



MILLENNIUM CAMPAIGN

VOICES AGAINST POVERTY



International - United Nations Millennium Campaign

www.millenniumcampaign.org

Canada - Make Poverty History

www.millenniumpromise.org

Calgary - Children Without Poverty

www.makepovertyhistory.ca

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Please do your part.

The millennium campaign was created in 2000 by the United Nations to eradicate extreme poverty & hunger by 2015.

Please help. Please read on to help and wear a white band to show your support. White bands are available for \$1 from www.millenniumcampaign.org or by emailing childrenwithoutpoverty@yahoo.ca.

Earth Status Report – 2006

If the population of Earth were reduced to that of a small town with 100 people, it would look something like this:

- 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 Americans (North & South), and 8 Africans.
- 52 women, 48 men
- 70 colored-skinned, 30 caucasians
- 89 heterosexuals, 11 homosexuals
- 6 people would own 59% of the world wealth & all of them will be from the US of America
- 80 would have bad living conditions
- 70 would be uneducated
- 50 underfed
- 1 (one) would die, 2 would be born
- 1 (one) would have a computer, 1 (only one) will have higher education

Think about: This morning, if you woke up healthy, then you are happier than the 1 million people that will not survive next week. If you have never suffered a war, the loneliness of the jail cell, the agony of torture, or hunger, you are happier than 500 million people in the world. If you can enter a church (mosque) without fear of jail or death, you are happier than 3 million people in the world. If there is food in your fridge, you have shoes and clothes, you have a bed and a roof, you are richer than 75% of the people in the world. If you have a bank account, money in your wallet and some coins in the money-box, you belong to the 8% of the people on the world, who are well-to-do.

If you read this you are three times blessed because:

1. Somebody just thought of you.
2. You don't belong to the 200 million people that cannot read.
3. And....you have a computer!

What are you doing to help those whom are not as fortunate as yourselves?

Success Stories, the power of one:

Imagine the impact you can make, just as an individual. If you like seeing big results from your giving, then save it up and do something big. I know of people who have:

- built a habitat home in Mexico;
- a couple in Victoria who have built a girls dormitory in Africa so the girls can go to school;

CHILDREN WITHOUT POVERTY is not a registered charity. Please donate to the charity of your choice. We recommend: www.millenniumpromise.org (not a registered Canadian charity), www.tear.org (not a registered Canadian charity), www.calgaryfoodbank.com.

- a business man who has sponsored 38 children around the world.

Want to involve your children by educating them with a great GAME?

<http://www.food-force.com/> A serious game that is very popular according to US today. It teaches while you play and then gives you information on real problems and how the UN is trying to solve them.

From wired: The six mini-games that make up the whole are mostly simple challenges that are finished in a minute or two. They're intended to represent, not simulate, the World Food Programme's day-to-day tasks. Dropping a load of food is as simple as clicking a mouse.

But the principle on which it works -- interactivity as a tool for learning reinforcement -- is sound. I don't remember all the facts and figures that the game bombarded me with during my play session, but the gist of it stayed with me: It is dangerous and difficult to drop food.

A Tetris-like puzzle game taught me that random amounts of donated food, like so many irregularly shaped blocks, must be made to fit into the great puzzle that is your overall aid package. The mini-game is hardly as addictive as its inspiration, but the process of doing rather than watching makes the lesson stick.

And any child can tell you there is something to be said for a video game that you can play in school, where at least some teachers say they're happy to introduce Food Force into the curriculum.

"Video games is a language that kids speak universally, so I never hesitated to try it," said Julie

Shannon, a teacher at Patria Mirabal School, a New York City middle school. "I know that technology is an important tool in the learning process, and also felt that the world hunger crisis needs attention. Our students are mainly Latin American and Dominican, and many are here because of the very issues that Food Force highlights," she said. Shannon built an entire lesson plan around the game. In science lessons, her students studied nutrition, weather and agriculture. During math, they figured out how to feed many people with few resources.

"The familiar technology, the action and music, and the interactive elements are all very important pieces of the kids' interest," said Shannon. "But I also think that the subject matter grabs them -- they are at an age where they are looking at and judging everything around them. Somehow tragedy and disaster spark their interest -- it's human interest, I suppose."

Food Force's appeal to kids might even turn out to be an excellent recruiting tool, Roche points out. "We have many e-mails from children, saying that they would like to come and work for us when they are older. It's wonderful to think that our little game is having this kind of impact."

Tired, just plain tired of the 'hands in your pockets' wanting your money, and the people at your door wanting your time? Here's an idea for your work group. Volunteer together as a team building event. It's a great way to give back to the community and share the experience by building your team. There are ideas on the web, the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank accepts groups, and you may even have a volunteer coordinator within your company who can help you decide where to go and what to do.

Carla Mohler-Specht is working with teachers in Calgary schools to integrate the grade 3 curriculum, where children in Alberta are already discussing geopolitics around Poverty, with the United Nations Millennium Campaign. If you know a teacher interested, get them in touch with Carla: childrenwithoutpoverty@yahoo.ca.