

## HUMANITIES I

Unit III The Humanities in New York (4)Chapter 3. Staying Alive on WelfareAffective Objectives:

- A. To become aware of the problems and the feelings of those who depend upon public welfare for subsistence.
- B. To begin considering which values are denied and which are preserved by the administration of welfare.
- C. To begin developing criteria for judging the operation of the welfare system.

Knowledge Objectives:

- A. To know the conditions of life of the poor people of New York.
- B. To know that the welfare system subjects its clients to a number of indignities, notably invasion of privacy, restriction of freedoms, and almost total dependence upon welfare officials for basic amenities.
  1. Determine first what you consider the most important problem that Barbara Dugan encounters? <sup>money</sup>To do this you should discuss both the conditions of life in a ghetto of poor blacks and the problems of dealing with the welfare system.
  2. How does Barbara Dugan cope with her problems? What aspects of character must she reveal to? How does this daily challenge to her situation build or destroy certain aspects of character?
  3. What do you think of the way in which the welfare system is run? Do you think that it contributes at all to the promotion of the good life for Barbara Dugan? Do any of its practices actively detract from the good life for her?
  4. What do you think a welfare system ought to do to promote the good life for its clients and contribute to the attainment of a good society?
  5. What exactly are the consequences of no welfare system at all? Remembering Christ's words - "The poor ye shall always have with ye" - what provision could be made for "the poor" as an alternative to the present welfare system?