



POPULATION GEOGRAPHY

CONSEQUENCES OF RAPID POPULATION GROWTH IN ELDC'S

- Many children = pressure on provision of government services such as child health care, primary and secondary education, pre and post-natal facilities. E.g. Ethiopia
- Higher number of pupils per teacher = higher illiteracy levels.
- High proportion of dependants = strain on relatively low number of workers.
- Possibility of food shortages...leading to malnutrition and possible famine.
- Housing shortages, overcrowding, unemployment. E.g. Mexico
- The basic problem is POVERTY

CONSEQUENCES OF A FALLING BIRTH RATE IN ELDC'S

- Number of children falls = government able to provide better education and medical services.
- Teacher/student ratio would decrease = increased literacy.
- Fewer mouths to feed = less malnutrition and undernourishment.
- Unemployment would begin to fall as well as housing shortages.
- More money to spend on material goods.

CONSEQUENCES OF AN AGEING POPULATION IN EMDC'S

- Many elderly people = increased provision of geriatric care needed.
Extra cost for Government and local authorities.
- More elderly dependants = greater burden on working population (economically active) to provide wealth.
- Possible need to raise retirement age or increase taxes! This means ☹ for present and future workers!
- Less demand for other services e.g. Primary schools, midwives.
- Future shortage of people of working age?