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Population Growth and Environmental Issues

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Abstract
Population growth, because it can place increased pressure on the assimilative capacity of the environment, is major cause of air, water cause of air, water and solid waste pollution. The result, Malthus theorised, is an equilibrium population that enjoys low levels of both income and environmental quality. Malthus suggested positive and preventative forced control of human population, along with abolition of laws. The possible reasons include: increase in human knowledge, rapid increases in productivity, innovation and application of knowledge, general improvements in farming methods (industrial agriculture) mechanization of work (tractors) the introduction of high-yield varieties of wheat and other plants (Green Revolution), the use of pesticides to control crop pests.

Introduction

The contemporary world is being largely affected by the increasing population, particularly in some of the third world countries. This present global rate of the human population has peaked since 1963; which has a stupendous rise in the use of certain fixed resources like food and most importantly water. The demand for these resources have increase by two-third times since then, which presently indicates a figure of approximately 6.6 billion (the population count) and the figure is expected to rise further by the year 2050.9 billion is what the expecting.

Environmentalists claim that most of the current problem that humans are experiencing in terms of climatic changes to rabid resource extraction is all caused due to human population growth.

Population growth has contributed to some of the major environmental problems that we are experiencing today. The population Connection revealed that with the growth of population since 1950,80% of the rainforests have been cleared, more than 10,000 wildlife and plant species have been lost, greenhouse gas emission has increased potentially by 400% and more than half of the surface land of the Earth has been used for commercial purpose, which still continues. With such a remarkable increase in these various factors, it is now expected that the population of the world is likely to be exposed to scarcity of water in the future. Scarcity of water or water stress will further intensify the difficulties in meeting the water consumption levels, thus wreaking devastating effects on the ecosystem.

The Interconnection

An interconnection between every living organism, starting from the germs to sharks and whales to humans and their interdependency is obvious. All these living organisms share a food chain, which is dependent on the healthy habits for survival. With the population growth, every living organism is likely to have lesser resources for survival. This actually implies how the human actions and the alarming growth of people are adversely affecting the environment.

Earth has a "carrying capacity" which refers to the human populace that the earth can substantially support. Certain factors like the overall resource being used and the distribution of resources can affect the capacity. Exceeding the Capacity of the Earth would definitely call for environmental hazards. Although science has been struggling to provide some solution to the condition, results haven't been published yet. Nonetheless, when every other resource fails, we will have to rely on science as the last resort to overcome a great disaster.

with the increasing population, the demand for every other resource for survival is increasing significantly. But do we have ample resources to support life? That's the biggest question.

It is a fact that we are using and sometimes abusing most of the resources we have, or better say we had. Deforestation for human living space, wildlife poaching for human benefit, industrialization to support human needs etc are just a few of the habits that we have adapted in the recent past without realizing how it would affect the Wrath and affect us in the long run.

Earth could have been a better place than it is today if we humans were just a bit more concerned about ourselves. Though we apparently seem to be that way, but unknowingly or ignorantly we fail to keep up our efforts. It is all because of the population and the necessity to make both ends meet, that we humans are adapting anything that comes handy and that brings us two square meals, and in doing so we are actually destroying the earth and the environment.

There is a ling history of study and debate about the interactions between population growth and the environment. According to a British thinker Malthus, for example pressure on agricultural land, causing environmental degradatio, and forcing the cultivation of land of poorer ad well ad poorer quality. This environmental degradation ultimately reduces agricultural yields and food availability, causes famines and diseases and death, thereby reducing the rate of population growth.

More recent scholarly articles concede that whilst there is no question that population growth may contribute to environmental degradation, its effects can be modified by economic growth and modern technology. Research in environmental economics has uncovered a relationship between environmental quality, measured by ambient concentrations of air pollutants and per capita income. This so-called environmental Kuznets curve shows environmental quality worsening up until about $5,000 of per capita income on purchasing parity basis, and improving thereafter. The key requirement, for to be true, is continued adoption of technology and scientific management of resources, continued increses in productivity in every economic sector, entrepreneurial innovation and economic expansion.

Other data suggests that population density has little correlation to environmental quality and human quality of life. India's population density, in 2011, was about 368 human beings per square kilometer. Many countries with population density similar or higjher than India enjoy environmental quality as well as human quality of life far superior than India. For example: Singapore (7148/km^2), Hong kong china (6349/km^2), South Krea (487/km^2), Netherlands (407/km^2), Belgium (355/km^2), England (395/km^2), and Japan (337/km^2).

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