

Essay about changing Scotland

By Sarah Watson

If I ruled the world...oh, okay then Scotland, I would change homelessness and people who are living in poverty and try to help people who are living on benefits. People who are living on the streets are cold, wet, hungry and sore because of how they sleep and where they sleep. They sleep on a cold hard ground begging for money for food. Some people have lost limbs, they've lost a leg, lost family in the past and some beggars on the streets beg with dogs but does anyone pay attention to them? No. They just walk past, they don't care. I would encourage more charities like the Salvation Army to address how many people live in the streets, and ask if they could come and help and take them in, give them warmth and food and somewhere soft to sleep, also give them a nice hot shower as well because if they've been on the streets for about 2 weeks, they will be unhygienic, they might not be able to walk from how they've been sitting and how long they've been sitting for, also if they don't have a leg and they don't have crutches they won't be able to go anywhere so they're stuck there.

For people on benefits they only have a specific amount of money to spend on bills, food, gas, electricity. If these people have a pet or two they need to buy them food as well and by the end of it, people have very little money left if they're lucky, but if the family smoke in the household then there will be no money left for spare food or money for the next couple of days.

People who are on benefits and work, whatever they get in wages and if they haven't paid rent then their wages go towards the rent. I find this very unfair because if they work 8 hours and get paid £7.50 every hour, they will have £60 for food but if they owe that money for rent they won't have any money for food. I say that they should take half of their wages for rent and let people save money for food. It's more important to have food and water rather than shelter because people need to survive on food and water not shelter. And if you are in a lot of debt to the council and they expect every little bit of money paid in full amounts of cash or try and keep payments up by monthly payment but if this doesn't continue then they will be removed from the house and on the streets.

Some people think that it's good for people on the streets and it's good because people say that they belong there, people just walk past and ignore them. Some people should pay attention because you never know that this could be me or you one day.

Being homeless and living on the streets is unhealthy, unhygienic and unfair. Some people walk past and laugh and mutter under their breath "they're so trampy, they belong there". The homeless shouldn't be ignored. I say that they should be helped and more homeless shelters should be built, but the council says that they don't have the money. It's unfair because they might have had children and the mother had to move on because she had to do what was right for the kids. All she wants is for her kids to be safe and grow up having a good life. The dad however was unable to pay rent and he was the one who ended up on the streets, rolling away every day from starvation.

If I won this competition, the people who I would take who I know that are well mannered, good at making eye contact, good communication skills and good at listening. Also people who I have known for a while and people who have good confidence.