

1E: Understanding and Addressing Poverty



Focus Question: How do living standards in Canada compare with those of developing countries and what is being done to close the poverty gap and improve human development around the world?

Reference: Counterpoints Chapter 12: Living Standards p. 402-412 (start with a quick read through)

Image: Slum in Mumbai

Source: <http://globalab.wordpress.com/tag/economics/>

"The cities of the world consume 75 per cent of its resources and produce most of its waste. Put bluntly, most big cities today are filthy parasites, which require the "host" hinterland [the areas from which cities draw their supplies] to provide them with food, water, and energy, and depend on global forests, seas, and the atmosphere to act as their dustbins [garbage cans]."

-Vanessa Baird

Define the following terms briefly, using an example if possible:

- subsistence farming
- desertification
- UNICEF
- U5MR - causes and solutions
- ethnic cleansing
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- problem of malaria

Questions p. 402-412

1. Why are women and children more likely than men to face hardships in developing countries? (p. 402-404)

2. What is the relationship between female literacy and birth rates? Why are the literacy rates lower for women than men in developing countries? (p. 403)

3. Do you think there should be a set age for soldiers? Why? (p. 406)

4. What contradictions or problems do you see when you compare abuses of children in the developing world (see p. 404-407) with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (see Ch. 10 for that)

5. What are some difficulties in providing basic health care in developing countries? Why should we care? (p. 409-412)

6. Why is clean water important? (p. 409)

7. Examine figure 12-29 (p. 411). Which three of the determinants of health do you think are most important? How can they be addressed?

8. What impact is the HIV/AIDS pandemic having on developing nations (e.g. Swaziland, Botswana)? What actions has the international community taken? Successful or not? (p. 411-412)



POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO POVERTY

Reference: Counterpoints Chapter 12: Living Standards p. 413-421 (start with a quick read through)

Image: Economic development. a community well relief project

Source: <http://wwf.panda.org/>

Define the following acronyms and what they do

- UNESCO
- CIDA

Foreign Aid

Use an organizer (e.g. a chart) to list the types of aid Canada sends to developing countries and comment on the pros and cons of each type. (p. 413)

Questions

1. What do you think Canada's priorities should be in distributing aid to the developing world? (p. 414-416)

2. What are some reasons for and against the statement that funding NGOs is the most effective way to get aid to the developing world? (p. 415-416)

3. What are some challenges faced in addressing poverty? (p. 417)

4. Do you think Canada should link its foreign aid to human rights? (p. 418-419)

Review

Take a look through the chapter review on p. 420-421. Anything here you want to try for a review before the unit test?