

Write your paragraph here.

I think the quote, "It has been customary to take people's pain and lessen our own participation in it by turning it into an issue, not a collection of human beings," shows the author's purpose. First, Quindlen is saying that the reader needs to see the problem of homeless people personally. If the reader views homeless people as persons he/she might know, they might help more. Quindlen would also like the reader to refrain from thinking of homeless people as an "issue." Too often, she says, people turn problems like crime, drugs, or the homeless into political topics to be discussed and solved by the government. This reduces personal participation, and people do not feel guilty. Finally, the author wants the reader to take action. Everyone can do something! If the reader looked at the homeless as fellow human beings, got to know them personally, and then took action, Quindlen believes the problem could be solved.

Complete the chart below.

Lessons the author learned from this experience or lessons and/or information the reader learned from this essay	How did the author learn the lesson? OR Tell how the author got his/her point across to the reader.	Why is this lesson important for the author, the reader, and others?
Pride of ownership is important.	She learned this from talking to a homeless woman who wanted just one room and to paint it blue.	We all need to take pride in ownership and allow others to do the same.
We need to concentrate on details, not the big picture.	She learned that each homeless person was an individual not just a group problem.	Everyone is a person who has feelings and should be respected.
That people are getting away from the idea of a home	She has watched people move so much that places are property not homes.	People need a place to call home.