

POVERTY AND RACISM: HOW WE THINK AND TALK ABOUT POVERTY REDUCTION MATTERS

DR. JACOB ALHASSAN

1

THE COST FRAMING

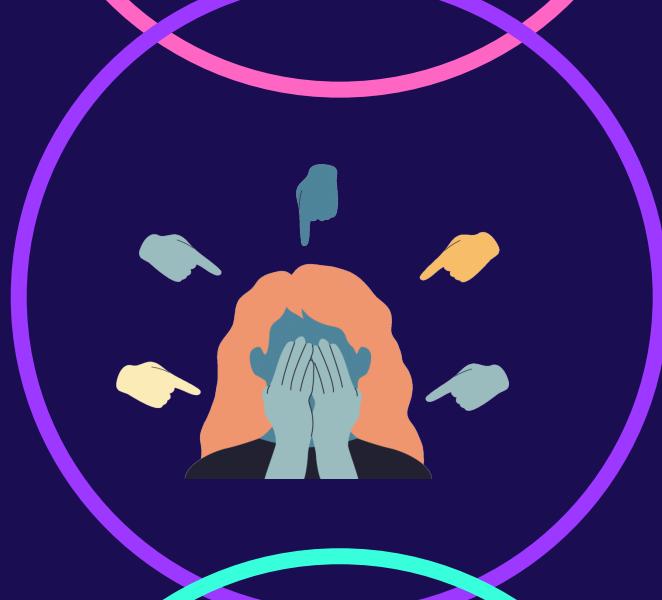
This framing argues that poverty should be reduced because inaction costs more. While well intentioned, the framing puts a price on poverty reduction and therefore provides a logical loophole for justifying scenarios when poverty reduction should not be pursued (i.e., when it is not cost-effective to reduce poverty)



2

THE SHAME FRAMING

This framing focuses on shaming those with power and authority into pursuing poverty reduction. It ignores the suffering of those in poverty and focuses on the honour of the privileged



3

THE ROOT-CAUSE FRAMING

This framing describes the root-causes of poverty. It rejects an individualized explanation of poverty and focuses on structural factors that create and sustain poverty



4

THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMING

In this framing, as long as people experience poverty, we are violating their human rights. Here, poverty should be reduced not because it is embarrassing that some are poor or that it would cost less in the long run but because people have a right not to live in poverty

