

WELL-BEING: INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIAL

Individual well-being is the state characterized by good health and the satisfaction of basic needs as well as the possibility of satisfying reasonable wants. Social well-being is the state of society resulting from the well-being of all or at least most of its components, as well as from the smooth running of all or most of the social mechanisms ("institutions").

Well-being must not be mistaken for happiness: some needy people are far happier than most blasé people. Happiness depends not only on circumstances and prospects but also upon personality and mood, and both personality and mood depend very strongly on heredity.

