn't have any good people in this world 🌍.
	A peaceful, just world	FB18282	I want to live in a world where people don't die from getting shot of stabbed or bombing peoples house or robbing or like not being kind to one another and stop bullying people and try to be successful and work hard try your best and don't have a whole bunch of people agonist u don't kill yourself we need u in this world
		MB19618	This is important to me because I think that everyone should be equal and have the say in something as another person. I also think that we need protect the environment because a lot of things we love will be gone. That is why it is important to me
<b>Theme: Fear/Death Awareness</b>			
Openness to Change	Doing lots of different and exciting things	FH18708	I choose this as my first one because we will die one day, so you have to try new things. Even though I won't try everything I would still have a good life.

Dimension	Value	ID	Comment
Openness to Change/ Self-Enhancement	Having a good time	FB16782	So don't worry about the small things just main thing about kids is worrying about how I am going to die or I scared or always spend time doing something wrong and try to get it right that it stops you from having fun you want to at least have a good time
		FB17728	You only live life once and life can be short. People are dying left and right but I'm still here. I'd like to enjoy it before I go too.
		MB19194	You need to have the most enjoyment out of your life because you only have one. Its best to have the best life. Your life is your life and you need to decide how you enjoy it.
Conservation	Being safe and secure	FW17532	It's important to me because I would like to never get hurt. So, I want to keep it that way and not die at a young age.
		MM15219	I feel like I don't want to get hurt in the long run. I want a stable lifestyle especially in college.
		MN18633	It's important because you want to be safe because you don't want to die
	Respecting tradition	FB18702	It is important to me because in my religion there's God , His son Jesus, And the holy spirit. Well God can kill me or take me out of this world at any time he would like so I do the best I can at worshiping and thanking for all he has done for me.
Self-Transcendence	A peaceful, just world	FB16994	A peaceful just world would mean no violence. It would mean everyone would get along and we would be equal. I mean you hear all this stuff on tv about people killing cops and cops abusing people and the amount of crime rates. It's depressing because God made us as one united people that should stick together and cherish life together. SO, yes a just and peaceful world would mean everything to me. It's freedom without fear. It's joy without anxiety. It's what I want.
		MB16653	I think a peaceful, just world is great because things have been happening badly in the United States all the terrorist attacks happening in Baton Rouge, LA, Dallas, TX, and in Orlando, FL. I want this to end because I want peace and harmony in United States that is why I want a peaceful, just world.
		FB16666	I feel like having a peaceful world is important to me because people are dying like its nothing, especially of my race right now. I also feel like everyone's life has value no matter what they've done wrong. I also feel like police officers should get fired when they have proof that they did something wrong to innocent people, and people feel like it's okay to kill police officers because of what others have done when it's not their fault. People also have to understand that all officers aren't same and won't kill people for no reason. So this is why world peace is my most important value.
<b>Theme: Future-Oriented</b>			
Openness to Change	Making choices for myself	MB18779	Making my own choices is important to me because I wanna see the outcome of my choices.
	Doing lots of different and exciting things	FH18708	I choose this as my first one because we will die one day, so you have to try new things. Even though I won't try everything I would still have a good life. (only female comment)
		MM16298	I picked doing lots of exciting things because I like living life on the edge and reaching my fullest potential. I like to think of myself as invincible to face my fears, and to live life to the fullest. If anything gets in my way I find a way past it whether it's over, under, around, or straight through, I'll get past and reach my goals.

Dimension	Value	ID	Comment
Openness to Change/Self-Enhancement	Having a good time	FB18894	I like having a good time because I want to spend my life doing things I love to do.
		MB19424	You only get one chance at life have fun live life to the fullest help when you can and when you can't comfort those who are in pain otherwise work hard play hard have fun help make the world a better place do what you can when you can be a friend to those with none and an enemy of the evil in the world.
Self-Enhancement	Being successful	FB18297	Being successful is important because I want to do something in life not work at McDonald's. Also you can prove all the people that didn't believe in you.
		FB18636	I need to be successful and make my parents proud of me. I want to get a degree and graduate college. 😊
		MB19777	Well I want a job that takes 4 years of college to get a degree in so I want to be successful at it so I don't waste over four years of my life in something.
Conservation	Being safe and secure	FB17223	I want to stay safe because I want to live as long as I can
		MB19422	I want to be safe and secure for me and my family because I don't want to live my life in fear I want to take risk and be happy. I know not everything can go my way. Also my family is the most important thing to me so I want them safe too.
	Doing what is expected of me	FH17817	Because doing what is expected of me is important! If u don't listen to your elders and your elders don't have to be seniors of they are older than you that you should listen to them and don't talk back or moan and groan because you don't want to do it that's disrespectful treat your elders the same way they treat you your elders try everything they can to make you happy the least you can for them is at least show them some respect and do what they say some elders even go out of their way for you so respect our elders and they'll respect you they'll be grateful for it trust me even when they don't show it they are in their head saying wow she listened to me she is a obedient kid and would want to have you back so respect your elders and do what is expected of you and you know what they say what goes around whether good or bad
		MW15674	I picked that one because I felt that it was my most important value. You should always respect people because that shows that you can go somewhere in life and you care about yourself and other people.
		Respecting tradition	FM18978
MB18052	Because it might help me out later in life		
Self-Transcendence	Being kind	FB17743	My most important value is being kind no matter the situation. Kindness has always been in me just in all types of ways. I also want to enjoy life and I don't want to be wasting it.
		MB18267	It is important for people to respect other people so everyone is kind and not being disrespectful, and also I don't think a boss would want a mean employee.
	A peaceful, just world	FM18712	Because a peaceful world means a safe world. All these people getting hurt and everything is just crazy. We need a better world
		MB19618	This is important to me because I think that everyone should be equal and have the say in something as another person. I also think that we need protect the environment because a lot of things we love will be gone. That is why it is important to me

**Table S2:** Exemplar comments of 8th grade themes

Value	ID	Comment
<b>Theme: Value as Part of My Identity</b>		
Being Successful	FB16994	I have big goals and no time to waste. I know that I need to work hard and focus so that I may excel to the next level. Being successful at everything would be a huge triumph but, I know also that I am human and I will make many mistakes along the road to success. It's all about my mindset and how I see my future ahead and my plans and goals to get there.
Being safe and secure	FB16370	Being safe is important to me because I am always a person to know that I'm not doing anything that is life threatening or could put me and my family at danger. The rest of the options are below this one because I really don't mind about whether I'm popular or not. I know I have to respect my religious values, but if it comes to being safe, that's not something I can really think about in a type of situation that comes to my safety. I would always like to know that if I'm in a group with people or I'm with friends to know that I'm actually wanted and to know that they want to abandon me or leave me behind from everyone else because I know that no one else would want to be treated that way. I also know that when it comes to serious situations to stay out because they're not my place to say anything.
Being successful	MB15701	Being the best is extremely important to me. I have to be, otherwise, what's the point of my existence? Why am I here? What makes me unique with 7 billion other people in the world? I know I'll never be the smartest, or the most creative, or even the best but being better than everyone else around me is important to me.
	MB19232	It is important because if I can't excel in what I do then my opportunities for a better life become less and less the more I fail but also I believe failure is important to get back up and get better but still in the end I still have to be successful if I'm going to go to the places I need to excel
Being kind	FN15531	Being kind is how I have always known to be. I was just raised to spread kindness and to help everyone I can. I don't expect anything in return I just want to help people with their problems. Maybe that's what I want to do when I grow up. Help People.
<b>Theme: Failure</b>		
Being successful	FM18273	Being successful at what I do is my most important value. This is my most important value because I always like to be successful, even if I have to try 100 times. It is also my most important value because I don't like failure.
	MM16298	Being successful at what I do is important to me because I don't want to be known as the one that does something wrong or doesn't finish it.
	FB17362	I feel the importance of doing what is expected of me because when I don't I feel horrible about myself. I think wow I failed and I feel ashamed in myself and I beat myself up. I know I need to learn to stop doing that but it's just stuck in me for eternity. so otherwise when I do succeed I feel accomplished.