# Problem Statement

In this section, define and present the issue in order to frame specific questions. This section builds on the context established in the introduction section. From here, the writer must develop the rationale for the dissertation by explaining the importance of the problem and the need to conduct research within the established context. Some questions you might consider:

Does the dissertation deal with a significant and meaningful problem that lends itself to a substantial research effort?

Is the problem of interest to other scholars or practitioners in the field?

Has a persuasive case been made as to why the problem is worth solving?

Is it clear who or what will be aided by the research findings?

Will the findings provide a basis for generalized conclusions or have practical applicability?

Is the intention of the research expressed clearly?

Are the research questions stated concisely and explicitly in question form?

Are they precise, specific, and focused?

Do they flow logically from the problem?

Are the hypotheses, when applicable, well formulated and lucidly articulated?

Do they pose a relationship between or among measurable variables that is subject to testing?

Are the assumptions that frame the inquiry explicated fully?

Are the limitations of the study identified with recognition of their consequences?

Are discrepancies in the study dealt with positively and candidly?

Are technical terms well defined? Are the definitions clear-cut, unambiguous, and comprehensible?

Does the dissertation clearly address some aspect of social change?

What aspect has been addressed?