

Food For Thought: Shrink the World to a Village of 100 People

Adapted by Dan Conroy from an E-Mail in 2001. I wonder how the Village might look in 2012.

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, in 2001 it would look something like the following:

| There would be: | Out of these 100 people: | In addition: |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| 57 Asians | 52 would be female | 6 people would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth and all 6 would be from the United States |
| 21 Europeans | 48 would be male | |
| 14 from the Western Hemisphere (North & South America) | 70 would be non-white | 80 would live in substandard housing |
| 8 Africans | 30 would be white | 70 would be unable to read |
| | 70 would be non-Christian | 50 would suffer from malnutrition |
| | 30 would be Christian | 1 would be near death |
| | 89 would be heterosexual | 1 would be near birth |
| | 11 would be homosexual | 1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education |
| | | 1 would own a computer |

When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent.

Ponder the following as well:

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness . . . you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death . . . you are more blessed than three billion people in the world.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep . . . you are richer than 75% of people in this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace . . . you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If your parents are still alive and still married . . . you are very rare, even in the United States and Canada.

If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing—someone was thinking of you, and there are over two billion people in the world that cannot read at all.

Someone once said: What goes around comes around.

So: Work like you don't need the money.
Love like you've never been hurt.
Dance like nobody's watching.
Sing like nobody's listening.
Live like it's Heaven on Earth.

And Remember: The "western nations" form approximately 20% of the world's population; they cannot keep consuming 80% of the goods and services produced without alienating 80% of the people in the world.