

## **BASIC HUMAN NEEDS**

A United Nations commission determined basic human needs to be as follows:

1. Food, clothing, shelter, and sex and have a drive to provide for their children's survival.
2. Protection from dangers and attack and security for their property
3. Knowledge which is transmitted from parents and the community
4. A social structure to live in
5. Avenues for self-expression, be it verbal, artistic, musical or in many other ways
6. Avenues for spiritual expression and an appreciation for the sacred in life

Besides these 6 tangible needs, there are also 5 deep-rooted psychological human needs which are the following:

1. identity (both personal identity and group identity)
2. security in one's life
3. control over one's life
4. recognition, attention and credit
5. fairness

In the small nomadic bands of prehistory and in the clustered Neolithic villages of the Agricultural era, people's deep-seated human needs were met. With the advent of civilization, a different power framework came into effect and power, coercion, intimidation and even the threat of force and violence were used to enforce conformity and hard work. Now in more modern times scholars advocate efforts to meet all human needs-general and deep-seated-and efforts to keep them in balance.