



Thursday, 2/26/04

Topic: When are people hungry?



Which factors contribute to chronic poverty/hunger and which to temporary poverty/hunger?



1. Chronic

- Farming less than desirable land
- Lack of education
- Limited environmental resources
- Government policy/injustice
- Marginalized farmers internal
- Social structure
- Population density
- Unsanitary conditions
- War (civil)
- Disease (HIV/AIDS)
- No access to nutritious food
- Extent of government aid or NGO
- Generational cycle



1. Temporary

- Unstable job market
- War
- Natural disasters
- Imprisonment
- Disability
- Illness
- Low-yield harvest
- Technology breakdown
- Divorce



Anything temporary can be
chronic



2. Chronic

- Overpopulation
- Unemployment (country with depression, bad economy)
- Illness/disease
- No access to nutritious food
- Lack of social services (education, welfare, health care)
- Structure of society (ex. pyramid-like structure, there always have to be people at the bottom, race)
- Lack of union, political chaos (ex. war)
- No property rights (can't be self-employed)
- Disabilities



2. Temporary

- Natural disasters (floods, famines, drought)
- Cyclical lifestyle (farming)
- Volatile economy (goods that are produced have volatile prices)
- Political chaos (ex. war – short term)
- Imprisonment
- School lunch program
- Divorce – no child support



3. Chronic

- Governmental instability
- Extent of government aid
- Generational cycles of poverty
- Plagues/diseases (I.e. HIV/AIDS)
- Access to healthcare
- Access to education



3. Temporary

- Natural disasters
- Seasonal weather fluctuations
- War/social uprising
- Employment (low wages, unemployment)
- Family breadwinner becomes sick/dies



4. To what extent is poverty/hunger...



4. Chronic?

- Almost in all cases
- In U.S. – the stigma that is put on poor people
 - Population growth
 - Lack of education, health care
- Other countries – livelihood in agriculture
 - No high-paying jobs
 - Lack of education, health care



4. Temporary?

- Very rarely
- Reasons
 - Unemployment
 - Seasonal/migrant workers
 - Divorce
 - Drought/natural disasters
 - School lunch and breakfast programs for children not available in the summer