

Population & Food Consumption

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I mean, the title says it
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Striving towards change
:D



01



Overview

Reviewing CH. 9 of
Bassham



Summary

- + Population growth is a very serious concern. However, the population will eventually plateau at around 11 billion people in 2100
- + The main ways to fix this population 'problem' is to ...?
- + With population increasing, consumption naturally increases too
- + We need to confront questions like why do we consume so much, how can we realistically lower our consumption? Is this fair to the environment, humans, and non-humans?


Summary

- + This chapter, and really the book, is not here to provide solutions, but just explain the current situations and problems, and how different people view them
- + I don't agree with Bassham on many things, however, I do respect him as a scholar who understands the current problems, I don't understand his reasonings



What is Consumption?

According to Bassham, consumption is using/buying goods and services in a way that reduces their availability (partially or entirely)



The background features several teal-colored organic shapes. There are three pear illustrations: a yellow pear slice with two seeds in the top left, a brown pear with spots in the bottom center, and a yellow pear slice with two seeds in the bottom right.

02

Population

Is population growth an issue?

DQ: Is population growth an issue? If so, how can we combat it?

- + Infinite growth on a finite planet is impossible
- + There's no checks and balances for stopping population growth
- + Cutting down nature for housing and other resources
- + Access to birth control and women having more control of their bodies
- + We're not even trying to help our planet
- + Redistributing wealth which would help with housing
- + Population will take care of itself whether we control it or not
- + Food consumption

What can we do about population?

In my opinion, there's no realistic option for dealing with population growth.

Pope Francis said that human population isn't the problem, but overconsumption is. I believe this also



“Nearly all major environmental problems—pollution, biodiversity loss, climate change, water shortages, deforestation, resource depletion, toxic waste, overflowing landfills, to name just a few—are directly related to population.”

—Bassham, p. 136

The image features a central yellow shape with the number '03' in white. It is surrounded by several slices of kiwi fruit, some whole and some cut into wedges. There are also abstract yellow shapes in the corners. The text 'Food Consumption' is written in a dark grey, cursive font to the right of the central shape.

03

Food Consumption

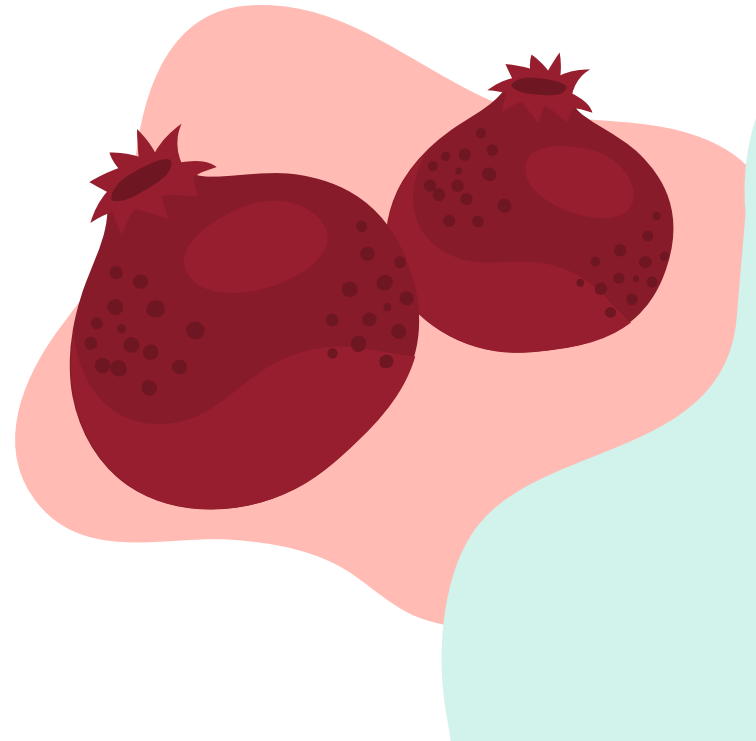
Population in relation to the economy

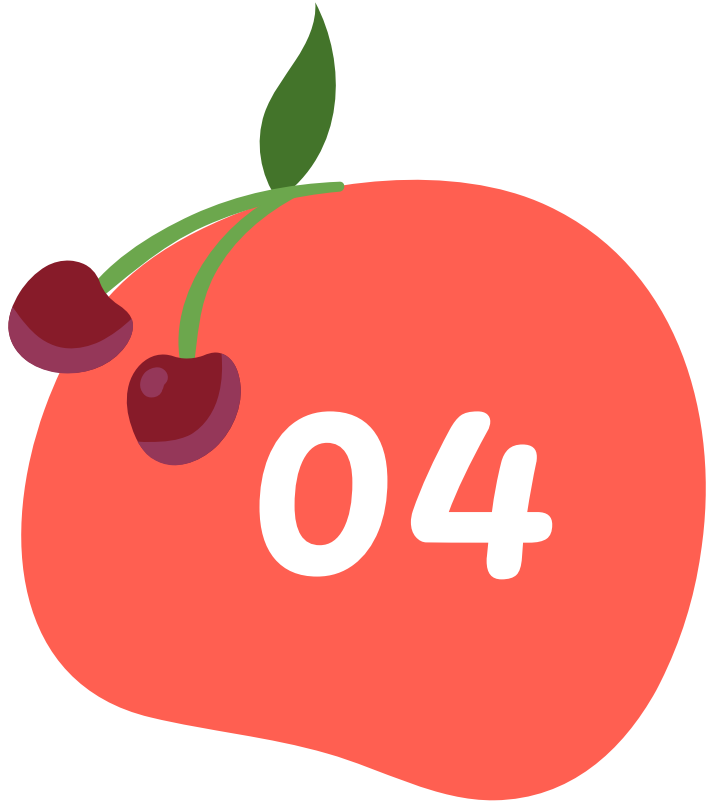


Population, or consumption?

While population is a factor for many problems, consumption is as well

For example, biodiversity loss and deforestation because of humans needing places to live is a form of consumption. How many people really need to have large homes? They're consuming the space and materials to maintain the home






A Different Perspective

Changing how much food
we consume





We waste a lot of food

A large pile of food waste, including vegetables, fruits, and plastic bags, is shown. A white speech bubble overlay contains the text:

*No seriously, we waste
so much food*

The background features a light teal color with three stylized yellow pineapple slices. One slice is in the top left corner, another is in the top right corner, and a third is in the bottom left corner. Each slice has a white circular center and radiating lines representing the pineapple's texture.

80 Million

Tons of food go to waste each year

38%

of all food goes unsold or uneaten

149 Billion

meals' worth of food goes to landfills

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/programs-services>



18.25 ♎

Pounds of food wasted every hour!

What can we do?

- You can only control yourself
- Distribution of wealthy food. Subsidizing and allow for a varying amount of food
- Removing a lot of the preprocessed food we have
- Don't eat meat
- My hope is to not only change how you consume food, but apply that standard to everything (lighting, water, etc.)



*"Do not waste water even if
you were at a running stream"*

- Prophet Muhammad

Resources

- *Environmental Ethics: The Central Issues* by Gregory Bassham - Books on Google Play. (2020, December 1).
[https://play.google.com/store/books/details/Gregory Bassham Environmental Ethics?id=xxILEAAAQBAJ&hl=en_US&gl=US&pli=1](https://play.google.com/store/books/details/Gregory_Bassham_Environmental_Ethics?id=xxILEAAAQBAJ&hl=en_US&gl=US&pli=1)
- <https://www.feedingamerica.org/our-work/reduce-food-waste#:~:text=In%20the%20United%20States%2C%20people,all%20the%20of%20in%20America>



Thanks!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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