

Attention! – Students (9/10/11/12 Grades)

Essay Contest for Los Angeles Area High School Students

*****\$200 Prizes*****

Established by: Pasadena Chapter of Population Connection

Task: Write a two-three page essay on any (one) topic related to population (see below).

Deadline: The essay and introduction letter must be submitted via E-mail (submission by US mail is optional) by December 24, 2009; the essays will be evaluated by a committee and the winners will be announced in December.

Mailing/e-mail Address:

Population Connection, c/o Bertani, 975 Dale Street, Pasadena, CA 91106
E-Mail – gargr1@yahoo.com

Introduction: the paper should be accompanied by a short introduction letter by one of your current or past teachers or school counselors.

Questions? Call Dick Seeley – (818) 248-1793 (mornings or evenings), e-mail: dick.seeley@att.net or Ludina Sallam – (626) 296-6545

Notes:

- Proper grammar and comprehension will be a factor in evaluation
- All students are encouraged to submit essays but students who have previously submitted essays will not be considered for the grand prize, they will receive a prize for participation

Topics:

- If the world population should continue to increase at high rates what will happen then? Lack of food? Lack of fresh water? Total pollution of the air? Increase in poverty? Mass migrations? Closing of borders? Territorial wars? What can we do?
- Effects of overpopulation on quality of life (environment, transportation, consumption, education, family planning, agriculture, etc.)
- How would empowerment of women (socially, economically, and culturally) affect overpopulation?
- See list (below) for suggested reading or develop your own ideas/topics

Suggested readings for the more ambitious students

A. Request free literature on population topics from:

1. Population Connection, Inc.
1400 16th Street NW, Suite 320
Washington, DC 20036
<www.populationconnection.org>
1 (800) 767-1956 toll free

2. Population Reference Bureau
Circulation Department
P.O. Box 96152
Washington, DC 20090-6152
1 (800) 877-9881
<<http://www.prb.org>>

3. Population Coalition
PO Box 7918
Redlands, CA 92375
(909) 307-6597
<<http://www.popco.org>>

4. Population Institute
107 Second Street N.E.
Washington, DC 20002
<www.populationinstitute.org>

5. Population Council
One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
New York, NY 10017
<<http://www.popcouncil.org>>

6. Worldwatch Institute
www.worldwatch.org

B. Look in a library for one of the following publications:

1. Abernethy, Virginia D. 1993
"Population Politics - The Choices that Shape Our Future"
Plenum Press

2. Brown, L. R., Gardner, G. & Halweil, B. 1999
"Beyond Malthus -Nineteen Dimensions of the Population Challenge"
Norton / Worldwatch Books

3. Brown, Lester R. 1995
"Who Will Feed China? Wake-Up Call for a Small Planet"
Norton Publisher

4. Brown, Lester R. 2001
"Eco-Economy - Building an Economy for the Earth" (Chapter 10)
W. W. Norton & Company

5. Cipolla, Carlo 1962 (a classic!)
"The Economic History of World Population"
Penguin Books

6. Cohen, Joel E. (winner of the Tyler Environmental Prize) 1995
"How Many People Can the Earth Support?"
Norton Publisher

7. Ehrlich, Paul R. & Anne H. 1990
"The Population Explosion"
Simon & Schuster Publishers

8. Grant, Lindsey 2000
"Too Many People"
Seven Locks Press

9. Harte, John 1988
"Consider a Spherical Cow - A Course in Environmental Problem Solving"
University Science Books, Mill Valley, California

10. Meadows, Donella H. and others, 1974
"The Limits to Growth"
Signet Books

11. "National Geographic" magazine
Issue of October 1998

12. Tobias, M., Gillespie, B. et al. 2006
"No Vacancy - Global Response to the Human Population Explosion"
Hope Publishing House, Pasadena, CA.