

Justice as Fairness

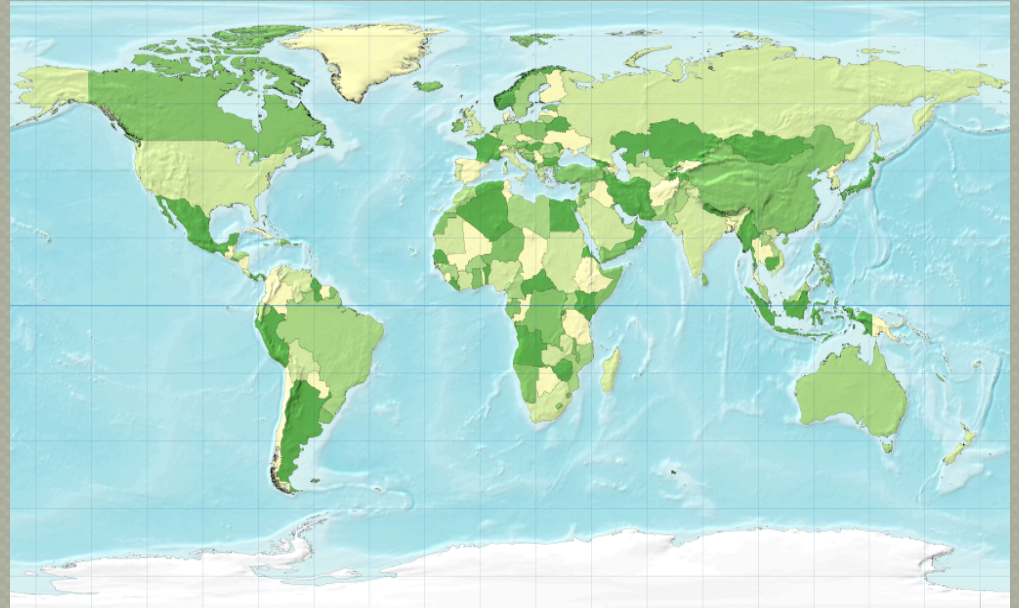
Village of 100 People

If we could reduce the world's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all existing human ratios remaining the same, the demographics would look something like this:

60 Asians
14 Africans
12 Europeans
8 Latin Americans

5% from the USA and
Canada

1% from the South
Pacific



82 Non-Caucasian
18 Caucasian

51 Male
49 Female

67 non-Christian
33 Christian

80 would live in substandard housing



Mumbai (India) - housing

50 would be malnourished and 1 dying of starvation
33 would lack access to a safe water supply
39 would lack access to improved sanitation



24 would not have any electricity (and of the 76 that do have electricity, most would only use it for light at night)

7 people would have access to the Internet

1 would have a college education

67 would be unable to read

47 live in an urban area

9 are disabled

1 would have HIV (and be a female African or of African descent)

1 near death

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All 5 would be US citizens:

The Walton Family

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33 would be receiving --and attempting to live on-- only 3% of the income of “the village”



Wal-Mart Factory Wages in China:

- Paid 43 cents an hour and \$3.45 a day;
- In spray paint department, workers paid just \$0.000387 cents per piece;
- If workers fail to meet their production quota, their wages fall to 15 to 18 cents an hour, which is less than half the legal minimum wage;
- Workers are routinely cheated of their legal overtime wage—losing at least \$13.33 a week, or 25 percent of the overtime pay due them;
- One month’s wage is always withheld.

(Statistics provided by China Labor Watch and National Labor Committee)

Chinese Economy

- China has second largest economy in the world.
- Annual average per capita income in China--\$3,800.
- Over thirty years of annual economic growth.

U.S. Economy

- Largest economy in the world.
 - No universal healthcare.
 - Spend more on healthcare than any other country.
 - 16% of GDP
 - 47 million Americans lack health insurance.
- Wages:
 - Between 1999 and 2005 *median wages declined* by 2.8% nationally.
 - 10% of wage earners control 49.7% of all earnings.
 - From 2002 – 2007 *bottom 99%* of incomes grew by 1.3% while top 1% controlled 75% of all economic growth.
 - (Newspapers report annual wages, the DoL-BLS does not.)
- 36.5 million Americans live in poverty (roughly 12%)

Accidents of Circumstance

Where are you now, in actuality, within the village?

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Why are you in that position?

The Veil of Ignorance

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Do you intrinsically deserve any position?

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