

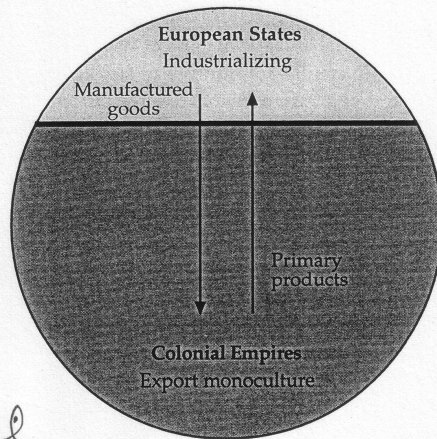
The roots of global poverty

1. Colonialism
2. Environmental degradation
3. Population increase
4. Corruption
5. Debt
6. Rise of transnational corporations
7. Free-market policies (SAPs)

1. Colonization

FIGURE 1.1

The "Colonial Division of Labor" Between European States and Their Colonial Empires



From:
mcmichael
(1996:19)

TABLE 1.1

Selected Colonial Export Crops

Colony	Colonial Power	Export Crop
Australia	Britain	wool
Brazil	Portugal	sugar
Ceylon	Britain	tea
Egypt	Britain	cotton
Ghana	Britain	cocoa
Haiti	France	sugar
India	Britain	cotton, opium
Indochina	France	rubber, rice
Indonesia	Holland	rubber, tobacco
Ivory Coast	France	cocoa
Kenya	Britain	wool
Malaya	Britain	rubber, palm oil
Senegal	France	peanuts
South Africa	Britain	gold, diamonds

From: mcmichael (1996:21)

2. Environmental degradation

we are in the midst of the 4th great mass extinction the world has ever seen

- a. Due to agriculture (remember “The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race”)
- b. Due to excessive consumption
the U.S.comprises only 5-6 percent of the world’s pop but consumes 30-40% of its resources

3. Population increase

since agriculture first came into existence 480 generations ago, the human pop has increased a thousand-fold, to more that 6 billion. Half of this increase has occurred in the last 30 years.

TABLE 5.1 Population, Annual Growth, Doubling Time, Projected Growth 10,000 B.C. to 2050 A.D.

Year	10,000 B.C.	0	1750	1950	2000	2025	2050
Population (millions)	16	252	771	2330	6100	7810	9039
Annual Growth	0.008	0.037	0.064	1.845	1.400	1.000	—
Doubling Time (years)	8369	1854	1083	116	51	70	—

From United Nations. 1998. *Revision of the World Population Estimates and Projections*. <http://www.popin.org/pop1998/>; Population Reference Bureau. 2000. *2000 World Population Data Sheet*. <http://www.prb.org/pubs/wpds2000/>.

from Robbins (2002) ^{P. 134}

TABLE 5.2 Population Information by Development Status

	Population mid-2000 (millions)	Births per 1,000 Population	Deaths per 1,000 Population	Natural Increase (annual, %)	Doubling Time in Years at Current Rate	Projected Population (millions), 2025	Projected Population (millions), 2050
World	6,067	22	9	1.4	51	7,810	9,039
More Developed	1,184	11	10	0.1	809	1,236	1,232
Less Developed	4,883	25	9	1.7	42	6,575	7,808
Less Developed (excluding China)	3,619	29	9	1.9	36	5,144	6,439

Source: Population Reference Bureau. 2000 (http://www.prb.org/pubs/wpds2000/wpds2000_Population2000-PopulationProjected.html)

from Robbins (2002: 135)

4. Corruption, lack of organized government

5. Debt

money owed by developing countries :

1971: 100 billion → 1981: 600 billion → 1998: 2 trillion

example of Philippines:

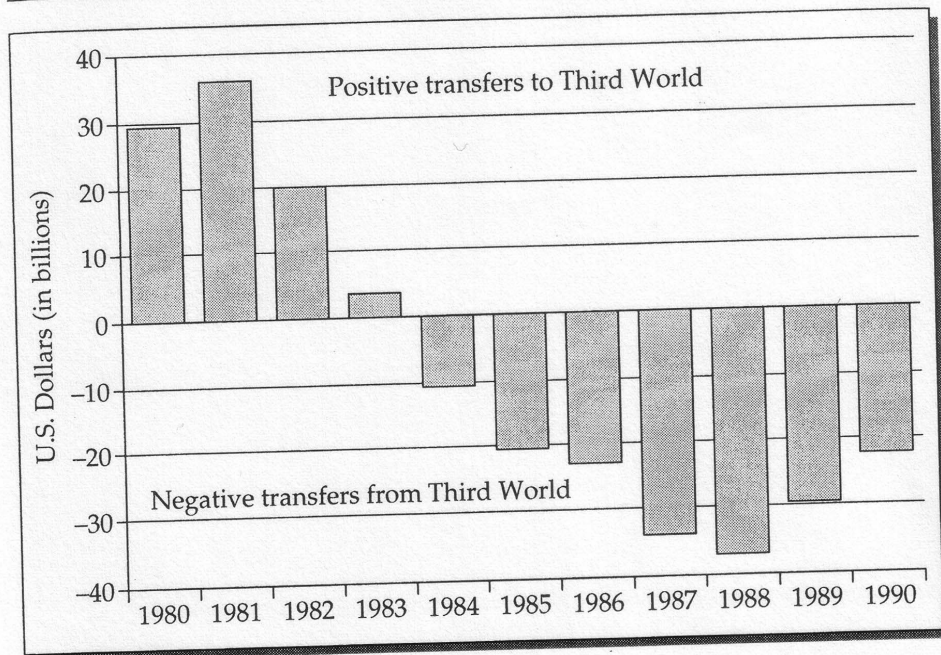
in 1980 owed 17 billion; in 1998 owed 45 billion; in 1998 it was using 70% of its GNP to finance its debt

example of Zambia:

from 1990-1993, the government spent 34 times as much on debt service as it did on education

FIGURE 4.2

Net Transfers of Long-Term Loans
to Third World States, 1980-1990



Source: United Nations Development Program. 1994. Human Development Report.
Oxford: Oxford University Press, p. 64.

6. Rise of transnational corporations
of the world's 100 largest economic systems, 47 are corporations

TABLE 4.2 The Top 100 Global Financial Entities—1999/2000

Rank	Country/ Corporation	GNP/Revenue \$US in millions	Rank	Country/ Corporation	GNP/Revenue \$US in millions
1	UNITED STATES	8510.675	47	Sumitomo	95.7010
2	JAPAN	3782.946	48	VENEZUELA	95.0164
3	GERMANY	2141.678	49	Nippon T & T	93.5910
4	FRANCE	1435.203	50	Marubeni	91.8070
5	UNITED KINGDOM	1387.440	51	ISRAEL	91.3171
6	ITALY	1169.266	52	COLOMBIA	90.4063
7	CHINA	960.7851	53	INDONESIA	88.5515
8	BRAZIL	776.8286	54	AXA	87.6450
9	CANADA	598.8625	55	Intl. Business Machines	87.5480
10	SPAIN	554.8851	56	SINGAPORE	84.3786
11	MEXICO	424.5240	57	BP Amoco	83.5660
12	INDIA	420.3054	58	Citigroup	82.0050
13	NETHERLANDS	378.1987	59	EGYPT	81.5282
14	AUSTRALIA	363.9098	60	Volkswagen	80.0720
15	ARGENTINA	339.8068	61	Nippon Life Insurance	78.5150
16	KOREA	310.1118	62	IRELAND	78.3242
17	RUSSIA	283.8242	63	Siemens	75.3370
18	SWITZERLAND	262.6460	64	CHILE	74.3185
19	TAIWAN	258.8676	65	Allianz	74.1780
20	BELGIUM	251.3653	66	Hitachi	71.8580
21	SWEDEN	226.8869	67	MALAYSIA	67.4845
22	AUSTRIA	212.4617	68	Matsushita Electric Industrial	65.5550
23	TURKEY	196.9821	69	Nissho Iwai	65.3930
24	MYANMAR	189.7544	70	PHILIPPINES	64.5262
25	General Motors	176.5880	71	PAKISTAN	64.1293
26	DENMARK	174.1033	72	PERU	64.0548
27	Wal-Mart Stores	166.8090	73	U.S. Postal Service	62.7260
28	HONG KONG	166.4958	74	ING Group	62.4920
29	Exxon Mobil	163.8810	75	AT&T	62.3910
30	Ford Motor	162.5580	76	Philip Morris	61.7510
31	Daimler-Chrysler	159.9860	77	Sony	60.0520
32	POLAND	148.9580	78	LIBYA	59.5000
33	NORWAY	145.8926	79	Deutsche Bank	58.5850
34	SAUDI ARABIA	125.8401	80	Boeing	57.9930
35	FINLAND	125.4124	81	Dai-ichi Mutual Life Insurance	55.1040
36	GREECE	120.7235	82	Honda Motor	54.7730
37	Mitsui	118.5550	83	Assicurazioni Generali	53.7230
38	IRAN	118.5098	84	Nissan Motor	53.6790
39	Mitsubishi	117.7760	85	CZECH REPUBLIC	53.2500
40	THAILAND	117.0386	86	NEW ZEALAND	52.7135
41	SOUTH AFRICA	116.3242	87	E. ON	52.2270
42	Toyota Motor	115.6710	88	Toshiba	51.6340
43	General Electric	111.6300	89	Bank of America Corp.	51.3920
44	Itochu	109.0690	90	Fiat	51.3310
45	PORTUGAL	107.7889	91	Nestlé	49.6940
46	Royal Dutch/Shell Group	105.3660	92	SBC Communications	49.4890

(continued)

from Robbins (2002)

