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Whenever the game of monopoly is played, everyone is given a far chance to win. Everyone starts with the same amount of money. Everyone is given the same amount of money every time they pass go. All the rules are equal for everyone. People in today’s society feel that all the “rules” in life are equal for everyone. They may see that there are some differences but they do not see how it is extremely harmful. They do not see how the inequality version of monopoly is exactly how the world works. Many rules in today’s society are related to one’s socioeconomic status. These rules are not always de jure rules, but they are de facto. Similar to the inequality version of monopoly, many rules in today’s society are based off the amount of money an individual or a family has.

I think that the inequality version of monopoly relates to the real world. We were all given different rules and restrictions based on our social class. During the game I was in the working class. Whoever was in the working class, we had restrictions on what properties we could buy. Even if we did have the money to buy the more expensive properties, we still were not able to because of the rules of the game. During the game, I collected an immense amount of money and I felt like I could have moved into the middle class but I was not able to change social classes. This is true in the real world. Whenever an individual or family is placed in a social class, it is difficult for them to move up to a higher class. Once they are associated with one class, they normally stay there. While we were playing Monopoly, it was difficult for people in the working class to move to the upper class because of the rules and restrictions we had to follow. Another aspect of the game that is relatable to real life is how the upper class was able to make up their own rules if they wanted. This closely relates to the conflict perspective on social classes. The upper class or wealthy have an impact on societal rules while the lower classes are unable to do so. Power and money give individuals an advantage over the lower classes. This was true in the game of monopoly but it is also true in real life.

At my board, no ones attitudes changed whenever we played the second version of the game. I would say that my group was calm and didn’t get frustrated or mad during the game. But for me personally, I got irritated whenever the individual who was in the upper class would buy properties that only the working class could buy. I was frustrated because he was able to buy any of the properties on the board and he had the money to buy any property he wanted but he bought the properties that only the working class could afford. I see how this relates to real life in the sense that the wealthy will buy clothes from inexpensive stores like Good Will or Salvation Army when those stores are there to help people in need. The wealthy will buy from any place they want because they have the power and money to do whatever they want.

There were differences in who won the game whenever we played the inequality version. For the first round, Andrew won and I came in second. For the inequality version, Bobby won and Jordan came in second. During the inequality version, Bobby was upper class and Jordan was middle class. I think that social class played a large part in who won the game. The individuals in the upper class were given $100 more than people in the working class every time they passed go. How can I be expected to collect more money than an individual in the upper class when they got $100 more than me every time they passed go? I was not given an equal or fair chance to catch up to the upper class. The upper class and even the middle class had advantages over the individuals in the working class and lower class. Social classes played a large role in who won the inequality version of Monopoly.

I think that social change is possible but I do not think that social equality is possible. There are so many “social rules” in our society that it would be extremely hard to create equality. I do think that we can slowly start to change some of these social rules and begin the make a social change. The first thing we need to do is change our view or perspective of the poor. I think that many people assume that people are poor or unemployed because they are lazy or don’t feel like working. There are many people in our society today that are considered the working poor. These individuals do work but don’t make enough money to fully support themselves or their families so they are still considered poor. We need to realize that money and social status should not define how we view people. Similar to what the symbolic interactions think, we need to realize that labels do not define who a person is. Just because someone is poor, that doesn’t mean that they are any less of a person. They are just as important to society as everyone else. This new view of the less fortunate will change the social aspect of inequality. I think that the start to social change or equality begins by changing societies view of the less fortunate. If society agrees to view everyone as equal, it is a start to creating social equality amongst everyone.

In today’s society, the social rules are typically based off of one’s socioeconomic status. This is solely determined by how much money someone makes. These rules then make it harder to create social equality because of the restrictions that are put on lower classes. The world we live in is similar to the inequality version of monopoly. People will face different hardships based on their status. In order to change the world we live in, we need to treat everyone equal and give everyone an equal chance. Just like the original version of monopoly.