

## **Abuse of Social Security Benefits Study Proposal 07.01**

**1. Describe your project idea, including clearly defining the problems and specific policy questions to be addressed.**

Social Security is providing support to children that may not need it. Example: Child has father who pays child support. Mother marries-step father dies-social security pays-step fathers biological child receives reduced benefits. Mother remarries again. Child now living with grandparents still receiving father, stepfather and new stepfathers income. When MN decided to change the laws on child support they should have looked into what social security is providing as well. No wonder SS has no \$\$.

**2. Why is this problem important?**

SS is being abused.

**3. How could the Citizens League make a unique contribution?**

By getting involved-maybe out state and federal agencies will look into recipients of SS

**4. What are prospects that project would yield recommendations that could be implemented and have a major impact on the problem?**

Huge

**5. Explain how this problem can be addressed by data, research, and reason? Identify probable sources for data and research.**

SS would have a few changes

**6. Explain how this proposal can be framed without partisan bias.**

It is not bias to have the same regulations for everyone. Why should one person have income from four different resources and another child have reduced benefits?

**7. Why would this project be attractive to members?**

We are all hoping to receive SS benefits, not likely if SS doesn't change their guidelines.

**8. How would this project reach out to under-represented segments of the community?**

All communities in the Nation will benefit from changes.

**9. What is the potential for making this issue visible to a broader public? Why?**

Huge

**10. What resources—funding, experts, etc. might be available to support this project?**

State and Federal