

**World Food Problems
Fall 2009**

The World Food Problem: Toward Ending Undernutrition in the Third World.
Leathers and Foster, 2009 (4th Edition)

Questions to Think About

Chapter 17. Policies That Raise the Incomes of the Poor

1. What do you think of the “Washington Consensus”? (See page 274 and following.)
2. Compare and contrast the debate about globalization starting with the points on page 277 and following pages. Do you think globalization needs to be stopped, let run on its own, or given constraints and guidelines?
3. Does economic growth and income redistribution help decrease undernutrition?
4. Does a minimum wage policy help decrease undernutrition?
5. How can land reform help decrease undernutrition?

Chapter 18. Policies That Address the Demographic Causes of Undernutrition

1. Are undernutrition and higher fertility rates connected? Can we see a connection when comparing data between countries?
2. Compare and contrast the policies in developing countries to reward lower fertility rates or penalize higher fertility rates with the policies in some developed countries for rewarding women who have babies (see box 18.1 on page 293). Why do you think they are different? Do you think they should be different? Couch your answer in terms of world food concerns and then put on your hat for concern for children and their nurture. Do you come to different conclusions?
3. What do you think of the authors’ phrase “the risk of conception” on page 298?
4. What do you think of Bongaarts’ suggestions on page 303? Are his and other ideas in the chapter too much government involvement in family decisions? Or are policies and social change needed to improve the livelihood of all people?