54 Social issues

A Young and old

What's wrong with young people?

Some older people complain they have a **fear** of going out at night because of increasing **violence** and the number of young people who are **drunk**. But is it right for them to **be frightened**?

It's true that the number of reported **violent** crimes has increased, but also true that the police have become more **expert** at **recording** crime. Their enquiries are more successful because victims seem more **willing to** report crime. This may **account for** the increase.

There is also a growing **trend** for young people to **consume** less alcohol now than ten or fifteen years ago. Why? It's probably a **combination** of **factors.** Alcohol is expensive, it makes you lose control, and there seems to be a cultural move away from heavy drinking of alcohol.

GLOSSARY

fear	the feeling you have when you think sth bad may happen
violence	behaviour which damages sth or harms sb physically **violent** *adj*
drunk	If a person is **drunk**, they have had too much alcohol. **drunk** *n*
frighten	make sb feel suddenly afraid
expert	knowing a lot about sth **expert** *n*
record	write notes about things so that you can remember them later **record** *n* (Note the different stress in the verb and the noun.)
enquiry	an official process to find out about sth
willing (to do sth)	ready and happy to do sth OPP **unwilling**
account for sth	explain or give a reason for sth
trend	a general direction in which a situation is changing or developing
consume *formal*	eat or drink
combination	two or more things joined together **combine** *v*
factor	one of the things that causes or affects sth

1 Good news or bad news? Write *G* or *B*.

▶ He's unwilling to help. B
1 He's drunk. .....
2 I got expert advice. .....
3 He's very violent. .....
4 They frightened me. .....
5 He's willing to help. .....
6 There's no record of the attack on the victim. .....
7 She has a fear of speaking in public. .....

2 True, false or don't know? Write *T*, *F* or *don't know*. Correct any false sentences.

▶ All older people have a fear violence on the streets at night. F – Some older people have a fear of violence on the streets at night.
1 The number of reported violent crimes has increased. _____
2 The number of violent crimes has increased. _____
3 The police are better at recording crimes. _____
4 Victims are less willing to report crimes. _____
5 Young people get drunk more. _____
6 Young people drink less only because of cost. _____

3 Complete the sentences.

▶ Police are trying to stop violent attacks on medical staff.
1 There is a growing _____ for young people to move to the big cities.
2 The robbers were prepared to use _____ if we didn't give them our money.
3 How do you _____ for the increase in the number of young people carrying knives?
4 People don't usually take drugs for just one reason: it's usually a _____ of factors.
5 I spoke to a professor who is an _____ on poverty in large cities.
6 People who _____ a lot of alcohol and get _____ are a danger to society.
7 People have a growing _____ of terrorism in many countries.
8 Doctors must keep clear and accurate _____ of their discussions with patients.
9 The police are very busy with a murder _____ at the moment.

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B Charities

Charities: good or bad?

The number of **charities** in the UK is enormous, with more than 600 registered **cancer** charities alone, and more than 200 charities for **homeless** people in London. Most of these charities depend on **donations** to **raise money**, and often on **volunteers** (many of whom are **retired**) to do the work. While the **passion** of so many people who want to help is wonderful, this situation is not ideal. More and more charities are now doing similar work and **competing with** each other for money. **As a consequence**, they **are forced to** spend more on marketing, **rather than** actually helping people. This means some people are losing confidence in charities and giving them less money. What should **society** do about this?

GLOSSARY

charity	an organization that collects money to help people who need it
cancer	a very dangerous illness that can affect many parts of the body: *Smoking can cause **lung cancer**.*
homeless	without a place to live
donation	giving sth, especially money, to people who need it **donate** *v*
raise money	get money from other people for a particular purpose
volunteer	a person who is willing to do a job without being paid, **volunteer** *v*; **voluntary** *adj*
retired	no longer working because you have reached a particular age or because you are sick
passion	a very strong feeling for sth and interest in it **passionate** *adj*
compete (with sb)	try to win a race or competition against sb
consequence	a result of sth that has happened: ***as a consequence***
force sb (to do sth)	make sb do sth that they do not want to do
rather than	in the place of; instead of
society	a large group of people who live in the same country or area and have the same ideas about sth

4 **Underline the main stress in these words. Use the APP to help you. Practise saying the words.**

▶ charity
1 compete
2 consequence
3 homeless
4 donation
5 volunteer
6 passionate
7 voluntary
8 society
9 retired

5 **Cover the glossary. Complete the explanations.**

▶ *Cancer* is a very dangerous illness.
1 A *charity* is an organization that _____ people.
2 A *passion* is a very strong _____.
3 If you do one thing *rather than* something else, you do it _____ of something else.
4 A *homeless* person has _____ to live.
5 A *volunteer* does a job without being _____.
6 A *consequence* of something is a _____ of something.
7 A *retired* person is no longer _____.

7 **Complete the dialogues.** ABOUT YOU

▶ Is it a paid job? ~ No, she's a volunteer for a charity. _____
1 Do you have to attend the training courses? ~ No, they're _____. _____
2 She loves working for *The Cats & Dogs Home*. ~ I know. She's always had a _____ for animals, and she enjoys _____ for charities. _____
3 Do they get money from the government? ~ No, they have to _____ it themselves. _____
4 Are they the only charity in this sector? ~ No, they have to _____ with other charities. _____
5 How do they get their money? ~ It comes from _____ from companies. _____
6 Do you ever _____ money to charities? ~ Yes, I do sometimes. _____
7 What can we do about homeless people in today's _____? ~ Build homes for them. _____
8 Why are the children not going to school? ~ To try and _____ the government to take action on climate change. _____

7 ABOUT YOU **Can you think of a famous cancer or other charity in your country? Do charities compete with other charities? What is the solution to the problem expressed in the text above? Write your answers, or talk to another student.**

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS