

World in the Balance: The Population Paradox

PBS NOVA special

Questions go in order. Answer in Complete Sentences & Complete thoughts

India

1. Who is in control of the fertility rate in India? Give a specific example from the film of why this can be a problem.
2. Describe the age structure of India.
3. How are daughters seen (in terms of economics) in India? Why?
4. What is “Bride Burning” and what are some reasons why it occurs?
5. How many fewer women than men are in India? What is the reason for this difference?
6. What can be done to increase the status of women in India?
7. What are the environmental and economic problems associated with India’s rapid population growth? Be specific.
8. What might happen if people have 2.5 children on average instead of 2?

Japan

9. Describe the current population trend in Japan.
10. What is a “parasite single” and how do they have an impact on the population size?
11. How does the economy have an effect on the number of children people have?
12. How does the changing population affect the elderly?
13. Describe the population pyramid of Japan.
14. When the birth rate is very low (like as in Japan), what happens to the average age of a population? What are some problems associated with this?

United States

15. Why is it that the US population/workforce keeps growing?
16. How do American children (consumers) compare to children in India?
17. How will the “Baby Boomers” affect the population of the country?
18. What is “Global Aging”? (Mention the average family size in the Industrialized Nations also)

Sub-Saharan Africa (KENYA)

19. How has the population of sub-Saharan Africa changed since 1950?
20. Why is rapid population growth so difficult for countries?
21. What are environmental refugees?
22. What is “Family Planning” and how has it worked in Kenya?
23. What occurs when the death rate falls and the birth rate remains high? How is this issue resolved?
24. How has AIDS affected the lives of people in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya? What does this mean for women?
25. What benefits can come for India and Kenya if they can reduce birth rates?
26. What is the key to stabilizing global population?

