

Introduction: A “Human Rights City” is a municipality that aligns its legislations to the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, international covenants, and other global documents. The incorporation of these human right documents into a city’s legislation helps acknowledge the social, cultural, and economic rights of its citizens. More so, a Human Rights City encourages its citizens to participate in their community, which allows them to exercise their political and civil rights. There are a handful of cities in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, and North America that are deemed Human Rights Cities. My Politics in Human Rights II course argues Dayton, Ohio can be added to this list of Human Rights Cities. Among other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that relate to Dayton, I will focus on the third SDG, which is good health and well-being. Though there are nine targets for the third SDG, I will examine 3.2, 3.3, and 3.9 to which I will identify their relation to articles from three international human right documents (*UDHR*, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, and the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*). Additionally, I will highlight one challenge and one solution to depict how the city of Dayton is affected by the issue. I will then provide an ‘Advocacy’ section to provide ways in which anyone can help respond to the issue. Finally, I conclude with my reflection on how my experience here at the University of Dayton has impacted my learning and community participation.

Targets	Description	Local Issue	UDHR	ICCPR	CRC	One Challenge	One Solution	Advocacy
3.2	End preventable deaths of newborns and children up to 5 years of age	Infant mortality	- 3 - 25.1	- 6.1	- 24.1 - 24.2.a-f - 24.3	“In 2016, 45 babies died before their first birthday, and Montgomery County’s infant mortality rate overall was 6.8” (Montgomery County 2019).	The Ohio Department of Medicaid partnered with six community initiatives, including <i>EveryOne Reach One</i> and <i>Five Rivers Health Center</i> , that will link women and infants to quality health care resources.	Offer pregnant women assistance to getting adequate prenatal care, the proper vitamins, and other health-related sources
3.3	End epidemics and communicable diseases	Opioid epidemic	- 3 - 25.1	- 6.1	- 24.1 - 24.2.a-f - 24.3 - 33	In 2017, Montgomery County’s overdose rate was suspected to surpass 2016’s record-setting year (Frolik 2017).	To combat the crisis, Dayton officials are using the “help not handcuffs” approach (Starr 2019). Not only does this approach offer assistance instead of punishment for addicts, but it offers addicts the chance to receive rehabilitation services.	End stigma against addicts seeking help through highlighting facts about addiction and sharing that information to others
3.9	Reduce illnesses and deaths caused by pollution and contamination	Superfund sites	- 3 - 19	- 6.1 - 19.2	N/A	Four Superfund sites in Dayton are considered to be in the top 16 most toxic sites in Ohio (Cooley 2019).	One way the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allows community participation is through Community Advisory Groups, which are composed of residents becoming representatives of their affected community to discuss clean-up planning and general concerns to EPA officials (EPA 2019).	Raise awareness through social media about how a Superfund site can negatively impact one’s personal and communal life

My Reflection

As a graduating senior, I look back on my time here in Dayton. One of the biggest takeaways from attending UD is learning about a wide range of social justice issues that occur in the world and how they are connected to Dayton. More so, by taking courses like POL 334 where we are gathering data to strengthen the possibility of Dayton becoming a Human Rights City, it gives me both the experience and confidence to how I can effectively participate in social justice issues beyond the Dayton area.



References

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