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Invention Activity #2 (second post in journal)

Topic: Why is there an increased health risk of health issues in poor communities than wealthy communities?

- What sources would allow you to answer your question best? Consider both secondary sources (books, websites, etc.) and primary sources (experts on your topic, for example)?

Websites with data reports, academic journals and articles will be the most helpful for my topic. For example, I could use an article that compares the amount of healthy restaurants and unhealthy fast-food places in a location with a high poverty rate. I could also find a source that explains the price disparity of healthy and unhealthy foods in these locations. This would show that the availability and prices are factors that make unhealthy foods more convenient for low-income consumers to purchase. A data report that showcases which diseases are more common in low-income communities could be used to link income with diagnoses. It could show what common health issues of people with a lack of healthy diet are expected to face.

- Do you have easy access to people who are experts on your topic? By the word “experts” I mean not only academics who may have written books or journals articles about your topics, but also people who practice an activity or are a part of a group you are interested in studying. For instance, to study bias in the workplace, it will be useful not only to read texts for information and statistics, but also interview and people who may have experienced bias at work or who may be biased against other people at work.

As far as interviews, I don't think I will be able to conduct any and I don't think it will be as beneficial as actual surveys conducted in different communities. For example, a significant primary source that can be used is a study that examined the prices of healthy products, in comparison with the prices of unhealthy products. Another large factor that contributed is the advertising of deals by different restaurants. So an examination of the deals offered by an unhealthy fast-food restaurant and a healthy restaurant could be found and linked as a reason of the difference in price.

- Do you need special skills to conduct interviews or observe your subjects? For example, do you need to learn how to write and conduct an interview or a survey or how to keep a researcher's notebook? If so, where can you find information on how to do that effectively?

Although I won't be conducting my own interview or surveys, in order to learn how to do it I'd search and examine how other surveys and questions are designed. This would potentially help shape the way I present my personal survey and interview questions for my topic.