Social Innovation for America

Grand Challenges Policy Conference Sept 16, 2016 Isabel Sawhill

A Possible Overall Vision for the Challenges?

How do we create a society that enables everyone to achieve their full potential and insures that everyone is cared for when needed?

Specific actionable proposals

- Expand Medicaid under the ACA option
- Ban solitary confinement for juveniles
- Enact paid leave
- More housing subsidies (but cap mort int deduction)
- Expand broadband to all households
- Sentencing reform
- Expand child care and pre-k
- Make work pay (EITC, min wage)
- Reimburse for social services under Medicaid or private ins. (e.g. home visiting)
- Encourage saving and asset accumulation

Themes or guiding principles

- Base policies on evidence
- Share data
- Reallocate resources toward prevention (go upstream)
- Treat everyone equitably and in a culturally appropriate manner
- One size doesn't fit all; allow for local community and practitioner creativity

A Life Cycle Frame



















Family formation

Born at normal birth weight to a non-poor, married mother with at least a high school diploma

Early childhood

Acceptable
pre-reading and
math skills
AND
Behavior generally
school-appropriate

Middle childhood

Basic reading and math skills AND Social-emotional skills

Adolescence

Graduates from high school w/GPA ≥ 2.5

AND

Has not been convicted of a crime nor become a parent

Transition to adulthood

AND
Receives a
college degree or has
a family income
≥ 250% of the
poverty level

Adulthood

Reaches middle class (family income at least 300% of the poverty level)



Low-Income Children's Success Rates if Intervene with Evidence-Based Programs

